

LIVING OUT GOD'S LOVE

Salem United Church of Christ is an Open and Affirming Congregation



NEWSLETTER | NOVEMBER 2023

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NOVEMBER:

November 1: All Saint's Day

*Revelation 7:9-17 and
Psalm 34:1-10, 22
1 John 3:1-3
Matthew 5:1-12*

Week of November 5:

*Joshua 3:7-17 and
Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37
Micah 3:5-12 and Psalm 43
1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
Matthew 23:1-12*

Week of November 12:

*Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 and
Psalm 78:1-7
Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16 or
Amos 5:18-24 and
Wisdom of Solomon 6:17-20 or
Psalm 70
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 25:1-13*

Week of November 19:

*Judges 4:1-7 and Psalm 123
Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18 and
Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew 25:14-30*

November 23: Thanksgiving Day

*Deuteronomy 8:7-18 and Psalm 65
2 Corinthians 9:6-15
Luke 17:11-19 Matthew 22:34-46*

FROM PASTOR PHIL

Dear Members and Friends of Salem UCC,

Come, Ye Thankful People Come

November is the season of thanksgiving. There are so many things I am thankful for this season.

I appreciate leaders here at Salem who continue to step up to new opportunities and ideas and ministries.

I am grateful for each and every member of the church. The warmth, welcome, faith, and joy of this house of God is so very evident.

I give thanks for our staff who help make church happen around here.

In the wider church, we have a new General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ. The Rev. Dr. Karen Gerogia A Thompson is the third woman nominated and the first woman elected to serve as GMP, the first immigrant (born in Jamaica), and the third person of African descent to hold the post, following Joseph H. Evans in the 1970s, and Geoffrey Black from 2010 to 2015.

Upon her election at General Synod in Indianapolis earlier this year, Dr. Thompson described the UCC thus, "Here is the place where we have seen the Spirit of God poured forth among us in many ways. Here is the place where we continue to identify the many accomplishments of the ancestors. Here is where we honor the resilience of those who came before us, took risk and oftentimes did more with less than we currently have. And here is the place we identify as now, as we ponder the call of God to be salt and light to the world."

I hear echoes of the past and new paths being walked. I am reminded of the words of the UCC's first, Rev. Ben Mohr Herbster, who told our denomination that we had a Gospel call to "an unending effort to guarantee to all men, women and children, here in America and to the ends of the earth, a chance to live in freedom, good will, justice and advantage."

Our work continues. I give thanks for the work and the workers.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Phil

Week of November 26:

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 and

Psalm 100

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 and

Psalm 95:1-7a

Ephesians 1:15-23

Matthew 25:31-46



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1: Soren Winterle, Jared Zurbuchen
- 2: Matthew Gust, Dana Zurbuchen
- 5: Samuel Shubak, Jackson Pundt
- 8: Susan Hegeman
- 9: Savannah Burke
- 12: Celia Hauser
- 14: Bryan Blake
- 18: Laura Williams
- 19: Gary Butzlaff
- 24: Nan Zurbuchen
- 26: Bruce Quade, Greg Bass
- 29: Beth Yurs

*Let the church office know if we missed your birthday.

POINSETTIAS/WREATHS

Look for an order form in the November bulletins to sponsor a poinsettia or wreath for advent.

DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS

These Days, Our Daily Bread and *The Upper Room* devotional booklets are provided by the Women's Guild and available on the wall inside the main entrance to the church and in the information box near the outdoor labyrinth. Please help yourself.



COUNCIL CORNER | ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Plan to attend Salem's Annual Congregational Meeting on November 12. We will start with a potluck lunch immediately after the Sunday morning service followed by the meeting. President George Adams will recap the work of the Council in 2023, Committee reports will be available for review, elected positions will be voted on, and the church's 2024 budget will be reviewed and approved.

WOMEN'S GUILD

The next meeting of the Salem Women's Guild will be Thursday, November 2, at 1:30 p.m. This will be a planning meeting to prepare for the Christmas Bazaar and Raffle, which is held each year on the first Saturday of December. Tickets will go on sale soon! As the Guild transitions to committee status under the Salem UCC umbrella, please know that ALL ARE WELCOME to attend this meeting including any gentlemen who like to help with this event. It takes lots of participants to make this event successful. So whether you like to bake, be a server, help with set-up/clean-up, sell or buy tickets, donate prizes, or even WIN PRIZES, this event is for you!

WOMEN'S GUILD BAZAAR - Mark your calendars!

The women's Guild Christmas Bazaar and Raffle will be held on **December 2nd 2023 from 11:00am to 1:00pm**. We will be serving the meal of Barbecue sandwiches, salads and pies. That will probably stay at \$7.00 per person although we will make that determination at our business meeting on Thursday November 2nd. Our big prize will be a beautiful quilt made by the Salem quilters. Please have donated prizes for the raffle to Cindy Remus by November 30th. Raffle tickets will go on sale soon.

SYMPATHY

To the family of **Anna Pauley**, who passed away on October 26. Her memorial service will be held at Salem on Wednesday, November 1 at 12pm with the visitation beginning at 11am.

JOY

For **Mackenzie Pechan** who baptized on Saturday, October 21 at Salem. She is the daughter of Cory and Kari (Blake) Pechan.

For **Machai Bahr** who was dedicated on Sunday, October 8. He is the son of Nathan and Cara Bahr.

An Afternoon with the Barry Robinson Chorus

Join us as we celebrate our
20th Anniversary!

**Sunday, November 5th
at 3:30pm**

Salem United Church of Christ
502 Mark Drive, Verona

Hear your favorite
(OK, actually OUR favorite)
pieces as shared through
the years by Verona's
preeminent TTBB choir.



LIVING OUT GOD'S LOVE THROUGH CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sarah Pundt, Director of Christian Education
608-692-3239 or spundt@salemchurchverona.org

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday school is provided for all ages PreK-Adult every Sunday morning 9-10am from September 17, 2023-May 19, 2024. All volunteers who serve with our children and youth have been trained and screened through our Safe Church Guidelines. Please contact Sarah Pundt for more information.

Age Group	Location
Pre-K (age 3)-grade 5	Lower Level
Middle/High School	2nd Floor Classroom
Adults	1st Floor Conference Room

PreK-Grade 12

Children and youth are welcomed into spaces where they are known and loved, where their questions are taken seriously, and where they can gather to hear God's story and find meaning for their lives. Our Sunday school leaders use the Shine curriculum to guide children and youth to stretch and grow toward God's light, and then shine that light to others. The PreK-Grade 5 class will share music time, children's church, and a project or craft. The Middle/High School combined class is more discussion based with some hands-on learning.

New! The parent lounge in the lower level is taking shape. The space has comfortable furniture and a new coffee machine. Parents (and anyone else!) please take advantage of this fellowship space during the Sunday school hour while waiting for your kiddos.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

The adult class is structured in a series of 4-6-week units that focus on a variety of discussion topics, themes, and Bible studies. We strive to grow in our understanding of scripture and how we are called to live like Christ in our daily lives. The weekly discussions are designed to be experienced independently, so come as it fits your schedule. You won't be "behind" if you miss a week. Discussions are led by the Director of Christian Education and other adult leaders.

New! Adult Class *Mighty Network*

The Mighty Network is a private online interactive platform that provides space for the adult class calendar, links to resources, and space for online conversations between group members. You do not need to attend the adult class to participate in this online resource and you do not have to join this online community to participate in the class. Because this network is private (just for Salem use and not intended for the general public), please contact Sarah Pundt for login information to join the group.

Fall 2023 Topics for Adult Class

Worship Ways: Understanding the Different Components of Sunday Worship

Oct. 29, Nov. 5, 12, & 19

Deepen your understanding of Sunday worship by learning or revisiting what the different components of our church service mean. We will take a fresh look at liturgy, the lectionary, prayers, communion, and more.

“Simply Wait: Cultivating Stillness in the Season of Advent”

Dec. 3, 10, & 17

Focus, rest, and renew spiritually throughout the Advent Season. Simple prayer practices, scripture readings, and creative reflections will help you cultivate a special time of waiting this Advent.

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ADVENT OPPORTUNITIES

Intergenerational Advent Workshop, Nov. 26 @ 9am

All ages are invited to join us in the lower-level Sunday school area to make luminaries. These luminaries will be an important part of our Live Nativity on Dec. 9. Supplies and instructions will be provided!

Live-Nativity Dec. 9 @ 4:30-6:30pm

Mark your calendars and be part of retelling the Christmas story. We are hosting an outdoor, live nativity for all to enjoy by driving through the exhibit or stopping to walk-through. We will also be handing out cookies and cocoa to any visitors to the nativity.

All ages are invited to participate in this outdoor ministry to the Verona community and the planning team needs your help to make this event a success. We need people to participate in the nativity, make cookies in advance, hand out cookies and cocoa, greet visitors, help with set design (particularly the STAR), and provide indoor support to volunteers. We will be providing soup and goodies for volunteers to enjoy in fellowship hall throughout the event.

*We are still searching for a donkey and some sheep to have at our event. Contact Sarah Pundt if you have a lead.

Please contact **Kelli Malueg** maluegfamily@gmail.com to help with cookies, soup, or in the kitchen.

Please contact **Sarah Pundt** to help with set design and participating in the nativity.

The UCC Beyond Salem

The UCC Beyond Salem For information on UCC Resources and Events, use the following links to access programming of particular interest.

UCC Digital Programming

<https://www.ucc.org/programming-webinars/>

UCC News Digest

<https://www.ucc.org/news/>

WI Conference Life Newsletter

<https://www.wcucc.org/about-wcucc/1446-2/>

UCCI Camps

<https://ucci.org/>

SALEM YOUTH NEWSLETTER

Sarah Pundt, Director of Youth Ministry
608-692-3239 or spundt@salemchurchverona.org

November 2023

Wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

Youth Opportunities at Salem

Grades 6-12

All Are Welcome!

Youth and parents are encouraged to join our Salem UCC Youth Ministry Mighty Network. This is an online platform that allows us to have all our youth information, events, rsvp options, pictures, prayer requests, and discussions in a single place on a private network. Please contact Sarah Pundt for more information.

Youth Group

Youth grades 6-12 gather twice per month for fellowship, faith, and fun. Gatherings take place at Salem UCC unless otherwise noted. Friends are always welcome!

CROP Walk

We had a great day at the CROP Hunger Walk on Oct. 15. The rain cleared away and we enjoyed some sunshine. We had 17 walkers (and Sadie!), and this was truly an intergenerational event. We were able to raise about **\$1,195** thanks to the generous donations from our Salem and local community. Our dollars will directly impact people facing food insecurity and hunger. Many thanks to Eden and Mira for their hard work promoting this event. Thank you everyone for participating!



CROP Walk 2023

Upcoming Events:

Youth Gatherings Nov. 12 and Dec. 3 @6:30-7:45pm

Please watch the Mighty Network for details on each of these evenings.

Knock Knock Middle School Retreat Nov. 17-19

Salem is sending a group of 5 middle school students, 2 high school mentors, and 2 chaperones to the middle school weekend retreat at Daycholah Center. This retreat is an annual favorite, and we are all looking forward to faith and fun!

Live Nativity Dec. 9 @ 4:30-6:30

Salem is hosting an outdoor live nativity this year. Please consider joining the fun of being a shepherd, Mary, Joseph, an angel, or a wiseman. You could also help by handing out cookies and cocoa to visitors or working on the set design. Please contact Sarah Pundt and indicate your interest in participating.

Gingerbread House Making Dec. 17 @6:30-7:45pm

Cindy Remus has once again offered to join us and share her love of gingerbread houses. Come enjoy and evening decorating your own house to take home.

YOUTH CALENDAR

November

12 @ 6:30-7:45pm Youth Gathering

17-19 Knock Knock
Middle School Retreat

December

3 @ 6:30-7:45 Youth Gathering

9 TBD (Evening) Salem Live Nativity

17 @ 6:30-7:45pm Youth Gathering
(Gingerbread Houses With Cindy Remus)

NOVEMBER 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 5:45PM - BRC 6:30PM - Bells 6:45PM - Chancel	2 6PM - Worship on VHAT-98	3 Serve at Meals for Madison	4
5 Dailylight Savings Time Ends 9AM - Sunday School 10:15AM - Worship	6 Eve - Boy Scouts	7 5:30-6:30PM - Cub Scouts	8 6PM - BRC 6:30PM - Bells 6:45PM - Chancel	9 6PM - Worship on VHAT-98	10	11 Veteran's Day
12 9AM - Sunday School 10:15AM - Worship Annual Meeting and Potluck 6:30-7:45PM - Youth Gathering	13 Eve - Boy Scouts	14 5:30-6:30PM - Cub Scouts 6PM - Finance 7PM - Council	15 6PM - BRC 6:30PM - Bells 6:45PM - Chancel	16 6PM - Worship on VHAT-98 6:30PM - Men's Fellowship	17 Nov 17-19: Middle School Knock-Knock Retreat	18
19 9AM - Sunday School 10:15AM - Worship	20 Eve - Boy Scouts 6-8PM - Quilt Group	21	22	23 Thanksgiving 6PM - Worship on VHAT-98	24 DECEMBER NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE	25
26 9AM - Intergenerational Advent Workshop 10:15AM - Worship	27 Eve - Boy Scouts	28 6:30PM - BOCE Meeting 5:30-6:30PM - Cub Scouts	29 6PM - BRC 6:30PM - Bells 6:45PM - Chancel	30	 Give Online	

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER 2023



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS

Sunday, November 5th

Turn back your clock before bed on Saturday

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING & POTLUCK

Sunday, November 12th following worship

Please bring a dish to pass

BRC ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

Sunday, November 5th, 3:30PM, Salem UCC

Come hear some of our favorite songs through the years!



INTERGENERATIONAL ADVENT WORKSHOP

Sunday, November 26th
during Sunday school hour (9AM)

SALEM CHURCH STAFF:

PH: 608-845-7315

www.salemchurchverona.org

Pastor

Rev. Philip Hobson

phobson@salemchurchverona.org

Office Administrator:

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Tyme Baez

choir@salemchurchverona.org

Director of Handbells:

Carrie Coenen

Church Council President:

George Adams

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Congregation

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

