

Announcements for EVERYONE from Salem Lutheran

August 7, 2022

Greetings in the name of God our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer!

Today it is Salem's joy to join our friends at Golden Hill United Methodist Church for 9:45 worship, This is a chance for us to build upon the relationship that we've had with Golden Hill for the many years (decades!) we've volunteered at their Community Suppers as well as upon the work we share through the Council of Churches

This booklet includes announcements about Salem sponsored events, as well as activities in the wider Church, including those sponsored by the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport, and the big CityFest and CityServe events this summer and beyond. Please know that we look forward to seeing YOU at any or all of these events!

Pastor Marjo is away Saturday 8/6 through Friday 8/12, serving as the chaplain of family camp at Camp Calumet Lutheran in New Hampshire. For emergency pastoral care while she is away, please contact the church office at 203-336-3300 or Jeanette Harris at 203-366-6778.

Today we remember in our prayers...

Salem members and their families, and those who are in special need of prayer, especially Barbara, Bernedette, Bill, Cliffy, Dolores, Frank, Grace, Iris, Jocelyn, Jonathan, Linda, Maria, Marija, Steve, and Pastor Ruth.

On Wednesdays we have 2 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.

*** 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 every Wednesday at 6:30 pm we gather on zoom for Bible Study, led by Pastor Marjo and Jeanette Harris,** that is not simply informational but transformational, in that we seek not simply to learn **about** God, but to hear God speak directly to our own hearts and minds. We are currently studying the book of Acts and are on chapters 11 & 12. At 7:25 we conclude with a brief service of Holy Communion.

On the remaining Sundays of summer through at least Labor Day Weekend, Salem will be worshipping in the picnic grove at 3160 Park Avenue whenever weather permits.

The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport is looking for students for its next CREATE Kitchen class beginning August 23rd, 2022. CREATE is an intensive program that will train you in all aspects of food industry employment and food business development, from culinary skills, to how to interview and write a resume, to business plan development. Classes are intended for under-and unemployed area residents looking to start their own businesses or explore a new career in the food industry. The class begins on August 23, 2022 and meets Tuesdays - Fridays, 10am - 2pm at 800 Union Avenue, Bridgeport. For more information visit <https://feedbpt.org/create>.

The New Paradigm Theatre Company invites you to its upcoming presentation of “The Little Mermaid”, produced in partnership with The Maritime Aquarium with its theme of “Recycle, Repurpose, Reuse”. The dates are Friday August 19 at 7pm or Saturday August 20 at 2pm and 7pm at Black Rock Church, 3685 Black Rock Turnpike, Fairfield. All tickets (except VIP) are General Seating: Adults – \$35.00, Seniors – \$30.00, Students 12 and over with ID – \$20.00, Children 12 and under – \$10.00. VIP tickets get reserved seating and a backstage tour- up-close and personal – of sets, costumes and props (many donated by Salem!) and cost \$50.00. For tickets go to NPT’s website: <https://nptheatre.org/thelittlemermaid/> If you’d like to go as a group, Pastor Marjo and some others will be attending the Friday night performance. The founder and Director of NPT is Kristin Huffman, the daughter of a Lutheran pastor, who sees her work in the theatre as ministry as NPT seeks to support other non-profit agencies (such as the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport), serve the community, and develop the gifts and leadership skills of young people through the arts.

It’s not too late to join in the fun(d)-raiser for Camp Calumet, the church camp of the New England Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Calumet’s Walk the Walk 2022 continues thru 8/31.

So far our team consists of the following human and canine participants: Captain Pastor Marjo, Cindy Roberts, Dave and Judith Albers, Jean and Tom Larson, Susan, Wes, Fritz and Gustav Murphy, and Astrid and Buttons Colello, **and in the first half of July we walked a total of.... [drumroll, please!]....518 miles!**

To join us, all you have to do is go to this link to register:
<https://www.vancoevents.com/us/events/landing?eid=21571&>
and join the Congregation Team “Salem Bridgeport”
The registration fee is a \$25 donation to Calumet.

Then all you have to do is report your miles walked to Pastor Marjo (at marjoanderson@aol.com or 2-3-982-3441) from 7/16-31, 8/ 1-15 & 16-31.

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 FB 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!



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.

Make sure you get your FREE tickets (starting next Sunday at Salem) for CityFest, the Family Fun Day at Seaside Park, Bridgeport, to be held August 27-28! CityFest is an outdoor, family festival to celebrate and share the Gospel with thousands through the ministry of local churches brought together by the Luis Palau Association. While many of us take our relationship with God for granted, others are in desperate need of discovering how much God loves them. For a video of one such story, click this link: <https://vimeo.com/268083559?login=true>. For more info, go to <https://www.cityfest.org/whatiscityfest>, or speak with Pastor Marjo.

CityFest is looking for more volunteers.

Among the main areas of need are Parking, Setup and Tear down, Safety Team, and Clean Up, as well as participation in the following:

August 11: Region-Wide Prayer Gathering | 6 pm at Seaside Park Bandshell

August 13: Hollow Street Clean Up | 9 am at Nanny Goat Park

August 25: Region-Wide Prayer Gathering | 6 pm at Seaside Park Bandshell

August 27 - 28: CT CityFest | 4 pm each day at Seaside Park



To volunteer, scan the QR code above, go to www.cityfest.org/volunteer, or contact Braden Flick, the CityFest volunteer coordinator at 203-874-0020 or via email at braden.flick@palau.org.

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. CityFest is grateful to their corporate sponsors including Valley Container, Splash Car Wash, Buttafuoco, K-Love, Eingedi Spring, Coca-Cola Beverages Northeast, RD Scinto, Rep the Gospel, and 96.7 Air1 Worship Now.

Praise God! The Park City SummerFest Vacation Bible Camp, “Power Up”, held just one week ago, was a resounding success! Thanks to the connections made through CityServe, four faith based educational groups – FaithActs, Elevate, Faith & Education Coalition, and Rise to Read – came together with local congregations to bring not only the gospel, but bilingual educational opportunities free to over 100 children in Bridgeport, age 4 & up. Of these 100 children, half had no church affiliation, and so taking the camp to the public square had a far greater impact than a congregation hosting its own camp within its walls. Please offer your personal thanks to Pastor Marjo for her involvement in CityFest & CityServe, and to Jean Larson and all of the Salem volunteers she recruited, including Sandra Brown, Nancy Headford, and Bruce & Diane Tomasko!

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 or send an email to SalemSec123@sbcglobal.net. **Please also do not hesitate to call or text Pastor Marjo at 203-982-3441 or email her at marjoanderson@aol.com. She would be MORE THAN HAPPY to hear from you!**

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Dominic, founder of the Dominicans, died 1221

Monday, August 8, 2022

Dominic was a Spanish priest who saw the wealth of the clergy as a stumbling block for the church, so he formed a movement, the Order of Preachers (commonly called Dominicans) devoted to itinerant preaching and living in poverty.

Lawrence, deacon, martyr, died 258

Wednesday, August 10, 2022

As one of the seven deacons of the church at Rome, Lawrence was responsible for the church's financial matters and for the care of the poor. Asked by the emperor to gather the church's treasure, he presented a collection of orphans, lepers, and the like. The enraged emperor had him put to death.

Clare, Abbess of San Damiano, died 1253

Thursday, August 11, 2022

A contemporary of Francis of Assisi, Clare and a growing number of companions established a women's Franciscan community, called the Order of Poor Ladies, or Poor Clares. She inspired other women to pursue spiritual goals.

Florence Nightingale, died 1910; Clara Maass, died 1901; renewers of society

Saturday, August 13, 2022

Nightingale was born in England, and horrified her wealthy family by deciding to become a nurse. She led a group of nurses in ministering in the midst of the Crimean War, and worked for hospital reform. Maass, a native of New Jersey, was also a war nurse, and volunteered as a subject for research on yellow fever. She died of the disease.

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



PO Box 50 | Portland OR 97207 | www.palau.org

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.

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.

CITYFEST

ANDREW PALAU

CITYSERVE SOUTHWESTERN CONNECTICUT

We believe that everyone in Southwestern Connecticut should hear the Good News of Jesus Christ and His followers should serve in their communities to bring Shalom.

CityServe is a movement focused on encouraging, equipping, and empowering the Body of Christ to love and serve our region through united, long-term efforts focused on the area's greatest needs.

For months, we'll provide opportunities for the Church in Southwestern Connecticut to set aside differences and come together with the goal of producing a pattern of love and care modeled by Jesus Christ. Our serving together will lead to long-lasting impact and our community seeing Jesus more clearly.

FOOD INSECURITY



- 500,000 people in Connecticut struggle with hunger
- 140,000 children struggle with food insecurity every day

EDUCATION



- 76% of third graders in Bridgeport are not reading at grade level and are not able to pass a third grade literacy test
- Nearly 60% of those graduating from Bridgeport public schools are functionally illiterate

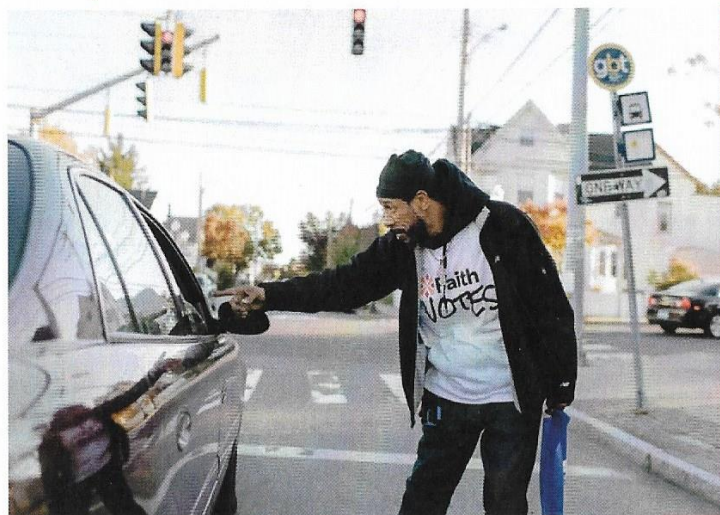
ADOPTION + FOSTER CARE



- New Haven County alone has over 1,200 children in need of foster families, and over 200 are sent to other counties to be cared for

For more information on how you and your church can engage with CityServe to meet the needs of your community, please visit www.CTCityServe.org.

Did you know that the prisons are built based on the reading scores of third graders? And that 76% of third graders in Bridgeport cannot pass their third grade literacy test? That was the impetus for Pastor Gabrielle Beam to found Rise to Read, in order to eradicate childhood illiteracy in Bridgeport and throughout the United States, thereby breaking generational curses and stopping the school-to-prison pipeline. Using the Bible as a primer, Rise to Read-trained volunteers provide free reading literacy education to primary school children in afterschool and Sunday School programs, and vacation bible camps. To volunteer or to donate, go to www.risetoread.net.



If you don't vote, they don't listen.

Faith Votes is a campaign to get the faith community in Bridgeport involved in voter education and voter turnout. **We don't endorse candidates.** We just want to get out the vote.

OUR MISSION

We are people of faith building power to get our children the education they deserve.

WHAT WE DO

We build relationships, we build leaders, and we build power through community organizing and civic engagement across Connecticut.

OUR VISION

We believe that every child deserves the opportunity to graduate from college, take care of their family, and fulfill their God-given potential.

Faith Votes' Work

Last year, in the middle of a pandemic, we secured an additional **\$160 million** in education funding for Black, Brown and low-income students and activated over **5,000 voters** across the state.



In 2019, Bridgeport Public Schools met our demand to publish how it spends per child, per school within the district – **information** that has never been public in Bridgeport.

Questions about voting? Contact our Civic Engagement Manager Toni at 203-751-7256 or toni@faithacts.org

Our Values

GUIDED BY FAITH: We have deep faith in God and in the power of communities to take on the important work of providing all our children with a transformative education.

SERVE THE CHILDREN: We are here to relentlessly serve and responsibly invest in what works best for our children.

BUILD BRIDGES: We believe in forming authentic relationships that bring our community together, collaborating with the greatest sense of mutual respect and integrity.

TAKE OWNERSHIP: We humbly accept our share of responsibility for the current educational inequity, and take ownership of changing it for our children.

DRIVE TOWARD IMPACT: We believe results should be measured with transparency and rigor.