



the Bugle

“A sower went out to sow...” Matthew, Mark, and Luke tell the story of the sower who does what he is supposed to do, sow seeds. The sower is not responsible for how that seed will grow or produce, only that the sower knows that the seed will not grow in the bag but must connect with soil before it can bring forth life and the opportunity of producing a harvest. Spring in the Midwest is time for sowing and plantings.

Clouds of dust are rolling across open fields as tractors pull large implements to stir the soil and prepare the seed bed and then embed seed in long, straight rows as far as the eye

can see. It is a regular pattern that occurs every spring. Planting in hope for a harvest. At the same time, home gardeners prepare soil for what they hope will produce fruit, vegetables, or areas of plants as a natural habitat to benefit pollinators and other wildlife. We are partners in God’s creation, regardless how we dig in the dirt and for whatever life that takes root around us. It is an exciting time of life as we anticipate the possibilities of what is yet to come as new and abundant life.

From a resource entitled, Worship from the Ground Up, “We frequently think of seedtime, planting, and prayers for an abundant harvest as the main emphasis of rogation, but the word “rogation” actually takes its meaning from the Latin word “rogare” which means “to beseech”. From the 5th century, the bishop of France required a three-day observance consisting of forgiveness, protection, bountiful crops. Over

“... the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.”

– 2 Corinthians 9:6

the years, the penitent emphasis has fallen away leaving the focus on festivity including blessing of the fields with the hope of a bountiful harvest. This spring, there will be a specially focused worship service on **Sunday, May 2** where we will ask God’s

blessing on soil and seed as well as seek God’s forgiveness where we have failed to partner with our Creator by neglect or abuse of the earth’s resources and to beseech God to protect us from the risk of natural devastation. This worship focus will take place both through the virtual as well as the in person options. If you are one who enjoys the seasonal pattern of tilling, sowing and planting and will be worshipping at home, I encourage you to gather with some soil, water and seed/plant and anticipate God’s blessing as we once again sow with hope for what is yet to come. Blessings to you, good gardeners.

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WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

ONLINE SATURDAYS AT 5PM

SUNDAYS

IN-PERSON 9AM

(pre-registration required)

SUNDAY, MAY 16

GRADUATE CELEBRATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUNDAY, MAY 2 at 10AM

Sunday School Zoom on May 2 at 10am

The final Sunday school Zoom for the year will be on Sunday, May 2nd from 10:00-10:30am. Join Sunday school teachers and families for a wrap up for the year. We would love to "see" you!

Meeting ID: 956 6793 0679

Passcode: Faith

Phone: (312) 626-6799

PLANT SALE FRI., MAY 7 and SAT., MAY 8

Order pick up will be Friday, May 7 from 4pm-6pm and Saturday, May 8 from 10am-noon (same time as Curbside Outreach) in the Salem parking lot. A limited number of extra items will be on sale too during pick-up! Thank you for supporting Kappa Chi!

ADULT FELLOWSHIP THURS., MAY 20, 7PM

Water Street Stompers Jazz Night

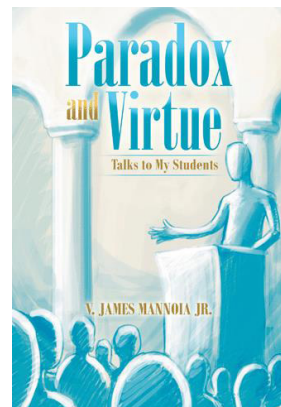
Bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy the evening breeze on the front lawn of the Betty Jayne Brimmer Center for the Performing Arts (1327 E Kelly Ave, Peoria Heights) while jazz fills the air of Peoria Heights! Enjoy an evening of music provided by the Water Street Stompers with Salem's Todd Kelly.

Advance tickets are available for purchase at: <https://www.thebettyjayne.com/calendar/2021/5/20waterstreetstompers>. Outside drinks are not permitted (the Performing Arts Center will have options available.) Opens at 6pm, and music begins at 7pm-8:30pm.

BOOK CLUB THURS., MAY 27, 7PM

Salem's Book Club will meet on **Thursday, May 27 from 7:30pm-8:30pm on Zoom**. If you are interested in joining the group, even for just one book that interests you, please email Gretchen at gpetrakis@salemofpeoria.com or call the church office to receive notifications and Zoom link.

The book for May is Paradox and Virtue - Talks to My Students by V. James Mannoia, Jr. (the author is Lori Reimer's brother-in-law.) Salem's Library has a copy of the monthly selections and can be checked out by contacting the church office.



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Pastoral Emergency Number:

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



OUTREACH CURBSIDE SAT., MAY 8, 10AM-12PM

FAIR TRADE PICK-UP

Curbside pick-up will be **Saturday, May 8 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 "**In Honor of Mothers.**" Continuing our support for Bethel United Methodist food pantry with donations of non-perishable items, drive by drop off on **Saturday, May 8 between 10 am-12pm.**

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 **through May 16.**

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.

THANK YOU!

• Thank you for your generous support of Salem's community partners through the community benevolence distribution to Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Center, Crittenton Centers, Thomas Jefferson Primary School, Neighborhood House, Center for Prevention of Abuse, Midwest Food Bank, Bethel United Methodist Church, Lutheran Social Services and Lutheran Hillside Village.

• Thank you to all at Salem who donated to the Crittenton Centers "Fill the Crib" campaign for the Crisis Nursery. The baby supplies were delivered to Crittenton along with \$800.00 for the purchase of additional items. Your generosity is much appreciated by Crittenton and the families that benefit from the support of the Crisis Nursery

• We were able to send an additional \$1600.00 thanks to generous donations during the missionary update in March. These donations will support missionary support for global missions and the Ulrich's.

• Thank you for your recent gift of eight combination smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and three lock boxes. Your generosity helps raise up our community by changing and saving the lives of the children and families in our care.
-Matt George (Children's Home CEO) and Stephanie AIKhafaji (Director of Development)

• Thanks to your donation of socks. The socks are truly a blessing and will do so much for those we serve. Your gifts are serving a very important purpose - helping Phoenix CDS change lives and make our community stronger.

All the Best, Kristen Berchtold, CFRE Director of Development

SALEM COUNCIL & MINISTRY GROUP MEETINGS

TUESDAY, MAY 4 at 7pm:
Salem Council Meeting

MONDAY, MAY 10 at 6:30pm:
Congregational Care Ministry

TUESDAY, MAY 11 at 7pm:
Outreach Ministry

TUESDAY, MAY 11 at 7:30pm:
Faith Formation Ministry

MONDAY, MAY 17 at 7pm:
Worship & Music Ministry

TUESDAY, MAY 18 at 7pm:
Property & Finance Ministry

THURSDAY, MAY 27 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: saalemcouncil@saalemofpeoria.com

WORSHIP

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

SUNDAY, MAY 2 at 9am - Blessing on soil and seed
(online/in person* / live phone call)

SUNDAY, MAY 16 at 9am - Graduation Recognition Sunday
(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, MAY 2 at 10AM: Faith at Home Zoom

FRIDAY, MAY 8 at 4PM-6PM: Kappa Chi Plant Sale Pick-up

SATURDAY, MAY 9 at 10AM-12PM: Kappa Chi Plant Sale Pick-up

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

THURSDAYS at 9:15am: Adult Bible Study led by Bill Ligon

OUTREACH

MAY COLLECTION: Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief (see page 2 for details)

SATURDAY, MAY 9, 10am-12pm:
Fair Trade Curbside Pick-up and Food Drive Drop-off

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26, 9am:
Midwest Food Bank Volunteer Opportunity

FELLOWSHIP

TUESDAY, MAY 4 at 10:30am: Rebecca Circle

MONDAY, MAY 17 at 7pm: Salem Churchmen

MONDAY, MAY 20 at 7pm: Adult Fellowship (see page 2)

MONDAY, MAY 24 at 6:30pm: Lydia Circle on Zoom

THURSDAY, MAY 27 at 7:30pm: Book Club on Zoom

THURSDAYS at 7pm: Man-To-Man

FRIDAYS at 1pm: Mom's Group on Zoom

PENTECOST CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, MAY 23 at 6pm-7pm (see page 5 for details)

Salem Blood Drive - May 17

Salem's Next Blood Drive is May 17 from 1pm-6pm. The Blood Drive will be held at the Northwoods Mall (exact location to be determined). Donors are needed more than ever as summer approaches and outside activities keep people busy. The seasons may be changing but the need for blood never changes. Donating blood takes only about an hour of your time, but could mean a lifetime for a person in need. Because one blood donation can help up to three patients, your selfless act can mean so much to them and their families. Sign-up by going to redcrossblood.org and look for Salem's Blood Drive or by emailing Lori Reimer at lreimer@saalemofpeoria.com or by calling Lori at the church office. If you are unable to donate but would like to volunteer your time, let Lori Reimer know. Help is needed with registration and temperature taking.

"You are so rich in all you have: faith, speech, knowledge, in your eagerness to help and in your love. And so we want you to be generous also in this service of love" - 2 Corinthians 8:7



Pentecost! Celebrating when the disciples and all of us, for that matter, receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit! Join other Sunday School families for an outdoor Pentecost Celebration from 6pm-7pm at church.

We will have activities to celebrate and share the story of Pentecost. We will also work on assembling Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief. Please look for the article in the Bugle about the items needed for the Personal Care Kits (page 3.)

This event is organized to be a safe event for all. Some of the precautions being taken are:

- Masks are necessary for everyone attending.
- Seating will be by families at their own table. Tables will be set up and appropriately spaced but PLEASE bring your own lawn chairs!
- Ushers will direct families to tables and will be dismissing by tables at the end of the event.
- All materials needed will be at your table in advance.
- Registration is required. Please use the link provided to register your family. (<https://form.jotform.com/211045253067144>)

We are planning to hold this event outside but in the case of inclement weather we will move safely inside. If we need to hold it inside, the plans are for the opening activities to be held in the Sanctuary (following all safety precautions). Families would then move to individual classrooms and/or spaced safely in larger rooms for the hands-on activities.

The Holy Spirit is alive and working in all of us! We hope to see your family as we gather (safely) to celebrate this wonderful gift!

THANK YOU!

• Thanks for our Easter devotions for lent book, the palm branches and communion Meghan delivered.

- Blessings, Walt and Joy Anderson

• Thank you so much for your kind words and cards! Mom suffered much, so there is grief, but also great joy that the battle is now over and she has joined that heavenly banquet.

-Peace, Pastor Stephen D. Barnes and family

• Dear Salem members and staff,

We would like to thank Pastor Craig and the many members of Salem Lutheran for helping us to make Fran Riley's last years and weeks easier. We were extraordinarily blessed that Fran could enjoy visitors toward the end and that she still knew who they were! And, we were blessed that we could have an actual funeral service for her which had a nice turnout if you count the virtual views too! Fran would have been grateful for something that was "normal" during these unprecedented times and having her own Pastor Craig from her beloved church of over 70 years would have pleased her very much.

Fran's family are very thankful for the devoted care of Pastor Craig, Lori and many other members that not

only stepped up on our behalf these last months but have been a Godsend to us since Fran was widowed and alone at Riverview. Many don't know how often we leaned on Pastor Craig, Lori Reimer, Clarence and Lois Knutson and Arlan Maier to help Fran in these last years. Their friendship to Fran and to us has been invaluable. And while we couldn't travel due to the pandemic, we had excellent surrogates that included her loving friends from Salem.

Thank you all from the bottom of our hearts.

God's Blessings,

Fran's Family (Mary Anne Lovdahl and Unni and Frances Sreekumar)

• Thank you for being so thoughtful to provide palms and communion for Palm Sunday. I really appreciated it and enjoyed the online service.

- Janet Jones

• A belated thank you for all the beautiful cards and notes for my 90th birthday. Being a patient in isolation at Unity Point Proctor was sad. All of your happy words and cards made it so much better. Special thanks to Susan Ross. May God bless you all.

-Sincerely, Bev Maier

Spring Cleaning?

If you are in the mood for spring cleaning and you need a place to donate, please remember The Church Mouse! Located at 600 W Main Street, Peoria. Hours of operation are Tu-Fr 10am-4pm, Sat 10am-3pm. The Church Mouse gladly accepts gently used clothing for men, women & children, furniture (in good condition), linens, books, sports equipment, craft materials, shoes, gently used toys, knick-knacks, housewares, etc. Donations accepted at the back door of the building. Questions? Contact Joan or Shirley at (309) 673-2363.

Lutheran Women of Greater Peoria (LWGP) General Membership Meeting

Join the ladies as we gather outdoors at St. John Lutheran Church (6614 W Smithville Road)in Bartonville on Friday morning, May 21 at 9am. We will celebrate spring by having a local expert talk to us about plants and flowers. A light breakfast and coffee will be served. A game relating to flowers will be enjoyed as we reunite after a full year apart. RSVP to Lisa Mack, call or text (309) 360-2669 by Sun, May 16. See you at the pavilion!

"Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come, the cooing of the doves is heard in our land." - *Song of Songs 2:12*

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the Dammann family as **Liam Alexander** was baptized on Saturday, March 20, 2021. His baptism may be found in the online worship service on April 11.

Congratulations to the Bastian family as **Lily Ann-Marie** was baptized on Sunday, April 25, 2021. Lily's baptism may be found in the online worship service on May 2 .

Condolences

Our condolences for the family and friends of **Pastor Dennis Scoville** as Pastor Scoville joined the church triumphant on March 28. Please pray the Scoville family and for all who mourn Dennis' passing.

Prayers are requested for the family of **Sarah St. Claire (Daves), the daughter of Linda Peterson**, as Sarah joined the church triumphant on April 10. Prayers are appreciated for Linda that she will be comforted as well as all who mourn Sarah's death.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

May 1

Karla Wegrzyn

May 3

Carter Aprahamian
Tracy Daugherty
Theresa Gustafson
Karen Huxtable

May 7

Bradley Mangan
Lana Pasco

May 8

Tim Hickey
Pam Machacek
Deb Sanders
Richard Thompson
Eric Topel

May 9

Calvin Janssen

May 10

Gary Bridges
Jennifer Gallas
Lori Reimer

May 12

Collin Swanson

May 14

Stephanie Kroodsmas
Janet Saylor

May 16

Helen Buerger

May 17

Marilyn Setterlund
Claire Zapf

May 19

Susan Bohm
Arlan Maier

May 21

Magdalene Sipf

May 23

Jason Lantz

May 24

Leah Bachert
Joyce Grubb
Lindsey Janco
Jeff Neltner

May 25

Ronald Hipple
Brenna Salverson
Eric Schroeder

May 26

June Janssen

May 27

Sue Colloton
Kayla Steele
Nadine Willems

May 28

Charles Aprahamian
Larry Kotewa
Paul O'Connor

May 29

Carol McGregor
Harleigh Mohr

May 31

Micah Thompson

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
• Ulrich family in Malawi
• Families at Crittenton Center
• Midwest Food Bank
• Betty and Jeff Ahlgren
• Wally Bastian and his family
• Ron and Sheri Bathje
• Paul Bahnfleth and the family of Steve

• Lesly Baumgarten
• Bill, husband of Amy Hoffman
• Luan Borquist
• Ellen Bressner
• Beth Cheville
• Keith Erickson
• Gabe
• Jack Grant
• Ron Hipple
• Helen Johnson
• Briggs Landwehr and family
• Lizzie
• Morgan Lott
• Marta
• Bill Mettam
• Tom Mueller
• Dr. Rick O'Connor
• Larry Olsen
• Rosy Park
• Linda Peterson and the family of Sarah St. Claire
• the family of Pastor Dennis Scoville
• Debi Smith and the Hartman family

• Mike and Teresa Stewart
• 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.



The Bugle
USPS 477-460



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

SUNDAY, MAY 23 at 6PM
PENTECOST
SUNDAY SCHOOL
FAMILY CELEBRATION

All are welcome! more details on page 5...