

Salem United Church Of Christ
217 Salem Drive
Plymouth, WI 53073

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PASTOR: Rev. James M. Hoppert
DIRECTOR OF YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY: Marsha Meyer
CHURCH SECRETARY: Pamela Miller
MONETARY GIFTS SECRETARY: Jennifer Schoenefeld
MONETARY GIFTS ASSISTANT: Sharon Schoenefeld
CUSTODIAN: Pietje Markus

CHAPEL CHIMES IS A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
PUBLISHED IN THE INTEREST OF FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF
SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

OFFICE HOURS: 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday - Thursday
E-MAIL ADDRESS: salemuc@excel.net - WEB SITE: www.salemuccplywi.org
TELEPHONE: 920-892-7456/Rev. Hoppert's Cell 920-838-0405

SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST MISSION STATEMENT

To praise and glorify God through Jesus Christ, Salem United Church of Christ will be a nurturing family that shares the Good News with people of all ages. Our congregation will invite and warmly welcome others into this faith community. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we will create and maintain places and programs, which satisfy needs and nurture spiritual growth while recognizing and utilizing the diverse gifts and talents of all.

JANUARY 2017
Volume 67 No. 1

FIRST NOTES

As we welcome 2017 into the ranks of history, I come to you with an assortment of odds and ends this month instead of some great overriding theme.

First, due to an oversight on my part, I neglected to share with you my appreciation in the previous month's newsletter for both the recognition of my 30th anniversary milestones (years of service at Salem and ordination) back on October 30th. Although I had the chance to write a note to the Consistory and to express my appreciation from the pulpit, I didn't have the chance to do so in the *Chapel Chimes*. Not only did I want to thank you for the recognition of those milestones, but I want to share my appreciation for the gift of the liturgical stoles that were a part of the celebration (at this writing I've already had a chance to use the green and purple stoles – white will get worn on Christmas). My family and I were most grateful for the celebration and the opportunity to reflect on the years that we have shared together as pastor and congregation.

Second, Sunday, January 8th, which is observed on the liturgical calendar as "The Baptism of Christ" will give us the opportunity for each of us to remember and celebrate our own baptisms. Baptism is one of those occasions which is done only once but can be remembered and affirmed a number of times in a lifetime. We will have the chance to not only remember our baptism but also to reflect on the promises that were made on our behalf and claimed by us later in life.

Third, Salem will be hosting a Community Service of Healing on Tuesday, January 24th at 7:00 p.m. The service, which will include participation from other area clergy, will feature worship, a moment of teaching, and opportunities to seek out healing prayer and the laying on of hands, if that is desired. We had services like this some time back, and a number of our local clergy felt it was time to bring back the practice.

Last, I want to acknowledge the group of individuals who helped to repair the siding on the east side of Fellowship Hall. Spearheaded by Jeff Bender of the Consistory's Property Committee, Jeff Greuel, Dick Groene, Andy Hartmann and Dale Miller became the work group that tackled the siding job-- many thanks to all of you for a job well done.

That ends the laundry list.

May God bless all of you and all those who you love in the new year ahead.

Your servant in Christ,

Rev. Jim Hoppert



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1/1 Cindy Conrad
1/2 Dale Knuth
Robert Stib
Scott Meerstein
1/4 Jim Lehrke
Kevin Lisowe
1/8 Robert Lorenz
Janice Miller
Ed York
Denise Buss
1/9 Ashley Fink
1/10 Laurie Born
1/11 Todd Kleinhans
Kevin Bunyea
1/15 Chris Theune
1/18 Janice Koepsell
Corrine Vorpapel
John Hoppert
1/19 Einale Mayer
Susan Clarke
Jean Gerber
1/20 Chris Ellis
Aidan Radloff
1/21 Kristine Meilahn
Wyatt Radloff
1/22 Gladys Debbink
Richard Jarosch
1/23 Dennis Faas
1/24 Garrett Lindow
1/25 Carter Pratt
1/26 John Meerstein
1/27 Eileen Metze
Andrea Miller
1/29 Shana Risse
Brandon Debbink
1/30 Deanna Lindow

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

1/2 Ken & Pat Schoening
1/23 Steve & Janice Koepsell
1/24 Robert & Ann Bubb



JANUARY LITTLE LAMBS CHILD CARE

Sunday, January 8th:
Annette & Lauren Bunyea

Sunday, January 15th:
Susie Katsma

Sunday, January 22nd:
Jill & Megan Thiel

Sunday, January 29th:
Ashley Krueger & Jennifer Velier

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

We will begin the new year with a nine-session study of Jerry Bridge's book "Respectable Sins: Confronting the Sins We Tolerate". Our first session will be held on Monday, January 16th at 10:30 a.m. in the library. Cost of the book is \$13.00. You may either order it through the church or purchase it yourself.



Dear Friends at Salem UCC,

Thank you so much for your generosity in response to our request for help with our Christmas food boxes.

Your donation of soup and oyster crackers is greatly appreciated and will help to provide a little extra holiday cheer to some of the seniors and low income residents in our community. They will be able to have a delicious Christmas dinner and a few other meals as well.

A kind gesture lasts a life time! I pray that life brings you and your family a reflection of the kindness you have shown to others.

Serving Him together,
Ginger Weimer, Program Director
Salvation Army



Abby, John Michael, Drew and I want to thank you for the cards and well-wishes that came our way during the Christmas season.

Rev. Jim Hoppert and Family



Dear Salem UCC Congregation,

My fall semester of my third year in graduate school is coming to a close. This semester I had to pick my fourth year exam rotations sites and I ended up with two back in the Midwest. My family is as excited as I am that I will be within driving distance from them. This will be the first time in about 8 years that I will live close to home. It has been a long and hard road, but hard work truly does pay off. It seems odd to think that I am over half way done in my journey to become an eye doctor.

My classes this past semester have been manageable, but I have also now started to prepare for National Boards of Optometry (NBEO). It is a nation-wide test that all

optometry students must pass in order to practice. So that has been stressful trying to manage school, work, studying for my classes as well as making time to study for boards now too. I had some huge changes in my life the past few months, but I really found great help and sanctuary in prayer. A good family friend sent me a book called "Jesus Calling" by Sarah Young and I found it be very helpful to giving me hope and faith.

I read the letter that you sent along with my care package. Thank you for making me aware of all the ways I can stay connected with Salem because I did not know of them. I will definitely be listening to the radio broadcasts every Sunday morning. I will keep you updated on my future addresses as I will be moving a few times next year.

Nothing means more to me than love, kindness and support – all of which Salem United Church of Christ has showed me all throughout my academic endeavors. I always look forward to the care packages and cards you send; I surely thank God every time I receive one. It is a wonderful feeling knowing that family and friends back home are thinking of me. God has surely blessed me with many great things in life, and I am very thankful that He has blessed me with a support system like you.

Mallory Andrews



Thank you to every person who helped with the Welcome Table meal this year, the ladies who donate the desserts and the people who help with set up, serving and clean up.

Also, thanks to the dish washer. You are all truly a blessing for this Salem Church ministry.

Blessings,
Sharon Klemme

*Thank
you*

Thank you to all those who helped share the story of the birth of Jesus by contributing their time and talent to the Living Nativity in December. We hosted over 100 people in the two-day event.

Cast:

Jordan Blad
Cassandra Clarke
Morgan Clarke
Paul Clarke
Dan Feldner
Ethan Feldner
Karlee Hartmann
Rev. James Hoppert
Kevin Lisowe
Cora Meyer
Peter Meyer
Amy Nischik
Brady Pratt
Jeremy Pratt
Bret Schoenefeld
Evan Sukowaty
Nicole Walber

Narrators:

Elsa Blad
Jordan Blad
Luci Blad
Scott Bunyea
Paul Clarke
Rev. James Hoppert
Marsha Meyer
Peter Meyer
Sam Meyer
Bret Schoenefeld

Costume Help:

Susan Clarke
Lorena McKerrow

Lighting and Sound:

Scott Bunyea

Greeter:

Ron Schoenefeld

Stable Set Up and Take Down:

Dale Miller
Jeff Greuel
Andy Hartmann
Scott Miller

Straw Bales:

Al Bosman

Animals:

Chad Kohlman
Steve & Cheryl Rortvedt
Jennie Schoenefeld
Jim & Debbie Sheets

Refreshment Servers:

Sharon Klemme
Lorena McKerrow
Judy Wilmot

Thanks to all who made homemade goodies for the time of refreshment.

Anne Hernandez
Living Nativity Coordinator

2016 BAND CONCERT ACCOUNTING

Band Concert Receipts	\$1,407.25
2015 Band Concert Balance	\$178.00
Expenses:	
Food	\$727.52
Thermostats for Gathering Area & Office	\$193.56
Lawn fertilizer	\$65.55
Refreshments for Living Nativity	\$50.00
Balance	\$548.62

The balance of \$548.62 will be transferred to the General Fund.

Respectfully submitted,
Band Concert Committee

JANUARY LECTIONARY READINGS

Sunday, January 1, 2017

First Sunday after Christmas

Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 63:7-9

Psalm: Psalm 148

Epistle: Hebrews 2:10-18

Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23

Friday, January 6, 2017

Epiphany

Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalm: Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

Epistle: Ephesians 3:1-13

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

Sunday, January 8, 2017

The Baptism of Christ

Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 42:1-9

Psalm: Psalm 29

Epistle: Acts 10:34-43

Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

Sunday, January 15, 2017

Second Sunday after Epiphany

Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 49:1-7

Psalm: Psalm 40:1-11

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Gospel: John 1:29-42

Sunday, January 22, 2017

Third Sunday after Epiphany

Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 9:1-4

Psalm: Psalm 27:1, 4-9

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23

Sunday, January 29, 2017

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Hebrew Scripture: Micah 6:1-8

Psalm: Psalm 15

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

NOTES FROM THE CHURCH AND MINISTRY TEAM

We extend our gratitude to the many members who have responded positively to our invitation to "Step up in your Faith Journey." As we progress in the church year, we are encouraged to continue to consider ways in which to nurture our spirits and grow in our personal faith and in connection and service to this congregation and the community that stretches beyond the doors of Salem. It is appreciated that we continue to provide updates of our mailing and email addresses and telephone numbers, so we may be reached with communications of faith-building and mission opportunities. If anyone has need to share special concerns or request a visit or call from Rev. Hoppert, Dale Miller or members of our Church and Ministry Team, please contact the church office. We wish you Hope, Peace, Joy and Love in the New Year!

Salem Church and Ministry Team: Angie Hartmann, Cyndi Huibregtse, Mary Bender and Annette Bunyea



**PLEASE KEEP THESE MEMBERS IN YOUR
THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS**

HOSPITALIZED

Aurora Sheboygan Memorial, Sheboygan

Richard Groene



All reports for the 2016 Annual Report are due in the church office by January 9, 2017.

JANUARY USHER LIST

Saturday, December 31st:

4:30 p.m. Head Usher: Kymn Schicker
Sharon Klemme, Linda Krueger, Judy Wilmot

Sunday, January 1st:

8:30 a.m. Head Usher: Consistory
Norman & Karen Raeder, Paul Clarke

Saturday, January 7th:

4:30 p.m. Head Usher: Lori Holzer
Ed & Darla Ardell, Rollie Bruggink

Sunday, January 8th:

8:30 a.m. Head Usher: Tom Daigle
Dale & Janis Knuth, Ken Baumann

Saturday, January 14th:

4:30 p.m. Head Usher: Kymn Schicker
Shelley Bubb, Judy Wilmot, Roger Rortvedt

Sunday, January 15th:

8:30 a.m. Head Usher: Linda Bosman
Al Bosman, Betty Klemme, Evie Kretsch

Saturday, January 21st:

4:30 p.m. Head Usher: Lori Holzer
Ansel Tupper, Janice Bunyea, Bob Becher

Sunday, January 22nd:

8:30 a.m. Head Usher: Mary Bender
Terry, Amy & Greta Debbink

Saturday, January 28th:

4:30 p.m. Head Usher: Kymn Schicker
Jerry & Reta Klemme, Sharon Klemme

Sunday, January 29th:

8:30 a.m. Head Usher: Mary Mullen
Lois Faas, Bette Humbracht, Cheryl Rortvedt

Saturday, February 4th:

4:30 p.m. Head Usher: Consistory
Richard Groene, Kevin & Debbie Lisowe

Sunday, February 5th:

8:30 a.m. Head Usher: Consistory
Norman & Karen Raeder, Steve Fieck

MISSION & STEWARDSHIP

As we greet the new year, we are in a great position to look back at all that we have accomplished over the past year. We have supported local ministries, as well as some far away, like Biloxi, Mississippi. Our congregation has been generous.

And of course there are new opportunities to consider this new year. Our friends at St. John's UCC in Sheboygan have spearheaded a mission, starting an overnight warming shelter in the downstairs of the Salvation Army, downtown Sheboygan.

The goal is to provide a place to get in out of the cold - 25 beds for area homeless people to rest. This is a mission that many area churches have committed to helping with, and Salem is welcome to participate. Volunteers are needed to help out during the overnight period.

The shelter is alcohol, drug and weapon free - each evening has two shifts - the first from 7:00 p.m. to 3 a.m. and the next from 3 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Intake starts at 8:00 p.m. Adults staying at the shelter will get a warm bowl of soup before lights out at 10:00 p.m. In the morning there's a warm breakfast of oatmeal before they leave. Help is needed in getting the people settled and fed, and to assist as needed.

I don't know that there is a more meaningful way to share Christ's love in our local community. If you think you would be interested in helping, please let me know.

A reminder for post-holiday shopping - Fairview School is accepting boots, gloves, snow pants, sweatpants for children ages 5-10. Please keep them in mind as you take advantage of the shopping season.

Yours in Christ,

Mary Mullen - Chair
Mission & Stewardship Committee

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

The Red Cross is looking for a volunteer to help coordinate the blood drives held at Salem church. If you would be interested in volunteering your time, please contact the church office.

THIS YEAR

It is never too late to begin a new habit – or to recovenant our side of the promise with God – or to name anew the responsibilities we have as faithful people.

- ✓ Mend a quarrel
- ✓ Seek out a forgotten friend
- ✓ Dismiss suspicion; replace it with trust
- ✓ Give a soft answer
- ✓ Encourage youth
- ✓ Keep a promise
- ✓ Find the time
- ✓ Forgo a grudge
- ✓ Forgive an enemy
- ✓ Listen
- ✓ Apologize if you are wrong
- ✓ Try to understand
- ✓ Think first of someone else
- ✓ Appreciate
- ✓ Be kind; be gentle
- ✓ Laugh a little
- ✓ Laugh a little more
- ✓ Welcome a stranger
- ✓ Speak your love
- ✓ Speak it again
- ✓ Speak it still again

Newsletter, Newsletter



Thank you to the Care Meal Ministry for the meal that was delivered to our home. It was delicious.

Dick & Sharon Groene