



THE SALEM VISIONARY

July 2022

But be Doers of the Word, and not Hearers only. James 1:22

Salem Shifting

Earthquakes Shake and Wind Fuels Fire

Since the start of this century, conversations in the Christian Community have pondered what the church in the 21st Century would look like. A paradigm shift from Christendom to the church that reaches this age with the Gospel of Jesus Christ has yet to unfold. We are in the midst of a shift.

In the 20th century, the church operated in what is called Christendom. This refers to the organizational structure of the church where the church is seen as the central part of a community. The early years of the American Frontier saw the founding of churches as a sign that civilization had arrived. The churches were the central space for education, taking care of the needs of a community and creating the social frameworks that made our communities work. The church was the place that the community looked for leadership and guidance in how to have better lives to ensure a stronger community together.

As the 20th century waned and a new culture was birthed, transitioning from an industrial age to an informational and technological age, so did the transition come to our communities. Big box stores replaced mom and pop businesses. Downtown centers became ghost towns as a more mobile culture gravitated away from the small country villages. Isolated and impersonal lives became the norm along with an increase in mental health concerns due to a lack of relationships.

The new paradigm is being uncovered as something not new at all. Rather the culture and identity of the church is returning to the old ways that have become forgotten. The rise of Christianity took shape out of house-to-house meetings. Personal relationships that valued and cared for a small community met the challenge of a changed world landscape. The churches of Acts had a practice that is being reclaimed today.

46 And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,
47 Praising God and having favor with all the people.
And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved. Acts 2:46-47 (KJV)

Salem is in a time of “Shift.” We are shifting our leadership as Shelton Burkart leads our youth. We are shifting to a new future as we consider where we will be in the United Methodist Church. We are shifting in our church leadership as a new generation takes on leader roles in the church. We are experiencing a growth in our membership with over 30 new members since December.

Earthquakes and Fire can change landscapes, bringing anxiety and change. God is with us in the midst of both. Listen for the still small voice of God. Watch because when God speaks you not only hear, but you also will see what God is saying. You can hear the voice of God. It will be more than you can ever have imagined. Join me this month for a series of sermons on Sunday mornings which will speak to the topic You Can Hear the Voice of God.

Winning them to Jesus,

Pastor Gil

Congratulations

Congratulations to David Helbig who received an appointment at the Annual Conference to serve as the pastor of Faison UMC. Salem celebrated David's ministry with us on Sunday, June 26 his last Sunday with us.



Welcome Shelton Burkart who is our new Youth Director. Pray for his work to strengthen and continue our ministry to the youth of our area.

SREMC Grant

Our SMASH Program received a \$5,000 grant from South River Electric Membership Corporation. We were able to purchase some fun equipment to enhance the physical well-being of our children.



Children's Ministry

This summer can't be beat!!

During the month of June, the Salem kids enjoyed Pentecost in the Park and celebrated dads on June 19 during church service.

We are celebrated July 4th during our Independence Day Celebration on July 3 during children's church. We hosted Salem Kids Night on July 13 from 6pm-7pm.

VBS is just around the corner! The dates for VBS are July 25-29! VBS is from 9am-12pm every day with drop off being from 8:30am-9:00 am and pick up being from 12:00-12:30 pm. The link for student registration is on Facebook and our website.

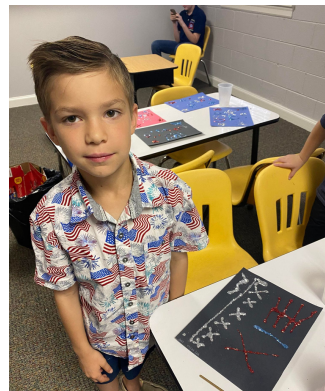
Volunteers are encouraged to attend our VBS Volunteer meeting on July 17 from 1:00 pm-2:00 pm. Food will be provided!

July 24 will be our SMASH and VBS Volunteer Appreciation Sunday Service!

July 31 will be our VBS Celebration Presentation. Each student will receive their certificate, perform their songs from VBS and recite the VBS verse of the week!

If you have any questions please let me know at children@salemfnc.org

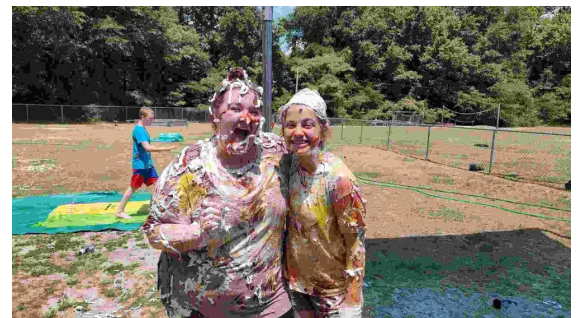
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Youth Ministry

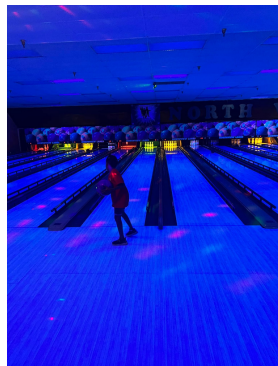
I am excited to begin working full-time in youth ministry. As many of you know, I have been an active member of Salem United Methodist Church for the past 13-14 years. I have greatly enjoyed my time at Salem, and one of my favorite things to do has been working with our youth here at Salem. I am so excited to have this opportunity to continue to help our students grow and learn more about Christ and the ways he lived and loved. I got my first real taste of hands-on youth event planning with our Messtival we had on June 25th. We had a blast, but I think I am still trying to get all the ketchup out of my hair. I am looking forward to all of the other fun activities we will be doing soon, most especially our summer camp coming up from July 12th through July 15th. We will have a lot of fun praising God, white water rafting, and many other fun activities including simply enjoying God's creation. I feel incredibly blessed to have an opportunity to do what I love as a job, and I am so grateful for all of your support. Thank you for all the things you have done and will continue to do to help make this program and this church a successful ministry to our community and wherever else the Lord leads us.

-Shelton Burkart





Summer is in full swing at the Preschool and SMASH programs. The SMASH program kicked the summer off with a Color Run. We have had Field Day, gone to the Aloha Zoo and bowling. The kids have made ice cream, paint splatter on canvas and also had a blast with the gaming truck. We are super excited to announce that SMASH was the recipient of a grant through South River EMC Operation Round-Up for the purchase of a commercial bounce house and water slide. The preschool celebrated our Dads with "Donuts for Dads" for Father's Day. We are in the process of beginning to paint the classrooms and opening a new classroom in the next couple months. We continue to be blessed in both programs, we are at capacity with waiting lists in each classroom.



Mission and Outreach

Food Pantry

SMASH volunteers assisted with packing “4th July Special Groceries” .

Hotdog franks & buns
Ketchup, mustard & onion
Hotdog chili
Baked beans
Large bag of chips

Folks received the above in addition to the normal gifts of three bags. So when you are celebrating the 4th of July, know that community folks who are served by Salem’s Food Pantry are enjoying treats as well.

NEEDS: Peanut butter & jelly (no glass please)
Ravioli, SpaghettiO’s
canned meats
Spaghetti strings



Thank you to our Yard Crew

A mid June Thursday morning the temperature was almost 90!
Yard Crew (of 4) was treated to Ice Cold Gatorade & several snacks!
Passing on “THANK YOU VERY MUCH” from the crew to Salem Church.



Family Promise

“Salem’s Mission to Homeless Families in Cumberland County”

A Salem Family donated a case of pots & pans (including utensils) to Family Promise recently; a grateful family will enjoy! Thank you! Gently used household items are needed & collected all year long.

During our May week of service, we invested \$214.50 per FAMILY (included all listed below). We assisted four families; 14 total folks. Our next opportunity to serve is: Aug. 28 – Sept. 03. Funds are needed for food (they cook), utility/insurance support and essentials (washing powders, soap, etc..). Dec. 18-24 is the final service week for 2022.
Thanks to all Salem folks who support this essential & vital ministry.

Contact Debbie Moody for details.

We are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 2:10 (KJV)



Budget Needed Monthly
\$ 45,000.00

Total June Offering & Tithes
\$35,234.00

June Building Fund Deposits
\$3,625.00

YTD Budget Needed
\$ 270,000.00

Year to Date Offering & Tithes
\$ 243,861.09

Year to Date Building Fund Deposits
\$ 8,860.00

Thank you!

From the family of Tom Jackson:
Thank you to everyone for the cards, calls, messages, flowers, thoughts, and prayers on the passing of Tom's father, Rick Jackson. It is truly a blessing to be a part of the Salem family. The kindness and love has been greatly appreciated during this time. Thank you.

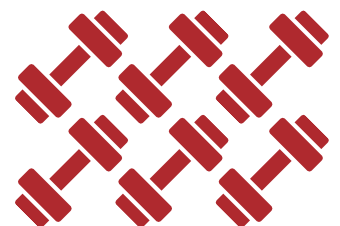
Our second session of Literacy Camp is off to a great start. We have 18 students enrolled and have been reading about living and nonliving things a museum, and the states of matter. We have enjoyed a visit from a banker and created our own saving boxes. We are excited about our upcoming field trips to the fire department and Fascinate U Museum. A special thank you goes out to all of our volunteers and supporters who have worked to make this camp successful.



Silver Sneakers

**Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and
Fridays 10am-11am in the Dining
Hall**

**If you have any questions please
contact Melodie Malcolm at
malcolmm0216@gmail.com**



Prayer Requests

Pray for: Our Military, Our Shut-Ins,
Our Schools, Our Church, Our Country,
Ukraine

Church Members

Family of Steve Melvin, Donna Culbreth, Jean Lugar, Salem Youth, Lisa Johnson, Della Patterson, Jay (Army Basic Training), Mickey Kimbel, Ann Hobbs, Conrad Kurtz, Kelsey and Justin Smith, Michael Diaz, Tyler Lesse-Roberts, Colton Honeycutt, Trillma Pribbenow, Darvin Edwards, Rachel Dawson, Pat Baker, Grayson Marsh, Weldon Hudson, Lorraine Kirkwood, Sallie Darden, Paula Johnson, Bill Marsh, Dorothea Fink, Jean Lugar, Gilda Horne, Bill Roberts and Lynn Baker

Family and Friends

Jason Oliver, Jean Brown, Carrie Jones, Carolyn Ortero, Liam Dixon, Cale Johnson, Nick Wilson, Anthony Bethea, Angie Baker, Denise Rhodes, Barbara Powers, New Baby Bennet Beal, Sheilia Minschew, Eddie Bowen, John Sange, Will Nash, Leslie Horne, Jason & Brittany Ray, Lin Wheeler, Angela Renfrow, Betty Price, Jen Partney, Nelly Johnson, Laurie McLaurin, Ann Hodges, Vanessa Cuestas (cancer), Tabetha Priest, Julia Cretko, Shannon (cancer), Ron Hardy, Randy West (cancer), Marilyn Parkin, Melinda Craven, Grant Singletary, Robin Barber, Rev. Jan (Poland Methodist Pastor), Matthew Johnson, Wayne Byrd (cancer), Whitney Larimore, Linda Disbrow, Gary Page, J.M. Butler, jr., Kyle Powers (heart), Del Gray, Vickie Knoch, John Butler, Mike Butler, Linda Butler, Linda Disbrow, Sandra Jones, Randall Idol, Bill Smith, Scott Armentrout, Daniel Knox (cancer), Brooke Autry's mother, Sue Grissom, Abraham Beniquin and Jennifer Johnson

United Methodist Men

Salem united Methodist Men Breakfast: Please join us Sunday July 17th, 2022 at 8 AM for breakfast and camaraderie! Guest Speaker is Mr. Allen Morris, Gateway District Director for the United Methodist Men to share on regional men projects, initiatives and developments!



Honor

Bonnie and Jimmy 50th Anniversary

Claire Lynn and Kenneth
Sykes, Jean and Mike
Outlaw, Henry and Amy
Bowden

