

# the Bugle



## PAGE 3

### JULY EVENTS

Upcoming meetings  
and events

## PAGES 4-5

### BRIDGE APPEAL

Plans of hope for the future

## PAGE 6-7

### FAMILY-STYLE VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

More on this year's VBS and more!  
Register through **Sunday, July 18.**

## PAGE 8

### PARISH NURSE

Learn more about sun protection

## WORSHIP

- 5PM: SATURDAY ONLINE
- 9AM: SUNDAY IN-PERSON  
(pre-registration required)
- SUNDAY, JULY 11 AT 7PM  
OUTDOOR WORSHIP  
(please bring your own chair)

### REMINDER

Requirements for indoor worship:

- Pre-registration
- Face Masks
- Physical Distancing

Registration for Sunday worship service opens on Monday at 8am and closes on Friday at 10am. Salem Council revisits these protocols on a monthly basis.

PASTOR CRAIG SWENSON

## LOOKING FORWARD

**R**ostered leaders recently received a letter from Bishop Roth entitled **Considerations for Congregational Ministry and Practice Entering the Summer of 2021**. The letter begins with a quote that I am sure many have either heard, said or firmly believe. **"We just want to get back to normal."** I agree with his response to that question and have also thought a long time about this often-quoted sentiment. Can we ever, or do we really desire to, "go back" to how things used to be?

*From Bishop Roth, Was this true: pre-pandemic, as a body of congregations, we were declining numerically, there was little adult Christian education happening in many of our congregations, knowledge and understanding of the Scriptures was woefully thin, and a growing number of congregations were slowly dying? If this was "normal" back then, it is not a normal to which I yearn to return.*

*Many, if not most, of our congregations that began or expanded online activities because of the pandemic anticipate retaining online activities even if we progress to unrestricted in-person gathering. At the height of "sheltering in place" restrictions and the scramble to implement worship, Bible study, pastoral care, and so on, in some way, "how we do it" determined "what we do". Reorientation provides us the luxury of options and the opportunity to make strategic choices.*

continued on page 2...



-Pastor Craig

## FAITH OF THE GOSPEL

... continued from page 1

*Many of you are aware of the human tendency to treat adaptive challenges as technical challenges. Reorientation is adaptive; it prompts us to see things from a more insightful perspective. Good planning will tackle the "why" question for every "what" and before addressing "how." If there is not a missional purpose for a past or current practice, give it up now; this is the time to do that. Does this activity glorify God, build up the body of Christ, equip the saints for the work of ministry, and proclaim Christ crucified and risen? If the answer is "yes", see if doing it is feasible for you; if the answer is "no" or "well, maybe, maybe not", let it go. While there will be well-meaning people who would like the congregation to do everything it did before and do everything it has taken up during the pandemic, that is unreasonable. And, of course, in the context of ever-shifting COVID guidelines and restrictions, our congregations will want to highlight our consistent concern for the health and wellbeing of our members and communities. Please take the time for deep discernment to identify what you will provide and what technologies you will utilize and what you will not provide or utilize.*

In his second letter to the Corinthians, Paul tells the believers, "If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new." (2 Corinthians 5:7, 17) So can we really get back to how things once were or have the former things passed away? Can we, or should we, expend our energy and resources to simply return to what was without consideration for what might be new opportunities and possibilities as we re-engage more intentionally with one another, more deeply immerse ourselves in God's Word and discern what is faithful in our efforts to glorify God and to equip the saints for the work of ministry? What will we willing let go and what will we embrace not as we go back but as we go forward? Do we really believe in the renewing and reconciling work of Christ and are we willing to discern together the missional work that reflects that work among us?

I invite you to pray with me and join in looking forward with renewed hope, vision, vitality, and purpose so that together we glorify the one whose name we bear, Jesus Christ, who has prepared a promised future for us.



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August monthly Bugle content due  
date is July 13.

### Pastoral Emergency Number:

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

# JULY MEETINGS & EVENTS

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

## WORSHIP

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

**SUNDAY, JULY 11 at 7pm - Outdoor Worship**  
(please bring your own lawn chair)

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

## FAITH FORMATION

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 7 at 7:30pm: Adult Sunday School** (Zoom)

**WEDNESDAYS at 10am: Adult Bible Study** (Zoom)

**THURSDAYS at 9:15am: Adult Bible Study led by Bill Ligon** (in person)

## OUTREACH

**SATURDAY, JULY 10, 10am-12pm:**  
Bethel Food Pantry Drop-off

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 28, 9am**  
Midwest Food Bank Volunteer Opportunity (in person)

## FELLOWSHIP

**THURS, JULY 3 at 8:30pm: Adult Fellowship** (in person)

**SUNDAY, JULY 4 following worship: Coffee Hour** (in person)

**MONDAY, JULY 19 at 7pm: Salem Churchmen** (Zoom)

**THURSDAY, JULY 29 at 7:30pm: Book Club** (Zoom)

## MINISTRY GROUPS

**THURSDAY, JULY 1 at 7pm: Bridge Appeal Meeting** (Zoom)

**TUESDAY, JULY 6 at 7pm: Salem Council Meeting** (in person)

**TUESDAY, JULY 13 at 7pm: Outreach Ministry** (Zoom)

**TUESDAY, JULY 13 at 7:30pm: Faith Formation Ministry** (in person)

**MONDAY, JULY 19 at 7pm: Worship & Music Ministry** (Zoom)

**TUESDAY, JULY 20 at 7pm: Property & Finance Ministry** (Zoom)

**THURSDAY, JULY 29 at 7pm: Executive Committee Mtg** (Zoom)

## 2021 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

Salem's 2021 Membership Directory is available upon request. Please contact the church office at 688-9212 or [office@salemofpeoria.com](mailto:office@salemofpeoria.com). Hard copies are also available upon request.

**SATURDAY, JULY 3, 8:30PM**

## ADULT FELLOWSHIP

July adult fellowship will be at **8:30pm on Saturday, July 3 for an outdoor concert by Peoria's own Dexter O'Neal and the Funk Yard at Pour Bros. in Peoria Heights.** Please RSVP to Merrell Hickey ([merrellhickey@gmail.com](mailto:merrellhickey@gmail.com)) or Leah Grebner ([leah.grebner@icloud.com](mailto:leah.grebner@icloud.com)), so that we know how many will be attending.

**SUNDAY, JULY 4 after worship**

## COFFEE HOUR

Coffee Hour fellowship on **Sunday, July 4.** Enjoy individually packaged treats and coffee outside on the patio. Future coffee hours will be evaluated by Salem Council, and are proposed to be monthly on the second Sunday outside.

**SATURDAY, JULY 10, 10AM-12PM**

## OUTREACH CURBSIDE

### BETHEL FOOD DRIVE

Continuing the support for Bethel United Methodist, food pantry with donations of non-perishable items, drive by drop off on **Saturday, July 10 between 10 am-12pm.**

Please note that Fair Trade will return in August. If there are any items needed please contact Jennifer Gallas (309-256-5862 or [pew117@aol.com](mailto:pew117@aol.com)).

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 28, 9AM**

## MIDWEST FOOD BANK

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

The next Midwest Food Bank volunteers opportunity is **Wednesday, July 28 at 9am** at the Peoria Division. Please sign up online for the next volunteer time: <https://x.gldn.io/x4CZcPj6zgb>



2022 BRIDGE APPEAL

# A BRIDGE...

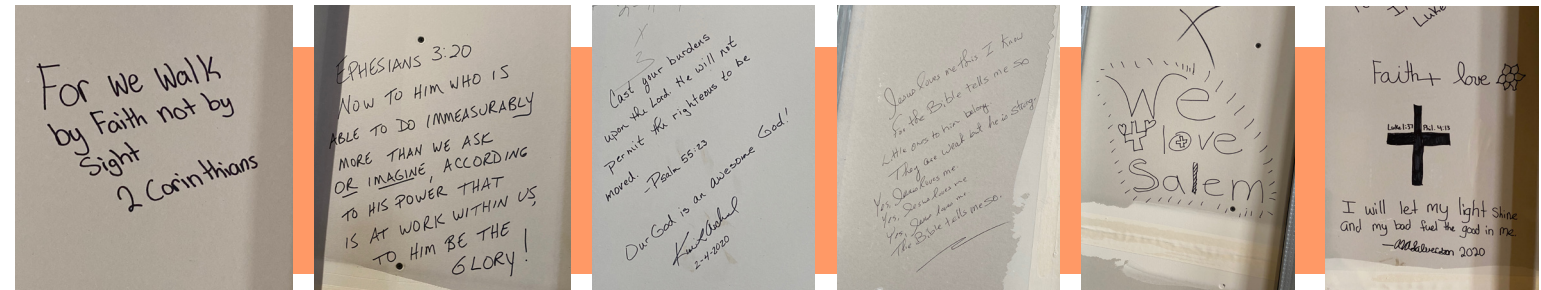
## WHAT EXACTLY IS A BRIDGE FOR? WHAT'S THE POINT OF A BRIDGE?

Simple questions. Bridges get you from here to there. They cover a span, a crevasse, a valley, a waterway. They help get people from where they are to where they want to be. (Fun fact: Did you know that there are six bridges in the Peoria area that cross the Illinois River?)

The dictionary says that a bridge is “a connecting, transitional, or intermediate route or phase.”

Well, guess what? Salem is going to build a bridge—no, not a seventh way to cross the Illinois River. More accurately, it's not so much that we're going to build a bridge; rather, we're going to have or hold a bridge... a Bridge Appeal for 2022.

This fall Salem will near the conclusion of its current 3-Year “Renewing God’s House” capital appeal. Salem folks have been so very generous—thank you! We are overwhelmed at the giving spirit of our church family. Yet, as had been anticipated, we won’t have completely paid for these important church renovations. From the beginning of this whole process, we knew that there would likely be a second 3-year appeal. But, considering all of what has happened in this past year+, with the pandemic and the disruption and changes that have emerged, we see that this Y in the road gives us opportunity (and need!) to regroup, rethink, reimagine just how Salem will move forward as a church. How will ministry happen



here in these new spaces? How might Salem best position us with what we are learning? Where is the Holy Spirit calling Salem to engage in mission in perhaps new ways? Here's where the bridge comes in...

A 12-month 2022 Bridge Appeal will enable Salem to do a couple of really important things. One, we'll invite you, our Salem members, to consider a gift of pledge to help us continue funding the mortgage we have on the renovation. For some, it might mean simply extending your current appeal giving one more year, through this bridge appeal. For others, we'll invite you to make a special Gift of Thanks for all the ways

God has blessed you and been with you through these very challenging months. But, you get the idea, the 2022 Bridge Appeal will help to create an ongoing funding stream for our renovation payments.

The second thing that this 2022 Bridge Appeal will do for us is give us some time—a good part of this upcoming year—to sharpen our vision and focus, to be open to how the Spirit is moving anew, to be deliberate and intentional in planning for ministries to emerge and reemerge

here. Thus, this is a sort of “connecting, transitional, or intermediate route or phase,” as the dictionary describes.

Salem is excited to receive the guidance and expertise of Kairos and Associates once again. Pastor Tim Johnson served as our consultant, and he will be leading and guiding us through this important time of discovery as we move forward now through this 2022 Bridge Appeal and beyond. And, Dick and Helene Peterson will also partner in leading the process, and other members of the team are: Kim Acherl, Janet Cox, Bill Cox, Deacon Jill Goldhammer, Rick Lambie, Janice Lambie, Helene Peterson, Meghan Peterson, Richard Peterson, Susan Ross, and Pastor Craig Swenson.

So, watch for more information. Join us in eagerness for the discoveries and the journey ahead, as we travel this bridge together. God is good! And God is already calling us to take new steps of faith, with the promise that He leads and blesses us as we go! “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11

FOR I KNOW

*the plans*

I HAVE FOR YOU  
DECLARES THE LORD

plans to prosper you and not to harm you,  
plans to give you

hope and a  
*future*

JEREMIAH 29:11

FAMILY STYLE VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL  
AUGUST 1 - AUGUST 5, 2021

## RENEW: THE GREEN VBS HE'S GOT THE WHOLE WORLD IN HIS HANDS



God's creation is a gift we all share. We live in it together and depend on it together. Caring for it – together – is both a good work and collective act of faith. The Bible is filled with stories and teachings that reveal our dependence on God through the bounty of the earth. In fact, you could hardly tell the story of the chosen people or hear one of Jesus parables without water, trees, wilderness, animals, and weather forming the backdrop. RENEW VBS will weave together this rich natural imagery with engaging activities kids love, resulting in a deeper, more memorable experience of God's Word.

We will dig deep into the Parable of the Sower (Mark 4:1-9) at RENEW VBS and experience God's Creation through a global, local community, & personal lens. Central themes will include: Planting Seeds, Taking Root, Growing, Facing Challenges and Living Together. We are very excited to experience this theme with you!

- IN-PERSON, VIRTUAL AND TAKE HOME EXPERIENCES
- MUSIC, CRAFTS, GAMES, LOTS OF LEARNING AND GROWING WITH GOD
- AND A WHOLE BUNCH OF FUN EXPERIENCED FAMILY-STYLE!

### START UP SUNDAY (IN-PERSON) SUNDAY, AUGUST 1, 6pm-8pm

THEME: Planting Seeds  
• 5:30pm: Optional picnic dinner

### MEANINGFUL MONDAY (AT HOME ACTIVITIES) MONDAY, AUGUST 2

THEME: Taking Root  
Vacation Bible School activities at home

### TOGETHER TUESDAY (IN-PERSON) TUESDAY, AUGUST 3, 6pm-8pm

THEME: Planting Seeds  
• 5:30pm: Optional picnic dinner

### WATER-FILLED WEDNESDAY (AT HOME ACTIVITIES) WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4

THEME: Facing Challenges  
Vacation Bible School activities at home

### THANKFUL THURSDAY (IN-PERSON) THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 6pm-8pm

THEME: Living Together  
• 5:30pm: Optional picnic Dinner

**IN PERSON FAMILY STYLE OPPORTUNITIES on SUNDAY, TUESDAY and THURSDAY from 6pm-8pm. Please register as a family in advance to help us plan. Registration will close on July 18. Adult volunteers are needed for each of the in-person nights (from 5:30pm-8:30pm). Please contact Deacon Jill if able to volunteer.**

[www.salemofpeoria.com](http://www.salemofpeoria.com) or 309-688-9212

## PRE-VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL HOME PROJECT MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Children, youth and families are encouraged to make MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS from recycled objects you already have at home!

Be as creative as you like - shakers, tambourines, drums, or even more complicated instruments.

We would love it if you would take a picture of your instrument(s) and post it on the Salem Lutheran Church CYF Group Page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/320147411756876/>) Or, you can even make a video of the process of making or using the instrument ... (For example - will your instrument have a name?)

You are welcome to make multiple instruments if it is something you enjoy. We will use the instruments when we gather for Vacation Bible School - to help us **MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE TO THE LORD!** Just remember our theme: Renew! Recycle! Reuse! and **HAVE FUN!**

SELECT SUNDAYS, 6:30PM-7:30PM

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL STUDENT LEADERS

### STUDENT LEADER OPPORTUNITIES FOR VBS

Student leaders (6th grade – High School) are a huge part of VBS each year at Salem and this year is no different. Youth have the following opportunities to learn about VBS and engage in leadership activities. These sessions will be in person at Salem and will likely be outdoors with plenty of space between us. If weather moves us inside, we will mask and use social distancing in the social hall and break into smaller groups as needed. Our time together will include learning the music and motions, recording skits, decorating, and a variety of other VBS preparations.

- Sunday, June 27, 6:30PM-7:30PM
- Sunday, July 11, 6:30PM-7:30PM
- Sunday, July 18, 6:30PM-7:30PM
- Sunday, July 25, 6:30PM-7:30PM

Any youth who is not yet able to meet in person, but still wishes to be a leader for VBS should contact Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministry, Jill Goldhammer, 688-9212. There will be virtual leadership opportunities, too!

## FROM THE PARISH NURSE, LORI REIMER, RN SUN PROTECTION

When our skin is exposed to the sun, our bodies make vitamin D, which helps the absorption of calcium for stronger, healthier bones. Only a little time is needed for this as most vitamin D needs should be met with a healthy diet (and sometimes supplements). Too much unprotected exposure to the sun's ultraviolet (UV) rays can cause skin damage, eye damage, immune system suppression, and skin cancer.

Some ways to be protected from too much sun include:

- Use of sunscreen. SPF needs will vary according to age, skin tone, and intensity of sun. Apply a generous amount and re-apply often if needed.
- Avoid the time of days when rays are strongest (usually from 10 am to 4 pm). Remember that even on cloudy, cool, or overcast days, UV rays reach the earth.
- Cover up. Lightweight, long sleeve clothing will help. Use of umbrellas and wide-brimmed hats are also offer great protection from the sun.
- Wear Sunglasses that provide 100% UV protection. Even one day in the sun can lead to a burned cornea.
- Check your medicines. Some medications make skin more sensitive to UV rays. Ask your doctor or pharmacist if any prescription or over-the-counter medicines can increase sun sensitivity.
- Adults should be a role model for children and follow these guidelines also.
- Be aware of the signs and symptoms of heat cramps, heat exhaustion, and heat stroke and the appropriate treatment for each.

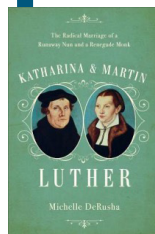
Have a fun but safe summer!



Lori Reimer, RN

## THURSDAY, JULY 29, 7:30PM JULY BOOK CLUB

We will be meeting on **Thursday, July 29 at 7pm-8pm** to discuss "The Radical Marriage of a Runaway Nun and a Renegade Monk," my Michelle DeRusha. We continue to meet via Zoom so please contact Gretchen at [gpetrakis@salemofpeoria.com](mailto:gpetrakis@salemofpeoria.com) to be added to the Book Club email list for the Zoom link information. All are welcome – join for one book or join every month! Each month's selection is available to check out from Salem's library, as well.



*Martin and Katharina Luther's revolutionary marriage was arguably one of the most scandalous and intriguing in history. Yet five centuries later, we still know little about their life as husband and wife. Until now. Against all odds, the unlikely union worked, over time blossoming into the most tender of love stories. This unique biography tells the riveting story of two extraordinary people and their extraordinary relationship, offering refreshing insights into Christian history and illuminating the Luthers' profound impact on the institution of marriage, the effects of which still reverberate today. By the time they turn the last page, readers will have a deeper understanding of Luther as a husband and father and will come to love and admire Katharina, a woman who, in spite of her pivotal role, has been largely forgotten by history. Together, this legendary couple experienced joy and grief, triumph and travail. This book brings their private lives and their love story into the spotlight and offers powerful insights into our own twenty-first-century understanding of marriage.*

**WELCOME** Welcome to Isabel Gonzales as she has accepted the Officer Coordinator position, and joined Salem staff on **June 21**. Isabel is a lifelong Salem Lutheran Church member studying Business Administration at Illinois Central College. Please welcome Isabel to the Salem staff.



Isabel Gonzales

**THANK YOU** At the same time, we thank Leah Grebner for her work in this position. Leah's last day is **June 30**. Leah is returning to teaching through ICC. All the best, Leah and thank you

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Congratulations to Kayla Lambie and Brock DeGood as they were married on **Friday, June 11**.
- Condolences for the family and friends of Beverly Holmes as Beverly joined the church triumphant on **June 6, 2021**. Please pray the Holmes family and for all who mourn Beverly's passing.
- Congratulations to Susan and Don Hamann on their 50th Wedding Anniversary on **June 12**. 50 years ago, the Hamanns were married at Salem, and the wedding ceremony was officiated by Pastor Arthur Larson. Susan and Don Hamann are celebrating with a family dinner and with a family trip at a later date. Salem wishes both Susan and Don many happy blessings as they celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

## BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS! JULY BIRTHDAYS

### July 1

Georgia Sutherland

### July 2

Stephen Arff  
Matthew Bidne  
Chris Cozadd  
Leah Owen

### July 3

Regg Glawe  
Tamara Lott  
Ashley Owen

### July 4

Carol Adams  
Ronald Hoehn  
Helene Peterson  
Jordan Snider

### July 5

April Madigan

### July 6

Bradley Hamann  
Heather Hodgkins

### July 8

Thomas Anderson  
Caleb Kotewa  
David Nelson  
Karen Swenson

### July 9

Julie Eastwood  
Linda Peterson

### July 10

Nancy Bastian  
Kyle Griffith  
Lauren Hood

### July 11

Jessica Bastian  
Branden  
Cooper Joey  
Ghazanfari

Chris Janssen  
Leah Joyce  
Chris Kroodsm  
Karen Norman  
Rees  
Jodi Serfling  
Stella Serfling  
Jean Yancick

### July 12

Monica Dockery  
Laurie Seidel  
Elaine Sokolowski

### July 13

Jason Brinkman  
Ellen Forkell

### July 14

Dennis  
Lehmann

### July 15

Bill Cox  
Sydney Neltner  
Brenda Newcomb

### July 16

Kayla DeGood

Taylor Eastwood  
Emily Nichelson

### July 17

Sharon Couden  
Cynthia Fischer

### July 18

Martha Burgeson  
Scott Faulkner  
Leah Grebner

### July 19

Megan  
Thomasson  
Craig Young

### July 20

Jonathan Arnold

### July 21

Caroline Hurlbut  
Rampy

### July 24

Jason Egan

### July 25

Melissa Berchtold  
Kay Peterson  
Lynsey Steinbach

### July 26

Thomas Hokanson

### July 27

Richard Huxtable

### July 28

Alyvia Cowser  
Merrell Hickey  
Abigail Monahan

### July 29

Mary  
Starzynski

### July 30

Roger Anderson  
Brooke Drury  
Christopher

### July 31

Snyder  
Rod Topel

### July 31

Rebecca Hagen

## 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
- Mark Anderson
- Wally Bastian and his family
- Lesly Baumgarten
- Luan Borquist
- Beth Cheville
- Butch Conard
- Gabe
- Jack Grant
- Pastor Dick Hansen
- Ron Hipple
- the family of Beverly Holmes
- Helen Johnson
- the family of Briggs Landwehr
- Lizzie
- Morgan Lott
- Marta
- Bill Mettam
- Tom Mueller
- Lana Pasco
- Rosy Park
- Paula

- Teddy's full recovery and for his family

### PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY...

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

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



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



**OUTREACH MINISTRY  
RENEWING GOD'S HOUSE  
BENEVOLENCE**

In the June Bugle, there was a highlight of Salem's Benevolence to Thomas Jefferson Primary School (newly renamed to C. T. Vivian effective July 1.) Here are some additional photographs of thank you cards and notes received from students, staff and teachers.

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**OUTDOOR WORSHIP  
SUNDAY, JULY 11 AT 7PM**  
• Please bring your own chair