



SALEM
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
CONNECTPOINT
April 20, 2022

CONNECTING ALL PEOPLE WITH GOD'S
EXTRAVAGANT LOVE

TOP NEWS & EVENTS

- OUTREACH FAIR & SERVE DAY
- REMEMBERING GIVES US HOPE
- UPCOMING EVENTS
- VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

CONNECT WITH US



**OUTREACH FAIR AND SERVE DAY
COMING IN MAY**

- EMILY SMITH & REV. TIM POWER

In May, Salem's pastors are preaching about the role works play in our faith in the "Alive" sermon series. The book of James makes it clear that the two go together, and at Salem and The Connection, works of service are the fuel behind our vision statement to "connect all people with God's extravagant love."

Two events are scheduled that will give everyone the opportunity to experience what it is like to serve others.

Outreach Fair, May 1

At Salem's Mid-County Site, we will set booths in the Coffee Bar and invite guests to join us before and after the 9:30 service and again after the 11:00 service to speak with volunteers in each ministry. We will share photos of the ministry in action, answer questions, and offer the opportunity to sign up to join these ministries.

Churchwide Serve Day, May 22

At Salem's Mid-County Site both services will end early to allow those who are able to be sent out to serve in opportunities at both the Mid-County and South-City Sites.

Epworth Boutique: organizing clothes for distribution to Epworth clients. Led by Lori Elliot. Pre-registration required.

St Louis Public Schools: (Onsite - Mid-County) Organize and transport school supplies.

Epworth Drop-in Center: (Onsite - Mid-County) Family-friendly group will make cookie dough and pizza dough to be frozen and available to be taken to the Epworth Drop-In Center that helps support young adults who are on their own.

Out of our Bounty: (Onsite - Mid-County) Sort and organize clothing to be taken to Salem's partner ministries.

Haven Street: (Onsite - South-City) Serve in our Haven Street meal ministry at The Connection.

Go to www.salemstlouis.com/outreach for details and to register. We can't wait to serve with you!

REMEMBERING GIVES US HOPE

- REV. TERRI SWAN



Easter at Salem is one of my favorite times of year. Whether we feel the warmth of spring or the remnant of the winter's cold, spring bursts forth to remind us that we have victory over death through Jesus. Easter this year was especially glorious as we came together after a

hibernation of sorts during the past two years of the pandemic. It was so wonderful to see so many bright happy faces and to hear voices calling out to one another, "He is risen—He is risen, indeed!"

On Easter, the celebration is triumphant, lifting our spirits. It is a day in the life of the church where we might feel especially touched by God in worship, calling us to remember the power of life over death in Christ. On Easter, and at every point where God meets us in this life, we need to tuck away the memories of those times where God showed up—where He made it clear that He was with us. So, when we have those moments of need, we can remember His faithfulness. Maybe God revealed Himself to you in a special way in worship, maybe He was especially real to you in the hospital when

you were facing surgery. Or maybe He met you in the middle of your grief. No matter the details, God meets His people where they are, and each time we recognize that happening, it causes our faith to grow.

When Jesus touches our lives in some significant way, He is leaving his fingerprint on us. The ancient story of Jesus' death and resurrection becomes a story of the here and now. It is not just about what God did far back in the past. It is about what God is doing right now in our lives. When we believe and claim a risen Savior, who took upon the cross our sin and death and gave us new life—everlasting life, we have a new identity – a new community—a new purpose—and a NEW set of lenses through which to see the world around us.

I praise God for the work He is doing through the people of Salem and The Connection. We are Easter people who see that God enters the ordinary and brings hope for today, tomorrow, and forevermore. We live in that hope, and we move forward with faith in the future God has in store for us. May God give us the strength and courage to embrace these truths and fully walk in the ways of Jesus.

i wonder...

Vacation Bible School
June 6-10, 9:00 am - Noon
\$35 per child
3 years & potty trained - 5th grade
Early drop off is available.

SCAN ME

June 6-10, 9:00 AM-Noon
\$35 per child (includes t-shirt & activities)
Ages 3 years old (1/1/22) & potty trained
through rising 5th graders (fall 2022)

What makes your child(ren) want to explore, discover, and experiment? Kids are naturally curious, and when you're curious about who God is it's easy to grow your relationship with Jesus. Kids will not only learn about science, technology, engineering, and mathematics — but also about the God who created it all! Register now at salemstlouis.com.

Volunteers needed for VBS
June 6-10, 8:30 am - 12:30 pm
Students (grade 6th or older) and adults
Volunteers lead children in this fun week of learning and playing together. Register at salemstlouis.com to volunteer.

ALIVE IN WORKS, ALIVE IN FAITH AND ALIVE IN CHRIST NEW SERMON SERIES IN MAY

- REV. TIM POWER

My brothers and sisters, what good is it if people say they have faith but do nothing to show it? Claiming to have faith can't save anyone, can it? Imagine a brother or sister who is naked and never has enough food to eat. What if one of you said, "Go in peace! Stay warm! Have a nice meal!"? What good is it if you don't actually give them what their body needs? In the same way, faith is dead when it doesn't result in faithful activity. -James 2:14-17

What's more important in the life of a Christian--having faith or doing good works? Some Christians focus on the faith part while others think good works is more important. But the book of James tells us that faith without works is dead.

During the month of May, we will be exploring our theology of outreach with a sermon series called *Alive*. We will learn about how our we are called to express our deep love for Jesus by reaching out in love to the world around us. In keeping with that message, we don't simply want to talk about reaching out; we want to do it! On May 1, the first week of this sermon series, we will host an "Outreach Fair" before and after our worship services. We will be providing information on the many ongoing outreach opportunities you can get involved in through Salem and The Connection. You'll get a chance to talk to one of our volunteers about what serving looks like and then sign up for a ministry that speaks to your heart.

Also, the sermon series will culminate with a Sunday Serve Day on May 22. On this Sunday, the worship service will be shorter, so we have plenty of time for everyone to jump into a service opportunity. Several onsite service projects will allow folks of all ages and levels of ability to do the work of transforming our community with the love. Service choices will include making meals for our friends at Epworth, sorting clothes for Out of Our Bounty, assembling hygiene kits for Haven Street, and others. This is also a great day to invite friends or family who would love to connect with a faith community that values serving others.

We are so excited for you to join us in May for our *Alive* sermon series as we learn how to become Alive in Works, Alive in Faith and Alive in Christ!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Parents Night Out // April 29 // 6:00-9:00 pm // Mid-County Site // Register Online
Join us for our monthly Parents Night Out program. Children ages six weeks to 12 years old are invited to join us for dinner, games, specialty classes, and age-appropriate activities. Cost is \$30 per child (includes dinner and all activities).

IMPACT! // April 29 // 6:30-8:30 pm // Mid-County Site // Register Online // Students are invited to this fun-filled monthly event featuring special activities such as: inflatables, 9-Square, Free, but donations are welcome.

Bach Society Brandenburg Concertos // April 30, 3:00 pm // Mid-County Sanctuary
Concertmaster and Salem's own Lenora-Marya Anop will lead the Bach Society Orchestra in a rare performance of all six instrumental masterpieces. Tickets range from \$25 – \$50. Purchase online at bachsociety.org.

Belong Worship Concert // April 30, 5:00 pm // Bluebird Park // Enjoy an outdoor concert featuring Christian music led by St. Louis area church musicians including members of Salem. Concert is free and open to the public.

Outreach Fair // Sunday, May 1 (before & after worship) // Mid-County & South-City // Learn more about our many outreach opportunities in the St. Louis area and discover how you can make a difference in our community. Stop by before or after worship in the Coffee Bar.

Grace for the Weary // May 12, 7:30-9:00 pm // Join Pastor Tim Power and Lindsay Walter, MA, LPC from Emotional Growth Counseling in an online event as we explore the spiritual significance and opportunity of grace-filled grieving. Register online or call (314) 991-0546.

ACC Concert featuring Christine Brewer May 21, 7:30 pm // Christine Brewer joins the American Chamber Chorale and Salem Chamber Orchestra for Music From The British Isles on May 21, 7:30 pm at Salem. Event is free and tickets are not required.

Serve Sunday // May 22, following worship // Bring your family and come ready to serve. Enjoy an abbreviated worship service, and then we will jump right into serve activities as a community. Options for both on-site and off-site projects available for people of all ages and abilities, including opportunities for families with young children. On-site projects will be approximately one hour and off-site projects will be approximately two-three hours. For more information and to sign up please visit salemstlouis.com.



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CONNECT GROUPS

Discover a small group that fits your life.
Visit www.salemstlouis.com for more details.

We need each other! You are welcome to try out a few groups before choosing the best one for you. Visit salemstlouis.com for details, call the office (314) 991-0546, or contact Liz Rea at reasatsalem@gmail.com for help finding a group that fits for you.

SHARE A PRAYER REQUEST



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Did you know you can share prayer requests with our staff and prayer team? We regularly share a prayer list with our prayer team and staff, who will pray for your request, and will contact you if you request follow-up care.

<p>MID-COUNTY 1200 S. Lindbergh Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63131 (314) 991-0546 salemstlouis.com</p>	<p>SOUTH-CITY 6701 Virginia Avenue St. Louis, MO 63111 (314) 256-0545 theconnectionstlouis.com</p>
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PLEASE SEND ALL MAIL FOR BOTH SITES TO THE MID-COUNTY ADDRESS. THANK YOU!

WORSHIP IN-PERSON OR ONLINE

In-Person Worship Schedule
Mid-County: 9:30 am - Modern Worship (Multipurpose Room)
Mid-County: 11:00 am - Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
South-City: 11:00 am - Modern Worship (The Connection Sanctuary)

Online Worship Schedule Sundays or Anytime On-Demand
9:30 am - Modern Worship Livestream
11:00 am - Traditional Worship Livestream

YOUR GIFT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Together we can make an impact in the lives of our neighbors and continue the ministry of spreading the extravagant love of God to all people.

- 1 WEB: SALEMSTLOUIS.COM
- 2 TEXT: "GIVE" TO (314) 888-9160
- 3 APP: SALEMSTLOUIS
- 4 MAIL: TO THE SALEM CHURCH OFFICE



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