



# LIVING OUT GOD'S LOVE

*Salem United Church of Christ is an Open and Affirming Congregation*

NEWSLETTER | APRIL 2023

## SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR APRIL:

### Week of April 2:

*(Liturgy of the Palms)*  
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29  
Matthew 21:1-11

### *(Liturgy of the Passion)*

Isaiah 50:4-9a  
Psalm 31:9-16  
Philippians 2:5-11  
Matthew 26:14-27:66  
or Matthew 27:11-54

### April 6 (Maundy Thursday):

Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14  
Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19  
1 Corinthians 11:23-26  
John 13:1-17, 31b-35

### April 7 (Good Friday):

Isaiah 52:13-53:12  
Psalm 22  
Hebrews 10:16-25  
or Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9  
John 18:1-19:42

### April 8 (Holy Saturday):

Job 14:1-14 or  
Lamentations 3:1-9, 19-24  
Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16  
1 Peter 4:1-8  
Matthew 27:57-66 or John 19:38-42

## A NOTE FROM THE COUNCIL

A friendly and important reminder from the Council to all Salem members who host or participate in activities at church such as fellowship hour or an evening meeting. If you are one of the last people leaving the building, please ensure that all building outside doors are locked and that lights are turned off. A quick double check will keep the church safe and secure.

## MAUNDY THURSDAY - TENEBRAE READERS NEEDED



This year's Maundy Thursday service will be held on April 6 @ 7pm. This service will include Holy Communion and Office of Tenebrae, chronicling Jesus's final week. **If you would be willing to be a reader during this service, please contact Lisa Hart at [Lhart@wcucc.org](mailto:Lhart@wcucc.org) or 608-438-1571.**

## EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP

We will have one Easter Sunday service at the usual time of 10:15am. We hope that you will plan to worship with us on Easter Sunday.

## ONLINE GIVING NOW AVAILABLE



Online giving is a new option available at Salem. Scan this QR code or use the following web address:  
<https://salemchurch.breezechms.com/give/online>

\*the QR Code from the March newsletter no longer works.

**Week of April 9 (Easter):**

Acts 10:34-43 or Jeremiah 31:1-6  
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24  
Colossians 3:1-4 or Acts 10:34-43  
John 20:1-18 or Matthew 28:1-10

**Week of April 16:**

Acts 2:14a, 22-32  
Psalm 16  
1 Peter 1:3-9  
John 20:19-31

**Week of April 23:**

Acts 2:14a, 36-41  
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19  
1 Peter 1:17-23  
Luke 24:13-35

**Week of April 30:**

Acts 2:42-47  
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19  
1 Peter 1:17-23  
Luke 24:13-35



**SPONSOR AN EASTER LILY**

You may sponsor an Easter Lily for our Easter service this year for \$14. Please return order forms to the church by Sunday, April 2. If you will not be in worship and would like to sponsor a lily, contact Cara Bahr in the office.

**SPECIAL MUSIC FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 16**

On Sunday, April 16, the bell choir be playing a special musical piece that was commissioned in memory of Sue Rotar. She died on September 28, 2020 and was a longtime member of the bell choir. Her family has been invited to join us for worship that Sunday.

**UPCOMING PULPIT SUPPLY**

April 2	Katya Ouchakof
April 9	Lisa Hart
April 16	Kathleen Owns
April 23	Larry Balleine
April 30	Katya Ouchakof
May 7	Kathleen Owens
May 14	Lisa Hart
May 21	Larry Balleine
May 28	Larry Balleine

**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.



**APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1: Noah Nechvatal                             | 14: JoAnn Aebly                                     |
| 2: Gary Aebly, Craig Fitzwilliams, Ellen Bass | 16: Sarah Pundt                                     |
| 3: Astrid Swain                               | 17: Kaden Nechvatal                                 |
| 4: Clifford Hageman, Pat Anderson             | 18: Sue Castle, Alexandra Flood                     |
| 5: Matthew Reniero                            | 23: Machai Bahr                                     |
| 7: Kain Hageman                               | 24: Lis Pankonin, Brianna Runnheim<br>Will Bugenske |
| 8: Kelli Malueg                               | 25: Gladys Hustad, Chris Worley                     |
| 9: Steve Witcraft, Avery Durnen               | 26: Helen Hageman                                   |
| 12: Arlene King                               | 30: Nicolas Flood                                   |

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

# LIVING OUT GOD'S LOVE THROUGH CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sarah Pundt, Director of Christian Education  
608-692-3239 or [spundt@salemchurchverona.org](mailto:spundt@salemchurchverona.org)

## Sunday School

Sunday school is provided for all ages every Sunday morning 9-10am from September 18, 2022-May 21, 2023. Nursery care is provided during the Sunday school hour for children ages 6 mos-2 years and during worship for children ages 6 months-5 years. **\*\*Transportation and childcare are available for all other events upon request. Contact Sarah Pundt for more information.\*\***

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Location</u>
Nursery (Under age 3)	Lower Level
Pre-K (age 3)-grade 5	Lower Level
Middle/High School	2nd Floor Classroom
Adults	1st Floor Conference Rm

## Christian Education Calendar

### APRIL

- 2** 9am Palm Sunday  
Intergenerational Program  
(No Sunday School Classes)
- 9** Easter – No Sunday School Classes
- 16** 9am Sunday School
- 23** 9am Sunday School
- 30** 9am Sunday School

**\*\*VBS\*\***

**VBS July 9 & 30, Aug. 13  
10:15am-12pm**

## Adult Sunday School

All are welcome! Please join us in the first-floor conference room as we discuss a variety of topics related to Bible study, Christian living, social justice, and the church. Hybrid class options are available for this who wish to join remotely (contact Sarah Pundt).

**Women of the Bible**      **April 16-May 21**

## INTERGENERATIONAL PROGRAMING

The following Christian Education offerings are group events for everyone in the congregation. Regular Sunday school classes will not be held on these dates.

### April

2	Palm Sunday Program
9	Easter Sunday-no class

## MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

### Lenten Mission Project 2023: *Penny for Your Thoughts* February 26-April 2

*Invest in your mental health and invest in Family Diversity Projects.*

**PURPOSE:** Raise money for *Family Diversity Projects* while practicing good mental health.

**PROJECT:** Focus on your mental health by practicing daily wellness habits from the Lenten Daily Calendar. Try a new challenge every day and use the Bible Focused Emotion Wheel to explore human feelings throughout scripture. For each activity that you try, consider adding some spare change to the container. The calendars and coin boxes are available in fellowship hall.



**DISCLAIMER:** Mental health and mental illness are not the same thing. We all have mental health and some of us struggle with mental illness. Diagnosed mental illness requires professional care. These activities are meant to encourage good mental health habits and do not imply that those with mental illness simply need to practice better self-care.

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### FB4K

Last fall, Salem hosted two bike collection stations to benefit FB4K. In total, we collected approximately 120 bikes! Sign up to help in the shop to get the bikes ready for their new owners or sign up to help on on bike giveaway days. Visit the FB4KMadison website to learn more or to volunteer. Work teams are welcome so grab your friends and have fun. <https://fb4kmadison.org/>

## CONGREGATIONAL LIFE AND SMALL GROUPS

For more information about any of our small groups, or to start a new group, please contact Sarah Pundt. All groups welcome visitors and you do not need to be a Salem member to participate. Please join us. All are welcome!

### Weekly Worship Workshop

April 13 @ 7pm

Led by Sarah Pundt

This meeting has been rescheduled twice because of snow! Hopefully, we will be in full Spring on April 13. This workshop will help us deepen our personal experience and understanding of weekly worship. The first workshop in this series was focused on the many tasks that need to happen on Sunday mornings before, during, and after worship. At this April workshop we will learn about Liturgy and the Lectionary. Join us as we explore what they are and how we use them during Sunday worship.

### Koinonia

April 20 @ 7pm

All women of Salem and visitors are invited for a time of reflection and fellowship. This group meets the third Thursday of each month at 7pm.

### Parents Promise

April 27 @ 7pm

This group is for parents of tweens, teens, and young adults. Join this circle of parents for conversation and fellowship as we support each other in raising young people of faith. Newcomers and visitors are always welcome! We will meet in the church library on the first floor.

### Couples Group?

There is interest in starting a couples group at Salem. Please contact Sarah Pundt if you are interested in learning more and watch future newsletters for more information.

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## 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://myemail.constantcontact.com/Wisconsin-Conference-Life-Newsletter-for-Feb--15--2023.html?soid=1102675987700&aid=FttL3eJDajk>

### **UCCI Camps** <https://ucci.org/>

Registration has opened for the many summer offerings for all ages!

# SALEM YOUTH NEWSLETTER

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

April 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!

#### **April 16 @ 6:30pm**

##### **Youth Gathering**

Diane Triplett will lead us in making tie-blankets for Project Linus. Diane will also share the many ways she serves others in the Madison area.

#### **April 21 -22 (5pm-9am)**

##### **Overnight Lock-In**

Bring your sleeping bag, pillow, and a favorite movie snack! We will play games, watch a movie, and have a great time sleeping over at church.

#### **April 30 @ 6:30pm**

For our Spring fundraiser, we will be having a bake sale. At our April 30 gathering, we will do some of the baking together.

### **YOUTH MISSION**

#### **FB4K April 18 @ 6-8pm**

It's the season for fixing and cleaning bicycles at the FB4K mission workshop. We have a group of youth volunteering on April 18 in the evening. Please RSVP on the Mighty Network or contact Sarah Pundt.

## YOUTH CALENDAR

### April

- 16** @ 6:30 Youth Gathering with Diane Triplett
- 18** @ 6-8pm FB4K Mission Opportunity
- 21-22** Overnight Lock-In
- 30** @ 6:30pm Youth Gathering (Baking for Bake Sale)

**June 23-26 SALT Trip**



Pictures from Youth Sunday



# APRIL 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>2</b> <b>Palm Sunday</b> 9AM - Intergenerational Palm Sunday Program 10:15AM - Worship	<b>3</b> Eve - Boy Scouts	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 6PM - BRC 6:30PM - Handbells 6:45PM - Chancel Choir	<b>6</b> <b>Maundy Thursday</b> 1:30PM - Women's Guild 6PM - Worship on VHAT-98 7PM - Maundy Thursday Worship Service	<b>7</b> <b>Good Friday</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> <b>Easter Sunday</b> 10:15AM - Worship	<b>10</b> Eve - Boy Scouts	<b>11</b> 6PM - Finance 7PM - Council	<b>12</b> 6PM - BRC 6:30PM - Handbells 6:45PM - Chancel Choir	<b>13</b> 6PM - Worship on VHAT-98 7PM - Weekly Worship Workshop	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 9AM - Sunday School 10:15AM - Worship 6:30PM - Youth Gathering	<b>17</b> Eve - Boy Scouts	<b>18</b> 6-8PM - Youth @ FB4K	<b>19</b> 6PM - BRC 6:30PM - Handbells 6:45PM - Chancel Choir	<b>20</b> 6PM - Worship on VHAT-98 7PM - Koinonia (Women's Fellowship)	<b>21</b> 4-8PM - Piano Recital April 21-22 - Overnight Lock-in (Youth)	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 9AM - Sunday School 10:15AM - Worship	<b>24</b> Eve - Boy Scouts	<b>25</b> <b>MAY NEWSLETTER                      ARTICLES DUE</b>	<b>26</b> 6PM - BRC 6:30PM - Handbells 6:45PM - Chancel Choir	<b>27</b> 6PM - Worship on VHAT-98 8:30AM-5:30PM - Church reserved for Paino Audtions 7PM - Parent's Promise	<b>28</b> 7:30AM-4:30PM - Church reserved for Paino Audtions 5PM - Wedding Rehearsal	<b>29</b> 2PM - Wedding
<b>30</b> 9AM - Sunday School 10:15AM - Worship Afternoon - Piano Recital 6:30PM - Youth Gathering						

# APRIL NEWSLETTER 2023

## HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### Palm Sunday

9AM - Intergenerational Program

10:15AM - Worship

### Maundy Thursday

7:30PM - Worship with Holy Communion  
and Office of Tenebrae

### Good Friday

Musical Reflection from Dawn (available online)

### Easter Sunday

10:15AM - Easter Worship

## CONGREGATIONAL WORKSHOP

April 13, 7PM - Weekly Worship Workshop

### SALEM CHURCH STAFF:

PH: 608-845-7315

[www.salemchurchverona.org](http://www.salemchurchverona.org)

### Office Administrator:

Cara Bahr

[cbahr@salemchurchverona.org](mailto:cbahr@salemchurchverona.org)

### Director of Christian Education & Director of Youth Ministry:

Sarah Pundt

[spundt@salemchurchverona.org](mailto:spundt@salemchurchverona.org)

### Music Director:

Dawn Lingard

### Bell Choir Director:

Carrie Coenen

### Church Council President:

George Adams

An Open  
and Affirming  
Congregation

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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

