

June 2022



I am writing you on the last day of May. It's been quite a month, hasn't it?

It's been a month of extremes. One day it was shorts, tee-shirts, summer dresses and flip flops and the next we had to go back in the trunk to dig out the snow boots!

Many of us had to go back to the garden shops and replace the damaged plants but we had a beautiful spring weekend to do it.

Then came the extremes of the memorial holiday weekend. Celebrations of retirements, graduations and new jobs tempered by another cycle of gun violence leaving innocents of all ages murdered and their loved ones in deep

mourning.

We enter the summer season with heavy hearts and wondering what we should do?

As your interim pastor, I advise you first to take care of yourself. Recreate by working in the garden, by renewing acquaintances (in-person!), by getting boosted against COVID, going for a walk when the day cools down or a bike ride. Find time to take a nap! Adopt a new prayer discipline. Rest!

Next, we will celebrate Pentecost this Sunday, a festival signified by both the color red, and the symbol of fire—the 'fire' is the Spirit that Jesus promised would be available to his disciples. That 'fire' might lead you to do something about what we are experiencing in our violence-ridden culture.

Consider investigating MOMS DEMAND ACTION and asking how you can help, writing our legislators to demand common sense gun regulation, or contribute to the victims of the shootings in Buffalo or Uvalde. Be a witness to God's care for our world!

Finally, come worship with us at Salem to learn that God doesn't take the summer off. God still speaks to us through worship and study, through our discernment processes, and through fellowship around the table at community meal.

It's good to be your pastor!

Pastor Richard

Discernment Update



I'm so pleased that in just one month's time Salem has already done a lot of vital work in our discernment process! We have had three sessions together: Introduction to Spiritual Discernment; the Art of Listening; and Telling our Salem Stories. Each session builds on the last, and things unfold organically as we are faithful to the process. I am duly impressed by the energy, the interest, the commitment, and the reverence that we have witnessed together. The stories have been rich, poignant, and powerful, sometimes funny, and joyful, and sometimes sad, painful, or difficult, but always illuminating. Thus far, there are about 13 of you that have shown to be the core participants of the process; this is encouraging, and, of course, it is helpful to have as many Salem members as possible represented as we get into the themes and issues most needing discernment. If you haven't attended a session yet, please join us on Sunday. If you have been a regular attender, please keep coming and engaging. The process needs everyone! The heinous, heartbreaking violence of yet another mass shooting within just 10 days of the prior one, this latest one another major school tragedy, gives us all distressed pause to consider where we are in the bigger picture of what is happening all around us. As grievous and traumatizing as they are, as much as it is "an assault against the mind" to even think about them, these unthinkable events hopefully lead us into a deeper consideration of the questions I ask churches with whom I do discernment ministry: "Why are you "church", rather than anything else?" "What unique gift do you have to give the world that no other church can give in the same way?" "What is the Gospel of Salem UCC?" and so on. We want this shock and grief to move us into a deeper place with the Holy Spirit, so that we do not lapse into

overwhelm or a sense of futility. As difficult as that can be, please remember that we never do it alone; as you heard in last Sunday's sermon from Pastor Richard, Salem is a community for whom Jesus prays. This coming Sunday, June 5th is Pentecost, the birth of the church; no better way to celebrate the Holy Spirit's coming upon the gathered early believers and seekers--"all in one place" -- than to gather ourselves in the sacred discernment circle and continue the journey together with Spirit's presence and guidance. We have moved through Eastertide, and now let us enter the Season of Pentecost meeting the Spirit in each moment before us. We will meet on Sunday at 11 after a bit of fellowship time and hear Salem stories from anyone who was not with us on May 22nd to tell theirs. Then, we will take a look at themes that have arisen from all the stories that have been told and begin to discern issues of priority for our process. This next step is a big one—come and join us! A process of discernment with Spirit takes people, patience, perseverance, and prayer.

You, Salem UCC, have shown that you have these ingredients to offer. I am delighted to be with you as your discernment minister at this time in the life of Salem.

Let us keep going onward...

In the Promise of Christ,

Rev. Joanne

Mission Moments

There are two missions for June, and the community meal is one! Funds raised will help supplement the needs to furnish a meal every Wednesday and provide the needed paper products. Strengthen the Church, a 5 for 5, is the second mission.

Missions Ministry

June Seppa

Building and Grounds

The biggest challenge of the past month for our team has been the clean-up and repair of damage at the church and parsonage caused by the recent snowstorm. As of this writing dropped power lines have been repaired and tree and branch clean-up has begun. We seem to have escaped major damage at both the church and parsonage.

Our other effort continues to be planning and completing Spring landscape projects at the church. We thank Miro Subotic for all his ideas and hard work toward keeping our church landscape beautiful and welcoming throughout the Summer!

*Building and Grounds Ministry
Roger Neumann and Chuck Wright*

A Visit with Reverend Doctor John C. Dorhauer, UCC National

Recently Rev. Dorhauer was in Denver and conducted a Zoom discussion with the Clergy on Thursday and Laity on Friday.

Rev Ward, Deborah Barnard, Beth, and Norma Hansen were able to attend. The questions asked were discussed. Of the many statements made, "Find your mission, what is it that makes your church a Church and not just another organization?" was very meaningful to me. The discernment process that Salem is experiencing is helping us to make that decision. Rev Dorhauer suggests that we look deeply into the mission, the purpose, the reason for being a Church as we continue. While there is not one answer to the many questions about how to grow the church, we are encouraged to work in unity toward the common goal. Keeping God and Gods' spirit at our center. We had 90 minutes with Rev. Dorhauer, and it would take several hours to relate the thoughts of our time with him, so I will just relate that

he speaks like he writes... with honesty and mostly with words I can understand.

Norma Hansen

Covid Home Testing

There has been a request for information regarding the Covid Home tests available through the government. Each residential address is entitled to 3 free covid test kits, which totals 16 tests. If you live in a residence where there are more persons of different households, you are still able to get your 3 tests though you may need to contact the number listed below if you find difficulty.

You can order your tests by calling 1-800-232-0233 or go to www.covidtests.gov.

Kathy Carroll

June Calendar

Bible Study – Join us via Zoom at 10 am on Tuesdays.

Worship - Sundays, 9:30 am. Please pay attention to the COVID guidelines. We will also continue with online and by-phone options for services. Join us in person or online!

Romeo Coffee Club meets at Salem on June 1st, June 15th, and June 29th at 9:00 am, join us for coffee and conversation!

Father's Day BBQ Sunday June 19th. Please call Pam, use the sign-up sheets posted in the community room, or call the church office. Bring a salad, dessert, or side dish, that should feed 8-10 people. We will also need your help setting up at 8:45 am.

Discernment Meeting Dates

June 5th at 11:00. Bring your own lunch drinks will be provided.

June 15th at 6:45. Come to community meal and stay for the meeting.

June 26th at 11:00 am.

June Mission – Strengthen the Church, UCC 5 for 5 and the Community Meal.

Keeping in Touch

If you would like to reach out to our new ministry team, Rev. Ward can be reached at richardward51@gmail.com and by cell at 720-982-6852. Reverend Ward will typically be online for Bible Study on Tuesdays, at Salem on alternate Wednesday mornings for the Romeos coffee club meetings, and on Sunday mornings for Worship.

Reverend Buchanan can be reached at parsonbrownjbb@yahoo.com or you can call her on her cell at 303-579-7307 (please no texts). She will be at Salem on Discernment session dates, and on Sundays when she is involved in leading worship.

Both ministers are available by appointment, so feel free to reach out and give them a call!

Deadlines, deadlines, deadlines!!

Please submit any announcements or additions to the bulletin to the church office by Wednesday of each week.

Deadline for July newsletter articles is June 24th.



2nd – Craig Wilderman

2nd – Miro Subotic



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Music Director - Isabella Ashton



June 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5 9:30—Worship Communion 11:00—Discernment 3-7—CtK	6 7-Boy Scouts	7 10-Bible Study Zoom 5:30-7 CtK Backyard 7—Cub Scouts	8 9-Men's Coffee Club 6-Community Meal	9 2 Craig Wilkerson Miro Subotic	10 5-7:30 CtK Backyard	11 8-Scout Workday
12 9:30—Worship 3-7—CtK	13 7-Boy Scouts	14 10-Bible Study Zoom 7—Cub Scouts	15 9-Men's Coffee Club 6-Community Meal 7-Discernment	16 5-7:30-CtK Backyard 7-Child Care Providers	17 5-7:30 CtK Backyard	18
19 9:30—Worship 10:30—Picnic 3-7—CtK	20 7-Boy Scouts	21 9-Twinkle Music 10-Bible Study Zoom 7-Cub Scouts	22 9-Twinkle Music 6-Community Meal	23	24 9-Twinkle Music	25 9-Twinkle Music
26 9:30—Worship 3-7—CtK	27 7-Boy Scouts	28 9-Twinkle Music 10-Bible Study Zoom	29 9-Men's Coffee Club 9-Twinkle Music 6-Community Meal	30 7-Coin Club	1 9-Twinkle Music	2 9-Twinkle Music

July 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 9-Twinkle Music	2 9-Twinkle Music
3 9:30- Worship Communion	4 Norah Wildermann	5 9-Twinkle Music 10-Bible Study Zoom	6 9-Twinkle Music	7	8 Pat Fyrburg/Klaus	9 9-Twinkle Music
3-7-CKK	7-Boy Scouts	7-Cub Scouts	6-Community Meal		9-Twinkle Music	
10 9:30- Worship	11	12 9-Twinkle Music 10-Bible Study Zoom	13 9-Twinkle Music 9-Men's Coffee Club	14	15 9-Twinkle Music	16 9-Twinkle Music
3-7-CKK	7-Boy Scouts	7-Cub Scouts	6-Community Meal	7-Child Care Providers		
17 9:30- Worship	18 Kurt Meyhew Jerome Jackson	19 9-Twinkle Music 10-Bible Study Zoom	20 Norma Hansen Kasson Neumann	21	22 9-Twinkle Music	23 9-Twinkle Music
3-7-CKK	7-Boy Scouts	7-Cub Scouts	9-Twinkle Music 6-Community Meal			
24 9:30- Worship	25	26 9-Twinkle Music 10-Bible Study Zoom	27 9-Twinkle Music 9-Men's Coffee Club	28	29 9-Twinkle Music	30 9-Twinkle Music
3-7-CKK	7-Boy Scouts		6-Community Meal	7-Com Club		
31 9:30- Worship						
3-7-CKK						

