

Experiencing the transforming love of Jesus
Expressing that love to others

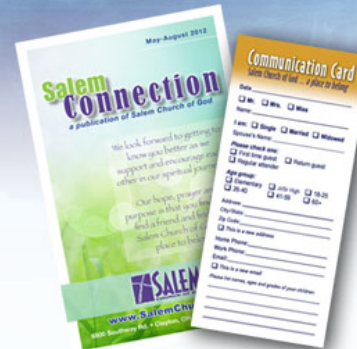
Salem Happenings

a publication of Salem Church of God

Welcome ... We are glad you have chosen to join us for worship today. Please take a moment during your visit to complete a Communication Card found in the pews. If you have any questions, stop by the Welcome Center, contact us at info@salemchurch.org or 937-836-6500. We look forward to getting to know you better as we support and encourage each other in our spiritual journeys!

Curious how to get connected?

- There are many ways to receive information from Salem...
- Email info@salemchurch.org to receive our weekly e-newsletter.
 - Check out our website at www.SalemChurch.org.
 - Pick up a Salem Connection located in the information racks.



December 21, 2012

Giving:

Weekly Need:
\$34,815

Offering 12/16/12:
\$40,783.63

Gospel Mission Thank You

Chaplain Ken Clarkston passed along a thank you to the Salem congregation. "Thank you so very much for your generosity. Your gifts are very meaningful and appreciated. Thank you for all your support and volunteering throughout the year. May the Lord bless you ..."

Year End Giving

As we near the end of the year, and as you review your 2012 giving to Salem Church, please be reminded of IRS guidelines requiring that 2012 contributions must arrive at the church by 12/31. If mailing, contributions must be post marked by December 31, 2012. If you wish to drop off your year-end gift at the church, the church office will be open on Wednesday, December 26 and Thursday, December 27 from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.. You may also make your 2012 year-end contribution during our December 30 morning worship services.

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SALEM

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Monday, December 24 - 6:30 p.m.

Christmas Outreach Project Continues

Your gifts have been amazing and are still needed: as part of our year-end outreach, we especially ask you to consider donating vitamins (adult and children's, non-gummies) and Band-Aids to our outreach partner **Caring Partners International**. **Caring Partners International** is a non-profit organization that works with churches and missionaries to bring love and compassion to a suffering world through the delivery of medical treatment, training, supplies and materials, accompanied with hope of the Gospel. You can drop off these items in the Salem lobby through Dec. 24.



Mission Trip to Honduras

Salem's next trip to our sister village of Robledales, Honduras will be **June 15 - June 21, 2013**. Our goals for this trip are to provide a basic medical clinic, build a house, and do VBS for the children. We especially need volunteers with construction experience. We will have an informational meeting after the first of the year. If you are interested in this trip, please contact Lisa Ward at Lward7@hotmail.com.

Report on Syrian & Iraqi Refugees in Lebanon

Rev. Tom Atema, Director of Heart for Lebanon state side will be sharing the latest stories of how Heart for Lebanon is serving the refugees from Syria and Iraq. We will also be announcing a trip to Lebanon next summer. The event will be on Thursday January 10, 2013, at 6:30 p.m. in room 106. For more info, contact Nabil Safi at n.safi@salemchurch.org.

Slovakia English Camp 2013

The 2012 Team Slovakia will host an informational breakfast for persons interested in the details of forming a 2013 Team Slovakia. In these week-long summer camps, English is a catalyst for sharing the gospel with secular Slovak high school students. Teaching American English combined with sports, crafts, high octane evening programs set the stage for talking about Jesus. It's time to start training. Questions or reserve a spot at breakfast, Saturday, January 5, 2013, 9:30-11 a.m. at Joe & Merry Cookston's house. Contact Betty Scheibly at ext. 104 or b.scheibly@salemchurch.org



**Year End Giving
continued ...**

For your convenience, another option for making a year-end gift is through "online giving". Simply go to our church website at www.salemchurch.org and select the "ONLINE GIVING" tab, and follow the instructions on the screen. Please note that all online gifts must be entered no later than December 31 if you wish to have the gift recognized on your 2012 giving statement. Thank you for your generous support of the ministries of Salem Church of God. We are looking forward to 2013 with great EXPECTANCY!

**Check it out!
SalemChurch.org**

Click on the "get connected" tab and scroll through the different areas. Listen online to teachings, submit a prayer request and more!

New Life Group forming - The Apprentice Series

**This group will begin meeting weekly on Monday, February 4
Home of Tom and Gwen Martin, 360 Winterset Drive, Englewood**

Would you like to know more intimately the God Jesus knows? This small group experience will involve discussion, sharing, and encouragement during a 90-minute gathering. A closer look at the God Jesus revealed will be studied through learning more about the stories that guide our actions, practicing soul-training exercises such as sleeping enough, slowing down, silence, and awareness of creation and others. Contact Tom and Gwen Martin at 836-4570 or Betty at ext. 104.

**Salem Church of God's
Christmas Celebration 2012 aids others**

Those attending Salem Church of God's Christmas Celebration 2012 donated more than 2,000 pounds of nonperishable food and other items to be distributed among four relief agencies.

Three performances of "Hope of the Broken World," the title of this year's celebration, attracted 2,556 to the Salem Worship Center in Clayton during the weekend of Dec. 7-9. Those attending were asked to bring donations to aid the Miami Valley Women's Center, Caring Partners, FISH and Community Table. The church will continue to receive donations through Christmas Eve.

Additionally, Salem hosted Community Table's Christmas Store, which was opened to area families in need from Dec. 10-15. Approximately 80 families visited the Christmas Store, selecting a maximum of three gifts for their children while receiving essentials such as hats, coats, gloves, scarves, clothing, shoes and a \$25 gift card to Aldi's.

Partnering with Salem to operate the Christmas Store were St. Paul's Catholic Church, Concord United Methodist, Crestview Baptist, Englewood Penecostal, Englewood United Methodist, Fairhaven Northmont, Five Rivers Vineyard, Happy Corner Church of the Brethren, United Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Kleptz YMCA and Northmont City Schools. The Christmas Store has been in operation for six years.



One grateful mother who was helped by the Christmas Store wrote: "Thank you all for this beautiful gift. My prayers were answered and you'll never know how much this has meant to me. Merry Christmas."



Salem Church of God / 6500 Southway Rd. / Clayton, OH 45315 / 937-836-6500 / www.SalemChurch.org

If you have a medical emergency and need to contact a staff person after office hours please call 937-474-9753.