

LIVING OUT GOD'S LOVE

Salem United Church of Christ is an Open and Affirming Congregation

NEWSLETTER | JULY 2024



SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR JULY:

Week of July 7

*2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10 and Psalm 48
Ezekiel 2:1-5 and Psalm 123
2 Corinthians 12:2-10
Mark 6:1-13*

Week of July 14

*2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19 and
Psalm 24
Amos 7:7-15 and Psalm 85:8-13
Ephesians 1:3-14
Mark 6:14-29*

Week of July 21

*2 Samuel 7:1-14a and Psalm
89:20-37
Jeremiah 23:1-6 and Psalm 23
Ephesians 2:11-22
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56*

Week of July 28

*2 Samuel 11:1-15 and Psalm 14
2 Kings 4:42-44 and
Psalm 145:10-18
Ephesians 3:14-21
John 6:1-21*

FROM PASTOR PHIL

Dear Members and Friends,

I have been amazed (although not necessarily surprised) by the connections I have seen happening and growing around Salem. We just enjoyed three days of amazing Vacation Bible School in collaboration with Sugar River UMC. So many children having a great time learning more about God's love, and so many adults doing the same, while also leading games, crafts, and music. Not to mention, the food!

All of this was possible because Sarah Pundt reached out to Pastor Erin Ford at Sugar River, and they put together an amazing program. Children who knew each other from school discovered they share the same faith, just in different churches. And adults of both churches made new connections as well.

A big shout out to Sarah, who did so much work in preparation and planning that, even though CoVid kept her from being there, it went smoothly and gracefully. Thank you also to our dinner providers, our volunteers, and all who showed up!

This is not the only connection I heard about this week. Thermo Fisher brought Jeff Rabe from First Congregational UCC in Madison to present on healthy understandings of sex, gender, presentation, and orientation to their employees as part of Pride month. A manager from Thermo Fisher had invited Jeff because she had visited Salem and participated in his presentation here.

The beauty of connections is they grow more connections. And Salem keeps making good connections happen. Thanks be to God.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Phil

COUNCIL CORNER



JULY BIRTHDAYS

4: Monica Bachmann
5: Ann Nelson, Frank Westphal
6: Paul Wieland
7: Robert Zurbuchen
8: Chris Wilbricht
11: Jon Pundt, Theresa Bass
14: Zoey Shaw
17: Kylie Hageman
26: Craig Rhiner
27: Dale Yurs

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

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The men of the church are invited to gather for dinner and fellowship on Thursday, July 11th at 6:30PM at the home of Nathan Bahr.

Last month I mentioned our project to replace the parking lot and hold a capital campaign. As we approach fall and our time of stewardship we will be combining those efforts with a capital campaign. The Council is still reviewing when the parking lot project can be completed. More information will be coming on this in the months ahead.

I would like to offer my thanks and appreciation to Julie Adams. Julie has been the church treasurer for the last 13 years and will be retiring from that post at the end of this year. She has done an excellent job, and we greatly appreciate her.

I would also like to thank Krista Nechvatal, who is heading up a group to assist Pastor Phil with the search for someone to fill Sarah Pundt's roles in Christian Education.

In addition, we are searching for someone to fill Cara Bahr's role in the church office. Please let us know if you are aware of anyone who might be interested.

The nominating committee will be busy in the months ahead. We will be looking for someone to fill the Treasurer role and for someone to assist Frank Westphal as our second Financial Secretary. Finally, we will have three roles on the church council to replace outgoing positions. Please prayerfully consider if you might be interested in filling one of these roles and feel free to reach out to anyone on council with questions.

Regarding finances, as of the end of May there is approximately \$121K in income and \$144K in expenses. Please consider this in your giving.

As you can see there is a lot of change still afoot at Salem. While change can have its challenges it also brings its own opportunities and leads to growth. I am thankful for all of you who make up our community of faith and confident that as we lift up Christ and keep focus on our God, we will find our way forward.

Thank you for your support of Salem UCC.
John Cashman

*"Out beyond the ideas of wrongdoing and right doing there is a field
I'll meet you there"* -Rumi

SALT SHARING POTLUCK

July 29 @ 6pm, SALT Sharing Potluck

Bring a dish to pass and join the youth and chaperones as they share their SALT experiences with the congregation.

SCRIPTURE READERS NEEDED

We are in need of Sunday scripture readers to fill the 1st, 3rd and sometimes 5th Sunday's of the month. If you have read in the past and are still willing to serve or if you have not recetly and are interested, please let Cara Bahr know.



New Church Directory Coming Fall 2024!

We need your help to bring you a fresh church directory this fall!

There are 2 ways to update your information:

1. Enter your own information via our Breeze Software. You can upload a family photo, too, or we can take a photo for you later and add it in. If you do not have Breeze login information, please contact Cara Bahr to gain access: cbahr@saalemchurchverona.org
2. Complete the below information sheet and return to the box outside of Cara's office and we will input the information for you or email it to: directory@saalemchurchverona.org

If you have adult children that prefer a separate listing from family, please have them submit a separate form.

Photos: If you have a photo you can submit that here: Directory@saalemchurchverona.org
If you do not have a photo to submit, we'll be arranging photo days to take one for you.

Last Name: _____

First names of adults in family: _____

First names of children in family: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email address: _____

Anything else you'd like us to know for printing purposes: _____

- I have a photo to submit
- I will need a photo taken

Questions? Please contact Krista Nechvatal or Kris Wilbricht
or send an email to: directory@saalemchurchverona.org

Thank you!

LIVING OUT GOD'S LOVE THROUGH CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Regular Sunday school programming for all ages will resume on September 15 @ 9am.

Summer Offerings at Salem

Read: Our new church library is full of both fiction and non-fiction books. Thanks to Blaise Westphal and his Eagle Scout project, he has catalogued our books in a database, and you can check them out. If you need help setting up an account, please contact Cari Bass cari.bass.cb@gmail.com.

Bible Study: On your own or with a group, use the Bible study guides "Listen Up!" available in our church library. These studies each follow one book of the Bible and encourage the reader "to listen" to how God is speaking to them through scripture.

Watch: The UCC offers many webinars and learning opportunities online. Peruse the UCC website at www.UCC.org or search UCC on YouTube. Search for other movies, documentaries, and online lectures that explore a social justice topic of your choice.

Currently Recruiting! Our Christian education ministry needs the entire community participate to thrive. Please consider serving as a Sunday school leader, assistant, or with one of our intergenerational events. Rally Day, Ornament/Advent Sunday, Christmas programs and events, Palm Sunday, and VBS are all organized by the BoCE. Choose when and how you would like to serve and help us maintain our wonderful education ministry for all ages. Please contact Sarah Pundt, kelli.malueg@gmail.com, or Dave Triplett @ dtriplettjr@att.net.

GOD LOVES US

Community VBS 2024

Hosted by Sugar River UMC and Salem UCC

Our first community VBS program co-hosted with Sugar River UMC is in the books. Hopefully, you met new friends and enjoyed some summer Bible study and fun. Many thanks to the wonderful volunteers from both churches who worked to provide this experience.

SALEM YOUTH NEWSLETTER

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

July 2024

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

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.



SALT Trip to AMEN! St. Louis - July 9-14, 2024

10 youth grades 6-12 and 4 chaperones will be journeying to St. Louis for our SALT Trip 2024. AMEN! St. Louis is a ministry of Oak Hill Presbyterian Church, providing Urban Mission Experiences for Youth and Intergenerational Mission Teams. We will stay in the AMEN! House next door to the church. The AMEN! staff will plan a variety of service activities and corresponding learning opportunities. Naturally, we will save time for some St. Louis fun!

If you would like to share a letter of encouragement or prayer with our youth before or during the trip, please email it to Sarah Pundt.

July 29 @ 6pm, SALT Sharing Potluck

Bring a dish to pass and join the youth and chaperones as they share their SALT experiences with the congregation.

JULY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 6PM - Worship on VHAT-98	5 10AM-2PM - Serve at Meals for Madison	6
7 9AM - Worship	8	9 6PM - Finance 7PM - Council Youth SALT Trip (9-14) →	10	11 6PM - Worship on VHAT-98 6:30PM - Men's Fellowship @ Nathan Bahr's	12	13
14 9AM - Worship →	15	16	17	18 6PM - Worship on VHAT-98	19	20
21 9AM - Worship	22	23	24	25 6PM - Worship on VHAT-98 AUGUST NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE	26	27
28 9AM - Worship	29 6PM - SALT Sharing Potluck	30	31			

JULY NEWSLETTER 2024

SUMMER WORSHIP HOURS

Sundays at 9am

SALT SHARING POTLUCK

July 29 at 6pm

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Look inside for how to update your info
and submit a photo

SALEM CHURCH STAFF:

PH: 608-845-7315

www.salemchurchverona.org

Pastor

Rev. Philip Hobson

phobson@salemchurchverona.org

Office Administrator:

Cara Bahr

cbahr@salemchurchverona.org

Director of Christian Education & Director of Youth Ministry:

Sarah Pundt

spundt@salemchurchverona.org

Instrumentalist:

Dawn Lingard

musicdirector@salemchurchverona.org

Director of Choirs

Kelly Garrow

choir@salemchurchverona.org

Director of Handbells:

Carrie Coenen

handbells@salemchurchverona.org

Church Council President:

John Cashman

An Open
and Affirming
Congregation

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

502 Mark Drive
PO Box 930125
Verona, WI 53593-0125

Living Out God's Love
**SALEM UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

