



# THE SALEM VISIONARY

## September 2022

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

Salem Vision

### **“I’ve Got It”**

One of the most often heard phrases at Salem is “I’ve Got It.” It usually follows the other most often used phrase before someone leaves the church. “Can I help you?” When asking people why they leave Salem it is because they do not feel like they are part of the church. They show up to help, but are discouraged when someone has already completed what they volunteered to do or are told, “Don’t worry about it. I’ve got it.”

There are no “I”s in TEAM. We are notorious for just working and struggle in our working together. Working together is hard. You are required to make accommodations to work with someone else. It requires communication and compromise. It requires maybe not doing it the way you would like to do it or even the way we have always done things.

Working as a TEAM is an intentional decision. You intentionally must make space for someone else. And we make space for others because it is at the core of our calling to MAKE DISCIPLES. There is only one thing a Disciple of Jesus Christ does. Disciples of Jesus Christ MAKE DISCIPLES. If you are going to make disciples, you must be intentional in what you do. Disciples that make disciples must give access to their lives to others and they, themselves, must have access to others lives that are Disciples of Jesus Christ.

When you say “I’ve got it” you are actually negating your calling to make disciples of other people. You must invite others to help you. Even when it is not comfortable, because God did not call you to be comfortable. You may help someone else learn something and you may learn something from them. Being a Disciple means that it is a requirement that in all you do you are working with somebody else. Be intentional in all you do to invite somebody else to help you in all your work around the church and in life. Never do anything without someone else doing it with you. It may be inconvenient. It is not about being convenient. It is about making disciples. And you cannot make Disciples if you don’t have somebody else working with you.

So, the next time you have a task to complete, pray and ask God to show you that one person that you need to invite to share in accomplishing that task with you. Make the decision now that when someone says, “Can I help?” that your reply will be YES. Let’s be those people that are followers of Jesus Christ that have heard the command of Christ following his direction, “Go ye therefore into all the world and make disciples.” Matthew 28:19

Winning them to Jesus,  
Pastor Gil



# Outreach Ministries

## Armstrong Elementary Partnership

On August 27th, the Juanita Warren Circle went to Armstrong Elementary, delivered teacher gifts, and provided delicious breakfast foods for the entire staff.

On September 7th, school supplies were delivered to the school. The church donated over \$500 in supplies! Thank you to all that donated supplies, gift cards, and gifts. And thank you to the Juanita Warren Circle for their hard work and dedication to this annual event.



## 174th Homecoming



Thank you to everyone who helped put together Homecoming this year! It was a wonderful service with great fellowship and food.



# Youth Ministry

This past month has been a fun time for the youth as we met for our last few weeks before school began. We have been enjoying working our way through the book of Acts, and learning all about the incredible things the Holy Spirit has done through the apostles. It has been an exciting time as we enter a season of change. We had a blast as we jumped into the new school year at DEFY in Fayetteville. The youth that attended had a great time and think we should probably go again some time. Overall it has been an exciting month, and we cannot wait to see what September brings with the annual spaghetti dinner.

-Shelton Burkart



We have been busy in the SMASH and Preschool programs. A HUGE Thank-You to the Trustees for painting all the classrooms in the preschool, replacing all the carpets, and stripping and waxing floors.

We are working through the waitlist and are hoping to bring some new children into both programs. If you know anyone needing care please have them reach out to us.

We are currently hiring in both the SMASH and Preschool Departments. We recently had picture day in the preschool and are preparing for the Fall Festival.



# Mission and Outreach

## Food Pantry

at Salem Church EACH Thursday from 9 am – 11 am is a “Food Gift Away Day”.

CAN YOU VOLUNTEER ONE THURSDAY A MONTH ??

no heavy lifting & will work with a trained volunteer; 8:45 –11 am.

All you need is a “willing heart,” & pushing a grocery cart is the only experience needed. Thurs. Aug. 25 a gentleman arrived on a motor powered scooter. He talked about how “difficult the last week of the month is” as his food “runs out” around this time. HE SENDS A THANK YOU to all folks who support this mission, both with donation of food & money and working on Thursdays. SMASH students & staff continue to support this valued mission. Contact Debbie for details & to sign up.

You must each decide in your heart how much to give. and don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. for God loves a person who gives cheerfully”. 2 Corinthians 9:7



## Family Promise

Salem's Mission to Homeless Families in Cumberland County”

Salem's summer week of service was Aug 28 – Sept 4. Four families: Five adults and only one preschooler. Children are ages 10 – 17; 3 sons & 5 daughters. One of the families is transitioning into a two-year housing program, and the program reports quite a few of their furnishings are provided by Salem Church !

We continue to collect gently used household items year-round. Some items are required to be new, such as shower liners and kitchen garbage cans. Please continue to pray for the success of these families. Know as you are reading this article, "Salem's funds are working to improve their family". Contact Debbie for more information.

God doesn't give us what we can handle.  
God helps us handle what we are given.



SALEM METHODIST CHURCH

## PEANUTS FOR A NOBLE CAUSE

All proceeds will go toward Operation Christmas Child

AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE BEFORE AND AFTER SERVICE ON SUNDAY

CONTACT DEL PELUSO FOR MORE INFORMATION  
DEL.PELUSO@GMAIL.COM 910-494-3955

# Outreach

Thank you!

Dear Salem Family,  
Thank you for the love offering and lifted prayers while our grand daughter was in the NICU.

Sweet baby Nora is home and doing well.

Your support and generosity is felt and appreciated.

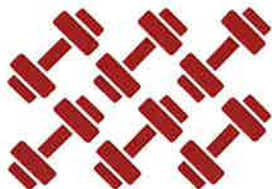
Todd & Julie  
Tokotch



## Silver Sneakers

Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays,  
10:00am-10:45am in the Dining  
Hall

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



# stephen MINISTRY.

Stephen Ministry equips laypeople to provide one-to-one Christian care to members of the congregation who are experiencing difficulties in their lives. As a Stephen Ministry congregation, we're part of more than 13,000 congregations from more than 180 Christian denominations worldwide. More than 600,000 laypeople have been trained as Stephen Ministers.

Currently, Salem is conducting a training of Stephen Ministers. Ten participants began studying Christian caregiving skills once a week in August. The training involves general topics like listening skills, feelings, assertiveness and boundaries, and specialized topics like how to use prayer and other Christian resources and how to minister to someone experiencing grief, divorce, a medical crisis, or other life challenges.

The class is scheduled to be completed in December and members to be commissioned in January. They then will begin receiving referrals. Please pray for this ministry and for those who are giving of themselves to serve our congregation.

"We are the Caregivers, God is the Curegiver."

## United Methodist Men



Salem United Methodist Men Breakfast: Please join us Sunday, October 16, 2022 at 8 AM for breakfast and camaraderie!



**Budget Needed Monthly**  
**\$ 45,000.00**

**Total August Offering & Tithes**  
**\$ 33,203.77**

**August Building Fund Deposits**  
**\$7,425.00**

**YTD Budget Needed**  
**\$ 315,000.00**

**Year to Date Offering & Tithes**  
**\$ 328,475.00**

**Year to Date Building Fund Deposits**  
**\$ 19,695.00**

## 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**

Salem has a history that began in 1848 as a congregation of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. In 1939, Salem merged with other denominations to become the Methodist Church. In 1968, Salem voted to join the merger of a new denomination, The United Methodist Church. Salem has long been Methodist and long been connectional.

What ensued over the next 50 years was a difficult time of conversation for Salem and the denomination she had voted to join. Since that time the United Methodist Church has continually debated the issue of Homosexuality. It has been a very hurtful time within the United Methodist Church and has recently met a crescendo bringing Salem to a point of decision. The Salem Church Council voted on August 7, 2022, to put the vote to the membership of the church. The Pastor contacted the District Superintendent who then held a Called Church Conference on Wednesday, September 7, 2022, with 123 members present.

With much prayer Church Members voted to disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. The District Superintendent remarked on how peaceful and unified our church was in taking the vote. Salem remained true to the faith upon which she was founded in 1848. Salem has long been a presence of Christ's ministry within the community of Eastover. And just as she has through her history, she decided to remain in that presence that could be trusted with orthodox faithfulness to the truth that Christ died for all.

The future is very hopeful as Salem moves into a new connection of a Methodist people who are called Christian. Our roots remain deep in our Wesleyan Doctrine because they are the truth and plan that Christ himself espoused in founding His Church. The Global Methodist Church is organizing to provide a place where Salem can continue its connectional ministry. The new denomination looks forward with a scriptural basis of faith and accountability to spur on holiness in the believer. Pastor Gil states "The Global Methodist Church is the Methodist Church we always thought we were and gives us a connection of other congregations to be the MORE that we desire to be in ministry."

Pastor Gil goes on to encourage us all to be mindful of the grieving that will come. This departure from the United Methodist Church is not without loss of the connection we have known for 50 years. Embrace the stages of grief. Denial, anger, bargaining, depression, acceptance is real. Recognize these stages and allow the experience of these to help you work through the grief of loss. Pastor Gil is available to discuss any of this with you.

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.  
Jeremiah 29:11  
New King James Version

God's plan for us is always raising us to higher places. As we move forward into this new season, place your trust in God.

# Prayer Requests

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

## Church Members

**Helen Smith, Linwood House, Angela Sellers, Family of Marc Lovick, Eula Snow (surgery), Teri McLaurin, Thelma Bullard (CFVH), Derotha Fink, Bruce & Lorraine Kirkwood, Charlie Williams (CFVH), Lisa Johnson, Mickey Kimbell, Conrad Kurtz, Colton Honeycutt, Trillma Prebbenow, Darvin Edwards, Rachel Dawson, Pat Baker, Weldon Hudson, Sallie Darden, Paula Johnson, Jean Lugar, Gilda Horne, Bill Roberts and Lynn Baker**



## Family and Friends

**Devon, Rachel and Dean Kelly, Rev. Robert Flynn, Charlotte Glass, Vicki Mickler, Sam Holt, Stacey Wiseman, Dawn Dean, Phillip Gaines (infant ICU), Anderson Stewart, Russell Varner, Randall Idol, Clifton Faircloth, Mike Butler, Morris McLaurin, Hannah and Michael Davis, Mikayla & JD with Baby Nora, Sue Grissom, David and Hannah Helbig, Jason Oliver, Jean Brown, Carrie Jones, Carolyn Ortero, Liam Dixon, Cale Johnson, Nick Wilson, Anthony Bethea, Angie Baker, Denise Rhodes, Sheilia Minschew, Eddie Bowen, John Sange, Will Nash, Leslie Horne, Jason & Brittany Ray, Liam Dixon, Lin Wheeler, Angela Renfrow, Betty Price, Jen Partney, Nelly Johnson, Laurie McLaurin, Vanessa Cuestas (cancer), Tabettha Priest, Ron Hardy, Randy West (cancer), Marilyn Parkin, Melinda Craven, Grant Singletary, Robin Barber, Rev. Jan (Poland Methodist Pastor), Matthew Johnson, Whitney Larimore, Linda Disbrow, Gary Page, J.M. Butler, jr., Del Gray, Vickie Knoch, Sandra Jones, Bill Smith, Daniel Knox (cancer), Brooke Autry's mother, Abraham Beniquin and Jennifer Johnson.**

# Memorials

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## Richard Jackson

Irene Everett, Harmon  
Kivett

## Della Patterson

Ron and Carolyn Hardin, Cynthia White, Christophe and Cheryl Hudson, Jean and Dave Goodnough, Frank and Debbie Moody, Mary Barbara Raynor, Sherrie Culbreth, Andy and Brenda Foster, Rhonda Washburn, Chris and Pat Lyons, Irene Everett, Harmon Kivett, Shirley, Mark, Karen, James, and Connie Armentrout, Sandy McDaniel

## Steve Fussell

Sandy McDaniel, Armstrong Elementary, Tom and Jennifer Jackson, Margaret Mackenzie, Russell and Daphne Humphries, John and Marie McCarroll, Harmon Kivett, Frank and Debbie Moody, Donald and Carol Hudson, Mary Barbara Raynor, Rudy and Eleanor Tatum, Sherrie Culbreth, HB and L.C. Marti Jr. Ron and Carolyn Hardin, Ruth Rich, Chris and Pat Lyons, Cynthia White, Dave and Jean Goodnough, Edna and Darvin Edwards

## Ann Hobbs

Ron and Carolyn Hardin, Helen Smith, Ruth Rich, Edna and Darvin Edwards, Frank and Debbie Moody, Harmon Kivett, Sandy McDaniel

## Marie Humphries

Jimmy and Bonnie Crabtree, Mary Barbara Raynor, Henry and Amy Bowden, Sandy McDaniel

## Jerry "Bud" McLamb

Darvin and Edna Edwards, Joyce Jones

## In Honor of Jimmy and Bonnie Crabtree

Peggy Allen

## In Honor of Frank and Debbie Moody

Henry and Amy Bowden