



December 2019 MESSENGER

Connecting Salem UMC since 1949



Salem United Methodist Church
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Reaching Out With God's Love and Grace

**Office Hours: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Mon, Wed, Thurs & Fri**

Directory Listing

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During the month of November, we have been praying for:

Alexy Hufnagle
Amanda Merrill
Bill Collins
Bill Stevens
Courage to Cope
Darel Hill
Dick Schultz
Don Kessel
Dorothy Heiss
Erin Mays
Family of Bill Stevens
Family of Elaine Gubetta
Family of Emily Marigliano
Family of Fred Mill
Family of Harlyn Albert
Family of Jeff Terry
Family of Ryan Clark
Hayley Stubblefield
Helen Briggs

Janis Marks
Jessica Saylor
Jodi Isaacson Garcia
Joe & Tammy Schwartz
Lori Miskovic
Maureen Schmidt
Melanie Hartnek
Mike Nelson
Mindy, Kathy and Lisa
Morgan E.
Rob Fox
Ron Haapala
Samantha Iding
Samantha Ludford
Sandy Verno
Scott & Tami Hermes
Veronica Darling
John Baldauf
Ouwerkerk Family



Dear Church Family,

Waiting.

Nobody likes it, but we all put up with it—it's part of life. The season of Advent, of course, is all about waiting; it's that liturgical countdown that starts four Sundays before Christmas, intended to remind us of the Jewish people's wait for the Messiah, and to help us get into the right frame of mind to celebrate the coming of Jesus. We mark it with special candles, special music, special decorations, special...everything. It's a time of anticipation and building excitement.

Of course, as a historical reminder of the wait for Jesus it falls short—not just because four weeks doesn't really capture the seven *centuries* that passed between Isaiah's prophecies and the arrival of the Messiah, but because we not only know what we're waiting for, we know what we're going to get. The faithful who awaited the coming of the Messiah had no such luck.

The experience of the Kingdom of God that *they* anticipated, with a restoration of Israel to former glory, a coming-together of the people, judgment at the hands of the Messiah, the coming of a mighty military leader who would crush *everyone* who deigned to mess with Israel, was not the experience they got. Instead they got some of what they expected—a wise teacher, a just man—but also a lot of what they hadn't counted on: a leader who talked about being a servant; a king who chose to forego the throne for the cross; a redeemer who showed power in passivity and ultimately would trade his life for the lives of his subjects...this is not what was advertised.

For some, it was like opening that present on Christmas morning—the one you thought was going to be the coolest toy ever—and finding socks and underwear. In other words, like getting what you *needed* instead of what you *wanted*. In the long run, of course, it's a better gift—but on Christmas morning, when you're trying to make a rocket launcher out of a pair of tube socks, it's hard to see it that way.

As I mentioned earlier, of course, we have the good fortune of two thousand years of tradition to show us the errors of that kind of thinking. We know that the coming of Jesus marks not just the arrival of God's son, but the moment when the creative force behind the universe (what John called "Logos") stepped *into* the universe to restore it to the good it had once been. We know that part of that restoration is a restoration of our own souls, to an understanding of what love and compassion really are, the power of grace, and the importance of justice and mercy—not just that they are *good* things, but that they are what God intended for all God's people.

And we know that just as Christmas involved Jesus coming to earth to walk among us, we can only fully share our humanness when we walk alongside our brothers and sisters—when we share their burdens as well as their joys, their challenges as well as their triumphs, and their suffering as well as their successes. Perhaps the great joy of Christmas and the coming of Jesus is that it teaches us not to be thankful for what we get...but for what we get *to do* as we find ways to live into the Kingdom of God and continue the work of Christmas.

My prayer for you this year is that you will find peace and joy in the holiday, and that we all will enter into 2020 with hope and anticipation of what we can do as God's people to advance grace, justice, and mercy in this world. Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year!

See you in church!
Pastor Keith

Charge Conference

Our Charge Conference is scheduled for Tuesday December 17th, 2019 at 6:30 pm.



It will be here at our church.



Men's Breakfast Sunday, December 8th

The men in our congregation are invited to a Men's Breakfast on Sunday, December 8th at 8:30 am in the downstairs fellowship hall. Join us and start your morning with some good food and fellowship. Questions? Contact Tom Reilly, Ken Bevry, Corbin Bevry or Rick Carlberg.



Noisy Offering

On the second Sunday of each month, our kids take a Noisy Offering, collecting coins for that month's Pennies for Mission designation. November pennies totaled \$62.61 and will be sent to WoMens & childrens Horizon. December pennies will go to Goodfellows-Kenosha Christmas Charities, Inc.



Liturgists for December

8th Travis Verhaalen
15th Julissa Sand
22nd Annette Meints
29th Mindy Smouse

Please contact Joanna Carlberg if you would like to serve as liturgist.

New Church Office Hours 2020

The church office will have new hours as of January 1st 2020.

Hours will be: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday:
9:00 am-1:00 pm

Our **Safe Sanctuary policy** requires a criminal records check for all adults who work with our children. They are valid for 5 years. Request forms are available on the round table in the narthex. Please return the forms to Regina McKillips. She will lock them in the safe for Mindy Smouse.

Sunday School

Sunday School is 9:15 – 10:00 am.



We need Elementary and Middle school teachers for the second half of our Sunday school year. Thus far, the new format has worked out super and is not overwhelming to anyone. PLEASE HELP-SIGN UP SHEET IS ON THE FELLOWSHIP TABLE.

Dare to Be "Moving On" One Night Event for Women

Thursday January 23rd 2020 at 7:00 pm at The Riverside Theatre in Milwaukee. Early Bird tickets for 10 or more @ \$23.99-\$33.99 must be reserved by Thanksgiving. Carpool from church will be available. All ages welcome. Talk with Kim Ouwkerk for more information.

No Regrets Men's Conference

Saturday, February 1st - 8:30-4:00. It is hosted by Kenosha Bible church and will be a power-packed message from six national speakers with live breakout sessions. \$25.00 Early Bird Special (continental breakfast & lunch included). Carpool from the church will be available. Contact Ken Bevry with questions.

Christmas Eve

Service will begin at 7:00 pm



Archwood Assisted Senior Living

This facility is at 25025 75th St. in Paddock Lake and is opening early 2020.

Check out their website at:
info@archwoodseniorliving.com

They are taking reservations now.



Music Ministry

Praise Power practices on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. **Chancel choir** practices on Wednesdays at 7:30 pm.



Holiday Celebration/Paddock Lake Lions Books & More Rummage Sale!

Saturday December 7th from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm

You can order wreaths, swags and trees, as well!

The center is located on Hwy. C, east of Hwy. 45.

Courage to Cope (C2C)

Courage to Cope provides help and support for families of those who are struggling with mental health disorders. C2C Group meetings are open to the public and are held here at Salem from 6:00-7:00 pm on the third Wednesday of the month. This month's meeting is on Wednesday, December 18th. If you are interested, please join us—or if you know someone who is caring for a family member or loved one who is struggling with a mental health disorder, please pass the word on to them.

Celebrating a December Birthday:



2nd - Jenna Egeland
7th - Kathy Eckberg
9th - Anna Bixler
10th - Sippie Miller
10th - Eden Kirsch
17th - Carson Lamar
20th - Kevin Brenner
20th - Michael Rosin
26th - Mindy Smouse
31st- Andrew Hewitt



Who says healthy can't be fun! All our healthy fitness programs capitalize on how fun FIT can be!

Fitness Activities:

Weight Loss Buddies: Mondays at 9 am

Chair Fitness: Mondays at 10 am

Walking Club: Tuesdays at 10:30 am

Tai Chi: Tuesdays at 2 pm

Chair Yoga & Meditation: Thursdays at 10 am

Lighten Up: Thursdays at 10 am

Walking Club: Thursdays at 10:30 am

Tai Chi—Beginners: Fridays at 2 pm

Line Dancing

Music and movement guarantee to improve mood health. All levels are welcome as Nancy Webster teaches Line Dancing. If you're having fun, you're doing it right! We meet on Fridays at 10 a.m. for this friendly fitness class.

The Center asks for a \$1.00 donation for each class with the exception of \$3.00 for the Tai Chi Class because it's lead by certified instructors.

December 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 PPUMC Worship: 8:30 am Sunday School: 9:15 SUMC Worship: 10:15 am	2	3 Boy Scouts: 7:00 pm	4 AA: 6:00 pm Praise Power: 6:30 pm Choir: 7:30 pm	5 Hand Bells: 7:00 pm	6 Big Book (AA): 6:00 pm	7
8 Men's Breakfast: 8:30 am PPUMC Worship: 8:30 am Sunday School: 9:15 SUMC Worship: 10:15 am	9 4-H 6:30-8:30	10 Boy Scouts: 7:00 pm	11 AA: 6:00 pm Praise Power: 6:30 pm Choir: 7:30 pm	12 Hand Bells: 7:00 pm	13 Big Book (AA) 6:00 pm	14 4-H 6:00-9:00
15 PPUMC Worship: 8:30 am Sunday School: 9:15 SUMC Worship: 10:15 am	16	17 CHARGE CONFERENCE 6:30 pm	18 AA: 6:00 pm C2C: 6:00 pm Praise Power: 6:30 pm Choir: 7:30 pm	19 Hand Bells: 7:00 pm	20 Big Book (AA) 6:00 pm	21
22 PPUMC Worship: 8:30 am Sunday School: 9:15 SUMC Worship: 10:15 am	23	24 Christmas Eve Service 7:00 pm	25 C2C: 6:00 pm AA: 6:30 pm Praise Power: 6:30 pm Choir: 7:00 pm	26 Hand Bells: 7:00 pm	27 Big Book (AA): 6:00 pm	28
29 PPUMC Worship: 8:30 am Sunday School: 9:15 SUMC Worship: 10:15 am	30	31				

SCRIP

When you purchase a SCRIP card for your purchases, a percentage of the card will benefit the church. See Mindy Smouse after church or contact her at 857-2066 or e-mail msgmgs@gmail.com. The following SCRIP gift cards are on hand at church and available for your immediate purchase: *Amazon - Applebee's - Arby's - Bath & Body Works - BP - Bristol 45 Diner - Buffalo Wild Wings - Burger King - Cabela's - Cheddar's - Chili's - Chipotle - Tinseltown - Cinemark - Cousin's Subs - Cracker Barrel - Culvers - Dunkin Donuts - Festival Foods - Gordon Food Service - IHOP - JC Penney - Joann Fabrics - Kohl's - Kwik Trip - Little Caesars - Lowes - Marathon - Meijer - Menard's - Mobil - Noodles & Company - Old Navy - Olive Garden - Panera - Papa Murphy's - Pizza Hut - Red Lobster - Red Robin - Shell - Starbucks - Subway- Taco Bell - Target - Texas Roadhouse - TJ Maxx - Walgreens - Wal-Mart - Wendy's - Woodmans*
Total, so far, for 2019: \$1,132.04



Salem UMC's Website

Have you visited our SUMC website, Salemflamesofgrace.com? It is packed with information and awaiting your input! This is YOUR website. Visit often and let us know what you think. If you have information you'd like to see posted on the site such as committee updates and events, pictures of church events, or for your comments or corrections, please let Sandy Kay Jacoby know at skjacoby6@gmail.com or Joanna Carlberg at jcarlberg@wi.rr.com.

The "Messenger" Deadline is Wednesday January 15h. Please have all articles forwarded to the secretary at:

salemumcsecretary@gmail.com - Thank you.



Impact Community—8,000 Hour Challenge

As of December 1st, we completed 3,441 hours of service. We continue to challenge you in 2019. There are many things or acts of kindness you do that would be of service to the community: working on Hope Gardens, working at the Westosha Community Center, supporting a fund-raiser, driving a shut-in to the doctor, grocery store or church, serving at the Soup Kitchen or taking food to a sick friend. Just a few things you may have done and are not aware that these acts of kindness would count towards our community challenge. Please continue to fill out the Impact Community slip and drop it in the collection plate, or email your hours to salemumcsecretary@gmail.com.

Keith Hewitt, Pastor

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pastorkhewitt@gmail.com

Church phone: (262) 843-2525

salemwiumc@gmail.com

Secretary: salemumcsecretary@gmail.com

Website: salemflamesofgrace.com

Office hours: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

Pastor's Office Hours: 9:00 am -12:00 pm Wednesday

Worship: 10:15 am

Sunday School: 9:15 - 10:00 am (Sept. - May)