

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

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JANUARY 2018

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DIRECTOR OF YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY: Marsha Meyer
CHURCH SECRETARY: Pamela Miller
MONETARY GIFTS SECRETARY: Jennifer Schoenefeld
MONETARY GIFTS ASSISTANT: Sharon Schoenefeld
CUSTODIAN: Cheryl Rortvedt

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
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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 2018
Volume 68 No. 1

FIRST NOTES

In some ways, the January front page for the *Chapel Chimes* is the hardest one to write in all of the year. We are not even at the midway point of December as I write this, and I'm supposed to be in a January mindset. If God allows, there will be a lot of things going on in the last two weeks of December that will shape how we see the coming of the new year and a new month. All of those happenings are but potential events that live only in my imagination.

However, this is what I do know: come January 1st, Dale Miller will be in his official capacity as Salem Plankroad UCC's licensed lay minister, and his Service of Farewell will have been a memory. I want to take this time to express my deepest gratitude for Dale's ministry in our midst and for his support and friendship in and outside of ministry. It has been a pleasure to watch Dale utilizing the gifts and talents he possesses for ministry. Those gifts and talents will now be utilized in a different congregation, and our loss at Salem will be Salem Plankroad's gain. I'm sure you will want to join me in wishing Dale all of the best in this new calling. Our hearts and well-wishes go with him.

What is also certain at this point is the outcome of the December 3rd congregational meeting to vote on proposed by-laws changes. The vote, which was 68 yes, 28 no, and 4 abstentions, sets in motion changes in our definition of membership. We are asking persons on our membership roll to let us know if they desire to continue to remain with Salem as a member in covenant, and to re-affirm that covenant on a yearly basis. Instead of having the church monitor communion and attendance requirements as the basis for membership, it will be church members deciding, for themselves, what their level of involvement will be. It is a commitment that we make to God's work and to one another, as members of the congregation. Instead of spending time on bookkeeping and maintenance tasks, we will be encouraging people to be actively involved in the mission of Christ's church.

It's a new step for our congregation, but it's one that we feel will free us to more fully pursue the mission of the church. I anticipate that it may take us a few months, the first time around, to get all of the pieces in place, but I believe it can have a positive impact on the life of the congregation in the long run.

In keeping with this new move, we will be setting aside time in worship, both on January 6th—Epiphany— and January 7th—the Baptism of Christ—to remember our baptism and our covenantal relationship with one another.

Perhaps it is typical of January that we focus on both farewells and new beginnings. May God's grace be with all our endings and beginnings in the new year.

Your servant in Christ,
Rev. Jim Hoppert



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1/1 Cindy Conrad
- 1/2 Dale Knuth
- 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
- 1/21 Kristine Meilahn
Quinn Wilson
- 1/22 Gladys Debbink
Richard Jarosch
- 1/24 Garrett Lindow
- 1/25 Carter Pratt
- 1/26 John Meerstein
- 1/27 Eileen Metze
Andrea Miller
- 1/29 Brandon Debbink
- 1/30 Deanna Lindow

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

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



If you would like to honor someone you love, or mark a special day, you can sponsor the bulletin (\$20), radio broadcast (\$45) or you can purchase the altar flowers (\$20). Contact the church office at 892-7456 to reserve your day.

All reports for the 2017 Annual Report are due in the church office by January 8, 2018.

If you or a family member is hospitalized, please contact the church office (892-7456). The hospitals no longer supply us with that information.

In case of inclement weather, please tune to WJUB or WHBL for any weather related cancellations. You can also view cancellations on WTMJ 4, FOX6 and WISN 12.

THANK YOU

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

MEMBERSHIP

Thank you to all who participated in the planning, communicating and discussion of proposed changes to Salem's By-Laws which were approved at our December 3 Congregational Meeting. By now, those who have been part of Salem's membership in recent years should have been sent a mailing with information concerning the By-Laws changes, "Member in Covenant" / "Friend of Salem" options, contact information and a brief questionnaire about preferences. (If you have not received this information and have interest in learning more or have questions about these items, please contact the church office.) With the immediate implementation of membership changes, I would like to remind everyone that only Members in Covenant have the right to voice and vote in the Congregation. Each person who continues or anticipates serving on the Consistory or as an elected officer or representative of the congregation on Salem's committees/boards must also be a Member in Covenant. If you have not already done so, please return completed membership and contact information by December 31, 2017 or as soon as possible, if you wish to participate in the Annual Meeting on January 28, 2018. As anticipated, this process has presented some challenges, but it has opened doors for communication. I am grateful to each person who expressed concerns, offered support and/or asked questions along the way. Each voice is welcomed, valued and to be respected. As our membership covenant states: *As members of Salem United Church of Christ - With joy in the common life of this church, we covenant with God and with one another, promising our continuing friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the Church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our Risen Savior.* My hope and prayer for our church family is that we will move forward in greater unity as we strengthen our understanding and service for

the Love & Glory of God and for the good of God's creation.

Peace and a Blessed New Year to All! Mary Bender, Consistory President

THANK YOU

To our dear friends at Salem,

Thank you so much for your continued support! Your kindness and generosity are greatly appreciated!! Together we are fully making a difference in the lives of others!

Sincerely,
Rainbow Kids Board of Directors

Thank you to Richard Jarosch for the donation of paper to the church office.

Thank you for the meal you gave us. It was very good and much appreciated.

Ralph & Carol Groene



JANUARY LITTLE LAMBS CHILD CARE

Sunday, January 7th:
Amy & Greta Debbink

Sunday, January 14th:
Susie Katsma

Sunday, January 21st:
Annette & Lauren Bunyea

Sunday, January 28th:
Jill Thiel & Lilly Hengst

FROM THE PARISH NURSE . . .

Kidney Stones – One of the oldest surgical operations is “cutting for stone.” Samuel Pepys describes his own operation (on March 26, 1658) quite vividly, and notes in his diary that he spent 24 shillings for “a case for to keep my stone, that I was cut of.” Benjamin Franklin has written eloquently of the symptoms of stone in the bladder which he and many of his contemporaries had. The specialty of cutting for stone was known in the time of Hippocrates, and was quite a restricted specialty. Hippocrates admonishes fellow physicians not to cut for stone, but to leave this condition to the specialists. Many operative procedures for removal of stones were developed in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

Stones in the kidney and urinary tract are quite common, and still a major problem of urology. How kidney stones form is reasonably well understood. Urine is a complex supersaturated solution of many substances, including mineral salts. Under the right conditions, certain of these substances may precipitate out, condense upon some microscopic nucleus – perhaps a bacterium or a speck of mucus – and grow larger and larger.

Stones, then, are formed of dissolved substances brought to the kidney. *Why* they form in some people but not in others is not at all well understood. Prevalence of stone varies geographically; in some areas it is endemic. For example, the southeastern part of the U.S. is an area with high incidence of kidney stones. The location of stones in different parts of the urinary tract has varied historically. At present, in certain areas of the Near East most stones are present in the bladder and are found in children.

Despite these subtle mysteries, a great deal of practical medical and surgical knowledge is

available to the troubled patient. Stones come in many shapes, sizes, and differences in structural material. If a stone can be obtained from a patient, analysis of its chemical makeup gives valuable information. Calcium phosphate stones are very common; among other kinds are urate and cysteine stones. The latter are primarily due to an error of metabolism in the body's handling of an amino acid of protein foods. Sometimes a tumor in certain areas, such as the parathyroid glands, increases the excretion of calcium and phosphorus in the urine and predisposes to calcium phosphate stones.

Other factors that may encourage stone formation are obstructions anywhere in the urinary tract which may cause urine to “back up” and not drain freely from the kidney; prolonged recumbency; infection; and abnormally concentrated urine which may result from insufficient intake of water. It is obviously important to correct any abnormalities in the urinary tract which may predispose to the formation of new stones, and to correct changes in the urinary tract which may have been brought about by the presence of stones.

Some stones thrive in acid urine, others in alkaline. Medicines and special diets, such as an acid-ash diet, may help to maintain desired balances and deter future stone formation. There are other medical measures which a doctor can institute from his special knowledge of the patient's body chemistry and physical condition. It is of immediate importance to remove stones that are causing serious trouble, and this generally requires surgery. Sometimes it is desirable to remove the entire kidney, if its function has been markedly impaired by a large stone or stones, and if the remaining kidney is healthy and quite capable of continuing the labors that it has shouldered anyhow. Naturally, it is far more desirable for a person who is susceptible to stone formation to co-operate with his doctor in regular

checkups, with x-rays and other measures, which may keep trouble from progressing and do everything possible to avert eventual surgical removal of a kidney.

Some stones cause no symptoms, at least for a long time. Fine crystals, no larger than grains of sand, may pass down the ureter and to the outside world without the patient's being aware of it. Some "silent" stone are too large to enter or obstruct the ureter, but they may move about in the kidney and do quiet injury to delicate tissues. Some stones may practically fill the kidney pelvis and take on the irregular shape of the cavity, like a cast. These are called "*staghorn*" *calculi* from their antler-like appearance.

Many stones, however, do cause acute attacks of excruciating pain. A bout of "kidney colic" is never forgotten by the person who experiences it. The agony is caused by a stone which enters the ureter and works its way down, gouging as it goes. The pain is not necessarily felt in the mid-back, in the area memorialized by old-time advertisements for kidney nostrums, but may be referred to the pelvic region. Indeed, pain is not invariably excruciating, and the immediate symptoms may be nausea, vomiting, chills and fever.

If the stone gets stuck in the ureter, and medical measures can do little more than relieve pain, surgery will probably be necessary to remove an obstruction which can cause urine to back up, distend, and injure the tract above it more gravely. Stone-harried kidneys generally are more prone to infections; modern antibacterial drugs afford potent measures of control.

Often a stone passes into the bladder and acute pain subsides. Bladder stones are relatively easy to remove with instruments which leave no operative scar. The surgical instrument is inserted through the urethra, the stone grasped and crushed, and the particles withdrawn.

Occasionally, a stone will lodge in the urethra and prevent urination. Its removal is comparatively easy and always an immense relief to the patient.

JANUARY LECTIONARY READINGS

Saturday, January 6, 2018

Epiphany

Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 60:1-6

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

Epistle: Ephesians 3:1-12

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

Sunday, January 7, 2018

The Baptism of Christ

Hebrew Scripture: Genesis 1:1-5

Psalm: Psalm 29

Epistle: Acts 19:1-7

Gospel: Mark 1:4-11

Sunday, January 14, 2018

Second Sunday after Epiphany

Hebrew Scripture: 1 Samuel 3:1-10

Psalm: Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Gospel: John 1:43-51

Sunday, January 21, 2018

Third Sunday after Epiphany

Hebrew Scripture: Jonah 3:1, 5-10

Psalm: Psalm 62:5-12

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

Sunday, January 28, 2018

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Hebrew Scripture: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Psalm: Psalm 111

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

*To reach up for the new, you must let go of the old.
What lies behind you is not nearly as important as
what lies in front of you. - Joel Osteen*

JANUARY USHER LIST

Saturday, January 6th:

4:30 p.m. Head Usher: Kymn Schicker
Richard Groene, Ray & Robbie Gremminger

Sunday, January 7th:

8:30 a.m. Head Usher: David Hengst
Marvin & Judy Paulson, Betty Klemme

Saturday, January 13th:

4:30 p.m. Head Usher: Mary Mullen
Kymn Schicker, Linda Krueger,
Roger Rortvedt

Sunday, January 14th:

8:30 a.m. Head Usher: Mary Bender
Bill & Joanne Lammers, Betty Klemme

Saturday, January 20th:

4:30 p.m. Head Usher: Terry Risse
Ed & Darla Ardell, Judy Wilmot

Sunday, January 21st:

8:30 a.m. Head Usher: Jeff Bender
Ansel Tupper, Janice Bunyea, Cheryl Rortvedt

Saturday, January 27th:

4:30 p.m. Head Usher: Kymn Schicker
Bob Becher, Shelley Bubb, Lori Holzer

Sunday, January 28th:

8:30 a.m. Head Usher: Bret Schoenefeld
Cindy Conrad, Evelyn Kretsch, Betty Klemme

Saturday, February 3rd:

4:30 p.m. Head Usher: David Hengst
Jerry & Reta Klemme, Sharon Klemme

Sunday, February 4th:

8:30 a.m. Head Usher: Consistory
Dale & Janis Knuth, Bette Humbracht

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

A new adult study will start on Monday, January 15th -- *Truths: God Helps Those Who Help Themselves and Other Things the Bible Doesn't Say*, by Adam Hamilton. The cost of the book is \$16.74. Please contact the church office if you would like a book.



NEW YEAR PRAYER

Thank you Lord for giving me
The brand new year ahead.
Help me live the way I should
As each new day I tread.
Give me gentle wisdom
That I might help a friend.
Give me strength and courage
So a shoulder I might lend.
The year ahead is empty.
Help me fill it with good things.
Each new day filled with joy
And happiness it brings.

Amen.

“For surely I know the plans I have for you,”
says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not
for harm, to give you a future with hope.

Jeremiah 29:11