

# Announcements from Salem, Bridgeport

4 June 2023

**Please include the following in your prayers:**

**We lift in prayer the following persons, knowing that you, God, know exactly what they need:**

Barbro, Barry, Boni, Chris, Cliffy, Dave, Dave, David, Dennis, Diane, Diane, Dick, Dolores, Dorothy, Eric, the family and friends of Isabelle, Jacob, Janice, Jeff, Jim, Joe, Joey, John, Karen, Pastor Kari, Katherine, Linda, Liz, Marija, Michael (and Jeanette and his family), Natalie, Natasha, Natasha, Pastor Paul, Pastor Paula, Sara, Sara Jean, Steve, Tyler, and VL

**We give you thanks, God, for the amazing healing you are working in Ann!**

**We thank you for Tom Larson** and his generosity in donating his work fulltime for a year and a half as the interim CEO of the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport.

**We pray, too, for the Council of Churches' annual meeting on June 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00, and for Pastor Marjo** as she delivers God's Word.

**We give you thanks, God, for the life of Pastor Ruth Drews**, especially for her 29 years of ministry at the Black/Hispanic/White congregation of Resurrection Lutheran Church in New Haven, for shepherding dozens of disadvantaged youth into college careers, and for her devotion to and advocacy for justice. We ask that you inspire each of us to continue that work of justice. And we ask, too, that you comfort her family and friends in their grief. Be with those who are preparing for her memorial service at Trinity in Milford on June 8<sup>th</sup>.

**We also lift up to you the New England Synod as it gathers for assembly this week on June 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>.** Grant to the assembly your wisdom in all things, especially regarding our call to anti-racism awareness, advocacy, & work, & regarding what procedure you desire us to use in the election of a synod bishop next year.

**You are invited to a benefit concert for Ukraine relief** presented by Christian Aja, classical guitarist, TODAY at 3:00 pm at Stratford United Methodist Church, 2600 Main Street, Stratford. 100% of the proceeds will go to Methodist Global Ministries/UMCOR Account Advance #982450-Ukraine. The sanctuary is air conditioned and totally handicapped accessible. For more info, call the church office at 203-375-5851.

**You are invited to the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport's annual worship and meeting on Tuesday, June 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 at Golden Hill United Methodist Church, 210 Elm Street.** Our very own Tom Larson will be honored and Pastor Marjo will be the preacher for the evening.

**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, Basic Christian Leadership: Biblical Models of Church, Gospel and Ministry 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 continue looking at 1 Corinthians 3. *This study already includes people from 5 congregations, so if you are interested in the future of the church, please join us!*

**Thank you to all who participated in Salem's monthly Food Collection last month for Sterling House Food Pantry at Stop & Shop on East Main St in Stratford. Our next Food Collection will be held on Saturday 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 or Bruce Tomasko to sign up!

**Next Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, Salem is back worshipping at 3160 Park Avenue. After worship we will have an adult forum to discuss our visits to 4 different congregations and to listen attentively to God and lovingly to each other to discern if God is calling us to radical revitalization, to partnership merger, to consolidation merger, to holy closure, or to simply wait in patience for God to make known his will for us.**

**On June 18<sup>th</sup>, Salem will have its semi-annual meeting following worship.**

**The JOURNEY continues!** How did your Lenten disciplines go? How has your Easter discipline gone? Maybe you've done well, maybe you've done so-so, and maybe you've failed miserably – or maybe your results have been mixed. Whatever your success or failure, remember that the purpose is 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 all of June 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](mailto: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.

**Thank you to those of you who have supported the diaper and wipe drive!** As with our bottle drive (which raised over the \$624 needed to purchase 4032 bottles of water for Bridgeport schools without safe drinking water), the power of God working through your generosity put us over the top! Salem members raised \$1200 plus \$70 from Grace Lutheran and \$250 from Thrivent toward the purchase of 44 boxes of diapers (about 3400 diapers) and 80 packages of wipes (5120 wipes) for delivery to nOURish Bridgeport. A further \$180 was raised and given to nOURish Bridgeport. Salem also encouraged participation in the diaper drive by Grace Lutheran (1 package diapers), Holy Trinity (9 packages diapers and 7 packages wipes) and Our Saviour's (14 packages diapers and 11 packages wipes)

**Thank you to those who participated in Church World Service's 49<sup>th</sup> Annual CROP Walk in Bridgeport.** We thank both our walkers and those who donated to the cause. **NEXT YEAR IS THE 50<sup>th</sup> WALK, SO LET'S ALL GET READY TO WALK, WITNESS, & WILLINGLY GIVE!**

**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 & 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.

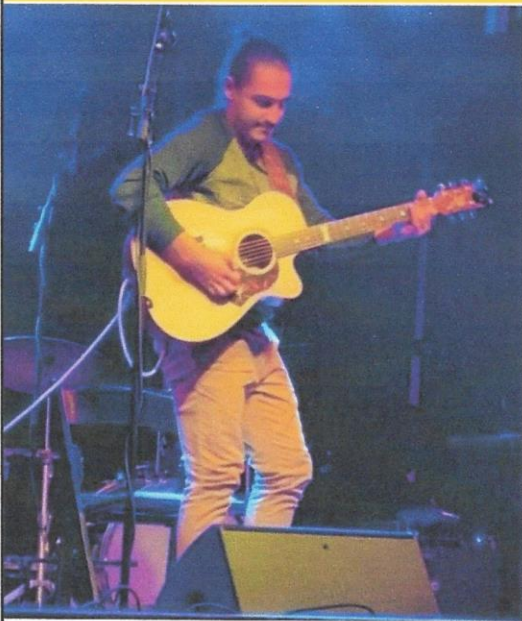
**If you'd like to do more than feed people,** you can also contribute to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund which is used to help members who have other financial needs.

**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.

**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](mailto: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](mailto:marjoanderson@aol.com). She would be MORE THAN HAPPY to hear from you!**

# UKRAINE

## BENEFIT CONCERT



### Christian Aja

Acoustic Guitar  
Fingerstyle

Sunday June 4 3:00 PM

**Stratford United Methodist Church**

**2600 Main Street**

**Freewill contributions will be collected for:**

**Global Ministries/UMCOR**

**Advance #982450-Ukraine**





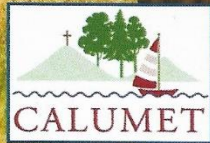
Gather

Play

Wonder

Grow

Explore



2023



- All year long —
- \*\*Conference Center rooms & Village Cabins\*\*
  - \*\*Lakeside Bunk Cabins (heated or unheated)\*\*
  - \*\*Retreat Lodge & Staff House on the Lake\*\*
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Whether you're taking time for quiet, self-care or enjoying retreat time with others ...  
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We're ready for you!

# Calumet

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