

LIVING OUT GOD'S LOVE

Salem United Church of Christ is an Open and Affirming Congregation

NEWSLETTER | JANUARY 2022

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SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR JANUARY:

New Year's Day:

Ecclesiastes 3:1-13
Psalm 8
Revelation 21-1-6a
Matthew 25:31-46

Week of January 2:

Jeremiah 31:7-14
Psalm 147:12-20
Ephesians 1:3-14
John 1:(1-9), 10-18

January 6, Epiphany:

Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
Ephesians 3:1-12
Matthew 2:1-12

Week of January 9:

Isaiah 43:1-7
Psalm 29
Acts 8:14-17
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Week of January 16:

Isaiah 62:1-5
Psalm 36:5-10
1 Corinthians 12:1-11
John 2:1-11

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REFLECTIONS FROM TOM...

2022! Starting a new year, but for the Church, the new year liturgically starts with Advent and Christmas, a cycle that moves, from expectations of what God is going to do, to a time of reflecting on what God now calls us to do, by reflecting on the ministry of Jesus. We call this next season "Epiphany", which variously means "revealing", "appearing" and sudden "discerning". The Day of Epiphany is traditionally the "Twelfth Day of Christmas", January 6th.

So, we begin with the appearing of a Star over Bethlehem, leading Magi ("Wise Ones"/Astrologers) from lands East of Israel (probably Persia). Yes, the "Three Kings" (who weren't "kings" and it never really says "three") found Jesus at about two years of age, in a house, so this isn't actually part of the Christmas event. On January 2nd, we will have a worship service celebrating this "Epiphany" of Jesus to the world, and we will have Communion on this first Sunday of the month.



On the following Sunday, January 9th, we will share a special festival Sunday marking the Baptism of Jesus, with a Baptism Renewal Ceremony, during which you can come forward to choose a seashell from a bowl of water. The seashell is one of the first symbols of this new Christian faith in the First Century. You will keep the shell as a reminder of your Baptism and inclusion in the worldwide family of faith in Christ!

On January 16th, there will be another "revealing", as we announce the people who will make up the Pastor Nominating Committee, which will be working throughout 2022, to help us discern and refine our sense of missional calling from God and search for the settled Pastoral leadership to help guide Salem Church toward fulfilling that calling! We will also be reflecting in worship on the seriousness of that Christian calling, as we commemorate the words and work of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., whose birthday holiday is January 17th.

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Week of January 23:

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Psalms 19

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Luke 4:14-21

Week of January 30

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Psalms 71:1-6

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Luke 4:21-30

2022!!! Starting in January, 2022 is going to be an exciting and pivotal year for Salem Church! As we emerge out of the limitations of these "pandemic years", there will be an incredible opportunity for us to reframe, renew, and recommit to the work that God calls us to do! Now is the time for us to start dreaming new dreams, for our Church and for this world!

Peace on Earth,
Rev Tom

SYMPATHIES

Our sympathies to the family of Ruthellen Phillips who died on December 27th. We especially hold Dick Phillips (husband) and Sarah Pundt (daughter) in prayer as well as the entire Pundt family. Details of a Celebration of Life will be shared at a later date.

2022 COUNCIL MEMBERS

The following is a list of our council members for this year. An asterisk (*) indicates those beginning their 3 year term.

Geroge Adams (President)
Kari Westphal (Vice President)
*John Cashman
Harlan Hall
*Hugh Hauser
Kelli Malueg
Kathy Shubak
*Dave Triplett
Guy Williams

This was not included in the print version of the December Newsletter so it is being included in the January Newsletter.

Good-bye Letter from Carolyn Kleinfeldt

In 1957 the Reverend Zane Pautz invited Bob and I to attend the little white church located then at what is now the Miller's parking lot and called the "Swiss Reform" church or "Evangelical Reform" church. We became members in 1958 and have attended Salem ever since. Over the years we each served the Church in a variety of ways which led to making working partnerships and friendships that enriched our lives. Sadly, Bob passed away in November 2019, and now I too am leaving. I have sold my home on Edward street, from which I could see Salem's Bell Tower every day and could hear the laughter of children sledding on the Church hill in the winter. I also have left Verona and moved to Camp Hill, Pennsylvania near family. Bob remains with you in the small grove of Oak trees on the Church grounds where his ashes nourish a new oak tree. I wish to say good-bye to my fellow parishoners and wish you continued joy in the fellowship and charitable activities of this fine Church family. I will miss you.

-Carolyn Kleinfeldt

**If you would like Carolyn's new address, you may request it from the church.*

SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS

One important way that we can remain in community with each other is by sharing our joys and concerns and prayer requests. We encourage you to share this information with Rev. Tom, either by e-mail (trobinson@salemchurchverona.org) or a phone call to the church and indicate if you wish for it to be made known to the wider congregation (shared via e-mail and during worship). You are welcome to leave Rev. Tom a voicemail message at mailbox extension 101.



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1: Calvin Dettman
- 4: Kris Wilbrict, Salem UCC (1923)
- 5: Angela Quade
- 6: Neal Smith
- 7: Melanie Corning
- 10: Zach Nechvatal
- 14: Linda Bieri
- 16: Sherrol Yurs, Cora Hageman
- 17: Ellie Fitzwilliams
- 19: Kenneth Behnke
- 20: Kari Westphal
- 24: Cari Bass
- 26: Dan Durnen
- 28: Anika Quade
- 29: Ginger Dassow
- 30: Kathy Butzlaff

RECYCLE THE WARMTH 2022

The Society of St Vincent de Paul is conducting its 30th annual *Recycle the Warmth* blanket drive and Salem is set to take part again. Each year, hundreds of families and individuals turn to St Vincent de Paul for blankets and bedding. Please donate your good quality new and used blankets, sheets and bedding to help our neighbors in need throughout Dane County. A collection bin is located in the fellowship hall for your donations. A contribution of \$15 will purchase a new blanket. Donate online at svdpmadison.org. or checks can be made out to Salem with "Recycle the Warmth" noted. Your generosity is greatly appreciated as a good night of sleep allows everyone to function better at work and school. The campaign runs until January 31st.

THANK YOU FROM SALEM WOMEN'S GUILD

The Holiday Bazaar and Raffle was a great success! Many took part on December 5th in our modified Christmas event, and the wearing of masks didn't hamper the fun. Forty-two prizes were won; the winner of the timeshare vacation was Mike McCarthy, brother of Pat McCarthy and the winner of the quilt was Kay Berry* (what were the odds?). Christmas goodies were sold before and after the raffle, and we sold EVERYTHING! The Grand Total of this event was \$2,027.00!

The success of this raffle is attributed to ALL of you, our church family, at Salem. You purchased and sold tickets, you donated prizes and/or baked goodies, and many of you supported us by attending this fun event after church. The Guild wishes to sincerely thank you for all your help and support. A big THANK YOU goes out to Cindy Remus, who did a wonderful job of coordinating the ticket sales and organizing the donation of prizes. Another key player is Mary Cutler, chairman of the Baked Goods, and her team of workers who organized, priced, and handled the sale of these goodies. Thank you so much, ladies! We also thank our young people who helped with the raffle, drawing tickets, announcing winners and distributing prizes. We are very hopeful that next year Becky Hagenston can put her skills to work again as chairman of the Barbeque luncheon. Many expressed that they missed having the meal this year.

With everyone's support, the Guild will be able to continue their mission of helping those in need within the church, the community, and even around the world. Salem has once again proved their committed response to serving and the sharing of God's love to others.

*Kay Berry declined to accept the quilt (she is a master quilter and it was made at her house). Another name was drawn from the bucket and that person was Randy Marks, who was very happy with his win!

DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS

These Days, Our Daily Bread and The Upper Room devotional booklets are available on the wall inside the main entrance to the church as well as in the information box near the outdoor labyrinth. These booklets are provided by the Women's Guild.



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The men's group will meet on Thursday, January 13. They will be meeting at a restaurant so look for details to come.

2021 WOMEN'S GUILD RAFFLE LIST

- | | donated by | winner |
|-----|---|--|
| 1. | 7 day/6 night lodging in time share condo | Fred Wenger - Mike Mackler |
| 2. | Machine Quilted Queen Size Quilt | Salem's quilt group - Randy Marks |
| 3. | \$100.00 Cash | Salem Women's Guild - Nora Deguzman |
| 4. | \$25.00 Gift Card Festival Foods | Kelli & Chad Malueg - Judy Hansen |
| 5. | \$50.00 Cash | Becky Hagenston - Diane Luginbuhl |
| 6. | Sugar Cookie Kit | Joyce Gust - Jo Ann Aebly |
| 7. | \$25.00 Gift Card Marcus Theaters | Anonymous - Joyce Gust |
| 8. | \$30.00 Gift Card Culvers | Cara & Nathen Bahr - Jane Larson |
| 9. | \$20.00 Cash | Paul & Rosemerie Wieland - Marty Baker |
| 10. | \$40.00 Gift Card Miller and Sons | Mary & Dwight Cutler - Kelli Mauleg |
| 11. | \$50.00 Cash | Judy Hansen - Kelli Mauleg |
| 12. | Bucky Book | Nancy Dearborn - Mary Cutler |
| 13. | \$50.00 Gift Card | Anna May Rhinner - Cora Hageman |
| 14. | \$50.00 Cash | Tom & Debbie Bass - Loretta Storandt |
| 15. | \$10.00 Gift Card Starbucks | Heather Thoma - Heather Thoma |
| 16. | \$20.00 Cash | Paul & Rosemarie Wieland - Joan Uren |
| 17. | \$10.00 Gift Card Chipotle | Anonymous - Payton Corning |
| 18. | \$25.00 Gift Card Cabela's | Anonymous - Eric Hauser |
| 19. | \$50.00 Cash | Harlan & Gerri Hall - Carlos Valdez |
| 20. | \$100.00 Cash | Salem Women's Guild - Sandi Rost |
| 21. | Gift Card Target | Gary & Jo Ann Aebly - Loretta Storandt |
| 22. | \$50.00 Cash | Helen Hageman - Joan Uren |
| 23. | \$25.00 Gift Card Hallmark | Anonymous - Stephen Berry |
| 24. | \$50.00 Cash | Becky Hagenston - Gary Aebly |
| 25. | \$20.00 Cash | Paul & Rosemarie Wieland - Violet Remus |
| 26. | \$25.00 Gift Card Bavaria Sausage | Diane & Dave Triplett - Ken Dixon |
| 27. | \$50.00 Cash | Judy & Larry Skupien - Stephen Ganshert |
| 28. | \$50.00 Gift Card Miller & Sons | Ken Behnke/First Weber Realtors - JoAnn Gering |
| 29. | Cookware | Fred Wenger - Marty Baker |
| 30. | \$25.00 Gift Card Gus's Diner | Gary & Jo Ann Aebly - Cora Hageman |
| 31. | \$50.00 Cash | Judy Hanson - Kathy Homb |
| 32. | \$25.00 Gift Card Total Wines | Anonymous - Julie Sundby |
| 33. | \$50.00 Cash | Tom & Debbie Bass - Judy Hansen |
| 34. | \$40.00 Gift Card Miller and Sons | Mary & Dwight Cutler - Pat Berry |
| 35. | \$100.00 Cash | Carolyn Kleinfelt - Howard Gust |
| 36. | \$50.00 Gift Card Miller and Sons | Harlan & Gerri Hall - Cindy Remus |
| 37. | \$50.00 cash | Cindy Remus - Dianne Luginbuhl |
| 38. | \$10.00 Gift Card Noodles & Co. | Anonymous - Kathy Hauser |
| 39. | \$50.00 Gift Card Miller and Sons | Ken Behnke/First Weber Realtors - Lisa Hart |
| 40. | \$30.00 Gift Card Kismet | Dianne Luginbuhl - Heather Thoma |
| 41. | \$50.00 gift Card Kwik Trip | Judy & Larry Skupien - Kelly Mauleg |
| 42. | 50.00 Gift Card Festival Foods | Chuck & Lisa Hart - Randy Marks |

SMALL GROUPS

Koinonia

All women of Salem are invited for a time of reflection and fellowship. This group meets in Fellowship Hall, the third Thursday of each month at 7pm.

January 20

Bible Trivia @ 7pm Host: Judy Skupien

Parent's Promise

January 27 @ 7pm Church Library

This group is for parents of tweens, teens, and young adults. Join this circle of parents for conversation and fellowship as we support each other in raising young people of faith. Newcomers and visitors are always welcome! Please contact Sarah Pundt for more information. At our September gathering, we will begin exploring God's Messy Family: Finding Your Place When Life Isn't Perfect by Jacob Armstrong. No need to purchase the book. Simply come and enjoy some conversation and fellowship. Our next gathering is **January 27 @ 7pm.**

SALEM YOUTH NEWSLETTER

Sarah Pundt, Interim Director of Youth Ministry
608-692-3239 or spundt@salemchurchverona.org

January 2022

Wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

Youth Opportunities at Salem

Grades 6-12

All Are Welcome!

Youth and parents are encouraged to join our Salem UCC Youth Ministry Mighty Network. This is an online platform that allows us to have all our youth information, events, rsvp options, pictures, prayer requests, and discussions in a single place on a private network. Please contact Sarah Pundt for more information.

Youth Group

Youth grades 6-12 gather twice per month for fellowship, faith, and fun. Gatherings take place at Salem UCC unless otherwise noted. Friends are always welcome!

Spend time with us..

Do you have a special interest or hobby you would like to share with Salem's Youth? Intergenerational connections are vital to healthy faith development in young people. Please contact Sarah Pundt to plan and schedule your event.

YOUTH CALENDAR

January

9 @ 6:30 Youth Gathering

21 @ 5pm Youth Lock-In Overnight

JANUARY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 10:15AM - Worship	3 Eve - Boy Scouts	4 7PM - Search Committee Meeting	5 4:45PM - Confirmation 6:30PM - Bells	6 6PM - Worship on VHAT-98	7	8
9 9AM - Sunday School 10:15AM - Worship 6:30PM - Youth Gathering	10 Eve - Boy Scouts	11 6PM - Finance 7PM - Council	12 4:45PM - Confirmation 6:30PM - Bells	13 6PM - Worship on VHAT-98 6:30PM - Men's Fellowship	14	15
16 9AM - Sunday School 10:15AM - Worship	17 Eve - Boy Scouts	18	19 4:45PM - Confirmation 6:30PM - Bells	20 6PM - Worship on VHAT-98 7PM - Koinonia (Women's Fellowship)	21 6PM - Youth Lock-in Overnight	22
23 9AM - Sunday School 10:15AM - Worship	24 Eve - Boy Scouts	25 FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE	26 4:45PM - Confirmation 6:30PM - Bells	27 6PM - Worship on VHAT-98 7PM - Parent's Promise	28	29
30 9AM - Sunday School 10:15AM - Worship	31 Eve - Boy Scouts					

JANUARY NEWSLETTER 2022



BAPTISM RENEWAL CEREMONY

Sunday, January 9th

We will share a special festival marking the Baptism of Jesus.

SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES

Sunday, January 9th

Classes resume for PreK-Adult

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Bell Choir Director:

Carrie Coenen

Church Council President:

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An Open
and Affirming
Congregation

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

