



# THE SALEM VISIONARY

October  
2021

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

Proverbs 14:12; John 14: 6

## Man has a plan, but God has a way!

What is God saying to me today? I immediately go into a “do” mode. I begin to ask the question of “what is God saying for me to do?” and my plans go to task orientation. Man has a plan. This is my mode of operation. Immediately, I make plans to accomplish something so that I can check off the box for a self-satisfaction that gets me approved by God.

What is God saying? Gil you are already approved. You do not need to earn my favor. You already have my favor. God is saying to me, get to know me even as I know you. God has a way. It is a way of doing things that flows out of who God is as my Creator. My list of visit and notice is meant to be something I check off. God invites me not to a sit-down chat. Once we have had a chat, then I flow out of who I am and who God has created me to be. The “do” doesn’t just naturally happen. It supernaturally happens because it is me and God doing it together. The goal is not the “do.” The goal is to be so consumed with God that I just walk out who God has called me to be.

As I go through my day, doors will be presented before me. There will be roads and paths to take. How do I decide what to do? I don’t. God decides. I know my father and my father knows me. I simply take that path that I know is God’s way and not my plan. I simply follow the leading of the Holy Spirit so that my privilege is to walk consumed by God’s presence, living out all that He has called me to be because I am in Christ.

So, what am I going to do about what God is saying? I am listening and discerning with each step and in each situation I find myself today. My desire is to walk in God’s way, and the way of God is intertwined in my every move and all those around me. As I am prompted by the HOLY SPIRIT, I will heed that prompting. The journey is long, but the company is sweet. Come along on the journey as we discover not only more about God, but also more about who we are in Christ Jesus.

Winning them to Jesus,

Gil

Salem United Methodist Church Presents

## Fall Festival

Salem Gym  
2165 Middle Rd

Saturday **5pm-7pm** OCT 23rd

**GAMES**

- Pumpkin Bowling
- CORN HOLE
- Pumpkin Tic-Tac-Toe

**APPLE BOBBING**

**PUMPKIN PAINTING**

**HAY RIDES**

**CAKE WALK**

**trunk or treat**

**FACE PAINTING**

**RAFFLES, MUSIC & MORE**

# Children and Youth Ministries

The month and September was super exciting for the children's program at Salem. We went to the arcade after church on the 26th, and we also tie-dyed our own T-shirts. During our Wednesday night events our kids enjoyed spaghetti and tacos while learning about the importance of prayer.

October has plenty of fun and exciting events as well! On October 13 and October 27 we will be hosting the Salem kids nights from 6-7pm where we will be serving pizza and decorating pumpkins for the fall season. On October 23, our annual fall festival will be from 5 PM to 7 PM featuring a bounce house, cakewalk, hay rides, pumpkin bowling and so much more!

We would love to have your help setting up, breaking down, and helping with games! If you would like to sign up to be a part of our trunk or treat or help with games, the sign ups are posted outside the church office

Candy donations are still welcome and can be dropped off at church office.



## Future events are:

Oct 17: carve and paint pumpkins in children's church

Oct 23: Fall Festival

Nov 14: Paint Party during children's church

Nov 21: Thanksgiving Potluck after church service

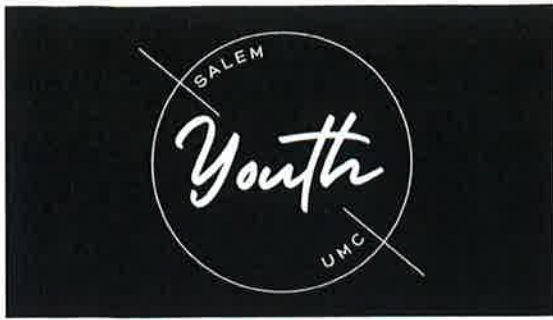
Dec 8: Operation Christmas Child

Dec 19: Children's Christmas Party during children's church

## Volunteers needed in the Nursery

The nursery has moved! Please contact Betty Ann Crawford if interested!





We have had a great few months! We had a great Messtival, and we have had a great kick-off for this school year! We have been working through how we can refocus as we begin this year, and our latest series is called God is \_\_\_; we have been talking about who God is to us and different characteristics of God. Starting this month, we will be talking about what it means to Breakout!

Starting October 10th, we will be starting the envelope fundraiser. We will have 100 envelopes with the numbers 1-100 on them. Each envelope represents a donation amount. We will be asking that you take an envelope and return it with at least the number on the outside inside the envelope. This will be used to help finish our year strong in our youth ministry and prepare for next year as well. Our goal is to have all of these envelopes taken so we can help to change the lives of students!

October 29th we will be hosting PUMPKIN NIGHT! It will be a night filled with pumpkin games, food, and at the end of the night, we will smash pumpkins! The event will be from 7-9 pm on October 29th.

November 19th we will be hosting a Salem Youth Bonfire! And to finish out our year for 2021 we will be having our youth Christmas Party (Not so) Silent Night!

If you have any questions please contact our youth director at [Davidh@salemfnc.org](mailto:Davidh@salemfnc.org)



We continue to thrive in the Preschool and SMASH programs. We currently have waiting lists in every room at the preschool as well as SMASH. We are desperately looking for caregivers in both programs. We have been working very hard preparing the Preschool for our State inspection coming up in the next few weeks. We have conducted a Fire drill, Tornado Drill and lockdown drill recently; the children and staff did an amazing job. Our classrooms recently began using the ABEKA Curriculum, and it is going very well. October 18th is a teacher workday for Cumberland County Students; therefore we will have an all-day SMASH day. We will be open from 7:00 am until 6:00 P.M. It will be a great day of fun "Halloween" activities, a movie and popcorn. The Kids can wear their costumes and will be able to Trick-or-Treat among the classrooms. On October 29th the Preschool children will have their turn to wear their costumes and go Trick-Or-Treating among the classrooms in the morning.



# Mission and Outreach

## Your HELP is NEEDED!

Covid has greatly increased the number of children who are patients at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center. Toys are needed to help children cope with their hospital stay. During the month of October, Salem will be collecting toys to donate to the Pediatric, NICU and Pediatric Emergency Departments at CFVMC. These areas are in need of items such as stuffed animals, art supplies, coloring/activity books and colored pencils, puzzles, board games, dolls, dinosaurs and hot wheels. The only stipulations are that they must be new and that they must be appropriate (meaning no guns, promoting violence, etc.). If you prefer, you can make a monetary donation to Salem, which will be used to purchase toys to donate on behalf of Salem. Bring your donations any Sunday in October so that we may get these timely gifts into the children's hands. They can be placed in the bins outside of the office or in the Narthex. (Please designate any monetary donations to CFVMC Pediatrics in the memo line of checks.) Thank you SO much for your help and generosity! If you have questions, contact Bonnie Crabtree, Deborah Sledge or Betty Smith.



## Food Pantry

Thursdays from 9 – 11 am community folks arrive @ Salem Church to receive food staple items and we are blessed to provide.

The following is most needed:

PEANUT BUTTER  
JELLY ( No glass –please)  
CANNED MEATS,  
Including Ravoli type food  
Breakfast cereals

We do meet folks at other prearranged times.  
Requests should be made to Steve Fussell.

## Family Promise

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

Salem’s Winter Week of Service to homeless families enrolled in the Family Promise program is October 10-17.

Extra mile donations of funds are needed to provide meals, utilities/upkeep support & essentials for appx. 14 people for 7 days. Staff assists families with purchasing and preparing meals. Next month’s newsletter will list information on the families we are serving.

Call Debbie Moody for additional information.

Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.  
Philippians 2:4

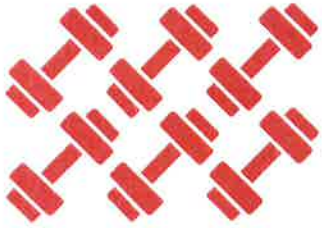
## Armstrong Elementary Partner in Education: Luncheon

Thank you so much to everyone who donated school supplies, staff gifts, and money to purchase items for Armstrong Elementary School students and staff. Salem honored the school’s staff members at a luncheon held at Salem on Monday, August 16. Everyone from Armstrong was so excited and grateful for the thoughtfulness and appreciation shown to them by Salem UMC!

Thank you also to everyone who worked hard to make the luncheon special for our Partner in Education! Please pray for the students and staff throughout the year as they navigate a new and uncertain school year.  
Bonnie Crabtree and Jean Outlaw



## 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

## Goodie Bags for Eastover- Central

Salem presented the staff at Eastover-Central Elementary School with goodie bags at the beginning of this school year to show our appreciation to them. Even during the uncertainty and unusual circumstances of the past school year, students and staff contributed to Salem's Food Pantry with several food drives, adding abundantly to the meals of those in need who were served by Salem. Thank you, Eastover-Central! Your generosity is greatly appreciated!



## Lighthouse Music Ministry

Salem Methodist Men were blessed to share the southern gospel ministry of Larry Chason at our September breakfast. Please follow Larry's "Lighthouse Music Ministry" and future music events at Gospel Gigs - Homepages - Group Name.

## Homeschool in the Woods

Rockfish Camp and Retreat Center is sponsoring its first Homeschool in the Woods event. Register for October 26th from 9am to 12pm. For more information Homeschool In The Woods - Events - NC Conference (nccumc.org).

## Important Upcoming Dates

**October-December 2021**

- October 3 World Communion Sunday**
- October 10 Charge Conference at Salem with Black's Chapel**
- October 10 New Member Sunday**
- October 13 Wednesday Night Food and Fellowship begins through November 17th**
- October 23 Fall Festival / Trunk or Treat**
- October 24 Pumpkin Night-Time TBD**
- October 31 Halloween / All Saints Sunday**
- November 7 Homecoming Sunday / Bishop Leonard Fairley, guest preacher**
- November 9 Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committee**
- November 17 Last Wednesday Family Dinner for this year (Break for the Holidays)**
  - Thanksgiving Menu & Inviting Childcare/SMASH Staff, Children & Parents**
- November 19 Youth Bonfire - 6-9pm**
- November 21 Christ the King Sunday**
  - Children's Thanksgiving Potluck Service**
- November 23 Community Thanksgiving Service Held at Lebanon- Pastor Gil Preacher**
- November 25 Thanksgiving**
- November 28 1st Sunday of Advent**
- December 5 Communion Sunday**
  - 2nd Sunday of Advent**
- December 5 Maranatha Festival**
- December 9 Staff Appreciation Christmas Dinner (Church/Childcare/SMASH)**
- December 12 3rd Sunday of Advent**
  - Finance/Council Meeting**
- December 19 4th Sunday of Advent**
  - Children's Sunday Morning Christmas Party**
- December 19 Parsonage Open House**
- December 19 (Not So) Silent Night 5-7pm**
- December 24 Christmas Eve Services at Salem**
- December 25 Christmas**
- December 26 First Sunday of Christmas**

## Operation INASMUCH Thank you

Thank you to our team of Volunteers who served last month!

### Budget Needed Monthly

\$ 44,166.67

### Total September Offering & Tithes

\$ 39,242.00

### September Building Fund Deposits

\$ 525.00

### Year to date September 2021

### Budget needed to date

\$ 397,500.00

### Tithes & Offerings

\$ 296,720.00

### Total Monies Received

\$ 324,128.32

## Early Response Team

Many thanks to our 8 members who attended Early Response Team leadership training September 15th! This is a great step in enhancing Salem's capability to meet the needs of our congregation and our community in moments of disaster, God's love in action! Thank you Ann Huffman from NCC UMC Disaster Response and Pastor Gil for your leadership. If you missed the training but would like to gain certification, the next training session is on October 9, 2021 from 8:30 am – 4:30 pm at Horne Memorial UMC, 121 East 2nd Street, Clayton, NC 27520, registration link [ERT Training Registration - Disaster Ministries - NC Conference \(nccumc.org\)](#).

## 9/11 First Responder's Appreciation Dinner

Many thanks to Debbie Moody and Larry McPhail for their leadership serving dinner and providing gift cards to our valued Eastover Volunteer Fire Department, commemorating the 20th anniversary of 9/11 attacks, as well as the great service they provide our community every day!

Please join us Sunday October 17th, 2021 at 800 for Methodist Men country style breakfast! Guest Speaker is Dr. George Hendricks, Senior Director for Community Affairs at Methodist University, distinguished for his work with at-risk youth. Please support this important ministry and provide important men's leadership to this important mission. Please bring a friend!



### Handicap Access Ramp Projects:

Many thanks to Clyde Edwards for leading teams to construct two handicap access ramps in September! Super support to those in need!

## Salem Church leads Eastover with Donations to First Responders

Thurs Sept 9 Salem United Methodist Men arrived at Eastover Fire Department with a huge chicken & BBQ dinner (including sides, sweet tea & hushpuppies) for staff and volunteers presently numbering 35. Thursdays are training nights & Salem "showed great appreciation" to those who "serve & protect US"!

Mid Oct staff will be presented with gift cards. So happy to report SALEM HAS MET GOAL (set by UM Men), providing gift cards to just over 1/2 of the staff & volunteers.

Thanks to several families/groups who provided "shift meals (for eight)" during the month. The Franklin Leslie Family provided a training night meal Sept 30 in memory/honor of Franklin's service & dedication to Eastover Fire Department. Carol Leslie Hudson was delighted to listen to the memories of those who served with "Handsome Hank".

MANY THANKS to all who donated gift cards and/or food. We conclude the six week appreciation/celebration event mid October. Debbie Moody, Chairperson Friends of Eastover Fire Department





# Prayer Requests

\*\*If you know of someone that needs to be removed from the prayer list please let the office know. Thank you!

## Church Members

<b>Darvin Edwards</b>	<b>Conrad Kurtz</b>
<b>Lorraine Kirkwood</b>	<b>Jean Lugar</b>
<b>Lisa Johnson</b>	<b>Gilda Horne</b>
<b>Derotha Fink</b>	<b>Bill Roberts</b>
<b>Sandra Williams</b>	<b>Della Patterson</b>
<b>Jennifer Partney</b>	<b>Ann Hobbs</b>
<b>Carolyn Hardin</b>	<b>Weldon Hudson</b>

**Jerry McLaurin-Highland House**  
**Sallie Darden-Heritage Place**  
**Paula Johnson-Haymount Rehab**  
**Lynn Baker-Fayetteville Manor**  
**Shirley McLaurin- Bethesda**

## Family and Friends

**Evelyn Moore, Jennifer Billings, Janice Belden, Victor Hottel, Leon Horne, Bobby House, Barry Lane, Patsy Jackson, James Chambers, Raul Santiago, Nevis Ruffin, Mary Stevens, Diane Fuller, Linda Carter, Josh Powell, Stacey Faircloth, Jim Blanton, Kenneth Adams, Laura Leach, Martha Enzor, Vernata Cherry-Britt, Nicole McGuinness, Kay Edwards, Bob Jones, Marilyn House Parkins, J. M. Butler, Jr., Erica Sutton, Eddy Clark, Brian Ramage, Ada Milagroski, Jeffrey Phillips, Denise Rhodes, Brian Wallum, Betty Parks, Betty Thompson, Camrin Hales, Cora & Sam Presley, Angie Baker, J'mair Bronson, Cici Shaw, Sammy Williams, Darla Clark, Mika Martin, Thomas Hoffler, Holly Midgette, Shenee Ruffin, Priscilla Sellers, Sandra Jones, Sharon Dunn, Jonah Nelson, Tommy Sexton, Tiffany Mullins, Giridhar Sadhu, Julia Sessoms, Wayne O'Neil, Carol LeToile, Drew Smith, Gary and Brenda Wilson, Vickie Knoch, Leslie Jackson, Bobbie Gray, Kathy Smith, LB Faircloth, Nathan Gainey, Larry Hall, Charlie Williams, Tim Kinlaw, Dana Kelly, Lauren Albright, Doug Maars, Melvin Arthur Haire Jr, Gary Ivey and Family, Ruth Heidinger, Andy Nichols and Family, Linda Disbrow, Gloria Schultz, Ginny Podorski, Haley Tyndall, John Butler, Tony Malinski, The Family of Jo Ann Kurtz**

# Memorials

## Kenneth Culbreth

Marcia and Linwood House, Robert E. Cooper, Kenneth and Claire Lynn Sykes, Sue Godwin Baker

## Dan Raynor

Mary Barbara Raynor

## Wayne Smith

Helen Smith

## Patrick Williford

Betty G. Russell

## Rad Rich

Ruth Rich

## Robert Warren

Sandy McDaniel

## Shirley McLaurin

Kenneth and Claire Lynn Sykes,  
Kenneth and Denise Sykes

## Joan Lovick

Sandy McDaniel

## Jimmy & Doris Webt

Sandy McDaniel

## Delores Hedges

Sandy McDaniel

## Lexie Owen

Sandy McDaniel

## Jennie McLaurin

Sandy McDaniel

## Clayton House

Sandy McDaniel

## Alton & Myrtle McDaniel

Sandy McDaniel

## Honor

## Clyde Edwards

Jimmy and Bonnie Crabtree

## John and Betty Ann Crawford

Ruby and Ed Bullard

## Ed Bullard

Ruby Bullard