



SALEM CHURCH

God is still speaking

435 S. 9th Street
Quincy, IL 62301
217.222.0601

December 2023

Mission Statement: We are followers of Jesus, in the process of discerning what we need to let go of and what we need to embrace so we can be a light of Christ in the world.



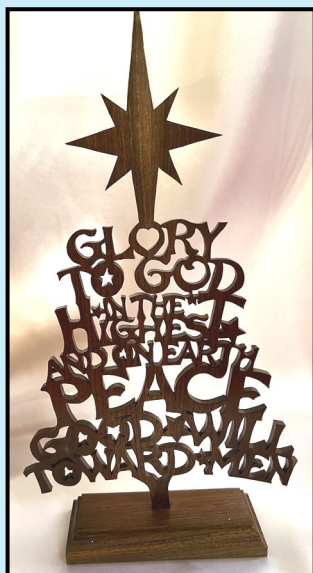
Rev. Matthew Hunt

This year we are taking up a Special Christmas Eve Offering on December 24th. Doctor Darin (you can search a video on YouTube using his name) and his wife, Shannon Thomas, have a nonprofit foundation. One of the many things they are doing to bless the world is creating a Mountain Bike Park inside a huge building at 628 Jersey St, Quincy, IL (the 2 minute video is great). Youth and adults can pay for their membership by doing good deeds for others. You can read more about this project in Dr. Darin's own words on the other side of this page. We encourage you to prayerfully consider your financial gift to support this special ministry that resides in our own community. We ask that your giving is over-and-above your normal offering.

On another note, I can't believe 2023 is almost over. It's been an exciting year with infant and adult baptisms, the resurrection of Connect Groups, new ideas, spiritual transformation, and many new members who are committed to God and God's church. It will be a delight to close the year out with a traditional Candlelight Christmas Eve service of lessons and carols. Don't forget we will also have worship at 9am on December 24, as well.

Happy Advent and Merry Christmas!

Blessings,
Pastor Matt



A big thank you to Chuck McMullen for carving this beautiful tree for our communion table.



No Mountains...No Problem! We are doing something that has only been done a few times in the entire world... building an indoor mountain bike park! And we are doing it for our kids and active adults in our beloved Midwest.

Winters can be hard here, and options for activities few, especially for the kiddos, but we want to change that.

Anybody and everybody who wants to ride here can do so by paying with kind acts. Here, we believe that Kindness Is Currency. We not only want to improve the culture of an active lifestyle in our area, but even more importantly, we want to focus on the critical need of giving back to our communities. You SERVE. You RIDE. It's that easy. This model removes any financial roadblocks to any child that might not normally be able to participate. Charity to others is always free, and your kindness will get you on our ramps and kickers for the same price.

We have the building, we have the team, and now we are seeking financial help to make it happen. It is not a coincidence that this has only been done a limited number of times in the world. It is an incredibly wonderful challenge, but a challenge in its truest form. And it will take a solid financial base, to ensure that it remains in our community.

We know this will change the lives of our riders, and those they serve.

Thank you for anything that you can do in helping us in making a generational effect in the lives of the kids in OUR community.

Sincerely,

Dr. Darin Thomas
PHAST Foundation President

PHAST's Mission: To Promote Health and Service Together



This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to God's will, God hears us. 1 JOHN 5:14

Ralph Baxter	Sharon Higgins
Connie Boling	Carol Hillebrenner
Leah Brice	Carolyn Kaiser
Carolyn Carper	Jenni Moran
Laurie Charity	Wes Hunt
Sandy Constable	Dennis Novotny
Gary Daggett	John Sallstrom
Cindy Davis & Family	Wanda Hamann-Salsman
Victoria Dry	Robert Sronce
Denise Eastman	Andy Tappe
Madeline Hendricks	Joyce Winn
Sally Hibbard	Merle Woods



When people choose to become members of Salem Church, it's time for cake! The Salem community grew by seven on Sunday, November 12. Welcome to all!

Dates to Remember

Saturday, December 2

11:30 am: BJ's Café—Saturday Meals

Sunday, December 3

9:30 am: Youth and Adult Re:Charge
10:30 am: Breathe Deep Worship with Communion
11:15 am: Christmas Fun!

Tuesday, December 5

4:30 pm: Property Task Force
5:30 pm: Bell Choir Rehearsal
6:45 pm: Choristers Rehearsal

Saturday, December 9

10:30 am: Paws & Prayers Pet Food Distribution
11:30 am: BJ's Café—Saturday Meals

Sunday, December 10

8:15 am: Choristers Rehearsal
9:00 am: Salem Worship
10:00 am: Youth and Adult Re:Charge

Tuesday, December 12

5:30 pm: Bell Choir Rehearsal
6:45 pm: Choristers Rehearsal

Wednesday, December 13

6:00 pm: Appy Holiday—VMST & Ministries Christmas Party

Thursday, December 14

4:00 pm: Loads of Love

Saturday, December 16

11:30 am: Household/Toiletries Distribution
11:30 am: BJ's Café—Saturday Meals

Sunday, December 17

8:15 am: Choristers Rehearsal
9:00 am: Worship—Advent Concert
10:00 am: Youth and Adult Re:Charge
2:00 pm: Carols, Cookies, and Cocoa at Good Samaritan

Tuesday, December 19

5:30pm: Bell Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, December 20

5:30 pm: Evening Guild Christmas Party
Newsletter Deadline

Saturday, December 23

11:30 am: BJ's Café—Saturday Meals

Sunday, December 24

8:15 am: Bell Choir Rehearsal
9:00 am: Salem Worship
10:00 am: Youth and Adult Re:Charge
7:00 pm: Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service

Thursday, December 28

4:00 pm: Loads of Love

Saturday, December 30

11:30 am: BJ's Café—Saturday Meals

Sunday, December 31

9:00 am: Salem Worship

**Church Office open
Tuesday and Thursday,
9:00 to noon**



IMPACT OF SALEM'S OUTREACH MISSIONS

Every month, Salem volunteers contribute to the community in many ways—but we don't always know the extent and impact of those contributions. We will use this newsletter to share that information for better awareness. The data tells the story...

BJ's Café / Saturday Meals: In the period from Saturday, 10/28, through Saturday, 11/18, **382 meals** were served.

Loads of Love: On two Thursdays — 10/26 and 11/9 — **87 people** received assistance with their family's laundry, provided with the means to wash **616 loads** of laundry.

Paws and Prayers: On November 11, this ministry provided **184 bags & 28 cans** of dog food, **112 bags & 24 cans** of cat food, **17 bags** of dog treats, **3 bags** of cat treats, and **36 miscellaneous items** (leashes, bowls, toys, blankets, coats, collars, vouchers, etc.).

God's Garden: The garden is done for the year. Since we began harvesting, a total of **125 pounds** of veggies has been donated to **Quanada, Horizons** or given to our guests at **BJ's Café**.

Health Fair: On November 18, Health Fair volunteers provided **115 grateful people** with items to assist with personal hygiene.

Salem is making a difference in our community.

Thanks to all the volunteers and to you for your support.



December 2023

Birthdays

12/2	Sylvia Holzgrafe
	Melba Loos
12/5	Richard Lohmeyer
12/6	Velma Klusmeyer
12/8	Debbie Husar
12/10	Cindy Lohmeyer
12/12	Kent Stockton
12/16	Bob Fox
	Izzy Winn
12/21	Ken Kammerer
12/22	Kathie Clark
12/23	Sandy Constable
12/24	Lee Charity
	Brice Waldrop
12/28	Chris Fauble
12/31	Amanda Gross
	Katie Nebe

No Anniversaries

Breathe Deep
Sunday, Dec 3
10:30 am

The Evening Guild will have
a Christmas party on
Wednesday, December 20, at
5:30 in the Lounge.

If you would like to honor a loved one with a poinsettia or Christmas memorial, please get the necessary information to the church office by December 17. You may send them by email: office@salemquincy.org, or drop them in the mail. The office is open and staffed on Tuesday and Thursday from 9-12. The cost of the poinsettias this year is \$10.



Carols, Cookies, and Cocoa

Sunday, December 17 - 2:00 pm

Join in a visit to Good Samaritan Home to visit
our older Salem Family

Sing carols – drink cocoa
(and butter beer) – eat cookies

RSVP at the Dec 3 Christmas Fun event



Volunteers
do not necessarily
have the time;
they just have the heart.



V♥lunteers

MAKE IT HAPPEN

Coffee Hour / Fellowship Volunteers



Judy Bushaus, Carol Hillebrenner, Connie Mowen, Martha Deege, Kevin Deege

You may have seen one or more of these people leave the sanctuary just as the second hymn got underway. They didn't leave because they did not care for the hymn but rather to make sure coffee and donuts were ready for the coffee and fellowship time that follows the service. And they clean up, too! Thanks for all you do for Salem!

Salem T.I.N.Y Tree



Teens In Need + u

The Caring Ministry team is collecting hygiene products for Quincy High School teens in need. QHS has around 70 kids that are from low-income families and this year the list has increased. We are asking our Salem friends for assistance to reach our goal by providing 50 male or female hygiene gifts this season. We plan to distribute the donations to teens via the school. Please use the recommended list below as a guide. The donations need to be under the tree before December 5th.

List of needed items:

Deodorant	Body spray	Bodywash	Combs / picks	Chapstick	Nail file
Lotion	Feminine products	Soap (small)	Toothbrush	Toothpaste (small)	Tissue (pocket)
Wet wipes (small)	Wash cloths	Laundry soap (individual)			

Please see a ministry member if you have questions or wish for us to shop for you. Members are Kevin Deege, Norma Spory, Catherine Vernetti and Martha Deege.

1 lb. bag of halved pecans

- Plain - \$13
- Honey Roasted - \$14
- Milk Chocolate covered / Dark Chocolate covered - \$15
- Sugar-free Chocolate covered - \$16

Ask any member of the choir to reserve your order.

**AWESOME TO EAT
ALONE, GIVE AS A GIFT,
OR USE IN BAKING!**