



# the Bugle

**I**t was seven o'clock in the morning when a 5-year old boy rose from sleep, made his way to the kitchen, ate some Captain Crunch, then got dressed to get ready for the day. It was late August. The air was warm and the sun had already risen. It was a new day. A new adventure. The first day of school. Kindergarten. Over this year he would learn about letters, numbers, and how to play and get along with others. He would go to the lunchroom and playground. He would learn sight words and writing, do art projects. He would make friends, meet teachers, learn new rules. It was a big change and he was not particularly looking forward to it. He would rather stay home and play with his trucks, dig in the dirt, or watch cartoons, eat when he wanted (Oreos and milk) or just wander around in the grass. But change was coming and there was no turning back. At eight-o-five a big yellow bus rolled down the hill with yellow lights flashing. It stopped out on the road, the door opened and yellow lights changed to red. It was time to go to school. The first day of school which would be the first of many firsts for years to come. It was a little scary but he was comforted standing next to his two older sisters. They had already had several other first days of school. They were excited. He was anxious. They turned to say goodbye to their mom who quickly snapped a picture, then the three siblings climbed aboard and off to town they went. At least that's how I remember it. It has been a long time since 1964 but I still recall the feeling of starting something new with anxiety, excitement and curiosity all at the same time.

Many children are having similar experiences with the first day of school now underway or soon to be all across the nation. What will the students of 2020 remember about their first day of school? Will learning take place in a classroom? At home? Or a little of both? If there was online learning when I first went to school,

I could be in class and have my Oreos at the same time! Wouldn't that be something! But somehow I do not think Oreos and milk are high on the list of things to look forward to this year. Life has changed. The way we are (or are not) together has changed. This is a whole new way of beginning school and there is learning for all of us as we adapt to the ongoing challenges of life along side and among a pandemic. There will still be learning that takes place as children will learn ABC's and 123's. But more than that, I believe we will all be learning how to live with uncertainty. Life changes. It changes us, in small or significant ways. But change does come and how we learn to adapt goes a long way toward building character and teaching us how to get along with those who are not quite the same as us. It may not always be fun or easy but change comes.

Yes, change comes but at the same time, some things are unchanging. As the fall programming begins at Salem, it will look different than in previous years but it will also be based on the unchangeable love of God who meets us in Jesus and who promises to be with us always. Plans are underway to center us on the stories of the Old Testament for all ages. Together we can grow in knowledge and understanding as well as deepen our faith and trust in God and one another. So, I invite you sample the opportunities. Open your bibles and join the biblical journey. God still speaks to us as we study, ponder and engage in God's word together. It is a new day. A new adventure. And we are in it together. We may be a little anxious, excited and curious all at the same time but from my experience, that is a good thing. A very good thing. Welcome to a new and exciting adventure. I am hopeful for what we might learn together.



Pastor Craig Swenson

## IN-PERSON WORSHIP REMAINS SUSPENDED



Due to the ongoing uncertainty of the coronavirus and the need to keep people safe, worship services will continue as online only. Salem Council will again review possibilities at the September meeting and review considerations with the Gathering Task Force.

This continues to be a decision that is not taken lightly. As COVID-19 numbers continue to increase, schools adapt to the fall schedule, there is caution about the continued impact of Covid-19 in our communities well into the fall.

### What Can We Still Do?

You are encouraged to go online for weekly worship and experience the variety of ways Salem members participate each week.

A new option has been added for those particularly without internet access to dial in by phone to visit with Pastor Craig on Sunday mornings, chat with Salem members and listen to portions of the service. That number is (727) 731-1641. The call is active at 9am each Sunday.

Thank you for your understanding and patience as we journey through this wilderness time together seeking God's ever-present help to inform and direct us.

## Volunteer Opportunity

Outreach ministry is looking for a volunteer(s) to coordinate the pen pal program with Thomas Jefferson for the upcoming school year.



Duties would include:

- Coordinate with teachers
- Recruit pen pals (we have lists of past pen pals)
- Deliver and pick up letters
- Coordinate end of year meet up

Outreach ministry group is always looking for fresh faces for our planning meetings, which are the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Please contact Sarah Gonzales (sarbear@mtco.com) for more information.

## Fair Trade Curbside Pick-Up

Curbside pick-up for Fair Trade will be on September 5, 2020, 10am-12pm.

We will be taking orders in advance with a credit card or we can also accept a check – we will not have change on hand on the day of pickup to minimize contact. To make your purchase with a credit card, please access the online form through the Bugle Blast.

If you prefer to do a phone order and then bring a check, contact either Jane Topel at 309-966-4953 or Jennifer Gallas at 309-256-5862 or Pew117@aol.com. If you are unable to pickup on that day, we are happy to arrange drop off to them as well. Thank you so much for continuing to support this ministry and to assist small farmers and cooperatives all over the world.



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The Bugle is published by Salem Lutheran Church (ELCA), 1700 W. War Memorial Dr. Peoria, Illinois 61614-6724 phone: (309) 688-9212 fax: (309) 688-9266

Published Monthly

Periodicals Postage Paid at Peoria, IL 61601

Annual Subscription \$10.00

POSTMASTER:

Send Address Changes to: Salem Lutheran Church, 1700 W. War Memorial Dr., Peoria, IL 61614-6724

**October monthly Bugle content due date is September 11**

**Pastoral Emergency Number:**

In case of emergency please call:  
Pastor Craig: 309-258-4759 or  
Lori Reimer: 309-303-3808

## Faith at Home for Adults

### Old Testament Bible Study on Wednesday Evenings

Beginning on **Wednesday, September 16 from 7pm – 8pm**, adults have an opportunity to join a Bible study that will focus on stories from the Old Testament. We will be using *The Story of God's Love* (order form is in this Bugle). This study time on Wednesday nights will be sharing the same Old Testament stories that Salem's youth and families are studying as part of their Faith at Home Sunday School.

It has been awhile since we have been able to all be together and perhaps you have let some of your studying fall by the wayside. It's easy to do! This is an opportunity to jump start your dwelling in God's word and join with others for Bible study. We will start at the beginning with the Creation story... Genesis 1:1 – *"In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth..."* Join Gretchen Petrakis as she facilitates this first lesson. Let's go back to the beginning and start this fall in the word of God. Contact the church office for Zoom link or watch the Bugle Blast.

## Adult Fellowship & Additional Zoom Connections

Reading, studying and pondering God's word is an experience that inspires and nurtures faith. Sharing this activity with others builds community and expands our insights into God's word. Many Salem members have a practice of sharing in times of Bible study on Sundays and throughout the week. Salem Lutheran Church is using Zoom and email to connect with groups for not only Bible study, but also meetings, games, and fellowship. Below are some opportunities for connections.

### Zoom Sunday Fellowship

MEET at 11AM

Zoom link included in Bugle Blast or contact the church office

### Zoom Wednesday Bible Study

PASTOR CRAIG LEADS WEEKLY BIBLE READINGS at 10AM

Please contact the church office for the Zoom link

### Zoom Prayer Team

MEET at 11AM on Sept. 8, 15 and 22

Please contact Jill Goldhammer for the Zoom link

### Zoom Friday Mom's Group

SALEM MOMS MEET at 1PM

Please contact Leah Grebner for the Zoom link

## Salem Endowment Committee News

Salem's Endowment Committee has continued work during the current pandemic. Two members, Jennifer Gallas and Dick Serrahn, renewed their terms for three more years at the Annual Meeting earlier this year. John Grabel and John Iverson have stepped up to co-chair the committee for this year. In addition, the following persons currently serve on the Endowment Committee: Pastor Craig Swenson, Sue Colloton, Bill Fischer, Dennis Gustafson, Bob Middleton, and Dean Doughty.

Salem's Endowment Committee exists to oversee the investments of the Endowment Fund and to determine what charitable contributions are to be made each year to various community and church-supported organizations. If you know of a worthy charitable organization that should be reviewed and considered, please contact any of the current members.

This year the Endowment Committee has made a gift to assist the Ulrich Family with expenses for their safe return from Malawi in the midst of this worldwide pandemic. There will be more gifts to organizations in the coming year. The committee has also had presentations from Neighborhood House and the new Ronald McDonald House regarding their missions and current operations.

Once the church renovation is completed, the Endowment Tree, which hung in the Fellowship Lounge, will be reinstated. This tree honors past members of Salem and other loved ones. If you have an interest in making a gift to the Endowment Fund to either honor or remember someone, please contact Jennifer Gallas at 692-5762 or Earl Gallas at 691-5738. The Committee thanks Salem for its continued support. Please let any committee member know if you have questions.

the  
story of  
God's  
love  
for you

SALLY LLOYD-JONES

# RALLY DAY CELEBRATION ON ZOOM!

**Everyone is welcome to join on September 13 at 10am!**

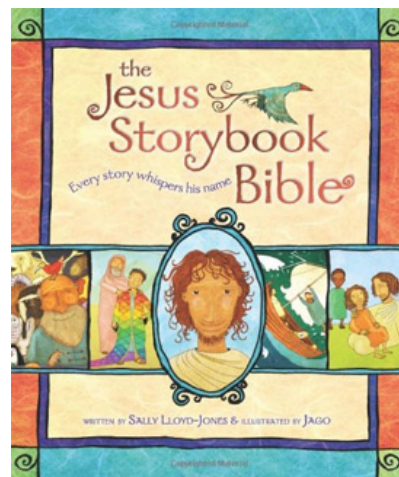
Being creative in these uncertain times and trying to say “yes” to rituals we have always done at Salem, but are now needing to do in a new way, we are celebrating Rally Day on Zoom. You’re probably saying, “Not another Zoom meeting” right about now. This will not be your typical Zoom meeting! Don’t assume you will just be sitting down and no one will know if you are in your pajamas or not. Plans are underway to have special visitors that you may or may not recognize. There will be activities to get you up and off of your couch! We won’t be able to sing, but there will be online fellowship and perhaps a few games.

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, September 13 at 10am for 30 minutes** (the Zoom link will be included in the Bugle Blast and also emailed to families) of our traditional Rally Day celebration that usually takes place in the Sanctuary, but will now take place in your home! Please plan to join and “see” your Salem family and friends that you haven’t been able to see for some time. Mr. Lantz will be giving virtual hugs... you won’t want to miss it!



We will be reading *The Jesus Storybook Bible* in our homes this fall. Dwelling in God’s word together, just not in our Sunday School classrooms. Look for your Bible to arrive at your home! Lessons and activities will be mailed each month to share during family devotion time. Maybe during mealtime once a week or Sunday morning... it’s all up to you to make it part of **YOUR** family’s ritual.

*The Jesus Storybook Bible* tells that Story beneath all the stories in the Bible. From Noah to Moses to the great King David, every story points to a Child. The one upon whom everything would depend. There are lots of stories in the Bible. But all the stories are telling one big story. The story of how God loves his children and comes to rescue them.



*The Jesus Storybook Bible* invites us to discover the one who is at the center of God’s great rescue story, and at the center of our story, too. Because the Bible isn’t a book of rules. Or a book of heroes. The Bible is most of all a story. And at the center of that story is a baby. And every single story in the Bible whispers his name.

In this time of uncertainty, confusion, unknown, and information overload... let us find hope and comfort in the Word of God. Faithful people across time have struggled and wandered and

looked for hope. We know that Jesus is the way and through him we find strength and life. These stories are OUR stories! Stories that tell us of God’s love for us and that he will never abandon us.

“So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide

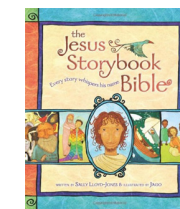
in love abide in God, and God abides in them.”  
- 1 John 4:16

## Join Salem’s families in their Study of God’s Word this Fall

Sunday School for all youth (preschoolers through high school students) will be at home as families dwell in God’s word. With so much uncertainty in everything else right now, we are committed to helping families with faith formation at home through the end of 2020. **Families will be given *The Jesus Storybook Bible* and lessons and activities to do together at home.**

*The Jesus Storybook Bible* tells that Story beneath all the stories in the Bible. From Noah to Moses to the great King David, every story points to a Child. The one upon whom everything would depend...

There are lots of stories in the Bible. But all the stories are telling one big story. The story of how God loves his children and comes to rescue them. The Jesus Storybook Bible invites us to discover for ourselves the one who is at the center of God’s great rescue story — and at the center of our story, too. Because the Bible isn’t a book of rules. Or a book of heroes. The Bible is most of all a true story. And at the center of that story is a baby. And every single story in the Bible whispers his name. Although this edition is intended for children and youth, the writing or the storytelling is relevant for anyone... adults included! The illustrations are gorgeous and many adults enjoy this edition.



### ORDER THE JESUS STORYBOOK BIBLE FOR YOURSELF OR A SALEM PRESCHOOL FAMILY

If you would like one for yourself or to share with a child or youth in your life, Salem is taking orders. We would also like to purchase copies to gift to our Salem Preschool families, as well as have on hand at Salem for visitors. If this is something that interests you, please fill out the order form below and mail to church.



### THE STORY OF GOD’S LOVE FOR YOU: An Adult Version of the Jesus Storybook Bible

The author of *The Jesus Storybook Bible* also created an adult specific edition. She heard the requests and here it is: **THE STORY OF GOD’S LOVE FOR YOU**. Same text. A new title. A new design. For a whole new audience. Accessible to someone who might not be drawn to an illustrated children’s book—this format removes any last barrier to someone hearing the greatest story ever told. This edition is geared to reach everyone with the great good news of **THE STORY OF GOD’S LOVE FOR YOU!** In this order form there is also the option to purchase this adult edition.

Please mail in this portion of the form to Salem (1700 W. War Memorial Drive, Peoria, IL 61614)


Name \_\_\_\_\_


Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

(Books will be mailed to the address above)

 # of copies \_\_\_\_\_ The Jesus Storybook Bible (illustrated) @ \$10 each

 # of copies \_\_\_\_\_ The Jesus Storybook Bible as gift for Salem’s Preschool families @ \$10 each

 # of copies \_\_\_\_\_ The Story of God’s Love for You @ \$10 each

Check enclosed made payable to Salem Lutheran Church  
Online order forms also available through the Bugle Blast if you wish to pay by credit card.

## FROM THE DESK OF DEACON JILL.

Salem's Faith Formation Team has decided to keep it simple this fall with "Faith at Home" Sunday School for children ages 3 through high school. We are offering creative resources for families and individuals to study beloved Old Testament Stories. When I originally considered using material from the Jesus Storybook Bible with our junior and senior high youth, I was a little hesitant. However, what an opportunity we all have, (children, teenagers and adults) to live among God's flawed but faithful first witnesses this fall and to be reminded how every Old Testament story points us to Jesus. It's possible older students who learned these stories as small children may be dwelling in them this fall for the last time before sharing them with their own children in the future. And, of course we know these stories have much wisdom for the challenges we face today. Consider this:

REALITIES	RESPONSES
<p><b>UNCERTAINTY</b> Life feels uncertain right now – school, sports, church family and friends. With so many unknowns, it has become difficult to rely on just about anything.</p>	<p><b>A STABLE PLAN</b> With so much uncertainty, we have developed a plan and are committing to it through at least the end of 2020. This way, there will be no wondering about what things will look like on a week to week basis.</p>
<p><b>SCREEN FATIGUE</b> People are experiencing screen fatigue. With so much of life being moved into the "virtual" realm the last thing people want is more screen time.</p>	<p><b>LIMITED SCREEN TIME</b> We plan to streamline screen time as much as possible and leverage it for the most important elements of our program: relationship building and content delivery.</p>
<p><b>NEED FOR COMMUNITY</b> Faith is made whole in community. We need each other. Especially now.</p>	<p><b>COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY</b> We are committed to finding the best and safest ways to connect students with one another and with their leaders through both digital means and other creative methods. <u>Please help us make community in Christ a priority in your son/daughter's lives by encouraging participation.</u></p>



### FAITH FOR LIFE AND KAPPA CHI SUNDAY SCHOOL FORMAT

Each Salem student - 6th grade and up will receive a copy of "The Story of God's Love for You." The books will be delivered to student homes by the first week

in September. **Starting Rally Day, September 13**, Salem will host 20-minute student devotions on ZOOM every Sunday night as follows:

**Girls: 7pm-7:20pm**

**Boys: 7:30pm – 7:50pm**

Special guests will read students a story of God's love for them. We will briefly discuss the main point and what the story has to say to us today. We will share our highs and lows and close with a prayer. Students will be sent out with a Blessing for the week ahead. All this will take place in 20 minutes. We encourage parents to help our older students make this devotion time part of their Sunday night ritual.

This is our Sunday School program for September - December. Other virtual FUN, FELLOWSHIP, & SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES AND ACTIVITIES will be introduced for both 6th-8th graders and high school throughout the fall as we learn to connect in new ways. More information is coming soon directly to Faith for Life and Kappa Chi Families. Stay safe and healthy; and keep Growing in Christ to Love and Serve!



Please plan to attend the next **Fall Work Day on Saturday, September 19 at 8am.** (*The rain date is Saturday, September 26.*) Please note that masks will be required for everyone attending Work Day and we will practice social distancing as well. If anyone cannot make work day or would prefer to do a task on their own time please contact Eric Schroeder at [eric.l.schroeder@gmail.com](mailto:eric.l.schroeder@gmail.com).



Every day, blood donors help patients of all ages: accident and burn victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, and those battling cancer and other diseases. In fact, every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood. Whether a patient receives whole blood, red cells, platelets or plasma, this lifesaving care starts with one person making a generous donation. Red blood cells must be used within 42 days (or less). One donation can potentially save up to three lives. Additionally, the Red Cross is testing all blood, platelet and plasma donations for

COVID-19 antibodies. The Red Cross hopes testing will provide critical insight into whether donors may have possibly been exposed to this coronavirus, as some COVID-19 carriers can be asymptomatic. The Red Cross is committed to helping others in meaningful ways during this pandemic.

**Salem's next blood drive is September 21, 2020 from 2pm to 6pm at Northwoods Mall.** Due to current Covid restrictions, there will not be a meal served. Please let me know if you are able to donate or help. You can also sign up at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org).

**SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH  
PARISH NURSE**

# SEPTEMBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<p><b>1</b></p> <p>10am: Zoom Staff Meeting 7pm: Zoom Council Meeting</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>10am: Zoom Bible Study</p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>1pm: Zoom Grown &amp; Flown Mom's Group</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>10am-12pm: Fair Trade Curbside Pickup 5pm: Worship Online</p>
<p><b>6</b></p> <p>Worship Online 9am: Live Phone Call 11am: Zoom Adult Fellowship Coffee Hour</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p><b>Office Closed for Labor Day</b></p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p><b>Northern Conference Bugle Deadline</b> 10am: Zoom Staff Meeting 11am: Zoom Prayer Team 7pm: Zoom Outreach Meeting 7:30pm: Zoom Faith Formation Meeting</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>6:45am: Zoom Endowment Committee 10am: Zoom Bible Study 7pm: Zoom Stewardship Meeting</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>7pm: Zoom Adult Fellowship Night</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>1pm: Zoom Grown &amp; Flown Mom's Group</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>5pm: Worship Online</p>
<p><b>13</b></p> <p>Worship Online - Rally Day 9am: Live Phone Call 10am: Zoom Sunday School Rally Day 11am: Zoom Adult Fellowship Coffee Hour 7pm: Jr. High and Sr. High Girls' Faith at Home Devotion 7:30pm: Jr. High and Sr. High Boys' Faith at Home Devotion</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>6:30pm: Zoom Congregational Care Meeting</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>10am: Zoom Staff Meeting 11am: Zoom Prayer Team 7pm: Zoom Property &amp; Finance Meeting</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>10am: Zoom Bible Study 7pm: Zoom Adult Creation Story Sunday School Study</p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>1pm: Zoom Grown &amp; Flown Mom's Group</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>8am: Salem Work Day 5pm: Worship Online</p>
<p><b>20</b></p> <p>Worship Online 9am: Live Phone Call 11am: Zoom Adult Fellowship Coffee Hour 7pm: Jr. High and Sr. High Girls' Faith at Home Devotion 7:30pm: Jr. High and Sr. High Boys' Faith at Home Devotion</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>2pm: Salem Blood Drive (at Northwoods Mall) 7pm: Zoom Salem Churchmen Meeting</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>10am: Zoom Staff Meeting 11am: Zoom Prayer Team 7pm: Worship &amp; Music Meeting</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>10am: Zoom Bible Study 7pm: Zoom Adult Sunday School Study</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>5pm: Zoom Executive Committee Meeting 7:30pm: Zoom Book Club</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>1pm: Zoom Grown &amp; Flown Mom's Group</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>8am: Salem Work Day (Rain Date) 5pm: Worship Online</p>
<p><b>27</b></p> <p>Worship Online 9am: Live Phone Call 11am: Zoom Adult Fellowship Coffee Hour 7pm: Jr. High and Sr. High Girls' Faith at Home Devotion 7:30pm: Jr. High and Sr. High Boys' Faith at Home Devotion</p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>10am: Zoom Staff Meeting</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>9am: Midwest Food Bank 10am: Zoom Bible Study 7pm: Zoom Adult Sunday School Study</p>			

# CONGREGATIONAL CARE TEAM

## DOES MINISTRY FROM HOME

There are many ways we can care for each other from home. The Congregational Care Team invites you to get involved in one of the following opportunities this fall:

### Prayer Team (New!)

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God" Philippians 4:6*

Join us on ZOOM as we take a look at how Salem prays for one another, for our community and for our world. Let's use this time away from the gathered church to explore creative ways to increase Salem's Prayer Ministry and try new things!

**Tuesdays 11am – 11:45am**  
**September 8, 15 and 22**

All are welcome. Contact Jill Goldhammer at [jgoldhammer@salemofpeoria.com](mailto:jgoldhammer@salemofpeoria.com) for the Zoom Link.

### Adult Fellowship Scavenger Hunt

**Thursday, September 10 at 7pm**, Adult Fellowship will be having a Zoom Happy Hour with a virtual at-home scavenger hunt. Grab your favorite snack or beverage, log on, and let's have some fun together!

### Join Congregational Care on Zoom

Congregational Care meets on Zoom on the second Monday of each month (Sept 14; Oct 12; Nov 9) at 6:30pm to brainstorm caring ideas and turn ideas into action. Contact Helene Peterson (453-7022) or Jill Goldhammer (370-1692) to join in.

### Thinking of You Bags

Salem Senior's Ministry **WILL** be delivering Thinking of You Bags to our members in September. COVID 19 makes this a little tricky but it does not stop us. The bags were decorated by our VBS children. You may drop your cards or other small items off in the sealed container at the back entrance at church any time before **September 27**, or call the church office to make other arrangements. Please write names on the envelopes if you write a personalized message and we will put them in the correct bags. Bags will be delivered. Call Joanie at 231-7724 or the church office if you have questions.

Walt and Joy Anderson  
Natalee Arff  
Susan Barham  
Betty and Matthew Bennett  
Alf Berg  
Luan Borquist  
Carl and Helen Buerger, Jr.  
Ruby Chelgren  
John Day  
Keith and MaryAlice Erickson  
Bill Gavin  
Joyce Grubb  
Vi Gruber  
Bev Holmes

Shirley Hornecker  
John Johnson  
Bea Kent  
Ruth Landes  
Carl Lindquist  
Bev Maier  
Bill Mettam  
Elaine McHugh  
Bob Middleton  
Paul and JoAnn Misselhorn  
Nancy Owens  
Dr. Rick O'Connor  
Gil and Jo Nolde

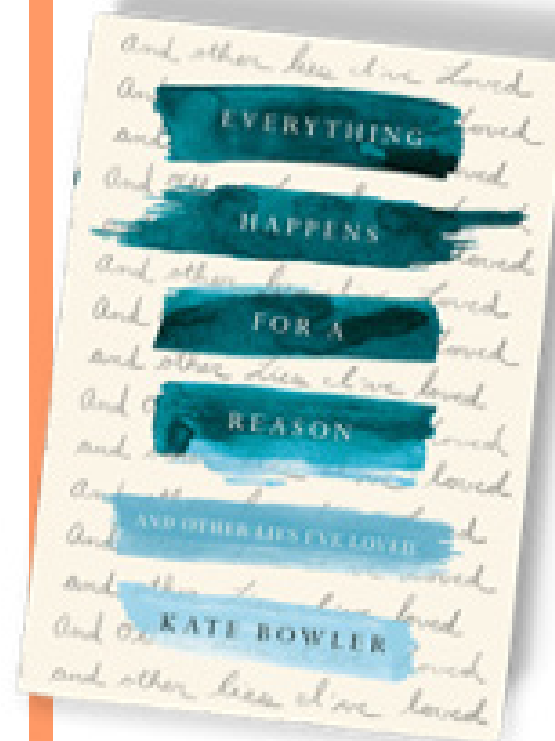
Henry and Caroline Noe  
Marty Plunkett  
Alan Puttcamp  
Kay Peterson  
Fran Riley  
Marge Ryberg  
Irene Sawatzky  
Fred and Marilyn Stamerjohn  
Cindy Turner  
Roman Wegrzyn

# Book Club

Everyone is welcome to join us! You may join for just one book if it seems of interest to you. Members read the book during the month and we meet for one hour on the 4th Thursday of the month to discuss the book. If you would like to join the Book Club please email Gretchen at [gpetrakis@salemofpeoria.com](mailto:gpetrakis@salemofpeoria.com) and she will make sure you receive the Zoom meeting link.

## SEPTEMBER BOOK: "Everything Happens for a Reason"

**Zoom Discussion Meeting will be  
September 24 at 7:30pm**



Kate Bowler is a professor at Duke Divinity School with a modest Christian upbringing, but she specializes in the study of the prosperity gospel, a creed that sees fortune as a blessing from God and misfortune as a mark of God's disapproval. At thirty-five, everything in her life seems to point toward "blessing." She is thriving in her job, married to her high school sweetheart, and loves life with her newborn son.

Then she is diagnosed with stage IV colon cancer.

The prospect of her own mortality forces Kate to realize that she has been tacitly subscribing to the prosperity gospel, living with the conviction that she can control the shape of her life with "a surge of determination." Even as this type of Christianity celebrates the American can-do spirit, it implies that if you "can't do" and succumb to illness or misfortune, you are a failure. Kate is very sick, and no amount of positive thinking will shrink her tumors. What does it mean to die, she wonders, in a society that insists everything happens for a reason? Kate is stripped of this certainty only to discover that without it, life is hard but beautiful in a way it never has been before.

Frank and funny, dark and wise, Kate Bowler pulls the reader deeply into her life in an account she populates affectionately with a colorful, often hilarious retinue of friends, mega-church preachers, relatives, and doctors. Everything Happens for a Reason tells her story, offering up her irreverent, hard-won observations on dying and the ways it has taught her to live.

*October Book – Zoom Discussion Meeting will be October 29th at 7:30pm*



The next Midwest Food Bank serving opportunity is **Wednesday, September 30 at 9am.** Please plan to meet at the Peoria Division.

### Important Giving Information

All congregational members who are making a contribution of any stock through Salem's account at Wells Fargo are asked to let Dick Peterson know a head of time. There has been a change in procedure at Wells Fargo and they no longer tell us who the gift is from. Therefore, for the information to show up on your contribution statement Dick needs to know about the gift of stock in advance. Please feel free to contact him at 309-472-5486 or through his email at [rlpeterson1@comcast.net](mailto:rlpeterson1@comcast.net). If you have any questions.



## VIRTUAL 17TH ANNUAL PRAY FOR THE CURE

A SPECIAL PRAYER SERVICE DEDICATED TO BREAST CANCER SURVIVORS

**Thursday, October 1, 2020 at 6:30pm**

Find the event on Facebook: [@KomenPeoria](#) or online at [www.salemofpeoria.com](http://www.salemofpeoria.com)

Join the Pray for the Cure for this **Virtual Ecumenical Prayer Service** enhancing the breast cancer survivor's spiritual well-being in healing and recovery through special music, reflections and prayers from survivors and encouragement for survivors

Invite your family and friends to join you in worshipping together during this special **Virtual Prayer Service.**

**For additional information contact:**

Linda Butler, Promotions Chairperson: (309) 688-7912 or

Helene Peterson, Committee Member: (309) 453-7022, [HMPeterson1@comcast.net](mailto:HMPeterson1@comcast.net)

### SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

**September 1**

Julie Doty

**September 3**

Emily Jolliff

**September 4**

Greg Grebner  
Caidon Hickey  
Talon Witt

**September 5**

Carole Love  
Robert Middleton, Sr.  
David Swanson

**September 6**

Katherine Hancock  
Nancy Knobloch

**September 8**

Mary Gibson  
Suzanne Ligon

**September 9**

Jamie Hancock

**September 10**

Laura VanLaningham

**September 11**

Paul Misselhorn  
Gregory Scoville  
Melissa Snider

**September 12**

Caleb Brinkman  
Grant Kroodsmma

**September 13**

Jennifer Friberg  
Donald Hamann  
Jordyn Manning  
David Thomasson

**September 14**

Amy Hoffman

**September 15**

Kadyn Cochran  
Jeffrey Hamann  
Riley Moore

**September 15**

Marlene Peterson

**September 16**

Connor Kelly  
Henry Noe

**September 17**

David Rees

**September 18**

Kevin Setterlund

**September 20**

Ella Hartman  
Tim Koeltzow  
Kylee Lambie  
Drew Swanson

**September 21**

Karl Larson

**September 22**

Haley Aubrey  
A.J. Bastian  
Rebecca Glawe

**September 22**

Nicole Vandervlugt

**September 23**

Daniela Gonzales  
Bruce Norgard  
Donna Siegrist  
Alex Swanson

**September 24**

Inez Norgard

**September 26**

Alice Bahnfleth  
Kelly Brinkman  
Justin Machacek

**September 28**

Barbara Glawe

**September 29**

Alyssa Glawe

**September 30**

James Patterson

### PRAYER REQUESTS

**THANKSGIVING TO GOD FOR...**

- Salem's growing ministry

**DIRECTION...**

- Salem Congreg. Council
- Salem's Pastor, Deacon and Staff
- Salem's Renovation Project
- Salem's Sister Congregation - St. John's

**PRAYERS REQUESTS...**

- All those affected with COVID-19
- The men and women of our armed forces
- Support for all caregivers when loved ones suffer
- Individuals suffering from depression
- People of Guatemala
- Families at Crittenton Center
- Midwest Food Bank
- Wally Bastian and his family
- Luan Borquist
- Scott Cochran

- Keith Erickson
- Darlene Ford's friend
- Gabe
- Howard Gallatin
- Jack Grant
- Joyce Grubb
- Laurie Hacker
- Ron Hipple
- Amy Hoffman and family with the death of Amy's mother-in-law
- Hunter
- Helen Johnson
- Nicole Inman
- Karen
- Ken
- Briggs Landwehr and family
- Carl Lindquist
- Judy Livingston
- Lizzy
- Marta
- Millicent
- Morgan Lott

- Bill Mettam
- Tom Mueller
- Dr. Rick O'Connor
- Oliver and his family
- Heather Reiss
- Sam, Cindy Fischer's niece
- Stephanie
- Teresa Stewart
- Don Swanson
- Rosemary Swanson's friend with pancreatic cancer
- Ella Vandervlugt
- Wayne (brother of Barbi Ricketts)
- Karla and Roman Wegrzyn
- Lesly Wegrzyn

**PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY...**

Stateside: Gibson Gonzalez, Emily Graff, Barry Joyce, Jason Sterr, Col. Darnell Salley, Scott Wolfmeyer  
Overseas: Ian Borquist, Talon Maki, Jim Sterling

The Bugle  
USPS 477-460



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

MY FACE COVERING  
PROTECTS YOU;  
YOUR FACE COVERING  
PROTECTS ME.

