



Salem Lutheran Church

shalom - salaam - salem - peace

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

Large print & Full text

**20th Sunday
After
Pentecost**

**October 23,
2022
9:30 AM**

The Pharisee and the
Tax Collector



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www.facebook.com/salembridgeport
[YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...) – Salem Lutheran Church, Bridgeport CT

Welcome

WELCOME BACK TO INDOOR WORSHIP at 3160 Park Avenue! We know that worshipping outdoors did not work for everyone, so we hope to see everyone at worship now that we are back inside. For those of you who have concerns about being indoors, please note that we have 3 units of the best air cleaner on the market in the sanctuary, and that Bill Winter has just replaced the filters so that they are operating at peak efficiency. If you have any doubts, just speak with Pastor Marjo who happened to stop by the sanctuary last Saturday evening to find that the Seventh Day Adventists were running the machines after their worship so that the room smelled as fresh and new as the earth after a summer rain shower. Also please know that you are more than welcome to wear a mask at worship if you'd like. We want everyone to feel as safe as possible.

Choir rehearsals will continue TODAY after worship as well as on 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.

Today at noon, come be the “ripple of awareness” and join the 40.3 Minute Human Trafficking Awareness Walk at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, 160 Hill Farm Road, Fairfield as we create awareness of the estimated 40.3 million people enslaved globally today. Knowledge is power and awareness is key! Together, by spreading awareness about this crisis, we can Create a Tidal Wave and Save Lives!

You are invited to gather 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 18 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 for anyone not able to join us on Sundays, Holy Communion will be offered at 7:25.

Next Sunday there will be an adult forum after worship as we come together to discuss what God's plans may be for our future here at Salem. For those unable to come in person, there will be a second forum held on zoom at 2:00 in the afternoon. You should have received a letter with details. If not, speak with Richard Lansing after worship. (Next Sunday choir will meet for a very brief rehearsal after the forum.)

You are invited to a Reformation Concert next Sunday October 30th at 4:30 pm at Bethesda Lutheran Church, 450 Whitney Avenue, New Haven, featuring J. S. Bach's Cantata No 33 "Allein zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ", and his Toccata and Fugue in D Minor, along with works by Ola Gjeilo and Felix Mendelssohn, Free admission; reception to follow. Freewill donations to benefit Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen.

Gathering

GATHERING MUSIC How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place, O Lord of Hosts

How lovely is thy dwelling place, O Lord of Hosts!
for my soul, it longeth yea fainteth,
for the courts of the Lord;
My body and soul crieth out
yea for the living God.

How lovely is thy dwelling place, O Lord of Hosts!
Oh, blest are they which dwell in thy house;
they praise thy name evermore! They praise thee!
How lovely is thy dwelling place!

From A German Requiem by Johannes Brahms

OneLicense Song #208094

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*Performance #1 sung in memory of Sara Banta by her friends, colleagues, students
and church family, 09/09/20, mixed and produced by Susan De Kam, Edited by
Ryan Miller and Susan De Kam*

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LdOcoZJfRAE> [5:26]

*Performance #2 by combined choirs of Peachtree Presbyterian Church & Wieuca
Rd Baptist Church,*

Don Neuen, conductor, 08/17/12

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IjYm40FY4GA> [5:52]

Please note that here we go live on Facebook.

WELCOME

Welcome in the name of the Creator who has boundless,
in the name of Jesus who demonstrates God's endless love,
and in the name of the Spirit who comes in order to continually transform our hearts! Amen

It is so good to be here!

Thank you for joining us today! Thank you, those of you who are here in person with us!
And thank you, those of you out there in cyber space, wherever – and whenever! – you are!

For those of you who don't know me,

I am Pastor Marjo Anderson of Salem Lutheran Church in Bridgeport, CT in the US.

To find out more about our ministry or to contact us,

you can go to our website SalemBridgeport.org, to our Facebook page, SalemBridgeport,
and to our YouTube channel, Salem Lutheran Church, Bridgeport CT.

Links to our donate page and worship bulletin –

which has both the order of worship and announcements – as well as other resources
are included on our website at SalemBridgeport.org/Live.

Today at noon, I invite you to join me on a 40.3 Minute Human Trafficking Awareness Walk
at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, 160 Hill Farm Road in Fairfield

On Wednesday we invite you to join us on zoom for prayer at noon & Bible Study at 6:30.

If there is anyone at Bible Study who has not received Communion on Sunday,
we are happy to offer it at the close of Bible Study.

Next Sunday we celebrate and give thanks for the work of the Holy Spirit

as we commemorate the beginning of the Protestant Reformation
and look forward to the Spirit's continuing work in reforming the Church today.

You are invited to wear red as we invite the fire of the Spirit to burn anew in our hearts.

After worship we will have an adult forum to discuss

how we see the Spirit working Christ's Church today
and how Salem is being called to join in that work.

We'll also be seeking your input as we plan for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

For those unable to come in person, there will be a second forum held on zoom at 2:00.

For more details on these announcements or to hear about upcoming events such as

the Council of Churches White Ally Training,
a screening of the documentary Defining US,
and FaithActs for Education's pre-election work,

please see our worship bulletin at SalemBridgeport.org/Live.

Any other announcements? Then let's begin our worship with prayer:

God, you are so great – your love is endless and your power, boundless!

Everything that we are and everything that we have comes from you,

and yet in our arrogance and pride, we forget that truth.

We come to you today, asking that you would open us to humbly receive all you have to offer.

Take our minds, inform them; take our hearts, transform them, take our wills, conform them
to yours.

We pray these things in the name of Jesus and by the power of the Spirit. Amen

OPENING HYMN

Before You, Lord, We Bow

(as found in the ELCA worship book Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 893)

You may stand if you so desire.

- 1 Before you, Lord, we bow, our God who reigns above
and rules the world below with boundless pow'r and love.
Our thanks we bring
in joy and praise, our hearts we raise, to you we sing!**
- 2 May ev'ry mountain height, each vale and forest green,
shine forth in wisdom's light, and its rich fruits be seen!
May ev'ry tongue
be tuned to praise and join to raise a grateful song.**
- 3 Earth, hear your maker's voice; your great redeemer own;
believe, obey, rejoice, and worship God alone.
Cast down your pride,
your sin deplore, and bow before the Crucified.**
- 4 And when in pow'r he comes, oh, then may ev'ry land
from all its rending tombs send forth a glorious band,
a countless throng,
with joy to sing to heav'n's high king salvation's song!**

Text: based on Psalm 145:1, Jeremiah 22:29, Philippians 2:5-11

by Francis Scott Key, 1779-1843, alt.; Meter 6 6 6 6 8 8

Music: DARWALL'S 148TH, John Darwall, 1731-1789

Text & Music are in the Public Domain.

Performance by Tim McNabb, Halifax Lutheran Church

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5gR7zZor41Y> [2"28]

Word

Please be seated.

*Pretentious piety & genuine repentance stand in stark contrast in the gospel and all around us.
Every one of us, no matter how self-sufficient or successful,
stands in need of a trusting relationship with God, whether we know it or not.
And as we grow in our relationship to God, we begin to learn that we are also in need of
authentic, mutual, trusting relationships with all of God's children.
It's only when we acknowledge the brokenness in our relationships with God and one another
that God can begin to work healing within us.*

A READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES: Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

Although our apostasies are indeed many, our iniquities testify against us,
and we have sinned against you.

act, for your name's sake, O Lord, O hope of Israel, its Savior in time of trouble,
why should you be like a stranger in the land, like a traveler turning aside for the night?
Why should you be like someone confused, like a mighty warrior who cannot give help?
Yet you, O LORD, are in the midst of us, and we are called by your name;
do not forsake us!

Thus says the LORD concerning this people: Truly they have loved to wander,
they have not restrained their feet;

therefore the LORD does not accept them,

now he will remember their iniquity and punish their sins.

Have you completely rejected Judah?

Does your heart loathe Zion?

Why have you struck us down

so that there is no healing for us?

We look for peace, but find no good;

for a time of healing, but there is terror instead.

We acknowledge our wickedness, O LORD,

the iniquity of our ancestors, for we have sinned against you.

Do not spurn us, for your name's sake; do not dishonor your glorious throne;

remember and do not break your covenant with us.

Can any idols of the nations bring rain?

Or can the heavens give showers?

Is it not you, O LORD our God?

We set our hope on you, for it is you who do all this.

Word of God! Word of Life!

Thanks be to God!

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PSALMS: 84:1-7

How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts!

**My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.**

Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young,
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my king and my God.

Happy are they who dwell in your house!

They will always be praising you.

Happy are the people whose strength is in you, whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

Those who go through the balsam valley will find it a place of springs,
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

They will climb from height to height, and the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

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

A READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

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

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS: Luke 18:9-14

You may stand if you so desire.

[Jesus] also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

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.*

*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

In gratitude and humility, let us join together in prayer on behalf of all of God's creation.

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

God of mercy, you are in the midst of us and we are called by your name.

Inspire your church to love all people with the unceasing compassion & grace you extend to us.

We pray for our mission partners, especially today for our neighboring Lutheran congregations:

Genesis Gospel Café in Bridgeport, Grace in Stratford, Good Shepherd in Monroe,

Our Saviour's in Fairfield, and Holy Trinity in Trumbull.

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

Frank Claus.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of all creation, you formed a world where even the sparrow finds a home.

Teach us to more deeply value the beauty and diversity of your creation

that we may be inspired to preserve all creatures with whom we share the earth.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of peace, you are an ever-present help in time of trouble. Rescue families and nations torn apart by violence and warfare. Unite all people toward common goals of reconciliation and peace for every person.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of hope, you stand with the suffering and give strength.

Comfort your people filled with fear or anger, anxiety or shame.

Bring healing to all who are sick in body, mind, or spirit,

especially Barbara, Barry, Bernedette, Bill, Pastor Bill, Cliffy, Dave, Dave, Dennis, Dick, Dolores, Dorothy, Ed, Frank, Grace, Iris, Janice, Jeff, Jim, Jocelyn, Joe, Joey, Jonathan, Linda, Marija, Melvyn, Natalie, Ruth, Sara Jean, Steve, VL and all we name in our hearts.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of restoration, you call us to trust in you and not ourselves alone.

Shape this congregation into a community of humility and repentance,

ready to encounter you in love, submit to your will, and follow where you lead.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of eternal life, to you be the glory forever.

We give you thanks for all who have fought the good fight, finished the race, kept the faith, and who now live with you.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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

With grateful hearts we commend our spoken and silent prayers to you, O God; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **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

Change My Heart, Oh God

*(as found in the ELCA worship books
Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 801 and Worship & Praise # 28;
also found in Group Praise & Worship Songbook)*

You may stand if you so desire.

Chorus:

**Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.
Change my heart, oh God; may I be like you.**

Verse:

**You are the potter; I am the clay.
Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.**

(Repeat as desired.)

CCLI Song # 1565

*Text: based on Psalm 51:10, Isaiah 64:8, Jeremiah 18:5-6,
and Romans 9:21, by Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953; Meter P M*

Music: CHANGE MY HEART by Eddie Espinosa

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www.ccli.com

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<https://app.easytithes.com/App/Giving/...>

<https://ccslive.org/> #ChurchofChristtheSavior #CCSWorship

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Performance by Church of Christ the Saviour, 06/13/21

as found at this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FQrs1qsGijY> [3:06]

Sending

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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For more details on these announcements or to hear about upcoming events such as

the Council of Churches White Ally Training,
a screening of the documentary Defining US,
and FaithActs for Education's pre-election work,

please see our worship bulletin at SalemBridgeport.org/Live.

THANK YOU

Before we end the live-streamed portion of our worship,

I want to especially thank those of you out there in cyberspace who have worshipped with us.
I hope you will join us again.

If you'd like to know more, or if you'd like to talk or pray with me,
you can reach me through Salem's website or Facebook page.

BLESSING

As we say good-bye to our online worshippers,

I'd like to offer to all who are worshipping with us, both in-person and in cyberspace
this blessing based on our reading today from the second letter to Timothy, chapter 4:

Fight the good fight and keep the faith as you keep on running the race,
and a crown of righteousness will be yours. Amen

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 power is boundless and whose love is endless. **Amen**

Dear friends, together let us acknowledge our failure to love as Jesus loves.

God of mercy and forgiveness,
we confess that sin still has a hold on us.

We have harmed your good creation.

We have failed to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you.

Turn us in a new direction.

Show us the path that leads to life.

Be our strength for the journey.

We pray through Jesus Christ, our redeemer & friend. Amen

Beloved of God:

As you willingly turn from your old ways and follow Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life,
your sins are forgiven ✚ and you are made whole.

God points the way to new life in Christ, who meets us on the road.

Journey now in God's abiding love through the power of the Holy Spirit.

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!**

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book,
This Far by Faith # 153)*

As long as everyone is masked, you may sing softly.

- 1 Guide my feet while I run this race. Guide my feet while I run this race.
Guide my feet while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain.**
- 2 Hold my hand while I run this race. Hold my hand while I run this race.
Hold my hand while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain.**
- 3 Stand by me while I run this race. Stand by me while I run this race.
Stand by me while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain.**
- 4 I'm your child while I run this race. I'm your child while I run this race.
I'm your child while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain.**
- 5 Search my heart while I run this race. Search my heart while I run this race.
Search my heart while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain.**

*Text: based on Psalm 139.22-24, Isaiah 40.28-31, 1 Corinthians 9.24-27,
Philippians 3. 12-15, 2 Timothy 4. 6-8, African American spiritual;
Meter 8 8 8 10*

*Music: GUIDE MY FEET, African American spiritual; arr. This Far by Faith
Arr. © 1999 Augsburg Fortress*

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*Performance by First Presbyterian Church of Brooklyn Choir at NYU, 03/08/09
as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z-WVIppNBls> [3:11]*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, knowing that when you follow where the Spirit leads,
Jesus will walk beside you and God will give you strength.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE MUSIC **Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying**

*(As found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship books,
Evangelical Lutheran Worship #752, This Far by Faith #247,
and Worship & Praise #92)*

Lord, listen to your children praying.
Lord, send your Spirit in this place.
Lord, listen to your children praying.
Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Text: based on Psalm 5:1-3 & 1 Peter 3:12 by Ken Medema, b. 1943;

Meter 9 8 9 9

Music: CHILDREN PRAYING by Ken Medema

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Performance by members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Cincinnati, OH:

*Kristi Cetti-vocals, Lucas Setter-bass, Casey Johnson-director of photography,
Bob Schwartz-drums, Frank Wiewandt-guitar, Alex Jowanovitz-titling
and lyrics, Jim Greene-sound support, Ken Holdt-piano,*

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yh9ivThjOz4> [2:39]

Announcements

The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport's Raising the BAR (Becoming Anti-Racist) series invites your participation in White Ally Coaching, featuring Kirk and Erika Wesley, Co-Founders of BLaC Strategies, Inc. In these free zoom trainings those of us who are White will learn practical information and tangible skills for using our Whiteness to effectively support members of the BIPOC community in both personal and professional spaces. 7:30-9:00 pm, Thursdays, November 3 and December 1. Register at ccgb.org/rtb.

The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport's Fall Event will be at the Sacred Heart University Discovery Science Center and Planetarium on **November 17th** from 6-8pm. Come meet the staff, learn about the Council's programs, and take a tour of the newly remodeled Discovery Science Center. We look forward for you to join us for this wonderful event. More information will be posted in the Council's upcoming newsletters and mailings.

You may have money waiting for you at <https://ctbiglist.com/> . Just put in your name, city and zip and then press search. If you want to verify that this is legit, just go to: <https://portal.ct.gov/OTT/Unclaimed-Property/Overview> . If you end up with some unexpected cash, you might want to think about giving a tithe on it to Salem! 😊

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".

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

James of Jerusalem, martyr, died around 62

Sunday, October 23, 2022

One of three early-church leaders named James, this man is identified in the New Testament and by a historian of the time as a brother of Jesus. Scholars are uncertain whether this means a blood brother. He was a leader of the church in Jerusalem.

Philipp Nicolai, died 1608; Johann Heermann, died 1647; Paul Gerhardt, died 1676; hymnwriters

Wednesday, October 26, 2022

These great hymnwriters all worked in 17th-century Germany in times of war and plague. Nicolai, a pastor, lost 1,300 parishioners to plague, 170 in one week. He wrote "O Morning Star, how fair and bright" and "Wake, awake, for night is flying". Heermann's hymns, including "Ah, holy Jesus," often express the emotions of faith. Gerhardt, perhaps the greatest Lutheran hymnwriter, was a pastor in Berlin.

Simon and Jude, Apostles

Friday, October 28, 2022

We know little about these apostles. Simon is listed as "the zealot" or Cananean in New Testament lists. Jude, also called Thaddeus, asked Jesus at the last supper why he had revealed himself to the disciples but not to the world.

CREDITS

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40.3 Human Trafficking Awareness Walk



Be the Ripple of Awareness!

Come join us on October 23rd at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Fairfield at 12:00 pm for a 40.3 minute walk to create awareness of the estimated 40.3 million people enslaved globally today.

Knowledge is power and awareness is key!

Together, by spreading awareness about this crisis, we can

CREATE a TIDAL WAVE
and
SAVE LIVES!

160 Hill Farm Road, Fairfield, CT 203.255.0545

The Council of Churches' advocacy has translated into a huge win! We at CCGB joined a letter signed by over 100 other organizations calling for USDA to set aside a portion of relief funding for one-to-one business technical assistance. We are thrilled to report that our voices have been heard. **Last week, USDA announced \$400 million in funding to support the creation of at least six Regional Food Business Centers** through USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service. The purpose of the Centers is to provide technical assistance, coordination, and capacity-building to small and mid-sized farm and food businesses in order to increase the resilience of local and regional food systems.

The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport is pleased to announce that Noelia Ramos has joined the council as a **new case manager for the Project New Life (PNV)**. Noelia is currently in school for her bachelor's degree in Human Service at the University of Bridgeport. Her goal is to be in the helping field helping those in need. She says "growing up in Bridgeport I didn't have the best resources so being able to give back and help those have been very rewarding to me." PNV serves over 260 returning citizens each year, providing birth certificate research and picture IDs, clothing, bus passes, toiletries and assistance finding housing and job placement. Clients are given gift cards to help purchase necessities such as clothing, socks, shoes & toiletries. They're so thankful for the help we are able to give them. For more info, please contact Rosa Rosa rosarosa@ccgb.org and/or Noelia Ramos noeliaramos@ccgb.org.

The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport extends a HUGE THANK YOU to Simon Herrera, Vice President, Cristian Castro, and Steven Wright of Enterprise-Rent-A- Car for their donation of 50 prefilled **backpacks** with school supplies. Our Janus Center's Director, Carla Wright and Case Managers Fara Phetis and Corey Saulsbury continue to hand out these backpacks to those students who are in need of supplies.

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 .

DEFINING US – Children at the Crossroads of Change – Friday, November 4th at 6 pm (doors open at 5) at Sacred Heart University Community Theatre, 1420 Post Road, Fairfield, CT 06825. Join Connect with Kids (CWK) Network and the community of Fairfield for a special film screening and panel discussion featuring Stacey DeWitt (Defining US Director), Dr. Yolanda Sealey-Ruiz (cast member and Professor, Teachers College, Columbia University) and friends. Students and teachers inside the nation’s largest school systems share the untold story of why we need to acknowledge, discuss, and validate concerns about race and other vital issues that define our humanity. Click here to register (free):

<https://shucommunitytheatre.showare.com/default.asp?searchdate=11/4/2022>

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 203–7 51–7256 or Toni@Faithacts.org

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.