



January 2023

Volume 35, Number 1

Salem

United Methodist Church
Forecaster

Bishop Kennetha Bigham-Tsai Appointed to Iowa starting Jan. 1, 2023

Bishop Kennetha Bigham-Tsai has been assigned as the resident bishop for the Iowa Area, effective Jan. 1, 2023. She was elected to the episcopacy at the 2022 North Central Jurisdictional Conference. Before her election, she served as the chief connective ministries officer of the Connective Table for the United Methodist Church since 2018.

Bishop Bigham-Tsai, has served as a district superintendent in the Michigan Annual Conference and as a local church pastor in Kalamazoo and East Lansing, Michigan.

She describes her leadership as a “relational, collaborative, and innovative leader who makes my own physical, emotional, and spiritual health a priority. I am a visionary who is mission-directed and willing to experiment. I believe in surrounding myself with strong leaders, then equipping and allowing them to lead. I enjoy leading with people who are open to the creative movement of the Spirit, and I enjoy mentoring and developing new leaders.”

Bishop Bigham-Tsai is married to Kee Tsai. They have two children, Keeton and Kandem Bigham-Tsai, and a German Shepherd, Kylo.



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January 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Epiphany Sunday New Year's Day 10 AM All Together Worship 11 AM Fellowship Time	2 Church Office Closed	3	4 9 AM Circuit Pastor's Meeting 10 AM Wednesday Morning Bible Study 6 PM Praise Team Rehearsal	5 11 AM Options of Linn Co. 12 PM Recreation for Seniors 3:45 PM Salem Servants Serve at Green Square Meals	6	7 8 UM Men's Breakfast
8 Food Bank Sunday 9 AM Worship (Modern) 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:15 AM Children's Sunday School 11 AM Worship (Traditional) 12:30 PM Women's Care Group	9 12 PM Recreation for Seniors	10 1 PM Staff Meeting	11 10 AM Wednesday Morning Bible Study 12 PM Golden Links	12 9:30 AM UMW Sarah Circle Meeting 11 AM Options of Linn Co. 12 PM Recreation for Seniors	13 1 PM UMW Rachel Circle Meeting	14
15 9 AM Worship (Modern) 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:10 AM Children's Sunday School 11 AM Worship (Traditional)	16 <u>Forecaster</u> <u>articles due to</u> <u>Church Office</u> 12 PM Recreation for Seniors	17 5:30 PM Leadership Board	18 10 AM Wednesday Morning Bible Study	19 11 AM Options of Linn Co. 12 PM Recreation for Seniors	20	21
22 9 AM Worship (Modern) 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:10 AM Children's Sunday School 11 AM Worship (Traditional)	23 12 PM Recreation for Seniors	24 12:30 PM Cards and Fellowship	25 10 AM Wednesday Morning Bible Study 7 PM Blue Christmas Service	26 9:30 AM Dignity for Girls Workshop 11 AM Options of Linn Co. 12 PM Recreation for Seniors 3:45 PM Salem Servants Serve at Green Square Meals	27	28 11:30 PM CR Emmaus Training
29 10 AM All Together Worship 11:30 AM Potluck	30 12 PM Recreation for Seniors	31				Salem Office hours: Monday—Thursday 9 AM to 4 PM (closed holidays)

New Sermon Series: *Living the Dream*

Is your life right now exactly how you imagined it or is there a gap between where you are and where you want to be? Maybe its in your career, your marriage, or just in terms of your personal habits or the way you live your life.

I ask that question because I hope that there is. I think it is healthy to always strive towards improvement for ourselves. Afterall, we follow a Christ who said that he is making us new. As long as we are living life with God, we are all works in progress. In other words, we are not there yet. There is always a gap between where we are and where we want to be...or better yet...where God wants us to be.

Perhaps that place where you want to be is a dream. What is your dream for your life and are you truly living it? Our new sermon series for the month of January is entitled, "Living the Dream." As we traverse through this series, I want you to consider the type of person you want to become.

We will be walking alongside an Old Testament dreamer named Joseph. He had dreams for his life, and he could see the dreams of others. He spends his life aligning his dreams with God's purpose for his life. Like you and I, he doesn't always get it right.

You have a picture of what you want to do, where you want to go, and who you want to be. Those pictures are your dreams for yourself.

Well, God has dreams for your life too. You were created to fulfill them. What does life look like...and what does life feel like...when our actions, our focus, and our dreams are in sync with God's dreams for us?

Come along with us this January as we explore how to live the dream....right here...right now. You can awaken to a new sense of purpose and a renewed understanding of who you are when you live God's dream for your life.

Jan 8: Joseph---A Guy with BIG Dreams

Jan 15: A Step Down Instead of a Step Up Towards Our Dreams

Jan 22: Resiliency in Our Dreams

Jan 29: Dreams into Reality

Feb 5: WHY God Gives Us Dreams in the First Place

Be Bold, Be Strong,

Rev. Matt German

**Both 9 AM and 11 AM Worship Services are
livestreamed on Facebook, YouTube,
and salemchurch.life.**

The links are www.facebook.com/salem.cr,
www.salemchurch.life, and [http://youtube.com/
channel/UCnWq4K2wc3F0nmk8h9y8Xjw](http://youtube.com/channel/UCnWq4K2wc3F0nmk8h9y8Xjw).

Come and Worship!

Sundays

9 AM—Modern

Online & In-person

11 AM—Traditional

Online & In-person



January Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays:

- 1 Jodi Anderson
- 2 Amy Schilling
- 2 Chatty Lullmann
- 4 Kay Haring
- 4 Tim Reisen
- 5 Tim Sweet
- 6 Glenda McMillen
- 7 Kory Thomas
- 7 Ausha Ayers
- 7 Grant Schilling
- 11 Izak Lint
- 12 Harley Tunis
- 14 Gerry Wheeler
- 15 Barb Soukup
- 15 Gary Warmbier
- 18 Jack Schilling
- 19 Jim Sheets
- 19 Norman Schade
- 21 JoEllen Jacobus



- 25 Julia Titus
- 26 Jodie Hansen
- 27 Kathy Kos
- 27 Jace Jacobus
- 29 Kevin Naholi
- 29 Tim Soukup
- 29 Lydia Whitaker
- 31 Billie Shaffer
- 31 Marci Mudanya

Anniversaries:

- 20 DeAnn & Dave King

Announcements and Articles



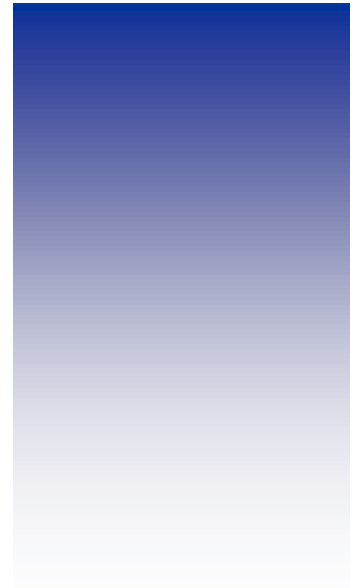
Please submit any church-wide announcements for Sunday to the Church Office for review by noon the Wednesday prior. Please note: depending on the timing and quantity, not all announcements submitted can be mentioned. Thank you for your understanding. Office email is office@salemchurchcr.com.

Website or social media announcements are due by Monday to the Church Office.

Forecaster articles are due to the Church Office by the third Monday of each month.

Finance Update

Salem Finance Update as of November 30, 2022		
Operating Income (Annual Giving):	YTD	November
Offering Income	237,587	19,151
Operating Expenses		
Expenses to date	281,321	23,628
Net Amount of Income over/(under) Expenses	(43,734)	(4,477)
Average monthly deficit	(3,976)	
Building Fund		
Offering Income	62,277	3,244
Mortgage payments	59,092	5,372
Net Amount Income over/(under) Expenses	3,185	(2,128)
Outstanding Loan Balance	582,329	
Building Fund Reserve - 5.3 months	28,531	



5 WAYS TO GIVE

Vanco mobile app
 on Give page at salemchurch.life
 in person
 mail gift to church
 text the \$ to 855-917-1810

Mission Focus: Linn Community Food Bank

Many residents of Cedar Rapids have faced hardships including a lack of income, loss of resources, and homelessness. Salem is supporting the Linn Community Food Bank this month. This food bank has been feeding the hungry since 1972. It is funded and supported solely through donations from the community and it is 100% non-profit. 100% of your donation is used to feed hungry men, women and children in our local community. Salem is collecting canned or boxed items for the food bank. If you choose to give money, Linn Community Food Bank can buy products in bulk at a great price. If giving by text, code is LCFB.

If you are in need of services, the Linn Community Food Bank provides a 3-day emergency supply of food to families in need on a first come/first served basis. You must register at the food bank. To



do so, a picture ID is required for the head of household. Also, proof of Social Security number (SSN) is required for yourself and every member of your household before you can place your first order. Once you are registered, you only need a valid photo ID to place an order. For more information, go to www.linncommunityfoodbank.org. It is located at 310 5th St SE.

Questions, contact Mission Team Leader Joni Salazar at (319) 573-3943 or jsalazar412@gmail.com.

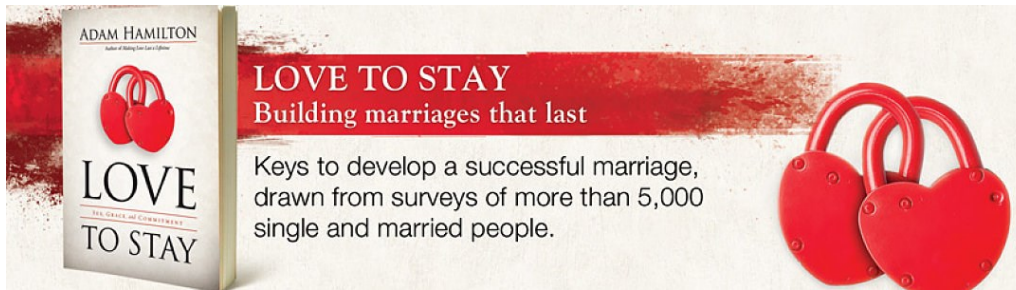
Library News



While we pass the time on these cold winter days and nights, consider checking out the selection of books, DVDs, Bible trivia games, puzzles and CDs in the Salem Library.

Your Salem Librarians,
Evelyn Prasil & Ginnie Clark

Love to Stay



Pastor Matt is teaching a marriage class on Monday nights!

Love. It is a word that is thrown around a lot in our culture. When I think about love from a biblical perspective, there is one word that comes to mind from the New Testament that was originally written in Greek. If you could only hold onto one Greek word from the New Testament it should be this: Agape

Agape is a selfless love. It is a sacrificial love. It is a love that ultimately wishes the best for the other, and it is completely independent of our feelings. In other words, love is not something we feel, rather, love is something we do. It is an action verb. This leaves us with the conclusion that love is a choice. It is time to leave love behind as a feeling, and step forward into a love that “does”.

This is why I am so excited for our marriage series that I will be teaching on Monday nights beginning January 9. The series is called Love to Stay, based on the book by Rev. Adam Hamilton.

In this series, we will explore how, with God’s help, we can make love last. Drawing upon a survey of thousands of couples and singles, interviews with relationship and marriage therapists, the latest research in the field, and wisdom from the Bible, we will look at what it takes to create and sustain healthy, meaningful romantic relationships across the course of a lifetime. The class schedule is listed below.

Jan 9 - More Than a Piece of Paper

Jan 16 - What She Wants, What He Wants

Jan 23 - The Significance of Sexual Intimacy

Jan 30 - Habits That hurt, Habits That Heal

Feb 6 - Clothe, Bear With, Forgive

Feb 13 - A Love That Lasts a Lifetime-----SWEETHEART DINNER

We will conclude on the Monday evening before Valentine’s Day with a “Sweetheart Dinner”. The Sweetheart Dinner will be a formal meal intended to be a date night for married couples with great food and candlelight. At the conclusion of the evening, couples will get a chance to renew their vows in Christian marriage.

Whether you are married, contemplating marriage, single, or divorced, this series is for you. Please stop by the Welcome Center, call the Church Office, or talk to me so we can get you registered by Sunday Jan 5. I look forward to what is sure to not only be a fun class, but one that will help make love last a lifetime.

Be Bold, Be Strong,

Rev. Matt German

UMM Soup and Sandwich Supper

UMM Suppers are back, and we wanted to let everyone know way in advance to spread the word!!! Plan to attend the UMM Soup Supper Thursday, **February 16**, from 5-7 PM in Fellowship Hall. Treat yourself and your family to a delicious homemade meal hosted by the United Methodist Men of Salem. Adults are \$9. Children under 12 are \$4.50. Invite your friends!



Winter Weather Alert



With winter's arrival, and the potential for snow, ice, and severe cold making travel treacherous, we offer this reminder. If events are canceled at Salem due to safety concerns, it will be posted on our website, salemchurch.life, and Facebook page, facebook.com/salem.cr, as well as on the TV channels KCRG (9), KWWL (7), and KGAN (2).

In general, when the Cedar Rapids Public Schools cancel due to dangerous weather conditions, Salem will also cancel activities.

All Golden Agers Welcome!

Golden Links will be meeting on Wednesday, January 11 at 12 PM at 16th Avenue Grill (3130 16th Ave SW). Everyone is welcome! Call Josie Lanz at (319) 362-3859 for more information.



Report of the Leadership Board

12-13-2022

The Leadership Board notes are not available at this time. They will be in February's issue. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Matt.

We would like to thank Linda Curson for her 13 years here at Salem as our Treasurer. Her devotion and dedication to this ministry has been greatly appreciated!

We welcome Brian Schooley as our new Treasurer! Brian has been very active in many roles here at Salem already. He's been a Leadership Board member, and currently is on our tech team. Welcome Brian!





January 2023 Forecaster

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www.facebook.com/salem.cr
salemchurch.life

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Salem's mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.
"connecting people, building community, transforming lives through Jesus"

Salem's Sunday Morning Schedule

Online Worship
www.facebook.com/salem.cr
<http://youtube.com/channel/UCnWq4K2wc3F0nmk8h9y8Xjw>
www.salemchurch.life

9:00 AM	Modern Worship	Sanctuary
10:00 AM	Fellowship Time	Fellowship Hall
10:10 AM	Children's Sunday School	Lower Level
11:00 AM	Traditional Worship	Sanctuary



Nursery for infants through 4-year-olds is available on the Lower Level during worship services and Sunday School.

Salem Office hours: Monday—Thursday 9 AM to 4 PM
(closed standard holidays)