



SALEM CHIMES

Volume 60 Issue 8

December 2011

Check it out!

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The Giving Tree

Advent greetings, dear Friends,

The Oxford Dictionary defines the word advent as “arrival” from Middle English and lists “beginning, start” as synonyms; arrival, as in the journey completed, synonymous with beginning the journey. A conundrum—a journey completed and begun in the same word.



Ernst Käsemann
1906 -1998

For the past several years *Sundays and Seasons* uses a quote by Ernst Käsemann, “Advent returns with each Church year so that every generation may hear it afresh and accept it.” Advent symbolizes the spiritual journey of individuals and a congregation. Käsemann’s brief sentence strikes me as being poignant and important to Salem Lutheran Church this particular Advent Season.

This anniversary year we have spent many months reflecting upon the generations of faithful Salemites who have journeyed before us. The first generation of Salemites began a physical journey to the Western States of America. (Read Dixie Richardson’s book *Baynard Rush Hall* for a rich history of Indiana during this time.) Spiritually these brave church founders journeyed to the unchurched banks of Little Eagle Creek, arriving and beginning their faith journey in a moment, to heard God’s Good News “afresh and accept(ed) it.

Now, 175 years later, each of us has the same opportunity they did to simultaneously complete and begin a personal and collective faith journey. It is the prayer of my heart that in 2036, the next generation of Salemites will reflect upon the Season of Advent as their own faith journey, personally and collectively, completed and begun in the same moment and ponder on the magnitude of the Church’s Advent message.

Advent Peace,

Pastor Bonnie

Stated Supply Pastor

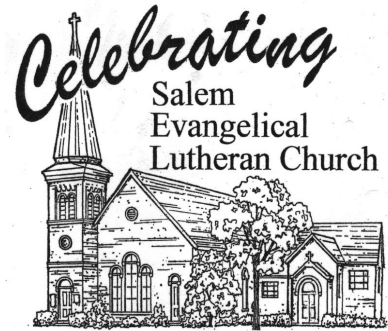
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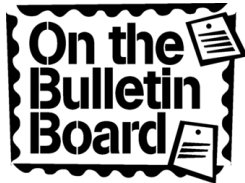
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Sunday School 9:00 am
Sunday Worship 10:30 am
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Rev. Mel Schroeder, Vacancy Pastor
Rev. Bonnie Sparks, Stated Supply Pastor



175 Years
1836-2011



The walls outside the office are full of great opportunities to share your time, talents and tithes in ministry. Check it out!



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



Salem Color Wall Calendars

Five of the first printing of the Salem 2011-2012 Wall Calendar remain as of Thanksgiving Eve. A sale at the Staples Print Center allowed us to keep the production cost under \$10. They are available on a first-come basis in the church office.



We will create a waiting-list and determine if a second printing is in demand. We will let you know the price based on the costs at the time we order.

Thoughts from the Fourth Pew

More than just a BIG RED KETTLE



Greetings and may blessings abound,

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.

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 3 between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 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 the church office.

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

On the right:

Burt Hall rings the bell as Keith Kunze stuffs the kettle with a tip he received after helping a Kroger shopper on Tuesday evening, November 22, 2011.





Carillon Dedication

The new Salem Carillon was dedicated on Reformation Sunday, October 30, 2011. Rhunell Gruender played the carillon in a live performance during the prayers of dedication. A reception followed.

The new carillon was purchased through memorials and the 175th Anniversary Fund. Contributions can still be made through December 31.



Salem's 176th Christmas

The Advent Service on **December 18** will again include The Moravian Love Feast. The feast includes a hot beverage and warm baked goods. Rhunell Gruender is taking time to bake the rolls for this.

In addition, a special program is being planned for that Sunday.

Christmas Eve, the tree will be trimmed with Chrismons. The halls will be decked with holly. And the nativity scene will be complete in front of the altar. Come in from the dark and into the warm glow of the Salem sanctuary to begin the celebration of Christmas.

Special music is planned for 7:00 p.m. The service of Holy Communion begins at 7:30 p.m.



The First Day of Christmas includes our Sunday worship with a hymn sing of your favorite Christmas carols and music. Come prepared to request a song that's dear to your heart and then sing out with joy!

The service of Holy Communion begins at 10:30 a.m.



Cemetery Service

This year's cemetery service honoring Salem's Saints moved inside to

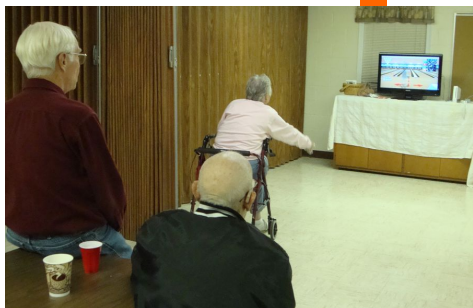


the sanctuary after the wind chill temperature dropped below freezing.



Game Night Returns

Game night was back on Saturday, November 19 after taking a break for the visit from the Bishop. Here Burt and Harry watch Sara Jacobs roll for a strike during last month's competition. We take our annual December hiatus and plan to return the third Saturday in January for more food and fun.



"In the Pulpit"

Bridging the gap between Reformation Sunday and our Saints of Salem celebration, Sean Rice delivered the message while Pastor Bonnie Sparks was away.

Thank you Sean!





Join Salem's Red Kettle Ringers

Salem will be greeting Kroger shoppers at 71st and Georgetown on **Saturday, December 3, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Share the spirit of the season - sign up outside the office for an hour or two. We need your smiling face!

Pictured:
A headless Keith Kunze, Pastor Bonnie Sparks, Little Bit and Burt Hall on Tuesday, November 22, 2011.

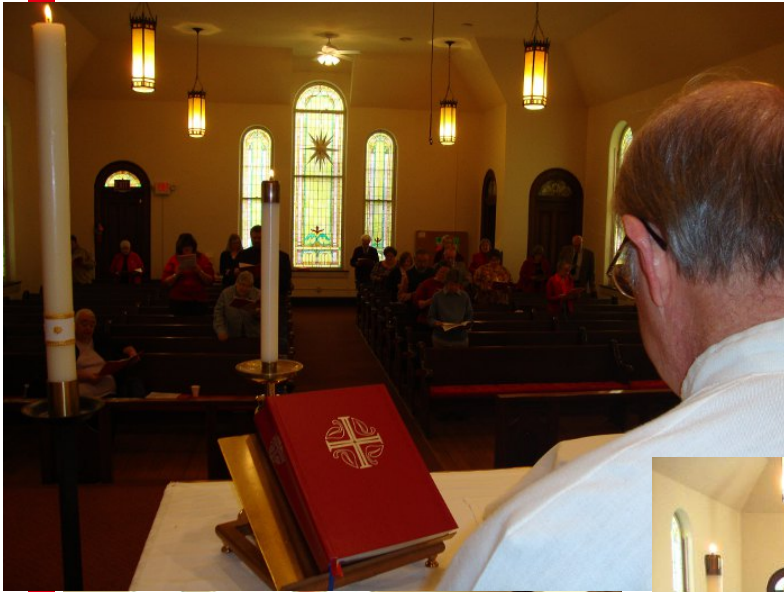


Share the Good News and Joy of Salem's 175th Anniversary!

Salem Christmas Cards.
Watch for details.

Making Us New for the New Year.

The shopping. The baking. The busy holiday calendar. The season of Advent can easily become lost. While we focus on what **we** are doing, it is easy to overlook what **God** is doing - renewing our souls and renewing our lives. Each Sunday during Advent we are studying how God renews and makes all things new. Sunday School begins at 9:00 a.m. Please join us every Sunday morning.



Reformation Sunday

The Salem congregation wore red on October 30 as we celebrated the beginning of the Protestant church and the work of Martin Luther.

LEFT: Lay Assistant Charles Rader.

BELOW LEFT: The consecrated bread and wine during holy communion.

BELOW: Pastor Bonnie Sparks raises up our tithes and offerings at the altar.



**Ladies Christmas Luncheon
December 1**

The men are welcome too, on Thursday, December First at 11:30 a.m. in the Salem Fellowship Hall. Bring a dish to share and whatever appeals to your Christmas spirit. Please come and be part of the fellowship of Salem and help us celebrate 175 years of God's Love and Grace!

Honoring the Saints of Salem

To pray for 175 years of Saints, Salem circled the altar with lit candles.

Lector: Sara Jacobs.
Choir: Ismay Broomes, Diann Ryan and Laura Morgan.



Above Center: Lee Morrow, Rosanne Iles, Tom Alexander, Ismay Broomes, and Barbara Agresti shares the peace with Pastor Bonnie.

Sunday, November 13, 2011.



Why Advent Not Christmas?

Since September we've all experienced Christmas music playing in stores whose shelves are stocked with ghosts and goblins and turkeys and Christmas decorations, so it's really no wonder liturgical denominations have trouble clinging to a season of delayed gratification known as Advent.

Historically, Advent was a time of penance and fasting, much as the Season of Lent. After all, the nativity cannot be separated from the crucifixion. More recently, though, the penitential aspect of Advent has moved toward a greater emphasis on hope and anticipation. Advent is marked by this spirit of anticipation, preparation and longing for deliverance from the evils of the world. Just as the Israelite slaves in Egypt cried out in their bitter oppression, Advent is the time to reflect on all those who experience injustice in the world, yet have the hope of deliverance by God.

It is that hope which brings to the world the anticipation of a King, a Messiah, who will rule with truth, justice and righteousness over God's people and God's creation. We long for God to come and set the world right. Yet, as the prophet Amos warned, the "Day of the Lord" may not be the day of light we would want, because the penetrating light of God's judgment on sin will shine just as brightly on God's people (Amos 5:18-20).



Even with Amos' words of warning the time of Advent is one of expectation and anticipation for God's actions to restore all things and vindicate the righteous. This is why during Advent we, as Christians, also anticipate the Second Coming as a twin theme of the season. There remains a place for penitence during Advent, however, as New Testament people, Advent is not just a time of mourning and fasting; Advent also combines a sense of joy and happiness as we await the coming of the King. Advent is a spiritually powerful time in the Church year. While we await the coming of the King with a sense of joyous anticipation, it is also important to celebrate Advent with a sense of solemn expectancy.

POINSETTIAS

FOR THE CHANCEL

Add to the beauty of the Christmas services by placing a poinsettia in the Chancel. Place your order no later than Monday, December 19, 2011. Complete this form and place in the offering plate or send to the church office. Enclose the payment with your order.

Cost: **\$15.00** each.

Please fill in the blanks below with the appropriate information which will be used in the Christmas Eve bulletin. Checks should be made payable to: SALEM and marked "Poinsettias." Thank you.

_____ Number of poinsettias to be placed in the Chancel.

Check one:

_____ In memory of

_____ In honor of

Name of honoree:

Presented by:

Kindly indicate your wishes for the destination of the Poinsettias after the Christmas Day service:

_____ I will pick up my poinsettia after the service.

_____ Leave for church usage.

Any questions, call or email the church office (291-5004).



Fall Meeting

The special congregational meeting on November 20 included approval of the 2012 budget and the election of Richard Budach, Susie Siroky and Devoe Slisher to 3 year terms on the Salem Council. A fourth position remains unfilled. It was also approved to send several constitutional updates to a final vote at the Annual Meeting next year.

Pictured: Salem Council President Keith Kunze. Seated are Rosanne Iles, Salem Vacancy Pastor Mel Schroeder, Dixie Richardson and Salem Council Secretary Susan Kunze records the minutes.

One Million for Jillian by June 10

From Pr. Heather Apel, Assistant to the Bishop:

The Ronald McDonald House at Riley Children's Hospital, Indianapolis, has been such a blessing to us during the many months we spent at our daughter Jillian's bedside (as these RMD Houses are for so many families at children's hospitals around the country).

Collecting pop tabs from soda cans can turn into money to fund the RMD Houses. The cost for families to stay or use the facilities at RMD Houses is very low thanks to generous donations from individuals and businesses, and these pop tabs.



Our family came up with the crazy goal of 'one million for Jillian.' That means we hope that our friends and family (and anyone else who hears about this goal) will help us bring in 1,000,000 pop tabs in Jillian's honor by her second birthday on June 10, 2012.

Tell your neighbors, co-workers, family and friends to start saving pop tabs! We have been collecting them for a few months now and probably have several thousand already. We will keep a running total as they come in, so if you bring or send us a large amount at one time, it would be nice if you had a count for us that we could add to the total.

Thanks in advance for your support of us reaching our crazy goal (or get as close as we can)!

Pastors Heather and Wade are friends of mine. I shall appreciate any help you can give. There will be a plastic container on the counter with the Sunday refreshments. Thanks, PB

Keeping the Fellowship Hall Kitchen Busy

November 13, 2011

Right: Keith Kunze waiting to tackle the mountain of spaghetti after the Saints of Salem service.

Far Right: Lee Kolumbus talks with Pastor Bonnie Sparks with dessert (Tiramisu) in the foreground.



November 20, 2011

Left: Burt Hall fills his plate with turkey and great dishes after the Christ the King worship service.

Below: Steve and Susie Siroky wait to join the food line.

Below right: Tom Alexander and David Gruender grab a plate.

Bottom: Bel Hedlund, Rhunell Gruender and Chila Van De Mark anticipate the great food.

Thank you to Susan Kunze and all the kitchen contributors. Thanks also for Julie Rice's decorating touches.



Photographer: Devoe Slisher

Salem Adopts Two Families

This year Salem has adopted two families for Christmas. The Salvation Army has provided us with two families, 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.

Family 1

Parents - in needs of some pots & pans, and Tupperware

Child 1 (boy) - age 6

Clothing Size - 4-5 (small)

Toys - cars, action figures, etc.

Child 2 (girl) - age 8 or 9

Clothing Size - 9-10 (medium)

Toys - Barbie Dolls, etc.

Family 2

Parents - in need of pots & pans and Tupperware

Child 1 (boy) - age 7

Clothing Size - 8 (Medium)

Toys - Action figures, Legos, etc.

Child 2 (girl) - age 10

Clothing Size - 12 (Large)

Toys - Dolls, Dress-up clothes

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. Grab a tag or contact the church office to claim one. 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, Devoe Slisher or Pastor Bonnie and they will make it happen.

The Giving Tree is in the sanctuary until after the service on December 11. 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 wrapping party will be after worship on December 18. Sandwich fixin's will be available.



The Giving Tree

Worship Serving Schedule

DEC.	LAY ASSISTANT	LECTOR	ACOLYTE(S)	USHERS	GREETER
4	Steve Siroky	Diann Ryan	Susie Siroky	Burt Hall Harry Bowden	Susan Kunze
11	Keith Kunze	Sara Jacobs	Steve Siroky	Susan Kunze Devoe Slisher	Bel Hedlund
18	Sean Rice	Diann Ryan	Devoe Slisher	Susie Siroky Julie Rice	Susan Kunze
24 Christmas Eve	Sean Rice	Richard Budach	Keith Kunze Burt Hall	Susan Kunze Julie Rice Harry Bowden	Bel Hedlund
25 Christmas Day	Laura Morgan	Sean Rice	Richard Budach	Julie Rice Burt Hall	Bel Hedlund



DECEMBER 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Jeff Barraclough	2 Aileen Blue	3 Harry Bowden
4 Ismay Broomes	5 David Broomes	6 Richard Budach	7 Jan Budach	8 Pete Bush	9 Mary Lou Eitchison	10 Sally Flint
11 Dave Gooderum	12 Trish Gooderum	13 Reuben Gooderum	14 Anita Gooderum	15 Rhunell Gruender	16 David Gruender	17 Susan Grymonpre
18 Burt Hall	19 Janet Hall	20 Adam Haverstick	21 Cynthia Haverstick	22 Bel Hedlund	23 Bethel Hendrix	24 Rosanne Iles
25 Sara Jacobs	26 Constance Kadylole	27 Sherman King	28 Lee Kolumbus	29 Keith Kunze	30 Susan Kunze	31 Ray Lamb

DECEMBER 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 11:30 am Ladies Christmas Luncheon (men welcome) In Fellowship Hall. Bring a dish to share.	2	3 Bell Ringing at Kroger 71st & Georgetown 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
4 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	5 2:30—7:30 p.m. PORTRAIT SHOOTS for SALEM PHOTO DIRECTORY in Fellowship Hall	6 2:30—7:30 p.m. PORTRAIT SHOOTS for SALEM PHOTO DIRECTORY in Fellowship Hall	7	8 6:30 p.m. Council meets in conference room	9	10
11 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	12	13 JANUARY CHIMES newsletter deadline	14	15	16	17
18 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship - Moravian Love Feast 12:00 Wrap Party	19	20	21	22	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE 7:00 Musical Prelude 7:30 Worship
25 THE FIRST DAY OF CHRISTMAS 10:30 Worship and Christmas Carol Sing	26 Office closed this week for Christmas.	27	28	29	30	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE