

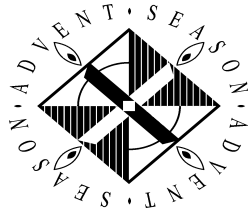


Salem Chimes



Volume 59 Issue 32

December, 2010



Dear Friends,

We end November and begin December with the Season of Advent. As the Hebrew People spent centuries searching and wondering, and sometimes, wandering, they awaited the unknown future that would include the Messiah, their Savior. A phrase frequently associated with Advent is "The voice of one crying in the wilderness" (Matt. 3:2). For Christians, Advent is the time in the Church year that calls us back to focus on the coming of Christ the Savior in the form of the Bethlehem Babe.

Some might consider a special kinship for Salem Lutheran Church this year as Salem now awaits her unknown future. To some this time of transition is a time of searching and wondering about what is to come and a new pastor, regarded by some as a savior figure.

Our Heavenly Father blessed humanity with the Messiah, the divine Savior who came into the world to make us God's own cherished people. As Christ returned to His Heavenly Father, He reminded them, "I'll be with you as you do this, day after day after day, right up to the end of the age" (*The Message*). Like the Hebrew People, over the centuries and generations, worry and concern might be considered a given. But it need not be. The Savior is at hand!

In this time of present day searching and wondering, it is time to remind ourselves that we already have the Savior. Perhaps the unknown one for whom Salem searches is at hand in the form of one another. This Advent it is time to hear and see what God has wrought. "The wilderness and dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom" (Isa.35:1).

Peace,

Pr. Bonnie Sparks
Sunday Supply Pastor

PARISH NOTES

CHIMES

Published monthly

Salem Lutheran Church
4700 W. 72nd Street
Indianapolis, IN. 46268
317-291-5004
office@SalemELCA.com
www.SalemELCA.com

Church Secretary: Alter L. Collins

Chimes Editor: Alter L. Collins

Worship Schedule

Sunday School 9:00 a.m

Sunday Worship Service 10:30 a.m

Vacancy Pastor: Rev. Mel Schroeder 317-430-2083

Sunday Supply Pastor: Rev. Bonnie Sparks

The Sharing Place Wish List

Pantry and clothing bank supplies are low at The Sharing Place, Lutheran Child & Family Services' material assistance ministry for families in need. The current wish list includes: canned meats, canned vegetables and fruit, pasta and spaghetti sauce, macaroni & cheese mix, crackers, cereal, and underwear and socks, **especially adult sizes.**

Please deliver your donations to: Sharing Place East 7049 E. 10th Street. For directions or for additional information, please contact Mary Beth Trotter, Manager at 359-5467, ext. 215 or mtrotter@lutheranfamily.org.

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church Mission Statement

Created by God to make Christ known, and filled with the Holy Spirit,

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church shall be a ministry of Jesus that, through word and sacrament:

- † Strengthens and energizes individuals and families in the Christian faith;
- † Contributes to the growth of fellowship;
- † Equips and affirms individuals in their acts of ministry;
- † Encourages freedom of expression;
- † Encourages all members to participate in the tasks of common life; and
- † Is dedicated to bringing the strength of individual and collective Christian commitment to community involvement.

Volunteering at The Sharing Place=Discipleship!

Now, more than ever, families are in need of assistance to help make ends meet. You can make a difference in the lives of others by donating your time and talent to The Sharing Place, a ministry of Lutheran Child & Family

Services providing food and clothing to families in need. By helping "the least of these," you will discover new opportunities for discipleship as you outfit a family with gently used clothing or guide them through the pantry menu options.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Leslie McCotry, Volunteer Resources Coordinator, at volunteer@lutheranfamily.org or 359-5467, ext. 242.

Special Services in December

Since we are blessed to have such magnificent musical talent at Salem, thanks to Rhunell Gruender leadership, we will be having special services during Advent and Christmas.

The December 19th Advent Service will include Lessons About Carols and will emphasize texts and compositions written in the days when Salem was a young church. This will be a forerunner of musical offerings for the 175th anniversary. Dave, Gino and I have discussed researching and presenting music from the mid to late 1800s to include in next year's celebrations. The Moravian Love Feast that day also. In addition to everything else this saint is doing, Rhunell is taking time to bake the rolls for this. By the way, do you know that the Moravian Church is one in joint communion with the ELCA?

December 26th will have an historical *Christmas Proclamation*. As the Gospel of Matthew traces the genealogy of Jesus, the Christmas Proclamation proclaims salvation history. The text, which comes from the "Roman Martyrology" for December 24, situates the birth of Jesus Christ within the context of salvation history. It begins with the creation of the world, mentions certain key events in the history of the people of Israel, and concludes with the birth of Jesus during the Roman Era.

Christmas at Salem

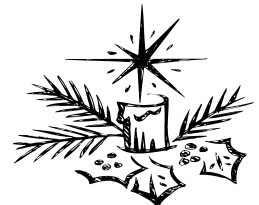
by
Rhunell Gruender

It's beginning to feel a lot like Advent
(Although the stores don't know.)
Salem Lutheran will prepare
For the wonder that we'll share
Of Jesus and his manger birth, so rare.

We have 4 weeks of watching
With greens and texts and songs.
We'll read of the foretelling
And celebratory Psalms.

We'll light the Advent Candles
(One more for every week)
And on the final Sunday
We'll have an Advent treat.

On the Nineteenth we'll sing carols
And hear how they were born;
Then following the Sacrament
To celebrate the morn—
We'll have a Moravian Love Feast
And praise the Morning Star.
We'll share sweet rolls and cider
Knowing Christmas can't be far.



More than just a BIG RED KETTLE

The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.

As you may have already heard, this year, Salem Lutheran Church has signed on to support the Salvation Army of Indiana by volunteering bell ringers at a local business. So, as we step forward to assist those who need our help, we in turn, receive the blessings of those being helped.

As I think back, and I know I am not unique, how many times have we or someone we have known received assistance from the Salvation Army. After I returned to Indiana from serving in the military I remember visiting a local Salvation Army store to purchase a couch. It had been refurbished and looked pretty good to a student that needed some furniture for an apartment, more importantly, the price was right. Through someone else's generosity my apartment would now have a much needed couch.

On Saturday December 4th between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Salem Lutheran Church will be supporting our community by calling attention to that big red kettle placed outside the entrance to the Kroger store at 71st and Georgetown Road. If you are available to ring a bell please sign up as a volunteer by contacting Alter Collins in the church office. She will need to know your availability, start time and duration.

As we give thanks for our blessings let us not forget those who need our assistance and prayers at the **BIG RED KETTLE**.

Peace and Grace be with you,

Keith

Salem Christmas Project

This year Salem is going to adopt a family for Christmas this year. The Salvation Army has provided us with a family, counting on us to make Christmas a merry time for them. There will be a tree in the sanctuary with tags listing a description of each family member along with suggestions for that individual.

Our family consists of:

**Mom
Dad
Girl, age 3, size 5
Girl, age 7, size 8
Boy, age 5, size 9
Boy, age 9, size 10**

It is always fun to shop for a loved one, but it can be just as much fun to shop for a stranger. Perhaps you have a loved one who has passed away, for whom you cannot buy a gift. How about buying something for that person and donate that to the Christmas family from that person. If you wish to participate in this project but are unable to get out and face the shopping crowds, we will be happy to do your shopping for you. Take a tag and place it in an envelope with your cash or check (made out to Salem). Give the envelope to Keith Kunze and he will make it happen.

The Giving tree will be in the sanctuary beginning November 28th until after the service on December 19th. Please bring the name tag, an unwrapped gift, and a roll of wrapping paper in a bag. We can have a great time wrapping these gifts before they are delivered.



The Giving tree

For Facebook Users

Salem has a Facebook page for social networkers to share their memories of Salem's 175 years. Photo albums include our anniversary celebrations in 1940 and 1980, along with recent events. You'll see photos from our cemetery memorial service, our Youth Jazz Tent Event and Reformation Day.

Our Facebook user name is Salem175.

Salem's Online Red Kettle

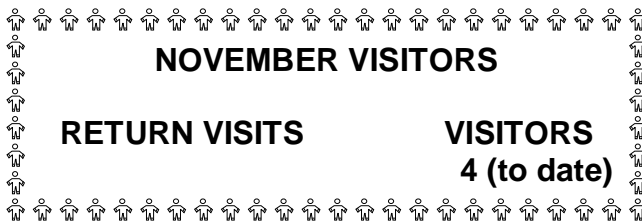
Ring! Ring! Salem is hosting a virtual Red Kettle to benefit the local Salvation Army programs. There's a link on the home page of **SalemELCA.com** or the direct address to get you there is:
give.salvationarmyusa.org/goto/salem175

Thanks, Devoe



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Raymond Lamb	12/2
Benjamin Varela	12/2
Alaxandar Mundt	12/4
Lee Morrow	12/7
Travis Parker	12/13
Anastacia Gilbert	12/17
Johnathon Rice	12/20
Connie Alexander	12/24
Joshua Kunze	12/24
Nancy Alexander	12/26
Sandy Wuensch	12/28



NOVEMBER VISITORS

RETURN VISITS	VISITORS
	4 (to date)



December Worship Serving Schedule

DECEMBER	LAY ASSISTANT	LECTOR	ACOLYTE	NURSERY	USHER	GREETER
5	Sean Rice	Sean Rice		Stacey Parker	Julie Rice	Julie Rice
12	Keith Kunze	Diann Ryan		Stacey Parker	Burt Hall	Susan Kunze
19	Laura Morgan	Devoe Slisher		Stacey Parker	Keith Kunze	Susan Kunze
26		Diann Ryan			Harry Bowden	Stacey Parker

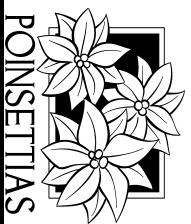
Please make a note in your personal calendar so that we may count on your availability to serve. If for some reason you are unable to serve, please call the church office (291-5004) so that we can find a replacement.



DECEMBER 2010



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Karin Kunze	2 Keith & Susan Kunze	3 Raymond Lamb	4 Nathan Littlefield
5 Garrett Lowery	6 Patricia McElroy	7 Laura Morgan	8 David & Elaina Mundt; Adam, Alan, Alaxandar, JoAnna Mae	9 Ralph Oberlander	10 Robert & Genevieve Pagel	11 Stacey Parker; Erin, Zachary, Travis, Timothy, Anastacia
12 Charles & Rosemary Rader	13 Bonnie Ribley	14 Patrick & Julie Rice; Joshua, Johnathon	15 Joshua, Melanie, Nelson Rivera	16 James Ross	17 Norma Ross	18 Diann & William Ryan
19 Richard Sceniak	20 Devoe Slisher	21 Jan Snowden	22 Geraldine Sterrett	23 Chila Van De Mark	24 Wanda Van Note	25 Cecil Van Note
26 Alex Vance	27 Kelsey Vance	28 Francesco & Amy Varela; William, Benjamin	29 Dee Warriner	30 Sandra Wuensch	31 Barbara & Gino Agresti; Amanda, Angela	



DECEMBER 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 6:00 Council Meeting	3	4 10:00-2:00 Ball Ringling Kroger 71st & Georgetown
5 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 11:45 M & W Team	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship (Moravian Love Feast)	20	21 Chimes Deadline	22	23	24 7:00 Musical Prelude 7:30 Christ Mas Ser- vice	25 Christmas Day
26 10:30 Worship (Christmas Proclamation)						

DECEMBER 2010

CHURCH STAFF

Rhunell Gruender, Director/Organist
Alter L. Collins, Secretary

CHURCH COUNCIL

Keith Kunze, President
Julie Rice, Vice President
Susan Kunze, Secretary
Devoe Slisher, Treasurer
Barbara Agresti
Burt Hall
Cynthia Haverstick
Constance Kadyole
Charles Rader
Johnathon Rice

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday - Friday
11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Salem Lutheran Church
4700 West 72nd Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46268

Address Service Requested

GROWING TOGETHER IN FAITH
