



Salem Lutheran Church

shalom - salaam - salem - peace

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

Participant

**16th Sunday
After
Pentecost**

**September 25,
2022
9:30 AM**



Lazarus & The Rich Man

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[YouTube](#) – Salem Lutheran Church, Bridgeport CT

Welcome

Today we say “au revoir” to worship in this beautiful picnic grove – “au revoir” since we do not want to say “good-bye” but rather “until we meet again”. We are so grateful that we were able to worship outdoors in God’s amazing, awesome, and inspiring creation for all of July, August and September. Except for a brief light rain shower one Sunday that sent folks scurrying under trees or to their cars for jackets and had Bruce creating an entirely new liturgical role – that of Umbrella Holder over pastor and the sound equipment! – we were blessed with delightful weather. Next week we return to indoor worship and hope all Salem members and friends will join us – both those who have loved worshipping in the grove and those for whom indoor worship is more manageable.

As we move to indoor worship, we remind everyone that masks are now optional, and that we encourage people to do be good stewards of their own health as well as good neighbors who look out for the health of others. Although the pandemic is not yet over, the risks have been greatly mitigated – and for that we give God thanks and praise!

Pastor Marjo will be taking vacation time Tuesday September 27 – Monday October 3. For emergency pastoral care, contact our Office Manager at the church number 203-336-3300 or Lay Licensed Minister Jeanette Harris at 203-366-6778.

Next Sunday, October 2nd, we welcome to the pulpit The Reverend Dr. Daniel Rodriguez Schlorff, the Director of Congregational and Community Partnerships at the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport since May of this year. He has studied at the University of Chicago Divinity School, Hartford Seminary, and Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, and has worked as a healthcare chaplain and as a church planter for the Alliance of Baptists. In addition to his current work, he is also a writer and musician. He looks forward to getting to know more of the people from Salem who have been such generous supporters of the Council of Churches and to sharing with Salem more about the current work of the Council.

Following worship on Sunday, October 2nd, we will have an adult forum in the Lounge at which we will have a chance to share in deeper conversation with Dr. Schlorff.

You are invited to gather with us for prayer on zoom Wednesdays at 12:00 noon at this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82882777326?pwd=VCtObFRPOGI3cTR3eII2ZmtiZEpadz09> and for Bible Study 6:30-7:25 as we pick up in our study of Acts with 16:-40 at this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89119212353?pwd=WFdhU3ZaL1BUb2syZmdzREdTZVpsdz09> If you cannot access zoom just let us know and you can join one of us via speakerphone. And if anyone would like Holy Communion we offer that at 7:25 each week.

Choir rehearsals will resume after worship on Sunday October 9th and continue on 10/16, 10/23, and 10/30. as we prepare to sing on Reformation Sunday, October 30th and All Saints Sunday, November 6th. After a break on November 6th and 13th, they will resume on 11/ 20 as we prepare for Christmas Eve.

Gathering

GATHERING MUSIC

Gather Us In

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book,
Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 532)*

**Here in this place new light is streaming; now is the darkness vanished away.
See in this space our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in – the lost & forsaken. Gather us in – the blind and the lame.
Call to us now, and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.**

**We are the young – our lives are a myst'ry. We are the old who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of hist'ry, called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in – the rich and the haughty. Gather us in – the proud and the strong.
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly; give us the courage to enter the song.**

**Here we will take the wine and the water. Here we will take the bread of new birth.
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion. Give us to eat the bread that is you.
Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.**

**Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away,
but here in this place the new light is shining: now is the Kingdom, now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever. Gather us in and make us your own.
Gather us in – all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.**

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950; Meter 10 9 10 10 D

Music: GATHER US IN; Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Text and Tune: Marty Haugen, b. 1950; © 1982, GIA Publications, Inc.

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Performance # 1 by Tim McNabb, Halifax Lutheran Church, 09/09/22

Accompaniment Style: Worship 6-8; with lyrics

If you are following along in the hymn book,

you will notice I took some liberties with the timing of the music.

This has to do with Marty Haugen throwing in the odd 9-8 measure in a 6-8 piece of music.

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GdnxODNyWkU> [2:58]

Performance # 2 by Chris Brunelle, 05 /22/15

To support my ministry via Patreon: <https://www.patreon.com/chrisbrunelle>

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8j-TOnG0UbM> [3:08]

Performance # 3 by The Heralds Choir of St Mary's Music Ministries

of the Church of St Mary of the Angels, 07/18/21, featuring choristers and musicians:

*Shun, Nina, Jeja, Annie, Mavic, Sarah, Steph, Jason, Mark, LJ, Calvin, Estee, Jhona, Mulya, Pat,
Zac (piano), Randy (guitar), Joycelyn (flute 1), Leng (flute 2), Zachary Sebastian Wong (editing)*

as found at this link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y94LRdZzRnc&ab_channel=VirtualChoirSMOTA [2:32]

Please note that here we go live on Facebook.

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

Christ, Be Our Light

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book,
Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 715)*

You may stand if you so desire.

**Longing for light, we wait in darkness, Longing for truth, we turn to you,
Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see,**

**Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.**

**Longing for peace, our world is troubled, Longing for hope, many despair,
Your word alone has pow'r to save us, Make us your living voice.**

**Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.**

**Longing for food, many are hungry, Longing for water, many still thirst,
Make us your bread, broken for others, shared until all are fed.**

**Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.**

**Longing for shelter, many are homeless, Longing for warmth, many are cold,
Make us your building, sheltering others, walls made of living stone.**

**Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.**

**Many the gifts, many the people, Many the hearts that yearn to belong,
Let us be servants to one another, signs of your kingdom come.**

**Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.**

*Text: John 1:9, 3:19, 8:12, 9:5, 12:46, 2 Corinthians 4:6; Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957;
Meter 9 8 9 6 and refrain*

Tune: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Text and Music: © 1993 Bernadette Farrell, admin. OCP Publications

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Performance by the Reverend Marjo Anderson

Word

Please be seated.

A READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES: Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Alas for those who are at ease in Zion,
and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria,
Alas for those who lie on beds of ivory,
and lounge on their couches,
and eat lambs from the flock,
and calves from the stall;
who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp,
and like David improvise on instruments of music;
who drink wine from bowls, and anoint themselves with the finest oils,
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!
Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile,
and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

Word of God! Word of Life!

Thanks be to God!

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PSALMS: Psalm 146

Hallelujah!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

Put not your trust in rulers,

in mortals in whom there is no help.

When they breathe their last, they return to earth,

and in that day their thoughts perish.

Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,

whose hope is in the LORD their God;

who made heaven and earth,

the seas, and all that is in them;

who keeps promises forever;

who gives justice to those who are oppressed,

and food to those who hunger.

The LORD sets the captive free.

The LORD opens the eyes of the blind;

the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;

the LORD loves the righteous.

The LORD cares for the stranger;

the LORD sustains the orphan and widow,

but frustrates the way of the wicked.

The LORD shall reign forever,

your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

Word of God! Word of Life!

Thanks be to God!

A READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT: 1 Timothy 6:6-19

Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will bring about at the right time — he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

Word of God! Word of Life!

Thanks be to God!

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS: Luke 16:19-31

You may stand if you so desire.

[Jesus said:] “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames’. But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ He said, ‘Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father’s house — for I have five brothers — that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment’. Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them’. He said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent’. He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead’.”

Word of God! Word of Life!

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Please be seated.

Pastor Marjo

You may stand if you so desire.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*(We thank the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport
for introducing us to this affirmation at its annual meeting last month.
It is from The United Congregational Church of Southern Africa & from Indonesia
and speaks especially to the ideals to which this country has always aspired:
the freedom, equality, and truth that lead to a new earth where justice and peace prevail.)*

And now, as people of the household of God, in faith, and love, and with goodwill to all,
let us in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ
give ourselves afresh to him and to one another in joyous covenant,
promising to walk together with God and one another.

We believe in God, who is love and who has given the earth to all people.

**We believe in Jesus Christ, who came to heal us,
and to free us from all forms of oppression.**

We believe in the Spirit of God, who works in & through all who are turned toward the truth.

We believe in the community of faith, which is called to be at the service of all people.

We do not believe in the right of the strongest, nor in the power of oppression.

We believe in human rights, in the solidarity of all people.

**We denounce, stand, and work against racism,
in the power that comes from wealth and privilege,
or in any established order that enslaves.**

**We believe that all people are equally human,
that order based on violence and injustice is not order.**

We do not believe that hunger and poverty are inevitable and peace unattainable.

**We dare to believe, always and in spite of everything,
in God's power to transform and transfigure,
fulfilling the promise of a new heaven & a new earth where justice & peace will flourish.**

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

As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread,
so let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation.

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

O God, rich in mercy, fill us and all your Church
with righteousness, faith, love, endurance, and gentleness.
Fill us with your Spirit that we might be vulnerable in our worship, fervent in our prayer,
diligent in our study of your Word, bold in our witness, generous in our giving,
passionate in our work for justice,
and rich in love to all people, especially those who are different from us.

We pray for our mission partners, especially for Seafarers and International House,
the Lions Club and 12-step groups.

We pray for Salem members & their families, especially those celebrating birthdays this week:
Samantha Baronavski.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Inspire us to protect the earth and its creatures.

Motivate us to provide water, food, and favorable habitats, especially for endangered species.
Lead us to preserve threatened ice caps, glaciers, parks, and beaches.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Increase our advocacy for justice in nations, local governments, and courtrooms.

Guide lawyers and those who hold public office to act with wisdom and compassion.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Work through us to feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, set the captives free,
and lift up those who are bowed down.

We praise you for the measure of healing you have provided to Maria,
& we ask your healing—physical, emotional, psychological or spiritual—in those who are in need,
especially Barbara, Barry, Bernedette, Bill, Cliffy, Dave, Dennis, Dick, Dolores, Dorothy, Ed,
Frank, Grace, Georgina, Iris, Janice, Jeff, Jim, Jocelyn, Joe, Joey, Jonathan, Linda, Marija,
Melvyn, Natalie, Ruth, Sara Jean, Steve, VL, and all we name in our hearts.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Enliven our praise.

Inspire musicians, artists, poets, and all who create beauty in this world.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Enfold the saints who have died in the arms of your loving care.

Grant that the holy angels accompany us

and bring us to eternal life with them in the light of your presence.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

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

Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, gracious God,
we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **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`

Build a Longer Table

(as found in the ELCA worship book, All Creation Sings # 1062)

You may stand if you so desire.

- 1 Build a longer table, not a higher wall,
feeding those who hunger, making room for all.
Feasting together, stranger turns to friend,
Christ breaks walls to pieces; false divisions end.**
- 2 Build a safer refuge, not a larger jail;
where the weak find shelter, mercy will not fail.
For any place where justice is denied,
Christ will breach the jail wall, freeing all inside.**
- 3 Build a broader doorway, not a longer fence.
Love protects all people, sparing no expense.
When we embrace compassion more than fear,
Christ tears down our fences: all are welcome here.**
- 4 When we lived as exiles, refugees abroad,
Christ became our doorway to the reign of God.
So must our tables welcome those who roam.
None can be excluded; all must find a home.**

*Text: based on Leviticus 19:33-34, Deuteronomy 10:17-19, Luke 15, 16:19-31,
10:1-10, Ephesians 2:14, by David Bjorlin, b. 1984; Meter 11 11 10 11*

John

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

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*Performance # 1 by Tim McNabb of Halifax Lutheran Church, 02/12/22
(751/855 in their hymn series)*

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZMP0JSaVvY0> [2:33]

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.

We live unaware of the hurt and pain we have caused by personal and societal actions.

Set us back on the path of life, save us from our sin, & 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 HYMN

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

(as found in the ELCA worship book Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 719)

You may stand if you so desire.

- 1 Where cross the crowded ways of life,
where sound the cries of race and clan,
above the noise of selfish strife,
we hear your voice, O Son of Man.**
- 2 In haunts of wretchedness and need,
on shadowed thresholds dark with fears,
from paths where hide the lures of greed,
we catch the vision of your tears.**
- 3 From tender childhood's helplessness,
from human grief and burdened toil,
from famished souls, from sorrow's stress,
your heart has never known recoil.**
- 4 The cup of water giv'n for you
still holds the freshness of your grace;
yet long these multitudes to view
the strong compassion in your face.**
- 5 O Master, from the mountainside
make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
among these restless throngs abide;
oh, tread the city's streets again;**
- 6 Till all the world shall learn your love,
and follow where your feet have trod;
till glorious from your heav'n above
shall come the city of our God.**

*Text: based on Mtt 9.36, 10.42, 22.9, Mk 6.34, Lk 14.21-23, James 2.14-18, Rev 21.2
by Frank M. North, 1850-1935, alt.; Meter L M*

Music: WALTON by W. Gardiner, Sacred Melodies, 1815

Text and Music are in the Public Domain.

Performance by The Cathedral Choir of The Cathedral of St. John the Divine, 07/17/20

Descant by Stuart Forster (b. 1971)

as found at this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X0L_ND_XSks [3:10]

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, work for justice, and God will set you free!

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE MUSIC

Canticle of the Turning

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship books,
Worship & Praise # 26 and Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 723)*

1 My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?

Refrain:

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.

2 Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me,
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn,
you will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn. *(Refrain)*

3 From the halls of pow'r to the fortress tow'r, not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears ev'ry tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn;
there are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn. *(Refrain)*

4 Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound,
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around. *(Refrain)*

*Text: based on the Magnificat in Luke 1:46-55, and also Revelation 21:4,
by Rory Cooney, b. 1952; Meter Irregular*

Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional

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Performance by An Episcopal Diocese of Georgia staff quartet, 04/17/21

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AZkouDIMn-g> [3:10]

Announcements

CityFest made the last week of August an unforgettable week for Bridgeport and our region. Together we made history...

- * **more than 22,000 people attended the festival!**
- * **175 churches united in partnership!**
- * **hundreds were mobilized to serve the region in long-term initiatives!**
- * **more than 800 people asked for and received prayer**
- * **750 were trained to pray for others and witness to their faith** to serve as Festival Friends
- * **550 attended** pre-festival Gospel events
- * **400 volunteered** for the festival

On behalf of the Luis Palau Association, Andrew and Wendy Palau write, “We are praying that CT will never be the same. And this entire campaign never would have happened without people like you. From the bottom of our hearts, we say thank you!”

Read the full report at 222.cityfest.org

As amazing as it was, CityFest was not the ultimate event, but rather the “launch party” for 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 includes 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. For more information on upcoming events and other ways to address the 3 areas of need mentioned above, and to find out how you/we can volunteer, go to <https://www.ctcityserve.org/>.

Following CityFest, Pastor Marjo was one of 6 pastors invited to attend the Mayor’s State of the City Address which was held on Wednesday. After hearing about all the amazing economic developments taking place in Bridgeport, Pastor Marjo told the mayor he needs someone to do a better job of spreading the good news! It seems that, thanks to the Hartford Healthcare Amphitheatre, Bridgeport is well on its way to becoming the Entertainment Capitol of Connecticut – in a much healthier way than a casino would have ever provided. And among the dozens of other initiatives cited were Bridgeport Landing Development, Honey Locust Square, Northsails, Congress Plaza, Windward Commons, Wakeman Boys and Girls Club, the redevelopment of the old coal plant, and the purchase of the Sikorsky airport and its promised expansion by the state. *But what was really exciting was to hear some of the pastors share afterwards about the prayer gathering that took place 6 years ago on the very site on which we were standing, the prayers that were offered up for Bridgeport, and the answers to those prayers that we are now seeing. Thanks be to God!*

Thank you to all who prayed for the Mayor’s Prayer Breakfast last Monday! Pastor Marjo was one of over 60 pastors in Bridgeport who gathered in the mayor’s office to meet the mayor’s staff (3 of whom are pastors!), hear their prayer requests, and then join hands and hearts as we lifted our voices in prayer and praise for all that God has done, is doing and will do here in Bridgeport.

Salem's Food Assistance Fund - While we may not have our own food pantry anymore, some of those people are still in need of food and Pastor distributes \$25 stop and shop cards as needed from that fund which only has \$45 in it at present. Also a number of Salem members support the food pantry at PT Barnum with their time, and we'd also like to support it financially. We encourage you to donate to Salem's food assistance fund. You can give using the envelopes found in your quarterly envelope packet or you can put a check in the donation box marked "food assistance." In addition, you may send check to office or drop it in church mailbox or give it or cash to Pastor. You can also give to the fund online by **clicking on this link**. or go to our website, SalemBridgeport.org, click on Donate, and then fill in your amount under "Food Pantry Donation".

Please congratulate and give thanks to all the members of our Salem Bridgeport team who joined me for Camp Calumet Lutheran's annual Walk the Walk fundraiser:

Dave & Judy Albers and Cindy Roberts, Eileen & Ray Anderson, Jean & Tom Larson, Susan Murphy, Wes Murphy, Astrid Colello, and canines Fritz, Gustav, and Buttons.

Together we 11 humans and 3 dogs walked a total of 2,974 during July and August! That's 4 more participants and 700 more miles

than last year! **Total miles walked from 1600 participants now stands**

at 208,839, with reports still coming in! That means that total miles walked/person was 130, while the total miles walked per our team member was 212! GREAT WORK, TEAM!



UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Michael and All Angels

Thursday, September 29, 2022

Michael the archangel, captain of the heavenly hosts,

is remembered on this day along with the other angels and archangels.

The word "angel" means messenger.

Jerome, translator, teacher, died 420

Friday, September 30, 2022

Jerome was a biblical scholar and translator,

but rather than translating the original Hebrew and Greek scriptures into classical Latin,

he worked in the commonly-spoken Latin of the day, creating a version called the Vulgate.

CREDITS

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Grace Lutheran Church in Stratford invites you to their Country Store Fair and Tag Sale, Saturday, October 15th, from 9 am to 3 pm. The day will begin with breakfast, compliments of Salem's own Rich Lansing and Bruce Tomasko, and will feature a country café, crafts, a tag sale, book nook, bake shop, and gift basket raffle. 150 Chapel Street, Stratford. Rain or shine. For more info, go to gracelutheranstratford.org .

FaithActs for Education is a campaign to get the faith community in Bridgeport involved in voter education and voter turnout in order get all children the education they deserve. Believing that every child deserves the opportunity to graduate from college, take care of their family, and fulfill their God-given potential, FaithActs builds relationships, builds leaders, and builds power through community organizing and civic engagement across Connecticut. In 2019 Bridgeport Public Schools met FaithActs' demand to publish how much it spends per child, per school – information that has never been made public before. Last year, in the middle of a pandemic, FaithActs secured an additional \$160 million in education for Black, Brown, and low income students of all races, and activated over 5,000 voters across the state. Guided by faith, FaithActs continues to Serve the Children, Build Bridges, Take Ownership, and Drive toward Impact. If you want to change the life of a child, become a part of FaithActs by going to www.faithacts.org , emailing hello@faithacts.org, or calling 203-868-0443. If you have questions about voting, contact Civic Engagement Manager, Toni, at 203-751-7256 or Toni@Faithacts.org

New England Women of the ELCA will host its Biennial Convention and Gathering – “We love because he first loved us [1 John 4:19]” – October 27-29 at Camp Calumet. Come with your stories, or come to listen to the stories of others. Come share the Love and/or come to be loved, give love or Just Love, and leave to share the love and tell the stories. For more info, contact Ade Monareh at 603-866-6556 or ade234@msn.com .

Christmas at Sea

Collection Dates: September 11 – December 4

Gift Suggestions: woolen caps, sweatshirts (L-XL), thermal or white socks, colored T-shirts (L), chocolates, canned nuts, hard candy, Christmas Cards, money

Please place items in the marked box in the narthex.

If questions, contact Carol Lansing at 203-520-3752.

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!**