

**SALEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH'**

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



# Here's Your December

# Salem Spirit

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 9	8:00 AM	Men's Breakfast
Dec. 10	12:00 PM	Here After Faith Group
Dec. 11	5:30 PM	Preschool Board
Dec. 13	10:30 AM	Wednesday Morning Faith Group
	12:00 PM	Senior Luncheon
Dec. 16	6:00 PM	Christmas Caroling and Dinner
Dec. 17	10:30 AM	Annual Christmas Concert during worship
	12:00 PM	Children's Program, Lunch and Glover Game
Dec. 19	7:00 PM	Trustees Meeting
Dec. 21	6:00 PM	Finance Meeting
Dec. 24	10:30 AM	Kid-Friendly Worship Service
	6:00 PM	Traditional Christmas Eve Service
Dec. 25		CHRISTMAS DAY OFFICE CLOSED

### WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday	10:15 AM	Sustaining Prayer
	10:30 AM	Worship
Tuesday	9:30 AM	Bible Study
Wednesday	6:15 PM	Chancel Choir
	7:15 PM	Bell Choir (through Dec. 13)
Friday	6:00 PM	Salem Kid's Club
	7:00 PM	Salem Youth

Deadline for Salem Spirit article submission is the **THIRD Wednesday** of the month. The next deadline is **Wednesday, December 20** for the January 2018 Edition.

## *A Word from Our Pastor*

Christmastime is full of memories. I hope you have a few of your own. Let me share one of mine.

Many years ago, we came downstairs on Christmas morning. Dad would always have his camera ready as we rounded the stair case and turned into the living room where the tree was. There stood two empty boxes off to the side. A locomotive and a coal tender stood in front of one, and the other had a two road racing cars in front of it.

Each of the boxes had a note saying open this one last.

We opened all the other gifts and emptied the stockings. Then, and only then, did we open the notes. We were directed to go down to the basement with what was in front of the boxes. There, I saw, a Lionel train set. My brother saw a Strombecker Race Set.

Christmastime is not only full of memories. It can also be filled with a lot of surprises, too. We seem to have figured out Christmas. After all, we have been through Christmas year after year. Sometimes we focus on the secular Christmastime and miss the surprises. Christmas is not for us to figure out and to put in a box, with a note attached to the box. Christmas is for us to experience and to hear the story of the birth of Jesus again and again.

It is a story of shepherds out in the field hearing angelic messages. A story that we have heard many times before, but that always comes with some surprises. We think we have Christmas all figured out. But we don't. We cannot have it figured out. It is always new. It is always different for us.

But we come to church and sing the songs of this season. We listen to hear the story of the birth of Jesus. So what has happened to us? We think Christmas can fit into a box.

Christmases come and go, and each one is different. Each one comes with surprises. We just have to listen and learn. And remember the memories and be surprised by what the Spirit of God will do for us.

Your Pastor,

Doug Williams

# December 2017 Prayer Calendar

## December 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Pray for hope to come to our land.	2 Enjoy the Christmas lights in your neighborhood.
3 Communion Today	4 Pray for the people of Puerto Rico who are still rebuilding.	5 Pray for the people of Texas who are still rebuilding.	6 Pray for people in the midst of storms of many kinds today.	7 Pray for the end of violence wherever it may be found.	8 Pray for love to come to our land.	9 If it isn't too cold, go out and visit your neighborhood.
10 Come to church today and learn about God's love and how it operates within us.	11 Pray for people who continue to be hungry.	12 Pray for people who continue to be thirsty.	13 Pray for people who have received unpleasant medical reports.	14 Pray for families who are traveling.	15 Pray for joy to come to our land.	16 Stay inside and watch a good movie.
17 Christmas Music	18 Pray for Bishop Dyck.	19 Pray for our Dameather Murph-Heath, our D.S.	20 Pray for our Denomination as seeks a way forward.	21 Pray for friends who are travelling.	22 Pray for peace to come to our land.	23 Stay inside and watch a good movie, not the one you watched last Saturday.
24 Christmas Eve 10:30am and 6pm	25 Pray that the hope, love, joy, and peace may come to the world.	26 Pray for healing to come wherever that is needed.	27 Pray for our church and its staff.	28 Pray for those who are ready to come when they are needed.	29 Pray that we will not forget this Christmas season.	30 Stay inside, and watch another movie.
31 Hymn Sing						

# Church News and Upcoming Events

## ShopWithScrip Program



Time is growing short to get your ShopWithScrip gift cards for everyone on your list. ShopWithScrip is the perfect way to gift everyone on your list - even that person who has everything or who is so difficult to shop for. Gift cards from the many vendors offered by ShopWithScrip make it easy to select the perfect gift for everyone. And a small percentage of each sale comes back to Salem Church as a fundraiser. So you can make your holiday shopping easier and help Salem Church at the same time.

Our regular ordering date is the first Sunday of each month, but we can order other times as well if you have a special need. It takes three (3) days to receive orders, perhaps a day longer as we get closer to Christmas. Order forms are in the Welcome Center, or we can email one to you. Call Edi in the office at (847) 381-0524 with any questions.



**Babysitting Fundraiser - Friday, December 15!**  
**6-9 pm - Ages 3 & Up (2yr old with approval)**

**Kids may wear Pajamas**

**No set cost. Donations greatly appreciated.**  
**Proceeds go toward the Salem UMC youth group.**

**You** get a night out and don't have to cook dinner!  
**Your Kids** have an awesome fun night playing on ride on cars, playing with toys, having dinner and watching a Fun movie!

**Dinner 6:00- 6:30**

**Free Play 6:30 - 7:30**

**Movie- 7:30-9:00**

**RSVP TO 847-381-0524 by December 13.**

# THE UNITED CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CAROLING AND DINNER

Saturday, December 16, 2017 at 6:00 PM



“Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
And on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”  
- Luke 2:14

Venue: Salem United Methodist Church  
115 W. Lincoln Avenue, Barrington

## Participating Churches:

South Asian Evangelical Presbyterian Church - Deerfield	Rev. Samuel Javid, 773-301-1050
Kingdom Sounds & Visions Church - West Dundee	Rev. Norman John, 847-873-9093
Salem United Methodist Church - Barrington	Rev. Prof. Mushtaq Gulab, 224-622-1558

For further information please contact Robinson Umerdin at 773-419-8371



## HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Mark your calendars now for our Christmas events and worship times. Please ask someone to come with you!

- > **December 17:** Annual Christmas Concert, Children's Program, lunch & Glover Game
- > **December 24:** Christmas Eve -  
**10:30 AM** kid-friendly service  
**6:00 PM** traditional Christmas Eve service
- > **December 25:** Christmas Day -  
**Office Closed**



## Holiday Senior Luncheon

All Salem Seniors are invited to attend the Holiday Senior Luncheon on Wednesday, December 13, at 12:00 noon in the Welcome Center. Let us celebrate the Christmas Season with delicious food, fun times, and fellowship.

# *Children and Youth News*

## **Preschool News**

The preschool delivered many boxes of non-perishable food items donated by families to the local food pantries at the end of November.

We made over \$900 in profit from the cookie dough and popcorn sale - thank you for your support!

Christmas is just around the corner and the preschool is getting ready for this special season. Throughout the building we will be learning about holiday traditions and creating special gifts for our families.

On Wednesday, December 20 and Thursday, December 21, we will be holding our special Christmas programs for our families. Children from the four-year-old and pre-kindergarten classes will be singing in the Sanctuary. A reception will follow in Fellowship Hall.

Watch for the start of our Little Caesar's pizza fundraiser in January - delivery will be on Wednesday, January 31.

Registration for the 2018-2019 school year will begin in January. Watch for those dates in next month's newsletter.

The preschool staff wishes all of you a joyous holiday season!

## *Member Celebrations*

### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

December 1	Brian Hamm	December 13	Dave Hartley
December 4	Karla Kay Neumann	December 19	Riley Rivero
	Robin Stewart	December 27	Rob Neff
December 11	Michelle Pfau	December 29	Joseph Walden
	Sandi Bos	December 31	Sara Rosellini
December 12	Don Whitney		Philip Neff

### DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

December 7	Don & Kay Griffith	December 17	Doug & Amy Strong
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# Prayer Concerns

Those With Health Issues	Denise Patterson, Loraine Carlson, Patty Johnsen, Elaine Cox, Laurel & Jim Skomer, Amy Strong, Dan Pomeroy, Lois Larson, Leonard Kopecky, Tammy, Diane <b>Prayers urgently needed for Amy Strong</b>
Those With Long-Term Health Issues	Arthur & Brian Burgeson, Hannah, Michaela, Debbie Donner, Chuck Patterson, Loren Schrenk, Karen Griffith, Bic Simmons, Maureen Schuneman, Jon Mortensen-Perlin, Maja Bayerlein, Leo Schulz, Rev. Tommie Johnson, Tim Keating
Those With Special Needs	Ben Sadorf, Olivia, Pamela, McKinleigh, Craig, Allison Hansen, Lori, Darlene, the Lackowski Family
Those in the Armed Forces	Dustan Taylor, Bruce Johnson, Shad Mead, Jeff Walden, Curt Higdon, Hsienjan Huang, Freddie Aguilera
Those Affected by Hurricanes	Martha Walker, Ken & Lori Parquette, Belen Liboy, Luini Liboy

***Do you have a specific prayer concern? Let the Salem family share your burden and your assurance of God's providence. Submit a prayer request using the pink sheet in the pew rack on Sundays or contact the church office.***

