



THE SALEM VISIONARY

August 2022

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

Summer is Ending Let's Get Back

Back to School. Back to work. Back to church. Back to Jesus. In this time of the year, we begin to get back into the routine of our lives, having spent a summer of outdoor fun and vacations. It is hard to get back into the habit of things that we may have taken a break from doing during the summer.

Returning to our normal habits can be a good thing. It helps structure our lives so that the anxiety of going all the time can fall back into a place of stability. We all need times of stability in our lives. The stability that comes from a relationship with Jesus Christ is very different from the stability that a simple "following a schedule" can bring.

Stability is what Jesus does best. He brings peace in the midst of storms. (Mark 4:39) He brings security when life's challenges make life seem bleak. Jesus is a sure place to stand when the foundations of life seem to be sinking at every turn. (Matthew 7:24-27) How do I find that security? How do I find that kind of peace? A relationship with Jesus Christ is something that is invited, received and nurtured.

When your world seems to be falling apart cry out to Jesus. Invite Jesus into a relationship where you share daily conversation in prayer. (1 Thessalonians 5:17). This may seem silly, but it is important. If you are going to invite Jesus into your heart, then receive him. Surrender your life and your way to Christ. Don't make this a relationship that is only about talking to Jesus when you are having troubles. Abide in Christ. (John 15:4-8) Invest yourself in making this a relationship in the good times and the bad. Inviting Jesus into your life and receiving him into your life is a first step.

Nurturing that relationship is a lifelong measure. You can never get enough of Jesus. More is what you will always need. God has created you for increase, just as He is a God of increase. The only way to have more of God is to abide in Christ. Take the time to ensure that you start a relationship with Jesus. Then don't ever stop connecting that relationship by nurturing that relationship by reading Scripture. God's WORD is for faith and practice. Read it every time you have the opportunity. You can never get enough.

Winning them to Jesus,

Gil

Back to
SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE
AUGUST 8–AUGUST 15

Bring school supplies and a \$10-\$15 gift for Teachers to the church office or place in the tub in the Narthex on Sunday Morning for Armstrong Elementary.

Children's Ministry

July came and went!! Time flies when you are having fun!

Well the Salem Kids had SO much fun this month!! We kicked the month of July off with an Independence Day Celebration during Children's Church. Our Celebration included red, white, and blue cookies, star silly straw, and making our very own American flag craft!

We had Salem Kids Night only one night this month due to the students being out for summer break! We shared pizza with other students, played kickball and listened to a Bible story.

Since January I had been planning VBS for this month!! Boy it was a BLAST!!! Our theme this year was HAYDAY! Every student grew with God and knew how much God loves them by the end of the week. They learned about a man named Joseph who had a special coat. They enjoyed dancing and singing with Mrs. Wise. The students got to herd sheep, corral pigs, and dress up as cowboys during games!! We had so much fun during VBS this year!

We had 95 kids in attendance, 28 volunteers, and 4 youth that helped out during the week. Thank you so much to everyone who helped; I could not have done it without you!

The Mission Project this year goes to the Salem Missions Fund, and the boys and girls raised \$2,675.32!! The BOYS won the Mission Project raise by \$14!!! We are so proud of all of the students for raising money for such an important project!

On Friday, July 29, we celebrated the last day of VBS with SO MUCH FUN!!!! Our SMASH students and staff, preschool students and staff, SLI students and staff and VBS attendees and their families were able to enjoy a bounce house, face painting, a petting zoo, horseback riding, and Sunset Slush!

Thank you again to everyone who made VBS possible!!! I could not have done it without you!!

Caitlin Craven
Children's Director





Youth Ministry

This last month we had a blast with our youth trip to Lake Junaluska for camp! It was a trip filled with fun times, great memories, and spiritual growth. Our speaker that week was Dr. Dennis Sempebwa from Uganda, and he spoke on many topics related to living as a child of God in modern life. He talked about everything from giving up our "precious", or what we hold tight, almost making an idol out of, to following Christ and putting him first, to praising God and remembering that He is good, all the time, even when everything around us is dark. We had a fun time worshipping and praying together, as well as competing in a volleyball tournament and white water rafting. Everyone had a great time, and I would especially like to thank Tanner Hendricks and Lelia Burkart for volunteering to join us on our trip; without their help this would not have been possible. As the week came to a close, we walked up the mountain to the cross overlooking the lake, and had a shout of praise that echoed across the mountain range, and you could truly feel God's presence among us. It was a fantastic trip, and I could really visualize the growth our youth had while they were there; we had amazing discussions about the messages that were shared.

Coming up, we have our Jumping Into Fall event on August 13th, where we will be having a great time at DEFY in Fayetteville. If you have never been, you should check them out some time; it is a blast jumping higher than you ever could. On August 24th, we will have our school year kickoff bash as we shift out of our summer schedule. We will have food, games, and tons of fun as we prepare for the new school year. All in all, we have had a great summer so far, and I want to give a special shout out to our youth that helped with Vacation Bible School. We had three youth running the games station, and one youth assisting in the snacks station. They played a key role in making this year's VBS a huge success!

-Shelton Burkart





As summer is winding down, we are preparing for the school year! SMASH has had a blast this summer!! During the second half of the summer, the students enjoyed going to the movies, tie dyeing t-shirts, going to the Airborne Museum, roller skating, and having a human game day. A special thank you to all of the caregivers that worked so hard this summer! Salem wishes you a successful school year!! The pre-school is still in the process of painting all of the classrooms. The teachers are gearing up for the school year preparing lessons and curriculum. We continue to be blessed in both programs; we are at capacity with waiting lists in each classroom.



Mission and Outreach

Food Pantry

Every Thursday we serve folks in the Cape Fear High School area from 9 am – 11 am. We do make provision for other times. Folks may come every two weeks for food.

We are grateful for our SMASH student volunteers who pack bags. Mid July brought our greatest demand since prior to Easter. We are happy to report that were able to supply to all who asked during these almost 100 degree mornings !

Those who would like to donate, here are current NEEDS.:

- Canned meats (especially chicken)
- Ravoli/spaghetti O's type canned meats
- Canned fruit
- Pasta Sauce

White wooden collection container is in the hall near the office.

Give, and it will be given to you. For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return.

LUKE 6:38

ACTUAL NOTE FROM A LADY WHO RECEIVES FOOD PANTRY
" thank you all and the church. Sometimes folks may not realize just what peanut butter and jam is such a treat is."

Family Promise

Salem's Mission to Homeless Families in Cumberland County"

Salem's Summer week of service is: Aug 28 – Sept 4. We supply funds for food (they cook), essential items (soap, laundry detergent etc.), diapers & formula (if they have babies), and utilities/insurance prorated. The maximum number of folks is fourteen – four families. Staff support (budget, goals, educational/job) and overall compliance is included and is the main piece of the families' success toward independent living. Contact Debbie M. for additional information. Mark your donation: FAMILY PROMISE.

If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, and do more and become more, you are a leader.

John Quincy Adams

Nativity Cabinets

There are over 250 Nativity sets that have been shared and displayed in our church and we need your HELP! We are requesting contributions to add additional display cabinets for the nativities in the back hallway. The cost is expected to be around \$12,000.00. It would be great if we could have these cabinets available and ready for the upcoming season. Acknowledgement of donations may be identified on a plaque and placed with the cabinets as desired. Thank you in advance for your support on this project.



Upcoming Events

Disaffiliation

Council Votes to Vote

Salem will be joining the conversation and dilemma facing the United Methodist Church. The Church Council voted this month to put a vote before the Church where every member will be given an opportunity to vote on the issues of Disaffiliation from the United Methodist Church. Submissions are being made to the District Superintendent requesting that he call a Church Conference for Salem to take this consideration to the Body.

At Annual Conference in June of this year a process for disaffiliation was approved for those churches that elect on matter of conscience to leave the UMC. The process was shared with the leadership of Salem and consideration was brought before the Church Council on August 7. The Church Council decided that such an issue be decided by the Church and not a select few.

In 1968, Salem made the decision to become a part a new denomination in the union of the Evangelical United Brethren and the Methodist Church. It was a venture that has been tried by many. After 50 years and continual debates within the church around the homosexual practice issue, the United Methodist Church is parting ways with two groups that have taken sides on the issue.

The Pastor and Church Leadership are preparing presentations, providing links to information and holding Church-Wide meetings to discuss and listen as we consider disaffiliation. More information will be forthcoming. The District Superintendent has yet to notify us of our Called Church Conference date which will take place before October 10 of this year.

Please feel free to contact the Pastor or Fred McDaniel if you would like to discuss this issue further.



“Because of the current deep conflict within The United Methodist Church around issues of human sexuality, a local church shall have a limited right, under the provisions of this paragraph, to disaffiliate ...”

The United Methodist Book of Discipline. ¶255.3

Salem's 174th Homecoming

Mark your calendars! Our 174th Homecoming celebration will be Sunday, September 11th! Our Salem Kids are excited to share a musical they have been working on.

United Methodist Men

Salem united Methodist Men Breakfast: Please join us Sunday, August 21st, 2022 at 8 AM for breakfast and camaraderie!



Budget Needed Monthly
\$ 45,000.00

Total July Offering & Tithes
\$44,470.14

July Building Fund Deposits
\$3,085.00

YTD Budget Needed
\$ 315,000.00

Year to Date Offering & Tithes
\$ 291,881.23

Year to Date Building Fund Deposits
\$ 11,945.00

Salem United Methodist Church

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

**SPAGHETTI
DINNER**



Sept. 23, 22

11am-7pm

\$10

PER PLATE
 Eat In or
 Take Out

**Desserts
Available
for Purchase**

**Delivery Available for
10 or More Plates**

2165 Middle Rd. • Eastover, NC 28312 910-483-8959



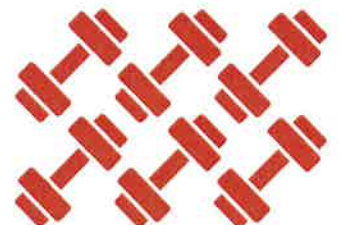
We had an awesome summer camp. Walked up a 20,000 feet above sea level mountain 500 times. Well maybe that's exaggeration, but it was on mountain so we had some walking uphill a lot. We accomplished a lot this summer camp, 34 completed MB (Merit Badge), 17 partial MB's, a BSA Lifeguard certification, 2 Leader IOLS trained leaders, won the Long Rifle Camp Award, 100% camp inspections, Frank Moody got the tomahawk scout support award (hand made by Isaak Fick), Matthew got Troop 745 spirit stick (which we will hand out each campout going forward), and drove a lot. Great times.

One last note. On Thursday night another troop had some emotional issues with one of their scouts; it affected the entire troop, brought them down to a low point. Our scouts came together, we were supposed to have 2 cobbler Dutch oven desert dishes for scoutmaster cook off, our troop SCOUT leaders decided we needed to cook both cobblers, invite the troop down and fellowship with them. Matthew went to scoutmasters at the troop and invited them down, and they were elated (get their troops minds off their drama going on). Because there were so many our scouts ended up not getting any of the cobbler but they were glad to see the smiling faces of the other scouts. Jason, Dave and I were very proud. Other scoutmasters could not thank us enough for the timing.

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



Summer Literacy Recap

SREMC Grant

Our second session of camp was a huge success. Thanks to our many volunteers, we served 17 students and their families during this session. We have been reading and writing about community helpers, animals, and our emotions. Students have completed science experiments, visited the Fascinate U Museum and the Eastover Fire Department, completed a scavenger hunt, and received lunch from Chick fil a. Thank you Salem for your support of this program. We hope that each child will carry skills for reading into the upcoming school year.



Thank you again to South River Electric Membership Cooperation for their grant to help us purchase bounce house for our programs. A special thank you to a Salem family who helped with their match to make the purchase possible.

Prayer Requests

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

Church Members

Family of Steve Fussell, Donna Culbreth, Jean Lugar, Lisa Johnson, Family of Della Patterson, Jay (Army Basic Training), Mickey Kimbel, Family of Ann Hobbs, Conrad Kurtz, Kelsey and Justin Smith, 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

Memorials

Richard Jackson

Frank and Debbie Moody,
Jimmy and Bonnie Crabtree

James (Mac) McPhail Cooper

Robert Cooper Family

Della Patterson

Jimmy and Bonnie Crabtree, Kenneth and Denise Sykes, Helen Smith, Mike and Jean Outlaw, Henry and Amy Bowden, Raymond and Linda Collier, Ruth Rich, Buck and Betty Smith, Dig-a Bit Garden Club, Shirley and Charles McLaurin, Paul and Edna Edwards, Eastover Civic Club, Patricia Smith, Drew, Clay and Families, Lisa and Jonathan Johnson, Martha K. Howell, Linwood and Marcia House, Kenneth and Claire Lynn Sykes, Donald and Carol Hudson, LBM Inc., Mary and Jerry Wade, Fred and Rita McDaniel

Steve Fussell

Lisa and Jonathan Johnson, Jimmy and Bonnie Crabtree, Fred and Rita McDaniel, Jean and Mike Outlaw, Marcia and Linwood House, Kenneth and Claire Lynn Sykes, Bruce and Lorraine Kirkwood, Helen Smith, Kenneth and Denise Sykes, Henry and Amy Bowden, Pam Wooten

Ann Hobbs

Lisa and Jonathan Johnson, Jimmy and Bonnie Crabtree, Peggy Allen, Henry and Amy Bowden, Mary Barbara Raynor, LBM Inc., Kenneth and Denise Sykes, Jean and Mike Outlaw, Fred and Rita McDaniel

Jerry Bud McLamb

Jimmy and Bonnie Crabtree

SMASH AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

NOW HIRING

We want you on our team!

Mon-Fri
1:30-6:00



**COME APPLY
AT:**

2165 Middle Road
Eastover, NC 28312

**OR GIVE US A
CALL AT:**

(910) 483-8959
ext. 225