

# ***THE SALEM TIDINGS***

**JANUARY 2012**

***SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST***

***No matter who you are, or where you are in life's journey, you are welcome here!***

5300 East Florida Avenue

Phone: 303-759-4649

Denver, CO 80222

Website: [www.uccsaalemchurch.org](http://www.uccsaalemchurch.org) Email: salemunitedchurch@yahoo.com

**Pastor: Rev. Dr. Thomas L. Hall ([revthomashall@yahoo.com](mailto:revthomashall@yahoo.com)) Ministers: All members of Salem**

---

## **NEW YEAR'S DAY GATHERING Sunday, JANUARY 1, 2 PM – 3 PM**



Join us on Sunday, January 1 for the taking the Christmas decorations down from 2-3 pm. Then we'll go to a 3:30 pm movie. A fun time for all. Because New Year's Day is on a Sunday this year, and the Korean Church and So. Asia Church worship are held from 11-1 and 3-5 pm, our regular party and games, with a movie will not be held. Church service is still at 9:30 for Salem people.

## **MISSION OFFERING IN JANUARY-PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

The mission offering for the month of January will support the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. Last year, the discretionary fund help people with food cards and gas. Also the fund purchased one of the two new coffee urns for the church, the sign hanging on the front of the church "Jesus Didn't Reject People, and Neither do we" from the God is Still Speaking program, and Care Notes for the entry way including the new Care Note holders.

## **MORE MISSION NEWS**

During the month of January, the Mission Ministry will be selling Products from the Women's Bean Project. Come to the grocery certificate table to purchase these items. There will be soups, bread mixers and more.

## **IMMIGRATION UPDATE...by Jenny Merrill**

***Did you know that the immigration Detention Center is a for profit business? Did you know you tax money pays for a business that makes \$130/day on EACH detainee?***

Join us as we hold vigil at the Immigration Detention Center. These monthly vigils bring light to the topic of immigration. They allow for education, reflection, and support to people detained and their families. Monday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6 pm at the Aurora Immigration Detention Center 11901 East 30th Avenue **Aurora, Colorado** 80010 (30'th and Peoria). For more information contact Jenny Merrill.

## **TUESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY**

The Tuesday night bible study will resume again on Tuesday, January 10. We will be meeting at Julie Burges' house and we will be led in a study of prayer and the Holy Spirit by a friend of Julie's named Jean. Contact Erin Shock for more information.

## MEETINGS THAT MATTER THIS MONTH

It is through committees, composed of volunteers that Salem works miracles, reaches out to touch people and to bring hope and joy. Of course we know that the general planning, visioning and implementation is under the guidance of the Church Council and pastor. Ministries like Christian Education, Worship, Trustees, Church Vitality, Mission, Personnel, Buildings and Grounds, and Finance and Committees like Pastoral Relations, Design and Development (Long range facility planning), Stewardship, and Nominating, provide support, activities and implementation so that members and friends can find a niche to volunteer.

Meetings in January will include

Christian Education: Sunday, Jan. 8, after church  
Mission Tuesday, Jan. 15 after church  
Pastoral Relations Monday, Jan. 16 7 pm at Ann Ottinger's home.  
Church Council Thursday, Jan. 19 7 pm. Regular meeting  
Worship Ministry Monday, Jan. 23 7 pm

## MUSIC NOTES by Christine Dunning, Music and Choir Director

The party hats are on; the bubbly is in the glasses, ready to be drunk. And then, like all great celebrations, at the stroke of midnight, we begin to sing. "Should auld acquaintance be forgot, and never brought to mind. Should auld acquaintance be forgot, and the days of auld lang syne."

What?!

I suspect that, of all the songs that everyone knows, it's the song that we have no idea what it means! Well, for the curious, it's Scottish, from a poem by the revered Scottish poet Robert Burns, and simply means "times gone by" (auld is an olde spelling of the word old).

But it's not just the words that puzzle me about this song. At the crack of the New Year, looking back to old friends and times gone by is not what I want to be doing – I tend to do that in the days leading up to the New Year. On New Year's Day, I'm ready to surge ahead, and look forward to the future. So this year, I'm thinking about singing a different song – this one by one of my favorite groups, Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young, is high in the running.

Morning has come with the first rays of sun  
Breaking through our window pane  
Songs fill the air but there's no singer there  
Just an old wooden guitar playin'

Writing a song won't take very long  
Trying not to use the word "old"  
Thinkin' about takin' chances and doubts  
That still linger in the cold

Looking forward all that I can see  
Is good things happening to you and to me  
I'm not waiting for times to change  
I want to live like a free-roamin' soul  
On the highway of our love

Do you have a favorite song about the future? Let me know!

## WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

January 18-25, 2012 is the annual observance of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The theme chosen for 2012 is "We Will All Be Changed by the Victory of Our Lord Jesus Christ." (cf. 1 Corinthians 15:51-58). Throughout 2012, join Christians everywhere in praying "that they may all be one" joining our prayer with that of our Lord Jesus Christ. For more information go to: [www.geii.org](http://www.geii.org). The United Church of Christ's motto is also "That they may all be one."

## BIRTHDAYS IN JANUARY

If we have omitted someone's birthday, our apologies. Please call the church office or email Tom. We are looking to update all birthdays.

9 Guido Fumgalli  
16 David Lehr  
20 June Seppa  
22 Taylor Reiser  
31 Ruth Thoning



## MARTIN LUTHER KING'S DREAM

"To dream the impossible dream" is a popular show tune from the Man of La Mancha. Sister Teresa had dreams and in January we celebrate the man who had a dream of one nation, without regard to race, color, economics, background and more. We'll celebrate Martin Luther King birthday here at Salem on Sunday, January 15. Remember, the name "Salem" traces its roots back to the word "Peace" and to Jerusalem. Today, Jerusalem is the center for three religions: Judaism, Islam and Christianity. All three also trace their roots back to the founder, Abraham.



## SALEM'S FOOD CLOSET NEEDS REPLENSHING

The food closet here at Salem is being utilized. We're getting low on some basics. We need canned soups and canned vegetables like corn, peas, mixed vegetables, green beans. Any kind of dried pasta can be used along with some cans of tomato sauce. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

*May the road rise up to meet you*

*May the wind always be at your back*

*May the sun shine warm upon your face...*

*May God hold you in the palm of His hand.* (An Irish Blessing)

## WATCH IT!

Watch your thought.....They become words.

Watch your words.....They become actions.

Watch your actions.....They become habits.

Watch your habits.....They become character.

Watch your character.....IT BECOMES YOUR DESTINY.

## **THIS AND THAT**

Please note: Care Notes are available on the table in the foyer. These will be changed periodically with new ones being added. The ones in place now focus on issues associated with aging. Take one, give one away. This is a ministry of reaching out and of the Church Vitality Ministry. Care notes are purchased through the Pastor's Discretionary Fund.

June Seppa writes: "Salem, WE did it! This year we not only made the goal of \$2000 from Grocery Certificates, we were able to go over this year to put \$2,200 into Salem's operating fund. Thank you so much for your participation.

**A Poem on Kindness:** I have wept in the night, for the shortness of sight, that to somebody's need I was blind.  
But I never have yet, felt a tinge of regret, for being a little too kind.

## **ANNUAL MEEING SCHEDULED, NEED REPORTS FROM MINISTRY AND GROUPS**

The annual meeting of Salem United Church of Christ will be held on Sunday, January 29, 2012 after a brief worship. Members of the church will hear reports of the various ministries and leaders, and vote on new leadership for the council and the new budget for 2012. All members are invited to attend. The new By-Laws provides for voting to be done by ballot. Nominations for new leaders are appreciated and can be made to any council member or to the Moderator, Kathy Carroll.

**Annual Reports** are to be in to the office by Thursday night, Jan. 12, at 11:59 pm or can be sent to the church's email address at salemunitedchurch@yahoo.com. The financials are not due in at this time and will be available before the annual meeting.

Communications Ministry.....Jerome Jackson  
Mission Ministry..... Polly Fumagalli  
Building and Grounds Ministry...Jim Dean  
Church Vitality Ministry.....Erin Shock  
Personnel Ministry.....Erin Shock  
Finance Ministry.....Sally Zinke  
Stewardship Committee.....Sally Zinke  
Treasurer Report.....Sally Zinke  
Worship Ministry.....Norma Hansen, and Rev. Tom Hall  
Music Director's Report.....Christine Dunning  
Pastor's Report.....Rev. Thomas Hall  
Women's Group.....Norma Hansen  
Youth Group.....Jenny Merrill  
Men's Breakfast.....Tom Hall  
Moderator.....Kathy Carroll  
Grocery Certificates.....June Seppa  
Pastoral Relations..... Randy Johnson  
Building Useage.....Randy Johnson  
Design Team.....Chris Johnson  
Proposed Budget for 2012      Sally Zinke, and Finance Ministry

Nominations for Moderator, Vice Moderator, Representatives on Council for Personnel and Worship Ministry.

Other people representing groups, activities and events are also encouraged to submit an annual report to be included in the 2011 annual report. The annual report gives a total review of the ministries of Salem.

## MEN'S BREAKFAST IN JANUARY



Seven men met in December for breakfast, conversation and fellowship. So instead of going out to breakfast, the men will meet again at the church on the third **Saturday, January 21, at 8 am.** While it isn't necessary to sign up, it does help with the food preparation, so call the church office or sign on the Men's Breakfast list. The upcoming menu, always subject to change, include eggs, and donuts! Yes, donuts!!! All men are invited to the meal.

## WARM THOUGHTS OF SALEM, AND THANK YOU.....by Norma Hansen

There is a yardstick of measurement that allows for evaluation. Stress builds and the day is met head on. In a small church, many opportunities are presented for involvement in the healthy functioning of a congregation. When accepting the role of leadership of any activity, from greeting people as they enter the Narthex door to balancing the budget and all points in between, the person in charge can feel defeat at any moment. The pressure to do well, to succeed, to bring in the wanted results can be overwhelming. When "I" tries to do something, the pressure becomes even greater. "We", the entire church can do anything required to maintain a congregation, its building and the surrounding property because we involve God in our preparation, presentation and evaluation. In those moments of clarity when sleep thoughts evolve into consciousness, God whispers "You can do this" and the jumbles of fears are overcome. When we remember to let God into our plans, calmness occurs. The realization of whatever is done is done with God's help and in God's name "we" are successful.

This is a very long way around to express appreciation to every person at Salem. We were able to plan our Holiday Cookie Sale and work our plan to completion. From the bakers, the workers, the cheerleaders, the shoppers, the taste testers, Santa, the Elves who helped take pictures, the caregivers of children, those who stayed to fix the pretty plates of cookies and those who cleaned up, made the day successful. Added help came from the Cub Scouts who came to rake leaves and brought cookies. While a thanks seems inadequate for all you have done, there doesn't seem to be any other words to express the appreciation that is felt. The result of all of our work is \$1,063.50 is going to help the church budget. Thanks be to God!

## THE VALUE OF INTERCESSORY PRAYER by Tony Campolo

I earnestly believe that intercessory prayer God in a special way. Through prayer we do not so as we become surrendered instruments through dear to us.



surrounds the person with the love of much manipulate God to do our will whom God's love can move those are

We usually think of prayer as a means whereby God. But I am suggesting that prayer is a way in that other person.

we reach another person through which God can flow through us to

We can all be sending agents for the love of God. I am convinced that in prayer we become channel through whom the passionate love of God flows and engulfs other persons.

The more we pray, the more channels there are for the infinite love of our Lord to flow to, surround, and invade the person we hold up in prayer.