



# YOU'RE INVITED TO Christmas Eve

## **11:00 AM - FAMILY WORSHIP**

**(MID-COUNTY)** | In-Person: Families with children won't want to miss this fun interactive service featuring kid-friendly music and telling of the Christmas story. All children are invited to participate – no prior rehearsals are required! Nursery care available.

## **11:00 AM - TRADITIONAL WORSHIP**

**(MID-COUNTY)** | In-Person & Livestream: Celebrate the coming of Christ during this special morning service featuring Christmas music from the Salem Chancel Choir and Salem Chamber Orchestra, a joyful Christmas message to start your day, and Holy Communion. Nursery care available.

## **5:00 PM - MODERN WORSHIP**

**(MID-COUNTY)** | In-Person & Livestream: Begin your evening with modern Christmas music featuring our band, Salem United, and a message of Christmas hope designed to inspire your entire family. Nursery care available.

## **8:00 PM - TRADITIONAL WORSHIP**

**(MID-COUNTY)** | In-Person & Livestream: Celebrate Christmas Eve with a message based on the classic Christmas scriptures, Holy Communion, and traditional Christmas music featuring the Chancel Choir and Salem. Nursery care available.

## **8:00 PM - MODERN WORSHIP**

**(SOUTH-CITY)** | In-Person & Livestream: Enjoy modern Christmas music featuring our band, Salem United, Holy Communion, children's moments, and an inspiring message. Nursery care available.

## **11:00 PM - UNPLUGGED WORSHIP**

**(MID-COUNTY)** | In-Person: Countdown the minutes until Christmas together and enjoy live music, Holy Communion, Silent Night by candlelight, and a message of joy to usher in the most holy night of the year.

## **NEW YEAR'S EVE WORSHIP DECEMBER 31**

**MID-COUNTY // 9:30 & 11:00 AM**

**SOUTH-CITY // 11:00 AM** | In-Person & Livestream: Are you looking for a new beginning in your life? Embrace the possibility of a fresh start in the New Year as we launch a new sermon series on December 31. Don't miss this chance to kick off your New Year's celebration with a meaningful worship experience. Nursery care and Kids Connect will be available.

**WORSHIP ONLINE AT  
SALEMSTLOUIS.COM  
DECEMBER 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE  
11:00 AM, 5:00 PM, & 8:00 PM**

**FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA  
AT SALEMSTLOUIS**





# ADVENT EVENTS

## AT SALEM



**NOVEMBER 19-22**

### **CHRISTMAS DECORATING**

**MID-COUNTY SITE & SOUTH-CITY SITE:** Can you spare a few hours to assist in decorating for Christmas and preparing our worship spaces for Advent? You can volunteer by filling out the online form or contact the office at (314) 991-0546 or [info@salemstlouis.com](mailto:info@salemstlouis.com). Your help is greatly appreciated!

**NOVEMBER 24**

### **ONLINE SOUL OF THE SEASON CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

**ONLINE:** Start your Christmas season at home with the music of Brian Owens, Christine Brewer, Juan and Lisa Winans, the Salem Chamber Orchestra and more great talent filmed live at Salem and available online beginning November 24 at <https://bit.ly/souloftheseason>.

**DECEMBER 3-17**

### **THE CHRISTMAS STORY**

**IN-PERSON & ONLINE | MID-COUNTY & SOUTH-CITY SITES:** Worship with us in the weeks leading up to Christmas as we look at the Christmas story with fresh eyes and open hearts. What is the "good news of great joy" that that the birth of Jesus brought to the world that night long ago – and what is the joy that it can bring us today? The world into which Jesus was born was as challenging as our world today, but then, as now, Jesus brings hope, peace, joy and love into every area of our lives and our world.

**DECEMBER 9, 7:00 PM**

### **CHRISTMAS KICK-OFF CONCERT**

**IN-PERSON | MID-COUNTY SITE:** You're invited to an evening of Christmas music featuring StikYard, a spirited fusion of driving percussion, original musical arrangements and unique choreography, and the Salem United Worship Band led by Pastor Nick Savage. Join us for a night of praise and worship through your favorite Christmas hymns, Gospel favorites, and more! Tickets are \$20 for adults and free for children 12 and under. Visit [salemstlouis.com](http://salemstlouis.com) for tickets. Ticket sales benefit Salem's Nutrition & Literacy programs in St. Louis.

**DECEMBER 10**

### **LESSONS & CAROLS WORSHIP**

**IN-PERSON & ONLINE: 9:30 & 11:00 am | Mid-County Site & 11:00 am | South-City Site** You're invited to special worship services featuring Lessons and Carols presented by Salem's music ministry. Witness in word, song and music the prophecy and birth of Jesus Christ as it unfolds through scripture, carols, and special music.

### **CHRISTMAS WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP & COOKIE EXCHANGE**

**DECEMBER 14, 7:00 PM**

**IN-PERSON | MID-COUNTY SITE:** Celebrate the joy of baking and enjoy fellowship together at the Christmas Women's Fellowship & Cookie Exchange on December 14 at 7:00 pm at the Mid-County Site. Don't miss this fun-filled event featuring delicious cookies, short devotional with Rev. Deborah LeMoine, and time together. Please bring two dozen cookies and your recipe to share. All women are welcome to this free event. Register online at [salemstlouis.com](http://salemstlouis.com).

**DECEMBER 15, 6:00-9:00 PM**

### **KIDS NIGHT OUT WITH SANTA**

**IN-PERSON | MID-COUNTY SITE:** Join us for a Christmas-themed Kids Night Out! Santa will make a guest appearance from 6-7 pm for photo ops (bring your camera) and visits with kids of all ages. Kids ages 2-10 are invited to stay for an evening of Christmas themed snacks, games and activities including a movie on the big screen in the multi-purpose room. Parents can head out for shopping, dinner or maybe a few quiet hours at home! Cost is \$20 per child (\$40 max for family) for the evening activities, and registration is required at [salemstlouis.com](http://salemstlouis.com). There is no charge or registration needed for photos with Santa!

**DECEMBER 16, 7:30 PM**

### **HANDEL'S MESSIAH CONCERT**

**IN-PERSON | MID-COUNTY SITE:** Experience the joy of George Frederick Handel's Messiah with us on December 16 at 7:30 pm at Salem United Methodist Church. The American Chamber Chorale and Salem Orchestra invite you to celebrate the anticipation of Jesus' birth featuring the Advent/Christmas portion of Messiah. Admission is free, so come and experience the joy of Christmas.



**FOR MORE  
DETAILS VISIT  
[SALEMSTLOUIS.COM/  
CHRISTMAS](http://SALEMSTLOUIS.COM/CHRISTMAS)**



# THE TRANSFORMING POWER OF CHRISTMAS

- REV. TERRI SWAN

This advent season we will be celebrating the HIS-story of Christmas in our sermons each week. It is a reminder that the story of Christmas is, in fact, the story of Christ. Christ is coming to live among us and transform our lives. As a church we still seek to follow that example. The purpose of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples for the transformation of the world. Salem's Leadership Board gathers toward the end of each church year to determine how we are best able to do this important work in the year ahead. Staying true to our own mission of connecting all people with God's extravagant love, how do our passions, talents and resources intersect in ways that make us uniquely suited to do this work? We have identified five key strengths to focus on as we go forward: worship and worship music, celebration of diversity, nutrition and literacy, discipleship-oriented community, and consistent vision. I invite each of you to think about your own gifts in this season of gift giving. How are

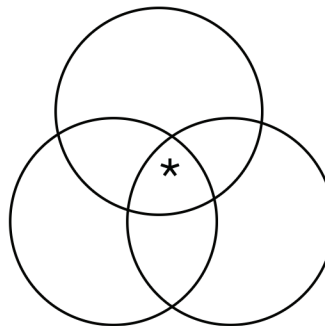
you able to use your own unique passions, talents, and resources to transform lives in these areas? Certainly, our financial gifts are an essential resource – please, take time to look at the insert about how your financial giving funds ministry each year and consider a financial commitment to Salem's work. But please also know that financial gifts are not the only sort of gifts that transform lives. Our strength in each of these areas depends equally on your gifts of time, prayer, passion, volunteering, and leadership. Make a financial gift. Volunteer to serve at Haven Street or teach in KidsConnect. Invite a friend to a Christmas concert. Together we can transform lives at Christmas and beyond.

~ Pastor Terri



## The passions, talents and resources that make us uniquely able to live out our vision:

Worship & Worship Music  
Celebration of Diversity  
Nutrition and Literacy  
Discipleship Oriented  
Community  
Consistent Vision



All United Methodist Churches are seeking to make disciples for the transformation of the world. Where do our passions, talents and resources intersect in ways that make us uniquely suited to do this work?

## A NEW BEGINNING

NEW YEAR, NEW YOU.  
SUNDAYS, DECEMBER 31-JANUARY 28

Are you looking for a new beginning in your life? Embrace the possibility of a fresh start in the New Year as we launch a new sermon series "A New Beginning" on December 31. There's also something about the New Year. It's an opportunity to rethink how the year before went and make changes. That's what the series A NEW BEGINNING is all about. It's about starting fresh. It's hitting the reset button on your life or areas in your life that aren't going the way you want. It's all about taking time to refocus your attention on the most important things in life.



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**PUTTING YOUR HOUSE IN ORDER**

**JANUARY 27**  
**10:00 AM-NOON**  
MID-COUNTY SITE

**REV. LAURA MURPHY**  
Director of Development,  
MO United Methodist  
Foundation

**FREE EVENT**  
**ALL WELCOME**  
**REGISTER NOW**

## Putting Your House in Order FREE SEMINAR

**January 27, 2024 from 10:00 am-Noon**

Salem will welcome Rev. Laura Murphy to our Mid-County campus for a free seminar. Laura is the Director of Development for the Missouri Methodist Foundation (which manages Salem's endowment) and a valued consultant to Salem's Leadership Board on issues related to generosity and long-term strategic planning. During this seminar we'll focus on long-term financial and estate planning from a spiritual perspective. To register visit [salemstlouis.com](http://salemstlouis.com) or contact the church office.

## YOUR GIVING IS AN INVESTMENT IN TRANSFORMING LIVES

Together we can make an impact in the lives of our neighbors and continue the ministry of spreading the extravagant love of God to all people. Check out the easy ways to make your gift.

**Scan Code //** Scan the qr code to give online now  
**Text to Give //** Text salemstlouis to (833) 834-5661  
**In-Person //** Place in the giving box during worship  
**Online //** Visit [salemstlouis.com](http://salemstlouis.com) and click give  
**Mail //** Send donations to the church office



**MID-COUNTY**  
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**SOUTH-CITY**  
6701 Virginia Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63111  
(314) 256-0545  
[theconnectionstlouis.com](http://theconnectionstlouis.com)

**PLEASE SEND ALL MAIL FOR BOTH SITES TO  
THE MID-COUNTY ADDRESS. THANK YOU!**

## WORSHIP IN-PERSON OR ONLINE

### In-Person Worship Schedule

Mid-County: 9:30 am - Modern Worship (Multipurpose Room)

Mid-County: 11:00 am - Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)

South-City: 11:00 am - Modern Worship (The Connection Sanctuary)

### Online Worship Schedule Sundays or Anytime On-Demand

9:30 am - Modern Worship Livestream

11:00 am - Traditional Worship Livestream