



Lent is a “sort of” kind of Spring

by Rev. Jack Stubbs

I haven't talked to anyone who isn't ready for spring. And I've got good news for you: it is coming. It really is.

I had a dream last night that flowers were coming up in my borders around the house. And I have been eagerly awaiting the delivery of my seeds I ordered from the wonderful catalogues.

I've noticed there is furtiveness about the snow piles. As if they know, deep down, that their time on stage of this world is past. The birds are acting friskier. The days are getting longer. And I am beginning to yearn for rhubarb pie.

The word, *lent*, had the original meaning of “spring.” Though we've largely lost that understanding of the church season of Lent, it still has the sense of anticipation and hope. We are getting ready for Easter.

And Easter is the most important holy day of the year for the Christian. It is the day celebrating resurrection, rebirth, and salvation. It is the holy day which makes the rest of the year, if not our lives, make sense.

And that is precisely what late winter in Wisconsin lacks. Sense. It's cold, but not cold enough for ice fishing. There's snow, but of the inferior slushy variety. We no longer really want to be stuck indoors, but outdoors has lost its charm. But the good thing is that March is temporary.

Spring is indeed coming. With all its beauty, promise, and hope. And in the midst of this season is our highest of days, Easter. And this is appropriate.

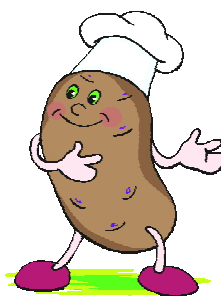
Prayer: *Our God of all seasons; we thank and praise you for all the gifts of nature. Especially we love the turning of the seasons which reflects the turning of our very faith lives. Change our hearts to reflect your grace and our souls to know your love. Transform our winter faith into your new season of salvation. In our Lord's name we pray. Amen.*



Special Lenten Worship Services

We are privilege to have previous pastors of Salem join us for these special Lenten services featuring preaching, prayer, and singing led by the *Gospelaires Deluxe*. The theme of the series will be *Dwelling in Beulahland*. Services will be held on Saturday evenings at 5:30pm at Salem-FdL in the Chapel. A reception will follow these services.

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| March 12: | Rev. David Byers-Dent |
| March 19: | Rev. Edward Johnson |
| March 26: | Mission Celebration Weekend
Red Bird Missionaries |
| April 2: | Rev. Barry Watson |
| April 9: | Rev. Anthony Farina |
| April 16: | Rev. Mary Council Austin |
| April 23: | Easter Eve/Rev. Jack Stubbs |



Super Spud Baked Potato Bar Sunday, March 20

Join us for a Baked Potato Bar at Salem-FdL on Sunday, March 20 from 12:00-1:30pm. We'll have all the fixings so you can create a masterpiece: cheese, taco meat, onion, sour cream, chives, green pepper, bacon, broccoli, salsa, butter, etc!

Each large baked potato includes all the toppings plus dessert and a beverage all for only \$6.00! All proceeds will go toward Salem's general fund.

Don't miss out on a
Lord-ed Super Spud!



Ash Wednesday

A worship service will be held on March 9 at 7:00pm at Salem-Fond du Lac. Communion will be served. All are invited to attend. Confirmation students are required to attend.

Spiritual Refreshment

A Prayer Service is held every Wednesday at 12:05pm at Salem-FdL in the Chapel and an evening prayer service is held on the first Wednesday of the month at Lamartine at 7:30pm (March 30). Join us throughout the Lenten season for a time of music, prayer, spoken and/or meditation, and communion.



Lenten Day of Prayer

Wednesday, April 6

7:00am - 5:30pm at Salem-FdL

Take some time to prepare your mind and spirit during Lent and for the coming of Holy Week and Easter. The Chapel will be set up for your personal time of mediation and prayer. Come when you are able and stay as long as you would like. There is no sign-up for this day. You may come at any time or you may choose to pray at home.

Prayer Shawls Available

There are Prayer Shawls available - ask for one! The shawls are created with love and prayers for you or to give one to someone who needs to be wrapped in comfort and prayer. Contact Julie in the church office or Doris Kosloske or Valerie Duer.

We still could use some people to knit or crochet prayer shawls. If interested and you'd like more info contact Shelly or Julie in the office. Donations of yarn are still appreciated as well.

Books Between Bites



Hear a book review on your lunch break! Bring a lunch, coffee and soda are available. Books Between Bites will meet at Salem-FdL on Tuesday, March 8 at 12:10pm. *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien will be reviewed. This is not a story of equipment that a soldier carries into combat, but rather the emotions - grief, terror, love, duty, doubt and quite possibly shame. A Vietnam Army veteran and retired industrial arts teacher, Ben Roder, will review this Fond du Lac Reads! selection.

Youth News

Bible Study & Baking

SUM Youth will gather on Saturday, March 26 at Salem-FdL for a Bible Study and to make cinnamon rolls. Join us from 3:00 to 7:00pm, supper will be provided. To RSVP or for further information please contact Becky at Rebecca.towne@att.net or Nancy Hammock or call the church office.

Looking Ahead...



YF Easter Event

Saturday, April 16

1:00-3:30pm

SUM Youth will be hosting this fun Easter event for the YF which will include an Easter egg hunt, craft projects, and more! Get this on your calendar now; more information will be in the April newsletter.

SMF Going Cheesy!

Salem Men's Fellowship will be touring the Baker's Cheese facility in St. Cloud on the morning of Saturday, March 12. A meeting location and time has not been set but if you are interested in joining the men's group for the tour, please contact Norm Francis, Hal Barfknecht or Phil Corbin for details.

Church Women United

General Meeting

Salem-FdL, Thursday, March 17, 9:15am

All women of Salem are invited to join with their Christian sisters from other churches in the Fond du Lac area. Our speaker will be Nancy Lanyi of the Adult Literacy Services of Fond du Lac. Please join us for a time of food, fellowship and learning.

Family Ministry Event



GRILL 'N CHILL

Wednesday, March 30

5:00-6:45pm at Salem-FdL

Come and build your favorite flavored grilled cheese sandwich, along with salad, dessert and beverages. Bring your favorite game and after supper we'll chill out playing games with our Salem family. To help us with food amounts, please RSVP by Sunday, March 27 to Joyce Squire or Julie Francis in the church office.

Christian Education

† † † Sunday School News † † † Salem-Lamartine

Sunday School will be held March 6 and March 20 and begins at 9:30am. There is a combined adult and youth (7-12th grades) class which focuses on the Sunday morning scriptures. Bring a Bible and/or any other resource books you have. We now have two youth classes: one for 3 year olds through 3rd grade led by Ashley Eichhorn and a second class for 4th-6th grade led by Marilyn Van Ruiswijk.

Salem-Fond du Lac For Men Only

Men of all ages, if you're looking for a small group experience, join the men after worship in the room behind the Narthex. We're now looking at *Parables, The Greatest Stories Ever Told*. Everyone loves a good story. But the parables of Jesus are a special kind of story. They sneak up on us, catching us off guard. The familiar suddenly takes an unexpected twist, and we find our secret thoughts exposed in the healing light of Jesus. In this study, author John White helps you explore twelve of the greatest stories ever told.

Visions Adult Class

When the Game is Over It All Goes Back In the Box, a new series by John Ortberg, begins on March 6. No matter how skillfully we play it, a time arrives when the game of life comes to an end. Now all the pieces go back in the box. No more game cards. No more tokens. No more promotions, no more financial planning, no more RV's and vacation homes. Game over. What did you win that you get to keep? John Ortberg, with his humor and gifts for storytelling, shows what it takes to really win at the game of life... to live with an eternal perspective, keeping our eyes on the true prize – the one that unlocks the gate to the kingdom of God. Join us in Fellowship Hall following the Sunday worship service for Christian fellowship and refreshment and learning about winning the one game that really counts!!!

Bonnie Classen, Class Leader

College Student Info Needed!

Parents: Please help us out by notifying the church office if your child is graduating in the Spring.

Sunday School Lenten Mission

"OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD"



The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to needy children around the world, and together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

During Lent, March 13-April 17, we will be collecting gifts to fill a standard size shoe box, for either a girl or boy. (See the display in the Narthex.) Bring your donations up to the chancel area during Children's time, or add to the display anytime.

Yes, the gifts are for Christmas; but we're collecting during Lent because the boxes need to be shipped in mid-November. In October we will take some of the Sunday School hour one Sunday to have a "shoebox packing party" for all children and youth.

DONATIONS NEEDED:

TOYS - small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, small Etch A Sketch®, toys that light up or make noise (with extra batteries), Slinky®, etc.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES - pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons, markers, stamps and ink pad sets, writing pads, paper, solar calculators, coloring books, picture books, etc.

HYGIENE ITEMS - toothbrushes, toothpaste, mild bar soap (*in a plastic bag*), combs, washcloths, etc.

OTHER - hard candy, lollipops (please double bag all candy), mints, gum, T-shirts, socks, ball caps, sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries).

Relay for Life - A team event to raise funds for the American Cancer Society!



"Be a Hero – One Person Can Make a Difference"

Help the Fight Against Cancer

The 2011 Relay for Life will be held on Friday and Saturday, August 5 & 6, at the Fond du Lac High School Track. If you would like to be on Salem's Relay team, please contact Julie Francis in the church office (921-8605).

March Mission of the Month **Red Bird Mission Crafts**

On the weekend of March 26-27, we will have special guests, Craig and Karen Dial, at Salem. They are Associates in Mission Service (AIMS), serving the Red Bird Mission of the Red Bird Missionary Conference in Kentucky.

Craig serves as the Director of Economic Opportunities at Red Bird Mission. He also oversees the Craft Program and the Community Store. Karen has served as full time pastor in the Red Bird Missionary Conference since 2000. Having completed the Appalachian Local Pastors School and the Basic Course of Study at Candler Seminary, she is under appointment to the Beverly United Methodist Church in Beverly, KY.

The purpose of Red Bird Mission Crafts is to assist local craft persons within a sixty-mile radius of Red Bird in marketing their crafts and increasing their income. The purchase of crafts by Red Bird Mission staff includes a discussion on the amount of time needed to complete the craft, purchase of raw materials and understanding the market of that craft with each artist. The crafts are purchased directly and then presented for sale at the store and at other market venues.

Salem United Methodist Church will be hosting a craft fair on March 26-27. There will be baskets made of native creek willow and honeysuckle made by 5th generation basket weavers along with hand crafted jewelry, turned bowls, wooden pull toys, woven placemats and dish clothes and much, much more. Our Fellowship Hall will be packed with things for you to buy.

This is a great opportunity for Salem to have a part of Red Bird come directly to us. The only thing that they ask of us is to help defray the cost of travel to bring the craft show to us. So please prayerfully consider giving a donation towards this opportunity that we have been given. Please use the enclosed envelope in this newsletter or mark your gifts "Red Bird Mission Crafts".



Craft Sale Info

Salem UMC-FdL
Saturday, March 26, 9:00am-2:00pm
Sunday, March 27, 8:00am-noon

This event is open to the general public, everyone is invited to come and shop this unique sale of beautiful mountain crafts – baskets, rugs, handmade dolls, candles, jewelry, note cards, recipe books, etc. Your purchase supports the Red bird mission.

Mission Celebration

Sunday, March 27 at 12:30pm at Salem-FdL

Please join us as we celebrate our joint venture with the Red Bird Craft sale. We will be having a potluck meal, please bring a dish to pass (chicken and beverages provided). If you would like to join us in this celebration, please complete the reservation form on the right side of this page.

Freshly Baked "Love for the Lock's" Cinnamon Rolls



SUM Youth will be selling fresh cinnamon rolls at the worship service on Saturday, March 26 and after the services on Sunday, March 27 at both sites. All proceeds from the sale will go to the Lock family. Don't miss getting a ooey, gooey cinnamon roll!

If you would like to help with this fundraiser, contact Nancy Hammock or Becky Towne or call the church office.

Membership

Corrin Belanger

January 24, 2011

**Donnie Wells &
Michelle Drehmel**

February 27, 2011



Our Deepest Sympathy

Lena Enders

January 31, 2011

Mission Celebration Reservation

Please complete form and drop it in the offering plate or bring to the office by Sunday, March 20.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

of People attending: _____

I will bring the following dish to pass:

Salad or Fruit Salad Rolls

Vegetable dish Dessert

By the Way...

The Youth Rock

The 30-hour Famine was a great success! The youth were able to donate items to the Warming Shelter and also raised money for world hunger. They participated in Bible studies, played games, learned about the famine, tried out the new Youth Service and broke their fast with Rev. Stubbs serving communion. Thanks to all volunteers and chaperones for helping - without you this would not have happened and to the youth that participated... thanks! This was a lot of fun!

Cookies for All

Thank you for supporting Salem's Relay Team by purchasing Valentine cookies! You helped us raise \$258 for the "Dude's Purse" which helps increase the Salem team's total in the fight against cancer.

Sending Love

Those who came to the Family Ministry event on Wednesday, February 2 made Valentines. 26 envelopes full of those valentines were mailed to Salem friends. Thanks everyone who came and participated in this event!

Sweethearts Abound

About three dozen people enjoyed the Salem Men's Fellowship Sweetheart breakfast on February 12. There is nothing better than sharing a good meal with great company!

Thank you...

I would like to thank everyone that sent me cards for healing and all of your prayers. I'm doing much better and happy to be on my feet again!

Rebecca Towne

I would like to extend a sincere thank you to my church family for all of your thoughts, prayers, cards and well wishes during my recent health issue. My recovery seems to have been very quick. It is amazing what prayer can do.

Tammy Immel

Dear Salem United Methodist Church,
Thank you for your generous gifts of hygiene products. I sincerely appreciate your willingness to help. These are hard times for many people and these products are a luxury. Your gift will bring smiles as in relief they find soap and shampoo on our pantry shelves. Because of generosity like yours, The Salvation Army will continue to be there, "doing the most good" for all who are in need.

Sincerely, Daniel Lefeber, Food Pantry Manager

Just a note to let you know how much we appreciated the prayers, cards and well wishes during Bryan's recent hospitalization and surgery. Your thoughtfulness towards us at this time in our life has been so comforting. We are truly blessed to have such a wonderful group of people to belong to. Thank you!!!

Bryan, Becky, Bailey and Brooke McDowell

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Gary Pucker
- 2 Earl Degner
Megan Tagliapietra
- 3 Wayne Buck
Dorothy Fisher
Kathy Platt
Casanna Rasch
- 4 Kimberly Zabel
- 5 Lynette Krohn
- 6 James B. Kottke
Jeff Smith
J.P. Voight
Courtney Kramer
Becky McDowell
- 7 Gerianne Perl
Ashley Heath
- 8 Laura Jean Deming
Brooke Riesenber
- 9 Randy Kottke
Sharon Rasmussen

- Geraldine Sasada
- Shane Boelk
- Lacey Schafer
- 10 Bryn Corbin
Taylor Westphal
- 12 Lexi Voight
- 13 Lois Farina
Linda Higley
Ruth Potratz
Margaret Hicken
- 14 Karen Kalsbeek
- 15 Brent Sabel
- 16 Jason Kissinger
- 17 Richard Rozek
- 18 Megan Francis
Colin Gilliland
Deb Gilliland
- 19 Harry Classen
Mindy Dill
David Sasada
Jennifer Abitz
- 20 Trey Laudolff

- Tom Foth
- 22 Dolores Belanger
Susan Kastorff
- 24 Dorothy Dunham
Mary Van Ruiswijk
Ryan Dahlberg
- 27 Mildred Wohler
Jennifer Cunningham
- 28 Joshua Cowles
Brenda King
- 29 Danielle Schueller
Donald Scheer
- 31 Nick Guenther
Rev. Jack Stubbs

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Rebecca & Dan Towne
- 13 Mindy & Adam Dill
- 19 Jean & Donald Scheer
- 20 Amy & James Jarvis
- 28 MarJean & Neal Buck



SALEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
FOND DU LAC & LAMARTINE
120 Sheboygan Street
Fond du Lac, WI 54935-4366

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Fond du Lac, WI 54935
Permit No. 246

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

12:05 p.m. Wednesday Prayer Service at Salem-FdL
7:30 p.m. Last Wed. of the Month Prayer Service at Salem-Lamartine
5:30 p.m. Saturday Evening Worship at Salem-FdL
9:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship at Salem-FdL
9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages at Salem-Lamartine
10:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages at Salem-FdL
10:45 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship at Salem-Lamartine

**NURSERY CARE IS PROVIDED ON SUNDAY DURING
WORSHIP AND SUNDAY SCHOOL AT SALEM-FDL!**

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Monday through Friday (except holidays)
920-921-8605

www.salemchurch.com