

August 2024

THE MUSTARD SEED



Sunday School dates for Summer are August 11 & August 25. They will be held after the prayer for the day during worship. Sunday School is for all children in grades K-12 and covers a different bible story each Sunday that the class is held. Classes include not only the bible story but often include crafts, games or other activities to make the time fun and educational for all.



Mark Your Calendars - Salem Church Outdoor Service & Picnic—Sunday, August 4 at 11 a.m.—Salem UCC will hold its annual outdoor worship service and picnic at the American Legion pavilion on Campbelltown/Palmyra Rd. Everyone who comes is asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share with everyone and please bring your own place settings and utensils. The Fellowship Committee will be preparing the main dishes and drinks. **There will be no Worship Service**

at Salem that Sunday.



Volunteers are needed on **Sunday 9/8/24** to help prepare, serve, and clean up at the free meal for the public which is being served by the **Lebanon Rescue Mission**. We will meet in the church parking lot at 2:00 P.M. to carpool as we are scheduled to volunteer **from 2:30 P.M. to approximately 6:00 P.M.** (If you can help for only part of the time, that is fine.) In addition, there are items that are needed to make the meal extra special. Please watch for more information about how to sign up to volunteer and/or to donate items for the meal. If you have any questions, please contact Kristin Vines (vineskristin1011@gmail.com). (Special Notes: If you are feeling sick (or have a cough), please volunteer another time.

Due to safety issues, children must be over the age of eight to volunteer. Volunteers must wear closed toe shoes.)



The Salem Profile Committee is looking for recent photos as we are putting together the profile of Salem to search for the next permanent pastor. If you have any photos, please digitally forward them to Barb Kauffman (barbarakauffman56@gmail.com)

Thanks for helping in the process of describing Salem!



The Book Club will meet Monday, August 26 at 7 p.m. and the book to be discussed will be “The Perfect Marriage” by Jeneva Rose. The book for September will be “Huckleberry Finn” by Mark Twain followed by “James” by Percival Everett in October. Any questions, please contact Carin Kaag. Her e-mail is cas207@yahoo.com.



The Lebanon Rescue Mission would like to thank you for your recent gift of \$140 to support their various ministries. As summer unfolds, it's important to remember that many in our community are facing hardships and challenges that still need our compassion. Thank you for your continued, faithful partnership with their ministry.



The Blessing of the Backpacks will take place in worship on **Sunday, August 25**. As part of the children's time, prayers will be offered for students, teachers and staff of our schools as the new school year begins. We encourage the students and teachers of our congregation to bring in their backpacks to worship and to be a part of this special time of prayer in the service.



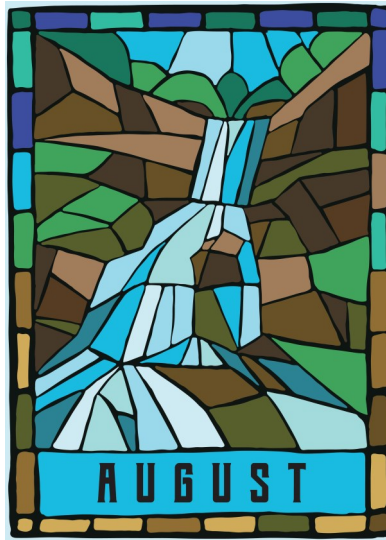
Palm Lutheran Church is having a Clothing Drive from July 22 - August 14. They are looking for clothing, shoes, coats, bags & blankets. Donations may be dropped off in the trailer located in their parking lot, 11 W. Cherry St, Palmyra, PA, 17078. There will be a Free Clothing Giveaway and Meal on August 17 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

CONGREGATION'S BUDGET UPDATE:

	General Fund
January to June 2024	Yr. to Date
Actual Receipts	\$92,263
Actual Expenditures	\$93,239
Pro Rata Budgeted Expenditures	\$111,252



The General Fund provides the basic support of our ministry, benevolences, program, staff and building. Receipts are the best year to date that we have on record. We have paid our final salary and benefit obligations to Dwight. We have expenses for major repairs to the building and grounds. Spending is within the prorata budget. We have a deficit of only \$1,000 for the year to date. Expense relief is being realized since we no longer pay for a full time minister. The 2024 budget was approved prior to Dwight's announcement of resignation. It included a full year's budget of compensation and benefits for him. Thank you for your prayerful stewardship



Sunday	August 4	Salem Church Picnic 11:00 a.m. at American Legion Pavilion, No Service at Salem..
Tuesday	August 6	National Night Out
Sunday	August 11	Worship 10:30 a.m. Summer Communion Sunday School after prayer of the day.
Monday	August 12	Transition Team Meeting 7 p.m. Choir Room—Hybrid
Sunday	August 18	Worship 10:30 a.m.
Sunday	August 25	Worship 10:30 a.m Blessing of the Backpacks Sunday School after Blessing of the Backpacks
Monday	August 26	Book Club 7 p.m.

*All Worship Services will also be livestreamed on YouTube and our web page
www.salemucccampbelltown.org*

A GARDENER'S LEGACY

I'd like to leave but daffodils to mark my little way,
 To leave but tulips red and white behind me as I stray;
 I'd like to pass away from earth and feel I'd left behind
 But roses and forget-me-nots for all who come to find.

I'd like to sow the barren spots with all the flowers of earth,
 To leave a path where those who come should find but gentle mirth;
 And when at last I'm called upon to join the heavenly throng
 I'd like to feel along my way I'd left no sign of wrong.

And yet the cares are many and the hours of toil are few;
 There is not time enough on earth for all I'd like to do;
 But, having lived and having toiled, I'd like the world to find
 Some little touch of beauty that my soul had left behind.





WORSHIP SCRIPTURES

August 4, 2024

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

2 Samuel 11:26—12:13a

Psalm 51:1-12

Ephesians 4:1-16

John 6:24-35

September 1, 2024

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Song of Solomon 2:8-13

Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9

James 1:17-27

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

August 11, 2024

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33

Psalm 130

Ephesians 4:25-5:2

John 6: 35, 41-51

September 8, 2024

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23

Psalm 125

James 2:1-10 (11-13), 14-17

Mark 7:24-37

August 18, 2024

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14

Psalm 111

Ephesians 5:15-20

John 6:51-58

September 15, 2023

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Proverbs 1:20-33

Psalm 19

James 3:1-12

Mark 8:27-38

August 25, 2024

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 8:22-30, 41-43

Psalm 84

Ephesians 6:10-20

John 6:56-69

September 22, 2024

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Proverbs 31:10-31

Psalm 1

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

Mark 9:30-37

September 29, 2024

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Esther 7:16, 9-10, 9:20-22

Psalm 124

James 5:13-20

Mark 9:38-50

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 15 Aaron Albright
 15 Shirley Burkholder
 16 Jennifer Bear
 16 Andrea Cooper
 19 Stephanie Borremans
 19 Lisa Burnett
 23 Blaine Kerr
 24 Corey Bear
 24 John Burnett
 27 Gloria Garrett
 30 Brandon Risser

GOD’S GIFT OF MUSIC



What helps you sort out what you’re feeling, or experience an emotion more deeply? What allows you to let loose and cry, or fully celebrate when you’re joyful? Nature helps some of us get in touch with our feelings, perhaps because it removes us from screens and other distractions.

But when getting out isn’t possible — no mountain lake is nearby, or the weather isn’t tranquil — consider the gift of music. Often instrumental or vocal music helps us access the depths of our soul like nothing else can. God may even speak to us through music — whether in song lyrics, our own inner thoughts or wordless stirrings of the heart.

Albert Schweitzer, a pastor, musicologist, physician and more, said, “Joy, sorrow, tears, lamentation, laughter — to all these music gives voice, but in such a way that we are transported from the world of unrest to a world of peace, and see reality in a new way, as if we were sitting by a mountain lake and contemplating hills and woods and

clouds in the tranquil and fathomless water.”

Make some playlists for various emotions: joy, grief, anxiety, hope. Then imagine yourself relaxing in nature, and experience God’s love.

SALEM COLLECTIONS -

The Caring Cupboard is a community food pantry, that has grown into a community necessity, that currently serves over 350 families living primarily in the Palmyra and Annville-Cleona School Districts. Products to be given to the Caring Cupboard may be placed on the designated shelves found at the end of the northwest hallway of Salem Church.

Pop Tab Collection Program (Matt Waller) Ronald McDonald House. The collection of aluminum beverage tabs began in 1996. The aluminum tabs are sold to a local recycling company and their proceeds help with daily operating expenses at the Ronald McDonald House. The generous amount from the tabs collected has been very beneficial to the House and the families they serve. They are averaging \$1,000 monthly just from these tiny tabs. You can help raise money by pulling tabs from any aluminum container. Pop Tabs may be placed in the designated box on the shelf above the coat rack in the bell tower entrance.

Redner's Cash Register Receipts (Cindy Steger) By using the Save-A-Tape card you picked up at Customer Service Desk each time you purchase merchandise at Redner's Warehouse Markets, your receipt will be designated as a Save-A-Tape customer receipt. When you come to Salem Church, place your **entire register/sales receipt (DO NOT CUT!)** in the designated box on the shelf above the coat rack in the bell tower entrance. Salem Church will receive a check for 1% of the total amount of tapes submitted, excluding items controlled by the government, such as tax, milk and tobacco products.

Clothing Recycling Old clothing and material that are too worn to use can be recycled. If possible, take to an H&M Store (they give you a coupon for each bag!), otherwise put it in the box in the west narthex and we'll take it for you. Thank you!

Writing Tool Recycling You can recycle old writing tools – crayons, markers, pens, and pencils. Staples Store will recycle these items as well as many other items (check their website!). Feel free to take to a Staples or place in the "Crayola marker" collection tube on the windowsill in the west narthex. Thank you!

What's your oasis?

As the gospels make clear, even the Son of God needed an occasional break. For Jesus, a solitary place reached by boat served as an oasis.

Although an oasis might make us think of a beach-like vacation spot in the middle of a desert, it's simply "something that provides refuge, relief or pleasant contrast" (Merriam-Webster).

So, what's your oasis? For someone who recently lost a spouse, it could be a break from the newfound silence.

For a young parent, it could be a block of solitude and silence to complete a thought.

I haven't found any definition of oasis that includes a timeframe. Such an experience could last 30 seconds or a full week. Work within your circumstances so you can get away for a time with Jesus.

As you identify and pursue an oasis, consider your answers to these questions:

- What circumstances in life cause you to desire an oasis, or break?
- What will it look like to create a personal oasis or sanctuary at home?
- When you spend time with Jesus, what do you want to do?

—Janna Firestone

