

the Bugle

A NOTE FROM DEACON JILL

I've said here before that Vacation Bible School is one of my very favorite weeks in the church year. Vacation Bible School at Salem is particularly AWESOME for many reasons. It's an opportunity for the whole church to work together and share the GOOD NEWS of Jesus with children and families in our congregation and in our community. Here are a few more reasons to get involved with Vacation Bible School this summer:

Kids love it. VBS is just plain fun. When kids are having fun, they are more apt to be paying attention and learning, and they are more likely to invite their friends.

It's a great outreach event. We encourage everyone to invite neighbors, family and friends and we also reach out into our surrounding community: Salem preschool, apartments and homes nearby, and CT Vivian students. For some, VBS may be their only exposure to church and the only time each year when they hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

VBS gives kids and adults in our church a chance to spend some time together, to continue to build relationships and to get excited about our faith. There is just something special about an action-packed week of VBS that creates a certain level of excitement. It's the kind of excitement we should feel about God and about his Good News every day, and VBS week helps to remind us of that.



NOTE: Salem has the most fabulous student leaders. Starting in 6th grade, students are encouraged to put their gifts, abilities and interests to work for the church. They enthusiastically re-learn the stories they are now helping to tell, along-side caring adults who understand the importance of building up young leaders in the church. We are hoping for a great turnout of student leaders again this year!! Sign up online!

VOLUNTEER
REGISTRATION LINK HERE



STUDENT
REGISTRATION LINK HERE



A special note to Salem parents: please take a moment to sign your participating kids up online (salemofpeoria.com/vbs-2022).

WHEN IS VBS? Monday – Thursday, June 27-30; 9AM – Noon every day

HOW CAN I HELP?

- We need several more adult leaders who can be at VBS all 4 days to serve as Hosts. Hosts will lead a small group of students (6-8 students) through the various stations daily. Hosts do not have to prepare anything in advance. Just come, relate to the students in your group, and help them have the best experience possible. You get to enjoy VBS activities right along with the students every day. Each small group will also have 1-2 older student leaders.
- We still need adult Rotation Leaders and helpers for crafts, games and Bible story. Rotation Leaders can help for a day or two or all week. You choose your interest area and tell us what day or days you can serve. Leaders for special projects are also needed – for example – daily photographers; a special team for individual pictures on Monday, or hosts for the closing lunch on Thursday at noon.

Myself or another volunteer will be at the Welcome Center after worship to answer questions and sign-up volunteers. Or, you may sign up to volunteer online. Please call or email me with questions anytime: jgoldhammer@salemofpeoria.com.



adult & student
volunteers: please take
a moment to volunteer
for vbs (salemofpeoria.
com/vbs-2022).

WORSHIP

Blessing of Soil, Seed, Water

As the winter seasons loses its grip and the Spring season unfolds, gardeners and farmers begin to dig in the soil and anticipate a harvest. On **Sunday, May 8**, we will take a moment in worship to offer thanks for the new season that is upon us and the new life that is blooming from the earth. We also offer blessings upon the process of tilling, sowing and planting in anticipation of the combination of summer's warmth and frequent rains to nourish what has been planted and sown. It is an exciting time for gardening but also an exciting time for nurturing the word of God that is sown into hearts that we pray will produce kingdom fruit. For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God!



OUTREACH MINISTRY

Lutheran World Relief School Kit Project

The Outreach Ministry group is sponsoring the Lutheran World Relief School Kit Project. Outreach ministry has purchased supplies for 60 bags. With the goal of 150 bags we need donations of fabric to meet that goal.

- Sturdy fabrics (lightweight denim, canvas, twill, corduroy, upholstery material may be used, but no drapery material.)
- Fabric rectangle 38"L x 15"W plus two- 2" x4" pieces for the loops.
- Two 2-yard cords for drawstring are made from 1/4" diameter spools of cotton, polyester or nylon clothesline.

Cash donations would also be gladly received.

Fair Trade and Outreach Food Collection, May 1

Outreach Ministry group will be accepting non-perishable food donations for Bethel United Methodist Food Pantry and selling fair trade items in the atrium on **Sunday, May 1**.

Midwest Food Bank, May 25

SERVING OPPORTUNITY

Salem Lutheran Church is serving as volunteers at Peoria's Midwest Food Bank on **Wednesday, May 25 from 9am-11am**. Please sign up in advance here: <https://x.gldn.io/zxK26BmO0ib>



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Bugle content due by June 14

Pastoral Emergency Number:

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

MAY MEETINGS & EVENTS

For more information: salemofpeoria.com/communications/calendar/

WORSHIP TIMES

SUNDAYS at 9am (online/in person)

SALEM COUNCIL & MINISTRY GROUP MEETINGS

TUESDAY, MAY 3 at 7pm:
Salem Council Meeting
(in person)

MONDAY, MAY 9 at 6:30pm:
Congregational Care Ministry

TUESDAY, MAY 10 at 7pm:
Outreach Ministry

TUESDAY, MAY 10 at 7:30pm:
Faith Formation Ministry

TUESDAY, MAY 17 at 7pm:
Property & Finance Ministry

TUESDAY, MAY 24 at 6:30pm:
Worship & Music Ministry

SALEM COUNCIL & LIAISONS

Grant Peterson, President,
Endowment

Ann Roberts, Vice President,
Outreach

Kris Griffith, Secretary

Dave Swanson, Treasurer

Kelly Brinkman, Faith Formation

Matt Grebner, Worship & Music

Emily Jolliff, Faith Formation

Todd Kelly, Worship & Music

Jason Lantz, Property & Finance

Maren Thompson, Cong. Care

Gretchen Petrakis, Faith Formation

Eric Schroeder, Property & Finance

email: salemcouncil@salemofpeoria.com

WORSHIP & MUSIC

THURSDAYS at 6pm: Chancel Bell

THURSDAYS at 7pm: Chancel Choir

FAITH FORMATION

SUNDAYS at 10:15am: Education Hour
Sunday School, Faith for Life, Kappa Chi,
Women of the Word, Man-to-Man

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

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

TUESDAY, MAY 3 at 10am:
Rebecca Circle

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11 at 2pm:
Lydia Circle

SATURDAY, MAY 14 at 8am: Faith for Life Sample
Day at Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Center

SUNDAY, MAY 22: Graduation Sunday

SUNDAY, MAY 22: Sunday School Celebration

WED, MAY 25 at 7:30pm:
Salem Book Club on Zoom

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

THURSDAY, MAY 5 at 6:30PM:
Pray for the Cure

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11 at 6:30PM:
Ladies' Night Potluck

MONDAY, MAY 16, 1PM-6PM:
Salem Blood Drive

OUTREACH

SUNDAY, MAY 1: Fair Trade Sunday
and Food Collection

SUNDAY, MAY 15: Education Hour speaker:
Sandy Garza - the Development and Marketing
Director at Crittenton

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25 at 9AM: Midwest Food
Bank Volunteer Opportunity at Peoria Division



There are many ways to participate and support the Salem Saints Team through Susan Komen's More Than Pink™ beyond the walk:

- **April 30 at 5:30pm**, Mexican theme dinner and silent auction at Julie & Larry Kotewa's house.
- **Thursday, May 5 at 6:30pm** Pray for the Cure at Salem Lutheran Church
- **Saturday, May 7 at 8am** More Than Pink Walk™ at the Metro Centre

Salem has registered a team for the More Than Pink Walk™ as the Salem Lutheran Saints. The event will be **Saturday, May 7**. It is not too late if you want to register for the walk and join the Salem Lutheran Saints team or to make a donation.

For more information visit:

www.salemofpeoria.com/more-than-pink-fundraiser-2022/



Ladies Night Out, May 11

Kick-off Potluck for Ladies Night Out on **May 11 at 6:30pm** with the women of Salem in the Social Hall. Join us for fabulous, fun night out! Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Ladies of all ages welcome. No children, please.

Please RSVP using the sign-up at the Welcome Center in the atrium

FAITH FORMATION MINISTRY

Community Partnership Forum for Adults & Older

Guest Speaker: Sandy Garza, Crittenton Centers

Sunday, May 15 – 10:15AM – 11:15AM in the Social Hall

Sandy Garza is the development and marketing director at Crittenton Centers, whose mission is to protect and nurture children and families. Its three core services include the Crisis Nursery (emergency and respite care for infants and children), the Child Development Center (preschool and daycare), and offering Educational and Support Services.

Salem has long been community partners with the Crittenton Center and generous supporters of their mission – most recently serving as a collection site for their 2022 Fill the Crib Campaign. Some other hands-on projects Salem members have helped with in the past include the community garden, cooking classes for children and families, canned food drives, helping at the annual stocking stuffer store and festival of trees, hosting special events, and mentoring young moms, as well as providing much needed financial support to the agency through endowment grants and outreach giving. Come and celebrate this partnership, get an update on Crittenton's mission, challenges and successes, and explore ways Salem might continue to be in partnership in the future.



Sandy Garza,
Crittenton Centers

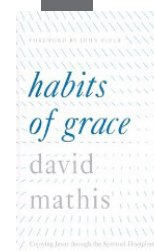
Spring Cleaning? Decluttering?

Consider donating to the Salem Library your gently used books that would help others grow deeper in faith to love and serve! ("Donations" basket is located on the bottom shelf of the check-out table.)



The Mothers and Daughter of the Bible Speak by Shannon Bream

God always keeps His promises, but not always in the way we expect... 'Have faith' is a phrase we hear all the time. But what does it actually look like to live it out? Shannon Bream examines the lives of biblical women to see how God's plans can turn our worlds upside down. She tells the story of Jochebed, a mother who took enormous risks to protect her son, Moses, from Pharaoh. Could Jochebed have imagined that God's actual design for her son involved flight into exile and danger? And yet this was all part of the master plan to deliver Israel from slavery. Another biblical mother, Rebekah, made terrible choices to ensure her son's place in history. And a daughter, Michal, struggled to keep her faithless father, Saul, from sin, while battling pride in herself. Through these stories, Shannon explains the intimate connection between faith and family--and how God's unexpected agenda can redefine the way we think about family. Not all of these mothers and daughters in the Bible were paragons of virtue. Like us, they were human beings who faltered and struggled to do their best. While some heard God's voice, others chose their own paths. Through the lens of their imperfections, we can see how God used their stories to bring about His divine plans. He's still doing the same work in our lives today.



Habits of Grace by David Mathis

Three seemingly unremarkable principles shape and strengthen the Christian life: listening to God's voice, speaking to him in prayer, and joining with his people as the church. Though often viewed as normal and routine, the everyday "habits of grace" we cultivate give us access to these God-designed channels through which his love and power flow--including the greatest joy of all: knowing and enjoying Jesus.

Reminder: When taking a book from the library, please sign card from back of book with your name, date and then leave the card in the tray on check-out table.

An online library resource is now linked to Salem's website. To access and view the collection (salemofpeoria.com), look for the Learn tab, click on Salem Lutheran Library, click again on Library Catalog and scroll through the online collection. Or, search(salemofpeoria.com/salem-lutheran-library).

We'll bring the library to you! If you wish to have books delivered to your home, please contact Karen Swenson at 309-258-5708 or at klswen@hotmail.com.

Children's Library Resources

As a method of continuing to provide Christian resources to the families of Salem, books have been purchased for Easter, just as at Christmas.

Seventy-two Easter books were purchased for the youth of Sunday School, as well as thirty-two books for the students in the Salem Lutheran Church Preschool. Each book was personalized, including the notation that the gift was from the congregation. The books were wrapped and delivered prior to Palm Sunday.

The focus for the children's library will remain to facilitate and support the faith formation of families.



TOP: Book purchased for Salem Lutheran Preschool
BOTTOM: Books purchased for the youth of Sunday School

FROM THE PARISH NURSE, LORI REIMER

First Aid, AED and Medical Equipment



Do you know where to locate a first aid kit at Salem if you need a band-aid or other first aid items? They are located: in the marked kitchen cabinet next to the microwave and the Parish Nurse office (on the first floor), in the Narthex coat closet and a drawer in the lounge (on the second floor), and in the center youth room in the sink drawer (on the third floor). There are several first-aid supplies in each kit, excluding anything medicated.

Did you know that Salem has two AED (Automated External Defibrillator)? If so, do you know where they're located? An AED is a portable device that checks the heart rhythm. If needed, it can send an electric shock to the heart to try and restore a normal rhythm. Each unit comes with instructions, and the device will even give you voice prompts to let you know if and when you should send a shock to the heart. Just knowing the location can make you an asset in an emergency situation if someone asks you to go retrieve it. Salem's AEDs are located in the lounge on the second floor and on the first floor close to the entrance. If you are interested in attending a class on AED, CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation), and first aid please let Lori Reimer know.



Did you know that there is a supply of medical equipment available through Salem's Parish Nurse Program? In need of a walker, cane, commode, or other equipment, temporarily or permanently? Having surgery where certain equipment is needed during recovery? Want to test out a certain type of walker or other equipment before purchasing your own long-term? Please check with Lori Reimer if you have any of these needs to see what equipment is available.

GIVE BLOOD

You can make a difference.



American Red Cross

emailing Lori Reimer at lreimer@salemofpeoria.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.

BLOOD DRIVE, MAY 16 from 1PM-6PM

Salem's Next Blood Drive is **May 16 from 1pm-6pm in the Social Hall.** Donors are needed more than ever. Donating blood takes only about an hour of your time, but could mean a lifetime for a person in need. Sign-up by going to redcrossblood.org and look for Salem's Blood Drive or by

FAITH FORMATION

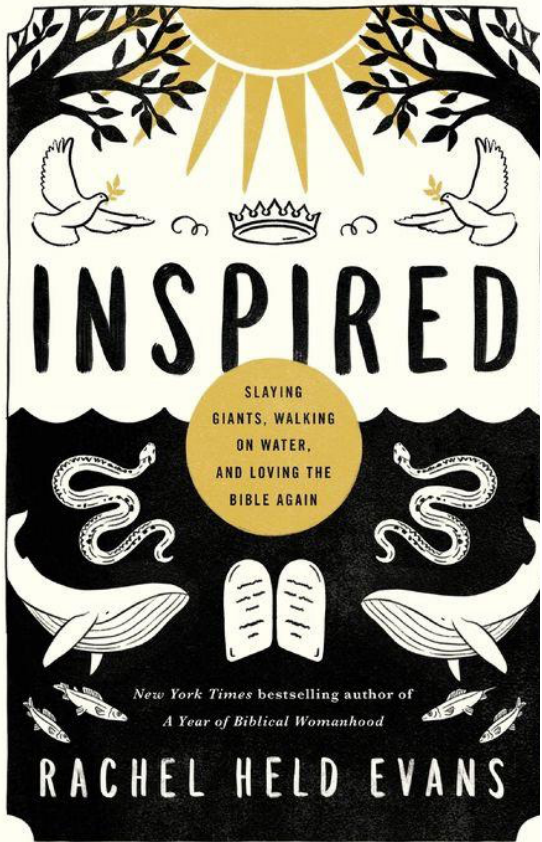
May Book Club

Hello fellow readers - the Salem Book Club is reading "Inspired - Slaying Giants, Walking on Water and Loving the Bible Again" by Rachel Held Evans for May 25 at 7:30pm is . Available at Amazon, Christianbook.com and is also an audiobook. Rachel has a website though please note that she tragically and suddenly passed away in 2019 so it's not a current website. It does have her books and other info about her: rachelheldevans.com

If the Bible isn't a science book or an instruction manual, what is it? What do people mean when they say the Bible is inspired? When New York Times bestselling author Rachel Held Evans found herself asking these questions, she embarked on a journey to better understand what the Bible is and how it's meant to be read. What she discovered changed her—and it can change you, too.

Evans knows firsthand how a relationship with the Bible can be as real and as complicated as a relationship with a family member or close friend. In Inspired, Evans explores contradictions and questions from her own experiences with the Bible, including:

- *If the Bible was supposed to explain the mysteries of life, why does it leave the reader with so many questions?*
- *What does it mean to be chosen by God?*



- *To what degree did the Holy Spirit guide the preservation of these narratives, and is there something sacred to be uncovered beneath all these human fingerprints?*
- *If the Bible has given voice to the oppressed, why is it also used as justification by their oppressors?*

Drawing on the best in biblical scholarship and using her well-honed literary expertise, Evans examines some of our favorite Bible stories and possible interpretations, retelling them through memoir, original poetry, short stories, and even a short screenplay.

Undaunted by the Bible's most difficult passages and unafraid to ask the hard questions, Evans wrestles through the process of doubting, imagining, and debating the

mysteries surrounding Scripture. Discover alongside Evans that the Bible is not a static text, but a living, breathing, captivating, and confounding book that can equip us and inspire us to join God's loving and redemptive work in the world."

JOIN SALEM'S BOOK CLUB

Salem Book Club will meet **May 25 at 7:30pm.**

Meeting ID: 879 6250 3385
Password: Books



The Ulrich Family (left to right): Mark, Luke, Miriam and Jamie holding Aaron.

Ulrich's to Visit on June 19

The Ulrich family, Luke, Jamie, Mark, Miriam, and Aaron, have ministered to the very poor in Malawi, Africa since 2016. They focus especially on the children. They are truly bringing the love of Jesus and are helping in so many ways.

They will be visiting Salem on **Sunday, June 19**. The Ulrich family will participate in our service and will join us in the Social Hall after the service.

After worship on **Sunday, June 19**, please welcome them as they will review their special project **"Hope Home"** with us. This project will provide a daytime center to provide a safe place for the very poor children of Eastern Malawi to come and hear the Word of God. It will be especially for orphans and vulnerable families to receive additional meals, life skills, and help with medical needs in a safe, loving environment.



Salem Endowment

For over 500 years, the church of Christ has been reforming and reshaping efforts to reflect the grace and love of Jesus as coming among us as a free and abundant gift. Martin Luther's passion to remove barriers in order that all are welcome to receive and share in God's gifts has inspired Christian communities around the world.

Salem's Gift and Endowment Fund is one of those ways Salem reaches out to share with others. Annually, disbursements are considered to extend generosity to assist other efforts to share God's gifts for various ministry needs. This year, Salem's Gift and Endowment Committee has decided to build upon our reformed heritage by reflecting to Martin Luther's initiative in 1517 to challenge the religious establishment of his day in order to expand the message of God's grace as a free and under-served gift received in faith to insiders and outsiders alike. We are glad to share with you that Salem's Gift and Endowment Committee has reviewed potential candidates and the hope is that the endowment gift will serve chosen recipients to enable them to serve their mission to bless others.



THANK YOUS

Mary Gibson

To All at Salem Lutheran Church:

I just wanted to send a note of thanks to my Salem Family for all the thoughts and prayers after my recent medical challenge! Also the prayer shawl gave me the feeling of all the prayers surrounding me! I am doing really well and taking steps to getting back to normal again.

You will always be my Family! I love you all, Mary Gibson

Way of the Cross

On Good Friday, Salem's Faith for Life (5th-8th Grade) Students are presented "The Way of the Cross". We shared in the story of walking with Jesus on the way to the cross.



Salem Family Sampler Day at LOMC, Saturday, May 14



Salem has reserved LOMC and their staff on **Saturday, May 14** to re-introduce children, youth and families to our favorite Bible Camp and some awesome activities in the great outdoors. Planned activities include: Canoeing, archery, team building, gaga ball and a good camp hike. (You can also bring your fishing poles along if you wish to work that in). We plan to bring along our own sack lunches. It will be a very full day!

The Salem bus will leave the church parking lot at 8am Saturday morning. Or, families can drive themselves to Oregon, Illinois, and meet up with the group at camp. We will leave the camp to return home by 4:30pm. This activity is for all ages. Families are encouraged to participate together, however, older students are welcome to come along without a parent.

LOMC’s mission is to connect the Word of God with the World of God. This activity is being provided **FREE** for Salem families and you are welcome to invite friends along for free, too. What a great way to introduce friends to your Salem family than experiencing Jesus and fellowship in the great outdoors!

Registrations are due by May 5, 2022, so the camp can plan for our fun day!

Sunday School Celebration and Graduation Sunday, May 22

Everyone is invited to join in a celebration of Sunday School and High School Graduation starting at 10:15am in the Social Hall on Sunday, May 22.

Graduates will be recognized during the 9AM worship service. After worship there will be a reception for high school graduates (Caleb Brinkman, Mia Doty, Katie Hancock, Caidon Hickey, Noah Hopkins, Gloria Kroodsma, William Petrakis) and in celebration of the Sunday School program.

At 10:30am, Sunday School students will begin their festivities in the Sanctuary with a short program. There will also be some activities to kick-off our summer faith formation about Paul.

Paul was an important person among the early Christians. He traveled all around the ancient world telling people about Jesus. He helped to start churches and wrote many letters to people in these early churches. These letters we find in the New Testament – some of which are the following books: Romans, Galatians, 1 and 2 Thessalonians, 1 and 2 Corinthians, Ephesians, and Philippians to name a few.

Let’s come together on May 22nd and celebrate what is yet to come! Hope to see you!

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Salem Lutheran Church has a part-time Office Coordinator position available beginning mid-June. This part-time job opportunity is 25-28 hours per week, Monday-Friday. Please contact Pastor Craig for more details.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

May 1 Karla Wegrzyn	May 10 Gary Bridges Jennifer Gallas Lori Reimer	May 21 Magdalene Sipf	May 27 Sue Colloton Kayla Steele Nadine Willems
May 3 Carter Aprahamian Tracy Daugherty Theresa Gustafson Karen Huxtable	May 12 Collin Swanson	May 23 Jason Lantz	May 28 Charles Aprahamian Larry Kotewa Paul O’Connor
May 7 Bradley Mangan Lana Pasco	May 14 Stephanie Kroodsma Janet Saylor	May 24 Leah Bachert Joyce Grubb Lindsey Janco Jeff Neltner	May 29 Carol McGregor Harleigh Mohr
May 8 Tim Hickey Pam Machacek Deb Sanders Richard Thompson Eric Topel	May 16 Helen Buerger	May 25 Ronald Hipple Brenna Salverson Eric Schroeder	May 31 Micah Thompson
May 9 Calvin Janssen	May 17 Marilyn Setterlund Claire Zapf	May 26 June Janssen	
	May 19 Susan Bohm Arlan Maier		

PRAYER REQUESTS

THANKSGIVING TO GOD FOR... <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Salem’s growing ministry	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lesly Baumgarten• Luan Borquist• Jim Chelgren• Butch Conard• Stephanie Dammann's grandfather• Debbie• Gabe• George, Rosemary Swanson's cousin• John and Tanya's daughter-in-law and their family• Jack Grant• Henry• Ron Hipple• Lesley Howard• Helen Johnson• Lizzie• Morgan Lott• Marta• Melody and her son Caleb• Bill Mettam	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jo and Gil Nolde• Bruce Norgard• Lana Pasco• Donita Purcell• Rosy Park• Irene Sawatzky• the family of Bob Turner
DIRECTION... <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Salem Congreg. Council• Salem’s Pastor, Deacon and Staff		
PRAYERS REQUESTS... <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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• Natalee Arff• Wally Bastian and his family		PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY... <p>Stateside: Gibson Gonzalez, Emily Graff, Barry Joyce, Jim Sterling, Jason Sterr</p> <p>Overseas: Ian Borquist, Talon Maki</p>



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



Welcome to the Lord's Table

Congratulations to the students (LEFT-RIGHT: Poppy Jolliff, Maggie Sipf, Aaron Hartman, Dylan Schroeder and Matthew Kammerer) who attended communion instruction on **Saturday, April 9** and then were welcomed to the Lord's Table on **Sunday, April 10** for their first communion.