



# the Bugle

**I**t is a rainy Monday morning. No sunshine. No warm temperature like recent days. It is a rather gloomy day as trees, farm fields, landscape areas and gardens remain lifeless after the winter thaw. For those who suffer from Seasonal Affective Disorder, days like this are difficult. And yet, I hear birds singing as if to announce the arrival of spring and the hope that is unfolding as daffodils, tulips, crocus plants blossom to welcome a new season of life again. Spring is coming and soon color will return to the barren landscape. We learn to expect this renewing process and I suspect even yearn for this change all the more this spring. Just one year ago, we were entering a lockdown mandate that redefined how we live and interact with people and the world around us. I recall being nervous about visiting across the yard with our next-door neighbors as we did our part to shelter in place, work from home, limit interpersonal contacts. Much has changed in these many months and yet some things are quite the same. This spring feels different, however, with less anxiety and more hope that we are slowly beginning to return to life that feels more “normal” than it did just months ago.

Even though vaccinations are taking place, I am hopeful we are more attentive to the need to do what we can to care for our neighbors and help reduce the spread of persistent

**Looking ahead:** As we consider the growing season before us, I will be offering a prayer of blessing for the soil and the seed as part of worship May 2. Anticipate the May **Bugle** article for more details.

and dangerous virus. Such a small thing, yet having the ability of effecting dramatic consequences. While we would like to be able to fully gather again, sing, share a table for coffee and conversation face-to-face, give hugs, remove masks, we are not there yet. I have been wearing several cloth masks interchangeably for these many months and decided I should consider getting new ones. As I considered what to get, I realized they are cheaper in larger quantities but will I really need 25 masks? If I wear a new one each week, that gets us into mid-September! That thought was initially as gloomy as today’s weather. But then I realized that being intentional with my precautions not only helps me but also those around me.

Spring is coming and even though we may wish for it to come more quickly, we would do well to wait for it with patience and hopeful anticipation so that we can experience the excitement of its unfolding again. Time beyond this pandemic is coming and yet we would do well to practice patience and love with hopeful anticipation to a time we can gather and live freely again.

The journey of Lent is coming to a close. Soon we enter the holy days of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday so that we can more fully embrace the Easter proclamation again and where on our lips or in our hearts, we can rejoice knowing that Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Jesus has come and promises to come again. Rejoice! Rejoice! This is good news!

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## WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### ONLINE SATURDAYS AT 5PM

#### SUNDAYS

**IN-PERSON 9AM**  
(pre-registration required  
currently limited to 50)

#### MAUNDY THURSDAY

ONLINE at 11AM

#### GOOD FRIDAY

ONLINE at 11AM

#### EASTER SUNDAY

SANCTUARY/PARKING LOT 9AM

# Find Hope through the Wilderness during Holy Week & Easter

<b>Palm SUNDAY</b>	online at 5PM on Sat. / in person 9AM*
<b>WAY OF THE CROSS</b>	online at 5PM
<b>Maundy THURSDAY</b>	online at 11AM*
<b>Good FRIDAY</b>	online at 11AM*

**SUNDAY, MAR 28**

**WED, MAR 31**

**THURS, APRIL 1**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 2**

\* Please register in advance for in-person worship. Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services will be available to watch in the Fellowship Lounge at 11am by registering through the church office.

HE IS *risen*  
**Easter**

[www.salemofpeoria.com](http://www.salemofpeoria.com)

online at 5pm on Saturday  
in person in the sanctuary\* / parking lot  
**9AM SUNDAY, APRIL 4**

Communion will be available for drive through pick-up in advance on **Sat., March 27 from 10am-11:30am** or call the church office (309) 688-9212 to make other arrangements.



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**May monthly Bugle content due date is April 13.**

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

**CURBSIDE**  
PICK-UP / DROP-OFF

**SAT., APRIL 10, 10AM-12PM**

### FAIR TRADE PICK-UP

Curbside pick-up will be **Saturday, April 10 from 10am-12pm**. If the Saturday pickup does not work for you and you would like to arrange for a drop off or pickup of items at another time, please call Jennifer Gallas at 309-256-5862 or email at Pew117@aol.com to make arrangements. We are happy to assist you!

### FOOD DRIVE DROP-OFF

The theme for the food drive is **"One CAN make a difference"**. Continuing our support for Bethel United Methodist food pantry with donations of non-perishable items, drive by drop off on **Saturday April 10 between 10 am-12pm**.



## Salem Endowment Fund News

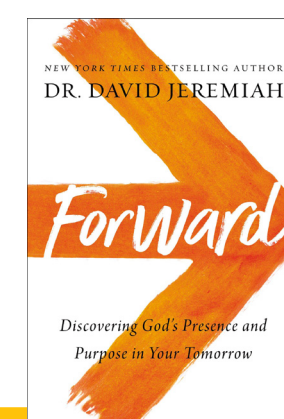
Salem's Endowment Committee is pleased to welcome newly elected members, Sandy Salverson and Dawn Koeltzow to the committee. John Iverson will be returning for another term. The Committee elected new leadership in February. Jennifer Gallas and Dean Doughty will serve as co-chairs, while Bill Fischer and Dick Serrahn have agreed to serve once again as secretary and treasurer, respectively. Dean is also the Property and Finance representative and Dennis Gustafson will stay on as an Outreach and Fellowship representative. Bob Middleton remains on the committee. Thanks to all who have agreed to serve!

In addition, many thanks go out to John Grabel, who completed his term and has served as both a member and a committee chair. Thank you, John, for your many years of service on the Endowment Committee!

As reported in Salem's 2020 Annual Report, \$25,000 was distributed from endowment fund earnings to various community organizations, ministry, and mission projects. The Endowment Tree has been re-installed in the atrium on the first floor and two new leaves for Roman Wegrzyn and Sherley Sarver will go on the tree this month.

If you would like to know how you can either make a gift in honor of or in memory of a loved one or friend to Salem's Endowment, you can contact any of the Endowment Committee members or contact the church office.

## Salem Book Club on Zoom: Forward



Join your Salem members on **Thursday, April 29 for Salem's monthly book club at 7:30pm**. Our book this month is **Forward** by Dr. David Jeremiah. Please email Gretchen at [gpetrakis@salemofpeoria.com](mailto:gpetrakis@salemofpeoria.com) to be added to the group and receive information.

*Beloved Bible teacher and New York Times Bestselling Author, Dr. David Jeremiah reveals his personal approach to life and how to find the presence and purpose of God in your future! The inspirational content gives you practical biblical insight into the "what's next" in your life. Let Forward be the step-by-step plan of action you've needed to move past where you are to where you want to be.*

## Laughter is Contagious...

FROM THE  
PARISH NURSE,  
LORI REIMER, RN

*"Did you hear the one about...?"* Who doesn't like a good joke, anecdotal story, or a funny movie? The sound of laughter can be contagious (in this case that word is good). Nothing works faster to bring our minds and bodies back into balance than a good, hearty laugh!

Why does laughter make us feel so good... physically and mentally?

- Stimulates your organs: When you laugh, you take in more oxygen-rich air. This stimulates your lungs, heart, and muscles.
- Relaxes your muscles: A good laugh can relieve physical tension in the body and relax the muscles for up to 45 minutes.
- Improves cardiac health: Laughing increases your heart rate and the amount of oxygen in your blood which sends more oxygen to your tissues.
- Boosts immune system as well as a positive mood: Laughter increases endorphins and immune cells (the ones our body needs to fight off infection) as well as decreases stress hormones. This can also help lower your blood pressure.
- Helps with weight loss: Laughing not only reduces the stress hormones that cause weight gain, but it also burns calories.
- Provides distraction: Laughter provides your brain with a break from the worrying thoughts that cause stress.
- Improves your mood: Laughing produces a general sense of well-being and can diffuse the anger and depression you were once feeling.
- Strengthens relationships: A shared laugh with friends, family or a coworker can help you feel more connected to that person and form a strong and lasting bond. Humor is also a powerful way to heal past disagreements or resentments

**Genesis 21:6** "Sarah said, 'God has brought me laughter, and everyone who hears about this will laugh with me.'"

## Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief

The Salem Sunday School program in partnership with the Outreach ministry group will be collecting items for personal care kits that will be donated to Lutheran World Relief (LWR). The kits will be assembled during a family service project event this spring. Please see the list below of items needed. Take note of special instructions that aid LWR with distribution and shipping of kits all over the world. Items may be dropped off at Salem during the week or on Sunday morning.

### ITEMS FOR PERSONAL CARE KIT

- ONE light-weight bath-size towel (between 20" x 40" and 52" x 27"), dark color recommended
- TWO or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping
- ONE adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging
- ONE sturdy comb
- ONE metal nail clipper

### IMPORTANT GUIDELINES TO REMEMBER

- Items must be new
- Towel should be light-weight allowing kit recipients to easily hand wash and air dry.
- Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages or your group's name.
- Please do not donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.

ALL ARE WELCOME!



## Sunday School Zoom on April 11

Join your Sunday School family on April 11 at 10am-10:30am for fellowship, education, and fun interacting with each other. All are invited to join us.

**Meeting ID:** 910 2259 6056

**Passcode:** Faith

**Phone:** (312) 626-6799

## Online Fellowship & Game Night for High School and Young Adults, Sunday, March 28 & Sunday, April 25



Join us on the fourth Sunday at 7:30pm for games, fellowship and fun!

**Meeting ID:** 915 7308 0078

**Passcode:** GameNight

**Phone:** (312) 626-6799

## Pentecost Family Sunday School – Save the Date

Mark your calendars and watch for additional information for a **Pentecost Celebration on May 23rd**. This will be a socially distanced event and will follow all covid guidelines and precautions. This will be a wonderful opportunity to gather (safely) for a hands on Pentecost Celebration with family activities designed to celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit. We will also be completing a family service project. All Salem members are invited to this event. Additional information and registration information will be coming.



## You are important! Staying connected is important!

This time of pandemic has reminded us how incredibly important our church community is and the need to stay in touch with one another. Congregational Care is embarking on an effort to update our membership information - address & contact information (phone, email).

Shortly you will receive a form either via email or mail requesting you provide your address and contact information for Salem. We are asking all members to complete this form. Please help us update our records so we can share this information with your Salem family!

Thank you! Please contact Leah Grebner or Susan Ross for any questions at (309) 688-9212.

## Spring Work Day, April 24 at 8am

Mark your calendars for Spring Work Day on April 24 starting at 8am. For any questions please contact the Salem Churchmen president, Chad Arnold. Many hands make light work! Please considering volunteering there will be projects for all!

## THANK YOU!

• I appreciate the thoughtful Valentine Bag filled with cards and treats. Thank you for your thoughtfulness.

-Rosy Park

• Thank you for your gift of \$5,800.00 to ELCA World Hunger. This is a season of reflection and sacrifice, but also a season of hope. As we walk the 40-day journey of Lent, we know that we are walking toward Easter and the promise of renewal. Your gifts to the ministries of the ELCA are bringing that promise and hope to your neighbors around the world.

Your generosity is getting at the root causes of hunger and poverty in over 60 countries including the United States. It is providing access to clean water, health care, agriculture, livestock, education, and peace and justice. Through your gifts, you are joining with the whole church as we work toward a just world where all are fed.

You are creating new beginnings. Thank you for sharing the hope of new life and the fullness of Christ's joy.

Fund. Congregations are currently registering for Stewardship for All Seasons, and your gift is making it possible for the synod to subsidize this program, showing how being a synod -congregations together- strengthens ministry for and with one another.

In deep appreciation for your generosity and partnership, Pastor Elise Rothfusz

• The Center for Prevention of Abuse is incredibly grateful for each and every gift we receive from our community. We are continually amazed by the generosity of our friends and neighbors, and we are very thankful for your support as we work to end abuse in Central Illinois.

It is people like you who allow us to continue our mission to help all people, men, woman and children live free from violence and abuse. Please know that your generous gift of \$2000.00 to our Holiday Appeal campaign will help us continue providing safety, counseling, therapy, advocacy, and education for survivors of abuse as we work to build a peaceful community.

With your help and the help of all of our wonderful neighbors, we will continue to fulfill that mission every day. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve and for your continued support and friendship. Have a safe, peaceful, and joyous New Year!

Carol Merna, Chief Executive Office

In Christ,

The Rev. Robin Brown

Mission Funding Director, Congregations

• Greetings Salem Endowment Committee, I am so grateful for you and your partnership in ministry. Thank you for the generous gift from your Endowment Fund to the CSIS Macedonia

## Congratulations!

Congratulations to the Rook family as **Payton Lynn Rook** was baptized on Sunday, February 21, 2021. Her baptism may be found in the online worship service on March 7.

## Condolences

Prayers are requested for Sis Gavin and family as her husband, **Bill Gavin**, joined the church triumphant on February 24 Please pray for Sis and all who mourn William ("Bill") Gavin's passing.

Prayers are requested for the family of **Frances Riley** as Fran joined the church triumphant on February 24. Please pray for all those who mourn Fran's passing.

Our condolences for the family and friends of **David Schwab** as David joined the church triumphant on January 19. Please pray for all who mourn David's passing.

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

**April 1**  
Michelle Hassel  
Martin O'Conner

**April 2**  
Craig McGregor

**April 3**  
Caleb Bradle  
Susan Ross

**April 4**  
Judy Cagle  
Kevin Hodgkins

**April 5**  
Michael Bohm  
Shirley Gustafson  
Brianna Schroeder  
Sheryl Snider  
Kayla Webster

**April 6**  
Sandra Salverson

**April 7**  
Lynn Akers

**April 8**  
Alexander Kelly

**April 9**  
Amy Koepke  
Gretchen Petrakis

**April 10**  
Deana Collins  
Nicholas Hughbanks

**April 11**  
Julia Kotewa

**April 12**  
Joyce Crone  
Julie Hancock  
Poppy Jolliff  
Sean Patterson

**April 13**  
John Gregg

**April 15**  
Julie Millman  
Leslie Scott

**April 16**  
Sienna Hopkins  
Sydney Hopkins

**April 18**  
Carl Buerger, Jr.  
Alysa Mathisen  
April Pierce

**April 19**  
Caroline Ricketts

**April 20**  
David Sydow

**April 22**  
Jody Adams  
William Petrakis

**April 25**  
Marlie Heider  
Jacie Howard

**April 26**  
Elyse Hickey  
Anna Vandervlugt

**April 27**  
Makayla Schroeder

**April 28**  
Kamryn Heider

**April 30**  
Dennis Mitchelar

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### THANKSGIVING TO GOD FOR...

• Salem's growing ministry

### DIRECTION...

• Salem Congreg. Council  
• Salem's Pastor, Deacon and Staff

### 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  
• Lesly Baumgarten  
• Luan Borquist  
• Keith Erickson

• Gabe  
• Jack Grant  
• Ron Hipple  
• Helen Johnson  
• Briggs Landwehr and family  
• Lizzie  
• Morgan Lott  
• Marta  
• Bill Mettam  
• Teddy's full recovery and for his family

### PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY...

Stateside: Gibson Gonzalez, Emily Graff, Barry Joyce, Ashley Owen, Lucas Owen, Jim Sterling, Jason Sterr, Scott Wolfmeyer  
Overseas: Ian Borquist, Talon Maki

## PRAYER REQUESTS

If you would like your prayer request to appear on the prayer list beyond this one month period, please submit a new request each month. Thanks for your partnership in Salem's prayer ministry.

Please contact the church office with prayer requests at: 309-688-9212 or contact Norma Hartman at: 309-240-8387 or at [nkhartman248@gmail.com](mailto:nkhartman248@gmail.com).



The Bugle  
USPS 477-460



**- HOLY WEEK -**

**PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 28**  
WORSHIP: 9AM (in person and online)

**WED., MARCH 31**  
WAY OF THE CROSS ONLINE: 5PM (online)

**MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 1**  
WORSHIP: 11AM (online)

**GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 2**  
CRAFT ON ZOOM: 10:30AM  
WORSHIP: 11AM (online)

**- EASTER SUNDAY -**

**EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4**  
WORSHIP: 9AM (inside sanctuary and  
outside in parking lot on radio)

online worship services will be available on Saturday at 5pm



**APRIL MEETINGS & EVENTS**

For more information: [salemofpeoria.com/communications/calendar/](http://salemofpeoria.com/communications/calendar/)

**SALEM COUNCIL & MINISTRY GROUP MEETINGS**

**MONDAY, APRIL 5 at 6:30pm:**  
Congregational Care Ministry

**TUESDAY, APRIL 6 at 7pm:**  
Salem Council Meeting

**TUESDAY, APRIL 13 at 7pm:**  
Outreach Ministry

**TUESDAY, APRIL 13 at 7:30pm:**  
Faith Formation Ministry

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14 at 6:45am:**  
Endowment

**MONDAY, APRIL 19 at 7pm:**  
Worship & Music Ministry

**TUESDAY, APRIL 20 at 7pm:**  
Property & Finance Ministry

**THURSDAY, APRIL 29 at 7:30pm:**  
Executive Committee Meeting

**SALEM COUNCIL**

- Dave Rees, President
  - Ann Roberts, Vice President
  - Dave Swanson, Treasurer
  - Kris Griffith, Secretary
  - Kelly Brinkman, Faith Formation
  - Matt Grebner, Outreach
  - Dennis Gustafson, Outreach
  - Merrell Hickey, Women of the Church
  - Emily Jolliff, Congregational Care
  - Jason Lantz, Faith Formation
  - Grant Peterson, Property & Finance and Salem Churchmen
  - Gretchen Petrakis, CYF and Worship & Music
  - Susan Ross, Congregational Care
  - Maren Thompson, Worship & Music
- email: [salemCouncil@salemofpeoria.com](mailto:salemCouncil@salemofpeoria.com)

**WORSHIP**

**MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 1 at 11AM** (online / in person\*)

**GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 2 at 11am** (online / in person\*)

**EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4 at 9am** (online / in person in Sanctuary\* /parking lot)

**SUNDAYS at 9am** (online/in person\* / live phone call)

\*in-person worship requires advance registration  
please contact the church office (309) 688-9212 for more details

**FAITH FORMATION**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 11 at 10AM: Faith at Home Zoom**

**SUNDAYS at 4PM: Faith for Life**

**WEDNESDAYS at 10am: Bible Study on Zoom with Pastor Craig**

**WEDNESDAYS at 6:45PM: Faith for Life**

**WEDNESDAYS at 7:30PM: Adult Sunday School on Zoom**

**THURSDAYS at 9am: Adult Bible Study led by Bill Ligon**

**OUTREACH**

**APRIL COLLECTION: Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief** (see page 4 for details)

**SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 10am-12pm: Fair Trade Curbside Pick-up and Food Drive Drop-off**

**FELLOWSHIP**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 6 at 10:30am: Rebecca Circle**

**MONDAY, APRIL 19 at 7pm: Salem Churchmen**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 22 at 7pm: Craft Night on Zoom**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 25 at 7:30pm: Young Adult Game Night**

**MONDAY, APRIL 26 at 6:30pm: Lydia Circle (Salem/Zoom)**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 29 at 7:30pm: Book Club on Zoom**

**THURSDAYS at 7pm: Man-To-Man**

**FRIDAYS at 1pm: Mom's Group on Zoom**

**SPRING WORK DAY**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 24 at 8am**