

SFBC FAMILY NEWS

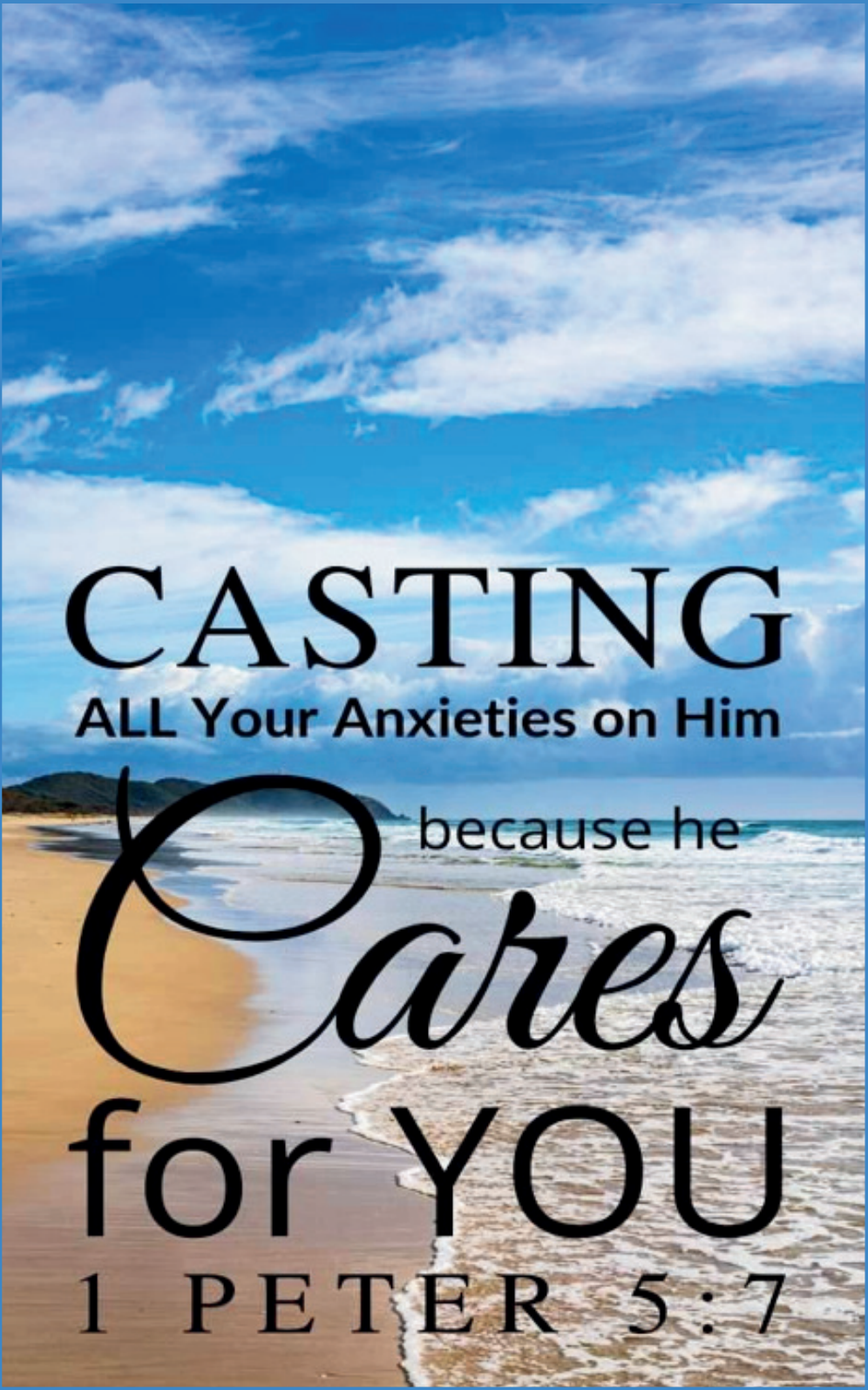
Volume 47 Issue 08

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Salem, IL 62881

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CASTING

ALL Your Anxieties on Him

because he

Cares

for YOU

1 PETER 5:7

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PASTOR DR. ANDY DEWITT

Dear Church Family,

With the arrival of August, Summer is in the rearview mirror, so to speak. The changing of our calendars is more than a return to familiar routines—it is also a reminder that the Lord continually calls us to grow in our walk with Him. His mercies are "new every morning" (Lamentations 3:22–23), and His grace is sufficient for every day.

Some of our ministries that follow the school year will soon “fire up” as we move closer to the Fall. Sunday School, Awana, and axillary ministries that FBC hosts, Trail Life, and American Heritage Girls also resume. These ministries are far more than weekly activities; they are opportunities to plant the eternal truth of God's Word in young hearts, encourage families, and raise up the next generation to know, love, and faithfully follow Jesus Christ.

Ministry is not accomplished by programs alone but by God's Spirit working through faithful servants. Please join me in praying for our leaders, volunteers, parents, and children. Ask the Lord to give wisdom to those who teach, enthusiasm to those who serve, and receptive hearts to those who hear His Word. Pray also that God would use these ministries to reach families in our community who may be searching for hope, truth, and a church home.

As we resume the rhythms of fall, let us also renew our own devotion to Christ. It is easy to become busy with good things while neglecting the most important thing—our relationship with the Lord. May we commit ourselves anew to daily prayer, faithful study of the Scriptures, regular worship, and loving fellowship with one another. As Jesus reminded His disciples, "Abide in Me... for apart from Me you can do nothing" (John 15:4–5).

Thank you for your faithful prayers, generous support, and willingness to serve. It is a blessing to labor together for the glory of God and the advancement of His Kingdom. I look forward with great anticipation to what the Lord will do in and through our church in the months ahead.

May the Lord richly bless you and keep you as you continue to walk with Him.

Grace and peace,

Andy



ASSOCIATE PASTOR CHRISTOPHER SPENNER

How would you try to meet the needs of the people in your community that others have forgotten about? Sometimes it can seem like an impossible task, or something we do not have the proper skills to accomplish. Sometimes, however, all it takes is a small commitment, one step out in faith, to change the world in a large way for Christ.

Let me introduce you to a man named Robert Raikes. He lived primarily in Gloucester, England in the 1700s. He owned a publishing business that had been inherited from his father. As a publisher, he tended to avoid sensational or false headlines and favored objective, informed reporting. However, he noticed a very real problem that was having an effect on his country.

At the time, young children in England were not particularly looked after. Many parents were working constantly in brutal factories and often even the children were made to work as well. As a result, one day Raikes saw a group of boys on Sunday gambling, cursing, and disrupting the peace for everyone. He recognized that they were poor and uneducated and his fervently held Christian beliefs demanded that he do something about it. As a result, he founded the first true Sunday School system.

Since the factories were closed on Sundays, the boys would always have the day off. Raikes took his own resources and began to teach them using the Bible as a textbook. A mere eight years after he started his first Sunday School in a home, the movement had grown to include 300,000 children. Fifty years later, over a million children were enrolled in these Sunday Schools.

In Matthew 17:20, Jesus explains to His disciples why a stubborn demon had not come out of a person for them. He said, "...Because of your little faith; for truly I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you." Sometimes all it takes for us to accomplish something incredible for God is just a small amount of genuine faith that He can and will accomplish His will in the world.

Today, we experience the benefits of Raikes's movement in our church. However, our Sunday School ministry needs faith and prayer. So many children in our town do not attend church anywhere. They are illiterate in the things of God. As we focus for the rest of the summer on our Contact Baseball program, let's work together to pray over and invite all of the families we know in our community and build a Sunday School that glorifies God, just as Raikes did.



WOMEN ON MISSION & LIBRARY

After taking a break from our monthly meetings, we will resume our time together on Monday, August 3rd at 9:30AM in the Fellowship Hall. We will be preparing the back packs filled with school supplies for students who are in need at Hawthorn School.

A huge thank you to the individuals who are faithful to assist each month at the Salem Ministerial Alliance Food Pantry. Every month a different individual shows up to learn more about the ministry and how Salem First Baptist is helping to feed many families. Our next opportunity to share in this ministry will be on Monday, August 10th.

Blessings,
Karen

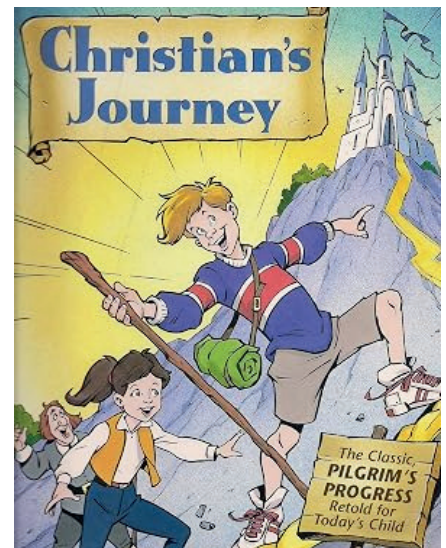


Library News

In our Children's section of the library is Christian's Journey. This book is the classic Pilgrim's Progress retold for children.

"Does God listen to my prayers?" wonders Christian. Through a chain of fantastic events, Christian and his friend, Hope, are transported to a world where only their faith and trust in God will get them home safely. The journey teaches Christian that God really does answer prayer!

HAPPY READING,
DINA



TRUSTEES' REPORT

During July, several work projects were completed. A flush valve in the downstairs women's restroom was replaced. Touch up painting was done in the downstairs men's restroom around the paper towel and two soap dispensers. One of the stair railings to the north balcony in the sanctuary was tightened. The two elevators and the boilers were inspected by the state. Eighteen floodlights in the sanctuary were replaced. Apparently during a recent storm there was a power surge that caused damage to these lights. One of the canopies for a floodlight was damaged, so it was taken down. It was too old and could not be replaced.

At a special called business meeting in July, two motions presented to the church by the trustees were approved. The first motion was to accept the proposal and bid from Security Alarm relating to the Grant Program concerning our church's security grant of \$150,000. The second motion was to accept a bid from Jerold Henson Painting Contractors to paint rooms 114, 115, 116, 218, 219, first floor painted doors and trim (both sides), the south side portion of the north wall of the fellowship hall, and to provide labor and materials.

Dallas Bundy
Chairman of the Trustees



YOUTH ⁱⁿ ACTION

OUR YOUTH STEPPED UP IN A BIG WAY FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL. THEY WERE ALWAYS WILLING TO HELP WHEREVER WE NEED THEM AND MAKE SURE THE KIDS HAD A GREAT TIME AND LEARNED ALL ABOUT JESUS, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.

THIS SUMMER, THEY WILL BE HELPING OUT PEOPLE IN NEED IN OUR COMMUNITY. IF YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO WOULD BENEFIT FROM THIS, PLEASE LET CHRISTOPHER OR MELISSA KNOW.



DEACONS MINISTRY

Date	Greeter	On Call	Security
02	Mike Pugh	Ronnie Donoho	Tom Reed
09	Steve Smith	Dale Helpingstine	Dallas Bundy
16	Rick Meador	Gerald Purcell	Gary Watson
23	Dale Helpingstine	Ken Smith	Greg Strother
30	Gary Watson	Rick Meador	Mike Pugh

Children's CHURCH!

Date	Teacher	Assistant
02	Melissa Spenner	Deric Rice
09	Susan Wieldt	Debbie Pugh
16	Melissa Spenner	Lesa Morris
23	Annette Hardcastle	Connie Seymour
30	No Children's Church	Family Worship Sunday

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

Date	Worship #1	Worship #2
02	Barb Helpingdtine	Nancy Stallard
09	Annette Hardcastle	Susan Salliotte
16	Wheat Collier	Reha Lloyd
23	Pat Hampton	Gary Hampton
30	Dina Reed	Janet Smith



Date	Volunteer	Pianist
02	Paula's Class	Kathy King
09	Ken Smith	Candace & Wayne Howard
16	Mike & Angela Brooks	Lynette Wiedle
23	Karen Watson	Judy Bundy
30	Mike and Angela Brooks	Candace & Wayne Howard

Nursing Home
MINISTRY

Centralia Manor - 1910 E. McCord St.

Faye Wood #206

AWANA MINISTRY



Starting Strong for Awana September 13, 2026

Leaders Needed for ALL positions.

Table Leaders, Helpers, Game Leaders, and More

(Please let Tara DeWitt know which Club or your Area of Interest.)

**Don Estep, our Awana Missionary
will be with us Sunday morning, August 16th.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Celebrating All Classic Cars and Trucks

THROWBACK THURSDAYS

2026

This event is open to all classic cars, trucks, muscle cars, hotrods, and antique vehicles. Just bring your car, lawn chair and enjoy the evening.

RAIN CANCELS

May 21st
June 18th
July 23rd
August 27th
September 17th

Salem First Baptist Church
721 W Main St. Salem, IL

6:00-8:00 PM

Contact: Dale Helpingstine 618-322-7123

PLEASE NO ALCOHOL ON CHURCH PROPERTY

Save the dates for next
Women's Inductive Bible Study:

Covenant

"See the incredible thread running from Genesis through Revelation. God enters into a binding agreement with His people and always keeps His promises. Trusting Him as a covenant partner frees us from the bondage of worry and anxiety. This study will transform the way you read the Scriptures!"

Lesson 1: Overview
Lesson 2: The Exchanging of Robes
Lesson 3: Exchanging of Weapons & Belt

Lesson 4: A Solemn, Binding Agreement
Lesson 5: Walking through the Pieces
Lesson 6: The Oneness of Covenant
Lesson 7: Extended to Descendants
Lesson 8: The Abrahamic Covenant & the Law

Lesson 9: The New Covenant
Lesson 10: The Mediator
Lesson 11: Relationship of Three Covenants

Book pickup &
Orientation Aug 27

Classes:
September 10
September 17
September 24
October 1
October 8
October 15
October 22
October 29
November 5
November 12
November 19

Classes: 9 am or 6 pm. Salem First Baptist Church, East Entrance.

Cost: maximum \$25. Scholarships available! More Info? Text or call Anne: 812-595-0903.

Inquiring minds will be glad to know our video teacher will be...

Kay Arthur!!

We will use the *In and Out* study material for this

I see it all clear
My trials I faced
Through all these as years
All the scar's, tears, and fears
Made me a witness
An ambassador in chains



For in only--
Christ do I reign
Not because of me
But because He
Sacrificed Himself
On that tree!

By Jared Runkle

AUGUST

2026

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

<i>"Being the Church in Salem and Beyond"</i>						01
02 5PM Church Council 6PM Truth Project	03 9:30AM Women on Mission	04	05 5:30PM Youth 6:00PM Adult Bible Study Praise Team	06	07	08
09 6PM Truth Project	10 5:30-7:30PM AHG/TL	11	12 5:30PM Youth 6:00PM Adult Bible Study Praise Team	13	14	15
16 Guest Speaker Don Estep, AWANA 6PM Truth Project 7PM Business Mtg.	17	18	19 5:30PM Youth 6:00PM Adult Bible Study Praise Team	20	21	22
23 6PM Truth Project	24 5:30-7:30PM AHG/TL	25	26 2:00PM High Point 5:30PM Youth 6:00PM Adult Bible Study Praise Team	27 6PM Throwback Thursday 9AM Book Pickup 6PM Orientation	28	29
30 6PM Truth Project	31 5:30-7:30PM AHG/TL					

Mary Alice Dice
 Ruth Ann Wilkerson
 Dora Tate
 Charley Scott
 Janet Smith
 Carys Collins
 Wren Jackson
 Nick Bowerman
 Carissa Cantrell
 Karen Dobbs
 Frank Harris
 Heather Gray
 Jeremiah Keohler

August 03
 August 03
 August 04
 August 07
 August 08
 August 09
 August 10
 August 11
 August 12
 August 12
 August 13
 August 15
 August 17



Elowen Collins
 Brooklyn Quandt
 Janet Austin
 Debbie Dodd
 Judy Propes
 Deric Rice
 Angela Brooks
 Lucas Scott
 Bill Wells
 Mike Holzhausen
 Dina Reed
 Michael Trammel
 Jane Spence

August 18
 August 19
 August 21
 August 21
 August 21
 August 23
 August 24
 August 24
 August 27
 August 28
 August 29
 August 29
 August 31



SALEM

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Our Vision:

*"Being the Church in
Salem and Beyond"*

Sunday

8:30 ~9:20AM

9:30AM

10:45AM

5~7:00PM

Cafe' Agape

Life Groups for all ages

Morning Worship

Awana

Phone: 618-548-4060

Website: Salemfbcc.com

*Facebook: Salem First Baptist
Church*



Join Us. . .

Sundays

8:30-9:20AM

in Fellowship Hall

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

9:00-4:00

Closed 12:00-1:00 for lunch

Friday 9-12

For YouTube:



Wednesday Evening

5:30PM

Youth Bible Study

6:00PM

Adult Bible Study

Praise Team Rehearsal