

JANUARY 2022, VOLUME 72, NO. 1

# Chapel Chimes

"SHARING FAITH, LIFTING UP, REACHING OUT AND GROWING TOGETHER."

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF

SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, PLYMOUTH, WISCONSIN



## First Notes

by Rev. Jim Hoppert

As I joked a few weeks ago, I was glad that I took some Greek in college: in addition to helping me with sermon prep on occasion, it's come in handy with all these SARS-COV-2 variants that have come out in the past few months. Now it is Omicron. This new variant appears to be more contagious, but so far the evidence suggests that it is less severe in its effects. I am cautiously hopeful that this might actually be good development: each new, dominant variant, has been milder than the previous versions. Perhaps we are closer to the time when this virus will be closer in nature to the common cold. Again, vaccinations may not prevent transmission, but they seem to help prevent severe manifestations when the virus is contracted. The bad news, though, is that it appears that, one way or another, it is probably heading in all of our directions, no matter how well you guard against it. Some of us may be hit by the virus early, others of us later.

In any event, it's good to be cautious and not take foolish chances, but we should never be paralyzed by fear. It wasn't a good look in March of 2020, and it's not a good look in January, 2022. Persons of Christian faith should trust in the presence of God in all of the circumstances of life. Jesus used the exhortation, "Do not be afraid" a number of times in the gospel.

Going forward, we continue on with the current schedule until further notice. When circumstances change, we will look at changes accordingly. I know that it sounds repetitious, but that is where we still find ourselves.

Salem's Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 30th. An article detailing the meeting time and the means of participation will be included in this newsletter. Also included are the dates for Communion in 2022.

## First Notes (continued)

Here is the wish that 2022 will bring brighter and more hopeful days. I remain optimistic.

Shalom aleichem—Peace be with you.

Rev. Jim Hoppert

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## 2022 Schedule of Holy Communion

Sunday, January 9, 2022

Sunday, February 13, 2022

Wednesday, March 2, 2022 (Ash Wednesday) 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 13, 2022

Thursday, April 14, 2022 (Maundy Thursday) 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 17, 2022 (Easter Sunday)

Sunday, May 8, 2022

Sunday, June 5, 2022 (Pentecost)

Sunday, July 10, 2022

Sunday, August 14, 2022

Sunday, September 11, 2022

Sunday, October 2, 2022 (World Communion)

Sunday, November 13, 2022 (All Saints)

Sunday, December 11, 2022

Saturday, December 24, 2022 (Christmas Eve)

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## Starting the New Year with Gratitude

Dear Salem friends and family ...

It is with heartfelt gratitude that we welcome the new year.

During the month of December we experienced many blessings, even as we mourned some losses.

For those members who graciously offered extra General Fund gifts, and to those whose recent losses provided additional gifts in memorial, I thank you.

Regarding memorials, I want to thank Art Pahr, Carl Mueller, Theresa Dees, and the friends of these members for their gifts and the warm thoughts of those who shared their life with us. These gifts will be used as directed as well as added to our Memorial / Special Gifts fund.

I also want to share that this past month Salem received a very generous bequest from the estate of Einale Mayer. Although I personally did not get to know her well, the memories I do have of her are precious. She was a kind person who was always interested in what was happening at Salem. She attended church regularly and always had a kind word.

In conversations, I've found that Einale's generosity was equally steadfast, providing funds quietly when special needs arose. I know that there are others in our congregation who do the same, and it's truly a blessing to this church.

Einale blessed Salem with a gift of more than \$237,000, which came in time for Christmas.

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From those funds, \$150,000 will be added to our Endowment, interest from which is distributed twice a year to help Salem support capital needs, innovative ministries, and existing ministries within and outside of Salem. Interest from our endowment has helped us support Sheboygan County Interfaith Organization, Back Bay Mission, and other benevolences, helping Salem United Church of Christ do Christ's work in the wider world. In addition, the bequest has allowed us to reimburse funds that we've borrowed from to help us operate through lean months, pay past due pension and self-employment benefits to pastor, and pay off our line of credit. We will also be setting aside funds in a money market, to provide us some cushion for the year ahead.

As I noted earlier, we begin the year with gratitude. And while it's easy and impressive to call out the special gifts, it's also important to thank each and every member of Salem who supports the church every week and every month through their regular giving. These gifts are the glue that allows Salem to continue to operate and provide the support and community to our members and the broader community.

We are in a special place, able to truly start the year fresh. I pray that the year ahead will allow us to come together for more in-person fellowship so we are all able to share and count our blessings together.

Thank you.

Mary Mullen

on behalf of Finance and Generosity



In case of inclement weather, please tune to WJUB or WHBL for any weather-related cancellations. You can also view cancellations on WTMJ 4, FOX 6 and WISN 12. If Confirmation classes are cancelled on Wednesday evenings, students will be contacted.





**SALEM'S SUNDAY SCHOOL TEAM WISHES YOU A  
BLESSED NEW YEAR  
AND INVITES YOU TO JOIN US!!!**

We hope you are enjoying a Christmas Season filled with Hope, Peace, Joy and Love and that 2022 will be filled with many blessings for you and your loved ones. Our Sunday School Team is excited to resume classes on January 9. Children aged 4K – Grade 6 are welcome to join our weekly classes which meet Sunday mornings from 9:45 – 10:45 (Note: no classes on January 2 or January 30).

Volunteers and visitors are also invited to join us. As we practice loving our neighbors and caring for all in our church family and beyond, we continue to require face masks for all of our participants. If anyone would like to learn more about our program, register new students and/or volunteer, please contact the church office or Mary Bender for more information.

On behalf of Salem's Sunday School Team, I thank you for your continued prayers and support for our children and this important ministry!

Peace & Blessings,  
Mary Bender

<i>Jan 2</i>	<i>Christmas Break/No Sunday School</i>	<i>XXXX</i>
<i>Jan 9</i>	<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>9:45-10:45am</i>
<i>Jan 16</i>	<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>9:45-10:45am</i>
<i>Jan 23</i>	<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>9:45-10:45am</i>
<i>Jan 30</i>	<i>Annual Membership Meeting No Sunday School</i>	<i>Worship @ 9:00am</i>
<i>Feb 6</i>	<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>9:45-10:45am</i>
<i>Feb 13</i>	<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>9:45-10:45am</i>
<i>Feb 20</i>	<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>9:45-10:45am</i>
<i>Feb 27</i>	<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>9:45-10:45am</i>
<i>Mar 6</i>	<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>9:45-10:45am</i>
<i>Mar 13</i>	<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>9:45-10:45am</i>
<i>Mar 20</i>	<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>9:45-10:45am</i>
<i>Mar 27</i>	<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>9:45-10:45am</i>
<i>April 3</i>	<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>9:45-10:45am</i>
<i>April 10</i>	<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>9:45-10:45am</i>
<i>April 17</i>	<i>Easter Sunday No Sunday School</i>	<i>XXXX</i>
<i>April 24</i>	<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>9:45-10:45am</i>
<i>May 1</i>	<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>9:45-10:45am</i>
<i>May 8</i>	<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>9:45-10:45am</i>
<i>May 15</i>	<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>9:45-10:45am</i>
<i>May 22</i>	<i>Youth Sunday</i>	<i>8:30am</i>

# READINGS FOR JANUARY



## **Sunday, January 2**

Second Sunday after Christmas  
Hebrew Scripture: Jeremiah 31:7-14  
Psalm: 147:12-20  
Epistle: Ephesians 1:3-14  
Gospel: John 1:(1-9), 10-18

## **Sunday, January 9**

First Sunday after Epiphany  
Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 43:1-7  
Psalm: 29  
Epistle: Acts 8:14-17  
Gospel: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

## **Sunday, January 16**

Second Sunday after Epiphany  
Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 62:1-5  
Psalm 36:5-10  
Epistle: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11  
Gospel: John 2:1-11

## **Sunday, January 23**

Third Sunday after Epiphany  
Hebrew Scripture: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10  
Psalm: 19  
Epistle: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a  
Gospel: Luke 4:14-21

## **Sunday, January 30**

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany  
Hebrew Scripture: Jeremiah 1:4-10  
Psalm: 71:1-6  
Epistle: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13  
Gospel: Luke 4:21-30

## **Community News**

### **Sheboygan County Interfaith Organization News Bits**

- **THANK YOU!** As we reflect on this holiday season, we are especially grateful and humbled by our community's generosity in caring for the families we serve. We are counting our blessings, and you are one of them.
- Trisha's House, a property managed by St. Nicholas Hospital, is an extension of Bridgeway and some families that successfully complete the Bridgeway program can move into a less structured but case managed facility. If you are redecorating, we could use gently used furniture.
- Bridgeway could use the following items: sidewalk salt, toilet bowl cleaner, Pine-Sol floor cleaner, 13-gallon garbage bags.

## **POINSETTIAS SPONSORED IN MEMORY OF ...**

*Nelda Binder by Tom Daigle*

*Bernice Daigle by Steve & Betty Davenport*

*Marie & Arnold Miller by their children, grandchildren & great-grandchildren*

*Sharon Schoenfeld by Ron Schoenfeld*

*Charles and Geraldine Sramek by Chip Sramek and Nancy Johanning & family*

*Ed Titel, Milton & Lorena Raeder, Reinhard & Caroline Titel, Louise Haschenburger, and Willard Schmitz by Delores Titel*

*All loved ones by Aurelia Schuricht*

*Alvin and Dorothy Schroeder and JoAnne Steenberg by Judy & Bill Helmer*

*Kenneth Baumann by Dorothy Baumann & family*

*Jake, Larry and Jacob by Marian Lisowe*

*Dad, Larry and Jacob by Cheryl Rortvedt*

*Ronald Klemme by Betty Klemme and family*

*Bruce Bunyea by Janice Bunyea and family*

*Mary Klotz and Stephen Mullen by Paulette & Dan Klotz*

*George Lisowe by Carol Lisowe & family*

*Verbena & Arthur Lehman and Melvin & Bernice Rortvedt by Richard Rortvedt family*

*Willard & Lucille Matzdorf and Gerald Matzdorf by Gail Matzdorf;*

*Gary McElroy by Carol McElroy*

## **POINSETTIA SPONSORED IN HONOR OF . . .**

*Gary & Grace Knowles, Larry & Leona Holzmann by Ronald & Sandra Holzmann*



**We list with grateful hearts special thanks to those that shared their poinsettia with us to further beautify the sanctuary this season.**

*Thank You!*

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## Church Business - the Annual Meeting

The Annual Congregational meeting of all members in good standing at Salem United Church of Christ in Plymouth will be held on Sunday, January 30 following one service at 9:00 a.m. The meeting itself will be called at 10:00 a.m. and will be held live as well as providing access to members to join remotely via Zoom. Details forthcoming.

Members are needed to serve on the Consistory in 2022. There are opportunities to serve 3-year terms, 2-year terms and one-year terms. If you are interested, please contact Tom Daigle at 920-838-1871.

If you have not yet submitted your committee report for inclusion in the 2021 Annual Report, please do so that we can have the materials ready to print and available as outlined in the Constitution.

### **2022 ANNUAL MEETING to include Consideration of Motions to Continue Suspending Portions of Salem United Church of Christ Constitution and By-Laws**

Portions of Salem's Constitution and By-Laws are currently under suspension as we undergo restructuring of our governance. The Consistory proposes that motions to continue suspending the selected portions of each document for one additional year be considered as part of the agenda for the Congregation's 2022 Annual Meeting. Copies of the existing Constitution and By-Laws with highlights and notes explaining the suspended portions are available for review. You may contact the office to request copies of either or both documents. If you are not able to accept email or pick document(s) up in person, the office can mail a hardcopy version(s) to you.



SCRIPT READING SET  
FOR  
JANUARY 6 AT 6:30PM

A new musical being presented at Salem UCC, "*A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to Nineveh*," will be viewed by the public February 25-27, 2022. The musical follows the biblical story of Jonah in a contemporary setting and has been written by Rev. Hoppert.

**Community members** are welcome to participate with openings in the chorus specifically. If you'd like to participate or help in any way, please contact the church office or Rev. Hoppert directly 920.838.0405.

# January Celebrations



- |                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 01 Cindy Conrad    | 16 James LeMahieu   |
| 02 Dale Knuth      | 18 Corrine Vorpapel |
| 04 Kevin Lisowe    | 18 Jan Koepsell     |
| 05 Betty Davenport | 18 John Hoppert     |
| 08 Denise Buss     | 19 Susan Clarke     |
| 08 Ed York         | 21 Kristine Meilahn |
| 08 Janice Miller   | 21 Quinn Wilson     |
| 08 Robert Lorenz   | 22 Gladys Debbink   |
| 09 Ashley Fink     | 22 Richard Jarosch  |
| 10 Laurie Born     | 24 Garrett Lindow   |
| 11 Kevin Bunyea    | 25 Carter Pratt     |
| 11 Todd Kleinhans  | 26 John Meerstein   |
|                    | 27 Andrea Miller    |
|                    | 27 Eileen Metze     |
|                    | 30 Deanna Lindow    |
|                    | 31 Dan Klotz        |



on January 22nd  
Larry & Sharon Zwerg

on January 23rd  
Steve & Jan Koepsell



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:	CLOSED	OPEN 9AM-4PM	OPEN 12N-4PM	CLOSED	OPEN 9AM-1PM	1 New Year Blessings to you!
2 8:30 am Worship (Stream) 10:30 am Worship (InPerson) 7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous/AA-Anon	3 6:30pm Hospitality Team (zoom)	6 Bulletin Deadline 10:00am Staff Meeting 7pm Narcotics Anonymous	5 6:30pm Confirmation	6 Epiphany 6:30pm Endowment 6:30pm Musical 7pm Narcotics Anonymous	7 Consistory re- ports due	8
9 Holy Communion 8:30am Worship (Stream) 9:45am Sunday School 10:30am Worship (InPerson) 7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous/AA-Anon	10 9:00am Men's Club	11 Bulletin Deadline 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:30pm Consistory Mtg 7pm Narcotics Anonymous	12 6:30pm Confirmation	13 Ascension Day 7pm Narcotics Anonymous	14	15 9am Amateur Radio Exam Testing
16 8:30am Worship (Stream) 9:45am Sunday School 10:30am Worship (InPerson) 7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous/AA-Anon	17 Martin Luther King Day 9:00am Men's Club	18 Bulletin Deadline 10:00am Staff Meeting 4:30pm Salem Green Board of Directors 7pm Narcotics Anonymous	19 6:30pm Confirmation Class Years 1 & 2 Year 3 Mentor Meal	20 7pm Narcotics Anonymous	21 Newsletter dead- line	22
23 8:30am Worship (Stream) 9:45am Sunday School 10:30am Worship (InPerson) 7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous/AA-Anon	24 9:00am Men's Club	25 Bulletin Deadline 10:00am Staff Meeting 7pm Narcotics Anonymous	26 6:30pm Confirmation	27 7pm Narcotics Anonymous	28	29
30 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00am Annual Congre- gational Meeting 7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous/AA-Anon	31 9:00am Men's Club	 <h1>JANUARY 2022</h1>				

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

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



PASTOR: Rev. James M. Hoppert  
CONSISTORY PRESIDENT: Paul Clarke  
TREASURER: Mary Mullen  
CUSTODIAN: Cheryl Rortvedt  
CHURCH SECRETARY: Linda Bosman & Sandy Rabe

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

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