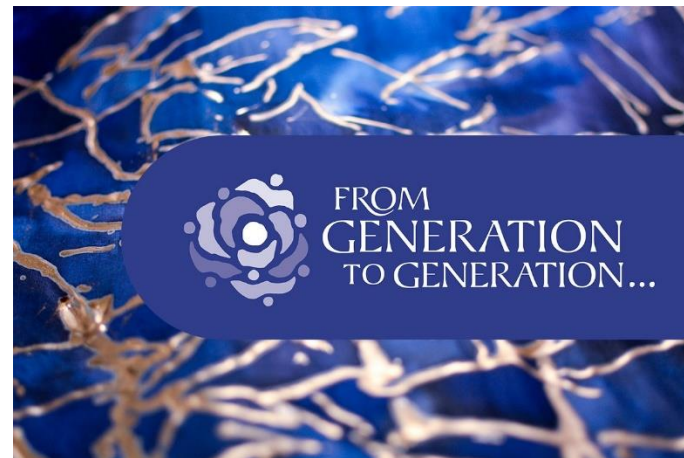


# Salem United Methodist Church

1321 Salem Church Road  
Irmo, South Carolina 29063  
Established 1873



Infographic: From Generation to Generation...Sermon Series - A Sanctified Art.



*The Golden Pilgrimage*  
by Carmelle Beaugelin  
Inspired by Matthew 2:1-12

January 1, 2023  
Epiphany Sunday

## January 1, 2023 Epiphany Sunday

*The color white is used today as festive representation of  
Epiphany Sunday.*

### PRELUDE

\*CHIMING OF THE HOUR and WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

\***CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP 2095** *Star-Child (verse 1)*  
*Star-Child, earth-Child, go between of God, love Child, Christ*  
*Child, heaven's lightning rod, this year, this year, let the day arrive*  
*when Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive!*

### WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

\***THE CALL TO WORSHIP AND OPENING PRAYER**  
*(Adapted from liturgy written by Rev. Sarah Speed | A Sanctified*  
*Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org)*

Friends, I have good news! Since the very first day, God has taken the pieces of our hearts that we have offered up and has said, "I can work with that."

**Even in our failings, God has washed us with words of grace, belonging, and love.**

No matter what star you've followed, no matter how far you've walked, no matter how lost you got—you belong to God.

**God loves us. God forgives us. God claims us. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Let us pray:

**God of starlight, every part of us is trying to seek you: our bodies that carried us into this space, our heads bowed in prayer, our hearts that keep whispering, "There is more than just this." We are seeking you. Find us in the maze. Quiet the rest of the world. Open the door to us with rich laughter and say, "Come on in!" Gratefully we pray. Amen.**

\***HYMN 254** *We Three Kings*

### A TIME OF PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

### OFFERTORY

\***DOXOLOGY 95**

FIRST READING *Matthew 2:1-12*

ANTHEM *Candle of Hope*

### INTRODUCTION TO THE LESSON

\***GOSPEL LESSON** *Matthew 2:13-23*

### THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT

*We invite children of all ages to come forth for the children's moment.*

\***HYMN 247** *O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright*

PROCLAMATION *Advent Series: From Generation to Generation*  
*Today's Message: We Keep Seeking*

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*(Written by Rev. Sarah Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org)*

**We believe that faith is active, found on long walks, and in long talks, in future days, and down memory lane. We believe that those who seek will find, although it may not be what they expected. We believe that God finds us first. We believe that God drops breadcrumbs along our way in the shape of people, invitations, and even starlight. We believe that being a seeker—of God, of justice, of community— is a holy thing. So we strive to live with an open spirit, with soft hearts, and with room to grow. May it be so. This we believe. Amen.**

\***HYMN OF RESPONSE 237** *Sing We Now of Christmas*

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

\*WE FOLLOW THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

\*THE CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

\*POSTLUDE AND DEPARTING

*\*Indicates that the congregation stands. If standing is uncomfortable, please remain seated and continue with your participation. **Bold titles** indicate congregation participation.*

## *A Welcome to our Guests!*

*We are honored that you are worshipping with us. Please complete the "red book" registration to record your presence. Also, please introduce yourself to those around you and visit our Welcome Center. We have a welcome gift for our first-time guests in the welcome center. Please stop by the desk at the close of the worship service. We hope you will return to join us again in Worship!*

## STEWARDSHIP AND ATTENDANCE

Due to the Christmas and New Year's holiday schedule, the December 18, 25 & January 1 Stewardship Report will appear in the January 8, 2023 bulletin.

| Attendance                | On Line Viewing |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Worship Christmas Eve 190 | 165             |
| Christmas Day 66          | 105             |

### PLEASE PRAYERFULLY REMEMBER:

**Brookdale** — Mary Skenes  
**Embrace Hospice House** — Bill Oswald  
**Generations of Irmo** — Carolyn Brower,  
Joyce Cook, Dot Corley, Anita Weed  
**Harbison Shores** — Mary Catherine Bickley Erskine  
**Lowman Home Rehab** — Gwen Parnell  
**Rice Estates Assisted Living** — Barbara Rolin  
**Tyborne UCP** — Jessica Gore  
**Special Prayers** — Freddie Butler,  
Bob Davis, Leroy Gibson, Miriam Grooms,  
Lee McMillan, Margie Oswald, Bill Rolin,  
Shirley Santopadre, Barbara Thomas, Terry Waites

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### ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY:

**Ushers:** Lead – Ted Hornsby  
Will Bowers  
John Goodale  
Randy Hilliard  
Jim Lewis

**Sound Booth:** Stephen Page

**Trustee:** Betsy Goodale

**Acolyte:** Claire Tanner

**Nursery:** PJ Garrett, Martina Thomas

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## Flower Ministry

The flowers which grace the Holy Altar today are given to the Glory of God and in memory of our tiny angel, Eleanor Elizabeth, by the Watford family.

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## Our Christian Sympathy

We would like to express our heartfelt sympathy to Sandra Durst and family upon the death of her mother-in-law, Earline Durst and her brother-in-law, Kenneth Eargle.

## Our Newsletter is Going Digital!

Following recent conversations with the Salem UMC staff and Church Council, **beginning in January 2023**, we will be primarily offering our monthly newsletter electronically, as a way to be better stewards of our resources. This will greatly reduce the use of paper, toner, postage, and time. We will still be offering printed newsletters for those who do not have a way to receive them electronically. If you need to continue to receive a paper copy, please contact the church office and let us know.

## 2023 Flower Calendar

The 2023 Flower Calendar has been placed in the Welcome Center. Cost is \$95 for two arrangements and is a thoughtful way to honor or memorialize someone special. The arrangements are yours to take following the service. If you would like to donate the flowers, they will be arranged into several different vases to be delivered to shut-ins and the sick. *Please help support the church in this meaningful manner.*

## Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes have arrived for 2023! They are in the Welcome Center.

## Ladies Lunch Bunch

Ladies if you'd like to get together for fellowship time over lunch, meet us on Monday, **January 30 at 12:00 at El Poblano's in Chapin.**

## Assisting with Communion

Communion is a sacred sacrament of the United Methodist Church and the distribution of the elements is one of several discipleship opportunities Salem would like to extend to its members. Communion is offered the first Sunday of each month. If you are interested in assisting Pastor Jeff with the sacrament of holy communion, we encourage your participation and ask you to place your name on the sign-up sheet located in the Welcome Center. Pastor Jeff will contact you prior to your participation to ensure you are adequately prepared.

## January OASIS Event

### Jan 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:30

Soups and Bingo are on the agenda for our January event of 2023! Janet Haas and her team will prepare some delicious soups for us to enjoy and we will bring back our fun Bingo games along with some gift card prizes to be awarded! The only thing you are required to do is **RSVP** one week prior to the event and bring an idea of what you'd like to do for our "mystery event" in April. Our activities are planned for the year with the exception of the month of April and we'd like your feedback. The idea with the most votes wins so come prepared to share your thoughts!

## Sharing God's Love

As always, we are so thankful for the Blessings we receive through your generosity and support in this season, and all year long!

Sharing God's Love will be closed December 17-31, and will reopen at 9:00 a.m. on January 2, 2023.

*Drop off containers are located in each Sunday School Room, Church Office lobby and in the hallway next to the Fellowship Hall entrance.*

**210 items were delivered to Sharing God's Love on December 16<sup>th</sup>.**  
*A special thanks to the Seekers and Pathfinders Sunday School Classed for \$500 in gift cards.*

## Learning How to Better Use Your Personal Devices

On **Sunday, Feb 19 from 4:30 - 6:00p.m.** The youth will set up in the Fellowship Hall at different tables and they will be there to assist anyone interested in learning how to better use their personal devices such as their iphones, ipads, tablets, etc. This is more directed towards older people as some have told me several times that they "Can't figure these darn things out!!". I had one approach me who did not know they could text on their phone and had over 600 unread texts that they did not know about.

I would like to encourage people to come and learn how to do more with what they have.

This is something that is no charge, no fundraiser, nothing like that. It is strictly a service being provided by the youth.

## THIS WEEK AT SALEM

### Sunday, January 1

9:30 A.M. . . . . Sunday School  
10:30 A.M. . . . . Morning Worship  
4:00 P.M. . . . . **NO** Children  
5:00 P.M. . . . . **NO** Youth

### Tuesday, January 3

7:00 P.M. . . . . AA Meeting

### Wednesday, January 4

7:00 A.M. . . . . AA Meeting  
10:30 A.M. . . . . Cavin, Joy, Love Circles @ Seekers Class  
7:00 P.M. . . . . Choir Practice

### Thursday, January 5

7:00 P.M. . . . . LMA Meeting @ Seekers Class  
7:00 P.M. . . . . AA Meeting

### Saturday, January 7

7:00 P.M. . . . . AA Meeting

### Sunday, January 8

9:30 A.M. . . . . Sunday School  
10:30 A.M. . . . . Morning Worship  
4:00 P.M. . . . . Children  
5:00 P.M. . . . . Youth

Faith Circle will Meet on January 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00  
in the Fellowship Hall.

## Office Closing

The church office will be closed tomorrow. We will open on  
January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## E-Giving

Please prayerfully consider giving to Salem United Methodist Church  
through our e-Giving program. Scan the QR code below to be taken to  
Salem's donation page to present your offering.



You can also visit the link:

<https://giving.ncsservices.org/App/Giving/ncs-2365>

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday  
8:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.  
1321 Salem Church Road, Irmo, SC 29063  
CCLI #1562077

Website: [salemumcsc.com](http://salemumcsc.com)

E-mail: [smethodist@aol.com](mailto:smethodist@aol.com)

Phone 803-781-1626

*In case of an emergency,  
call 864-985-2456 or 803-422-9400*



## OUR MINISTRY TEAM

Jeff Childress — Pastor

William Byrd — Pianist

P. J. Garrett — Director of Children's Ministries

Sarah E. High — Director of Music

Angie Lain — Business/Finance Manager

Miriam Y. Lovett — Organist

Jim Magann — Youth/Outreach Ministries

Tina Overton — Director of Creative Ministries

Marie Wicker — Administrative Assistant