



Salem Lutheran Church

shalom - salaam - salem - peace

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Participant

Holy Trinity

June 12, 2022
9:30 AM



The Reverend Marjo Anderson, Pastor
marjoanderson@aol.com
203-982-3441 (cell)

Karl Kraft, Office Manager
salemsec123@sbcglobal.net

3160 Park Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06604
Telephone: 203-336-3300;

www.salembridgeport.org
www.facebook.com/salembridgeport
YouTube – Salem Lutheran Church, Bridgeport CT

Welcome

Today we celebrate the Trinity. While God manifests in countless ways to us, Paul found it made sense to focus on three ways when he wrote that through *Jesus* we have peace with *God*, whose love pours into our hearts through the *Holy Spirit*, giving us lasting hope. Over the years this became the traditional way for Christians to describe the mystery of a God that is all about relationships. Today we celebrate the eternal One-in-Three and Three-in-One, as we worship in community, being drawn deeper into relationship with this Triune God, and at the same time being drawn deeper into relationship with each other, with other members of the Church, with all other children of God, and with the world God has made.

Salem is still recommending masks, especially for singing. We know that some are only comfortable coming into a place where people are masked, and we want to provide an environment where everyone feels safe. Case numbers are rising and the latest variant is even more contagious than Omicron and its successor. While the current variants may cause only mild symptoms in most people, those who are older and who have underlying conditions remain at risk for more serious illness, including long Covid. There is also a 20% chance of even a mild case of Covid developing into more serious long Covid. We will continue to re-evaluate based on what happens with the pandemic and what the latest advice is concerning singing protocols.

The Color of Compromise: Sacred Conversations on Race and the American Church. The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport's Raising the BAR (Becoming Anti-Racist) team invites you into sacred conversations in a safe space to talk about the history of race and the American Church. Though the series will span 11 weeks, each session covers a distinct topic, so you're welcome to attend as many as you wish. Guided by the book *The Color of Compromise*, a video series by its author, Jemar Tisby, and the CCGB's capable and dedicated team of facilitators, the series moves chronologically from America's colonial past to today's Black Lives Matter movement. *The Color of Compromise* is not about shaming or blaming but rather opens our eyes to a history hidden, unknown, or ignored by White Christians and calls us to take seriously what the Bible teaches about human dignity and equality. As members of the whitest denomination in the US, this is an opportunity for those of us at Salem to learn and grow. The remaining sessions will cover "Compromising with Racism during the Civil Rights Movement" (June 16); "Organizing the Religious Right at the End of the Twentieth Century" (June 23); "Reconsidering Racial Reconciliation in the Age of Black Lives Matter" (June 30) and "The Fierce Urgency of Now" (July 7). For more information or questions about Raising the BAR programming, please contact Paula Coccozza at Paulacoccozza@ccgb.org or online at <https://ccgb.org/rtb> or speak with Pastor Marjo, Sandra Brown, Nancy Headford, Bill Winter, or Tom Larson.

Salem's Summer Semi-Annual Meeting will be held IN-PERSON after worship on Sunday, June 19. All members should plan on attending.

Please note that on June 26th we will be worshipping with and at Grace Lutheran Church, 150 Chapel Street, Stratford. The day will begin with a breakfast at 8:30, worship at 9:30, followed by team building activities and a craft, ending with a barbecue. The program will end by 12:30, although socializing can continue if you'd like. We'll meet out back by the

playground so please bring a chair. RSVP to Allison at 203-260-4548 or AllisonBecker1960@gmail.com.

Gathering

GATHERING SONG

Father, I Adore You

Worship & Praise # 37

Father, I adore you, lay my life before you. How I love you!
Jesus, I adore you, lay my life before you. How I love you!
Spirit, I adore you, lay my life before you. How I love you!

CCLI Song # 26557

Text by Terrye Coelho, Meter 6 6 4

Tune MARANTHA by Terrye Coelho,

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Performance by Plymouth First United Methodist Church, Plymouth, MI

A simple worshipful song sung first in unison and then as a 3-part round.

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qXK-a-VNQQg> [2;16]

Please note that here we go live on Facebook.

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!

(as found in the ELCA worship book Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 413)

As long as you are masked, you may sing softly. You may stand if you so desire.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,

casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;

cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, which wert & art, & evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,

though the eye of sinfulness thy glory may not see,

only thou art holy; there is none beside thee, perfect in pow'r, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

*Text: based on Exodus 33.20, 1 Kings 4.12, Isaiah 6.1-3, 1 Timothy 6.16, Revelation 4.4-11;
by Reginald Heber, 1783-1826, alt.; Meter Irregular
Tune: NICAEA by John B. Dykes, 1823–1876
This hymn is in the Public Domain.*

Word

Please be seated.

A READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES: Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

Doesn't wisdom call?

Doesn't understanding raise her voice?

On the hills along the road, at the crossroads, she takes her stand;

beside the city gates of the town, in the gates themselves, she cries out,

“Women and men, people everywhere, I'm calling out to you!

I cry out to all of humankind!

Yahweh gave birth to me at the beginning, before the first acts of creation,

I have been from everlasting, in the beginning, before the world began.

Before the deep seas, I was brought forth,

before there were fountains or springs of water;

before the mountains erupted up into place,

before the hills I was born –

before God created the earth or its fields,

or even the first clods of dirt.

I was there when the Almighty created the heavens,

and set the horizon just above the ocean,

set the clouds in the sky,

and established the springs of the deep,

gave the seas their boundaries

and set their limits at the shoreline.

When the foundation of the earth was laid out,

I was the skilled artisan standing next to the Almighty.

I was God's delight day after day,

rejoicing at being in God's presence continually,

rejoicing in the whole world

and delighting in humankind....”

Word of God! Word of Life!
Thanks be to God!

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PSALMS: Psalm 8

Yahweh, our Sovereign, how majestic is your Name in all the earth!

You have placed your glory above the heavens!

From the lips of infants and children you bring forth words of power and praise,
to answer your adversaries and to silence the hostile and vengeful.

When I behold your heavens, the work of your fingers,

the moon and the stars you have set in place –

what is humanity that you should be mindful of us?

Who are we that you should care for us?

You have made us barely less than God,

and crown us with glory and honor.

You have made us responsible for the works of your hands,

putting all things at our feet –

all sheep and oxen, yes, even the beasts of the field,

the birds of the air, the fish of the sea and whatever swims the paths of the seas.

Yahweh, our Sovereign, how majestic is your Name in all the earth!

Word of God! Word of Life! **Thanks be to God!**

A READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT: Romans 5:1-5

Now since we have been made right in God's sight by our faith, we are at peace with God through our Savior Jesus Christ. Because of our faith, Christ has brought us to the grace in which we now stand, and we confidently and joyfully look forward to the day on which we will become all that God has intended. But not only that – we even rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, And such a hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

Word of God! Word of Life! **Thanks be to God!**

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS: John 16:12-15 *You may stand if you so desire.*

[Jesus said,] “I have much more to tell you, but you can't bear to hear it now. When the Spirit of truth comes, she will guide you into all truth. She won't speak on her own initiative; rather, she'll speak only what she hears, and she'll announce to you things that are yet to come. In doing this, the Spirit will give glory to me, for she will take what is mine and reveal it to you. Everything that Abba God has belongs to me. This is why I said that the Spirit will take what is mine and reveal it to you.”*

Word of God! Word of Life! **Thanks be to God!**

**This is actually what Jesus said since the word for Spirit in the original language is not masculine but feminine.*

SERMON

Please be seated.

Pastor Marjo

You may stand if you so desire.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH for Trinity Sunday

Let us affirm our faith together.

**I believe in God,
who places joy in our souls, dancing in our toes, and songs in our hearts.
I believe God wanted gladness to flow like a river
and so created a bountiful earth with plenty for all to share.**

**I believe in Jesus,
who turned water into wine,
partied with outcasts and sinners,
and touched the broken so they could leap and dance.
I believe Jesus threw open the doors and set an extra place so we could feast.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
who prompts us to smile,
who sends us invitations to come and dine,
who nudges us to openness and tenderness.
I believe the Spirit is present whenever invited and welcomed
and is always urging us to live with hope, walk with faith, and sing with joy.**

**Forever, I will live in the embrace of God
and be a witness to resurrection joy. Amen**

PURPOSE STATEMENT

As members and friends of Salem Church, let us remind ourselves who we are:

**We are a community of Christian disciples called by the Holy Spirit.
In response to God's transforming love, we share our joy through praise and service.**

May it be so!

Amen!

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

United in Christ and guided by the Spirit, we pray for the church, the creation, and all in need.

So they can be heard online, these petitions will be offered by the leaders at the microphones.

One God, giver of life, you sent Jesus to teach us how to love you and our neighbors.
You sent your Spirit to empower us to shape us that we might share your love with the world.
We pray for our mission partners, especially today for CROP and World Vision and Scouts.
We pray for Salem members & their families,
especially Suzanne Dow, celebrating her birthday this week.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Creator of all, you rejoice in creation
and have given humankind responsibility for the works of your hands.
Open us through your Spirit to understand the real threat of climate collapse,
and move us to change how we live
so that we might be better stewards of this precious home we call earth.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Loving Redeemer, you delight in the human race.
Move the hearts of state, national & world leaders to seek wisdom, speak truth,
and care for all are marginalized and who suffer the effects of racism, classism, and sexism.
Further the work of collaboration around justice and peacemaking.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Abiding Comforter, you call out to all who are in need.
Restore severed relationships and protect children who lack trustworthy caregivers.
Grant hope to those who are experiencing fear or pain,
especially Barbara, Bernedette, Bill, Dolores, Frank, Grace, Henry, Iris, Jocelyn, Jonathan,
Kristin, Linda, Maria, Marija, Moses, Steve, and all we name in our hearts.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Holy Three, you are community and you create community.
Build up ministries that support those who are isolated or lonely.
Give endurance as we build relationships of mutuality and trust
with those who are different from us.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, we remember your saints for their strong faith and witness, even unto death.
Console the grieving, especially the families and friends of Chuck Figlar and Louis Papp.
Stir up in us the resolve to end the sin of white supremacy
and pursue the courageous path of justice.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You are invited to offer your own prayer petition at this time, either silently or aloud.

God of every time and place, in Jesus' name and filled with your Holy Spirit,
we entrust these spoken prayers and those in our hearts into your holy keeping. **Amen**

Thanksgiving

OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, you said, "Give and it will be given to you...
for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

**Give us the confidence to cheerfully give
our tithes and offerings of time, talent and treasure to your work in this place,
trusting that you will provide abundantly for all our needs.
We pray this in the power of your Spirit. Amen**

OFFERING INVITATION

Please be seated.

In response to God's grace,
it is our joy to return to God our tithes and offerings.
We are grateful for your generosity,
-which not only is an exercise of and witness to your faith,
but which funds our ministry together here at Salem.



If you are a member of another congregation,
we encourage you to give to your home congregation first,
but invite you to contribute to our ministry also
so that we can continue to take our worship online
as a witness to the power and love of the amazing God we serve.
Simply go to the menu on our website at SalemBridgeport.org and click "donate"
or scan the QR code here in our Sunday worship program
with a QR reader on your smart phone which will take you to that page.

OFFERTORY SONG

Be Still and Know that I Am God

**Be still and know that I am God. Be still and know that I am God.
Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Be still and know that I am God.**

**God gave the Son for us in love. God gave the Son for us in love.
Dying upon the tree, Christ rose to set us free. God gave the Son for us in love.**

**Make me a channel of your grace. Make me a channel of your grace.
Pour your love into me and let it flow through me. Make me a channel of your grace.**

Text: based on Psalm 46.1 and John 14.27 by Marjo Anderson

Music: BE STILL by Marjo Anderson

Text & Music © 1982 by Marjo Anderson. Used with permission.

Sending

ANNOUNCEMENTS, THANK YOU AND BLESSING

Here ends our Facebook live stream.

Meal & Dismissal

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

You may stand if you so desire and make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, whose steadfast love endures forever. **Amen**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known & from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Merciful God,
we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way.
Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table.
When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side.
Set us again on the path of life.
Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for all people,
and for Christ's sake God forgives all who truly repent of their sins.
As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by Christ's authority,
I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins,
in the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

COMMUNION

Please be seated.

God be with you!	And also with you!
Open your hearts!	We open them to God and one another!
Let us give thanks to the God of all!	It is right to give God thanks & praise!

In the night in which he was betrayed....

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest and let these gifts to us be blessed.
Blessed be God, who is our Bread; may all the world be clothed and fed. Amen

The body of Christ given for you and the blood of Christ shed for you.

*During communion, you may take your communion elements during worship
or hold on to your kit until you get home.*

*If you take the elements inside the church, open the kit over the pew to prevent spilling on the carpet.
After the service, please dispose of your own kit either in a waste receptacle at church or at home.*

The body & blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you & keep you in divine grace! **Amen!**

SENDING SONG

Come, Join the Dance of Trinity

(as found in the ELCA worship books Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 412)

As long as you are masked, you may sing softly.

You may stand if you so desire.

**Come, join the dance of Trinity, before all worlds begun –
the interweaving of the Three, the Father, Spirit, Son.
The universe of space and time did not arise by chance,
But as the Three, in love and hope, made room within their dance.**

**Come, see the face of Trinity, newborn in Bethlehem;
then bloodied by a crown of thorns outside Jerusalem.
The dance of Trinity is meant for human flesh and bone;
When fear confines the dance in death, God rolls away the stone.**

**Come, speak aloud of Trinity, as wind and tongues of flame
set people free at Pentecost to tell the Savior's name.
We know the yoke of sin and death, our necks have worn it smooth;
Go tell the world of weight and woe that we are free to move!**

**Within the dance of Trinity, before all worlds begun,
we sing the praises of the Three, the Father, Spirit, Son.
Let voices rise and interweave, by love and hope set free,
To shape in song this joy, this life: the dance of Trinity.**

Text: Richard Leach, b.1953, © 2001 Selah Publishing Co., Inc.;

Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace, and may the love poured into you by the Spirit drive you to work for justice!
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Eternal Father, Strong to Save

ELW # 756

Eternal Father, strong to save
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep;
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,
For those in peril on the sea!

O Saviour, whose almighty word
The winds and waves submissive heard
Who walkedst on the foaming deep,
And calm amidst its rage didst sleep;
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,
For those in peril on the sea!

O sacred Spirit, who didst brood
Upon the chaos dark and rude,
Who bad'st its angry tumult cease,
And gavest light and life and peace;
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,
For those in peril on the sea!

O Trinity of love and power!
Our brethren shield in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
Protect them wheresoe'er they go;
And ever let there rise to Thee
Glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

*Text: based on Genesis 1:2, Job 38:8-11, Psalm 63:5-8, Matthew 8:23-27, 14:22-33,
Mark 6:47-51, Acts 27; by William Whiting, 1825-1878, alt; Meter 8/8/8/8/8/8.*

Music: MELITA by John B. Dykes, 1823-1876

This hymn is in the Public Domain.

*Performance by Saint Thomas' Cathedral, Portsmouth, 08/10/15
as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BjcSpCSUjdk>*

Announcements

Please join Jeanette “Momma J” Harris and Genesis Gospel Café at the next Inner-View Chat’n’Chew, Saturday 6/18 at 11:00 am on zoom. Momma J writes, “Hey! There's a lot happening in our world! Some good, some not so good. We have not gathered in person for a long time, and for the continued benefit of us all, Zoom has allowed us to meet across the miles. With that in mind, we will continue to meet virtually with an in-person gathering soon to come! For this meeting, we will gather and unite in prayer for the concerns that we are dealing with in our homes, communities, our schools, our churches, our nation and of course, the world. How can we do that? By joining in simplistic yet powerful statements of prayer together! I love the phrase that says, "It's better when we do it together!" No matter what your faith or non-faith status is, you're welcome to join the conversation and share your thoughts with us. This is not a time to get on your personal soapbox, but a time of reflection, meditation and sharing. I hope your schedule will allow you to join us even if you cannot stay for the entire time. It will be wonderful to see your face and/or hear your voice! Praying in the meantime, The zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5984687293> & can also be found on Salem’s calendar.

CT CityFest is a region-wide movement focused on serving the region and proclaiming the Good News. It came about as a result of years of prayer and planning by dozens of leaders in Fairfield and New Haven Counties and the surrounding Southwestern Connecticut area. The vision is to see the Christian community come together in greater unity, service, and proclamation – showing the community the joy, peace, and love of Jesus Christ. Over 130 churches and ministries have already committed to share hope and love through this movement which is focused on encouraging unity and collaboration across all communities, denominations, and ethnicities. Most impressively, this collaborative effort spans both the racial divide as well as the divides between Evangelicals & Mainline Protestants & Roman Catholics. Together, as the Body of Christ, we want to celebrate & accelerate the work of the Church, helping further influence culture, change lives, & inspire other cities.

CityFest has already begun with the launch of **CityServe**, a massive effort to mobilize churches to serve our region's greatest needs, providing support for those needing Adoption & Foster Care, better Education, and freedom from Food Insecurity. It will culminate with a series of outreach events strategically designed to share the love of Jesus with key groups of people in our community, including university students, business/civic leaders, women, and those who are incarcerated.

Some of the events include:

June 23 Discipleship Gathering, TBA

July 25-29 Park City SummerFest Vacation Bible Camps (in both English and Spanish sponsored by CityServe, FaithActs, Elevate, Faith & Education Coalition, Rise to Read, and local congregations) for kids age 4 & up, 12 to 4 pm at Washington Park, with additional camps will be held at satellite locations throughout the summer.

July 30, SummerFest celebration with awards for kids to get families connected with churches, 11 am – 2 pm at Washington Park.

Aug 27-28 CityFest, an outdoor, family festival to celebrate this amazing effort and share the Gospel with thousands through the ministry of the local churches brought together by the Luis Palau Association. For more info, go to <https://www.cityfest.org/whatisacityfest>, or speak with Pastor Marjo, Sandra Brown, Nancy Headford, Bill Winter, or Cindy Roberts.

Welcome to WONDROUS WEDNESDAYS! On Wednesday we have 3 wonderful opportunities to live into our mission of Encountering God, Building Relationships, and Changing Lives. The links are all on the calendar on our website at SalemBridgeport.org under the Resources Tab.

*** First, on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month through June, we begin with a Morning Bible Study on Galatians 9:30-11:00 on zoom, led by Grace Dukenski.** There is time for sharing before we launch into our study, and time for prayer at the end.

*** Every Wednesday at 12:00 noon we meet on zoom for prayer.** You can pray out loud if you want, or you can simply ask others to pray for you or for the concerns on your mind or heart.

*** And finally, every Wednesday at 6:30 pm we conclude with an Evening Bible Study 6:30-7:30 on zoom, led by Pastor Marjo and Jeanette Harris.** Join this diverse and interesting group of people for a study that is not simply informational but transformational. We continue our study of the book of Acts, concluding at 7:15 with a brief service of Holy Communion. This past week we continued our exploration of chapter 5 and will finish up the chapter this week.

Let's stay connected! Much of Pastor Marjo's and Salem's Office Manager, Karl's work can be done from their homes, but generally Karl is here on Thursdays to take care of tasks that cannot be accomplished remotely, and Pastor Marjo is happy to meet with you in-person here should you so desire. If we can help in any way, please know that you can call Salem's church office at 203-330-3300 and leave a message and your message will be picked up remotely and your call returned. **Please also do not hesitate to call or text Pastor Marjo at 203-982-3441. She would be MORE THAN HAPPY to hear from you!**

Thank you to Joe Bales for arranging for 2 refrigerators to be donated to 2 food ministries in our area, including one right here in this building! That's right – the Ephraim French Seventh Day Adventist Church which now owns the premises is eager to begin a food pantry and is looking to Salem to share its expertise. Thank you, too, to the men who moved the heavy equipment to its destinations!

Invitation from Joe Bales - As I'm sure you'll remember the Salem Food Pantry ended in early 2020 with the onset of the Covid 10 pandemic. It was a very disappointing period for Salem and personally for me as we had created a great community outreach program. While our pantry has been silent a small contingent of Food Pantry volunteers have continued to be involved in meeting the needs of the hunger challenged. Today seven men meet weekly at the Brooklawn Deli for fellowship — followed by picking up food from the Bridgeport Food Bank with delivery to the PTBarnum Food Pantry. The group consists of Dr. Peter Mitchell, Fred Schaefer, Bert Andren, Ray Anderson, Tom Larson, Charlie Beaver and myself. **YOU** are welcome to join us and as in the past we welcome your support through monetary contributions. Your donation should be directed to Feed The People Food Pantry, c/o Roberta Marson, 240 Hanson Avenue, Bridgeport, Ct 06605. Contact Joe Bales at 203-434-6308 for additional information.

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Basil the Great, Bishop of Caesarea, died 379;

Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa, died around 385;

Gregory of Nazianzus, Bishop of Constantinople, died around 389;

Macrina, teacher, died around 379

Tuesday, June 14, 2022

The Cappadocian fathers, as the three men in this group are known, explored the mystery of the Holy Trinity.

Basil's monastic rule forms the basis for Eastern monastic life.

Gregory of Nazianzus defended orthodox Christianity in Constantinople.

Gregory of Nyssa, Basil's younger brother, wrote on the spiritual life.

Macrina, older sister of Basil and Gregory of Nyssa, w

as the leader of a community dedicated to asceticism, meditation, and prayer.

Emanuel Nine, martyrs, died 2015

Friday, June 17, 2022

On June 17, 2015,

Clementa C. Pinckney, Cynthia Marie Graham Hurd, Susie Jackson, Ethel Lee Lance,

DePayne Middleton-Doctor, Tywanza Sanders, Daniel Lee Simmons,

Sharonda Coleman-Singleton, and Myra Thompson

were murdered by a self-professed white supremacist

while they were gathered for Bible study and prayer

at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church (often referred to as Mother Emanuel)

in Charleston, South Carolina.

Pastors Pinckney and Simmons were both graduates

of the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary.

A resolution to commemorate June 17 as a day of repentance

for the martyrdom of the Emanuel Nine was adopted by the Churchwide Assembly

of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America on August 8, 2019.

Congregations of the ELCA are encouraged reaffirm their commitment

to repenting of the sins of racism and white supremacy which continue to plague this church,

to venerate the martyrdom of the Emanuel Nine,

and to mark this day of penitence with study and prayer.

CREDITS

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Be part of a HUGE community of people walking for Calumet by signing up for Walk the Walk 2022.

It's easy! Everyone who registers (dogs are welcome, too) joins a TEAM. Lots of Congregations will have their own Congregation TEAMs (last year, there were about 70 congregations TEAMs). One person from the congregation will serve as TEAM Captain collecting miles periodically from all the TEAM Members ... and then the Captain will report the total miles of the whole TEAM to Calumet. It is wicked easy.



A Calumet TEAM might be a good option for people who aren't connected to a congregation. There are many fun options available. There are lots of great Calumet TEAMs like TEAM Campfire, TEAM Outdoor Chapel, TEAM Ice Cream Social, TEAM Jackman Ridge, and more. See the list when you register and pick a TEAM that seems like it's a good fit for you.

Each TEAM will have a Captain. We hope those serving as TEAM Captains in 2021 will volunteer to do it again. Congregations organizing a TEAM for Walk the Walk 2022 will want to identify one person who can serve as Captain. It's not a wicked hard job, by any means. But it's best if the Captain is good at sending, checking, and reading their emails.

During the summer you'll be contacted by your TEAM Captain who will ask you, "Hey, I'm going to report our TEAM's mileage so far this summer. How many miles have you logged?" TEAM members will be expected to log their miles four times throughout the 62 days of July and August. Mileage from July 1-15 will be submitted to Captains beginning on July 16. Mileage from July 16-31 will be submitted beginning August 1. Mileage trekked between August 1-15 will be shared with the Captain starting on August 16. And miles from August 16-31 will get to the Captain on September 1.

As the summer progresses, Calumet will hear from TEAM Captains who will be able to report their TEAM's mileage through a wicked easy Google Form (thanks to Amy Gillam O'Riley for her awesome leadership with this). Calumet will share the growing mileage total all summer long. The goal: 350,000 miles by the end of the day on August 31!

Calumet has a special Walk the Walk Facebook page which participants all over the place are invited to join. Though out the summer, there will be daily devotions, fun contests, photo sharing, and more. This Facebook group has been a fantastic way for people to get to know one another. We have a specific group of people led by Pat Mahoney with the job of managing the page and encouraging awesome connections – a la Calumet Nation!

Registration Starts on May 15, 2022! The registration fee is a \$25 donation to Calumet.

The link to register - <https://www.vancoevents.com/us/events/landing?eid=21571&>

GOOD NEWS IN YOUR CITY

LUIS PALAU ASSOCIATION

WHAT IS CITYFEST?

You care about your city. You want to see the Good News proclaimed and lived out to every individual. And you're working hard to make that happen every day. We want to join with you to cast an even bigger vision for long-term unity and collaboration in the Body of Christ . . . serving the city and sharing the clear message of Jesus Christ on a grand scale.

VISION

- **Growing unity** in the Body of Christ
- **Increased collaboration** among the churches to love and serve their community
- **Christians mobilized** to pray for the lost and invite their friends to know Jesus
- **Gospel proclaimed** on a grand scale

UNITY

- Set aside denominational differences to focus on evangelism
- Build bridges with other churches in the neighborhood to serve the community
- Grow relationships among church, civic, and corporate communities

MOBILIZATION

- **Prayer** – God's people mobilized to pray for their unbelieving friends
- **CityServe** – God's people mobilized to serve
- **Training** – God's people trained to share the Good News with family and friends
- **Invite** – God's people challenged to invite their unbelieving friends to hear the Good News

Get ready for CITYFEST, as the Luis Palau Association arrives in Bridgeport to work for long-term unity and collaboration within the Body of Christ so that together we can more effectively transform individual lives with the good news of God's power and love made known in Jesus Christ through the power of the Spirit, and also transform the entire city of Bridgeport and beyond by serving the needs of our neighbors.

Have you ever wished that the Christian Church could be more united? While the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport has worked to unite primarily white mainline Protestant congregations and while the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Greater Bridgeport has worked to unite primarily black Evangelical and Pentecostal congregations, the Luis Palau Association comes equipped to unite all congregations across racial and denominational barriers. Just think what an impact we can have if we all work together! Stay tuned to hear more about CITYFEST!

In a time when the church is declining in membership, revenue, respect, and impact, the Luis Palau Association offers each congregation the opportunity to be part of a massive effort called CITYFEST to carry out our baptismal call not only "to proclaim the good news of God in Christ", but "to serve all people, following the example of Jesus". And as we work together, Christ will enable us to set aside denominational differences, build bridges between congregations, and develop relationships among church, civic and corporate communities. Stay tuned to hear how YOU can be involved in this exciting work of God.

Wondering how you can be involved in CITYFEST? If you are interested in action, CityServe will offer many opportunities, some new, some old. If you worry about your kids and grandkids falling away from faith, there will be training available to teach you how to share the Good News with family and friends. If inviting someone to a grand and exciting worship event is easier than individual conversations, you will have the opportunity to do just that. Or if you would simply like to help in a quiet way, you can join the hundreds of people who will provide the foundation of prayer on which this whole event will happen. In fact, begin praying now to see how God is calling YOU to be involved in CITYFEST!

CITYFEST WEEK

• Outreaches:

- Affinity events for women
- Special gatherings for business and civic leaders
- Prison outreaches

• Culminating Events:

- 2-day CityFest in the heart of the city
- Andrew Palau presenting the Good News of Jesus Christ
- Well-known Christian musical groups
- Action sports
- Family Fun Zone

ONGOING IMPACT

- **Follow-up** – Collaborative effort between local churches and the Palau Association
- **Discipleship** – Face to face efforts as well as an email discipleship course managed by the Palau Association
- **CityServe** – Ongoing effort to continue building unity, collaboration, and good will throughout the region, focused on serving the city and sharing the Good News



Get ready because CITYFEST is coming! In addition to all the service opportunities we will have through CITYSERVE, we will also have the opportunity to participate in CITYFEST a week of outreach through gatherings for women, for business and civic leaders, and for those in prison. The week will culminate with a 2-day event in the heart of the city with worship that includes top-notch Christian musical groups and evangelist Andrew Palau preaching. And in addition to worship, there will be fellowship opportunities including Action Sports and a Family Fun Zone! Through our participation in this event God gives us 2 exciting opportunities – to build bridges which strengthen the work of all of our congregations in the Grater Bridgeport area and to invite family and friends to join us in a worship event unlike any we have seen in the area for years.

While serving people – feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, housing the homeless, welcoming the stranger, etc. – is a vital part of our Christian faith, it is only half of our call. You don't have to be a Christian to help those in need. And if all we Christians do is serve in silence, then those we serve will never hear about the amazing God we know and love.



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That's why the Luis Palau Association brings congregations to do both – to serve God through both Word and Deed. While bringing friends to CityFest could change their lives, such an experience is often just the first step in the journey. Following up to help people grow in their discipleship is the crucial next step. And of course the work of CityServe will continue for weeks, months, and years after CityFest. We invite you to start praying now that God would help all of the congregations in our city and its surrounding towns to realize that we are all part of the ONE holy Christian and Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ.

GOOD NEWS IN YOUR CITY

LUIS PALAU ASSOCIATION

STEPS OF INVOLVEMENT

PRAYER

Concerted prayer effort for our city and for those who have yet to trust Jesus

SERVE

Joining with other churches, organizations, businesses, and the civic community to meet the needs of the region

EQUIP

Receive tools and encouragement to reach out and speak with others about Jesus Christ

PROMOTE

Help publicize CityFest with a massive grassroots and marketing campaign that will reach a high level of visibility and awareness in the region

GIVE

Consider giving as an individual, as a business, organization, or church

PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL

Help proclaim the Gospel through affinity events and gatherings leading up to CityFest

FOLLOWING UP

Follow up with new believers referred to your church, helping them grow strong in their relationship with Jesus Christ

CONTINUE

Continue the Gospel Movement in the region through unity, word, and deed

www.palaufestivals.org/greater-bridgeport

God has been working through many organizations larger than local congregations to nurture people's bodies and souls. The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport (primarily white mainline Protestant congregations) and the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Greater Bridgeport (black Evangelical and Pentecostal congregations) are 2 such organizations. Some congregations have set up their own non-profit organizations like nOURish BRIDGEPORT (United Church of Christ), FaithActs (Pastor William McCullough of Russell Temple) and the Mount Aery Development Corporation (Mount Aery Baptist Church). And there are other organizations having a big impact as well, such as the NAACP of Greater Bridgeport which received an award for being the most active chapter in the state. But imagine what can happen if all of these organizations, all of the congregations affiliated with them, and all of the other unaffiliated congregations were to work together! That's why the Luis Palau Association is coming to our city – so that we can do together what none of our congregations or organizations can do separately. Look over the many ways to get involved and pray to see how God is calling YOU!



GOOD NEWS IN YOUR CITY

LUIS PALAU ASSOCIATION

TIMELINE 2021-2022

2021 CURRENT - NOVEMBER: INVITATION PHASE

- Formation of a steering committee
- Accomplishment of invitation checklist provided by LPA
- Conduct an official invitation event (November 16)

2021/2022 DECEMBER 2021 - MARCH 2022: FOUNDATION PHASE

- Completion of the CityFest Executive Team
- Pastoral/Church recruitment
- Opening of local office and development of local staff
- CityServe foundation

2022 MARCH-AUGUST: MOBILIZATION PHASE

- Church mobilization/equipping events
- CityServe
- Evangelism orientation/equipping
- Publicity launch

2022 SEPTEMBER: PROCLAMATION PHASE

- Massive targeted evangelism through affinity events
- Two-day CityFest
- Media blitz

2022 SEPTEMBER + BEYOND: CONTINUATION PHASE

- Follow-up with those who respond
- Strategic Gospel Movement planning

CITYFEST is coming in September of 2022!

Prior to that, CITYSERVE will begin in the spring, ramp up in the summer, and will continue long after CITYFEST is over.

If ever there was a time when our city – our world – needed the hope we have in Christ Jesus, it is now.

Please pray and ask God how you can be involved through the Luis Palau Association in living out your baptismal call – “to proclaim the good news of God in Christ” and “to serve all people, following the example of Jesus”.

For more information, speak with Pastor Marjo, Sandra Brown, Nancy Headford, Cindy Roberts or Bill Winter.

Grace/Salem Family Retreat

*Join us for a family retreat
Sunday, June 26th from 9:30-
12:30pm.*

*We'll start with breakfast by the Salem
Men's Group at 8:30, Service at 9:30,
followed by team building activities & a
craft, ending with a barbecue. The
program will end by 12:30 pm, socializing
can continue if you like. We'll be out
back by the playground (bring a chair)*



**6/26/22 at 8:30/9:30
am**

RSVP- Allison- 203-260-4548 or
Allisonbecker1960@gmail.com