



*Thoughts from Pastor Paola...*

**GOD said, "It's not good for the Man to be alone;  
I'll make him a helper, a companion." Genesis 2:18**

**Happy New Year!**

I love the beginning of the New Year. It comes with great promises and is filled with possibilities and potential.

We will start this New Year by dedicating time and energy to our relationships, the good and the bad. Relationships are the greatest joy in our lives, yet they can be the greatest source of pain and hurt.

Our worship series in the New Year will be about the gift of relationships. The first book in the Bible, Genesis is all about God creating us to be connected and in relation with each other, yet from the very beginning, humanity struggles to have life-giving relationships.

We will meet people in the book of Genesis who wrecked relationships by:

- always wanting to be right
- controlling people close to them
- saying and doing what they want anytime they want
- trying to get even by inflicting pain on those who hurt them
- withdrawing from people who did something to them or being passive-aggressive

Sounds familiar anyone? Imagine what your life would look like if you would dedicate the beginning of this New Year to healing and improving your relationships.

Under God's guidance, in prayer and worship, and led by Genesis I would like to invite you to start breaking habits and attitudes that wreck our relationships and instead start to bring joy and reconciliation in them.

Join me in worship this New Year as we begin the transformation. Invite anyone among your friends and family who struggle with relationships to come to worship with us.

Can't wait to start!

Blessings,  
Pastor Paola



**Jan 5<sup>th</sup> Communion**  
**Pastor Pete Peterson**  
*"It's OK To Be a Sports Fan"*

The research is clear: Being a sports fan can be a good thing. Maybe that is why we get an upbeat feeling when we encounter the words "arise, shine, light" and "glory in the text from Isaiah.



We were created to be connected with each other through family, friendship, and community. Relationships are a source of joy, fulfillment, and support. At the same time, relationships are hard work, and could cause hurt. We will start the New Year by learning from the book of Genesis how our faith leads us to create lasting life and joy-giving relationships.

**January 12th** (Baptism of the Lord)  
***From Loneliness to Companionship***  
 Genesis 2:4b-9;15-25

**January 19th**  
***From Joy to Shame***  
 Genesis 3:1-13

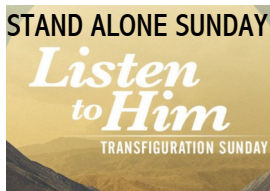
**January 26th**  
***From Envy to Hatred***  
 Genesis 4:1-16

**February 2 Communion**  
***From Conflict to Blessing***  
 Genesis 11:1-9 and 12:1-9

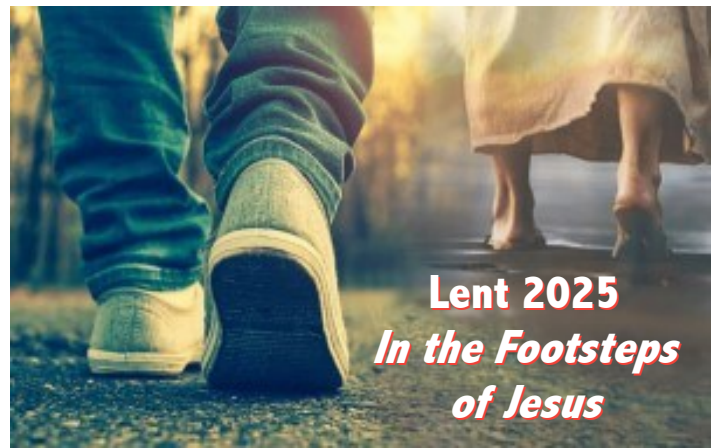
**February 9**  
***From Rejection to a New Beginning***  
 Genesis 21:8-21

**February 16**  
***From Deception to Healing***  
 Genesis 28:10-22

**February 23**  
***From Brokenness to Reconciliation***  
 Genesis 45



**Mar 2 Transfiguration Sunday**  
**Communion**  
*This is my Son, the Beloved;*  
*Listen to Him*



This Lent we will follow Jesus through the Gospel of Mark, from Galilee to Jerusalem as He brings hope, healing, and grace into the lives of the people he encounters.

**March 9th First Week in Lent**  
**Location: Sea of Galilee**  
***Becoming Part of a Bigger Plan***  
 Fishers of People - Mark 1:16-20

**March 16th Second Week in Lent**  
**Location: Desert area in Galilee**  
***Healing Touch***  
 The Leper - Mark 1:39-45

**March 23rd Third Week in Lent**  
**Location: Capernaum**  
***Friends In Low Places***  
 Call to Levi - Mark 2:13-17

**March 30th Fourth Week in Lent**  
**Location: Gennesaret**  
***Who Touched My Clothes?***  
 The Woman Ill - Mark 5:24-34

**April 6th Fifth Week in Lent Communion**  
**Location: Jericho**  
***What Do You Want Me To Do For You?***  
 The Blind Bartimaeus - Mark 10: 46-62

**April 13th Palm Sunday**   
**Location: Jerusalem**  
***Save Us***  
 Entrance in Jerusalem - Mark 11:1-11

**April 18th Good Friday 7:00 pm**  
***Travel with us the Way of the Cross***

**April 20th Easter Sunday**  
***Who will roll away the stone?***  
 Mark 16





# Chapel Service *Next Door*

**January 15, 2025**  
10:30 AM Hymn Sing  
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Come worship with our neighbors at New Perspective! Pastor Paola will lead worship in the chapel on the 3rd floor. Communion will be served.

**Future services: Feb 19th and Mar 19th**

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

## *Our Adult Choir and Handbells*

Choir practice is on Sunday Mornings.  
Please see the monthly calendar for exact times.



If interested in our choir, please contact  
Rev. Dr. Michelle Oberwise Lacock  
(630) 336-2317. We'd love to have you sing with us and Michelle is happy to teach you how to read the music line that fits your voice!



**Handbells practice at 6:30 pm every Wednesday**  
Please contact Brenda Lindsay (262) 894-0644 if you'd like to join the bells. We play the 3rd Sunday of every month. You do not need to read music to play bells just be able to count up to 4!



Our children and youth did an awesome job leading worship on Dec 15th. A special **THANK YOU** to **Mary Jo Martin** for all of the organization and to **Santa** for coming to Salem and spending time with the children and families of Salem.

Everyone had a great time!

## **A SPECIAL THANK YOU...**

- A special thank you to Michelle Oberwise Lacock for creating the Carols worship service on December 29th.
- A big thanks to all who were a part of our Christmas Eve service and helped to make it truly a blessing.
- A special thank you to Maura, Logan, Illyana, and Kara for doing such a great job on the Facebook videos introducing the angels for Advent. You did such a awesome job.



Please join us for **Sunday School** after Children's Time.

**Theme: As Unique as a Snowflake**  
Corinthians 12:27

*Here is the January schedule:*

- Jan 5th:** Communion Sunday - No Sunday School
- Jan 12th:** Mrs. Seegers will be teaching
- Jan 19th & 26th:** Mrs. Martin will be teaching

# A Warm Salem Welcome to our New Members...



*From left to right: Fred and Beth Hahn, Don Hastings, Troy & Lisa VandeYacht, and Barb Hollander*

# Salem

YOU BELONG HERE!

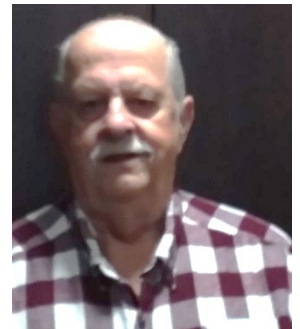
## Who's New in the Pews?

Salem recently welcomed six new people as members of Salem. Be sure to greet them and get to know them.



**Beth and Fred Hahn** – The Hahns are both from Waukesha, although Fred did live in So. Dakota for awhile as a youth. They have been married 46 years and have three adult children. Their only grandson, Jack, lives in IL. Fred has been retired as a machinist since 2019. In his free time, he enjoys woodworking, and model trains. Beth just retired the end of Dec. as a Financial Advisor. She especially enjoys reading the Bible.

**Don Hastings** – Don is originally from Maine. He attended Radar School in the Navy and was stationed in Racine. One weekend he came to Milwaukee to the Eagles Ballroom and met his future wife there. After the Navy he has held several different jobs. Among them: welder, real estate agent, and insurance salesman. He has three children, six grandchildren and two great grandchildren. He does a little woodworking in his free time.



**Barb Hollander** – Barb hails from Milwaukee and now resides in Waukesha with her husband. They have one adult son. She works for the Waukesha County Board of Supervisors. Barb enjoys attending church music festivals, cooking, and riding motorcycles with her husband. She is active in our hand bells and choir.

**Lisa and Troy VandeYacht** – Troy is originally from Green Bay, and Lisa from New Jersey. When Lisa lived in New York she went to Canada on vacation and met Troy there. In 2002 she moved to Milwaukee and they were married in 2003. They have two boys, Connor, attending Iowa State U. and Mason, attending U. of Iowa. Lisa is a project manager and loves music. She is a member of the Milwaukee Choristers. Lisa's mom, Betty is a resident of New Perspectives. Troy is an accountant, and describes himself as a tech nerd. You will often find him in our tech booth at Salem.





## 8th Annual Fundraiser for Haiti Sunday, January 26th

Save the date and your appetite!

The 8th annual fundraiser for Haiti is coming up on **Sunday, January 26th**. We will have an opportunity during church that day to learn more about the St Joseph Clinic in Tomassique, Haiti and the many wonderful programs the clinic has to support the health of their community. After church, we will have our annual cook-off fundraiser to help support the clinic and the salary of Wilner, the program coordinator.

We are still in need of some cooks to enter our annual cook-off with their favorite dip recipe for our "dips for donations" fundraiser. Any and all contributions are welcome. Reach out to Amanda Rogers (708-710-2610) if you are willing to enter or if you have any questions. And everyone, please save the date for this exciting event to help support such an important program!



### Meijer Simply Give Cards

We collected \$659. We're adding the honey money (\$91) to what was collected. That makes \$750 or 75 cards each worth \$30. Grand total donated to the pantry **\$2,250**.

**Thank you!**



Eras collection ended 12/8. We collected \$290 worth of gift cards, and 14 books of stamps (\$204.60). This totals \$494.60 in value for their Holiday collection for seniors

**Thank you so much!**



**THANK YOU!**

We would like to thank everyone for the donations of toys for Christmas Clearing Council. They were blessed last Sunday and delivered this past week. Thank you to those who sorted and delivered the toys. **We collected 166 toys, 14 books, and \$220 in gift cards for the toy drive.**



### **Snack Collection**

Snack collection for Hadfield Elementary School continues throughout the school year!



**THANK YOU** for bringing snacks and placing them in the basket found at the Happening Center.

The remaining grant money from last year was spent on a wish list for Special Need students and waterproof mittens and other needed supplies.

Our grant for 2024 was approved for Hadfield School in the amount of \$833 for classroom supplies and clothing. Expenses may be incurred through 12/31/25.



## MISSIONARY NEWSLETTER

Missionary: Temba Nkomozepe

Mission: MUJILA FALLS AGRICULTURE CENTER

Christmas Issue: 2024



*John 10:10 b "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.*

CONNECTING THE CHURCH IN MISSION



*Dear God's Holy people, Faithful brothers and sisters, Fellow workers and soldiers in Christ, I greet you all in the name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, Grace and Peace be unto you! I write to wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy new year, 2025! I am also very thankful for your kind gifts in 2024. Through your most generous giving, you have exceeded the goal for missionary support. We planted maize and the crop is doing very well. In our community, the traditional meal for Christmas is rice and chicken. This year we were selling our low priced off-layer (end of lay) chickens just in time, and many families will surely have a chicken to feast on this Christmas. Most people prefer off-layers not only because they are cheaper, but also because the meat is tougher and less tender.*

*Here are some pictures below:*



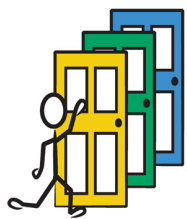
### ***End of lay chickens off to serve their final purpose***

*Ladies and gentlemen, the pictures above tell the story of how we sold 1,200 chickens in less than a week. On behalf of the Mujila Falls Agriculture Center, its staff and beneficiaries, I would like to express my deepest gratitude and appreciation to God, and to you our supporter who answers the call to sow into the center.*

*Your support enables us to reach out to the poor, the orphans, widows and despised immigrants.*

*God Bless you! Wish you all the blessings of the season, Merry Christmas!*

*Peace and Blessings, Temba Nkomozepe*



## Opportunity Knocking

The Outreach Committee would like to call your attention to a posting on the Community News Bulletin Board located in the Narthex. Throughout the year, the Outreach Committee receives requests from many organizations. Our feeling was that we have a full slate with the 8+ fundraisers and or meals we support. But, we decided to pass the info on to you and yours! Maybe you need a community project at work? A school or club project? Something for your family or neighborhood to work towards? We put together a short list of organizations that have contacted Salem for help. Feel free to take a picture of our flyer. That way, you'll always have the document on hand when the subject comes up. Thank you for all you do for our community.

## LOST AND FOUND



Salem has a Lost and Found and it is full of items.

***Especially children's coats.*** If you have lost anything, please be sure to look there. It is located above the coat rack by the doors that lead to New Perspectives. Thank you.

## ♥ HOSPITALITY ♥



We have a need for Greeters during the month of January.  
***Please sign up in the Narthex.***

Please consider serving refreshments. It can be simple. Coffee and paper products are supplied for you.  
***Sign up is at the snack bar.***



## Winter Retreat at Siena

**February 7th to February 8th**

**Leader: Chris Taylor**

**Cost: \$150.00**

(Includes lodging and meals)

*Space is limited to 10 - 6 spots available*

Registration forms for the upcoming Women in the Middle retreat from 2/7-2/8 are at the Happenings Center.

**We will meet from 6pm Friday February 7 to 4:30pm Saturday February 8.**

***Please submit your form and the \$20 deposit to the office no later than Thursday, Jan 23rd.***

Thank you!



*A heartfelt thank you...*



The advent banner behind the altar was a gift from a Salem Family. It is beautiful.



*Celebration*  
— OF LIFE —  
MEMORIAL SERVICE

A gathering for **Peggy Barnes** will be held at Krause Funeral Home  
21600 Capitol Drive, Brookfield, WI  
on Tues, Jan 7, 2025  
12:00 PM – 1:45 PM  
***Celebration of Life at 2:00 PM***

## FROM THE TRUSTEES...

Thank you to Caryn Adair for volunteering to meet with TEKO Mechanical to check the boiler when Doug was not able to meet with them.

We will resume our monthly meetings on January 8th at 5:30 pm.



## COMING SOON...

Salem T-Shirt  
Order Sign-Up

### SALEM T SHIRT Orders:

A sign up sheet will be in the Happenings Center starting on January 5th. You can also email [office@salemthehill.org](mailto:office@salemthehill.org) to place an order.

### COST:

\$20.00 sizes Small - X-Large

\$23.00 2XL and up

**DEADLINE:** Orders due by January 26th

**DELIVERY:** Mid February

**PAYMENT:** Payment due at pickup. Cash or check made payable to Salem UMC.

A minimum order of 12 t-shirts is needed for prices listed above.



An updated directory will be located on the counter outside of the office starting Tuesday, January 7th . Please check to make sure all of your information is correct. Make any necessary corrections directly on the copy. If the information is correct, please initial so we know it was verified. **Thank you for your help!!!**

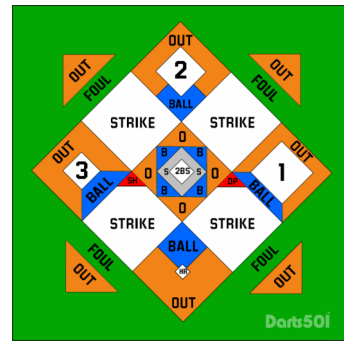
**An updated directory will be available in early February.**



## TAKING DOWN THE GREENS

### ARE YOU ABLE TO HELP?

Join us on **Saturday, January 11th at 10:00 am** for help take down the Greens. Hope to see you there.



## Salem's Dartball League

Come join the fun! Our Salem team plays Tuesday nights at Salem and at area churches. No experience is needed. 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm Salem is currently in 2nd place. Way to go! The complete schedule is can be found in the Happening Center. Contact Doug Lindsay for more information.

Knit together  
**IN LOVE.**  
COLOSSIANS 2:2, ESV



Salem's Knitting ministry invites you to bless others with a wrap of love. If you know someone who needs the comfort of one of our hand knit blankets, feel free to take one. The love wraps are located on the counter (right side) in front of the Sanctuary. We ask that you please sign our book, so that we know who is being blessed. **Thanks! If you like to knit, please join us in the library on Thursday mornings at 10:00 am.**

## News and Update from the Finance Team

**And...we did it! Well done Salem, Thanks to your generosity we are closing the year in the black.**



A BIG thank you to all who gave to our Christmas Special Offering for Healing Hearts of WI. If you would still like to give ...you can. Please specify in the memo of your check.