



Salem's Story

January
2023

Jeff's Journal

Think It...Feel It...Do It

We have turned the last page of the 2022 calendar, and 2023 is off and running. Right now, millions of people have made their New Year's resolutions in hopes of changing their lives for the better in the new year. Statistically speaking, most New Year's resolutions are broken or forgotten every year by the end of February, leaving us longing and hoping for change next year.

In the Advent study I facilitated in December, the author, Adam Hamilton, stated several times that "repentance" as preached by John the Baptist and Jesus, was a process of a change in thinking, followed by a change of heart, that ultimately led to a change in behavior. Perhaps the flaw in New Year's resolutions lies in the fact that our sequence is off. We want to begin a change in behavior, hoping that our hearts and minds will follow.

At our worship service on Epiphany Sunday, January 1, we recall the story of the Magi that followed a star that revealed the presence of God in the world. On that Sunday I will offer everyone in attendance the invitation to choose a "star word" for 2023, as opposed to a resolution, and to pray over that word, discern its meaning, and listen for ways that God may be leading you to a new understanding, a new heart, and new behaviors.

For example, my word for 2023 is "discipline." What does it mean to live a disciplined life...to be disciplined in every aspect of life...in thought, word, action, etc.? This is what I will pray over and discern through those prayers, trusting that God will reveal new understandings to me that will lead to behaviors that are more like Christ. Perhaps this is a meaningful way to take the spirit of Christmas with us into and through 2023.

For those of you unable to be present during our Epiphany service, and would like a "star word", they will be available during January in the Welcome Center and the Narthex. Or, you may simply want to choose a word of your own. Either way, I hope this will assist you in leading to new and abundant life.

Blessings for the journey!

Pastor Jeff

Children's News



The Children had a great December celebrating Christmas with each other and with the Church. They had fun participating in the Christmas Cantata with the Choir. They had a fun Sunday afternoon celebrating Christmas with a Christmas Movie Night watching The Star and making fun snow globes and stockings. Children's activities will pick back up after New Year's Day with many more fun activities.

Upcoming Activities:

Encounter (9:30 A.M.)

- January 1st: Music with Sarah
- January 8th: Science with Professor Von Schniedelhofen
- January 15th: Kitchen Konkocations with Chef Janet
- January 22nd: Scripture Safari with Skeeter
- January 29th: Music with Sarah

Quest (4:00 P.M.)

- ***NO QUEST***
- Question Hoops
- Lava Creation
- Joshua – Exploration
- 5th Sunday Activities

Youth Group will kick off on Sunday, January 8!! We will still meet at 5:00p.m. but there will be some weeks in this second half of the year where we will be having youth group away from the church. I encourage ALL parents to please pay attention to the weekly emails to make sure you know what we are doing and when. In January we will have our "away" meeting on Sunday, Jan 22 so be on the lookout for specifics.

Sunday School will meet weekly at 9:30 a.m. PLEASE be on time at 9:30 so that we can start on time. We will jump into the New Testament in January after dealing with a great deal of the Old Testament in the Fall.

There are several big things coming up for youth in February so be ready. Some of those are:

- Youth Sunday – February 12
- Youth Service Night – February 19
- Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper – February 21

Thanks to ... *Faith Circle*

Some of the arrangements delivered in December



Methodist Men

Join us for fellowship and a great Breakfast on **January 15 at 8:00.**



All men are invited to join us. Make plans to join us on the third Sunday of each month for breakfast.

Ladies' Lunch Bunch

Ladies' if you'd like to get together for fellowship time over lunch, meet us on



Monday, January 30th at 12:00 at El Poblano's.

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.**



Memorials



In memory of	Given by	Fund
Ed Brower	Ron & Deborah Joye	general fund
Ed Thomas	Ron & Deborah Joye	general fund
Elizabeth Paxton	Ron & Deborah Joye	general fund
Jane Royster	Ron & Deborah Joye	general fund
Jerry Durst	Ron & Deborah Joye	general fund
Jerry Griffin	Ron & Deborah Joye	general fund
Joan Underwood	Ron & Deborah Joye	general fund
Norman Thomas	Ron & Deborah Joye	general fund
Voncille Meetze	Ron & Deborah Joye	general fund
Willard Nash	Ron & Deborah Joye	general fund
Rosemary Craft	Ron & Deborah Joye	general fund
Lamar Priester	Ron & Deborah Joye	general fund
Joanne Childress	Ron & Deborah Joye	general fund
Patricia Parke	Ron & Deborah Joye	general fund
Jackie Foster	Ron & Deborah Joye	general fund
Ray Keith	Ron & Deborah Joye	general fund
Jackie Foster	Steve & Mary George Smith	general fund
Jackie Foster	Seekers Sunday School Class	general fund
Joanne Childress	Lou Holmes	Building fund
Rosemary Craft	Lou Holmes	Building fund
Lamar Priester	Lou Holmes	Building fund
Rosemary Craft	Dan & Carla Jennings	general fund
Jackie Foster	Dan & Carla Jennings	cemetery fund
Lamar Priester	Dan & Carla Jennings	general fund

Honorariums

In Honor of
 Sarah Elizabeth High, Miriam Lovett and Will Byrd
 for their dedication to the music program at Salem UMC

Music Fund
 Salem UMC Choir

Thank You!

My Salem Church Family,
I appreciated all the love and prayers shown to me during my recent eye surgery. Every card, text, phone call, meal and prayers were received with love. I am truly blessed to have you in my life!

God Bless, Marie Lewis

Dear Church Members,

I say thank you because you have been amazingly kind and good to me. It has meant so much to me. I know how busy you are but you stay in contact with me. Please know I love everyone of you!

Thanks, Terry Waites

Billy Graham Library Trip



January OASIS Event Jan 17th 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!



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 2023



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Happy New Year!	2 Faith Circle 6:30 FH	3	4 Cavin, Joy, Love Circles 10:30 Seekers Class	5 LMA 7 Seekers	6	7
8	9 Girl Scouts 6:00	10 Staff Meeting 9:30	11 Ricefield Plantation HOA 6:30 Seekers Class	12	13	14
15 UMM 8:00 FH	16	17 OASIS 11:30	18	19 Newsletter Deadline	20	21 Nurses Honor Guard FH 10:00
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 Ladies' Lunch Bunch 12:00 @ El Poblano's	31				

Notes:

Sundays

9:30 Sunday School
10:30 Worship Service
4:00 Quest Children
5:00 Youth

Weekdays

7:00 AM Wednesday
7:00 PM Wednesday
7:00 PM Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday

AA
Choir Practice
AA



salem
United Methodist Church

**1321 Salem Church Road
Irmo, SC 29063**

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Church Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
8:30-12:00 1:00-3:30
803-781-1626
E-mail: smethodist@aol.com
website: salemumcsc.com
CCLI #1562077

Worship Hours

Sunday School: 9:30 am
Sunday Morning
Worship: 10:30 am

Newsletter Information

If you would like to receive this newsletter by e-mail, or if you have questions, comments, or articles for the newsletter, please send an e-mail or call the church.

Anyone who would like to submit an article or item for the **February** newsletter should do so by **January 19^h**.

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>



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