



THE SALEM VISIONARY

October 2023

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

Small Church Feel / Large Church Impact **Salem Makes a Global Impact**

How can a small church in a small town in a rural area effectively change the WORLD? The way that this is accomplished is by being part of a movement of the Holy Spirit. Jesus changed the lives of 12 Disciples, and they changed the world. Paul met Jesus on the Damascus Road, and his life was changed forever. This change brought Paul to a witness that changed the Roman empire, spreading Christian faith around the world. John Wesley had his heart strangely warmed by the Holy Spirit, and he birthed a movement of Methodists that went around the world.

This October Salem will host the birthing of a new North Carolina Conference of Methodist people. These people have resolved themselves not to build another institution. Rather, the people called Global Methodists are positioning themselves to listen well to the move of the Holy Spirit becoming a movement to change the world. The Global Methodist Church is convening the North Carolina Provisional Annual Conference in Fayetteville, North Carolina on October 5-7, 2023.

Salem has been the site of numerous meetings throughout this past year as leaders from across North Carolina have planned for this historic meeting. Over 2,000 Methodists from Murphy to Manteo will meet on Friday, October 6 to conduct their first organizational meeting. Salem will be host to over 400 Clergy and their families on Thursday, October 5 for the pre-conference executive session where Clergy will consider 138 Clergy to be ordained at this Annual Conference on Saturday, October 7.

Lead Presiding Elder Rev. Parker Coppock remarked, "I've not been this excited for an Annual Conference in a very, very long time." The sense around the state is filled with excitement as a fresh wind of the Holy Spirit is blowing through so many churches. In our staff meeting, Gary Wages stated that he had been sharing with everyone he knew that there is a revival happening at Salem. We discussed how you could sense the Holy Spirit in our worship and activities at Salem. This sense that God is doing something new is exponentially multiplied around the world as Salem shares in this movement.

Pray for the Global Methodist Church. Pray for our members and pastors who will be bringing a voice from Salem. Join us in celebrating this new denomination in a Methodist Campmeeting on Sunday, October 8.

Winning them to Jesus,
Pastor Gil



Community Schools

Armstrong Elementary would like to thank Salem Church for the delicious Back to School breakfast and for the Amazon gift cards. Your kindness and generosity are greatly appreciated.

Love,
Armstrong Elementary Staff

The following article was submitted for the September Newsletter, but was inadvertently overlooked. My apologies

Salem Methodist Church appreciates our community teachers and staff members at Armstrong and Eastover-Central Elementary Schools! During the first week of school for staff, Salem provided a light breakfast and gift cards to all staff members to let them know how valued they are. We are grateful for the generous support from Stedman Masonic Lodge #730, which enabled us to show our community school staff members how much we appreciate all they do for our children.

Throughout the year, we can all provide support to community schools by volunteering our time to assist in various activities, including monitoring the children in the cafeteria, proctoring during testing time, reading to the children, shelving books in the Media Center, as well as many other opportunities. In order to volunteer, you will need to fill out an online registration form at www.ccsvolunteers.com. After submitting the form, you will be notified when you receive your volunteer clearance. Thank you so much for your willingness to serve our children!

In January, Salem will collect school supplies to be donated to these schools. If you'd like to take advantage of all the 'Back-to-School' sales going on now, you can bring items to the church office and let Katie know that they are for the school supply drive for the middle of the school year. Any help is greatly appreciated!

Linda Wise
Betty Smith



Bonnie Crabtree
Jean Outlaw



Operation Christmas Child

Salem family, we are way behind on collecting for Operation Christmas Child. This mission is very important to Del Peluso. She did an awesome job last year and Salem filled more boxes than ever before.

Del has a goal of at least 200 boxes for this year. As most of you know, Del has had a lot of health problems and has been unable to get this project moving in full force.

Let's honor Del this year and get moving to fill those 200 boxes. Dollar Tree is a great place to start. Operation Christmas Child also gives some great ideas online. Just remember that the items need to fit in a shoebox.

There will be a box in the Narthex and one outside the church office. We will be setting a date for packing the boxes in late October. The collection date is November 1st.

If you do not want to shop, we will also take donations and we will do the shopping.

Del is selling peanuts to help with the cost of shipping.

Let's get to work and make this happen. If you have any questions see Del Peluso, Betty Smith, or Pat Lyons.



Franklin Graham and Natalie, an 8-year old Ukrainian child who received the 200 millionth shoebox last year.



It is beginning to feel like fall! We are so excited about the things happening in Salem Kids during the month of October! During the month of September, we enjoyed celebrating Homecoming and welcomed new faces to children's church too.

Our Salem Kids Night is continuing to grow and be successful! We are going to be learning about Saul, Samuel, and Samson this month to continue in our "A through Z in the Bible" during Salem Kids Night and children's church. Our Salem Kids Night dates for the month of October are the 4th and 18th! Salem Kids Night is every other Wednesday night in the Lower Fellowship Hall starting at 6 pm.

We hope you can join us during the month of October because we have some "spooky" things to celebrate. Our annual Fall Festival and Trunk or Treat is October 28th from 5pm-7pm in the Salem Gym. We will be hosting bouncy houses, face painting, hayrides, and so much more! Traveling from their castles, Cinderella and Belle will be joining us along with our friend Spiderman.

We can't have Fall Festival without candy! Salem is starting to collect candy! Donations can be dropped off in Caitlin's office located in the Lower Fellowship Hall.

We can't wait to see you dressed in your best costume in October!



September was full of activity with homecoming and the spaghetti dinner. Now, it's nice to have a few nights that are a little more laid back.

The youth have enjoyed playing card games as well as some outdoor activities to spend some time in God's creation, while we have been studying plenty of interesting things in the Bible. It has been fascinating to see the similarities and differences between Joshua's journey into the promised land and Moses' exodus from Egypt.

On Wednesday nights we explored just how much God loves us and how the God who resides in us is more powerful than anything the world can throw at us when we studied 1 John. There has been so much going on that it was nice to have a slower month from a youth perspective, but we are about to ramp back up in October with cookouts, helping at the Fall Festival, and our first GMC district youth event to close out the month! All of that is just the springboard into all the fun times we have planned for our Fall season.

Thank you for all your prayers and support, and if you are ever interested in volunteering with the youth, you are never too old to make a difference in someone's faith journey. Please reach out to me, and we will find a spot where you will fit right in!

Shelton Burkart

Salem Methodist Church



Trunk or Treat • Hay Rides
Cake Walk • Face Painting
Bounce House • Raffles & More



Special Appearance by
The Princesses and Spiderman

Women's Bible Study

Our Women's Bible Study group kicks off their new book "The Love Stories of the Bible" by Shannon Bream on Wednesday, October 4th at 6 pm. Our first discussion will be on The Song of Solomon. Busy moms, don't let childcare limit your participation - Salem Youth, Salem Kids, and nursery are available during our meeting time. Please reach out to Jackie Messenger (412-726-6601 or doylejackiem@gmail.com) for more information.

Nursery

We welcome Lauren Wise to the nursery helpers. She will be there every Sunday for the 11 o'clock service and also for the HOME church service as well.

Please come downstairs a see our new infant-to-walker room. It is beside the toddler nursery.

Thanks to Ryan McPhail and Woodmen of the World for awarding Salem with a grant to furnish it with some new items.

Giving Together

Giving Together is a program that allows eligible Representatives to organize a small team and work together to meet a need in the community. We can choose an indoor or outdoor painting project, a cleanup project, or a beautification project. The project selected should benefit a group or organization in the Representative's community. This is just one of the ways WoodmenLife has been giving back to local communities since 1890.

Thank you to Salem Methodist Church for allowing me to complete my project in the Church and Community where I grew up.

Ryan McPhail
WoodmenLife Representative
Eastern NC



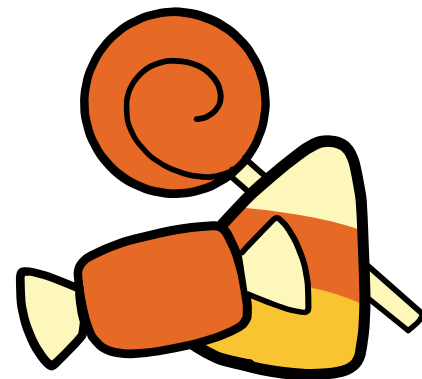
Hello everyone...SMASH will be open all day on October 23rd and 24th for teacher workdays. We are accepting candy donations for a carnival we are planning. We are still accepting applications for employment.

Our Preschool will be expanding by one more classroom in October. We are excited to be able to offer more opportunities for our community. We will be having a carnival in the gym on October 30th with lots of games and prizes. On October 31st the kids will go room to room, Trick-or-Treating in the morning, then to class parties in the afternoon. We are accepting "Peanut-Free" candy donations for the preschool as well. We are a "Peanut Free" center as we have a child who is highly allergic in the program.

Rodney Felton with Innovative Designs installed protective mats on our front playground on the brick to protect little ones learning to walk from getting injured. Please stop by and take a look at a job well done.

Thank you for your continued support of the SMASH and Preschool programs at Salem.

Denise Kirkwood



Sunday School

We are still looking for volunteers to teach Sunday School. Please contact Marie McCarroll

Salem's fall week of service was 2nd week of Sept. We assisted four families: 6 adults, one teenager and five children under age 6, two of whom are twins (boy & girl). We provided food, essentials (ie . . soap, toothpaste), and utilities/insurance support for the week.

The photo is of "gently used" household items, which are always needed and collected year-round. Debbie Moody is the coordinator.



Do what you can, with what you have, where you are.
Theodore Roosevelt

Food Pantry

Save Money
Search resources/Study prices

Shop 4 food
Shove & move
Sort
Stock
Sack

SHOW TIME – Thursdays 9-11 am
(office entrance area)

WE SHOW OUR LOVE to folks
We are serving !!!



SPECIAL THANKS – Black's Chapel Methodist Church-Godwin for a "trunk load donation" to our food pantry in September.

Don't hesitate to be enthusiastic - be on fire in the spirit as you serve the Lord.

Romans 12:11

Come as you are to our worship service EVERY SUNDAY at 5:00 pm in the Salem Gym! We mean it when we say this new space is intentionally set aside for everyone who hasn't found a place yet. So many of us have so much going on in our lives that we don't have time, let alone the right dress. None of the rest of us are dressing up either, so bring what you've got. Jesus will meet you in all your stuff, and oh, what a day that will be!

Choir News

Salem Chancel Choir continues to provide uplifting music for the worship service each week. In August Gary played an offertory selection entitled "He". While not church music as such, the message was as relevant as when it was written and sung in the 1960's.

Barbara Roberts, our featured soprano soloist sang with the choir with a soulful rendition of "We'll Understand It Better Bye and Bye."

Homecoming on September 10, 2023, was a service full of excitement. What a joy to see new members in the choir singing " Old Time Religion Medley", The Salem Home Church band ministered the beautiful song "1,000 Reasons" for the offertory. On September 17, the choir and Barbara sang "Joy in My Heart". Somebody better say "Amen!"

Salem Methodist
CHURCH



Sharing the Gospel
Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow

This is the 175th year since Salem's founding as a church in Eastover. We are celebrating all year long. Mark your calendar so that you can join in the celebrations.

October 8- Methodist Camp Meeting
November 21 - Community Thanksgiving
December 3 - Maranatha Festival
December 24 - Christmas Eve Service

Prayer Ministry

"The reality is, my prayers don't change God. But, I am convinced prayer changes me. Praying boldly boots me out of that stale place of religious habit into authentic connection with God Himself." - Lysa TerKeurst

Isn't prayer amazing? It is something we can do anywhere, anytime, and for any reason, or no specific reason other than just to say hello to our Creator. It doesn't require any specific training, education, Biblical knowledge, or clerical certifications. All it takes is your time, a little effort, and a desire to communicate with our Lord and Savior. It can be done anywhere' but if you'd like to experience prayer in Salem's beautiful Prayer Room, there are opportunities three times a week. The Prayer Room is open on Sundays before Sunday school and on Mondays and Thursdays from 7 AM until 9 AM. Come try it, I think you will like it!

The Prayer Ministry continues to gratefully have volunteers to pray for our Pastor during his sermons each week. A heartfelt "thank you" to those of you who volunteered in the month of September. You are very much appreciated! I do have openings for all Sundays in the month of November, so please let me know if you'd like to volunteer any of those Sundays. If I don't get volunteers, I will be asking people personally, and it just might be you that I ask!

The Prayer Ministry Team is in the process of working with our shut-ins by providing them an opportunity to lift our Pastor up in prayer on a daily basis. We are working on a daily Prayer guide that will be given to those who would like to serve in a way that does not require them to leave their homes but will give them a way to be involved with their faith community.

If you have suggestions for the Prayer Ministry team to encourage prayer within our congregation or if you have a specific activity or event that you would like the team to pray over, please let me know.

Lastly, the October prayer hacks from "say a little prayer" by Foanne Redmond:

- Pray silently as you are in bed ready to fall asleep. God will not mind if you doze off while talking to Him - there is no better way to fall asleep.
- In your workplace, pray for someone as you pass their office or desk.
- When you unlock your phone or computer, rather than jumping straight to the activity on your mind, pause and ask God to help you be wise with your time.

Let us continue to support one another in prayer,
Pat Lyons



Death of a loved one, divorce, relationship issues, aging—these are things that people have to deal with in their lifetime, and most of us try to deal with them alone. Why do we do this? Maybe it's because we think we would appear to be weak if we sought help or we're not ready to face the issue full on, or maybe we don't want others to know our problems.

Last August I was asked to consider becoming a Stephen Minister by Carol Hudson. As usual, I did my Google and researched what a Stephen Minister does and found that this was what I had been needing in my own life for many years. I had lost my mother, brother, and father over the course of 30 years, and while I knew I had grieved, I never really shared my grief with others. Our Stephen Ministry group became the grief support group that I had needed for many years.

Throughout our 50 hours of training, we became a source of strength and comfort for each other to share our past and current needs.

Now it is time for us to go out and share our ministry with others who are in need of **"One to One, Christian care to hurting people."**

I want to invite anyone who is facing difficult times to reach out to anyone in our Stephen Ministry team, and I encourage others to consider becoming a Stephen Minister.

We have all found that while we have been training to help others, we have received far more blessings and comfort for ourselves and we are ready to help minister to others in need.

Cindy Whetzel, Stephen Minister

"We are the Caregivers, God is the Curegiver"

Prayer Requests

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

Church Members

Jonah Greenup, Dave Black, Keith Cain, Denise Rhodes,
Lawrence Brixley, Louise Allen, Tessa Lewinski, Neva
Stallings, Betty Register, Joel Wise, Otis Collier,
Kenneth Sykes, Sr., Cindy Gilliam White, Del Peluso,
Bruce Sykes, Elizabeth Varner, Gilda Horne, Brenda
Johnson, Rosine Dexter, Family of Joyce Costin, Eula
Snow, Thelma Bullard, Derotha Fink, Bruce & Lorraine
Kirkwood, Mickey Kimbell, Colton Honeycutt, Trillma
Pribbenow, Darvin Edwards, Weldon Hudson, Paula
Johnson, Jean Lugar, Mary Patterson, Bill Roberts, Ila
Ruth Wise, Daniel and Nancy West

Family and Friends

Herbert Bowden, Sam Holt, Sarah Williamson, Shelia and
Travis Wages, Sharon Warwick, Lauren Creech, David
Edwards, Clyde Salmon, Larry Johnson, Todd Reaves, Moises
Soto, J.M. Butler, Larry Davis, Neil Ballentine, Jake Cole,
Kristen Thomas, Erika Brigman, Phyllis Culbreth Steadman,
Mac Howell, Berrae & Donna Meixsell, Wendy Caldwell, Kim
Burrell, Selena Hurt, Jessica Crabtree, Silas Crabtree, Kim
Gordner, Patricia McLemore, Jorge Alvarez, Luz Aguilar,
Karen Larrimorea, Bobby Coley, Sue Grissom, Karolyn
Palush, Garland Slate, Laurie Barnes, Emily Dickson,
Rebecca Hardin, Mike Butler, Johnny Butler, Susan
Jernigan, Kelly Stephens, Tim Lease, Jackson Woodcock,
Kyle Powers, Charles Bullard, Frank Harris, Charlie Marpol,
Nick and Jamie Smith, Deanna Tallon, Everna Worthen.
Bruce Raynor, Larry Smith, Tre Turpin, Judah Turpin,
Jonathan Lenore, Maria Gonzales, Janet Campbell, Margaret
Ann Heine, Margaret Saccareccia, Jennifer Partney, Aaron
Griffith, Brian Moxey, Chloe Creech, Helen Scoggins, Kelly,
Anderson Stewart, Russell Varner, Clifton Faircloth, Jean
Brown, Carrie Jones, Carolyn Ortero, Cale Johnson, Nick
Wilson, Anthony Bethea, Sheila Minschew, Eddie Bowen,
John Sange, Leslie Horne, Jason & Brittany Ray, Lin
Wheeler, Angela Renfrow, Nelly Johnson, Vanessa Cuestas
(cancer), Tabetha Priest, Ron Hardy, Marilyn Parkin, Rev.
Jan (Poland Methodist Pastor), Matthew Johnson, Jr., Del
Gray, Vickie Knoch, Sandra Jones, and Daniel Knox (cancer)

Memorials

Rachel Dawson

Helen Smith, Jean and Mike Outlaw, Nathan and Nillie
Smith, Shirley and Charles McLaurin, David Edwards,
Herman and Doris Britt, Tom and Jenae Notto, Walter
and Brenda Cyrus, Jimmy and Bonnie Crabtree,
Lawrence and Ann Buffaloe, Wanda Beard

Gwen Edwards

Jernigan and Warren, Ruth Rich, David Edwards, Alice
Jones

Lloyd Caulder

Beasley Accounting and Tax

Lisa Johnson

Peggy Allen

Charlie Williams

Ruby and Ed Bullard

Financial Health

Budget Needed Monthly

\$ 44,166.00

Total September Offering & Tithes

\$ 46,839.00

September Building Fund Deposits

\$ 1,575.00

YTD Budget Needed

\$ 397,350.42

Year to Date Offering & Tithes

\$ 358,012.00

Year to Date Building Fund Deposits

\$ 10,930.00

Methodist Men

The Methodist Men's breakfast will be held on Sunday,
October 15th at 8:00 am in the Dining Hall. All are
welcome!

