



SALEM CHIMES

Volume 60 Issue 10

February 2012

February Highlights -

Let's Eat! Pancakes & Soup: pages 5-6
Celebrating 175 Years: pages 7-8

Holiday Photos: pages 12-13
Our Newest Member: page 11

Dear Friends,

Our recent furnace issues seem to be good metaphors for our spiritual lives as we enter Lent. The first part of the chimney repair involved removing half a garbage can of compost and debris from our chimney. Unnoticed, this debris accumulated gradually over the years. The chimney was saturated so completely that air flow was blocked, the furnace shut down and poisonous carbon monoxide escaped into the upstairs.

I ponder how frequently the small unnoticeable debris collects in our hearts and lives. These pet sins, as I call them, are ones that have become such a part of daily life to the point we are unaware of them: an unkind look or phrase, a minor obscenity, *etc.*—small daily habits that are just a part of us. And yet over a period of time, the accumulation of this debris of our pet sins can clog our spiritual life and shut it down leaving a noxious spiritual environment which could poison our relationship with God.



View looking up the Salem chimney after cleaning.

After the debris in the chimney was cleaned away the chimney sweep was able to get a good look at the inside of the chimney. Over the years the mortar which held the bricks in place crumbled and missing in some spots, enough to allow outside light to penetrate. Without repair the chimney would be in danger of collapsing, bricks caving in as well as dropping on someone near the chimney at that wrong moment.

Jesus is the cornerstone of faith, but even that cornerstone needs to be anchored. Those pet sins not only clog our spiritual lives, they also eat away at the mortar that binds the bricks to the cornerstone. When our spiritual mortar crumbles and is allowed to erode away, even the cornerstone can fall. Like the chimney bricks that fall where they will, our sins implode on us, choking off our relationship with God, and they explode on others, harming our relationship with others.

Continued on next page.

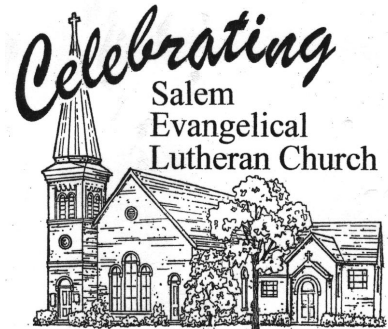
CHIMES

Published monthly

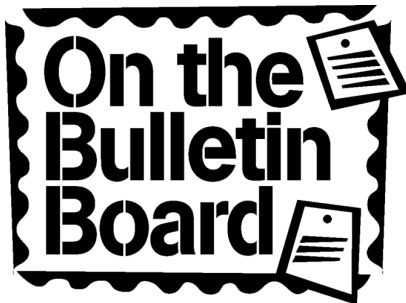
Salem Lutheran Church
4700 W. 72nd Street
Indianapolis, IN. 46268
office@SalemELCA.com
(317) 291-5004

Chimes Editor: Devoe Slisher
Worship Schedule:
Sunday School 9:00 am
Sunday Worship 10:30 am
www.salemELCA.com

Rev. Mel Schroeder, Vacancy Pastor
Rev. Bonnie Sparks, Stated Supply Pastor



175 Years
1836-2011



Go ahead—spoil our Sunday dinner. The sign up sheet for providing Sunday refreshments is in the office hall, next to the Pastor’s door. The wall outside the office is also full of great opportunities to share your time, talents and tithes in ministry.

Check it out!



Birthdays
This Month

2/7	Amanda Agresti	2/26	Angela Agresti
2/17	Julie Rice	2/26	Rhunell Gruender
2/19	Adam Haverstick	2/26	Rosanne Iles

“Dear Friends” Continued from front page.

Grace is a wonderful thing! But grace does not mean we can ignore the sinful debris that clogs our relationship with God. Lent is a time to repent our sins. Lent is the time to ask God to remind us of our pet sins and for us to focus on removing the debris of our pet sins from our lives.

Peace,

Pastor Bonnie

Stated Supply Pastor

Little Ways

Greetings and may blessings abound,

I am not a fan of January. I do not like cold weather, ice, extended darkness, or dreary skies. I do not ski or ice skate, so January holds little interest to me. So, I look forward to February not because it is much different weather-wise than January mind you, but, because there is Valentine's Day and Groundhog Day and, most of the time, Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday. February is also one month closer to Spring than is January – yippee.

But let's go back to Valentine's Day with flowers, candy, poetic cards, jewelry and yes, love. There are an endless number of ways in which we express our love on Valentine's Day to those special people in our lives and many times this expression involves flowers, candy, poetic cards.....well, you get the picture.

Recently, I came across a brief history of Saint Therese of Lisieux, a fascinating biography and history of a young saint who, for many generations of Catholics, came to be called "Little Flower". Saint Therese died at the age of twenty-four after living as a cloistered Carmelite for less than ten years. She never founded a religious order, never went on missions, never performed great works. The only book of hers', published after her death, was a brief edited version of her journal called "Story of a Soul". Yet her life, short as it was, spoke loudly to the masses living in France during the 1880's and 1890's. Twenty-eight years after her death she was canonized by Pope Pius XI in May of 1925.

Saint Therese is also known as the Saint of the Little Ways, meaning she believed in doing the little things in life well and with great love. She stated, "Love proves itself by deeds, so how am I to show my love? Great deeds are forbidden me. The only way I can prove my love is by scattering flowers and these flowers are every little sacrifice, every glance and word, and the doing of the least actions for love".



Her proponents felt that Saint Therese had developed an approach to the spiritual life that people of every background can understand and adopt. This is evident in her approach to prayer. She stated; "For me, prayer is a movement of the heart; it is a simple glance toward Heaven; it is a cry of gratitude and love in times of trial as well as in times of joy; finally, it is something great, supernatural, which expands my soul and unites me to Jesus....I have not the courage to look through books for beautiful prayers....I do like a child who does not know how to read; I say very simply to God what I want to say, and He always understands me."

As we approach Valentine's Day perhaps we can focus on the little things and in little ways we may also show our love. I leave you with a prayer written by Saint Therese of Lisieux:

May today there be peace within.

May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be.

May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith.

May you use those gifts that you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you.

May you be confident knowing you are a child of God.

Let this presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love.

It is there for each and every one of us.

Peace and Grace be with you,

Keith

2012 Council Installed on January 8

Richard Budach and Susie Siroky joined the Salem Council. Returning members include Keith Kunze, President; Julie Rice, Vice-President; Susan Kunze, Secretary; Devoe Slisher, Treasurer; Laura Morgan; Timm Parker; Charles Rader, Rosemary Rader and Sean Rice.



Above: Pastor Bonnie Sparks leads the congregation in a pledge to support Christ's church and Salem.



Top right: Susie Siroky, Susan Kunze, Richard Budach, Laura Morgan, Pastor Bonnie and Keith Kunze. Center: Pastor Bonnie anoints Susie Siroky. Center right: Keith presents candle to Susan.



**"They knelt down and
paid him homage."**

Matthew, Chapter 2

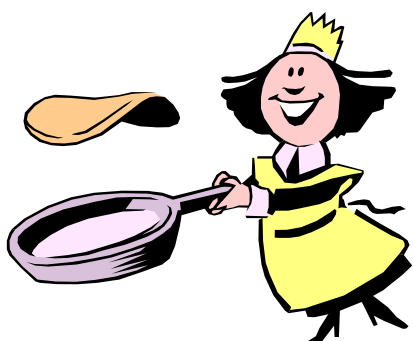
Pastor Bonnie Sparks
and Keith Kunze led our
service on January 8.

Julie Rice lit the candles as we celebrated
the discovery of the Savior under a Star.



Sunday Mornings We Study "Hebrews"

The Book of **Hebrews** addresses three separate groups: believers in Christ, unbelievers who had knowledge of and an intellectual acceptance of the facts of Christ, and unbelievers who were attracted to Christ, but who rejected Him ultimately. **In February**, Dixie Richardson leads our study of this epistle. **Join us at 9:00 a.m.** in the conference room. On February 5 we begin with Chapters 1 and 2. You are invited to read those chapters ahead of time to be better prepared for the discussion.



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Feast

You're invited to a centuries-old tradition - a free feast of pancakes and sausage. Donations will be accepted. Serving begins **at 6:00 p.m. on February 21** in the Fellowship Hall.

Shrove Tuesday originated during the Middle Ages. As in contemporary times, food items like meats, fats, eggs, and milk were regarded as restricted during Lent. To keep such food from being wasted, many families would have big feasts on Shrove Tuesday in order to consume those items that would inevitably become spoiled during the next forty days. The English tradition of eating pancakes on Shrove Tuesday came about as a way to use as much milk, fats, and eggs as possible before Ash Wednesday began. In France, the consumption of all fats and fatty foods on this day coined the name "Fat Tuesday" or *Mardi Gras*.



Pictured: 2010 Feast at the Salem Fellowship Hall.

SOUP SUPPERS

Tuesdays
at 6:00 pm



Join us in the Fellowship Hall on Tuesday nights during Lent for our annual SOUP SUPPERS. Serving begins at 6:00 pm on February 28, March 6, 13, 20 and 27.

A variety of soups are planned including a meat-free choice each week. See Susan Kunze to sign up to help with the food or clean-up.



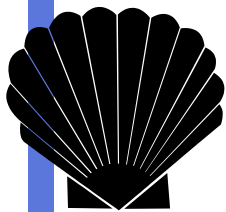
Above:
Young Ana and Uncle Timm
go for the cheese.



Left:
Susan Kunze, Julie Rice and
Stacey Parker.

Ash Wednesday Worship on February 22 at 7:30 p.m.

Lent begins with a solemn call to fasting and repentance as we begin our journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. As we will hear in the readings, now is the acceptable time to return to the Lord. During Lent the people of God will reflect on the meaning of their baptism into Christ's death and resurrection. The sign of ashes suggests our human mortality and frailty. What seems like an ending is really an invitation to make each day a new beginning, in which we are washed in God's mercy and forgiveness. With the cross on our brow, we long for the spiritual renewal that flows from the spring-time Easter feast to come.



175 Years of Baptisms

Our 175th Anniversary Celebration on January 15 honored those baptized at Hopewell and Salem Lutheran.

Top left: We gathered for worship in the Fellowship Hall due concerns of a blocked chimney below the sanctuary.

Middle row left: Rhunell Gruender catches up with the Barraclough sisters.

Middle row center: Those baptized at Salem stood for a special blessing.

Middle row right: Nancy and Connie Alexander cut the cake for the reception.

Bottom left: Burt Hall, Maurice Kelsey, Lee Morrow and Keith Kunze.

Bottom center: Susan Kunze and Barbara Agresti synchronize their calendars.

Bottom right: Kevin Patty and Pastor Bonnie.



The plaque on the lid of the white marble baptismal font includes a dedication. It likely refers to the Sarah Elizabeth Cline who was born (to Marion Cline and E.J. Swindle) on November 17, 1877 and baptized on July 6, 1879. "Miss Elizabeth Cline" passed June 22, 1950. There was a "redecorating" of the sanctuary in 1950 when the Parish Hall addition was built.



If you can confirm the approximate time when Salem began using this font, please contact Devoe Slisler in the church office.

Midweek Lenten Study Starts February 28



Sacred Words

Words have power. Words also change context over time and from one language to another. Philosophy and culture also play an important role. Was the story passed down in oral tradition or was it first presented in written form (the two creation stories verses an epistle)? Were the people nomads, agrarian, or captives? So many considerations although God's message.

Each week we shall look at a single word from scripture to determine the ancient writer intent when using the word to interpret God's meaning. We shall also look at what the word means in the Twenty First Century to see how our current understanding of the word compared to the use of the word over the millennia and languages of the Bible.

The sacred words for this study are Grace, Justice, Righteousness, Mercy, and Forgiveness. Join us each week to unfold the meaning and depth of these words.

Celebrating 175 Years of Weddings on February 12

More than 150 couples who were married at Salem have been invited to a special service and reception on Sunday, February 12 at 10:30 a.m.

If you are one of those couples, please RSVP to the church office. And if we failed to send you the invitation, please let us know and please join us. Special prayers will also be offered for those whose marriage has ended through death or divorce.

Sean Rice delivers a message that morning that will inspire both those with and without spouses.



Pastor Mercer married Jeff Barraclough and Ellen Meegan in November of 1991.

Annual Meeting & Dinner on February 19



Following worship on the 19th, join us for a potluck dinner (meat entrée provided, please bring a side dish or dessert to share) in the Fellowship Hall. After the meal, Keith Kunze will call our annual meeting to order. Please bring your questions and concerns as we review 2011 and look ahead.

Thank You Note

Pastor Bonnie received a thank you voicemail from Richard and Tira Andre in December. They were moving back to Florida to be near family. They expressed their great appreciation for all the Salem family had done for them and how we touched their lives.

Pictured: Tira cleans the cobwebs from the conference room window during the clean-up day on October 1, 2011.



Another Big Collection for our Ringers



Salem had the biggest collection again this season, ringing for the Salvation Army Red Kettle at the Kroger on West 71st at Georgetown. On December 3, **\$230** was tossed into the kettle. Thank you to all who took time to help out with this community outreach.

(Pictured: Harry Bowden)

Aileen Blue Passes

Long-time Salem member Aileen Blue joined the Church Triumphant on December 19. She was 91. Aileen Cross married Robert Keith Blue at Salem on February 1, 1946 by the Reverend R.A. Heine. Robert passed in November of 2002.

She had been receiving care at Zionsville Meadows and is remembered by our team of actors and musicians when they were doing monthly performances there.

The funeral was December 20, 2011 at Lincoln Memory Gardens in Whitestown.



February Game Night on the 18th

Join the fun! We meet in the Fellowship Hall on the third Saturday of the month. Bring a snack or food to share and join the fun! We start eating at 5:30 and then the games begin.



NEW YEAR GAME DAY - January 1, 2012

Above Left: Lee Kolumbus shows Nancy Alexander and Rita Cole a new dice game.

Above Center: Enjoying a meal, including black-eyed peas, clockwise: Keith Kunze, Bart Richardson, Tom Alexander and Harry Bowden. Nancy Alexander (standing).

Above Right: Lee Kolumbus, Bel Hedlund and Richard Budach.

Left: Sara Jacobs and Richard Budach watch Lee Kolumbus try to pick up a spare in Wii Bowling.



Open House in Fellowship Hall

Salem welcomed the Indianapolis Department of Public Works on January 24 as they presented plans for the West 71st Street Bike Way Project. More than 500 community representatives and homeowners were invited to view the detailed maps and drawings and to give feedback to the city planners and engineers. The bike trail and bike lanes would connect to the current trail at West



71st and Shanghai Road and eventually continue to College Avenue. The timetable covers the next three years.





Ernestine Allen Turns 95

Ernestine Allen is 95 years young. She celebrated her birthday on January 24 in her home. Prayers for good health in 2012!

Ernestine has been a member of Salem since May 10 of 1959 and has lent a hand to many outreach projects.



Seated:
 Bethel Hendrix
 Daughter Rosanne
 Dee Warriner
 Ernestine Allen

Standing:
 Bel Hedlund
 Nancy Alexander
 Connie Bennett
 Bonnie Ribley
 Rosanne Iles

Photographer:
 Pastor Bonnie Sparks



New Member - Rita Cole

In 2011, Rita Cole chose to be part of the Salem family after moving into the Crooked Creek Towers on Michigan Road. She is from Northern Illinois, just south of Chicago, but in recent years she lived in Evansville, Indiana. She has two sons who call the Indianapolis area home.

Although Rita attended a Lutheran church as a youth, as an adult she has been a member of the Southern Baptist Church.

Upper Left: Rita is received into membership by Affirmation of Faith on January 15, 2012. Sara Jacobs serves as her sponsor/mentor.

Left: Rita at Salem's Epiphany service on January 8, 2012.



Deadline for the March CHIMES newsletter is February 21.

Christmas at Salem



Decking the Halls on December 16 & 18, 2011

Clockwise: Steve Siroky, Susan Kunze, Julie Rice, Timm Parker, Anna Dorner, Timm reaching new heights, Timm and Sean Rice adding the Chrismons.



Advent Lessons and Carols and the Moravian Love Feast

**We hear the words of the prophets. We sing of God's promises.
We place our hope in God.**

Clockwise from above: The Salem Choir. Little Bit sips her cider. Al Saurini joins Rhunell Gruender and Gino Agresti for the Prelude: *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*. Pastor Bonnie Sparks lights a Menorah. Pastor and Little Bit enjoy the feast. Dixie Richardson reads *The Cherry Tree Carol*. Pastor begins the Children's Sermon. David Gruender explains the traditions.



December 18, 2011 Photographer: Devoe Slisher

Christmas Eve

Salem celebrated December 24 much as our founders did 175 years ago. Gathered with their families, singing Silent Night in German by candlelight.

We then exited into the night by the light of the Moravian Candle.



From Heaven Above December 25, 2011

Above: Richard Budach, Pastor Bonnie Sparks and Laura Morgan guided us through Martin Luther's favorite Christmas Carol through song and scripture. Gino Agresti and David Gruender perform with Rhunell. Julie Rice captured these images on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Name of Jesus

Pastor Bonnie sits down as a Rabbi might do, to teach about the traditions surrounding the naming of Jesus. January 1, 2012



Worship Serving Schedule

February	LAY ASSISTANT	LECTOR	ACOLYTES/CRUCIFER	USHERS	GREETER
5 ELW 10	Sean Rice	Richard Budach	Devoe Slisher	Keith Kunze Susan Kunze	Bel Hedlund
12 ELW 10	Steve Siroky	Sara Jacobs	Richard Budach	Devoe Slisher Harry Bowden	Julie Rice
19 CFS	Sean Rice	Dixie Richardson	Keith Kunze	Susie Siroky Julie Rice	Bel Hedlund
22 Ash Wed.	Steve Siroky	Richard Budach	Devoe Slisher	Burt Hall Harry Bowden	Keith Kunze
26 ELW 3	Sean Rice	Sara Jacobs	Steve Siroky	Julie Rice Susie Siroky	Susan Kunze



FEBRUARY 2012



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Bill Ryan	2 Diann Ryan	3 Rich Sceniak	4 Galina Alkhutova
5 Pastor Mel Schroeder	6 Steve Siroky	7 Susie Siroky	8 Devoe Slisher	9 Pastor Bonnie Sparks	10 Chila Van De Mark	11 Frank Varela
12 All the couples married at Salem and Hopewell.	13 Benjamin Varela	14 Jim Warriner	15 Dee Warriner	16 Jake Lewis	17 Julie Rice	18 Cynthia Haverstick
19 Adam Haverstick	20 Zach Parker	21 Travis Parker	22 Erin Parker	23 Rick Parker	24 Stacey Parker	25 Timm Parker
26 Rosanne Iles	27 Xander Linderwell	28 Laura Morgan	29 Bart Richardson			

FEBRUARY 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5 The Martyrs of Japan, died 1597 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	6	7	8	9 6:30 pm COUNCIL in conference room	10 Ansgar, Bishop of Hamburg, missionary to Denmark and Sweden, died 865	11 4 Martin Luther died 1546
12 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Celebrating 175 Years of Salem Weddings Special Reception follows the service.	13	14 Valentine's Day Cyril, monk, died 869 Methodius, bishop, died 885 missionaries to the Slavs	15	16 Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, martyr, died 156	17 24	18 Game Night in Fellowship Hall 5:30 Food 6:00 Games
19 Transfiguration 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship CFS 12:00 Dinner and Annual Meeting in Fellowship Hall	23	21 Chimes Deadline 6:00 p.m. SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE FEAST	22 <u>Ash Wednesday</u> 7:30 pm. Worship Imposition of Ashes	23	24	25 Elizabeth Fedde, deaconess, died 1921
26 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	27	28 6:00 p.m. SOUP SUPPER in Fellowship Hall 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship / Study	29			

February 2012

CHURCH CLERGY & STAFF

Rev. Bonnie Sparks, Stated Supply Pastor

Rev. Mel Schroeder, Vacancy Pastor

Rhunell Gruender, Music Director/Organist

Devoe Slisher, Office Manager

CHURCH COUNCIL

Keith Kunze, President

Julie Rice, Vice President

Susan Kunze, Secretary

Devoe Slisher, Treasurer

Richard Budach

Laura Morgan

Timm Parker

Charles Rader

Rosemary Rader

Sean Rice

Susie Siroky

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday - Friday

12 noon - 5:00 p.m.

317-291-5004

www.salemELCA.com

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

Address Service Requested
