

Salem Signal

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Newsletter for January

December 17, 2020



Deadline for next newsletter articles:
January 25, 2021

Pastor's Reflections

Special points

Of interest

- Upcoming Events
- Announcements
- Birthdays

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Dear Salem Family,

"Behave" my mother told me. "Santa is watching, if you behave, he will bring you presents. If you misbehave, you will get coal in your stocking!" Well, we have behaved. We wore our masks and kept our social distance. We even hummed our hymns. And we are still back to virtual worship. If you say it feels a little like coal in your stocking when you behaved, I guess I can't blame you.

There is another way to look at it though. New cases of Covid-19 are significantly higher now than they were even during the summer peak. Behaving means we have to go the extra mile to take care of each other. "I love you" now means, "I love you enough to give up in-person worship for a little while to protect you."

Hope, peace, joy, love, are all gifts of the Holy Spirit, and the last time I checked, the Holy Spirit was alive and well and at work in our congregation. We will meet together again soon. And there will be a vaccine in the new year, so that we can return to our full ministries. In the meantime, spread some Holiday joy. Rake some leaves in an elderly neighbor's yard. Send a card to a soldier overseas. Buy some toys for a single parent family. Drop some food off at a shelter. The more we do, the more we will feel the holiday spirit that we are missing. When we feel like something has been taken from us, the best thing we can do is give. It sounds upside down, but then most of God's wisdom usually does. Kind of like God taking on the form of a baby to perform the greatest miracle in history.

Stay warm, stay healthy, stay faithful, and have a happy new year!

Pastor David



Glory to God
in the highest.
and on earth peace,
good will toward men.

Luke 2:14, KJV

January Birthdays

January 3

Joshua Anderson
Mike Smith

January 4

Beverly Stewart

January 5

Harry Melton
Karen Miley

January 6

Greg Hadaway
Judy Chesnut

January 7

Carol Paschal
Al Coleman

January 8

John Schell, Jr.

January 10

David Berry
Jean Bell
Amy Standard

January 12

Bob Starr
Mary Ann Williamson

January 14

Abbie Burroughs

January 15

Ansley Schell

January 16

Angela Schell

January 18

Bennie English

January 24

Saniyia Coleman

January 25

Mae Lewis
Jeremy Driver

January 28

Phil Standard
Annabelle Oliveri

January 29

George Smith, Jr.
Sierra Driver
Sydney Driver

January Anniversaries

January 4

Bob & Annette Harmon

January 14

Adama & Kwasara Sagara

January 19

Ronnie & Elsie Dimsdale

January 25

Kenneth & Cecile Gordon



Have we missed your Birthday or Anniversary? Be sure to call the Church Office and let us know.

Wish List Alternative Gift List

If you are looking at alternative gift ideas, the Trustees have several projects for the church. We are currently in the process of replacing the storm windows on the Sanctuary (14 windows). The total cost is \$18,000 of which we applied for a grant and received \$13,000 for the windows. Leaving a balance of \$5,000 for the church to pay. There are **18 outside doors** that need to be repainted at a cost of \$1,000. We recently pressure washed both buildings at a cost of \$1,150. There may be other projects that you see and you can let us know. But if you are looking at an alternative gift idea, look no further! You may donate in honor of or in memory of someone you love.

Blood Drive—Monday, December 21—2:00—7:00 pm
Monday, January 11—2:00—7:00 pm

Flower Calendar for 2021



The flower calendar for 2021 is now available. You can sign up on the website www.salemumc.org or you can call the church office. Flowers are \$38.00 and we have a standing order with a florist.

Thank you

Thank you for the Pastor Appreciation gifts in October for Pastor David and Carol Standard.



Thank you from the staff for the Christmas Love Gifts. David, Carol, Annette, Charles, Mike & Carol, Linda, Pat, Debbie, Laura, Jason and Bernard.

Prayer List – Please remember our shut-ins that are in nursing homes.

Shut-ins & Long Term Recovery: Weston Barnette, Willis & Jeanette Britt, Ann Deerman, Fran Enyart, Ed Hooten, Dave Kincaid, Harry & Cornelia Melton, Shirley Thomas, Ethelene Thompson, Ola Vaughn

Church Family: Debbie Anderson, Rosemary Breedlove, Doris Compton, Dede Keel, Dave Kincaid, Sonia Lamb, Louise McGiboney, Louise McGraw, Dale & Glenn Moore, Andy Peabody, Joe Peabody, Jr., Linda Schell, Don & Bev Stewart