Announcements from Salem, Bridgeport

7 May 2023

Please remember in your prayers this week the following Salem members and friends:

Ann, Barbro, Barry, Boni, Cliffy, Dave, Dave, David, Dennis, Diane, Diane, Dick, Dolores, Dorothy, Gigi, the family and friends of Isabelle, Jacob, Janice, Jeff, Jim, Joe, Joey, John, Linda, Liz, Karen, Katherine, Marija, Natalie, Natasha, Natasha, Pastor Paul, Paula, Pastor Ruth, Sara, Sara Jean, Steve, Tyler, and VL,

You are invited to support the Greater Bridgeport Area's 49th Annual CROP Walk TODAY (rain or shine) beginning 1:30 pm at United Congregational Church, 2200 North Avenue, Bridgeport. You can certainly walk to support this effort (there's a 2.2 mile walk as well as a 1-mile walk), but there are other ways to be involved also. You can invite family & friends to walk. You can donate money to people walking from Salem, you can donate non-perishable food that will go to nOURish BRIDGEPORT's food pantry at the UCC, or you can volunteer to help at the walk. This year 25% of the proceeds will benefit these local organizations: Bpt Rescue Mission, Daughters of Charity Rescue Mission, King's Pantry, Operation Hope, Thomas Merton Ctr, Stratford Baptist Church Food Pantry, Trumbull Social Services, the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport & Spooner House. 75% supports the work of Church World Service around the world, in places like the Ukraine. For more info, visit https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2023 or speak with Cindy Roberts.

Our Wednesday Evening Bible Study has resumed and the time is now 7:00 as we study of 1 Corinthians 1-4. The study is inspired by the book, <u>Basic Christian Leadership</u>: <u>Biblical Models of Church, Gospel and Ministry</u> by John Stott. As you know, Paul wrote to congregations who were facing challenges, and so we will be listening to how God is speaking to congregations today through Paul's words. This week we'll begin looking at 1 Corinthians 2. This study already includes people from 5 congregations, so if you are interested in the future of the church, please join us!

You are invited to our Lutherans and Friends Breakfast & Faith Discussion on Saturday, May 13, starting at 9:00 at Grace Lutheran Church, 150 Chapel Street, Stratford, CT 06614. This month's event will be sponsored by Thrivent Financial Services. At 10:00, after breakfast, we'll have an opportunity to learn about the many benefits available through Thrivent to both members and non-members. In order to plan for this, please register through this link: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/thrivent-member-gathering-western-connecticut-rescheduled-event-tickets-598427983207

Salem is sponsoring monthly Food Collections at the following times & places: May 20 for Sterling House Food Pantry at Stop & Shop on East Main St in Stratford June 17 for Operation Hope at Stop & Shop on Kings Hwy Cutoff in Fairfield The Monday morning team that helps at Bishop Jean Williams Food Pantry will help deliver the collections on the following Mondays. See Richard Lansing to sign up!

Worship Locations for April, May and June

We are a congregation that gathers to worship God and receive God's word. We are a congregation that loves God and are sent to witness to and serve God's people. Where we gather together is not as important as that we do gather together to worship, learn, witness, and serve. We normally worship as Salem in the Ephraim French SDA Church building at 3160 Park Avenue in Bridgeport, CT. Please mark your calendar for the location & times of our worship services through June. There will be no service at 3160 Park Avenue on Sundays when our congregation will be worshipping with other congregations.

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May 14 9:30 at 3160 Park Ave, Bridgeport
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May 21 10:00 at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, 160 Hill Farm Rd, Fairfield

May 28 9:30 at 3160 Park Ave, Bridgeport

June 49:30 at Grace Lutheran Church, 150 Chapel Street, Stratford

June 11 9:30 at 3160 Park Ave, Bridgeport (Adult forum)

June 18 9:30 at 3160 Park Ave, Bridgeport (Semi-annual meeting)

June 25 9:30 at 3160 Park Ave, Bridgeport

Thank you to those of you who have supported the diaper and wipe drive! If you planned to make a donation and haven't yet done so, be assured that we will receive your donation with gratitude!

Thank you to all who worked on the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport's Spring Fling (especially Bonnie McWain and Sandra Brown!) and to all who supported it with your ticket purchases and donations. This is the Council's main fundraiser and allows its important work to continue and to grow, so we are most grateful for your support!

Thank you for your contributions to Salem's Food Assistance Fund! While we may not have our own food pantry anymore, some of our members and others are still in need of food and Pastor Marjo distributes \$25 stop and shop cards as needed, requested and as available. 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 at Salem marked "food assistance." In addition, you may send a check to the office or drop it in church mailbox or give it or cash to Pastor Marjo. 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 Assistance Donation".

If you'd like to do more than feed people, you can also contribute to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund which is used to help members who have other financial needs.

nOURish BRIDGEPORT's Hydroponic Farm is now open to the public. Hours are Monday and Wednesday 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Come and purchase leafy greens and herbs at 1895 Stratford Avenue, Stratford CT.

The Connecticut Hospice, Inc. is accepting applications for new volunteers! Our patients and families are in need of your care and support. If you have an interest in companionship, light housekeeping or making meals, please contact Joan Cullen, Director of Volunteers at 203-315-7510.

The JOURNEY continues! How did your Lenten disciplines go? Maybe you did well, maybe you did so-so, and maybe you failed miserably – or maybe your results were mixed. Whatever your success or failure, remember that the purpose was to establish NEW healthier habits of body, mind, heart and soul. And that's an ongoing task. If you've done well, continue! If you haven't, well, you've got 7 weeks of Easter to try again! And so, you can still...

1. Get your annual "spiritual" – just the way you get your annual physical. Call or text Pastor Marjo at 203-982-3441 to arrange a time to discuss how you are,

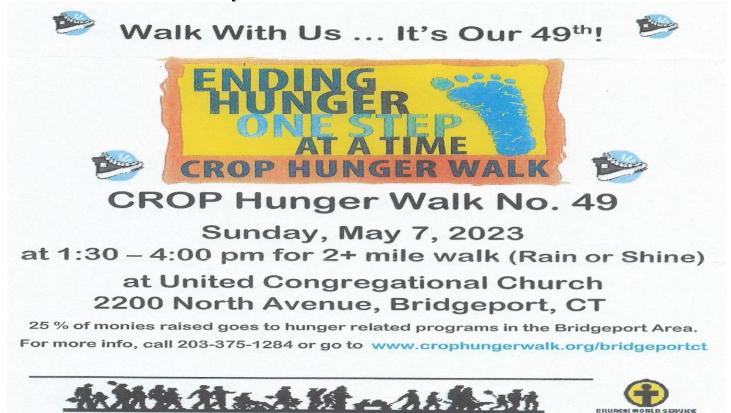
and let her know how she can pray for you.

- Or if you prefer to use email to set something up, send your email to salemsec123@sbcglobal.net.
- 2. Call in to our prayer line at 681-999-0232, using access code 673980#, at noon Mon-Fri for a brief time of prayer.

You can remain silent and anonymous, ask for particular prayers, or offer your own prayers.

- **3. Begin an Easter fast** or establish a new healthier habit.
- 4. Commit yourself to some new work of charity and one new work of justice. If you're not sure what to do, Pastor Marjo can offer suggestions.

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!





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