

LIVING OUT GOD'S LOVE

Salem United Church of Christ is an Open and Affirming Congregation

NEWSLETTER | NOVEMBER 2024

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NOVEMBER:

All Saints Day - November 1

*Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9
or Isaiah 25:6-9 and Psalm 24
Revelation 21:1-6a
John 11:32-44*

Week of November 3

*Ruth 1:1-18 and Psalm 146
Deuteronomy 6:1-9
and Psalm 119:1-8
Hebrews 9:11-14
Mark 12:28-34*

Week of November 10

*Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17
and Psalm 127
1 Kings 17:8-16 and Psalm 146
Hebrews 9:24-28
Mark 12:38-44*

Week of November 17

*1 Samuel 1:4-20
and 1 Samuel 2:1-10
Daniel 12:1-3 and Psalm 16
Hebrews 10:11-14, (15-18), 19-25
Mark 13:1-8*

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FROM PASTOR PHIL

Dear Friends,

We are beginning November with the ongoing worship series around our Mission Statement, and we end November with Thanksgiving.

In between, we have a national, state, and local election on November 5. The following Sunday, November 10th, regardless of the outcome of the elections, we will gather around the table of God's grace for Holy Communion. For the love of God for all people is real and true and we will remember it and practice it.

On the 17th, the Third Sunday Children's Choir rehearses before worship. During worship, we will commemorate Totenfest, remembering those we have lost this past year and honoring the grief that we carry. Following worship, we will have our annual congregational meeting.

So, in November we have urgent national business, profound spiritual practices, and important church work to take care of. We begin it with reminders and explorations of our witness to the word and work of Jesus to the glory of God. And we conclude it with giving thanks. This seems good and right.

When we practice gratitude, we develop new habits. Neuroscience shows that longterm practices develop pathways in our brain. So practicing thankfulness makes it easier to be grateful. And being grateful brings a different mindset and a new set of lenses to life. No It may not change the events around us, but an outlook of gratitude may allow us to be more open to other options, available for new ways, able to handle the stresses of the day.

May we enter November with commitment to the love of God we know best in Jesus, and may we find ourselves giving thanks.

Grace and Peace,
Phil

Week of November 24

2 Samuel 23:1-7

and Psalm 132:1-12, (13-18)

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 and Psalm 93

Revelation 1:4b-8

John 18:33-37

Thanksgiving Day - November 28

Joel 2:21-27 and Psalm 126

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Matthew 6:25-33



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1: Soren Winterle, Jared Zurbuchen
- 2: Matthew Gust, Dana Zurbuchen
- 5: Samuel Shubak, Jackson Pundt
- 8: Susan Hegeman
- 9: Savannah Burke
- 12: Celia Hauser
- 14: Bryan Blake
- 18: Laura Williams
- 19: Gary Butzlaff
- 24: Nan Zurbuchen
- 26: Bruce Quade, Greg Bass
- 29: Beth Yurs

*Let the church office know if we missed your birthday.

COUNCIL CORNER

The leaves have fallen, and November brings with it the first signs of winter. One of those signs is the shortening of daylight and turning back the clocks. Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour on Sunday November 3. In case you do forget we will try and have the coffee ready early.

November is also the month for our annual congregational meeting. This year the meeting will be held on Sunday November 17th right after church. We will have a potluck meal and start the meeting after we have all had a chance to get a bite to eat.

At the congregational meeting we will elect officers and go over the budget for 2025 and here reports from the various committees of the church. We will talk about pledging for 2025 and discuss the results of the capital campaign for the parking area. We are still accepting pledges for both campaigns, and we thank you all for your support thus far.

Here is some of the work that has been going on at Salem. The parking lot has been finished, including landscaping around the edges of the lot. The retaining wall on the east side of the building near the offices has been rebuilt. We have replaced one of our AC units that failed this summer and consolidated and updated our phone and alarm systems. Work continues to try to fill staff positions and to finalize the new membership directory and these are just a few of the things going on.

This year has brought us all a lot of challenges and changes. I would like to thank everyone who has been working to help guide us through these changes. There have been many people who have participated in this work, and we are grateful.

I would like everyone to recognize that Pastor Phil has been asked to take on many roles at once as we have been rebuilding the staff positions at the church and we truly appreciate his efforts.

Please come to the annual congregational meeting on Sunday November 17 after church. We will enjoy a meal, review the year and answer your questions.

And don't forget to vote in the general election on Tuesday November 5!

Thank you for your support of Salem UCC!!!

John Cashman

*O Thou, far off and here, whole and broken
Who in necessity and in bounty wait,
Whose truth is light and dark, mute though spoken,
By Thy wide grace show me Thy narrow gate
- Wendell Berry*

HOW TO CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE

Cara will continue to help with office tasks from afar until a new office administrator is hired. In the mean time, please use the following e-mail: office@salemchurchverona.org

Cara's e-mail will eventually be deactivated.

CELEBRATING OUR ELDERS

On Sunday, October 13, we honored the members of our congregation who were 80 years old and older. This included two who are over 90!

Here are a few photos of our beloved elders.



RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE NOVEMBER 4

Salem will host another blood drive on Monday, November 4 from 1:30-5:30PM. You can register beforehand to donate at redcrossblood.org and enter the sponsor code: **VeronaWI**.

WOMEN'S GUILD BAZAAR

Mark your calendars! The Women's Guild Christmas Bazaar and raffle will be on Saturday December 7th from 11:00am to 1:00pm. We will be serving the meal of Barbecue sandwiches, salads and pies for \$8.00 per person. Our big prize will be a beautiful quilt made by the Salem quilters. Please have donated prizes for the raffle to Cindy Remus by Wednesday December 4th. Raffle tickets will be going on sale soon.

WOMEN'S GUILD MEETING

Women's Guild Meeting – There will be a meeting of the Women's Guild on Thursday, November 7th, at 1:00 p.m. Please notice the change of time! The purpose of this meeting is primarily to discuss/plan the Christmas Bazaar and Raffle which will be held on December 7th this year. Rosemarie Wieland will be serving the dessert for this meeting.

BADGER PRAIRIE NEEDS NETWORK THANKSGIVING MEALS



It is again time for the community of Verona to join together to help provide Thanksgiving meals for our neighbors in need throughout Dane County. BPNN plans to distribute Thanksgiving meals to 1,400 families in 2024. To avoid food waste, rather than offer pre-assembled baskets, each household will be able to choose from a selection of items

to build the meal that their family will enjoy. If you would like to sponsor a household for Thanksgiving, please contribute \$50. Any donation amount will help towards providing a meal for a family. Checks should be made out to Salem. Please note that the check is for Thanksgiving meals. Donations need to be to Salem by Sunday November 17th.

Thank you for your continued help for families in the area throughout the year and especially during the holiday season.

POINSETTIAS FOR ADVENT

Look for an order form in the bulletin in the coming weeks for poinsettias to decorate our sanctuary for Advent. The cost will be \$10 this year. Order forms will be due Nov 24th.

NOVEMBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 10AM-2PM - Serve at Meals for Madison	2
3 Dailight Savings Time Ends 9AM - Sunday School 10:15AM - Worship 5PM - Confirmation	4 Eve - Scouts 1:30-5:30PM - Red Cross Blood Drive	5 Eve - Scouts	6 6PM - BRC 6:30PM - Handbells 6:45PM - Chancel	7 1PM - Women's Guild Meeting	8	9 Recital - Students of Kelly Garrow
10 Communion Sunday 9AM - Sunday School 10:15AM - Worship Recital - Students of Kelly Garrow	11 Eve - Scouts	12 Eve - Scouts 6PM - Finance 7PM - Council	13 6PM - BRC 6:30PM - Handbells 6:45PM - Chancel	14	15	16
17 9AM - Youth Choir 9AM - Adult Sunday School 10:15AM - Worship (Totenfest) Potluck and Annual Meeting Following Worship	18 Eve - Scouts	19 Eve - Scouts	20 6PM - BRC 6:30PM - Handbells 6:45PM - Chancel	21	22 DECEMBER NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE	23
24 9AM - Sunday School 10:15AM - Worship	25 Eve - Scouts	26 Eve - Scouts	27 s	28 Thanksgiving Day	29	30

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER 2024



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS

Sunday, November 3rd
Turn back your clock before bed on Saturday

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING & POTLUCK

Sunday, November 17th following worship
Please bring a dish to pass

YOUTH CHOIR

Sunday, November 17th at 9am

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Monday, November 4th, 1:30-5:30PM

SALEM CHURCH STAFF and CONTACT:

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Church Council President:

John Cashman

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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