



Salem Lutheran Church

shalom - salaam - salem - peace

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

Large Print / Full Text

Reformation Sunday

*October 30,
2022
9:30 AM*



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

Welcome

WELCOME TO WORSHIP at 3160 Park Avenue! 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.

We are so excited that our choir is singing again – both today for Reformation Sunday and next week for All Saints Sunday. Please make sure you thank God and thank the choir members for their songs of praise!

Flowers today are given by Cindy Roberts praising God for the gift of Iris Maria Rodriguez born on October 12th to Jennifer Reyes and Danny Rodriguez, 7lbs 6oz, 20" long.

Today we invite you to an adult forum after worship as we come together to discuss what God's plans may be for our future here at Salem. We are also looking for your input on Christmas Eve and Christmas services. Because not everyone is able 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. The link is on the calendar on our website, SalemBridgeport.org.

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; reception to follow. Freewill donations to benefit Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen.

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.

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.

Gathering

PRELUDE

Ein Feste burg ist Unser Gott
BMW Cantata 80
Vss 1, 5 & 6 Choruses for SATB

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

German Text

1, Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott,
Ein gute Wehr und Waffen;
Er hilft uns frei aus aller Not,
Die uns itzt hat betroffen.
Der alte böse Feind,
Mit Ernst er's jetzt meint,
Groß Macht und viel List
Sein grausam Rüstung ist,
Auf Erd ist nicht seinsgleichen.

English Translation

1. A secure/solid castle is our God,
a good defense and weapon:
He helps us free out of all need,
Which us presently has struck.
The old evil foe,
he means it earnestly now.
Great might and much guile
are his horrible war equipment,
On earth is not his equal.

5. Und wenn die Welt voll Teufel wär
Und wollten uns verschlingen,
So fürchten wir uns nicht so sehr,
Es soll uns doch gelingen.
Der Fürst dieser Welt,
Wie saur er sich stellt,
Tut er uns doch nicht,
Das macht, er ist gericht',
Ein Wörtlein kann ihn fällen.

And if the world full of devils were
And wished us to devour,
So worry we yet not so much,
Things should for us yet succeed.
The prince of this world,
how sour he acts;

6. Das Wort sie sollen lassen stahn
Und kein' Dank dazu haben.
Er ist bei uns wohl auf dem Plan
Mit seinem Geist und Gaben.
Nehmen sie uns den Leib,
Gut, Ehr, Kind und Weib,
Laß fahredahin,
Sie habens kein' Gewinn;
Das Reich muß uns doch bleiben.

The Word they shall allow to stand
and no thanks for it have
He is with us well on the plain
with his Spirit and gifts.
Take they from us the body,
Goods, name, child, and wife,
Let all depart They hav eno winnings;
the Kingdom must to us yet remain.
Yet he does nothing to us,
that adds up to he's been judged
A tiny word can fell him.

Text and Music are in the Public Domain

*Performance by UCLA Chorale & Chamber Orchestra, Rebecca Lord, Conductor, 03/12/11
as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wY5rfNet9zg> [11:03]*

Please note that here we go live on Facebook.

WELCOME

Welcome in the name of the Living God who is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow, and who at the same time is continually creating, redeeming and renewing all things!

Today 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.

If you look around and see folks wearing red that's a way of inviting the fire of the Spirit to burn anew in our hearts

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.

After worship today there will be an adult forum in the Lounge

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.

Because not everyone can come in person, there will be a second forum held on zoom at 2:00, the link for which is on the calendar on our website.

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.

On Thursday, I invite you to the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport's

Raising the BAR (Becoming Anti-Racist) free White Ally Coaching

from 7:30-9:00 pm on zoom.

Register at ccgb.org/rtb.

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

a screening of the documentary Defining US,

and FaithActs for Education's pre-election work,

and our collection and packing party for Seafarers,

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

Any other announcements?

Then let's begin our worship with prayer:

God of all creation,
we thank you for your Holy Spirit that is constantly working to make all things new.
Pour out your Spirit this day on each one of us individually, on this congregation as a whole,
and on the entire Church of Jesus Christ!
Allow us to experience your living, loving, transforming presence!
Fill us with such joy that our hearts can't contain it all and it bursts forth!
Cause your love to burn so hot in our hearts that we are driven to share it with all the world!
Enlighten our minds, enlarge our hearts, enable our bodies, and empower our spirits
that we might do all you call us to do!
We pray these things in the name of Jesus and by the power of the Spirit. Amen

OPENING SONG A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship books,
This Far by Faith # 133 and Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 504)*

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

- 1 A mighty fortress is our God, a sword and shield victorious;
he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod and wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe has sworn to work us woe!
With craft and dreadful might he arms himself to fight. On earth he has no equal.**
- 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight, whom God himself elected.
You ask who this may be? The Lord of hosts is he!
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord, God's only Son, adored. He holds the field victorious.**
- 3 Though hordes of devils fill the land all threat'ning to devour us,
we tremble not, unmoved we stand; they cannot overpower us.
Let this world's tyrant rage; in battle we'll engage!
His might is doomed to fail; God's judgment must prevail! 1 little word subdues him.**
- 4 God's Word forever shall abide, no thanks to foes, who fear it;
for God himself fights by our side with weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house, goods, honor, child, or spouse,
though life be wrenched away, they cannot win the day. The kingdom's ours forever!**

Text: based on Psalm 46, Matthew 12:29, Mark 3:22-27, Mark 5:1-20, Luke 11:14-23,

John 2:1-11, by Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship; Meter 8 7 8 7 6 6 6 6 7

Music: EIN FESTE BURG by Martin Luther; Tune is in the Public Domain.

Text & Arrangement © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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Performance by First-Plymouth Church, Lincoln, NE, March 26, 2017

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V9uGNb8Zfic> [4:11]

Word

Please be seated.

A READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES: Jeremiah 31:31-34

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt — a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD”, for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PSALMS: Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;
though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.

The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.

The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Come now, regard the works of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;
behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.
“Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”

The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

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

A READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT: Ephesians 2:1-10

¹You were dead through the trespasses and sins ²in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ — by grace you have been saved — ⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God — ⁹not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

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

You may stand if you so desire.

READING FROM THE GOSPELS: John 8:31-36

Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free”. They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”

Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

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

SERMON

Please be seated.

Pastor Marjo

SONG OF THE DAY 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.

*Performance by Marjo Anderson, 02/27/21,
Salem Lutheran Church, Bridgeport, CT
Used with permission.*

You may stand if you so desire.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH for Reformation Sunday

Let us confess our faith in the words of Martin Luther as he explained the Apostles Creed:

I believe that God has created me together with all that exists.

God has given me and still preserves my body and soul:

eyes, ears, and all limbs and senses; reason and all mental faculties.

In addition, God daily and abundantly provides shoes and clothing, food and drink,

house and farm, spouse and children, fields, livestock, and all property;

along with all the necessities and nourishment for this body and life.

God protects me against all danger and shields and preserves me from all evil.

And all this is done out of pure, fatherly, and divine goodness and mercy,

without any merit or worthiness of mine at all!

For all of this I owe it to God to thank and praise, serve and obey him.

This is most certainly true.

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Creator in eternity

and also a true human being, born of a human mother, is my Lord.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned human being.

He has purchased and freed me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil,

not with gold or silver

but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

He has done all this in order that I may belong to him, live under him in his kingdom,

and serve him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,

just as he is risen from the dead and lives and rules eternally.

This is most certainly true.

I believe that by my own understanding or strength

I cannot believe in Jesus Christ my Lord or come to him,

but instead the Holy Spirit has called me through the gospel,

enlightened me with his gifts, made me holy and kept me in the true faith,

just as he calls, gathers, enlightens, & makes holy the whole Christian church on earth

and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one common, true faith.

Daily in this Christian church the Holy Spirit abundantly forgives all sins —

mine and those of all believers.

On the last day the Holy Spirit will raise me and all the dead

and will give to me and all believers in Christ eternal life.

This is most certainly true.

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 our fortress, we pray for the church.

Write your law of love on the hearts of your people,
that we remain steadfast in our witness to your grace.

We pray for our mission partners, especially today for Christ Presbyterian Church,
Christ's House of Unity, Restoration, Charity and Hope,
and the Ephraim French Seventh Day Adventist Church.

We pray for Salem members & their families, especially those celebrating birthdays this week:
Katherine Larson, Steve Kuczo, and Nancy Kidwell,

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

God our liberator, we pray for your earth.

Bring new life to overused land and contaminated rivers.

Reform and reorient our relationship with the environment,
that we faithfully care for all of your creation.

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

God, our refuge and strength, we pray for the nations.

Where they are in an uproar, bring wise leadership and comfort for those in distress.

Make wars to cease and peace to enter every land.

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

God, our very present help in trouble, we pray for those in need.

Show mercy to refugees and all fleeing from danger.

Shelter any without homes. Calm all who are facing illness, surgery, or a new diagnosis,
especially Barbara, Barry, Bernedette, Cliffy, Dave, Dave, Dennis, Dick, Dolores, Dorothy,
Frank, Grace, Iris, Janice, Jeff, Jim, Jocelyn, Joe, Joey, Jonathan, Linda, Marija, Natalie, Ruth,
Sara Jean, Steve, VL and all we name in our hearts.

We praise and bless you for the healing you have worked in Bill, Pastor Bill, Ed, and Melvyn
and for bringing Steve successfully through his surgery!

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

God our redeemer, we pray for our congregation. Bless all who are preparing for baptism or
affirmation of baptism. Open their hearts to your Holy Spirit, teach them your word, and give
them courage to proclaim their faith.

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

God our stronghold, we give thanks for those who have gone before us in faith, especially
Martin Luther and all reformers. Renew and reform us as we strive to continue in your word.

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.



Sending

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be seated.

After worship today there will be an adult forum in the Lounge

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.

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

a screening of the documentary Defining US,

and FaithActs for Education's pre-election work,

and our collection and packing party for Seafarers,

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 prophet Jeremiah, chapter 31:

Though the earth be moved and the mountains shake,

though the sea roar and the nations rage, you need not fear,

for God is your refuge and strength, a very present help in time of trouble.

The God of angel armies is with you; the God of boundless power is your stronghold. 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!**

SENDING SONG

Shine, Jesus, Shine

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship books,
With One Voice #651, This Far by Faith #64, Worship & Praise #123 & Evangelical Lutheran Worship #671)*

**Lord, the light of your love is shining, in the midst of the darkness, shining:
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us; set us free by the truth you now bring us
shine on me, shine on me.**

**Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light!**

**As we gaze on your kingly brightness so our faces display your likeness,
ever changing from glory to glory: mirrored here, may our lives tell your story
shine on me, shine on me.**

**Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light! (Repeat last 4 lines)**

*Text: based on Isaiah 60:1-11, Matthew 17:1-9, Mark 9:2-9, Luke 9:28-36, 2 Corinthians 3:12-18,
by Graham Kendrick, b. 1950; Meter 9 9 10 10 3 3 and refrain*

Music: SHINE, JESUS, SHINE by Graham Kendrick

*Text and music © 1987 Make Way Music (admin. by Music Services in the Western Hemisphere)
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*Performance by Kirchenband, St. Josef, Oldenburg (Oldb).09/21/16,
as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BkxoTmKpDcU> [4:37]*

DISMISSAL

Ask God to write upon your heart.
Then go in peace, and the Spirit of the risen Lord will live in your heart
and you will know the joy and peace and love like you've never known before!

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Ein' feste Burg ist unser Gott

BWV 720

Bach, J. S.

This music is in the Public Domain

Performance by Mark Brombaugh, Organist, 10/21/20

Christ Episcopal Church, Tacoma, WA, christchurchtacoma.org

Kathryn Nichols and Mark Brombaugh, Co-Directors of Music

[https://christchurchtacoma.org/music/...](https://christchurchtacoma.org/music/)

Organ by John Brombaugh & Associates, Eugene, OR, Op. 22, 1979/89

as found at this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m_BBtg7ZLCQ [3:39]

Announcements

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

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.

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 marked box in the narthex.

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

You are invited to join a “Packing Party” for the Seafarers on Saturday, December 10th, at Grace Lutheran Church, 150 Chapel Street, Stratford. Rich Lansing and Bruce Tomasko will cook and serve breakfast at 9:00 (come at 8:00 if you can help!), and Carol Lansing will supervise the packing of the donated items beginning at 10:00. We hope you will join us for a time of fun, food, and fellowship as we seek to serve seafarers!

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!**

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".

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! 😊

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Reformation Day

Monday, October 31, 2022

By the end of the seventeenth century, many Lutheran churches celebrated a festival commemorating Martin Luther's posting of the Ninety-five Theses, a summary of abuses in the church of his time.

At the heart of the reform movement was the gospel, the good news that it is by grace through faith that we are justified and set free.

All Saints Day

Tuesday, November 1, 2022

The custom of commemorating all of the saints of the church on a single day goes back at least to the third century.

All Saints Day celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who make up the body of Christ.

On this day or on the first Sunday of November, many congregations will remember the faithful who have died during the past year.

Martín de Porres, renewer of society, died 1639

Thursday, November 3, 2022

Martín was the son of a Spanish knight and a freed Black woman from Panama.

As a lay brother in the Order of Preachers (Dominicans), he engaged in many charitable works in Lima, Peru.

He founded an orphanage, a hospital, and a clinic for cats and dogs.

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