



# **SALEM OUTLOOK**

Volume 110 No. 3 -- March 29, 2010

SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
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## **Please join us for these COMING EVENTS**

**Thursday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 7:00 P. M.**

*Maundy Thursday Candlelight Tenebrae Service*

**Friday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 12:00 P. M.**

*Good Friday Service*

**Sunday, April 4<sup>th</sup>**

**9:00 Easter Breakfast**

**10:00 Easter Worship Service  
with Holy Communion**

**Sunday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 A. M.**

Worship Service

**Friday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 5:00-7:00 P. M.**

*Spring Dinner*

**Sunday, April 18<sup>th</sup>**

10:00 am Worship Service

1:00 pm Euchre Tournament

**Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 A. M.**

Worship Service

## ***From the Pastor...***

This Easter has a different meaning for me than any that has gone before. Last Easter, I thought I knew what path my life was taking, and how the next days, the next weeks, and months would unfold. But on that day - on Easter Sunday, my mother, with whom we had been living, suffered a stroke and two weeks later she died. It was so sudden, so unexpected. And her death set off a series of sudden, unexpected events that called into question nearly every aspect of my life. It has been an extraordinarily challenging and tumultuous year - one which has only begun to come back into focus during these few months I have been with you.

And so, this Easter, I look back and am still left somewhat breathless by the course which has been run, and I still carry with me a not-entirely-healed sense of grief. But, in the midst of this journey, I have carried with me the gift of a stranger. On the night that my mother died, my brother and sisters had all gone home to get some rest and I had returned to the hospital to sit with her in the quiet of her room. I sang a few hymns and then I felt her breathing change. Something made me begin to recite to her the story of her life, as best I knew it - beginning with her birth in 1931, her apparent nickname of Topsy as a toddler and her years growing up in Rochester through the Depression. Leaning back into the memories of stories she had told over the years, I replayed her adventures with her sisters and the Burnham boys who lived next door. I spoke of the day she met my father, and their courtship ending with his infamous telegram sent from wherever his Navy ship was docked saying, "Home Monday - Married Tuesday. Stop." 5 children, innumerable foster kids, building a home, years of service with the church, quilting with her friends, grandchildren... The story unwound until it came to rest there in that room. There was just a brief moment of quiet to honor this life so beautifully lived when the night nurse entered.

I have to be honest with you here - my mother had been well cared for by the staff at this hospital, but this was one woman I had not particularly liked. I'd like to tell you why except that I no longer remember, because everything changed in that moment. When she came in, she immediately approached the bed and asked how my mother was doing, and then began to rub her shoulders and speak to her gently, lovingly and knowingly. She looked at me and said, "The angels are very near now," and with those words my mother quietly left to join them.

And then this stranger, this woman whose presence I had resented just a few moments earlier, folded me in her arms and held me with the fierce protective love of a woman who knows. This was a woman who had stood in the presence of death over and over and over again, and who witnessed to the power of love released. And it was powerful. In that moment, a stranger stepped into my world and bore witness - she received my pain and offered me back hope, courage, strength, and peace.

Such a simple act of ministry - to see the stranger... even for a moment - to recognize them, to witness to their struggle and to embrace them with a fierce hope. Our lives intersected for no more than a few minutes, but I have felt those arms around me more times than I can count, and I have heard the words that she spoke in my ear before leaving, "You will be all right."

God's peace and fierce love to all this Easter.

Rev. Wendy Fambro

## **Easter Musical Offerings**

Music has always been highly valued as an integral part of worship at Salem. Please join us for these remaining Lenten musical offerings:

**April 1** – *Maundy Thursday* – our traditional Tenebrae service, closed with the singing of “Were You There?” surrounded by darkness in our sanctuary

**April 4** – *Easter Sunday* – Resurrection Band, and our own Choir featuring a new choral piece and a beautiful a capella piece! We plan to close our service with the Hallelujah chorus from Handel’s Messiah, inviting the congregation to join us, as we traditionally do.

## Thank you...

...to **Rick Horch Sr** for the tool set complete with storage/organizer. It will save loads of time and many steps as we tackle Saturday projects. Rick also provided the Youth group with a large, ride-in activity ball. Watch for the “demonstrations” after worship on Sunday.

...to **Tom & Nancy Dummer, Erma Miller, Joyce Crook, Katie & Kathi Horch** for providing transportation at St. John’s Home February 7<sup>th</sup>. They transported residences to and from worship in the afternoon.

...to **Bill, Sharonlee and Jamie White** for moving and installing the ‘new’ to Salem stove in the kitchenette. They also brought up the newer refrigerator from the Sunday school room. Thanks to **Karilee & John Bingham** for the donation of the stove.

...to **Gordon Gutzmer** for compiling an alphabetical listing of the memorial plaques in the narthex. The listing shows which tablet the memorial is located on. The binder is on the Deacon’s bench for reference.

...to **Carol DiMarsico** for her continual help keeping our sanctuary clean. Carol comes in on her days off to dust/vacuum areas of the sanctuary.

...to **Sharonlee** – the Lent altar flowers are simple and beautiful. They are a true reflection of the season.

## Senior Organ Recital

Our former organist, Brett Judson, is having his senior organ recital this month. He emailed me an invitation to share with all of you:

I want to let you know of my senior recital. It is: April 13, 8pm, Christ Church, Episcopal (downtown). Everyone is invited and I encourage you to tell people at Salem that they are invited.

The information is also available on my website: [brettjudson.net](http://brettjudson.net)

Thanks so much. Hope you are doing well!

All best,

Brett

## Roast Beef Dinner

On April 16<sup>th</sup> Salem’s Women’s Fellowship will host a roast beef dinner. Roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, hot vegetable, bread/butter, beverage and homemade desserts will be the menu. The meal will be expertly prepared by Flour City’s chef Jerry Manley with the dessert by Salem’s women. We will be serving 5 pm – til.

Proceeds raised through the dinners support the Women’s Fellowship Dunkirk Scholarship, all-church receptions, Bibles for confirmation class and area women’s organizations.

Tickets are on sale now through the church office (454-5973) or during the coffee hour after worship. Reservations will taken by Ernestine Thomann 467-4391. Come on Down and enjoy the feast and fellowship.

## Saturday Work Days Continue

Each Saturday, a group of volunteers meet at the church for a couple of hours to perform some small tasks/repairs. These tasks range from organizing areas to small repairs, from ceiling removal to window well cleaning. Jobs we tackle depend on the number and ability of the volunteers that show.

With Spring around the corner, we have had a crew working on winter clean-up of the yards and another cleaning the sanctuary in preparation for holy week. There are many volunteers who show week after week and others who come when the time allows. For each we are deeply grateful.

See you next Saturday! 10 am – noon.

## Sunday's Cool Class

Each Sunday our youngest gather in the Ritter Room before, during and after worship. This small group is energetic and crazy! Their activities include group puzzles, story time and snack. We work on sharing, being kind, and cooperation through building with blocks, setting up trains, and playing games. Included in our activities is ample time for 'shaking our sillies' out. These young ones are connecting with God through their church family.

Stop in from time to time and assist in laying the foundation. An extra hand is always welcome. Bring a youthful heart and travel back to your childhood with us. Jesus loves the little children – old, young, big and small.

### Humor from the mouths of babes...

❖ One day a teacher was talking to her class about whales. The teacher said it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because even though it was a very large mammal its throat was very small.

A little girl raised her hand and stated that Jonah was swallowed by a whale.

Irritated, the teacher reiterated that a whale could not swallow a human; it was physically impossible.

The little girl said, "When I get to heaven I will ask Jonah".

The teacher asked, "What if Jonah went to hell?" The little girl replied, "Then you ask him".

❖

A Kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they were drawing. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's work. As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was.

The girl replied, "I'm drawing God."

The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like".

Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute."

❖ A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds. After explaining the commandment to "honor" thy Father and thy Mother, she asked, "Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?" Without missing a beat one little boy (the oldest of a family) answered, "Thou shall not kill."

❖ One day a little girl was sitting and watching her mother do the dishes at the kitchen sink. She suddenly noticed that her mother had several strands of white hair sticking out in contrast on her brunette head. She looked at her mother and inquisitively asked, "Why are some of your hairs white, Mom?" Her mother replied, "Well, every time that you do something wrong and make me cry or unhappy, one of my hairs turns white." The little girl thought about this revelation for a while and then said, "Momma, how come ALL of grandma's hairs are white?"

❖ The children were lined up in the cafeteria of a Catholic elementary school for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples. The nun made a note, and posted on the apple tray:

"Take only ONE. God is watching."

Moving further along the lunch line, at the other end of the table was a large pile of chocolate chip cookies. A child had written a note,

"Take all you want. God is watching the apples."

## Getting Goofy for God

On March 14<sup>th</sup> after service, 12 members met to take part in a simple but eye opening exercise on greeting visitors. It is amazing how much you can learn from practicing. During the seminar 'The Magnetic Church', leader Andrew Weeks pointed out that successful evangelism requires us to 'get goofy for God'.

I'm sure we can all remember an experience where someone's self confident response to us was over the top. The point is – you remember it! Now just imagine nervously entering a 'new' church, unsure of why you are there or even if you want to be there. At the door to greet you is member, smiling, armed with the information you're looking for, who welcomes you cordially and with all the sincerity of one who knows that this is the place to be. Would you come back? I would.

There will be more hands on opportunities for each of us to hone our skills, develop confidence and let our spirit shine.

Many thanks to those who joined us on March 14<sup>th</sup> – your commitment to our mission is awesome!



**April Birthdates...**

- 5 – Robert Hochreiter
- 7 – Evelyn Hitzke
- 8 – Frank Richards, Sr. – **95 years**
- 10 – Linda Richardson  
Juliano Plaza
- 13 – James Florence
- 15 – Carol Rest
- 16 – Larry Thomann
- 18 – Rev. Glenda Prins
- 19 – Marion Maracle  
Elizabeth Oehler
- 21 – David Foster
- 23 – Patrick Adams
- 24 – Barbara Krautwurst
- 28 – Thomas Dummer
- 29 – Dolores Miller - **95 years**
- 30 – Deloris Bale  
Kara Bailey

**May Birthdates...**

- 1 – Ernestine Thomann
- 4 – Doris McNeill - **93 years**  
Marvin Harter  
Scott O’Hara  
Brian Kehrer
- 7 – Kenneth Ackroyd  
Sophia Stone  
George Pringle
- 8 – Ruby Whitney  
John Schauman  
Juliano Plaza



**April Anniversaries**

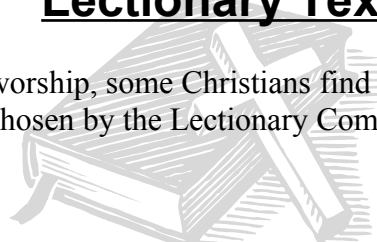
- 3 – Carol & James DiMarsico
- 14 – Patricia & David Kehrer

**May Anniversaries**

- 3 – Evelyn & Robert McElwain  
- **63 years**
- 16 – Robin & Francis Krenzer

**Lectionary Text**

In preparation for Sunday morning worship, some Christians find it helpful to read the text during the preceding week. The Biblical texts chosen by the Lectionary Committee for April 2010 are listed below:



**April 1**

- Exodus 12: 1-4 [5-10], 11-14
- Psalm 116: 1-2, 12-19
- I Corinthians 11: 23-26
- John 13:1-17, 31b-35

**April 2**

- Isaiah 52:13–53:12
- Psalm 22
- Hebrews 10:16-25
- John 18:1–19:42

**April 4**

- Acts 10:34-43
- Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
- I Corinthians 15:19-26
- John 20:1-18

**April 11**

- Acts 5:27-32
- Psalm 118:14-29
- Revelation 1:4-8
- John 20:19-31

**April 18**

- Acts 9:1-6, (7-20)
- Psalm 30
- Revelation 5:11-14
- John 21:1-19

**April 25**

- Acts 9:36-43
- Psalm 23
- Revelation 7:9-17
- John 10:22-30

## **Council Tidbits**

Greetings Salem!

The latest council meeting took place on Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup>. Our first order of business was a general review of the church bylaws. Specifically, we outlined the general responsibilities of the specific boards of council, as well as council officers.

Next was the approval of the newly formatted agenda. As part of the new additions to Salem, we are starting to add more mission focused discussions to our council meetings via the new "Visioning" part of our meetings. We are hoping to stir up some old and new ideas for our church's future, with a focus on outreach and community.

Council again tabled appointing of our representatives to the New York Conference Annual meeting until next month. Information is in a separate article and posted on the UCC bulletin board at church. If you are interested in attending as a representative please see one of the council officers.

In our "Visioning" section, we wanted to get an idea of our previous and current mission work. Not surprisingly, we found at least 10 (if not more) previous mission work ideas Salem had used. It was noted that this information should be presented more prominently in and around our church community, year round.

The meeting started at 7:05 and adjourned at 8:40. Next meeting is Thursday March 11, 7 pm. All visitors are welcome.

I would like to also thank Kathi Horch and all of the other members who have rotated off of council. You have done amazing work, and deserve a much needed break!

Tyler Graham, Council President

## **New York Conference Annual Meeting – Delegates Needed**

Our conference annual meeting is scheduled for June 4-6 and will be held at Silver Bay YMCA camp. Salem is entitled to two representatives from our congregation in addition to our pastor. The representatives are appointed by Church Council.

This is an opportunity to experience the greater UCC and fellowship with other churches similar to and different from us. There is a packet of information available in the church office for anyone interested in finding out more about the meeting, registration process and cost.

The Silver Bay camp is on Lake George in the Adirondacks surrounded by some of God's most beautiful creations. There are numerous offerings from nature hiking to swimming, and everything in between.

If you think you might be interested in attending as a representative please talk to Tyler Graham or Katie Horch.

## **From the Board of Elders**

*"The resurrection gives my life meaning and direction and the opportunity to start over no matter what my circumstances."* Robert Flat

Easter is upon us and so is the opportunity to start a new. Salem is blossoming, people are moving and things are happening. The Easter spirit has filled us. All you have to do to see these transformations is just to walk through the front door...and this is just the beginning.

Holy Week starts on Palm Sunday and continues right through Easter. The services and activities of Holy Week present the opportunity to feel the events of Easter Sunday more deeply. During some website surfing I found this quote by Ken Collins that I feel explains the idea:

*"If you see only the happy ending of a movie, everyone who saw it from the start is elated, but you go away saying, "So they're all hugging each other? So what?" But if you see the beginning and the middle part, with all the suspense and grief, you understand what the characters overcame, and the happy ending is all the happier. So to me, attending the Easter service without attending the Holy Week services is like watching the happy ending of the movie without seeing the middle—you only rob yourself of joy."*

With that said..... ☺ Maundy Thursday is April 1<sup>st</sup> and we will continue with our tradition of holding a Tenebrae service at 7:00pm. The purpose of the service is to recreate the betrayal, abandonment, and agony of the events and is then left unfinished, because the story isn't over until

Easter Sunday. Good Friday is April 2<sup>nd</sup>. We will be holding service at 12:00pm to remember Christ's crucifixion and death.

And, last but certainly not least we will be celebrating EASTER SUNDAY on April 4<sup>th</sup>! Our Easter Morning Breakfast will be held in the gymnasium prior to service at 9:00am. If you feel so moved we would love to have you bring a dish to pass and join us for breakfast before attending service. And wait that's not all, in service you will experience the wonderful treat of hearing the Salem Resurrection Band play, our Volunteer Chancel Choir and Pastor Wendy's first Easter here at Salem!

After the excitement of Easter settles down a bit the Board of Elders will be holding a Euchre Tournament on April 18<sup>th</sup>. This tournament is a little different because we will be holding it at 1:00pm on Sunday instead of Saturday. The cost to play is \$5 and when you arrive you will have a schedule of games you will be playing and with whom you will be playing. The Board of Elders will be providing beverages and a few snacks and the Women's Fellowship will be providing sandwiches for \$2 apiece. It is always a great time with loads of fellowship and fun. If you would like, we would love it if you bring a snack to share. Hope to see you there!

In His name and in His service,  
Katie Horch & The Board of Elders

### **From the Board of Trustees**

The Trustees met Tuesday, 3/2/10. First order of business that was voted on and passed was to change the meeting start time from 7:00pm to 6:00pm to avoid later ending times. The meetings will still be on the first Tuesday of the month, however.

The rental committee reported on several one time rentals. The Amadaeus Children's Corale will rent the Sanctuary on 6/6/10 from 7-9pm. The Kovolsky-Karr University will be held at Salem on 6/9/10 and the Contra Dancers are interested again in renting in the fall. As of this mailing, we are still waiting to hear back on the 2 churches that are interested in an extended time lease. Unfortunately, the interested renter (from Bob Blain) has chosen another downtown spot to rent. The Trustees discussed possible rental fees, areas of the building and times that these groups would need the facilities and hopefully will be successful for all. The volleyball club from Victor (lead by Katie Horch and Dave Wisniewski, Genna's dad) is still renting out the gym on Thursday evenings and that is very successful.

The Trustees reviewed the financials for February and the bills for March. The general Fund information is as follows:

Actual Income from February: \$17,170.30

Projected Expenses for March: \$10,151.95

The income side is larger because of the \$6,000.00 that was transferred from the Endowment Fund interest in February. Because of this transfer, the gap between income and expenses is negligible. Additionally, our heating bill is still large (\$2,589.93 due on 3/9/10). In order to save costs due to rising bank fees, the Trustees voted to move the checking account from HSBC to ESL (Eastman Savings & Loan).

The Trustees would like to thank everyone for their contributions to the "Heating Fund" and "Shortfall Fund" by using the pew envelopes. The Stewardship committee reported that a second mailing has been sent out to remind members (that have not yet pledged) to send in a pledge card for 2010.

Additional items addressed were completion of the gym floor, quotes on a new folding machine for the office, and we are awaiting an estimate to fix/replace the double door south exit from the Education Building. Bill White has installed the new gas line, electric cord and far-right knob on the Parlor stove and it is now in good working order. Thanks to the Whites for the donation and set-up!

The Website team of Katie Horch and Tyler Graham are making good progress on updating our Website. And the Saturday Work-days continue (10am-noon) with yard clean up projects thanks to some early Spring-like weather...thank you, God!

Thank you to the congregation again for your continued support. We are so blessed to have such a generous and loving faith family here.

God Bless,  
Linda Richardson (Chairperson) & the Board of Trustees

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