

# SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

4873 Cleveland Road  
Wooster, Ohio 44691  
330-345-6727 (office)  
330-439-4686 (voicemail)  
www.slw.org  
slcpastor@gmail.com  
slcmain@gmail.com



Pastor Sharon Brown



Phyllis Maley, *Musician*  
Deb Musil, *Secretary*

## FROM THE PASTOR



All things are made new through Christ Jesus!

It's a new year when thoughts turn to resolutions and reassessing where we are at and where we are going. We wrap of the Christmas Season, take a breath, and see Lenten season coming swiftly toward us. Ash Wednesday is February 14<sup>th</sup> this year, and Easter is a bit earlier too – April 1<sup>st</sup>. Perhaps our theme for Lent

should be *Fools for Christ!* This makes sense when we consider what Apostle Paul writes to the church in Corinth: *For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.*

January is a time between Christmas, when we hopefully anticipate the coming of the savior of the world, and Lent, when we take a look at our life of discipleship and spiritual practices that bring us closer to God.

Our God is one who surprises us with humbleness and servanthood; A God of forgiveness and mercy, both of which we at times find difficult to accept. God's mercy is not fair. Jesus explains the nature of God through the parable of the workers in the field. The man who worked for one hour receives the same compensation as the one who labored all day. These are not the ways of power that our world seems to understand. And yet, they are the most powerful gifts we receive from our loving creator. We look to Jesus to understand the nature of God – and we see welcome, forgiveness, and mercy over judgment and the *sin-counting business*. Jesus is God with us, in solidarity with our precarious and fragile humanity.

Having spent a week away to refocus and delve into some spiritual reflection, I appreciate the value of simply sitting in the quietness of the presence and mystery of God.

January can be a slow time. A time to stay indoors and recharge after the frenzy of Christmas. This January, take some time to slow down and just sit in the moments of quietness and peace. Look for the signs all around of God working in the world – through this congregation and others. And give thanks for the love and joy God has revealed in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, who makes all things new!

In Christ's Service – Pastor Sharon

WE ARE  
**PRAYING**  
FOR...

**In Our Prayers:** The Baker Family, Julia Barnes, Tom Bartrum, Lynne Dilyard, Donna Fetzer, Karen Fisher, Jim Herbert, LaVonne Hider, Wendell Jensen, Chad Kohler, Kelly McKinley, Barb Miller, Dale Miller, Noreen Miller, Susanne Palmquist, Leo Phillips, Charles Raudebaugh, Kay Rhodes, Jean Shoup, Family of Forest Weiser, Toni Weiser, Denna Yockey, and Dawn Zerrer.

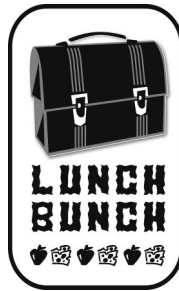


2	Garald Wise
6	Sandy Heaton
14	Sharon Hughes
17	Brandon Haumesser Charles Raudebaugh
18	Joy Hendrix
19	Abby Hughes
22	Shirley Wise
23	Daniel Stauffer
27	Joan Thomas
29	Marianne Powrie
31	Bill Leitch

**THE MEN OF ZION  
LUNCH BUNCH**

We will be meeting at Buffalo Wild Wings on Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. Please note that this is s one week later than our normal schedule. This is a fundraiser for the Relay for Life Team. I will have fliers on had, so the team can get credit for your meal.

*Bring a friend!*  
~ Stan Post



**NOVEMBER**

**WEEKLY  
ATTENDANCE**

11/05/17 29  
11/12/17 36  
11/19/17 30  
11/26/17 28

Regular Offering \$ 6,647.00  
Designated Offering \$ 385.00

YTD Designated Offering \$10,843.00

**YEAR-TO-DATE**

Total Income \$ 117,406.72  
Disbursements \$ 114,096.81  
Difference \$ 3,309.91

Building Fund: \$ 475.00

Receipts through November 2017

FINANCIAL NEWS



Your 20178offering envelopes are available.

Please pick them up from the table in front of the mailboxes in the narthex.

Dear Friends in the Faith,

Blessings on Salem's 190th anniversary! God has blessed it and made it a blessing in the community and beyond. It was my "home church" from 1927 to 1943, when I was married there.

Thank you so much for the anniversary service bulletin and the lovely pictures. It was so thoughtful of you to send them, and I am enjoying them very much. I am probably one of the oldest living former members you shared them with.

May God continue to make Salem a church where His Gospel is preached in truth and power until He comes again!

Gratefully,  
Leah Spenn

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
	<b>Happy New Year!</b>	6:30 Crossways	5:30 Messy Church		<i>Office Closed</i>	2:00 Council Retreat at Smithville Inn
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<i>Installation of Leadership</i> 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship	<i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	6:30 Crossways	5:30 Messy Church		<i>Office Closed</i>	Council Retreat
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship 12:00 Council	<b>Newsletter Deadline</b> <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	6:30 Crossways	5:30 Messy Church		<i>Office Closed</i>	
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship	<i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	6:30 Crossways	5:30 Messy Church		<i>Office Closed</i>	
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<i>January 2018</i>		
9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship	<i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	6:30 Crossways	5:30 Messy Church			

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS JANUARY 2018

ALTAR GUILD: *Volunteer Needed*

	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	LECTORS*	USHERS
JANUARY 7 - 10 AM	Kathy Bumgardner	Kathy Bumgardner	Dick Ullery
JANUARY 14 - 10 AM	Patti Hoff	Dick Ullery	Corwin & Jane Croskey
JANUARY 21 - 10 AM	Kathy Bumgardner	Amanda Herbert	Ed Blake
JANUARY 28 - 10 AM	Patti Hoff	Kathy Bumgardner	Dick Ullery

*\*Please note that the Lector schedule has been modified since it was published in December.*

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FEBRUARY 2018

ALTAR GUILD: *Volunteer Needed*

	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	LECTORS	USHERS
FEBRUARY 4 - 10 AM	Kathy Bumgardner	Dick Ullery	Corwin & Jane Croskey
JANUARY 11 - 10 AM	Patti Hoff	Amanda Herbert	Dick Ullery
JANUARY 18 - 10 AM	Kathy Bumgardner	Kathy Bumgardner	Ed Blake
JANUARY 25 - 10 AM	Patti Hoff	Dick Ullery	Corwin & Jane Croskey



Tim Barrage  
 Lynne Dilyard  
 Patti Hoff  
 Don Palmquist  
 Helen Raudebaugh  
 Morris Richmond  
 Morgan Stewart  
 Beth Ann Zimmerman

Garald Wise elected to Cemetery Committee.  
 Lynne Dilyard elected to Endowment Committee.

Council Retreat will be January 6<sup>th</sup>. Location and time To Be Announced.

Installation of council and committee members will take place during worship on January 7, 2018

The first 2018 Council Meeting will be January 14<sup>th</sup> at noon.