

***Rev. Dr. Selwyn Q. Bachus*Senior Pastor**

Jan. 3, 2022

***2022, The Year of Realization***

Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall:
But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

-Isaiah 40: 30-31
***January 2022 scripture***

Greetings in the name of He who orders our steps and directs our paths,

The Lord has blessed us to see another New Year! As we bid farewell to yesteryear, the Year of Revival, we welcome the Year of Realization.

Life is comprised of seasons and cycles. Those seasons evolve from birth to growth to maturity to renewal. We begin our New Year in the cycle of realization, a time of experiencing and realizing the fulfilment of our hopes, goals and aspirations.

For many, the New Year provides an opportunity to inventory where we are in life—the dreams we’ve set, our relationships with family and friends and our relationship with the Lord. Last year, as the world incrementally transitioned back to in-person activities, many struggled to reset daily life to what it was prior to the pandemic. With this New Year, we’re offered renewed strength and a chance to reassess, recalibrate and create a plan to reach for, achieve and realize the goals we have for ourselves and those we love.

Family of God, as we embark upon the Year of Realization, I encourage you to get into the presence of the Lord every single day in 2022. Allow his holiness to abound in this season of your life and in every season. The best season of your life is just ahead. We thank you for your continued support of the ministry of the Salem Baptist Church and we look forward to seeing more of you in person as the year progresses.

**Important Updates – January 2022**

**Please help us welcome our new Youth and Young Adult Pastor, Minister Brandon Whitaker**We are delighted welcome a new Youth and Young Adult Pastor into our church family. As we begin a new year, Minister Whitaker will lead our Youth Ministry. Whitaker was born in Chicago, Ill. He earned a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and graduated from Grace University in Omaha with a M.A. in Theological Studies. He has more than 15 years of ministry experience mentoring and counseling youth and adults in theology and academics. He has also served in several ministry roles, including teaching young adult small groups, Youth Pastor at Spirit of Faith Church of Omaha and as an adjunct faculty instructor at Grace University. He is married to Da'Quisha Whitaker, whom he met at Salem. They are the proud parents of two young sons: Brandon Whitaker II ("Duce") and Elisha Nathaniel Whitaker. Please join us in welcoming Minister Brandon Whitaker by sending him a warm welcome email at [bwhitaker@salembc.org](http://bwhitaker@salembc.org) or by connecting with him on social media via direct message.

**Salem Food Pantry open Tuesdays and Thursdays**
As a friendly reminder, our pantry is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Please call to verify you have all the information needed to receive assistance before coming to pick up a food pantry. The pantry phone number is (402) 505-9973. Masks and social distancing are required.

**Communion Elements Distributed – Saturday, Jan. 8 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**This month, we’ve adjusted the day we will observe communion. We will take communion on the second Sunday, Jan. 9. Our deacons will distribute communion elements in the church parking lot on Saturday, Jan 8. ***We will return to our normal schedule of distributing communion elements on the first Saturday of each month and every first Saturday following, starting in February until further notice.***

**The 37th Annual Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance (IMA) MLK Jr. Unity Service (held in honor of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.)**Please join us Sunday evening, Jan. 16 at 6:00 p.m. as we honor the life and legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. through song and praise. We hope to see you there.

**Church offices closed Monday, Jan. 17 to commemorate Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday**In observance of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday, our church offices will close directly following Sunday morning worship services. We will re-open on Tuesday morning, Jan. 18.

**Corporate Prayer, Wednesday, Jan. 26 at 6:30 p.m.**On Wednesday, Jan. 26 we will come together in Corporate prayer to ask the Lord for His blessings, guidance and wisdom. We will email the webinar link via Constant Contact no later than Monday, Jan. 24. Please join us if your schedule permits.

**Black History Month Celebration – Month of February 2022**Join us during virtual worship services in the month of February as we celebrate the history and contributions African Americans have made throughout the history of our country. Prior to the start of each church service this month, we will feature a brief video vignette to highlight, celebrate and educate our Salem Family. Tune in 10 minutes early to catch important moments in our history.

**Ways to Worship with Us**
Please continue to join us in online worship Sundays at 9:55 a.m./10 a.m. via [**salembc.org**](https://salembc.org/), Facebook at [**Facebook.com/salembcomaha**](https://www.facebook.com/salembcomaha), [**www.boxcast.com**](http://www.boxcast.com) and on YouTube at [**https://rb.gy/njzsy9**](https://rb.gy/njzsy9). On **Sunday afternoons**, join us for our **“Word for Your Walk”** broadcast, **which airs on the CW at 1:30 p.m.**

**Salem Baptist Church Podcast:** We upload sermons from Sunday worship each week as a podcast on Apple podcasts. Listen at your convenience: <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/salem-baptist-church-omaha/id1493073489>. Also, you can subscribe to receive a notification when new sermons are uploaded.

**Tithes and Offerings**We ask that each member of our church family trust the Lord with the tithe (ten percent of the resources the Lord has placed under your stewardship). We appreciate your continued stewardship and support of the mission at the Salem Baptist Church. Tithes and offering donations can be made using the following payment applications:

**PayPal** – visit our website or send offering/tithes to salemadmin@salembc.org

**Venmo** – Salem Baptist Church Omaha

**Cashapp** – $salemchurchomaha

**Givelify** – Salem Baptist Church

**Text “Give” to** (402) 543-3316

**Questions? Call the church office at:** (402) 455-1000

**You may also mail a check to:**

Salem Baptist Church

3131 Lake Street

Omaha, Nebraska 68111

Peace and blessings,

Pastor Selwyn Q. Bachus