

# Salem United Methodist Church

August 2024

*Thoughts from Pastor Paola...*

***The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.***

John 1:5

The assassination attempt of former president Donald Trump brought back in front of our eyes the horror of violence. Violence cannot be justified in any way. And as the tension is escalating, so is our sense of anxiety and uncertainty. We are still a very divided and polarized nation, and that may lead us to become paralyzed or numbed. Many of us are already dreading the next 100 days as our country prepares for the next presidential election.

This of course is not new to human history. Even in the scripture we find reports of several acts of political violence (2 Kings). Political violence was an everyday affair during the Roman Empire around the time Jesus was on Earth. This is not new. What is new though is what the prophets announce: The King of all the Kings is coming, the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6). He will bring a new light that no darkness will ever overcome. *He will govern with kindness, justice, and righteousness on earth* (Jeremiah 9:23-24). His Kingdom even though doesn't belong to this world is already present here and now.


So don't let paralysis and anxiety take over your life. Don't give up hope because even though political leaders are very important to this world, in the final analysis, they will not lead this world. We live under the kingdom of the King of all Kings and because of that we should not feel afraid or paralyzed. We are called to follow our King and just like him, do all we can to bring His kindness, peace, justice, and righteousness to our world, starting with our hearts, houses, our families, and our communities.

In his Kingdom, there is no room for any kind of violence. We need to repudiate not just the acts of violence but also the spirit of violence. No matter what your political stance is, I invite you to pray this prayer with me during the next 100 days :

*Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom  
no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness,  
and no strength known but the strength of love;  
So mightily spread abroad your spirit  
that all people may be gathered  
under the banner of the Prince of Peace  
as children of one God  
to whom dominion and glory  
now and forever  
Amen*

(Prayer of a nation – Anglican church)

Blessings,  
Pastor Paola



The light shines in  
the darkness,  
and the darkness  
has not overcome it.  
John 1:5

Stand Alone Sunday - 7/28/2024



Rev. Dr. Michelle Oberwise Lacock  
God at Work: Having Olympic Faith



## STEALERS

*Walk with us through the sermon of the Mountain as Jesus shows us the way to free our souls from the enemies that steal joy and hope from our lives.*

Sunday, August 4<sup>th</sup> Communion  
Pie Day - Mujila Falls  
**Dishonesty and Lies**  
Matthew 5:33-37

Sunday, August 11<sup>th</sup>  
**Revenge and Unforgiveness**  
Matthew 5:38-48

Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup>  
**Greed and Hoard**  
Matthew 6:18-21



*With Pastor Pete Peterson*

Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup>  
Sunday, September 1<sup>st</sup> Communion



***What gives you hope these days?***

As our country is getting closer to another presidential election, we are again facing concerns about how our future will look like. Meanwhile, at all levels, we are dealing with discouragement and uncertainty.

Let's learn together from some of the Old Testament stories how faith restores true hope in our lives.

**Sun, Sept 8 - *The Story of David* Fall Kick-Off  
Much More Than Optimism - 1 Samuel 17**

**Sun, Sept 15 - *The Story of Moses*  
Stronger Than Fear - Exodus 14**

**Sun, Sept 22 - *The Story of Jeremiah:*  
More Than Looking Beyond the Present - Jer 29**

**Sun, Sept 29 - *The Story of Ruth:*  
Lay Speaker Bonnie Wojcik  
More Powerful Than Perseverance - Book of Ruth**



When we generously give our money, time, and talents, our lives blossom and make a difference. In return, we find joy and purpose. Join us as we discover how we are made to count through stewardship.

**Sunday, Oct 6 - Stewardship Campaign  
Made to count by living fully**  
Matthew 19:16-22

**Sunday, Oct 13 - Stewardship Campaign  
Budget 2025 presentation Kermit Bohning  
Made to Count by Investing Wisely**  
Matthew 25:14-30

**Sunday, Oct 20 - Stewardship Sunday  
Made to Count by Making a Difference**  
Matthew 25:34-40

# Stand Alone Sermons

ASK

the PASTOR

**Sunday, October 27**  
Ask the Pastor



**Sunday, November 3**  
All Saints Day



## Living in the Power of the Holy Spirit

November 10th - November 24th

*Often we struggle to understand the role of the Holy Spirit in our faith life.*

*In truth, the Holy Spirit can become an incredible source of power if we open to it.*

Let's discover what the Holy Spirit is and how we can be empowered by it.



## Chapel Service Next Door

August 14, 2024

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Hymn Sing at 10:30 am

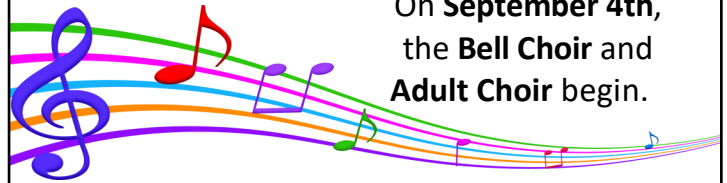
Come worship with our neighbors at New Perspective! Pastor Paola will lead worship in the chapel on the 3rd floor. Communion will be served. Please arrive 15 minutes early to check in at the front desk.

**Future services: Sept 18th and Oct 16th**

Thank You



A special thanks to  
**Susie** for playing the piano,  
**Dave** for playing flute, and  
**Bill** for prep & planning.



On **September 4th**,  
the **Bell Choir** and  
**Adult Choir** begin.

**Bells practice at 6:30 pm**

**Choir practice at 7:20 pm**

Please contact Brenda Lindsay (262) 894-0644 if you'd like to join the bells. You do not need to read music to play bells just be able to count up to 4!

If interested in choir, please contact Rev. Dr. Michelle Oberwise Lacock (630) 336-2317. We'd love to have you sing with us and I'm willing to teach you how to read the music line that fits your voice!  
**Come one and all and make a joyful noise!**

## Join us for Vacation Bible School

Sunday,  
August  
11th



10:30 am  
to  
12:30 pm

Lunch will be provided, followed by fun music, awesome crafts, and games.

**All ages are welcome...INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!!!**

Registration forms and flyers are online on our website and in the Happenings Center.

VBS will be led by the youth and adults from last summers mission trip to Italy.



## CHILDREN'S church service BUSY BAG

The bags have current worship service activities, colored pencils, stickers, and a fidget toy. Available every Sunday - Pick up and return to the counter outside the Sanctuary.



## **PIE DAY 2024 IS HERE!**

On Aug. 4<sup>th</sup>, we will have the opportunity to donate to our mission partner of many, many years. We will be helping provide classroom materials for a second class at the Primary Mission School at the Mujila Falls Agriculture Center. Our missionary, Temba has started so many new facilities there – including the Salem House Dorm for visitors and students, a new vocational college and grade school. All of these endeavors support his mission statement which is ***“To provide people the opportunity to help themselves with dignity.”*** You will see a very brief video from Temba and a review of how much Mujia Falls has benefitted from our support. After the service, you may make your donation, receive a ticket, and turn it in for a delicious piece of pie provided by the Outreach Committee. Thank you in advance for your generous donations. If you can't be in church Aug. 4<sup>th</sup>, you may write a check with Mujila Falls on the memo line.

**MUJILA FALLS**  **FUND RAISER**



## **Ingathering 2024 Update**

This year's Wisconsin Annual Conference Ingathering Event was very successful. Salem supported the event by our donation of \$375, which was used for items in Personal Dignity Kits. Midwest Distribution Center will send the kits to those in need, both nationally and around the world. At this year's Conference 1,970 physical kits were collected, along with monetary donations of \$6,602! Your donation brought blessings to many! ***Thank you, Salem!***

**DIGNITY** begins with the basics!



## **Undie Sunday** **September 8th - 29th**

Undie Sunday begins in September. We will be collecting new underwear and socks for the men, women and children in our community, through the Hope Center, who have a need for these basics. It's never too early to shop for Undie Sunday, especially with the Back-to-School sales happening right now! In September we will be putting out the collection basket for new underwear and socks. As usual, if you'd rather make a cash donation, the shopping will be done for you. They need all sizes of men's and children's undies and size small for women and mostly men's socks. They have helped thousands of people over the years obtain free quality clothing because of generous donations from this supporting congregation, won't you consider continuing this?

## **Snack Collection**



### **School is Starting Soon!**

Before we know it, school will be starting! Outreach would like to invite you to a "Snack Kick-Off" for Hadfield Elementary School starting on August 25<sup>th</sup>! Please help us get their new year off to a good start by bringing in healthy snacks, and placing them in the basket found at the Happening Center. Last year Salem donated 2,573 snack items for the kids at Hadfield!!! ***Thank you, Salem, for your continued support of Hadfield School!***



The **FOOD**  
**Pantry**  
SERVING WAUKESHA COUNTY

The Food Pantry is in need of help. Here are just a few ideas for you to help...

**1. Neighborhood or workplace collection**

Most needed items would be cereals, Size 4,5,6 diapers, wipes, shampoo, deodorant., baked beans and canned fruits.

*If you organized a workplace collection, would your employer match funds?*

**2. Do you belong to a group or club that could do a community project?**

Call the Pantry to find out their immediate needs. Ideas include collecting feminine hygiene products, shaving cream and razors. Cat or Dog food (wet and dry).

**3. Buy in bulk when items are on sale.** Keep what you need and donate the rest.



**Meijer Simply Give**  
**Double Match Days**  
**August 17th and**  
**September 14th.**

**Meijer Simply Give Fall Campaign Kicks Off**

Mark your calendar for Meijer’s next **DOUBLE MATCH DAYS - 8/17 and 9/14**. Buy one or more Meijer’s **SIMPLY GIVE** cards (\$10 each) and Meijer will give the Food Pantry **DOUBLE** the card’s value! Drop into **Meijer located at Sunset Drive in Waukesha** and purchase these wonderful cards.

*(Usually found at the registers)*

**When you purchase your \$10 Simply Give cards, be sure to tell the clerk it is for The FOOD Pantry.** The cards will then be converted into Meijer gift cards that they can use to purchase food and other supplies for their shelves. **We appreciate your support!**



Book Discussion  
**“The Gift of Years”**  
by Joan Chittister.

Tuesdays @ 6 PM (7/30, 8/6, 8/13)  
at Pastor Paola's House  
14898 W. Hickory Hills Drive  
New Berlin, WI 53151

**Topics to discuss:**

7/30: Fulfillment

8/6: Relationships

8/13: Success

Please email the church office if you are interested, have a question, and are able to come. Looking forward to getting together.



Many thanks to the Board of Trustees for the invaluable contributions you have made. The time, energy, and expertise you invest in making our church a better place is truly appreciated.

**A special thank you to:**

- Doug McGrath for the ongoing coordination and communication for the Trustees with the church and our neighbors.
- Dave Pauly who is working on the church bell and helped cut down and haul away a dead tree.
- Caryn Adair and Jim Seegers for fixing the kitchen refrigerator.
- Jim Seegers for replacing the circuit breaker and outlet in the kitchen, cleaning out all of the roof drains, working on all of the downspouts and installing 30 ft. of plastic underground drain tile and a concrete pad.

*Your hard work and commitment do not go unnoticed.*



The Bocce Ball tournament for the Special Olympics went well. Everyone had fun!  
**Thank you Salem for the use of the building and grounds.**



**Casa Mia Update...  
 A Big Thank YOU to Salem!!!!**



Salem's support to Casa Mia in Italy has provided a swimming pool for the children. The children are very excited and send Salem hugs and lots of thanks. It has been a huge draw for this year's VBS.



**Thank You!**

A big thanks to Ed and Betty Padgett for their warm hospitality and their wonderful food.



**Let's Get Together in the Summer Time**

Our next get together is...

**August 11th at 5:00 pm**

**Hosts Cory and Laurie Buxengard**

W184 S8961 Racine Avenue

Muskego, WI 53150

There will be brats, salads, and drinks. If anyone would like to bring an appetizer, dessert, or veggies that would be great. No chairs needed. Sign up sheet is located in the Happening Center.

**Thank you.**

**HOSPITALITY  
 MINISTRY**



We are in need of Greeters AND Fellowship Snacks during the month of August. Please check out the sign up sheets by the snack bar and the Happenings Center.

**Thank you!!!!**

**Kwik Trip Cards**  **Through Aug 4th**

**Fundraising CARD PROGRAM**

We will be taking Kwik Trip card orders through August 4th. Cards available are \$10, \$20, \$25, \$50, \$100, \$200. Car wash cards are also available. Car wash cards are \$36 for 5 washes. Sign up in the narthex or email Kermit @ kbohning1@gmail.com

THANK YOU!!!!



**Fall Kick Off**

JOIN US

**Sunday September 8<sup>th</sup> after church**

**CHURCH LIBRARY**

**New books - Two from Salem authors!**



Salem's long-time member, Bill Young passed away in March of this year, but left us a wonderful story of his life in Some Beginnings and Endings in My Life. It is amazing to read what this man accomplished in his 94 years on earth. His childhood memories really reflect the life of a country boy in the 1930's, and his adult life encompassed travels all over the world. It is a lengthy book but well worth the read!

Our neighbor from New Perspectives, Ellen McFarland, who is a former psychotherapist, has written a book titled the Sacred Path Beyond Trauma: Reaching the Divine Through Nature's Healing Symbols. She uses mythology, stories from film and fiction, real-life examples, and her personal history, to reveal how healing trauma is possible using the resources at hand in nature.

Prayers in the Night: For Those Who Work or Watch or Weep is a wonderful book based on the Episcopal liturgy of the prayer of The Compline. Tish Harison Warren explores themes of human vulnerability, suffering, and God's seeming absence. The book shows how we can find comfort when we lie awake at night worrying or weeping. The book offers a prayerful approach to the difficulties in our daily lives.

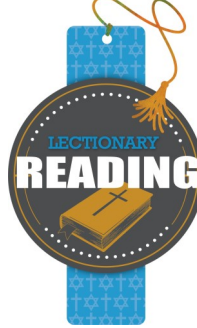
Feel like relaxing with some fiction? We have a huge array of wonderful fiction books on the bottom two shelves of our library.

**Come on in and take a look!**

**Save the Date...**

**ALL CHURCH Intergenerational Fall Kickoff**

Picnic, games, crafts outdoor in the open space between church and New Perspective.



**Hebrews 4:12**

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

<b>August 4</b>	<b>August 18</b>
2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a	1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14
Psalm 51:1-12	Psalm 111
Ephesians 4:1-16	Ephesians 5:15-20
John 6:24-35	John 6:51-58
<b>August 11</b>	<b>August 25</b>
2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a	1 Kings 8:(1, 6, 10-11), 22-30, 41-43
Psalm 51:1-12	Psalm 84
Ephesians 4:1-16	Ephesians 6:10-20
John 6:24-35	John 6:56-69