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# Salem Chimes



Volume 59 Issue 33

January 2011

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Dear Friends,

January 6<sup>th</sup> is the marvelous Feast of the Epiphany which commemorates the search of the Wise Men ending their successful search by finding the Bethlehem Babe, Jesus who will be the Christ. Although the Church condenses their search into twelve days (hence, the Twelve Days of Christmas), we know from the Gospel of Matthew, Chapter 2, that these men searched for almost two years to find the child for whom the star shined.

As you know, the word epiphany means an enlightenment or manifestation—that “AHA” moment when something becomes crystal clear. From this the Church also refers to the Season of Epiphany as The Season of Light.

The hymn *I Wonder as I Wander* is the story of thinking while journeying. Salem is on her own journey toward the future. Often during the search process, people become anxious that the journey toward the future is not happening quickly enough. In Salem's case, there is a long history. It has taken us 175 years to reach this point. If anything, that rich history should teach us patience.

The Wise Men wandered for almost two years. Moses and the People of Israel wandered for forty years. During those long years they were constantly praying for God to lead them to the right place.

While we are in this Season of Light, let us pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to guide our steps as the Spirit has done so for the past 175 years.

May the Light of the newborn Babe of Bethlehem shine on each of you this season.



Peace,  
Pastor Bonnie  
Sunday Supply Pastor

# PARISH NOTES

## CHIMES

Published monthly

### Salem Lutheran Church

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Indianapolis, IN. 46268

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[www.SalemELCA.com](http://www.SalemELCA.com)

**Pastor:** Rev. Bonnie Sparks

**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

## 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. 10<sup>th</sup> Street. For directions or for additional information, please contact Mary Beth Trotter, Manager at 359-5467, ext. 215 or [mtrotter@lutheranfamily.org](mailto: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](mailto:volunteer@lutheranfamily.org) or 359-5467, ext. 242.**

## **The Wise Men**

As I collect my thoughts and begin to write, we have just received another three inches of snow at our home. Is it wise to say that we are indeed in store for a white Christmas? Speaking of wise, how many wise men were there? I recently read an article that stated that a newly uncovered text from a little –known eight-century manuscript names 12 Magi or wise men, while other parts of the text suggest that “a group the size of a small army” traveled to Bethlehem. However, according to scripture, the number of wise men is not given.

I suppose most of us have thoughts or maybe theories about the Wise Men, how they looked, who they represented, where they originated, how they traveled, and so forth. After all, the story of the “Three Wise Men” is one of the most beloved and familiar parts of the Christmas story. I also suspect that much of what we individually believe about the Magi is due in part to lack of information in scripture(s). However, scripture does tell us that the Wise Men brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh and these gifts were presented to the Christ Child after worshipping him. I believe the Wise Men brought much more than gifts; they also brought faith, hope and love. Their faith must have been exceptional to travel many days over difficult terrain not knowing who or what they might encounter. As they saw the birth of a new star in the heavens, for them, it became a sign of something tremendous which was about to happen. Can we possibly imagine the joy and love each experienced as they met the eyes of their Lord and savior? After-all, it is entirely possible that these Wise Men were the first to see the Christ Child, at least the first visitors to the manger.

Their journey was one of faith, hope and trust. They heard the call of the Lord and obeyed, despite the disbelief of their neighbors and friends who probably thought they were going senile –a little bit like Noah building his Ark on dry land. And you say you are going on a journey to follow a star?

Friends, during this Christmas Season may you rejoice in the love of Christ as you enter that stable to look upon the face of God. For as you are surely wise, let the compassion of Christ, the hope for tomorrow, and the joy of this season touch your heart.

Peace and Grace be with you,

Keith

**Poinsettias have been given to the glory of  
God by the following persons:**



**Connie Alexander**  
*in memory of: My Grandparents, Iona & Alvin Alexander  
and Ruby & Eldon Cook*

**Tom & Nancy Alexander**  
*in memory of: Loved Ones*

**Tom & Nancy Alexander**  
*in honor of: Our Granddaughter Brooke*

**Anonymous**  
*in honor of: Devoe Slisler*

**Rhunell & Dave Gruender**  
*in memory of: Our Parents*

**Rhunell & Dave Gruender**  
*in memory of: Peggy Kasten*

**Bel Hedlund**  
*in honor of: Margaret & Gerrit*

**Bethel Hendrix**  
*in memory of: Wendell Phillips*

**Keith & Susan Kunze**  
*in memory of: Loved Ones*

**The Rice Family**  
*in honor of: All Military Service Soldiers and their Families*

**Bill & Diann Ryan**  
*in memory of: Our Parents*

**Pastor Bonnie Sparks**  
*in honor of: The People of Salem*

**Pastor Bonnie Sparks**  
*in honor of: Choir & Musicians*

**Sandy Wuensch**  
*in memory of: My Husband Butch  
My Sons and Grandchildren*

**To Salem Friends,  
From The Gruenders**

Last Sunday Rhunell and Dave looked out—  
It was the Feast of Stephen,  
And the snow lay all about,  
Deep and crisp and even.

But not put off, we made our way  
To church for music making,  
For one more festive day we'd play  
And enjoy the undertaking.

Since one week past we've shared with you  
Dozens of hymns and carols;  
And New Year's will bring still a few  
More glories, harks, and heralds.

With Salem's members who could come  
We celebrated Christmas.  
And Pastor Sparks, a lot of fun:  
We're glad we didn't miss this!

Yes, Salem Church is quite a gem  
With hallowed walls and memories  
And thanks to you we join gain  
To celebrate its centuries.

Our mission says to make Christ known,  
To share our little "secret."  
So call a friend; bring one along—  
No longer should we keep it!



**It was wonderful to have all of our extended  
family and out of town family with us for our  
Christmas Eve Service.**

## *Meaningful Worship Services*

Salem is so blessed to have so many talented musicians and choir people. Their generous giving of their time and talent made the Christmas season so special for everyone who worshiped here.

**Service of Lessons and Stories of Carols** We began Christmas week with this special service. Along with the traditional Service of Lessons and Carols, Dave Gruender shared the story of how each of the carols came to be.

**Moravian Love Feast** This Salem favorite returned this year. As with the Service of Lessons and Carols, the Moravian Love Feast helped us to remember our historic roots in the breaking of the bread. It was a meaningful Agape moment. A special thanks to Rhunell Gruender for taking the time to bake the individual loaves of bread and make the mulled cider.

**Christmas Eve Service** Rhunell, Dave and Gino graciously began the worship with a musical prelude of Christmas music. The solemn Christmas Eve Service was a beautiful worship in the beautiful sanctuary. Ana Gilbert was our little angel who searched the sanctuary until she found the Baby Jesus and placed him in the manger. It was a blessed moment to welcome the Babe of Bethlehem.

**Christmas Proclamation** The Sunday after Christmas we received the gift of the Christmas Proclamation. This choral proclamation told the story of the Christmas event. The music team reinforced the message of Christmas in a beautiful and profound way.

Thank you to everyone who did so many things to help make the Advent and Christmas Seasons special to everyone.

You might ask, "What can we do to follow all of that?" That is easy to answer: In 2011 Salem Lutheran Church will celebrate her 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary! Be on the lookout for so many good things to come.

## *December Recap*

What a wonderful time we had during Advent. It was filled with so many things that reminded us what the true meaning of the season is and what it means to be a church family celebrating the season together.

**Hanging of the Greens Party** A dozen or so folks gathered the Saturday evening before Advent to assemble the great tree and the process of decorating the sanctuary. Afterward everyone enjoyed fellowship and a pot luck meal while telling stories of Christmases past at Salem.

**Christmas Wreathes** This year families were invited to take a Christmas wreath home and decorate it. These wreaths were brought back and used to decorate the pews on Christmas Eve. Each wreath expressed the individuality of our families and yet served to remind us that we are all still one family of faith.

**Ringling bells for the Salvation Army** On December 4<sup>th</sup> the following folks took time to ring bells for the Salvation Army at our neighborhood Kroger store. To quote Keith, "A good time was had by all!" It was an important teaching moment for the children who participated, for they learned about the true spirit of giving.

Stacy Parker  
Susan Kunze  
Keith Kunze  
Little Bit Sanchez

Timm Parker  
Roseanne Iles  
Devoe Slisher  
Jennifer Stumpp

Pr. Bonnie  
Burt Hall  
Alex Haverstick  
Robert Sanchez

**Adopt A Family** Salem adopted a family in Pike Township to shower Christian love and goodness. People at Salem showed great generosity in bestowing many gift upon this family.

**Christmas Wrapping Party and Pot Luck** After worship on December 19<sup>th</sup> we joined together to share a Salem family Christmas meal. After being well fed on everyone's culinary contributions, the women of the church spent time dividing up the gifts gathered for our Christmas Family and wrapping the gifts which Keith delivered to the Salvation Army.

**Cub Scout Caroling Party** The New Augusta Cub Scout Pack spent an evening going door to door singing Christmas tidings to our neighbors. Afterward they returned to the warmth of our Fellowship Hall for their own Christmas party and lots of hot chocolate.



**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS** 

|                    |      |
|--------------------|------|
| Bonnie Ribley      | 1/5  |
| Devoe Slisher      | 1/9  |
| Chila Van De Mark  | 1/9  |
| Elaina Mundt       | 1/11 |
| David Broomes      | 1/12 |
| Nathan Littlefield | 1/20 |
| Tom Alexander      | 1/22 |
| Ernestine Allen    | 1/24 |
| Joshua Rice        | 1/29 |

**DECEMBER VISITORS**

|                      |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| <b>RETURN VISITS</b> | <b>VISITORS</b> |
|                      | 19              |



January 25  
Newsletter  
**DEADLINE**

Begin  
the  
Year  
with **God**

# January Worship Serving Schedule

| JANUARY | LAY ASSISTANT | LECTOR        | ACOLYTE     | NURSERY | USHER        | GREETER     |
|---------|---------------|---------------|-------------|---------|--------------|-------------|
| 2       | Laura Morgan  | Devoe Slisher | Timm Parker |         | Burt Hall    | Bel Hedlund |
| 9       | Keith Kunze   |               | Timm Parker |         | Harry Bowden | Susan Kunze |
| 16      | Sean Rice     | Sean Rice     | Timm Parker |         |              | Julie Rice  |
| 23      |               | Diann Ryan    | Timm Parker |         | Keith Kunze  | Susan Kunze |
| 30      | Sean Rice     | Sean Rice     | Timm Parker |         |              | Julie Rice  |

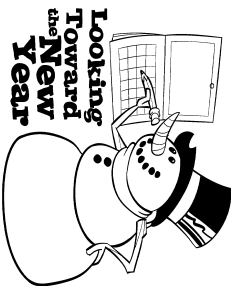
Please make a note in your personal calendar so that we may count on your availability to serve. If for some reason you are unable to serve, please call the church office (291-5004) so that we can find a replacement.



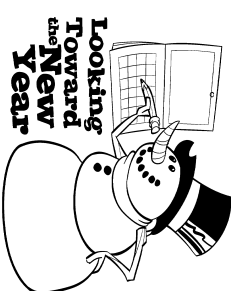
# JANUARY 2011



| Sun                        | Mon                              | Tue                         | Wed                | Thu                    | Fri                           | Sat                          |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
|                            |                                  |                             |                    |                        |                               | 1 Connie Alexander           |
| 2 Tom & Nancy Alexander    | 3 Ernestine Allen                | 4 Karen Anttila             | 5 Aileen Blue      | 6 Daniel & June Bowden | 7 Harry Bowden                | 8 David & Sandra Brandenburg |
| 9 Ismay Broomes; David     | 10 Peter Bush                    | 11 Maria Childers           | 12 Johanne Ely     | 13 Mary Etchison       | 14 Eldon Forthum              | 15 David Gooderum            |
| 16 Reuben & Anita Gooderum | 17 Keith & Angelina Grimme; Karl | 18 David & Rhunell Gruender | 19 Susan Grymonpre | 20 Burt Hall           | 21 Candace & Lindsay Harcourt | 22 Cynthia Haverstick        |
| 23 Bel Hedlund             | 24 Bethel Hendrix                | 25 James & Marian Hightshue | 26 Roseanne Iles   | 27 Sara Jacobs         | 28 Constance Kadyole          | 29 Nancy Kampovsky           |
| 30 Sherman King            | 31 Lee Kolumbus                  |                             |                    |                        |                               |                              |



# JANUARY 2011



| Sun                                                       | Mon                           | Tue                | Wed | Thu                             | Fri | Sat             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|-----|---------------------------------|-----|-----------------|
|                                                           |                               |                    |     |                                 |     | 1 New Years Day |
| 2 9:30 Sunday School<br>10:30 Worship                     | 3                             | 4                  | 5   | 6                               | 7   | 8               |
| 9 9:30 Sunday School<br>10:30 Worship<br>11:45 M & W Team | 10                            | 11                 | 12  | 13 Council Meeting<br>6:30 p.m. | 14  | 15 Game Night   |
| 16 9:30 Sunday School<br>10:30 Worship                    | 17 Martin Luther King Jr. Day | 18                 | 19  | 20                              | 21  | 22              |
| 23 9:30 Sunday School<br>10:30 Worship                    | 24                            | 25 Chimes Deadline | 26  | 27                              | 28  | 29              |
| 30 9:30 Sunday School<br>10:30 Worship                    | 31                            |                    |     |                                 |     |                 |

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# JANUARY 2011

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## 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**

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