



THE SALEM VISIONARY

"STAYING CONNECTED"

February
2020

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



Join us for Ash Wednesday virtually February 17th at 7:00pm. Resources will be provided to help you make Ash Wednesday meaningful at home. We encourage you to pick them up outside the Church Office during regular hours starting February 10th.

Wednesday Night Virtual Bible Study Continues

Our Wednesday Night Virtual Bible Study continues. You are welcome to join at any time. Please contact the church office for more information.

Blessings,
Francis

United Methodist Men Host Our Annual Valentines Dinner

Please make your reservation for the Salem United Methodist Men Valentine's Steak Dinner served Sunday February 14th, 2021 at 1200. You may choose from three options, dine-in with live entertainment, pick up and take home, or home delivery for those needing to stay in.

Children and Youth Ministries

We have a lot to look forward to in the month of February! On February 14 children's church will be back! Following the children's message during church service, the children are welcome to enjoy crafts, a short lesson and some snacks too. Also on February 14 during the UMM hosted Valentines luncheon, Salem is offering child care. During this time, I have a special Valentine's party planned. Please come out and join us. I look forward to the future of children's church and bringing it back

better than ever!

Caitlin Craven

SALEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Valentine's Day Bash

We invite you to join us on February 14 for church service and stay for our annual Valentine's Day Dinner. The children's program will be hosting a Valentine's Day Party for all children!!

when: February 14
time: immediately following church service
cost: free!!

Games, crafts, food, drinks, and sweets will be provided

Caitlin Craven
please email me if you have any questions children@salemfnc.org

We are back for regular youth nights this week and we are excited to continue our series called "Soul Searching". We will be discussing what it means to take ownership of our soul and what it looks like to try to keep it healthy.

In February we will be doing an escape room on February 25th. If your student is interested we are asking that you please sign up. We want to make sure we have enough space and tickets. We are asking everyone to sign up by February 14th.

We are excited for 2021 and everything that is happening here at Salem. We trust that God is in control and great things are going to happen through him. If you have any questions feel free to reach out!

David Helbig

Upcoming Events

- 2/25 - Escape Room at Xscape Factor 7-9 pm
- 2/27 - Service project meet at Salem UMC at 9 am
- 2/28 - Youth One Night at Salem UMC



From the Pastor

The story is told of John and Mary who were destined to be together. They met in high school and immediately developed a friendship. As time went by, they fell in love and, upon graduation, got married. Eventually they were blessed with two children whom they named Margaret Ann (Maggie) and Jonathan Charles (JC). Both of the children were healthy and perfect babies. There was, however, one exception. They each had a rare blood type. John and Mary told their children that the blood type made them unique and special.

As it goes with most families, so it went with theirs. The children grew quickly and all was well. One day, when the children were 10 and 8 years old respectively, they came in from school, Maggie said she didn't feel well. Mary checked her temperature and it was elevated. Upon taking her to the doctor they discovered that Mary had contracted a disease that was making her very sick, very quickly. The doctor told the worried parents that the only hope was for Maggie to receive a blood transfusion but her rare blood type would make it difficult for them to find someone who could give blood for Maggie. That's when they told the doctor that JC had the same blood type and asked if he thought their son's blood would work. The doctor said that it would but they would not be able to force JC to give his blood. He would have to volunteer to do so.

John and Mary sat down with JC and told him the circumstance. They said, "Son, Maggie is very sick and you are the only one who can help her. The doctor says she needs a blood transfusion but she has a rare type. You are the only one who has the kind of blood she needs. Are you willing to help Maggie so she can get well?"

JC responded immediately. "She's my sister. Of course I will help her."

When it came time to do the transfusion, JC bravely stepped up and took his place on the gurney. As they inserted the needle, he didn't even flinch. After several minutes, the process was complete, the needles were removed and both children were lying on their respective gurneys, Maggie who was asleep and JC who was awake. Mary and John told him, "Son, you did so well. We are very proud of you."

JC said, "Thanks, but when do I die?"

His parents were shocked at the question. They said, "you aren't going to die. Why do you ask such a question?"

The little boy said, "Well, I know that you can't live without your blood. I thought if I gave my blood to Maggie so she could live, I would have to die."

John and Mary embraced their son and told him that he was going to be fine and because of his gift of blood, so would Maggie.

This is a powerful little story of a brother's love for his sister. February is a month in which we hear lots of stories about love. There is no story more powerful than the one in which God became God Incarnate and dwelt upon the earth, shedding his blood on the cross and taking the sin of the whole world upon his shoulders. That is why Jesus said in John 15:13, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

In this time of valentines and candy, may we not lose sight of the fact that "God so loved the world that God gave God's one and only Son that whosoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

Blessings,

Francis

Mission and Outreach

Food Pantry

447 bundles of food were gifted to community folks during 2020. Volunteers were on duty each & every week; folks wait outside the church for delivery. A bundle is one grocery bag of dry & one grocery bag of canned. Dry foods include mac & cheese, spaghetti, noodles, rice, hamburger helper, dry soup, grits/oatmeal, cereal, pop tarts & 6 pack of crackers. A grocery bag of canned foods includes: canned meats, Canned pasta sauce, 2 or 3 vegetables, peanut butter, jelly & fruits. Of course each bundle varies, but is a nice assortment. Most often we gift a frozen pack of ground beef (1 lb.) or six pack of chicken legs. Folks may pick up every 2 weeks, and many do. Some come once a month; we gift on Thursdays from 9 – 11 am & other times by arrangement. If folks work these hours we plan another time for them to pick up food. We sometimes deliver as well.

Thank you to Blacks Chapel for another large delivery in January.

SUPER PACKER for JAN. - DEE STAFFORD; thanks Dee!
Thanks to Jill Kirkwood for working as well.

There are no traffic jams along the extra mile
Roger Staubach



Family Promise

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

Salem is one of appx. 20 churches in Cumberland County to offer assistance to homeless families enrolled in Family Promise. Three to four times a year we provide funds for food, formula/diapers/wipes (if a baby is in family) and utilities/support for the families lodging at the facility off Bragg Blvd in Bonnie Doone. DEC. 6-12, 2020 we supported 14 (which is always the maximum) people; four families included five adults, girls ages: 5, 11, 13, 14 & 16 and boys who were 8, 11, 12 & 14. Our next opportunity to serve is March 28-April 3, 2021. A huge THANK YOU TO SALEM CHURCH was published in the January newsletter; I hope you all read and felt comfort to know we are “making a difference for these families”. Debbie Moody

If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength
God provides, that in all things God may be
praised through Jesus Christ.
1 Peter 4:11 (NIV)

Operation INASMUCH

COVID can not deter Bread N' Bowls. It will just be a little different this year. The 14th Annual Bread N' Bowls will take place on Friday, February 26th from 11:00am until 2:00pm at Snyder Memorial Baptist Church.

This will be a drive-thru event, where you can pick up soup or chili to support Inasmuch. Soup or Chili in a bread bowl, brownie and a drink for \$10.00. All proceeds will go towards operation expenses. You can purchase tickets online. There will also be an online Auction. (Starts February 22nd and ends February 26th at 2:00pm).

Preschool Ministry

NEW YEAR, NEW BEGINNINGS

SALEM PRESCHOOL & CHILDCARE

OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR

ALL AGES

6 WEEKS – 5 YEARS

OUR STAFF ARE CPR & FIRST AID CERTIFIED

****ASK US ABOUT BRIGHTWHEEL, OUR CHILDCARE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM****



2165 Middle Road
Eastover, NC 28312

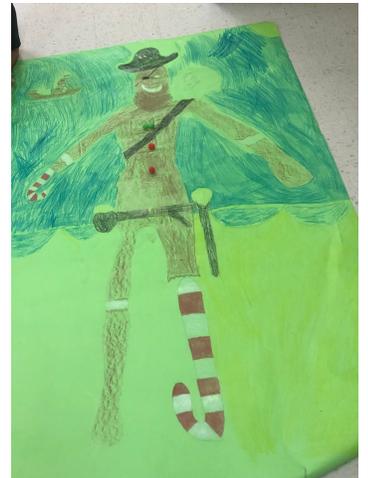
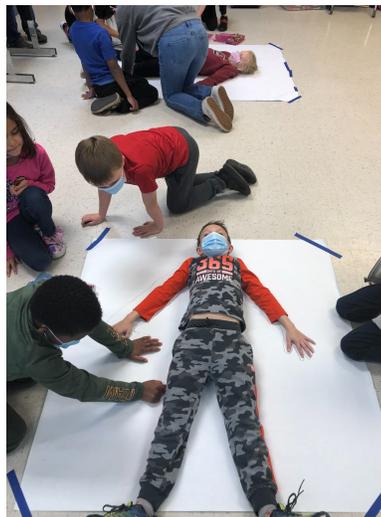
(910) 484-9860

Happy Valentine's Day from the
Preschool!

The Preschool would like to send lots of love to each one of you. The children will celebrate a special snack on Friday, February 12th, and exchange Valentine's Day cards. This will be a fun day that they will look forward to.

SMASH Ministry

We started 2021 on the right foot! We had fiber optic cables installed throughout SMASH. This helped us tremendously! Now all of our staff and children are on one side of the building, and we no longer have trouble with internet connection, allowing the children to continue with virtual school. The kids created human sized gingerbread men by drawing an outline of themselves. This really made them work together as a team, using their own unique skills to complete their project.



Budget Needed Monthly
\$ 44,166.67

Total January Offering & Tithes
\$ 32,127.63

January Building Fund Deposits
\$ 575.00



Year to date January 2021

Budget needed to date
\$ 44,166.67

Tithes & Offerings
\$ 32,127.63

Total Monies Received
\$ 34,627.63

NC Conference Events

- Scholarship Applications : NC Conference United Methodist Women invite High School Seniors or Undergraduate/ Graduate College Students with a 2.5 GPA and accepted to one of the following colleges: Louisburg College, Methodist University, NC Wesleyan College, Duke University, Duke Course of Study (COS) or Duke Divinity School to apply for the following scholarship opportunity. For information <https://districts.nccumc.org/files/2021/01/Complete-Packet-North-Carolina-Conference-UMW.pdf>, with application deadline of April 15th, 2021.

- Help Rebuild and Prepare Camp Rockfish: With the likelihood of the return of the lake this year and a gracious grant for the construction of an outdoor education learning pavilion and trail experience, Rockfish is urgently seeking volunteer help with clearing and preparing the lakefront, removal of the old Big Bertha catwalk, and construction of docks, decks, and catwalks.

- Unskilled and skilled help enthusiastically accepted..
- Volunteer in groups from 1 to 100. The camp has enough to do to ensure social distancing.
- Volunteer any day for as long as you would like, and what best fits your availability.
- The camp will be hosting three major volunteer work days: January 30th, and Feb. 6th and 27th.

Register by contacting jessie@camprockfish.org or calling the camp office: 910-425-3529. For questions, email jim@camprockfish.org.

- Lay Servant Ministries Leading Worship will be held virtually Saturday, March 27, 2021 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Registration cut off - March 14th. Anyone who would like to learn the elements of worship services and ways of leading worship in a variety of settings is welcome to participate. This advanced class is listed in the Worship Leader pathway and is required to become a Certified Lay Speaker. For information and enrollment <https://sounddistrictnc.org/leading-worship-lay-servant-class-march-27/>

United Methodist Men's Scholarship

Salem United Methodist Men offer a college scholarship to graduating high school seniors. Please visit Salem UMC website at <https://www.salemfnc.org/united-methodist-men> for application and eligibility information. Deadline is May 1st, 2021

Prayer Requests

Prayer Line:
(910) 446-3415

Call and leave a voicemail or text your prayer request.

Church Members

Darvin Edwards
Lorraine Kirkwood
Lisa Johnson
Derotha Fink
Sandra Williams
Jennifer Partney
Carolyn Hardin
Larry McPhail

Conrad Kurtz
Sue Black
Jean Lugar
Gilda Horne
Bill Roberts
Jimmy Crabtree
Della Patterson

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

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

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, Ted Heine, Doug Maars, Melvin Arthur Haire Jr, Gary Ivey and Family, Lisa Bullard Edwards, Ruth Heidinger, Pamela Webb Kallam, Andy Nichols and Family, Linda Disbrow, The Family of Janice Washington, The Family of Bruce Boughman, Gloria Schultz, The Family of Kenneth L. Fulcher Jr., Ginny Podorski, The Family of Clayton House, Tony Malinski, The Family of Joan Lovick and The Family of Tripp Easton

Memorials

Joan Lovick

Lewis and Sharon Deaton, Edna Edwards, Raynor Tire, Betty and Buck Smith, Mary Barbara Raynor, Helen Smith, Jimmy and Bonnie Crabtree, Jean and Michael Outlaw, Adjenora Sasser, Thomas and Sue Baker, Bill and Glenda Snotherly, Peggy Allen, Gilda Horne, Janice and Frank Council, Amy and Henry Bowden, Ken and Denise Sykes, Ruth Rich, Roger and Karen Odom, LBM

Janet Oliver

Bonnie and Jimmy Crabtree