

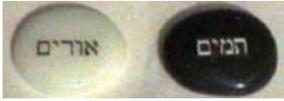
Connections

July 2019

WWW.SalemUMCHavana.org

Mailing: P.O. Box 646
Location: 202 E. 9th Ave.
Havana, FL. 32333
(850) 539-6634

SalemChurchHavana@gmail.com



This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!
2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT)

Dear Salem UMC Church Family,

Have you ever read in the Bible where they talk about casting lots to discover God's will? Wouldn't that be nice for our personal lives? Just ask a yes/no question, flip a coin, throw some dice or pick a card and BOOM, God's will, clear as a bell!

Recently an old college buddy of mine (who knows I love old and unique things from Biblical times) gave me a gift, it was two stones and their what's known as an Urim and Thummim. He tells me that in the Old Testament, when the Jewish Priests would wear the Priestly Breastplate (a breastplate with 12 stones on it, one for each of the 12 tribes of Israel), these two stones (made of onyx, possibly one white and one black) would each be on a different shoulder of the Priest and would be used to help determine God's will for the people of Israel (Ex. 28:30). It is believed that the word "Urim" may mean 'light' (white stone) and the word "Thummim" may mean 'perfection,' (black stone) which would lead them to a decision based off of the 'perfect light' of God's will. This is what many believe is what their referring to when the priests would cast lots. So why don't we use it today in our personal lives?

Well, the first reason is, the intent behind this was for determining God's will in very difficult situations for the people of God as a whole, it wasn't intended for individuals to use or for everyday life. But more so, over and over again, in the New Testament the way to determine God's will for our life is being transformed by the renewal of our minds through the power of Christ, that we may discover what is good and right and holy in the sight of God (Rom. 12:1-2). It is through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, changing not only what we do, but transforming our whole lives into the likeness of our master, to love and think like he does (Gal. 2:20).

God doesn't want the shallowness of us to just make right decisions, he wants us to yearn to do his will. He doesn't just want us to come to him with hard questions, he wants us to surrender the fullness of

our lives to him. In short yes, it would be easier to throw some rocks on the ground, but God doesn't just want to change how you make some hard calls, he wants to transform your whole life; and while one takes a moment and the other a life time, trust me, the lasting inner peace, the love, the joy and fulfillment, it's worth it!

May God look after our church family & your loved ones,

Pastor Curtiss Cain

Pastors Article Citations
Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved.
Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-SA

Where's Mercy the Mouse?

Every month Mercy finds a new place to visit in the church, see if you can find where she's hiding next.



It's been a very busy time for our church! I just have to sit down and take a deep breath! Vacation Bible School was "out of this world!" And the food was good too! I especially liked the dog delivering the pizza on Thursday! I want to say a big

thank you to everyone who had a part in it! I learned a lot! July is looking full again, as usual, but I will miss the choir singing...guess they need a vacation too! By the way, Mom took us to a great place in the church's back yard. There is a big cross, a podium that you can talk from and rows of benches to sit on! Mom said we need to worship out there more often because she feels close to God there!
Hope you all have a blessed July!

Blessings to all!

♥ Love,
Mercy the Church Mouse!

SUCCESS!!

While this doesn't relate solely to our Sister church relationship with Santa Clara it is encouraging to see the difference our Florida conference is making in the lives of our Christian brothers and sisters in Cuba.

Priscilla Bell

Southwest District Mission Program, Inc. Impact of Clean Water in Cuba

In thirteen years of God leading and directing me with the Cuba program no one project has made a larger impact in the country than the water purification systems (WPS) being delivered to Cuba. The project started innocent enough by a conversation in the back yard in Tacajo, Cuba. Three years of investigating the feasibility of the project, finding a manufacturer to make an affordable unit yet durable enough to handle conditions in Cuba, plus their level of contamination was not an easy effort.

We needed a unit that could be used in all conditions because no two locations are the same. The only similar item was the contaminated water. We had wells, cisterns, public water, run off problems and other obstacles. We just took each negative and overcame that one and went to the next.

I kept saying, "all things are possible with God" and praying how in the world do we beat this one. Let me clarify this again God worked this out I just followed his direction. The manufacturer turned out to be in our back yard; Water One Inc. in Fort Myers, Florida.

Let me tell you the impact that has happened since Agape Flights of Venice, Florida delivered those first twenty-six units to Jose Marti Airport in Havana August 26, 2016 is incomprehensible.

1. We have (WPS) in eleven districts in Cuba.
2. We have a unit at Camp Canaan.
3. We have a unit at the Bishop's office.
4. The Cuba Council of Churches has a unit.
5. We have units in nine District Superintendent churches.
6. As of today, there are a total of 50 units blessing the people of Cuba.
7. By recommendation of doctors we have purified water being used by expectant mothers for prenatal care.

8. We have many, many stories from pastors telling us how many people in the community now come to the church to get clean water.
9. It has served as a mission; our children are healthier than ever before and we have no parasite problems like we use to.

I could continue there are many more stories, but I think you get the picture. There are endless needs in Cuba we all know that.

No one item taken into Cuba can affect hundreds of people like one water purification system. Women in Moron, Cuba in the Ciego de Avila District getting purified water. Thank you to everyone that has helped to make this water project a great success.
Dan Christopherson
christforcuba@gmail.com - www.christforcuba.com

CUBA...
SO CLOSE
BUT,
A WORLD
AWAY...



Keep up on what's happening at church and watch each week's sermon on Facebook.

www.facebook.com/SalemUMChavana



Lectionary Reading

July 7, 2019

2 Kings 5:1-14
Psalm 30
Galatians 6:(1-6) 7-16
Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

July 14, 2019

Amos 7:7-17
Psalm 82
Colossians 1:1-14
Luke 10:25-37

July 21, 2019

Amos 8:1-12
Psalm 52 or 82
Colossians 1:15-28
Luke 10:38-42

July 28, 2019

Hosea 1:2-10
Psalm 85
Colossians 2:6-15 (16-19)
Luke 11:1-13

July Birthdays

Addy Poppell	5
Louise Bates	6
Savannah Hirst	8
Cheryl McCollum	9
Lew Purcell	9
Mable Duncan	12
Jean Gilbar	13
Bob Miller	16
Drystan Taylor	16
Don Gilbar	17
Jenny Lee	17
Yu Chien Chen	20
Celese Whiddon	20
Connie Kummer	21
Rachel Loy	22
Ava Parrish	22
Scott Brouwer	23
Sue Wakeman	23
Madilyn McNeill	25
Madison McNeill	25
Jimmy Suber	27
John Estes	28
Tim Mentry	28
Renna Chellman	31
Dick Williams	31

Readings for July 2019

July 1: Obadiah; Psalms 82-83
July 2: 2King 1-4
July 3: 2King 5-8
July 4: 2King 9-11
July 5: 2King 12-13; 2Chronicles 24
July 6: 2King 14; 2Chronicles 25
July 7: Jonah
July 8: 2King 15; 2Chronicles 26
July 9: Isaiah 1-4
July 10: Isaiah 5-8
July 11: Amos 1-5
July 12: Amos 6-9
July 13: 2Chronicles 27; Isaiah 9-12
July 14: Micah 1-7
July 15: 2Chronicles 28; 2King 16-17
July 16: Isaiah 13-17
July 17: Isaiah 18-22
July 18: Isaiah 23-27
July 19: 2King 18:1-8; 2Chronicles 29-31; Ps 48
July 20: Hosea 1-7
July 21: Hosea 8-14
July 22: Isaiah 28-30
July 23: Isaiah 31-34
July 24: Isaiah 35-36
July 25: Isaiah 37-39; Psalms 76
July 26: Isaiah 40-43
July 27: Isaiah 44-48
July 28: 2King 18:9-19:37; Psalms 46/80/135
July 29: Isaiah 49-53
July 30: Isaiah 54-58
July 31: Isaiah 59-63

Our Faithful Giving

Expenses Jan-June 2019: \$110,026
Contributions Jan- June 2019: \$109,837

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
Youth Fellowship – Off for the summer – see you in the fall.

Salem UMC

July 2019

WEDNESDAYS

7:45am-Men's Morning Group
11:00am-Prayer in The Park
11:50pm-Subs & Scriptures
(Subway in Havana)
3:00pm Beans & Bibles
(Poppy's Coffee Shop)
No Choir – month of July

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 No -Moses Baskets 7p Missions/ Outreach	3 No Men's Breakfast No Subs & Scriptures	4 Independence Day – office closed	5	6
7 11a -Holy Communion in Traditional Service 12p Lunch Bunch	8 No United Methodist Women	9 6:30p - Trustees meeting	10 1:30p -Fresh Expressions Monthly Missions Project @ Community Cares	11 6:30p - Education meeting	12	13
14	15	16 No -Moses Baskets 7p -Church Council	17 1:30p -Worship Committee	18	19	20 Emmaus at Salem 3p Board Mtg 4p Sponsorship class 5p Gathering
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 1p-5p Greensboro Thrift Store
28 8:45a & 11a: Community Cares offering & Moses Baskets Dedication	29	30	31			