

January 2010

SALEM SPOTLIGHT



Three Simple Rules

Do no harm.
Do good.
Stay in love with God.

Salem Chapel United Methodist Church

Volume 3 Number 1

Rev. Bob Raschka

Sunday Worship Traditional: 8:45 a.m.

Steve Starkey & Walt Pearson, Lay Leaders

Contemporary: 6 p.m.

Website: salemchapelumc.org

Fellowship Hour 9:45-10:15 a.m.

Tel: 362-3330

Sunday School 10:15 a.m.

Office Hours: 12-5 p.m. Monday thru Thursday



January Birthdays

- 1 Loretta Pressel
- 7 Kirsten Halama
- 9 Caitlin Dilloway
- 16 Bill Martensen
- 17 Cathy Thomasino
Susan Hayes
- 19 Schasta Antrim
- 21 Jane Clayton
Connie Wallace



January Anniversaries

- 11 Kris & Corey Froehlke

New Year Prayer

As we begin the new year, Loving Creator, give us guidance and the willingness to follow wherever you lead.

Bob Notes...

Fearless—Imagine Your Life Without Fear

Layoffs, foreclosures, swine flu, terrorism, health concerns: people are living in fear every day. A scan of the headlines can give us all reasons to fear. As a new year begins, we are quickly reminded of our fears—many which we suppressed in order to enjoy the holidays.

In light of people's propensity to fear, I believe a good time to broach this subject from a sermon standpoint is during these early weeks of 2010. Jesus encountered many fearful situations. During this series, we will be looking at how Jesus responded to some of these in order that we might come to a time of hope and assurance regardless of the many fears that are out there.

This series of sermons is loosely based on Max Lucado's writing on the topic. Lucado has a way of getting at the heart of a matter with his stories and illustrations. For those who want a head start, you are encouraged to order or purchase Lucado's book entitled Fearless.

Thus, in our look at some fearful situations in the life of Christ, we will learn how he responded, how we can respond, and some creative manners of looking at fear.

"Say to those of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear!'" Isaiah 35:4

New Year Blessings,

Pastor Bob

Weekly topics and scriptures for "Fearless" sermon series:

January 10: "Why So Afraid?" Matthew 8:23-27

January 17: "Fear of Not Mattering" Psalm 139:1-7; Matthew 10:26-31

January 24: "Fear of Disappointing God" Matthew 9:2-8

January 31: "Fear of Death" Psalm 131; John 14:1-7

February 7: "Fear of Global Calamity" Matthew 24:6-14

February 14: "Out of the Box" Matthew 17:1-8

In Our Prayers...

Ethel Cable-comfort & healing

Marge Dickson—comfort & healing

La Verne Drake-Fountainview Nursing Home

Annie Dudley--cancer (Moffitts' neighbor)

Peg Eggleston-comfort

Susan Hayes -Fountainview Nursing Home

Tammy Monesmith-Bernth-healing

Don Murray-comfort

Dr. Ray Law-Settlers' House

Lucas Moore-tumors (St. Jude's Hospital)

Jack Rosenbaum—health

Ardith Shaffer- healing

Beth Tuholski's father—comfort & healing

Carol Young & her mother—comfort & healing

Iris Zink-Brentwood Assisted Living

Prayers and Sympathy to Ina Mae Collings on the death of her grandson.

Prayer Chain begins with Jane Clayton 362-6729.



NEW STAFF ADDED...

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee is pleased to announce the hiring of Tammy Monesmith-Bernth as our new part-time director of music ministries and Adam Raschka as our new part-time director of children's ministries effective January 6, 2010.

Tammy is the vocal music instructor and readers' theater director at Veritas Academy in South Bend, where she has been employed the past two school years. She has also participated in productions at the La Porte Little Theater. Prior to Veritas Academy, she taught in John Glenn, Morgan Township, Michigan City, Argos, and Triton School Systems. She directed vocal music at Triton for a period of 18 years. Tammy began her teaching career in Knightstown, Indiana. She was the director of music ministries at the First United Methodist Church in Bourbon, Indiana from 1996-2004. She received her Bachelor's in music education from the University of Indianapolis in 1982 and her Master's in secondary education from Manchester College in 1986. Tammy and her husband Dennis live in nearby Mill Creek, Indiana.

Adam is the part-time director of the Learning League after school program for underprivileged children at the First United Methodist Church in Hammond. He has been involved with the Learning League for the past two years. He attended Purdue University Calumet. Adam brings passion, insight, and experience from working with the people of Hammond First Church and the Hammond Public Schools, as well as the Food Bank of Northwest Indiana to our children's ministry. He works with these additional entities through his position at the Learning League. He is eagerly looking forward to working with and developing our children's ministry program here at Salem Chapel.

Both Tammy and Adam have a strong commitment to Christ and the spreading of the gospel message through both music and children's ministries.

Watch for further information about exciting music and children's ministry opportunities in the weeks and months ahead as Adam and Tammy become acclimated to their new positions.

Welcome, Tammy and Adam!

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your thoughtfulness and expressions of love and kindness at Christmas. The monetary gift was deeply appreciated.

God bless everyone with an awesome 2010!

Pastor Bob, Ruth, Adam, Adrienne, and Emma



United Methodist Women

Shirley Johnson welcomed 15 UM Women to her home for the final meeting of the year. After Marge Dickson read a moving story, "Gift of the Heart" by Norman Vincent Peale, everyone shared prayer concerns and joys. Several points of business were discussed. January 17 is UMW Sunday and UM Women will help with the service. Prayer shawls and lap blankets will be blessed at that time. Also, UMW pledge cards for 2010 will be available at that time.

Jean New displayed some of the recent prayer shawls she has made, with a great thanks to Shannon & Ailene Trusty for the donation of tons of yarn from his mother's collection. Secret Pals revealed themselves and everyone drew new Secret Pals for 2010.

Jean New was honored with a gift to missions this year for the many prayer shawls she has presented to UMW.

In keeping with the season, Maureen Flickinger shared a flannelgraph lesson on "Who Is Present at the Advent Table?". Judy Buehrer shared some Christmas readings. Then Christmas goodies were shared, served by Shirley, Judy and Jean.

The next meeting will be February 8, the Prayer and Self-Denial service led by Susan Eggleston. Julie Lanham is hostess.

Pastor Bob is in China with the South Shore Orchestra. He plans to be back in the office on Thursday, January 7. Please pray for a safe return. While he is gone, if you are in need of pastoral care, please contact Gene Flickinger at 393-3241.

Christmas 2009 at the Lanham Home...

Every year when my family gets together for Thanksgiving, we draw names so we can do a gift exchange when we get together again for our Christmas party. But this year, instead of buying each other presents, God decided we should try something new.

Since we have so many reasons to be thankful and have been so blessed, we felt that it would be a nice change to give to others in need.

We decided that the Heifer International Project would be a great way to start. Our family set a goal to purchase a goat. A dairy goat can supply a family with up to several quarts of nutritious milk a day. Extra milk can be sold or used to make cheese, butter, or yogurt. Families can learn to use goat manure to fertilize gardens. Goats often have two or three kids a year, making it easy for Heifer recipients to pass on the gift to another family in need. This gift will help a family lift themselves out of poverty by starting small dairies that earn money for food, healthcare, and education.

Anyone can easily donate any amount through our church or give directly to Heifer International. There are many ways to help. They have a great website at www.HeiferInternational.com for more information.

Through the generous giving of all who attended our party, we met our goal. We are donating \$120.00 to purchase a dairy goat. Praise God!



Christmas Greetings

We received Christmas greetings from several of our church family and from the following with whom we have connections throughout the year:

Betty Ramsey, long-time friend & associate member








Hope Ministries Family Life Center

Bashor Children's Home

Mothers of Military Soldiers, Legion Post 83

Salvation Army

January 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Happy New Year!	2
3 Worship 8:45 Fellowship 9:45 Sunday School 10:15 a.m. SCUMY 4 p.m. SUNDAY NIGHT ALIVE 6 p.m. Bible Study 7 p.m.	4 <i>Shepherds</i> 6:15 p.m.	5 <i>Trustees</i> 7 p.m.	6	7 	8	9 McVay Funeral & dinner at the church
10 Worship 8:45 Fellowship 9:45 Sunday School 10:15 a.m. SCUMY 4 p.m. SUNDAY NIGHT ALIVE 6 p.m. Bible Study 7 p.m.	11 	12 <i>Staff-Parish</i> 6 p.m. <i>UM Men</i> 7 p.m.	13 <i>Sensational Seniors Luncheon</i> noon	14 <i>Bible Study</i> 6 p.m.	15	16 UMW District Executive Offi- cers Meeting 9 a.m. Parlor Nancy Gibson- Fellowship Hall 12-5 p.m.
17 <i>UMW SUN- DAY</i> Worship 8:45 Fellowship 9:45 Sunday School 10:15 a.m. SCUMY 4 p.m. SUNDAY NIGHT ALIVE 6 p.m. Bible Study 7 p.m.	18	19 <i>Missions</i> 6 p.m. <i>Ad Council</i> 7 p.m.	20	21 <i>Bible Study</i> 6 p.m.	22	23 
24 Worship 8:45 Fellowship 9:45 Sunday School 10:15 a.m. SCUMY 4 p.m. SUNDAY NIGHT ALIVE 6 p.m. Bible Study 7 p.m.	25	26 	27	28 <i>Bible Study</i> 6 p.m. <i>New Member Class</i> 7:15 p.m.	29	30 
31 <i>Epiphany Sunday</i> Worship 8:45 Fellowship 9:45 ALIVE 6 p.m. Sunday School p.m.	SCUMY 4 p.m. SUNDAY NIGHT Bible Study 7					

Mission News

YIPPEE!!! Salem Chapel UMC members have purchased all the items on the **Heifer International** gift order form (although a few other animals such as camels, oxen and donkeys may be special-ordered). Throughout this past year we have raised, through the quarter tube, gifts given in honor of someone, for a special occasion, or in memory of someone—a heifer, a water buffalo, a llama, two goats, a pig, a sheep, a trio of rabbits, honeybees, a flock of chicks and 2 flocks of ducks.

Some of these animals have already been sent and the remaining animals will be on their way shortly. Over \$1500 has been raised this year. Thanks for the wonderful support for this project and for helping!

What does your gift mean? It means...cows, water buffalo, llama, even bees, chicks, rabbits and more....healthy, hardy animals that will go forth and multiply, improving lives for countless families and children, and passing on your spirit of faith and charity over and over again to places in the world where your generosity, kindness, and vision are needed most.

A **SPECIAL THANKS** also goes to those who contributed to the **gift Christmas Tree**. Over 24 pairs of gloves/mittens, 20 scarves, 15 caps, plus underwear and socks were collected and will be donated to the Indian Trail Elementary School for children there with specific needs.

From John and Kendra Enright in Zambia...

Christmas 2009

Dear Friends,

This has been an amazing year for us at the Kafakumba Training Center in Zambia. The construction side of things is definitely moving forward, perhaps more slowly than we should like, but progress is steadily being made. Landscaping work is transforming the center—it's looking better and better.

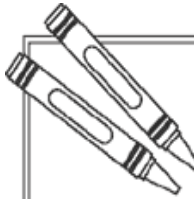
Hosting two sessions of Kafakumba Pastors' School this year was also an amazing experience. The first session in May and June consisted of about 100 pastors who regularly study in Zambia—pastors from Zambia, Tanzania, and the border region of Congo. In October nearly 100 pastors from Congo came down to study for one month. Most of these pastors had never been out of Congo, and although Zambia is their neighbor, these pastors felt they had gone to another planet. There was an amazing transformation in these students during the month they were with us as their eyes were opened to new understandings and experiences.

John, Kendra, and Nathan have been in the States for a few weeks in November, speaking and visiting with family and friends. Brian stayed in Zambia to oversee the babies—8000 baby tissue culture bananas (of a variety that we hope will be resistant to the virus) and 4000 baby chicks.

As we start to sing our Christmas carols and decorate the tree, it is truly amazing to think of Christ and all that He has brought to our lives—joy, peace, truth, direction. May we all experience an amazing transformation in our lives as we walk and grow in our faith this Christmas and in the new year.

Together in Christ,

John & Kendra Enright




Just for KIDS

David's Psalm of Praise to God

When we welcome the New Year, let's not forget to praise God!
In the Bible, David praised God often in his psalms.

Follow the path to read David's Psalm of Praise.



Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth. Praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day. Declare his glory among the nations, his wonders among all peoples. Psalm 96:1-3



Mary gave birth to a baby in the stable.
She named him Jesus.



**SALEM CHAPEL
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**2802 East State Road 4
La Porte, IN 46350**

Address Correction Requested

We're on the WEB!
salemchapelumc.org



January 2010

"Knowing Jesus Christ and making Him known to our neighbors and the nations."

A Winning Pattern for the New Year

Some anonymous wise person penned the following directions for living without bringing pain to others or oneself:

"You will never be sorry—for thinking before acting, for hearing before judging, for forgiving your enemies, for being candid and frank, for helping a fallen brother, for being honest in business, for thinking before speaking, for being loyal to God and the church, for standing by your principles, for refusing to participate in gossip, for holding your words when tempted to demean another, for not entertaining imperfect or hateful thoughts, for sympathizing with the afflicted, for being courteous and kind to all."

JOIN US....

SUNDAY NIGHT ALIVE!

CONTEMPORARY

WORSHIP

6 P.M.

SALEM CHAPEL

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2802 EAST SR 4

362-3330

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