

LIVING OUT GOD'S LOVE

Salem United Church of Christ is an Open and Affirming Congregation

NEWSLETTER | MAY 2023

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR MAY:

Week of May 7:

Acts 7:55-60

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

1 Peter 2:2-10

John 14:1-14

Week of May 14:

Acts 17:22-31

Psalm 66:8-20

1 Peter 3:14-22

John 14:15-21

May 18 (Assension Day):

Acts 1:1-11

Psalm 47 or Psalm 93

Ephesians 1:15-23

Luke 24:44-53

Week of May 21:

Acts 1:6-14

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

John 17:1-11

Week of May 28:

Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

or Acts 2:1-21

John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39

THE COUNCIL CORNER

Search Committee Update

Your Search Committee has been hard at work behind the scenes assisting in securing housing for Reverend Phil Hobson's family's move to the Verona area this week! We also welcome Pastor Hobson to the pulpit at Salem on June 4th and more information to come about an event to greet the Hobsons and celebrate the 100th anniversary of Salem Church.

Breeze Software

Salem staff members have been using a software package called Breeze to communicate and attend to the administrative aspects of the church. They have found it helpful, and the Council believes it could benefit the congregation as well since it allows all Salem church members to access our fellowship's directory, check an up-to-date church calendar, and contribute online, which you may have noticed with a QR code in the bulletins. If you want to leverage this technology (app available for any smartphone), please request an invitation from Cara Bahr in the office. Once you have an account you can go to the "more" tab on our website and go to the "members" page for a link to log in.

SPRING CLEAN UP DAY

Saturday, May 13 is set for our building and grounds spring cleanup. If you're available for some outside work, there will be mulch to spread and bushes to trim; if you're more of an inside person, there will be a work list of indoor chores to spruce up the nooks and crannies of the church. Work will commence at 8am until completion. Come and go as your other weekend activities allow.



CHURCH GARDEN

Though winter is hanging tight this year, May calls for us to look ahead to warmer days and the growing season. The church garden has plenty of space for a plot to call your own. Contact Doug or Barb Smith if you want to join the garden group this year.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The men of the church are invited to gather for dinner and fellowship on Thursday, May 18 at 6:30PM at the home of Hugh Hauser.



BRAT FEST 2023

Welcome to Brat Fest 2023! Put a team of friends together and volunteer to raise money for our Salem UCC Youth program. For each hour worked per person \$10.00 will be paid to Salem. All volunteers will receive a free T-shirt to wear during your shift and upon completion you'll receive a free Brat and Ice Cream coupon. Use this link to sign up and be sure to choose Salem as the benefitting organization. <https://app.initlive.com/JE/63v6refjssjaf2> Heather Thoma will be available after worship to answer questions and help with sign-up.



MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 3: Sawyer Quade
- 5: Mark Yurs
- 7: Riley Dahlk
- 8: Martha Booth
- 14: Morgan Moll
- 18: Arlene Stadlberger, Catie Cullen
- 19: Kari Pechan
- 21: Guy Williams
- 24: Carolyn Kleinfeldt
- 25: Sarah Worley
- 28: Israel Kwilinski, Drew Adams
- 29: Kay Berry

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

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFERING



The **Strengthen the Church Offering** furthers the work of the national UCC and our conferences as we work together to start new churches and renew existing congregations, fund leadership development, and provide exciting new programs for youth and young adults. Together, we further our commitment to be a multi-racial/multi-cultural church, accessible to all.

Bulletin inserts in the coming weeks will provide specific information on how this special offering is used.

Though we will dedicate our offerings as a congregation on May 28 (envelopes will be provided in the bulletin), we will be collecting this special offering throughout the month of May. You may also use the included QR code to donate directly online.



PULPIT SUPPLY

May 7	Kathleen Owens
May 14	Lisa Hart
May 21	Larry Balleine
May 28	Larry Balleine

SALAD LUNCHEON - THURSDAY, MAY 4



The Women's Guild is having its annual Salad Luncheon on Thursday, May 4th from 11:30am to 12:30pm. A large variety of salads will be enjoyed, along with a selection of delicious desserts. The cost is \$8 per person.

The Guild would greatly appreciate the donations of salads if you are able.



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.



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 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

Church Nursery

Nursery care will be provided on May 7 from 9am-11:15am.

Sunday School Teacher Recognition

May 21 @ 10:15am

If you have taught Sunday school or assisted in our Christian Education classes, please join us in worship on May 21. The congregation would like to recognize you for your service.

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**

Christian Education Calendar

MAY

- 7 @ 9am Sunday school
- 14 @ 9am Sunday School
- 21 @ 9am Last Day of Sunday School
@ 10:15am Sunday school teacher recognition.
- 23 @ 6pm BoCE
- 28 No Sunday school

****VBS****

VBS July 9 & 30, Aug. 13



CONGREGATIONAL LIFE AND SMALL GROUPS

Parents Promise

May 25 @ 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.

NOTHING TO HIDE FINAL REPORT

A huge thank you goes out to the entire planning team of our Nothing to Hide Exhibit and Speaker Series. Attendance was not quite what we originally hoped it would be, but the quality of the learning and conversations prove that this was a successful project. Outside organizations invited to participate now view us as a community partner and resource. We have demonstrated that we are a church open to all and ready to engage with the community.

We had about 107 attendees throughout the 5-week series. Only 27 of the attendees were visitors to our church and only 3 of those visitors attended because of the advertisements in the Verona Press. The bulk of our program budget was spent on this advertising, but almost all visitors attended because they were invited by a member of Salem. This proves the power of invitation as a successful tool for growing our church.

Our fundraising efforts through freewill offerings and the Lenten Mission Project "Penny for Your Thoughts" raised a bit over \$630. Those proceeds will be sent to Family Diversity Projects, curator of the photo exhibit, to support their ongoing mission of eliminating stereotypes, stigma, bullying, and prejudice.

If you would like to watch any of the talks from the speaker series, please follow these links to our YouTube channel:

Mental Illness and the Family https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=huYJJ9_NBA4

Addiction <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vDcETDz9mkY>

Grief, Loss, and Trauma <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4lVzhlxh40o>

Youth and Mental Health <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6ZoV99lqOjY>

Response to Mental Illness <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=liBku0d6ybU>

Mental Illness and the Elderly <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ELrBVCauM4M>

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/>

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

Youth Bake Sale Fundraiser

May 21, 2023
During Fellowship Hour

Homemade Baked Goods Available for Purchase
Cookies, Brownies, Pie, Cupcakes, and More

Silent Auction for Specialty Items

Karen Williams' Fresh Pie
Rod Runnheim's Famous Cheesecake
Cindy Remus' Truffles

Auction Opens May 7. Winners announced at 11:45am on May 21.
Silent auction winners will receive a certificate
entitling them to one made to order item.



SALEM YOUTH NEWSLETTER

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

May 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!

May 7 @ 6:30pm

Bake Sale Preparation

To raise money for our youth program and SALT Trip, we are having a bake sale on May 21 during Fellowship Hour. Youth are invited to come bake goodies for our sale. Please watch the Mighty Network to sign up to make things at home as well.

May 21 @11:15 am

Host Fellowship Hour and Bake Sale

All hands on deck to host fellowship hour and our bake sale after worship. We will also have a few special goodies available for a silent auction. I am looking for a few parents to help coordinate and supervise this event. Watch for a sign-up on the Mighty Network.

May 21 @6:30pm SALT Trip Meeting

This gathering is for the youth and chaperones attending the SALT Trip June 23-26. We will choose our trip theme verse, review the itinerary, complete registration forms, and plan our meals and fun time. Please make every effort to attend if you are going on the trip.

May 26-29 Brat Fest

Sign up to work at Brat Fest and earn money for the youth program and our SALT Trip. Use this link to sign up for a shift: <https://app.initlive.com/JE/63v6refjssjaf2>

YOUTH CALENDAR

May 7	Youth Gathering
May 8	YMT Meeting
May 21	Host Fellowship Hour and Bake Sale Mission Trip Meeting
May 26-29	Brat Fest
June 23-26	SALT Trip (Twin Cities Area)



"Clue Crew" from the youth Lock-in.
The youth played a live version of the game CLUE.



MAY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Eve - Boy Scouts	2	3 6PM - BRC 6:45PM - Chancel Choir	4 11:30AM-12:30PM - Women's Guild Salad Luncheon 6PM - Worship on VHAT-98	5	6
7 9AM - Sunday School 10:15AM - Worship 6:30PM - Youth Bake Sale Prep	8 Eve - Boy Scouts	9 6PM - Finance 7PM - Council 5:30 6:30PM - Boy Scouts	10 6PM - BRC 6:30PM - Handbells	11 6PM - Worship on VHAT-98	12	13 8AM - Spring Clean up
14 Mother's Day 9AM - Sunday School 10:15AM - Worship	15 Eve - Boy Scouts	16	17 6PM - BRC 6:30PM - Handbells	18 6PM - Worship on VHAT-98 6:30PM - Men's Fellowship	19	20 10AM-2PM - reserved for baby shower
21 Youth Bake Sale 9AM - Sunday School (Last Day) 10:15AM - Worship 6:30PM - Youth Mission Trip Meeting	22 Eve - Boy Scouts	23 5:30-6:30PM - Boy Scouts 6PM - BOCE Meeting 6:30PM - Music in Worship	24 JUNE NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE 6PM - BRC	25 6PM - Worship on VHAT-98 7PM - Parent's Promise	26 Brat Fest 26-28	27
28 10:15AM - Worship	29 Memorial Day	30	31 6PM - BRC			

MAY NEWSLETTER 2023



CLEAN UP DAY

Saturday, May 13 at 8am
Indoor and Outdoor work to be done



WOMEN'S GUILD SALAD LUNCHEON

Thursday, May 4, 11:30am-12:30pm
\$8 per person

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER RECOGNITION

Sunday, April 21, 10:15AM

YOUTH BAKE SALE

Sunday, April 21, following worship

SALEM CHURCH STAFF:

PH: 608-845-7315
www.salemchurchverona.org

Office Administrator:

Cara Bahr
cbahr@salemchurchverona.org

Director of Christian Education & Director of Youth Ministry:

Sarah Pundt
spundt@salemchurchverona.org

Music Director:

Dawn Lingard

Bell Choir Director:

Carrie Coenen

Church Council President:

George Adams



Give
Online

An Open
and Affirming
Congregation

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

502 Mark Drive
PO Box 930125
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Living Out God's Love
**SALEM UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

