



the Bugle

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days God has spoken to us by the Son. – Hebrews 1:1-2

These words are part of the first reading for October 3 and also the words shared after the readings in the liturgy of Evening Prayer. They remind us that God's word, shared by the prophets, is the same word that centuries later took on flesh and brought the very presence of God near in Jesus. It is a connection of prophetic language that prepared people for a time when Jesus would walk the earth and make known God's great love for the world. And even when Jesus did come, he did not fulfill the promises many expected. Many refused to pay attention to the many ways in which the word was revealed in new ways and rather than expanding possibilities, many people turned back to old ways, fashioned images and adhered to practices that did more to preserve the old rather than seeking truth in the message that would prepare for a new and more abundant time. Some were so oppressed and so desperate that they eagerly and gladly welcomed Jesus and his new invitation to follow him. While others were rooted in tradition and the need to continue what had always been done, that they missed seeing the new covenant Jesus had come to fulfill.

It is easy to find fault with the leaders of Jesus' day and shame them for not accepting the expanded message of the gospel to a wider audience. Who would want to go back to ways that excluded and limited access to the God's loving embrace for all people? Who would not want to look into the future with a renewed heart to experience the gifts and blessings of God in new and fresh ways?

In many ways, we are not that different from those who first encountered Jesus. Some of us are eager to embrace new things and find new ways of connecting people into the ministries of the church while others of us have visions of the past where we long to return. When the past has memories of full churches, engaged and active families and numerous in person activities, it is understandable that repeating what has always been can give the impression that it will automatically translate into what is comfortable and familiar. It is also reasonable, however, to believe that it is likely some things have changed over the years and there is a need to adapt to those changes and consider new ways of being church together. For example, this pandemic has taught me that there are numerous individuals and families who have appreciated online opportunities and feel very connected to their church and one another even while not being physically in the building. A recent survey indicated that an overwhelming number of people believe ministry needs to include a blended option of both in person and virtual opportunities as we move into the future.

I am happy to say we have learned a lot over the past many months and now have technology and media platforms that offer resources and connections via zoom, livestream, Facebook, website, email as well as print materials such as this *Bugle* issue. So, we can be church, well connected, and informed and have the option of connected in person, with computer, iPad/tablet or cellphone. While this has and continues to be a challenging time, there is hope in future possibilities and I am thankful God is still speaking in new and various ways.

God's people are always on the move. We're people of Good News! We're people of love and service! We're people who trust in the Lord's plans for us!

We most certainly know that changes are upon us. But rather than fear those changes, we are looking to the Holy Spirit and to this amazing congregation of God's people to bridge to the future that God is preparing.

Three years ago we launched our Renewing God's House Together appeal for the now completed building renovations. We're eager, of course, to "move in" and get going on ministries and activities and a full experience of this place which is a center for God's mission! We'll get there! But it all takes thoughtful, faithful courage and planning as we move forward bridging to the future.



"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." - Jeremiah 29:11

Mission always takes resources. It's how Christ's church works. Resources of time, talent and treasure will be central as we seek to "Renew God's Mission." There are a number of ways we'll do that. One is that on October 31st, we launch a 12-month bridge appeal in order to further fund the building renovations which have been completed; and we will also invite your financial support for our 2022 Salem ministries. You might call these two things "pledges" or "commitments" or "estimates of giving." We hope you see your faith and values and passions expressed through our shared ministries and mission!

Watch for more information as we near our Bridge Appeal and Stewardship Appeal. God's blessings to you as you are such a blessing to Salem!



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iMAP Salem's Internet Ministries Survey...what did we learn?

Thanks to all who took our recent Internet Missional Assessment Profile survey! While we've certainly known the importance of our Sunday (now streaming!) worship services being shared online, we didn't know a whole lot more than that. The survey gave us some insights that are crucial for us as we chart the path forward for Salem ministries.

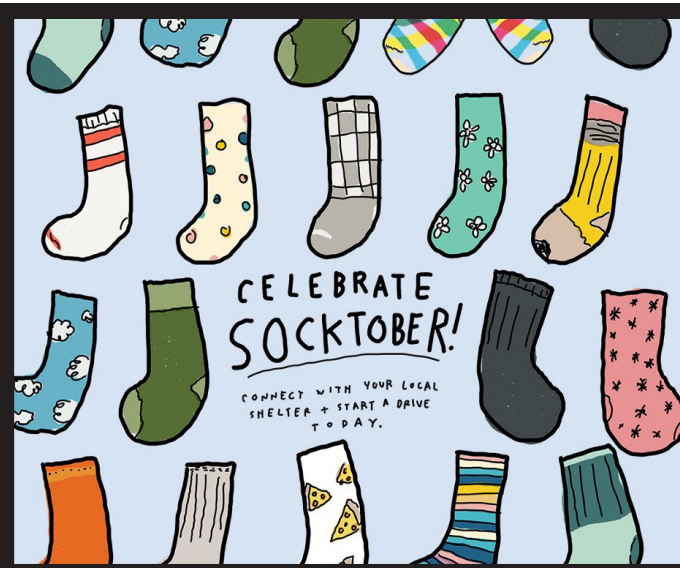
Things are changing! While that's always been the case, the pandemic has been felt in so many ways in our church's life. And, with all this change, "Fear not" are words that we hold on to. The Lord is with us. God knows the path forward. The Holy Spirit has good things in store for us. And, perhaps most importantly, Christ's ministry calls us to trust the gospel, use our gifts, reach out in love, keep the faith, bless others, and learn how to be creative and relevant and faithful in response to a changing reality, knowing that the Lord is our firm foundation in all we do.

A few discoveries that have caught our attention include:

- **58** people took the survey, with **79%** of them being at Salem for more than 10 years
- **67%** participate in online ministries at least weekly, with another **24%** a few times a month
- **91%** shared that they have a greater sense of being connected to Salem because of our online ministries, while **79%** indicated their sense of belonging is deepened.
- Just less than half (**49%**) experience stronger relationships, while **15%** said no, and about a third were on the fence.
- **83%** had a sense of being united around a shared purpose.
- When asked why respondents started to engage our online ministries, **60%** said it was the only way to connect with our congregation. And when asked what affected people's continued use of online ministries, the following were top responses: **57%** Convenience; **48%** Quality of Content; **47%** Allows for more ways to connect with Salem Lutheran Church.
- Top things that respondents named as ministry now valued include: **71%** Convenience; **66%** Quality of Content; **52%** Increased ways to connect; **48%** Quality of Production; **34%** Feeling valued part of our Online Community.
- The impact/effectiveness of respondent's online experiences include: My faith is nurtured – **90%**; I encounter hope for the future – **62%**; I feel supported in daily life – **57%**; My sense of purpose is nurtured – **45%**.
- Future considerations revealed that just over half (**53%**) were on the fence as to whether online experiences will lead people into deeper engagement with Salem, while a full **89%** expressed support that we continue to develop and grow our online ministry.
- Finally, when asked how members intend to connect to Salem in the future, **86%** said that they will through both online and in-person opportunities.

Salem's Council, Staff and others will use this input as we give shape to future ministries, the application of our resources, and discuss how best to be faithful to the gospel and our mission to "Grow People in Christ to Love and Serve."

A Bridge to the Future is language we're using not only for our upcoming bridge appeal and stewardship appeal this fall, but also for some of the visioning we'll be doing together in the coming year as we move forward. Things are changing, yes. But with the leading of the Holy Spirit, we are not fearful about that change. Rather we are called to embrace new ways of being Christ's church, of sharing the gospel, responding to those in need, and connecting with one another as a family of faith. Watch for more as we move forward together!



**MONTH OF OCTOBER
OUTREACH MINISTRY
SOCK COLLECTION
SOCKS ARE THE MOST REQUESTED ITEM
FOR SHELTERS**

Salem Outreach Ministry Group will be collecting sock donations throughout the month of SOCKtober for donation to a local shelter. Look for the SOCKtober bin to drop off your donations.

**OUTREACH
COMMUNITY
BENEVOLENCE**

Notification of Community Benevolence donations sent out in September.

- \$500 to LOMC
- \$500 to Crittenton
- \$500 to C.T. Vivian Primary School (formerly Thomas Jefferson)
- \$500 to Neighborhood House
- \$500 to Center for Prevention of Abuse
- \$500 to Midwest Food Bank
- \$500 to Bethel United Methodist Church
- \$750 to LSSI
- \$500 to Lutheran Hillside Village
- Salem also submitted a donation to World Hunger of \$3000.00.

Outreach Ministry Group is thankful for the continued generosity of Salem's Congregation.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3
OUTREACH FOOD
COLLECTION &
FAIR TRADE SALE**

RETURNING TO SUNDAY!

Salem Outreach Ministry group would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who has continued to donate non-perishable food items throughout the pandemic by utilizing our Saturday drive up drop off. Food donations are an important way for us to support our local community partners.

Outreach will be switching back to indoor collections of food donations in October. Fair Trade will be selling items on the first study of the month and Outreach will be available to collect your food donations as well. If you will not be attending church in person you can drop off your donation during the week by placing your donation in the blue bin outside the back door.

Thank you, Sarah Gonzales, *Outreach Ministry Group Chairperson*

Reminder: Sunday, October 3, is last day to bring in smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16 at 5pm
ADULT FELLOWSHIP
BONFIRE AND COOK-OUT**



The October adult fellowship event will be hosted by Lori Reimer (2506 N Taylor Rd, Hanna City) on **Saturday, October 16 at 5pm.** We will have a bonfire event. Chili, hot dogs, chips, macaroni & cheese, and s'mores ingredients will be provided. Bring your own beverage. Due to COVID, we are NOT encouraging attendees to bring side dishes, but if you do - please make sure it is pre-packaged and individually wrapped. Questions or need directions please contact Lori Reimer or Leah Grebner.

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21 at 11AM-2PM
SENIOR BUS TRIP TO TANNERS**

On **Thursday, October 21,** Salem seniors will take a trip to Tanners' Orchard for lunch and shopping. The Salem bus will depart at **11am,** and lunch is provided through a Thrivent grant.



MILESTONE QUILTS

These Milestone Quilts were recently sent to college freshmen Max Thompson and Stacy Lantz to celebrate their first month away at school. Max is at Purdue University and Stacy is at Arizona State University. Best wishes to the two of them as well as freshmen Will Ricketts at Illinois Central College and Collin Swanson at Iowa State University. Please make sure to contact the church office with any updated student or young adult addresses.

OCTOBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
OCT. 31 REFORMATION SUNDAY 9am: Worship Affirmation of Baptism 10:15am: Education Hour					1	2
3 Fair Trade/Food Collection for Outreach Sunday 9am: Worship 10:15am: Education Hour	4	5 11am: Staff Meeting 7pm: Council Meeting	6 10am: Zoom Bible Study 7pm: Praise Band Practice	7 9:15am: Adult Bible Study 6pm: Sanctuary Bells 7pm: Sanctuary Choir	8 9:30am: LWGP General Meeting at Salem Lutheran Church	9
10 9am: Worship 10:15am: Education Hour 3:30pm: LOMC 5K Walk Registration 4pm: LOMC 5K Walk	11 6:30pm: Congregational Care	12 Northern Conference Bugle Deadline 7pm: Outreach Meeting 7:30pm: Faith Formation Meeting	13 10am: Zoom Bible Study 11am: Staff Meeting 7pm: Praise Band Practice	14 9:15am: Adult Bible Study 6pm: Sanctuary Bells 7pm: Sanctuary Choir	15	16 5pm: Adult Fellowship Cook-Out hosted by Lori Reimer
17 9am: Worship 10:15am: Education Hour	18 7pm: Salem Churchmen Meeting 7pm: Worship & Music Meeting	19 11am: Staff Meeting 7pm: Property & Finance Meeting	20 10am: Zoom Bible Study	21 9:15am: Adult Bible Study 11am: Senior Bus Trip to Tanners 6pm: Sanctuary Bells 7pm: Sanctuary Choir	22	23 8am: Salem Fall Work Day
24 9am: Worship 10:15am: Education Hour 10:15am: Education Hour 12:30pm: Paintball Outing	25	26 11am: Staff Meeting 7pm: Zoom Executive Committee	27 10am: Zoom Bible Study 7:30pm: Zoom Book Club	28 9:15am: Adult Bible Study 6pm: Sanctuary Bells 7pm: Sanctuary Choir	29	30



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10, REGISTRATION AT 3:30PM, WALK FROM 4PM-5PM

SALEM FAMILIES WALK FOR L.O.M.C.

FUNDRAISER for Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center in Oregon, Illinois

Walk with your Salem Family in the church parking lot from 4pm-5pm.

Prizes, T-shirts, and Special Activities!

Walkers, Runners, Skateboards, roller skates, bicycles and tricycles welcome

ALL AGES WELCOME!

SALEM FAMILY – OUR TEAM NEEDS SPONSORS AND DONATIONS!

DONATE DIRECTLY AT LOMC.ORG/5K TEAMSALMOFPEORIA OR AT CHURCH

CHECKS AT CHURCH PAYABLE TO SALEM – “LOMC WALK” IN THE MEMO LINE PLEASE

LOMC is hosting their annual 5K during their Autumn Festival on **Saturday, October 9**. We'll walk locally the same weekend to support their fundraiser. **Register by October 3 at Salemofpeoria.com** for a free LOMC T-Shirt or you can register at the event. There is no cost to participate – Donations welcome!

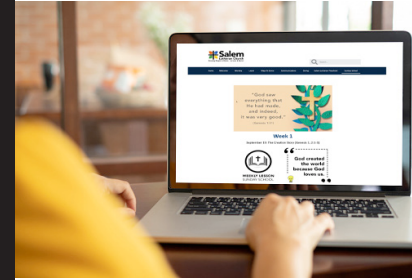
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24 at 12:30PM-2PM

KID'S CHOICE ACTIVITY: PAINTBALL

The Salem Youth & Family Program and the Churchmen have rented a private playing field at the Pekin Paintball Park on **Sunday, October 24 from 12:30pm-2pm**. The cost is \$25 per participant for the Basic Fee. Salem will purchase plenty of additional paintballs for the group. You can sign up on-line at www.salemofpeoria.com or on the Salem CYF event page on Facebook. You will have the option of paying on-line in advance or cash at the door.

This will be LOW IMPACT paintball: "Low impact uses the exact same gear and equipment – participants have the same experience - it just hurts less when you get hit." Kids as young as 6 years old are welcome to participate but any child under 6th grade must have a parent participate too (Salem's rule). We had a blast at this activity in the fall of 2019! Paintball is more fun the more people you have so feel free to bring your friends and the entire family!

Check Out NEW Online Resources for Sunday School



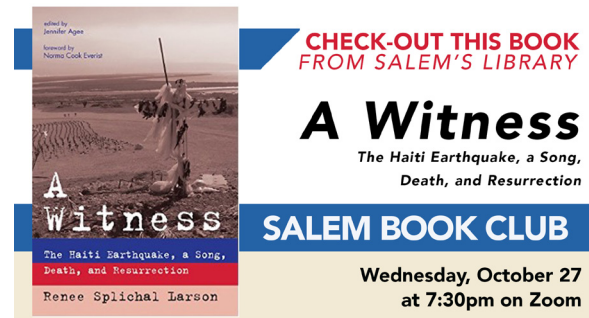
Your family can now access the weekly Sunday School story through Salem's website – salemofpeoria.com. When you are unable to attend, your family can still participate in Sunday School. You can watch a video of the story, find Bible background information for further study, prayers, and activities that bring meaning and build faith based on the story. For older youth, Bible chapters and verses are given so you can look up the entire story in the Bible.

Where can you find the link? It's so simple! Go to Salem's homepage and click on the "Sunday School" button from the navigation menu and it takes you right there with all the information you will need to have Sunday School at home, on the road, or wherever you may be.

NEW MEETING DAY! WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27 at 7:30PM-8:30PM

SALEM BOOK CLUB

Salem Book Club will now be meeting on the last Wednesday of the month. We will meet on **Wednesday, October 27 at 7:30pm** via Zoom. If you would like to join us, please email gpetrakis@salemofpeoria.com to be added to the email group.



Our book for October is: *A Witness – The Haiti Earthquake, a Song, Death, and Resurrection* by Renee Splichal Larson. Renee Splichal Larson is an ELCA pastor. Born and raised in North Dakota, Renee is a graduate of Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota, and Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa. She is married to Jonathan Splichal Larson, who is also a pastor in the ELCA, and their son is named Gabriel. Renee and Jon are both survivors of the 2010 Haiti earthquake. *A Witness* is Renee's first book.

The 2010 earthquake in Haiti buried Renee Splichal Larson in concrete rubble, killing her husband and leaving her a widow at age 27. Surviving only to be overwhelmed by loss and trauma, she wondered if life was still possible for her. Even as she trained to become a pastor, her faith in a loving God was shaken and battered by the earthquake that devastated Port-au-Prince and took the lives of many thousands. This is Renee's moving story of love, grief, survival, and new life. It is an account of the lives of three young people, their experience of the challenges, beauty, and hospitality of Haiti, and the tumult that overthrew all they held dear. After years of struggle and healing, aided by remarkable signs of the love and presence of God, Renee offers us an intimate look at her young romance, her experience of the earthquake, and the journey that followed. Most of all, she proclaims her hard-won witness: that in Christ, love and life conquer death.

"Renee Splichal Larson provides us with a story of hope in *A Witness*. It is a moving, heartfelt story that had to be told. It brings with it the visceral longings of life in the face of death, relief amid despair, light in darkness. Any who have ever known pain or loss can benefit from her story. She points us to the place that brought meaning when everything seemed lost: the foot of the cross." -Paul E. Hoffman, Author, *Faith Forming Faith*

FROM THE PARISH NURSE, LORI REIMER, RN

INFLUENZA VACCINE

The influenza vaccine helps prevent the flu (influenza). This is not what some people call the "stomach flu" but a contagious disease caused by flu viruses. Common symptoms are cough, sore throat, and fever. Stuffy nose, fatigue, body aches, and headache may also occur. Flu-related complications can be bronchitis, sinus infections, and pneumonia or the flu can make other health conditions worse. The flu can occur any time but is most common in the fall and winter, so it is best to get the vaccine before it starts spreading in your community. There are many flu viruses and they are always changing. This is why each year a new vaccine is made to protect against the viruses believed to cause influenza each season. It can also provide some protection from those viruses that it does not exactly match. The flu vaccine may also be given with other vaccines. It is recommended that everyone 6 months and older get vaccinated every flu season. It will take about two weeks for the protection to begin but the vaccine does not cause the virus. There are a few cases where you should not get the vaccine so you will be screened before receiving the vaccine or you can talk to your health care provider. Other ways to protect yourself as well as stop the spread of the flu include washing your hands, covering your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing (with a tissue if possible then throw away), stay away from those who are sick and stay home if you are sick, and do not touch your mouth, eyes or nose. For more information go to www.cdc.gov/flu or www.flu.gov.

get your
FLU SHOT
today!



Lori Reimer, RN

THANK YOU!

A special thank you to Randy Blum, Chad Arnold, John Harvey and Chris Cochran for helping to haul and put new wood around the Salem Preschool playground. Also, a thank you to Rick and Janice Lambie as well as Jeff Machacek for power washing the preschool playground equipment. Thank you Salem members for helping get Salem Lutheran Preschool ready for another year of classes!

LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES OF ILLINOIS (LSSI) FALL EVENT

LSSI presents its 40th annual True Friend Celebration on **Thursday, October 7 at 6:30pm** - Traveling Route LSSI! The keynote speaker will be travel author and TV personality Rick Steves. Join Rick Steves for a conversation that will explore the idea of travel as a spiritual act that promotes empathy, solidarity, and connection. The conversation will be hosted by the Rev. Peter Marty, publisher of *The Christian Century* magazine and a Lutheran pastor in Davenport, Iowa.

We will honor Beverly Moody and the life of Richard Moody with this year's True Friend Award. Event proceeds will benefit Children's Community Services at LSSI, including our foster care program. Virtual opportunities to participate may be found at: www.lssi.org/truefriend

LUTHERAN WOMEN OF GREATER PEORIA (LWGP) GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT SALEM

LWGP is having their General Membership meeting on **Friday morning, October 8 at Salem, 9am-11am**. The ladies will enjoy a continental breakfast, listen to a presentation by Ms. Joy Grove, the Director of Community Wellness at LHV and get a tour of our new addition! Joy oversees senior exercise programming for all levels of living. Please RSVP to Lisa Mack, call or text (309) 360-2669 by Oct 5th so that we can plan accordingly.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS! OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

October 1

Kim Ascherl
Zachary Ferrell

October 2

Velma Crowley
Stephanie Dammann
Miles Janssen
John Sipf

October 3

Susan Oldenburg
JR Runkel

October 4

Jackson Grabel
Karsen Grabel

October 5

Allen Bidne

October 6

Alton Berg
MaryAlice Erickson
Elijah Sipf

October 7

Trenton Hainline
Meghan Peterson

October 10

David Griffith
Maren Kelly

October 11

Terry Krus

October 12

Aaron Hartman
Brent Wallstedt

October 13

Jane Grimm
Scott Hainline
Michael Newcomb

October 15

Melissa Aprahamian
Sharon Coyner
Marilyn Oertley
Gavin Stenzel

October 16

Roberta Kessinger

October 18

James Ripper
Kelly Swanson

October 19

Christa Taubert
Gayle Young

October 20

Matthew Kammerer

October 21

Kelsi Gustafson
Jaxon Howard
Kathy Kalbacken

October 26

Kalinda Topsword

October 23

Susan Barham
Joann Blum
John Grabel

October 25

Jodi Campbell
Brett Cooper
Faith Forkell
Erika Haedicke
Sandra Harvey
Fred Stamerjohn
Celeste Woerner

October 26

John Day

October 27

Alison Meinert

October 28

Mike Shadley

October 29

Gail Serrahn

October 30

Aaron Grebner
Ann Sterr
Annie Swanson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Congratulations to Amy Hainline and Bradley Boland for their marriage on **Saturday, September 11, 2021** at the Cannery in Eureka.
- Prayers are requested for the families of two Salem members who have joined the church triumphant. Please pray for the families of Joyce Grubb and Anthony "Tony" Martin. May they find comfort and peace in the love and promises of Jesus.

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 Ahlgren
- Wally Bastian and his family

- Lesly Baumgarten
- Luan Borquist
- Butch Conard
- Bill Cox
- Ethan, grandson of Bea Kent
- Marilyn Franson
- Gabe
- Jack Grant
- Henry
- Ron Hipple
- Helen Johnson
- Larry
- Lizzie
- Morgan Lott
- Marta
- Bill Mettam
- Tom Mueller
- Dr. Rick O'Connor
- Bonnie Olsen
- 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.

The Bugle
USPS 477-460



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



RALLY DAY 2021

Rally Day on September 12, 2021 hosted a wide-range of events. After worship, Pastor Craig led a rededication service. Following the rededication, families met their teachers and visited their classrooms. Then a service project for first responders was completed before the Salem Churchmen served lunch at the Salem Picnic. After lunch, people participated in games including frisbee, balloons, bingo and water balloons. Thank you to all who made this day special.

Photographs by Laura Hartman and water balloon shot by Kris Griffith