



the Bugle

Our perspective on reality is influenced by context and our perception of that context affects what we believe to be true. Worldly influences enhance or diminish what is real and therefore affect our choices and how we experience people and the world in which we live. As this year unfolds, we long for signs of hope and new life, at the same time, we experience the ongoing challenge or living in the shadow of a pandemic, social and political unrest, economic hardships for many, and the ongoing interpretation and adaptation of climate science. Depending how each of these issues affect us personally, it can play a significant role in shaping our perspective and ultimately our choices and beliefs.

While our plans for Lent last year were made prior to the pandemic, much of our forty-day journey was spent distanced and connected only virtually. This year, we will again be virtual, but we will plan for it rather than adapt to it. Ash Wednesday begins our journey on February 17. Due to the challenges,

we will not impose ashes and commune together. There will be a virtual service shared instead. As it seems to relate well to our current time in life, the theme for this year's journey will be Hope through the Wilderness. There are many wilderness examples in scripture. Together but in a virtual way, we will ponder many of these stories to see how the biblical witness gives us reason to live with hope, even in challenging and uncertain times. St. Paul describes hope this way, "suffering produces, endurance, endurance produces character and character produces hope and hope does not disappoint us. For God's love has been poured out for us through the Holy Spirit." Romans 5:3-5

The ways the world can disappoint us and weaken our perception of hope. But real hope does not come from within, it is a gift of God, poured out for us. Please join me on this journey as together we identify ways God is revealed to renew our hope in God's abundant love through Jesus. May God bless our wilderness journey with hope, abundant hope.

-Pastor Craig

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WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

ONLINE SATURDAYS AT 5PM

SUNDAYS

IN-PERSON 9AM

(pre-registration required currently limited to 40)

MIDWEEK LENT

ONLINE WEDNESDAYS AT 5PM

beginning Feb. 17

Hope through the Wilderness

While Lent will again be different than what we long remember, it will still give us an opportunity to reflect, pray and anticipate for what God is doing even through challenging times. **Mid-week worship will be all virtual and will go live at 5pm, beginning with Ash Wednesday on February 17.** All are encouraged to grow in hope through the wilderness even as we face many difficulties. The weeks between Ash Wednesday and Holy week will all be Evening Prayer from the Evangelical Lutheran Worship. A corresponding message will be shared through a *Bugle Blast* and through Salem's website each week.

February 24 – Hope through Creation – Genesis 1:1-5

March 3 – Hope through a Flood – Genesis 7:11-8:12

March 10 – Hope through New Beginnings – Joshua 1:1-9

March 17 – Hope through Temptation – Luke 4:1-15

March 24 – Hope through a Promise – Acts 1:3-5

What does your wilderness journey look like? Take heart, we need not live in despair but rather in hope for hope is rooted in a promise, God's promise of Jesus who has ushered in the coming kingdom. That is really good news!

Faith for Life Update

Online Co-LAB-orate Confirmation Classes New Material and Format

Classes start the first week in February 2021 on ZOOM until further notice. Families have the choice for class: Wednesdays at 6:45pm or Sundays at 4pm. All students will receive a CO-LAB-ORATE workbook and are expected to read the assigned chapter (usually 2-3 workbook style pages) before joining the class each week. Each week there will be a brief video presentation, Pastor Craig will present a review of the weekly topic and Deacon Jill or other guest facilitators will lead workbook activities. Classes will last 45 minutes.

If you have a child in 6th-8th grade and not enrolled in the program please contact Deacon Jill Goldhammer (jgoldhammer@salemofpeoria.com) for more information.



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**February monthly Bugle content
due date is February 9.**

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

Sunday School Zoom

Join us for fellowship, fun, and growing in God's word on **Sunday, February 14 from 10am-10:30am.** All are welcome to join! The Zoom information is:

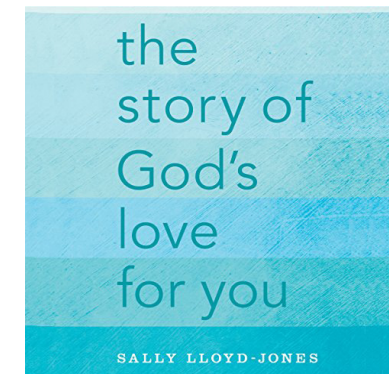
Meeting ID: 910 2259 6056

Passcode: Faith

Phone: (312) 626-6799



New Time! Wednesday Night Bible Study



- stories from *The Jesus Storybook Bible*

Just a reminder that all are welcome to join this study now from **7:30pm-8pm on Wednesday nights.** We have covered Old Testament stories in the fall and are beginning to read stories from the New Testament. Yes, "technically" this is a children's Bible. Yes, these are familiar stories. Yes, many of you are reading these with your own children. But... sharing these stories together with others, always brings new insights and understanding of God. And not to give away the ending of this storybook Bible, but the author concludes with these words: "For anyone who says yes to Jesus... For anyone who believes what Jesus said... For anyone who will just reach out to take it...Then God will give them

this wonderful gift: To be born into a whole new life, to be who they really are, who God always made them to be - their own true selves - God's dear Child. Because, you see, the most wonderful thing about this Story is - it's your story, too!" So join us in learning more about our story with God's people!

Outreach Ministry Salem "curbside" food collection for the Bethel Food Pantry and Fair Trade Pick-up

Saturday, Feb. 6, 10am-12pm

Food Drive

February food drive theme is the "superbowl". **On Saturday, February 6, from 10-noon** folks can drop off donated food and let us know if they are rooting for the AFC team or NFC team in the super bowl and we'll keep track and see which team wins based on donations. Show your team spirit and fill the food pantry!

Super Bowl Food Drive



Fair Trade

The Fair Trade curbside pickup **Sat., Feb. 6 from 10am-noon.** Thank you for supporting Fair Trade. There are a variety of goods for Valentine presents. Chocolate is always a favorite!

Spread Joy!

Spread some joy by sending a message of love with a valentine to Salem’s members . You may drop your cards or other small items off in the sealed container at the back entrance at church any time before **February 7** or call the church office to make other arrangements. These Valentine's greetings are sure to be cherished! People to remember are:

Walt and Joy Anderson	Bev Holmes	Gil and Jo Nolde
Natalee Arff	Ron Hipple	Rick and Anitra O’Connor
Susan Barham	Shirley Hornecker	Nancy Owens
***Wally Bastian	Janet Jones	Rosie Park
Betty and Matthew Bennett	Bea Kent	Kay Peterson
Alf Berg	Ruth Landes	Linda Peterson
Al and Edell Berg	Carol Love	Marty Plunkett
Luan Borquist	Bev Maier	Fran Riley
Carl and Helen Buerger, Jr.	Tony and Elgene Martin	Marge Ryberg
Joyce Crone	Elaine McHugh	Irene Sawatzky
Velma Crowley	Suzanne McMickle	Marilyn Setterlund
John Day	Marian Meinert	Phyllis Shadley
Keith and MaryAlice Erickson	Bill Mettam	Marilyn Smith
Joyce Grubb	Bob Middleton	Fred and Marilyn Stamerjohn
Vi Gruber	Paul and JoAnn Misselhorn	Georgia Sutherland
Laurie Hannon (Lesley Howard’s mom)	Henry and Carolyn Noe	Wanita Van Scoyoc
		Bill and Mary Ann Welch

*** Wally Bastian is the young son of Alex and Kelsey Bastian. Salem remembers Wally as he continues to grow, and battle a rare syndrome called Barth Syndrome

February is National Heart Month
with Wear Red Day being February 5

The best prevention from cardiovascular disease is good nutrition, proper exercise, and knowing your risk factors. There are some risk factors that you cannot control: your age, gender, family health history, race, or the fact that you had a previous stroke or heart attack. Knowing these factors that may predispose you to heart disease (as well as strokes) should also make you look even harder at the risk factors we can all control. These factors include high blood pressure, smoking, high blood cholesterol, lack of regular activity, obesity, and diabetes. Heart attack symptoms can differ for men and women, but the most common symptom for both is chest pain. Men’s symptoms include squeezing chest pressure or pain as well as jaw, neck or back pain, nausea or vomiting, and shortness of breath. Women may have non-chest pain symptoms and less obvious warning signs. Symptoms in women include chest pain (but not always); a pain or pressure in the lower chest or upper abdomen; jaw, neck, or upper back pain; nausea or vomiting; shortness of breath; fainting; indigestion; and extreme fatigue. Know these signs can help save yours or a loved one’s life. Even if you are not sure it’s a heart attack, have it checked out. Minutes do matter. Call 911 if you experience heart attack warning signs. This is almost always the fastest way to get lifesaving treatment. Do not drive yourself! An emergency medical services (EMS) team can begin treatment when they arrive – up to an hour sooner than if someone gets to the hospital by car. For more information on heart disease and strokes go to heart.org or goredforwomen.org.

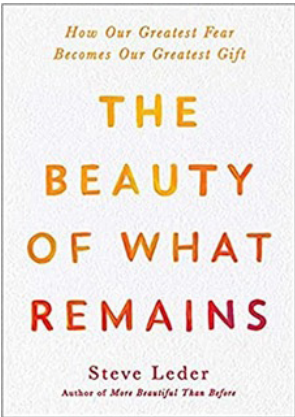
SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH
PARISH NURSE

Singing Valentines, Feb. 12 at 7pm

Organized by Director of Music, Maggie Sloter, join us for a night filled with heart-felt themed songs. Watch the *Bugle Blast* for the Zoom registration and more information! All ages are welcome!

FEBRUARY BOOK: The Beauty of What Remains:
How Our Greatest Fear Becomes Our Greatest Gift

The Beauty of What Remains by Steve Leder is our chosen book for this month. We will meet on Thursday, **February 25 at 7:30pm**. Please let Gretchen know at gpetrakis@salemofpeoria.com if you want to join the group. All are welcome! You are encouraged to join us for a specific book that interests you or join us each month. Current book club members suggest the book selected each month.



More about our February book:
From the author of the bestselling book, More Beautiful Than Before, comes an inspiring book about loss based on his most popular sermon. As the senior rabbi of one of the largest synagogues in the world, Steve Leder has learned over and over again the many ways death teaches us how to live and love more deeply by showing us not only what is gone but also the beauty of what remains.
This inspiring and comforting book takes us on a journey through the experience of loss that is fundamental to everyone. Yet even after having sat beside thousands of deathbeds, Steve Leder the rabbi was not fully prepared for the loss of his own father. It was only then that Steve Leder, the son, truly learned how loss makes life beautiful by giving it meaning and touching us with love that we had not felt before.

Enriched by Rabbi Leder's irreverence, vulnerability, and wicked sense of humor, this heartfelt narrative is filled with laughter and tears, the wisdom of millennia and modernity, and, most of all, an unfolding of the profound and simple truth that in loss we gain more than we ever imagined. Remains by Rabbi Steve Leder.

Thank You, Salem!

Thank you so much to everyone at Salem for the wonderful support, teaching and friendship that has been such an important part of my preparation for ordained ministry! I enter this first call with much appreciation for and fond memories of all of you.

-God's peace and blessings, Kristen Schmid

Congratulations!

Announcing the birth of Alexander Craig Zapf. He was born on December 1st, 2020 at 5:55 am. Congratulations to Matthew, Jennifer, Claire and Hailey. Alexander is anticipated to be baptized on February 7, 2021.

THANK YOU!

• Thank you to everybody for the cards and the nice red boot ornament from Nadine Willems.
-Susan Barham

• Thank you for the gift bag filled with cards, goodies, cookies and nice little gifts.
-Luan Borquist

• Thank you friends for remembering me in the spirit of the season. Opening your Christmas cards with their messages of Joy even added more “merry” to my holiday. Also a lovely poinsettia plant delivered by two of Santa’s Helpers, Dick and Helen Peterson. May the Blessings of the Lord be with you in abundance. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
-Bea Kent

• Just thank you for all the prayers, memorials, calls and love during the time of Roman’s passing in November. His church and his music was so very important to Roman and I can’t thank our Salem family enough for their support during this difficult time.
- Sincerely, Karla Wegrzyn, Brant Wegrzyn and Lesly Baumgartner.

- During such a difficult time, your kindness meant so much. Thank you for all your thoughtfulness and caring. I appreciated all the cards and goodies. I couldn’t believe all the cards and as most members don’t even know me.
-In Christian love, Wanita VanScoyoc
- I can’t thank you enough for your recent donation of \$1,000.00 donation that you made on December 29, 2020 to Neighborhood House. As we navigate through COVID-19 and sheltering in place, we have refocused all of our programs towards feeding people.
 - Since March 15th, we have added 583 seniors to our Meals on Wheels program. This number increases daily. This meant the addition of 5 new staff to create new routes.
 - As more seniors join our program, more pets are in need of food through our Critters Meals on Wheels program. We are currently feeding 127 pets on the program.
 - We started delivering hot meals and snack packs for the 60 kids in our youth program, Monday through Friday. We are now serving 220 per day and counting.
 - Many food pantries have closed, so we increased our pantry to be open weekly instead of bi-weekly to meet the growing need.

Thanks to Heart of Illinois United Way allocating dollars from the COVID-19 response fund for essential services, we were able to increase the value of each box by 400% and increased the amount of boxes provided by over 850%.
To date, we have not had to turn any senior or child away who are seeking a home delivered meal. We could not have done this without YOU and your generosity!!! Your donation ensures that over 1,100 seniors and children don't go to bed hungry.
-Respectfully, Becky Rossman, President/CEO



Welcome!
Theodore Paul Moehlman

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



February 1 Chris Cochran Lynnco Coyner Roxanne Vandervlugt	February 6 Rick Lambie	February 15 Anton Martin	Alan Puttcam
February 2 Martin Wiesehan	February 7 Maren Thompson	February 16 Janet Jones	February 24 Chad Arnold Gerri Hoehn Lesley Howard Christine Steele
February 3 John Iverson Bill Ligon	February 8 Wendy Thomasson	February 18 Annette Doughty	
February 4 Barbara Ackerman Landon Peterson Adelaide Taubert-Koss	February 9 Emily Peterson	February 19 Wendy Cochran Janet Cox John Harvey	February 25 Jacob Ferrell
February 5 Sarah Bidne Janet Wiesehan	February 11 Diane Proft	February 20 William Gavin Lorelei Hull Lila Moore	February 26 Marla Breidel Mia Hoffman
	February 12 Norma Hartman Lisa Janco	February 27 Vicki Larson	February 27 Conner Bidne
	February 14 Allison Harvey	February 28 Noah Hopkins	February 28 Teresa Wright

PRAYER REQUESTS

THANKSGIVING TO GOD FOR...	• Wally Bastian and his family	• Ella (Vandervlugt) Moehlman and family
• Salem’s growing ministry	• Lesly Baumgarten	• Tom Mueller
DIRECTION...	• Patty Bash	• Donna and Larry Newbanks
• Salem Congreg. Council	• Luan Borquist	• Sarah Daves St. Clair (daughter of Linda Peterson)
• Salem’s Pastor, Deacon and Staff	• The family of Scott Cochran	• Carolyn Noe
• Salem’s Renovation Project	• Art and Diane DeVoght	• Dr. Rick O’Connor
• Salem’s Sister Congregation - St. John’s Shelbyville	• Dena	• Larry Olson
PRAYERS REQUESTS...	• Keith Erickson	• Terry Palmer
• All those affected with COVID-19	• John Ford	• Rosy Park
• The men and women of our armed forces	• Gabe	• Bill Schroeder
• Support for all caregivers when loved ones suffer	• Jack Grant	• Tim Speck
• Individuals suffering from depression	• Laurie Hacker	• Teresa Stewart
• People of Guatemala	• Ron Hipple	• Teddy and for his family
• Families at Crittenton Center	• Jared	• Wayne (brother of Barbi Ricketts)
• Midwest Food Bank	• Helen Johnson	PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY...
• Lynn Akers	• Karie	Stateside: Gibson Gonzalez, Emily Graff, Barry Joyce, Jim Sterling, Jason Sterr, Scott Wolfmeyer Overseas: Ian Borquist, Talon Maki
	• Briggs Landwehr and family	
	• Jodie (Lori Reimer's daughter)	
	• Judy Livingston	
	• Lizzie	
	• Marta	
	• Morgan Lott	
	• Bill Mettam	

FEBRUARY 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 10am: Zoom Staff Meeting 7pm: Zoom Council Meeting	3 10am: Zoom Bible Study 6:45pm: Zoom Faith for Life 7:30pm: Zoom Adult Sunday School Study	4 9am: Adult Bible Study 7pm: Man-To-Man	5 1pm: Zoom Grown & Flown Mom's Group	6 10am-12pm: Fair Trade Curbside Pickup 10am-12pm: Outreach Drop off 5pm: Worship Online
7 9am: Live Phone Call 9am: Worship 11am: Zoom Adult Fellowship Coffee Hour 4pm: Zoom Faith for Life	8 6:30pm: Zoom Congregational Care Meeting	9 Northern Conference Bugle Deadline 10am: Zoom Staff Meeting 10am: Rebecca Circle 7pm: Zoom Outreach Meeting 7:30pm: Zoom Faith Formation Meeting	10 6:45am: Zoom Endowment 10am: Zoom Bible Study 6:45pm: Zoom Faith for Life 7:30pm: Zoom Adult Sunday School Study	11 9am: Adult Bible Study 7pm: Man-To-Man	12 1pm: Zoom Grown & Flown Mom's Group 7pm: Singing Valentines	13 5pm: Worship Online
14 9am: Live Phone Call 9am: Worship 10am: Zoom Sunday School 11am: Zoom Adult Fellowship Coffee Hour 4pm: Zoom Faith for Life	15 7pm: Zoom Salem Churchmen Meeting 7pm: Worship & Music Meeting	16 10am: Zoom Staff Meeting 7pm: Zoom Property & Finance Meeting	17 Ash Wednesday 10am: Zoom Bible Study 5pm: Worship Online 6:45pm: Zoom Faith for Life 7:30pm: Zoom Adult Sunday School Study	18 9am: Adult Bible Study 7pm: Man-To-Man	19 1pm: Zoom Grown & Flown Mom's Group	20 5pm: Worship Online
21 9am: Live Phone Call 9am: Worship 11am: Zoom Adult Fellowship Coffee Hour 4pm: Zoom Faith for Life	22 6:30pm: Lydia Circle	23 10am: Zoom Staff Meeting	24 10am: Zoom Bible Study 5pm: Worship Online 6:45pm: Zoom Faith for Life 7:30pm: Zoom Adult Sunday School Study	25 9am: Adult Bible Study 7pm: Executive Committee 7pm: Man-To-Man 7:30pm: Zoom Book Club	26 1pm: Zoom Grown & Flown Mom's Group	27 10am: Zoom Faith for Life Make-up Session 5pm: Worship Online
28 9am: Live Phone Call 9am: Worship 11am: Zoom Adult Fellowship Coffee Hour 4pm: Zoom Faith for Life CYF Concert Today! TBA						



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

Hope *through the* Wilderness

Mid-week worship will be all virtual and will go live at 5pm, beginning with Ash Wednesday on **February 17**. All are encouraged to grow in hope through the wilderness even as we face many difficulties. The weeks between Ash Wednesday and Holy week will all be Evening Prayer from the Evangelical Lutheran Worship. A corresponding message will be shared through a *Bugle Blast* and through Salem's website each week.