



Connections

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January 2019

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“You have six days each week for your ordinary work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath day of complete rest, an official day for holy assembly. It is the LORD’s Sabbath day, and it must be observed wherever you live.”
-Leviticus 23:3

Dear Salem Church Family,
Over these last few months of the Advent season, in preparation to once again celebrate the birth of our God in the flesh, our church family has been purposefully choosing to scale back on the business of Christmas. We’re doing so, not only to combat all the chaos, franticness and ease of over spending that can come with this season, but to also carve out space, that we may have more of the time we want to spend with each other and our God.

Over these weeks, I’ve heard so many say this has really impacted how they do Christmas. I have heard people say they haven’t been this at peace and even excited about Christmas in years. Rather it’s not feeling the pressure to have the house perfect, or not have to make 12 course meal for everyone, or even feel like their going to let their loved ones down if they don’t over spend. There seemed to be a true joy from some about this Christmas. Yet out of this, there has been something else coming out some have shared with me. It seems like it should be so easy to slow down, take some rest and spend more time with each other and God, after all, it’s the very thing many of us want, but it’s not always easy, is it? The problem here is the same when we try to take what the Bible calls, “Sabbath Rest” time not to work, time to relax, have fun and worship, but when (like Christmas) we’re so use to running at full throttle for months on end there can be some guilt involved with slowing down. We can feel shame, as if we’re not doing enough, we can feel a sense of laziness, or feel like we’re forgetting to do something (even when there’s nothing that truly needs to get done).

I share this with you as an encouragement. Living into a more simple, worshipful Christmas is like living into a more simple, worshipful weekly sabbath day, it often takes time, for this style of worship during Christmas, it may take you three or four years before you feel like it’s the new norm. But don’t give up, keep fighting the good and holy fight. Even if it didn’t come as easily as we feel it should have this year, imagine the peace, joy and worship you did find in 2018 being multiplied next year, and the next and the next.

My friends, if it takes us some work to spend time with God and spend time with each other, then out of all the things we could be battling, that sounds like a noble and worthy battle to me!

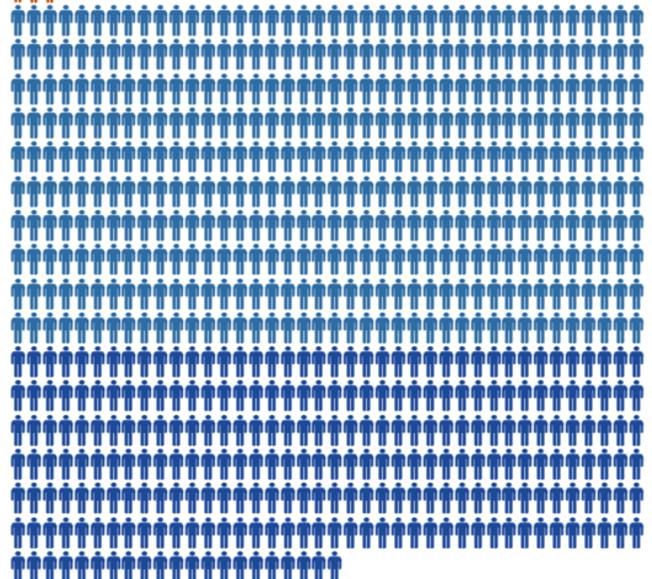
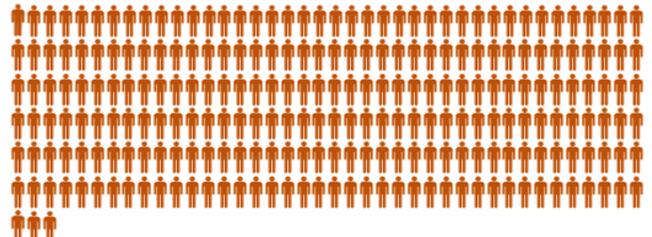
Pastor Curtiss Cain

Salem UMC Pouring into a Thirst World



Photo From: Samaritan's Purse. Accessed December 27, 2018. <https://www.samaritianspurse.org/what-we-do/water/>

Samaritans Purse provides sources of clean drinking water, reestablishes and fixes existing wells, provides hygiene and sanitation teaching as well as water filters and this year, many at Salem UMC have given in honor of their loved ones as Christmas gifts so those in needy countries can have clean water! After being challenged by a church family to match their \$1000 donation, which would have impacted some 400 lives (light blue figures below), Salem UMC blew that goal out of the water (so to speak) and raised enough money to impact some 661 people. Add that to our 243 Christmas shoe boxes from November (orange figures below), **that’s 904 individual lives impacted!**



News from the Nursery

Happy New Year!! Hope everyone had a beautiful Christmas spending time with family and friends! The children celebrated Jesus with a Happy birthday Jesus cake! Bringing all the children together to celebrate was amazing! The children were helping one another and was told a story with lots of crafts and yummy cake! We want to continue celebrating with your children and showing them God's love. Please stay tuned for more information on some special events coming up in this new year!

We had an exciting time playing, making crafts and talking with our friends! Stop by and take a look at our information board to see what the children are doing! I look forward to seeing each of you.

Blessings,
Lindy Pennington



Mercy the Church Mouse



The other night as we were sitting around our matchbox eating Christmas dinner, Grandpa blurted out, "I'm so thankful for all of my church family!" He has done this in years past but this is the first

time I realized what he was talking about! Whether you knew it or not, I attended the Christmas Eve Service. I saw how you love each other and I felt the same joy you felt in your hearts!

I am very thankful to have you all in my life and pray that 2019 will be a year filled with wondrous love, joy with no boundaries and peace in all of our hearts! Just like Grandpa, I am truly blessed to have you all in my life! Blessings and Happy New Year!

Love,

Mercy the Church mouse! ♥

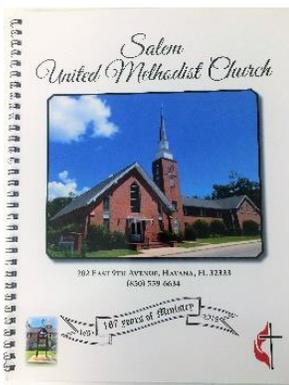
Diaper Drive

DIAPER DIVE FOR REFUGE HOUSE. Epiphany is the day we remember the magi visiting baby Jesus and bringing the greatest child of all their gifts.



Between now and January 6th, Epiphany Sunday, we'll join the magi in giving gifts by collecting diapers to give to little ones in need.

More Church Directories Are Here!



If you were not photographed or submitted a photo for the new church directory and would still like one, or if you would like a second copy (or third, or fourth ... ☺) they are available in the Fellowship Hall for just \$4.00 each! Just mark your check "Church Directory" or place your payment in an envelop (marked "Church Directory") and put it in the offering plate any Sunday morning.

New Traditional Service Bulletin Design

You can visit us on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/SalemUMChavana



Lectionary Reading

January 6, 2019

Isaiah 60:1-6, Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
Ephesians 3:1-12, Matthew 2:1-12

January 13, 2019

Isaiah 43:1-7, Psalm 29
Acts 8:14-17, Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

January 20, 2019

Psalm 36:1-10, Isaiah 62:1-5
1 Corinthians 12:1-11, John 2:1-11

January 27, 2019

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10
Psalm 19, 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a
Luke 4:14-21

January Birthdays

Jan 2: Nada Scott
Jan 2: Trish Buckhalt
Jan 8: Ralph Justice
Jan 11: Jennifer Suber
Jan 13: Elbert "Bully" Poppell
Jan 13: Wyatt Mentry
Jan 15: Faye Williams
Jan 15: Summer Kennedy
Jan 17: Trent Mentry
Jan 22: Deborah Fogler
Jan 23: Angie Velocci
Jan 24: Judy Barnett
Jan 27: Wayne Poppell
Jan 28: Doris Bert
Jan 30: Cailee Stralow
Jan 31: Jim Lovallo

Readings for January 2019

Jan 1: Genesis 1-3
Jan 2: Genesis 4-7
Jan 3: Genesis 8-11
Jan 4: Job 1-5
Jan 5: Job 6-9
Jan 6: Job 10-13
Jan 7: Job 14-16
Jan 8: Job 17-20
Jan 9: Job 21-23
Jan 10: Job 24-28
Jan 11: Job 29-31
Jan 12: Job 32-34
Jan 13: Job 35-37
Jan 14: Job 38-39
Jan 15: Job 40-42
Jan 16: Genesis 12-15
Jan 17: Genesis 16-18
Jan 18: Genesis 19-21
Jan 19: Genesis 22-24
Jan 20: Genesis 25-26
Jan 21: Genesis 27-29
Jan 22: Genesis 30-31
Jan 23: Genesis 32-34
Jan 24: Genesis 35-37
Jan 25: Genesis 38-40
Jan 26: Genesis 41-42
Jan 27: Genesis 43-45
Jan 28: Genesis 46-47
Jan 29: Genesis 48-50
Jan 30: Exodus 1-3
Jan 31: Exodus 4-6

Our Faithful Giving

Expenses Sept.: \$16,073
Contributions Sept.: \$20,087

YTD Expenses Jan- Nov: \$201,600

YTD Contributions Jan- Nov: \$190,616

See the back of your weekly bulletin for the most up-to-date information.

SUNDAYS

8:45am-Coffee House Service
(Holy Communion Each Week)
9:50am-Sunday School
11:00am-Traditional Service
5:00pm-Youth Group
(meal provided)

Salem UMC

January 2019

WEDNESDAYS

7:45am-Men's Morning Group
11:00am-Prayer Circle
11:50pm-Subs & Scriptures
(Subway in Havana)
7:00pm-Choir Rehearsal

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 New Years Day Church Office Closed 9a -Moses Baskets Canceled 7p -Missions / Outreach Committee Canceled <i>Pastor Curtiss on Vacation</i>	2 12p - Subs & Scripture @ Subway Canceled this week join us next week. <i>Pastor Curtiss on Vacation</i>	3 3p -Beans & Bibles @ Poppy's Coffee Shop 6:30p - Education Meeting <i>Pastor Curtiss on Vacation</i>	4 <i>Pastor Curtiss on Vacation</i>	5
6 11a -Holy Communion in Traditional Service 12p Lunch Bunch Guest Speaker in Worship <i>Pastor Curtiss on Vacation</i>	7	8	9 12p - Subs & Scripture @ Subway 1:30p -Fresh Expressions Monthly Missions Project @ Community Cares	10 3p -Beans & Bibles @ Poppy's Coffee Shop	11	12
13	14 5:45p -United Methodist Women	15 9a -Moses Baskets	16 12p - Subs & Scripture @ Subway 1:30p -Worship Committee	17 3p -Beans & Bibles @ Poppy's Coffee Shop	18	19
20	21	22	23 12p - Subs & Scripture @ Subway	24 3p -Beans & Bibles @ Poppy's Coffee Shop	25	26 1p-5p: Greensboro Thrift Store

<p>27</p> <p>8:45a & 11a: Community Cares offering & Moses Baskets Dedication</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>12p- Subs & Scripture @ Subway</p>	<p>31</p> <p>3p-Beans & Bibles @ Poppy's Coffee Shop</p>		
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