

JANUARY 2023, VOLUME 73, 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

From this point of view (just days before Christmas weekend), the start of another calendar year will be upon us, soon. Some of us approach a new year with a sense of optimism for new possibilities (at least temporarily), while others of us are a bit more blasé about the whole thing. Perhaps there are things in our lives that we can change, but there are a number of things which we cannot change. Try as hard as we might, certain parts of life are beyond our control. Death, weather, certain illness, genetic tendencies given to us are some of those things that come to mind.

Sometimes we flat out can't control the hand we've been dealt.

However, as some wise people have said to me along the way, life is about 15% of what happens to us and 85% of how we deal with it. Life is often about adjusting to changes in the landscape around us. For example, it would be nice to go back to the way that life was like pre-pandemic (both personally and in the church), but those events have changed the landscape in permanent ways. Hoping and wishing isn't going to make that happen. Life has moved us to a different place.

Instead, we should ask for the ability to better roll with the punches and make the necessary adjustments to our plans. Perhaps that kind of thing is in keeping with our journeys of faith and our patterns of prayer. I don't expect prayers to change the course that God has set out for us and for how life in this universe unfolds. God's will is sovereign. However, I can ask God to help change my way of dealing with this life. I can ask for more patience, wisdom, kindness, patience, and gentleness. These are things of the Holy Spirit that I believe God would like us to pursue.

Whatever plans and goals we set for ourselves in the coming year, one thing is likely to be certain: we will need to adjust to unforeseen circumstance beyond our control. It is here that we can ask God to help us in those moments of adjusting.

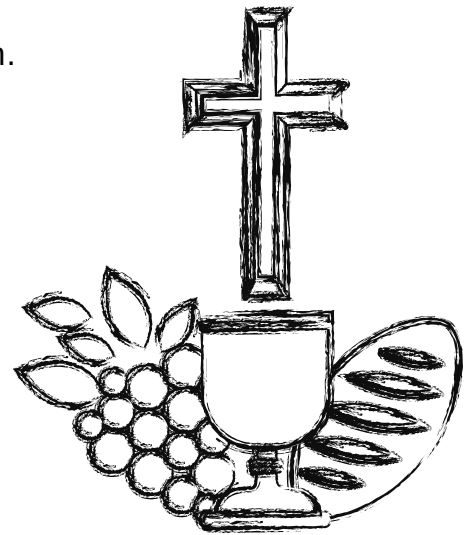
I hope that these first days of 2023 bring not only joy and gladness but the ability to faithfully and gracefully roll with the changes, as well.

Shalom aleichem—Peace be with you.

Rev. Jim Hoppert

Holy Communion 2023

Sunday, January 8, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.
Sunday, February 12, 2023 - 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, February 22, 2023 (Ash Wednesday) 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, March 12, 2023 - 10:00 a.m.
Thursday, April 6, 2023 – (Maundy Thursday) 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 9, 2023 – (Easter) TBD
Sunday, April 23, 2023 – (Confirmation) TBD
Sunday, May 28, 2023 – (Pentecost) 10:00 a.m.
Sunday, June 11, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.
Sunday, July 9, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.
Sunday, August 13, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.
Sunday, September 10, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.
Sunday, October 1, 2023 (World Communion) 10:00 a.m.
Sunday, November 5, 2023 – (All Saints) 10:00 a.m.
Sunday, December 10, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.
Sunday, December 24, 2023 – (Christmas Eve) 4:30 and 10:00 p.m.



In case of inclement weather, please tune to 1420AM (Cow Country) or 1330AM (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.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

NOTICE

The annual congregational meeting January 29, 2023 will include a review of suggested changes to our Constitution and Bylaws, followed by a vote to amend these church documents. The documents, with suggested changes highlighted, will be available for review prior to the meeting; we'll alert you to their availability through the weekly bulletins.

REPORTS

Reports from various organizations of the church are (over)due in the Church Office. If you would review and ensure your committee report is in that would be appreciated as we work to organize for members in advance of the meeting.

LOCATION

The meeting will be held immediately following the 10:00 a.m. Worship Service for those attending in person and a link will be provided for online viewing as well. More on that will be provided as the date draws closer.



*Wishing you a Happy
New Year with the
hope that you will
have many blessings
in the year to come.*

Lectionary Readings for January

1st - Epiphany

Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 63:7-9

Psalm: Psalm 148

Epistle: Hebrews 2:10-18

Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23

8th - First Sunday after Epiphany

Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 42:1-9

Psalm: Psalm 29

Epistle: Acts 10:34-43

Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

15th - 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

22nd - 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

29th - Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Hebrew Scripture: Micah 6:1-8

Psalm: Psalm 15

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

PASS THE PEANUT BUTTER PLEASE



PLYMOUTH FOOD PANTRY "LOAD OUR SHELVES"

Beginning in January, Salem UCC will be participating in a monthly community-wide initiative called "Load Our Shelves" to benefit the Plymouth Food Pantry. Each month churches will collect ONE selected item to replenish the shelves at the Pantry. January's item is *(drum roll please!)* PEANUT BUTTER!

A Food Pantry bin is in the gathering area just outside the church office area. Place the items you bring in the bin and know that you are helping support this valuable local mission!

PASS THE PEANUT BUTTER PLEASE

January Celebrations



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

Larry & Sharon Zwerg on the 22nd
Steve & Jan Koepsell on the 23rd



Special thanks for all who purchased gifts through the Angel Tree this advent season. Your generosity was most appreciated by the families at the Resource Center.



Bridgeway House
news & needs

Two families are currently living in the Bridgeway House. A family of four will be moved into Bridgeway house the first week of January. Please hold the Bridgeway family in your thoughts and prayers as we venture through a season of change with staff and new residents.

We have a need for twin and full size blankets for Bridgeway residents, as well as city bus passes if you can help.

The Church Office will accept donations and deliver to the facility at the end of the month.

Grace and Peace to you!

Jean Halida
JoAnn Kraus
Eugene and Georgine Littlefield
Rollie and Kathy Bruggink
Florence Blanke **Tim Miller**
Carol Groene **Eugene Boll**
Dennis Kapellen **Don Hurlburt**

NIGHT TO SHINE NEEDS OUR HELP!

Join Sheboygan County Night to Shine – Serve as a volunteer, invite guests to be honored kings or queens, provide financial or other support – Visit <https://sheboygancounty.nighttoshine.com/> for more details.

I am excited to share a little bit about Sheboygan County Night to Shine and Salem's opportunity for involvement in this exciting event which provides an unforgettable prom night experience, centered on God's love, for people with special needs ages 14 and older. We need all types of volunteers to make this happen. In Plymouth, Salem UCC will be partnering with Christian Life Church in hosting Night to Shine 2023 on Friday, February 10. St. Paul Lutheran Church will be hosting an event at the same time, in Sheboygan Falls. Together, our churches form Sheboygan County Night to Shine.

Guests of Night to Shine receive the royal treatment, including hair and makeup stations, shoe shining stations, limousine rides, corsages and boutonnieres. They walk a red carpet; and every one of the Night to Shine guests is crowned a king or queen of the prom, complete with a warm welcome from a friendly crowd and paparazzi! Honored guests of Night to Shine enjoy prom favors and, of course, dancing. Photographs, refreshments and a Respite Room for parents and caretakers are also part of the evening.

Volunteers will be able to serve in some of the following ways: Activity Stations, Decorating, Flowers, Food Service, Guest Buddy, Guest and Volunteer Check-In, Paparazzi, Parking & Transportation, Respite Room, Sensory Room, *Here to Cheer*, Set-Up, Tear Down, and more.

There are ways that each of us can play a part. Some things need to happen before the event, some during and others after. I know many at Salem have been part of Night to Shine in years past, just as I have. I encourage those who have participated to share your stories. If anyone would like to hear some of my stories and/or learn more about this spectacular event, please let me know. I hope you will consider how you can contribute to making February 10th an evening to remember!

Blessings,
Mary Bender

Follow this link to Amazon and order items to support the event by January 5: <https://a.co/hpfQpTP>
Note that items should be shipped direct to Christian Life Church, 300 Rustic St., Plymouth WI 53073



Christmas Blessings & Happy New Year!

The Advent Season at Salem was filled with fellowship and opportunities for learning, as well as mission and service. Thank you to everyone who participated in the many facets of our Faith Formation offerings on Sunday mornings and/or Wednesday evenings. Students and adults participating during our Sunday morning and Confirmation class times had a special opportunity to help tie fleece blankets which are being donated to children who are hospitalized. What a beautiful way to share warmth, care, comfort and love. It is beautiful and heartwarming to see so many of us come together to share in refreshments, study and service to others. We are grateful for all participants! We are also grateful to the Men's Coffee Group for the treats they blessed our young people with, adding to our Christmas celebrations.

Thank you to those who participated in, or otherwise supported Salem's Sunday School Christmas Program. The children put much care into sharing their wonderful story of God's love for all. I hope you had an opportunity to watch our Sunday School Christmas Program. If not, please look for it on the church's Facebook page or YouTube. A number of our young people have also been sharing their time and talents during worship times, as well. Please reach out to them and ask them about their experiences in our church community – and share yours with them.

You are invited to join in these upcoming activities...

Sunday School

- All children ages 4 years – Grade 6 are invited to join us on Sundays from 9:00am – 9:45am. Parents, grandparents and others continue to bless us with their presence in class; and volunteers are needed and always welcome.
- Christmas Break continues through January 1
- Weekly classes are set to resume January 8
- No Sunday School on January 29 (Salem's Annual Congregational Meeting)

On behalf of Salem's Faith Formation Team, I invite anyone with questions or concerns about our Sunday School or Confirmation programs to contact the church office or reach out to any member of our team. (The confirmation schedule is printed on the following page.)

Thank you for your continued prayers and support for our children and youth and these important ministries!

Wishing you peace, hope, love, joy and blessings,
Mary Bender

Confirmation Class Schedule (Wednesdays):

1/4/2023	5:30 - 6:15PM	Mentor Meal (Year 3) Mentor Meal
1/4/2023	6:15 - 7:30 PM	Confirmation Class - Ruth/Mentor Time
1/11/2023	6:15 - 7:30 PM	Confirmation Class - David/Salem History
1/18/2023	6:15 - 7:30 PM	Confirmation Class - Solomon /Other Beliefs
1/25/2023	6:15 - 7:30 PM	Confirmation Class - Elijah/Death and Dying
2/1/2023	6:15 - 7:30 PM	Confirmation Class - Daniel/Death and Dying

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

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 and family

Kenny 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

Parents Edwin & Josephine Andrews; daughter Heather Sumner McKerrow Tracy and our family's best friend,

Lina Allmann by Lorena S. McKerrow

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

John and Eleanor Dees by Theresa Dees

Arnold and Marie Miller, Evelyn Gundersen and Fred Wehrmann by Theresa Dees

Evie Gundersen by Karole and John Scott, David Gundersen, Judy Gundersen and Pete Anderson,

and Ham Gundersen

Ron Veleke and David Veleke by Janet Veleke

Irene Rickmeier, Don and Marcy Kraemer, Carl Mauk and Morgan Zorn by Ken & Kay Mauk

POINSETTIA SPONSORED IN HONOR OF . . .

Our 50th Wedding Anniverary by Ed and Darla Ardell

POINSETTIA SPONSORED IN HONOR AND IN MEMORY OF . . .

In Memory of Ralph Bermke, John & Edna Richards, Clarence & Hildegard Bermke; and and in honor of John, Gretchen, Lauren & Liam Richards by Bonnie Bermke



JANUARY 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 Epiphany <i>Sunday</i> <i>New Year's Day</i> 10-11am Worship Hymn Sing (Livestream and in-person)</p>	<p>2 9am Men's Coffee</p>	<p>3 <i>Bulletin Deadline</i> <i>Consistory agenda items due</i> 10am Staff 7pm N Anon</p>	<p>4 5:30pm Mentor Meal 6:15pm Confirmation 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>5 6:30pm Worship Team Meeting 7pm N Anon</p>	<p>6 7pm N Anon</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8 <i>Holy Communion</i> 9:00am Faith Formation 10-11am Worship (Livestream and in-person) 7pm All Anon</p>	<p>9 9am Men's Coffee</p>	<p>10 <i>Bulletin Deadline</i> 10am Staff 6:30pm Consistory 7pm N Anon</p>	<p>11 6:15pm Confirmation 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>12 6:30pm Special Gifts Team Meeting 7pm N Anon</p>	<p>13 7pm N Anon</p>	<p>14 9:00am Amateur Radio Exam</p>
<p>15 9:00am Faith Formation 10-11am Worship (Livestream and in-person) 7pm All Anon</p>	<p>16 9am Men's Coffee</p>	<p>17 <i>Bulletin Deadline</i> 10am Staff 7pm N Anon</p>	<p>18 6:15pm Confirmation 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>19 7pm N Anon</p>	<p>20 7pm N Anon</p>	<p>21 <i>Newsletter Deadline for February Chapel Chimes</i></p>
<p>22 9:00am Faith Formation 10-11am Worship (Livestream and in-person) 7pm N Anon</p>	<p>23 9am Men's Coffee</p>	<p>24 <i>Bulletin Deadline</i> 10am Staff 7pm N Anon</p>	<p>25 6:15pm Confirmation 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>26 7pm N Anon</p>	<p>27 7pm N Anon</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29 No Faith Formation 10-11am Worship * (Livestream and in-person) *Annual Meeting follows 7pm All Anon</p>	<p>30 9am Men's Coffee</p>	<p>31 <i>Bulletin Deadline</i> 10am Staff 7pm N Anon</p>				

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



PASTOR: Rev. James M. Hoppert
MUSIC DIRECTOR: Anne Hernandez / CHOIR DIRECTOR: Eileen Brooks
CONSISTORY PRESIDENT: Paul Clarke
TREASURER: Mary Mullen
CUSTODIAN: Shannon Mendenhall
CHURCH SECRETARY: Linda Bosman/Sandy Rabe
ORGANIST: Scott Weir

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

OFFICE HOURS: OPEN TUES 9-4; WED 9-4; FRI 9-1 CLOSED MON & THURS
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