



**salem**  
United Methodist Church

1321 Salem Church Road  
Irmo, SC 29063

**Church Office Hours**

Monday - Thursday  
8:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon  
1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.  
803-781-1626  
website: salemumcsc.com

Non Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Irmo, SC 29063  
Permit No. 14



**salem**  
United Methodist Church

**December 2017**

Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 am

Sunday School: 9:30 am

# Salem's Story

# December 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Play practice 5pm	4 Love Cavin 11am Faith 630pm	5 Martha 11am	6 Joy 1130	7	8	9 Bazaar 9-2
10 Cantata Bethany 4pm Play practice 5pm	11	12 Trustees 7pm	13	14	15	16 Dress Rehearsal 9-11am
17 UMM 8 Children's Christmas Play	18 UMW Exec. 1030am	19 Over 50's 1130am	20	21	22	23
24 Christmas Eve Service 5pm	25 Christmas	26 Office Closed	27	28	29	30
31						

### The Winter Rose-A Christmas Cantata

From the earliest Christian time, the rose has been a symbol of divine love. Echoing through our sanctuaries in the melodies and texts of many beloved carols, it brings to life the beautiful visions of biblical prophets and the hope of early Christian pilgrims. Even today the rose remains a vital expression of love and peace both inside the Church and the outside world. As a gift, the rose's delicate beauty is usually reserved for the most meaningful expressions of the heart. No flower holds our dreams of love more beautifully than the rose.

It is our sincerest prayer that as Christ, The Rose of Sharon, opens before you this Christmas, your spirit will be encouraged by the beauty of God's greatest gift. Let the words and music of this cantata remind you that even in the deepest winter, we are people of joy and life...children of the garden. (from the forward to the Winter Rose)



Please join us on December 10th as our chancel choir presents this stirring musical celebration of the birth and life of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

### "The Story of Baby Jesus"

Salem's children will present "The Story of Baby Jesus" during our regular worship service (10:30-11:30) on Sunday, December 17th. Mark your calendar for this awesome event. Our cast of characters includes Mary, Joseph and a Heavenly Host of Angels to tell the story of the Birth of Jesus. There will be beautiful Christmas carols along with a few surprise characters among our cast members. We hope the children can count on your presence for this special performance!



# December Youth and Children's Ministries News

## Foreign Mission Trip Fundraisers

The 2019 Foreign Mission trip will begin their Fundraisers this Month.

Dec. 9—Craft Bazaar! We will be selling soups, chicken biscuits, Salem Shirts, Hot Chocolate and baked goods during the Bazaar. We will need lots of soup and any extra hands able to assist this day with everything. Contact Sheri Hood for providing soups.

Dec. 24—Luminaries! We will begin collecting money for Luminaries to be displayed Dec. 24 during the Christmas Eve service. Congregation can donate money for Luminaries in honor of or memory of someone leading up to that day. Luminaries will be put together during Sunday School Dec. 24, and we will put them out immediately following the morning worship service that morning.

## Children's Ministry

The children will be singing at Bethany Memory Center at Lowman Home on December 10th at 4:00. All parents are encouraged to have their children be a part of this special Christmas ministry. We will meet at the Lowman home and will conclude the afternoon with play practice at the church. If you have questions, please call Tina Overton. We look forward to spending time with the residents of Bethany.



## Sunday Nights

Dec 3—Whole Group will go Caroling and to dinner. 5:00—7:00p.m.

Dec 10—Christmas Party—Bring a \$10 fun gift and your favorite food to share. 5:30p.m.

No Youth Dec. 17-31

## 2019 Foreign Mission Trip Destination

The Youth foreign Mission trip had recently been going to Costa Rica for their service. However, circumstances in that area caused a change in destination. The group met and looked at several possible new locations and decided on.....

### Bahamas Methodist Habitat

This location offered many things that will allow for full Youth group participation leading up to the trip. We are very excited about this opportunity. If you have not attended any interest meetings, now is the time to begin doing so and participating in Fundraisers. If you have questions, contact Jim Magann at the church.



## Christmas Mission Project

Each year the children choose a mission project during this time of year as a way to give back to others. This year the children have chosen to adopt one of its own, William Anderson, and his family. Cory, Ashley, Clare, and William Anderson have been members of our church family for many years and as a congregation, we have had the pleasure of watching Clare and William growing up. Just before Thanksgiving, William was diagnosed with a pediatric form of cancer that is affecting his kidneys, lungs, and lymph nodes. He is such a fighter, but has a tough fight ahead of him.

A Christmas tree is placed in the Welcome Center with various ornaments on it with gift requests. The requests range from a straight financial donation to gift cards and service opportunities. There will be a wrapped box placed beneath the tree where donations can be placed through the last Sunday of the month, December 31st.



## Memorials and Special Gifts Received

### Building Fund

In loving memory of William and Althea Fogle by William & Martha Fogle

In Honor of Warren and Jonnie Metts by Mike & Tammy Szucs

### Cemetery Fund

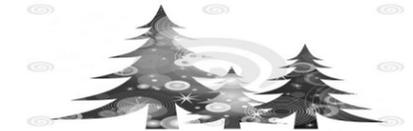
In loving memory of Ruth and Carlisle Metts by Joyce Grimes

### Mission Fund

In loving memory of John Goodale, Sr. by The McLendon Family Carey, Michelle, Caitlyn & Stephen Page

## OVER 50'S

We will close out 2017 with our Christmas Gathering on Tuesday, December 19 at 11:30 at Salem. Join us for a time of fellowship to usher in the Christmas season. Entertainment will be provided by local recording artist, Steve McFaddin, and you are asked to bring your favorite "festive appetizer or snack" to share! We hope to see you there!



## THANK YOU SALEM UMC

Marsha and Gary Hewson would like to thank Salem for your prayers, best wishes and thoughtful visits to Gary at the Carroll Campbell Place. They have helped tremendously during these difficult times.

Salem Family,

Your cards, calls, visits and prayers during this difficult time have been greatly appreciated by our family. God had a better plan to heal Audie, he suffers no longer. Thanks Be to God.

Dan Jennings and Family

## Ladies' Lunch Bunch

Tuesday, December 12 @ 12 Golden Bay Seafood on St. Andrews Road



## Salem Bazaar

December 9, 2017 from 9am -2pm

Come & shop & eat...there will be over 35 vendors with various home made crafts; soaps; candles; wooden bowls; baby items; Children's clothing; Women's clothing; dish towels; pottery; Christmas items; scarves; LuLaRoe; 31 Products; Usborne Books; Pampered Chef; Mary Kay; Avon; jewelry; food for lunch & so much more!

Holiday Greetings Friends,

The holiday season is upon us and what an exciting time of the year it is. As Christians, we look forward to the beginning of Advent season ending with the celebration of Christmas. This season will include lots of activities like shopping, travel, drop-ins, decorating and gift giving. There is so much to say about this special time of year, and while my few words will not do it justice, I do want to say something about reflection.

During this time of year as we move closer to Christmas and the years end, I begin to reflect on all the blessings in my life. Christianity takes us on a path to continuous learning by reflecting on what we've experienced in the past year and questioning how it has affected our faith. Sometimes the answers aren't obvious and we must prayerfully ask God to help us understand how our experiences can help us grow as Christians. Whether they've helped us grow in relationship with a friend or family member, or grow in our understanding of the Bible, taking the time to reflect and to remember what we've been through is a very effective way to learn about ourselves and grow in relationship with God. For me the process of reflection is so important to help me "get out of my own way" and grow as a person.

As we look forward to this special season, savor the time spent with family and friends, but when you have some quiet time, reflect on the past year and how your experiences have been a blessing in your life, that helped you to grow.

Merry Christmas and God Bless from Terry Snider