



Salem Lutheran Church

shalom - salaam - salem - peace

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

***5th Sunday
after Pentecost***

***July 2, 2023
9:30 AM***



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www.facebook.com/salembridgeport
YouTube – Salem Lutheran Church, Bridgeport CT

Welcome to Worship!

We want you to feel safe so please know that we have 3 units of the best air cleaner on the market in the sanctuary. **And we also have one running here in the lounge for when we have coffee hour or adult forums there.** Also, you are most welcome to wear a mask at worship if you'd like.

On this Fifth Sunday after Pentecost, we focus on the fact that we worship a God who is faithful, a God who keeps every promise, a God who provides for our every need. Sometimes, as Abraham discovered, God tests our faith, especially when we love others more than we love God. Then God asks us to give us all we hold most dear and trust in God and God alone. But when we put ALL of our faith in God, God will not disappoint. We may not always get what we want, but we will always get what we need. When Abraham was willing to obey God and do something that would cost him the promise of a lifetime, God steps in, gives him back his promise, and provides another way forward. Join us as we worship the awesome God of power & love, who at the very last second, provides the ram in the bush, an answer to prayer!

Our Wednesday Evening Bible Study continues at 7:00 on zoom as we study 1 Corinthians 1-4. The study is inspired by the book, Basic Christian Leadership: Biblical Models of Church, Gospel and Ministry by John Stott. Paul wrote to congregations who were facing challenges, and God is still speaking to us today through Paul's words. This week we'll begin looking at 1 Corinthians 4, in which Paul discusses the role of church leaders **If you are interested in Salem's future, we do hope you will take this opportunity to join us!**

Calumet's Walk the Walk 2023 -- "On the Road Again!" This year's theme is, "On the Road Again!" because 2023 will mark the return of partnership between Walk the Walk and Reach the Beach. Learn more by visiting www.calumet.org/ontheroadagain

In 2023, participants (walk, bike, hike, stroll, roll, swim) will:

REGISTER beginning May 15,

WALK beginning July 30,

REPORT mileage on August 15, August 30, and,

ENTER final report on Saturday, **September 16.**

The total mileage goal will depend on the total number of registrants.

Also, Calumet is asking that every single congregation pick an option:

Option 1 – Be a sponsoring congregation of "Calumet 2023 -- On the Road Again"

by providing an Angel Donor gift by September 16 which will support the Annual Fund.

Option 2 -- Identify one or more people (members of the congregation or not) to Walk the Walk as a way of representing their congregation in this big event.

Option 3 -- Both options 1 and 2!

TO REGISTER TO WALK (\$25 tax-deductible fee) GO TO:

<https://www.calumet.org/giving/ontheroadagain> & register for Team "Salem, Bridgeport"!

Gathering

GATHERING SONG

Goodness Of God

Verse 1

I love You Lord Oh Your mercy never fails me
All my days I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up Until I lay my head
I will sing of the goodness of God

Chorus

All my life You have been faithful All my life You have been so so good
With every breath that I am able I will sing of the goodness of God

Verse 2

I love Your voice You have led me through the fire
In darkest night You are close like no other
I've known You as a father I've known You as a friend
I have lived in the goodness of God

Bridge

Your goodness is running after It's running after me
Your goodness is running after It's running after me
With my life laid down I'm surrendered now I give You everything
Your goodness is running after It's running after me

CCLI Song # 7117726

*Ben Fielding | Brian Johnson | Ed Cash | Jason Ingram | Jenn Johnson © 2018 Capitol CMG
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Performance # 1 by Westmore Church of God, 06/09/19

with soloist, Alicia Wheeler and the Westmore Sanctuary Choir.

For more information about Westmore, visit westmorechurch.com.

as found at this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lqRME_Ho6rI [9:31]

Performance # 2 by Kingscliff Church, 12/31/20

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5CRVnPYJW74> [5:48]

Performance # 3 by Holly Halliwell, 09/29/21,

recorded for the ShareWord Global Conference 2021

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u8ncnkkAm6U> [3:29]

Please note that here we go live on Facebook.

WELCOME

Welcome, in the name of the Triune God,
who is our Way Maker, Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper, and Light in the Darkness! 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 you are – and whenever you happen to watching!

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.

**You are invited to our weekday prayer call at noon on our conference line,
to our Wednesday Prayer Gathering at noon on zoom,
and to our Wednesday Evening Bible Study at 7:00 on zoom.**

Any other announcements? prayer requests? God-sightings? Then let's begin worship w/prayer!

God, we are here to worship you, to bless you, and to magnify your name!

We are here to praise you for who you are and to thank you for all you do!

We are here to open ourselves to the transforming power of your Spirit!

Change us right here and right now into the people you have designed us to be.

Help us to learn from Abraham how to obey you and trust you and love you above all things.

Strengthen our faith and hope, widen our love and patience, and deepen our peace and joy,
so that our words and actions might draw others to know you more.

Thank you for calling, gathering, enlightening, sanctifying, and keeping us this day and always.

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

OPENING HYMN

O Holy Spirit, Enter In

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book,
Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 786)*

- 1 O Holy Spirit, enter in,
and in our hearts your work begin,
and make our hearts your dwelling.
Sun of the soul, O Light divine,
around and in us brightly shine,
your strength in us upwelling.
In your radiance life from heaven now is given overflowing,
gift of gifts beyond all knowing.**

- 2 Left to ourselves, we surely stray;
oh, lead us on the narrow way,
with wisest counsel guide us; & give us steadfastness,
that we may follow you forever free,
no matter who derides us.
Gently heal those hearts now broken; give some token you are near us,
whom we trust to light and cheer us.**

- 3 O mighty Rock, O Source of life,
let your good Word in doubt and strife
be in us strongly burning,
that we be faithful unto death
and live in love and holy faith,
from you true wisdom learning.
Lord, your mercy on us shower; by your power Christ confessing,
we will cherish all your blessing.**

Text: based on Isaiah 11:2, Romans 8:9, 1 Corinthians 3:16, Revelation 2:10

Michael Schirmer, 1606-1673; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, adapt.; Meter P M

Music: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET, Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608

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*Performance by Tim McNabb, Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Halifax,
06/18/21, 602/655 in our hymn series.*

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cbnfbp376Nc> [2:53]

Word

Please be seated.

A READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT: Genesis 22:1-14

¹God tested Abraham. He said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am”. ²He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you”. ³So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. ⁴On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. ⁵Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you”. ⁶Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. ⁷Isaac said to his father Abraham, “Father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son”. He said, “The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” ⁸Abraham said, “God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son”. So the two of them walked on together.

⁹When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. ¹¹But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am”. ¹²[The angel] said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me”. ¹³And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴So Abraham called that place “The Lord will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided”.

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

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PSALMS: Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18

Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing;

from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is established forever;

you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.

“I have made a covenant with my chosen one;

I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

‘I will establish your line forever,

and preserve your throne for all generations.’ ”

Happy are the people who know the festal shout!

They walk, O LORD, in the light of your presence.

They rejoice daily in your name;

they are jubilant in your righteousness.

For you are the glory of their strength,

and by your favor our might is exalted.

Truly, our shield belongs to the LORD;

our king to the Holy One of Israel.

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

A READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT: Romans 6:12-23

Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS: Matthew 10: 40-42

You may stand if you so desire.

[Jesus said to the twelve:] “Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple — truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

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 for the season of Pentecost

Let us affirm our faith together.

Through the Holy Spirit God created the heavens and the earth.

Inspired by the Spirit of God we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord of our lives.

We believe there are many gifts, but the same Spirit.

There are many ways of serving, but the same Lord.

There are many sorts of abilities, but it is the same God

who activates all of them in everyone for the sole purpose of doing God's will.

To each child of God is given an expression of the Spirit for the common good.

Through baptism in the Spirit, God confers the gifts of

wisdom and understanding, counsel and might, knowledge

and awe at God's boundless power and joy in God's endless love.

The Spirit also manifests in such gifts as healing, prophetic insight,

speaking in tongues, extraordinary ability, witness, and service.

The Spirit's living presence in us is demonstrated by our fruits:

love & joy, peace & patience, faithfulness, goodness, kindness, gentleness & self-control

all of which are activated by one and the same Spirit,

who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses,

to the glory of God and the joy of humankind. Amen

PURPOSE STATEMENT *(updated by Council in June of 2019)*

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, that we may encounter God, build relationships, and change lives.

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

Please be seated.

Trusting in God's abundant mercy, let us offer our prayers for a world in need.

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

We pray for the church. For wisdom to heed the voices of prophets in our midst who cast a vision of God's promised future. For courage to welcome people whom society rejects. For resolve to serve all in need.

For our mission partners, especially today for Good Shepherd, Grace, Our Saviour's, and the other congregations of our Southern CT conference of our synod.

For all principals and administrators, especially those at Fairchild Wheeler High School, to have the wisdom, compassion, and empathy to lead well and have the best interest and the flourishing of our children at heart.

And for Salem members & their families.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for creation. For all rivers, lakes, oceans, and streams.

For lands experiencing scorching heat, drought, or wildfires.

For conservation organizations and environmental activists.

For scientists working on clean energy solutions.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this nation and all nations. For presidents, governors, and legislators.

For judges, juries, district attorneys, and public defenders. For military personnel.

For those who are incarcerated. Guide us in ways of freedom that promote the common good.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those in need. For exiles, immigrants, refugees, and those seeking asylum.

For victims of harassment, torture, or abuse.

For those who are ill, especially Barbro, Barry, Boni, Cliffy, Dave, Dave, David, Dennis, Diane, Diane, Dolores, Dorothy, Eric, the family and friends of Isabelle, Jacob, Janice, Jeff, Jim, Joe, Joey, John, Karen, Pastor Kari, Katherine, Kevyn, Linda, Liz, Marija, Natalie, Natasha, Natasha, Pastor Paul, Pastor Paula, the family and friends of Phil, Sara, Sara Jean, Sasha, Steve, Tyler and VL, and all those we name in our hearts and on our lips. For any near death and for all who grieve.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for children. For their safety at home and in childcare settings.

For their flourishing at summer programs and camps.

For the many people who care for them including parents and grandparents;

childcare workers & teachers; coaches, counselors, & mentors; pediatricians & psychologists.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for all the saints and prophets and for Philip Raschke,

who have received the free gift of God, which is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

May their lives of humble service inspire us in faith.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

Receive our prayers and answer us, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ. **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

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 HYMN

Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty

vss. 1-4

(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book, Evangelical Lutheran Worship#777)

- 1 **"Come to me, all pilgrims thirsty; drink the water I will give.
If you knew what gift I offer, you would come to me and live."**

Refrain **Jesus, ever flowing fountain, give us water from your well.
In the gracious gift you offer there is joy no tongue can tell.**

- 2 **"Come to me, all trav'lers weary; come that I may give you rest.
Drink the cup of life I offer; at this table be my guest." Refrain**

- 3 **"Come to me, believers burdened; find refreshment in this place.
Come, receive the gift I offer, turn to me and seek my face." Refrain**

- 4 **"Come to me, repentant sinners; leave behind your guilt and shame.
Come and know divine compassion, turn to me, I call your name." Refrain**

Text: based on Matthew 11:28-30, John 4:10, by Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939; Meter 8 7 8 7 D

Music: BEACH SPRING, The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. Selected Hymns, 1985

Text © 1992, 1996 The Liturgical Press

Arr. Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 777 © 1985 Augsburg Fortress

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Performance by the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Resurrection,

Halifax Lutheran Church, 07/01/20 (110/655 in their hymn series)

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rstrg-PSWXk> [4:12]

Sending

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be seated.

**You are invited to our weekday prayer call at noon on our conference line,
to our Wednesday Prayer Gathering at noon on zoom,
and to our Wednesday Evening Bible Study at 7:00 on zoom.**

All of our zoom events can be found on the Calendar under the Resources tab on our website: SalemBridgeport.org

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 together,
you can reach me through our website or Facebook.

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 online:
this blessing based on psalm for the day, # 89:

Sing of God's love and proclaim God's faithfulness.
Walk in the light of God's presence and rejoice in the strength of God's hand.
Most of all, trust and believe that God who loves you will keep every promise.
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,
who Spirit calls, gathers, enlightens, sanctifies, and keeps us in the one true faith. **Amen**

God's love is infinite and unconditional.

As individuals we have only to accept it and live in its light.

The moment we confess, we are forgiven.

As together we gather for worship, so together we confess our sins as our community,
and together we are forgiven, restored, and made new.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God, we confess:

**that too often we focus on the things we lack,
that too often we are attached to our own personal agendas,
that too often we insist on doing things our own way,
that too often we are oblivious to the needs for justice around us.**

God who has heard our confession both forgives and forgets every failing. **Amen!**

Loving God, teach us:

**to see your amazing abundance rather than any lack,
to listen more - to you and to each other - and to talk less,
to trust in your power and not our own,
to build relationships with those who are not like us.**

God who has given us the will to do these things †
graciously gives us the power to perform them. **Amen!**

COMMUNION

Please be seated.

God be with you!

Open your hearts!

Let us give thanks to the God of all!

And also with you!

We open them to God and one another!

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 God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book,
Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 771)*

- 1 God, who stretched the spangled heavens
infinite in time and place,
flung the suns in burning radiance
through the silent fields of space:
we, your children in your likeness,
share inventive pow'rs with you;
great Creator, still creating,
show us what we yet may do.**

- 2 We have ventured worlds undreamed of
since the childhood of our race;
known the ecstasy of winging
through untraveled realms of space;
probed the secrets of the atom,
yielding unimagined pow'r,
facing us with life's destruction
or our most triumphant hour.**

- 3 As each far horizon beckons,
may it challenge us anew:
children of creative purpose,
serving others, hon'ring you.
May our dreams prove rich with promise;
each endeavor well begun;
great Creator, give us guidance
till our goals and yours are one.**

*Text: based on Genesis 1:1-5, 26-31, Isaiah 40:22 by Catherine Cameron, b. 1927
Meter 8 7 8 7 D*

Music: HOLY MANNA by W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835

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*Performance by Tim McNabb, Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Halifax,
07/22/22, Accompaniment Style: 70's Chart Soul*

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t3S0110skD4> [2:24]

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, humbling yourselves under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE HYMN

God the Omnipotent!

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book,
Lutheran Book of Worship # 462)*

- 1 God the omnipotent! King who ordainest
great winds thy clarions, lightning thy sword:
show forth thy pity on high where thou reignest;
give to us peace in our time, O Lord.
- 2 God the all-merciful! Earth hath forsaken
meekness and mercy, and slighted thy Word;
bid not thy wrath in its terrors awaken;
give to us peace in our time, O Lord.
- 3 God the All-righteous One! We have defied thee,
yet to eternity standeth thy Word;
falsehood and wrong shall not tarry beside thee;
give to us peace in our time, O Lord.
- 4 God the all-wise! By the fire of thy chast'ning
earth shall to freedom and truth be restored;
through the thick darkness thy kingdom is hast'ning;
thou wilt give peace in thy time, O Lord.

Text: based on Job 37:14-24, Isaiah 39:8

*by Henry F. Chorley, 1808-1872, sts. 1-2; John Ellerton, 1826-1893, sts. 3-4; alt
Meter 11 10 11 9*

Music: RUSSIAN HYMN by Alexis F. Lvov, 1799-1870

Text, Tune & Arrangement are in the Public Domain

Performance by St Johns Priest, 05/07/17

as found at this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-4li8CsIy_I [4:38]

CREDITS

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Announcements

Do you want to talk or pray with your pastor? Well, just like you call your doctor or dentist to schedule an annual wellness visit or a visit to deal with a particular issue, you can contact Pastor Marjo via text or phone at 203-982-3441, or through Office Manager Karl Kraft via text at 203-336-3300 or email at salemsec123@sbcglobal.net . Our bodies are intimately connected with our minds and hearts and spirits, so the health of one part impacts the health of the other parts.

- 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 a Pentecost 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 wondering what the difference is, it’s like this. If people are hungry and you give them fish, that’s CHARITY. If people are hungry and you teach them to fish, that’s EMPOWERMENT. If people are hungry and you work to change laws so that they receive high enough wages from their jobs so they can afford to buy fish, that’s JUSTICE.
If you’re not sure how to “do justice” as God commands through the Prophet Micah (6:8), Pastor Marjo can offer suggestions.

THANK YOU to Rich Lansing and all who helped with our most recent and most successful food drive ever! In addition to a \$250 grant from Thrivent, 2,300 pounds of food and \$1008 cash were collected at the Stop & Shop on Kings Highway Cutoff, Fairfield, for Operation Hope in that town. The Monday morning team that helps at Bishop Jean Williams Food Pantry helped deliver the collections on Monday. **THANK YOU, ALL!**

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.

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 & 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.

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.

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!**

Gather, Play, Wonder, Grow, and Explore at Camp Calumet Lutheran All Year Long! Whether you're taking time for quiet, self-care or enjoying retreat time with others, Calumet is ready to serve you with superb hospitality and great home-hooking, in the Conference Center rooms & Village Cabins, Lakeside Bunk Cabins (heated or unheated), or in the Retreat Lodge & Staff House on the Lake.

The 65-site Family Campground is open May-October, and adults and families who visit here, enjoy laughter, conversation, connections, and learning in the outdoors while getting to know their campsite neighbors, through walks, campfires, lake-plunging, and beach time. RVs, Pop-ups, Tent-camping, and Platform rentals available.

Calumet's iconic Resident Camp for Kids has been impacting lives of campers and staff for over 80 years. From the very beginning, way back in 1960, Calumet has been able to point to the life-long relationships and authentic connections made here as evidence that Calumet and the Calumet Spirit is simply unique.

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Thomas, Apostle

Monday, July 3, 2023

Though frequently remembered as "doubting Thomas", this apostle also demonstrated a willingness to suffer and die with Jesus (John 11:16), and finally claimed the risen Christ as "my Lord and my God!"

By tradition, he later worked as a missionary in India.

Long commemorated on December 21,

Thomas's celebration is moved to July 3 in agreement with ecumenical calendars.

Jan Hus, martyr, died 1415

Thursday, July 6, 2023

Hus was a Bohemian (present-day Czech Republic) priest who spoke against abuses in the church,

and was seen by Martin Luther as his predecessor in the reforming movement.

He was found guilty of heresy by a council of the church, and burned at the stake.