

# Salem United Methodist Church

March 2024

*Thoughts from Pastor Paola...*

***I'm the resurrection and the life.***

***He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.***

***And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die.***

***Do you believe this?"*** John 11:25-26



We are journeying from ashes to life, from death to resurrection. In one month we will celebrate Easter, a time filled with hope and joy. Easter is so much more than spring flowers, new clothes, bunnies, and chocolate, (even though we love all of that). Easter is the highest expression of hope because of these words that Jesus spoke: ***I'm the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. Do you believe this?*** Nobody ever said anything like that. None ever manifested that like Jesus did, with his own life. This promise changes everything.

Nevertheless, our world brings daily to us images of war, hunger, hostility, injustice, and despair. Our lives and the lives of people we love are overwhelmed with illness, discouragement, disappointment, fear, failure, darkness, and grief.

It may be helpful to remember the context in which Jesus spoke his promise. It was not to a group of people having the best day of their lives. It was to two women, Martha and Mary standing by the tomb of their bother, crushed by grief and anger.

That is what is so great about Jesus' promise: by faith it allows us to see life in death; to live by hope even in despair; and to experience joy while in misery.

There is no other foundation for real hope.

His revolutionary promise is not just about heaven. It is already here and now. Right here we begin to see a glance of the new life and live in it. Right now we can see how God mends broken hearts, brings justice for the oppressed, and heals relationships.

That is the hope for today. It is about the man named Jesus who walked among us, died on the cross, and on the third day was resurrected.

Join me this Lent and Easter at Salem as by faith we grow in joy and hope.

Blessings,

Pastor Paola



Join us this Lent as we discover how Jesus brings the new life of Easter into each of us.

**Mar 3 Third week of Lent: *Healing***

Woman Restored to Life  
Luke 8:40-48

**Mar 10 Fourth week of Lent: *Compassion***

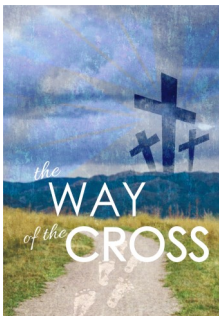
Prodigal Son  
Luke 15:11-24

**Mar 17 Fifth week of Lent: *Acceptance***

Zacchaeus  
Luke 19:1-8

**Mar 24 Palm Sunday: *From Celebration to Grief***

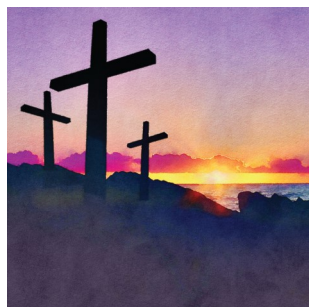
Jesus Cries over Jerusalem  
Luke 19:28-44



Friday, March 29th  
**Good Friday: *Travel With Us***  
*The Way of the Cross*  
7:00 pm



Sunday, March 31st  
***He is Not Here, He is Risen***  
The Women at the Tomb  
Luke 24:1-12  
**9AM Easter Worship Service with Communion**  
*A visit from the Easter Bunny following service*



**Why?** It's a simple word, but a deep question everyone wrestles with at some point in their lives. When bad things happen, our prayers seem unanswered, and God seems far away, we cry out, "Why?" In this series of messages, we will look to the scriptures that help us to answer our WHYs.

**Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup> Communion**

***Why is it so hard to hear God's voice?***

*1 Samuel 3*

**Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup>**

***Why is God not answering my prayers?***

*Psalms 22:1-11, 19-21*

**Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>**

***Why does God allow suffering?***

*Genesis 1:27-31, Psalm 6:6-7*

**Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>**

***Why do bad things happen to good people?***

*Job 1:1-3, 1:8-12, 1:18-22, 42:1-6*

**Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> Communion**

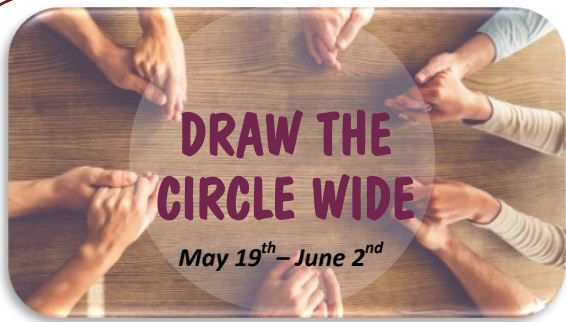
***Why is it so hard to understand God's purpose for my life?***

*Jeremiah 1:4-10*



**Standalone Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup> Mother's Day**

Join us on Mother's Day for Praise Fest. A music-filled service and celebration of Mother's Day.



Time to draw the circle wide at Salem.  
***No one alone!***

**Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> - Pentecost**  
***Our Foundation, the still point God***  
 Acts 2, Psalm 100:5

**Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup> - Trinity Sunday**  
***Inclusion lets our loving know no borders***  
***The Church***  
 Galatians 3:28

**Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> - Communion**  
***Dream large dream Christ dream***  
***The Mission/The Vision***  
 Ephesians 3:20

**Virtual LENT Bible Study**



**Thursdays 6:30 - 7:30 pm**  
**Through March 21**

Walk with us through lent. Join us via Zoom on your computer or phone. Our 6 week sessions will focus on the most influential (most studied, most contested, most quoted, most impactful) speech in history of human race: ***Jesus' Sermon on the Mountain.*** This is a wonderful opportunity to make this Lent a time to grow in love and discipleship.



**Chapel Service**  
*Next Door*

**March 20, 2024**

**11:00 AM – 12:00 PM**  
**Hymn Sing at 10:30 am**

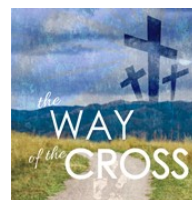
Come worship with our neighbors at New Perspective! Pastor Paola will lead worship in the chapel on the 3rd floor. Communion will be served. Please arrive 15 minutes early to check in at the front desk.

**Future services: April 17th and May 15**



Bill, Susie, and Dave

A special thanks to **Susie Brown** for playing the piano, **Dave Pauly** for playing the flute, and **Bill Watt** for leading the singing.



**7:00 pm**  
**Friday, March 29th**  
**Good Friday: *Travel With Us***  
*The Way of the Cross*



**9:00 am**  
**Sunday, March 31st**  
***He is Not Here, He is Risen***  
***Easter Worship Service***  
***with Communion***



*Please join us following the worship service for a visit from the Easter Bunny and an Easter Egg Hunt.*



You may purchase **Easter Flowers** in memory of or in honor of someone from Mar 3rd - Mar 17th. Completed forms with payment can be put into the offering plate.

***The cost per plant is \$16.00***





### March Choir Rehearsal Schedule

March 10th 8:30 am and 10:00 am  
Mar 24th 8:30 am - *subject to change*  
March 31st 8:30 am

#### We will be singing on:

Sun, March 10th  
Sun, March 24th - Palm Sunday - *subject to change*  
Fri, March 29th Good Friday  
Sun, March 31st - Easter Sunday

Michelle will be on vacation in Ireland from March 14-31.



### Vacation Bible School VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for a committee to plan and run Salem VBS 2024. There will be a quick meeting on March 24th during Fellowship Time.

**Meeting: March 24th 10:30 - 10:50 am**  
**Agenda: Pick a VBS theme and date**

Possible theme's: Christmas in July, Camping, Rock Beach, or Under the Sea. Open for ideas. Look for a sign up sheets in the "Happenings Center" in the coming months. **Thank you.**



Would you like to learn how to play Handbells? Salem's Handbell group practices every **Wednesday night at 6:30**, and we play the third Sunday each month. For more information contact Brenda Lindsay.



**Summer Camp 2024**  
Camp offerings can be found in the Happening Center



### Theme: Awesome Easter

Mar 3 Incredible Obedience  
Luke 24  
March 10 Unbelievable Commitment  
Matthew 27  
March 17 Amazing Love  
John 19  
March 24 Palm Sunday  
Awesome Power  
Luke 24  
March 31 Easter  
Lesson and Craft  
Easter Egg Hunt after Service



### Join us for the following baptisms this month:

Sunday, March 17th: Maci Damske  
Sunday, March 24th: Kaiya Fong



A VERY special **THANK YOU** to Dick Tesch and Edna Lesada for creating the centerpieces on the tables in the Narthex with special themes each month for all to enjoy.

# SALEM Outreach NEWS

## Outreach for Hadfield School

A year ago, Salem received a start-up grant of \$2500 from WI United Methodist Foundation to support both student and staff needs at Hadfield School where the majority of students receive free or reduced lunches. Through the year, we were able to use the grant money to supply dry erase markers, erasers and cleaner for 22 classrooms, health room needs of Clorox wipes, Kleenex, and paper towels and Ziplock bags to make ice packs. We also provided underwear for those sent to the health room for a change.



For Hadfield's clothes closet, we purchased waterproof gloves, snow pants and other clothing items. We supplied 44 board games to be used for indoor recess or family nights.

All of these items were in addition to Salem's ongoing collection of snack items provided for children who find it hard to bring snacks. Through the year, over 2,200 snacks were delivered.

***Our start-up grant was renewed this year for \$1,665 which is 2/3 of the previous year's amount. To maintain the same level of support as last year we will need to find monies for the remaining 1/3 which is \$833.***

If we do this, the grant has a possibility of being renewed in 2025 and funded at 1/3 of its original value. We are proud to be able to support children and staff in a neighborhood school in this way.



Salem has a long history of supporting the **Hope Center** which helps the needy with clothing, hot meals and financial assistance. Some Salem members may remember many volunteer hours spent 16 years ago helping to renovate the building on East Avenue.

In January the Hope Center found a new home down the street at 101 W. Broadway. This facility provides easier access to a clothing shop which has tripled in size, a more spacious dining area, a commercial kitchen, guest laundry and guest shower facilities. The \$2.5 million renovation is completed and the building is open for clients. Salem has pledged yearly support of \$500 for three years.



## Volunteer Opportunity

The Hope Center is currently renovating and are looking for Volunteers. See the Community News bulletin board by the refreshment counter for more information.

**Contact the volunteer coordinator at  
262-549-8726 Ext 203.**

## Snack Collection



The need for snacks continues throughout the end of the school year. Please bring snack items and place them in the basket at the Happenings Center.

## *Passionate about helping others?*

The Outreach committee occasionally gets requests for donations. The requests are worthy but, we have to stay within our budget. So, we're sharing the information. Feel free to donate to any or all! We would like to request that you drop the office a note stating who you donated to and the amount. It keeps Salem's donation records straight and reported donations will be listed on your end of the year tax form.



# UMCOR

United Methodist Committee on Relief

It is easy to contribute on their site. You can designate where the donation is to go AND that you are from Salem.

<https://umcmmission.org/umcor/>

### ***The latest requests are for money to:***

- Repair the pediatric unit/construct an oxygen distribution station in Dabou Methodist Hospital, Ivory Coast'
- Supporting Global Ministries missionaries.



The Nurture Team invites you to take a moment to brighten a seniors' day and it's SO EASY!!

We provide everything you need and there's no postage necessary, we will distribute. Please visit the Send a Senior a Card area in the narthex, just outside the office door.

Cards are provided in the drawer and next to the box. Simply sign your first name to any type of card, or write your own message in a blank card, label the outside of the envelope with the occasion, (get well, thinking of you, birthday, etc) and drop the card in the box.

**WHAT AN EASY ACT OF RANDOM KINDNESS!!  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!**

*If you have any questions, please contact a Nurture Team member.*



## **THANK YOU to everyone who participated in our 7th Annual Fundraiser for HAITI**



We had such an awesome morning learning about the Children's Malnutrition Program in Haiti from Wilner, Junior, Surzy, and Betta. A special thank you to the bread bakers...Sharon Seegers, Michele Thielen, Sally Kellicut, Zoila Chavez, and Sherrie Kellogg. *Congratulations Sharon...she got the most votes with her delicious Cinnamon Bread.* Thus far, **\$4664** has been raised for Haiti. Thank you for sharing your love with Haiti!





## ♥ HOSPITALITY ♥



*Fellowship Snacks*



We have a need for Greeters AND Fellowship Snacks in the month of March. Please check out the sign up sheets by the snack bar and the Happenings Center.

*Thank you!!!!*

## NEWS FROM THE TRUSTEES

- ⇒ Please remember to not leave food on the floor or countertops in the kitchen. We continue to have a problem with ants and would like to keep it under control.
- ⇒ A Thank You to Tyler Adair for putting a “hood” on the light in the front of the church to limit glare at our neighbors.
- ⇒ Thank you Dave Pauly for shoveling the roof so that the downspouts would drain and for buying and replacing 2 ballasts and bulbs in lights in the Narthex.



### **WISHING YOU COULD HEAR PASTOR PAOLA'S MESSAGE MORE CLEARLY?????**

You need a telecoil in your hearing aid to take advantage of the “LOOP” in the sanctuary here at Salem. Be certain when choosing or ordering a hearing aid that it will have the telecoil feature installed. It cannot be added after leaving the factory.

***“I LOVE MY TELECOIL!!!” - Mary Watt***



## Membership Meeting

March 3rd at 10:30 am in the Conference Room.

Please email Pastor Paola ([pastor@SalemOnTheHill.org](mailto:pastor@SalemOnTheHill.org)) or call her at (920) 420-7205 if you are interested.



## Retreat



Everyone had a wonderful time at the Women in the Middle Retreat this past weekend. Thank you to Chris Taylor for your teaching and leadership and to Amy for leading the crafts.

