



SALEM
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
721 W. Main St. Salem, IL 62881

SFBC FAMILY NEWS

Volume 45 Issue 08

August 2024

721 West Main

Salem, IL 62881

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SALEM FIRST BAPTIST



Pastor Dr. Andy DeWitt

Dear Church Family,

August is here and you may be wondering, as I am, where the summer has fled. We measure summer, often times, when school is dismissed and when it resumes. Well, the time has arrived that Walmart hits you in the face with back-to-school supplies when you walk through the doors (that is, if you are not entering by the Beer Garden ☺). So, a new school year is about to begin. Kids are probably a little anxious about what the next grade level will mean for them. Will it be a good year or a tough one? But it's a new year; a time to begin again.

In a couple of weeks, we are scheduled for revival services (August 18-21). Rev. Sam Moore will be preaching and Stephen Brubaker leading music. This, too, is a time for new beginnings. In Acts 3:19-20, during Peter's second sermon, he tells his listeners about an opportunity that the Gospel of Christ offers. He said, **“Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord. . . .”**

First repent: this is an interesting word that basically means a change of mind that results a change of behavior. But this is not merely a moral statement. In order to repent, one must turn from his/her sin and turn to God. Secondly, this is furthered emphasized with “turn back” or as the NKJV renders it “be converted.” It's more than being sorry for your sins; it's turning from your sin to the living God. In the midst of this God does the truly amazing thing—He makes a person into a new person spiritually. Paul, states it this way, **“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come”** (2 Corinthians 5:17, ESV).

But there're the results mentioned in Acts 3:2. “times of refreshing” will come. Getting “right” with God; turning from sin to Christ, results in “refreshing.” This is the joy and freedom that comes from a relationship with the Lord. Do you want this? If so, it is available when you experience revival. This is turning from sins and returning to Jesus. This is the reason to have special services that are out of the ordinary that offers the opportunity to be revived.

What should you do? Pray for yourself and for others to experience this refreshing from the Lord. Secondly, pray for God to anoint and use both Sam and Stephen as they lead us. And pray that you will have opportunities to invite others to attend, too. One more thing—it should go without saying--but attend!

“Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord. . . .”

Grace and peace,

Andy

Associate Pastor Christopher Spenner

Have you ever heard the phrase, "I don't have enough faith to be a Christian?" It is a pretty common refrain amongst those who consider themselves to be atheistic or agnostic. Faith has a reputation among these kinds of people as something irrational or superstitious. To them, having faith in Christ is equivalent to believing in ghosts or goblins. It's a fairy tale with no actual bearing in reality.

Unfortunately instead of combating these claims, many Christians have accepted this label without a fight. They have proudly proclaimed that of course Christianity isn't rational. How can it be? We believe in miracles and the supernatural. That can't possibly be logical or rational, can it? Unfortunately, while it can sound great to tell someone to "just have faith," it betrays a history of great intelligence found within the Christian faith. Our faith is reasonable, rational, and logical in addition to life-changing and supernatural.

Those who reject God typically have a worldview that posits that there can be absolutely no supernatural activity of any kind in the world. This extends to the origin of life itself. Those without God must accept that one day, by random coincidence, chemicals mixed in such a way that life arose out of non-life. This totally random result has never been recreated in a lab and likely never will be. Why? Because even the most basic forms of life are far more complex than anything we can create. We do not even know how to create an actual consciousness!

So the non-Biblical worldview hinges entirely on the most non-scientific argument in order to even get its footing. But life isn't even the most difficult hurdle for them. Their biggest issue is that they must accept that logical argument is possible at all in a world governed entirely by chaos and randomness. When you really delve into their arguments, you find that they don't have a leg to stand on.

By contrast, the Biblical view is foundationally built upon logic. How could it not be, with a God who embodies logic and order? He shows us this logical aspect of Himself right in the first chapter of Genesis, in fact. When he creates, he creates according to kinds. When he forms the stars and planets, he does so in order that they show the times and seasons. There is no chaos in God's design. Everything is purposeful and planned.

One great response I've heard to "I don't have enough faith to be a Christian" is, "I don't have enough faith to be an atheist." I think that statement is absolutely true. It takes far more faith to believe that all of this wonderful creation we see around us could have manifested by pure chance. All that said, it is not a good idea to base your life entirely on logic, either. The Bible says in Hebrews 11:6, "Without faith it is impossible to please Him (God)." In that same passage we find in verse 1 that, "Faith is the certainty of things hoped for, a proof of things not seen."

The main point is that our faith is not to be a blind faith. We should approach God not just because he is all good and all merciful but because without him nothing else makes sense. He is the upholder of the universe and has a perfect plan. As you spend this month inviting people you know to participate in revival, I hope you will be able to respond to any arguments they may bring up. Remember what Peter says in 1 Peter 3:15 and "always be ready."

Women on Mission/Library

We will start meeting again on Monday, August 5th at 9:30AM in the Fellowship Hall. We will be preparing the Backpacks for our ministry at Hawthorn School. This is a ministry which provides needed supplies for families who are struggling to buy all that their children are required to have for the school year.

Our Baby Bottles were due back July 28th. The bottles returned have been taken to our Pregnancy Care Clinic. Thank you to everyone who gave to this great ministry!

A huge thank you to all who continue to donate items for Operation Christmas Child. The items need for August are Match Box Cars or Hot Wheels, soccer balls and pumps, coloring books, story books and stickers.

Blessings, Karen



God promised numerous times in the Bible to take of Israel, to bless those who blessed her and curse those who cursed her.

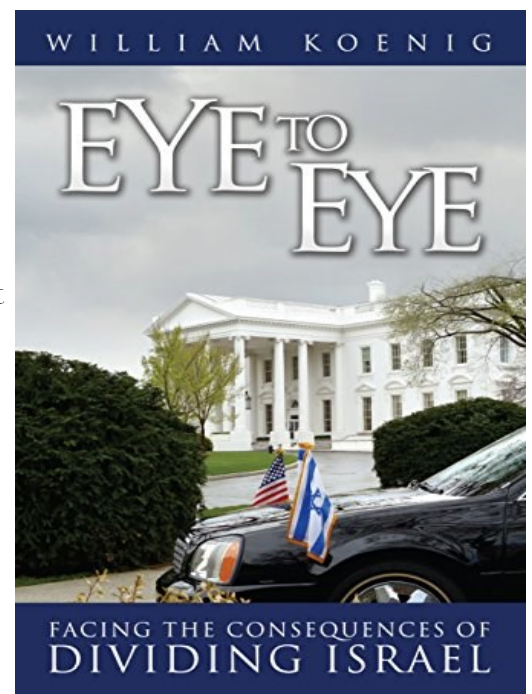
Eye to Eye carefully details dates and catastrophes which ensued after Israel was persuaded to divide her covenant land.

William Koenig cites disaster after disaster with facts, addenda, photographs, and letters. It is a thick book, but you could open it anywhere to understand the gravity of God's promise in Zechariah 12:9 "...in that day I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem." You can find Eye to Eye at 956 94 K.

We also have the book of reports from Indy Southern Baptist Convention 2024. Come and check it out.

Happy Reading,

Dina



Announcements/Thank You



MISSION SALEM would like to thank the church for the generous love offering. We

SAVE THE DATE
WOMEN'S INDUCTIVE
BIBLE STUDY

I SAMUEL—8 LESSONS
SEPTEMBER 12-OCTOBER 31
THURS. 9-11AM OR 6-8PM

Registration Coming Soon! (Pre-registration is important for ordering materials)

Orientation (for new students)/Book pick up 9/5
\$22 per book



A GREAT BIG THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO HELP MAKE VBS 2024 A HUGE SUCCESS!

85 ENROLLED AVERAGE ATTENDANCE 60





DATE	GREETER	ON CALL	SECURITY
August 04	Mike Pugh	Ronnie Donoho	Tom Reed
August 11	Gary Watson	Dale Helpingstine	Dallas Bundy
August 18	Rick Meador	Jon Wieldt	Gary Watson
August 25	Gerald Purcell	Ken Smith	Greg Strother



DATE	TEACHER	LESSONS
August 04		
August 11		
August 18		
August 25		

Nursery Volunteers
(Call the church office if you would like to



August 04	Sheri Peradotti
August 11	Janet Smith
August 18	Dina Reed
August 25	Nancy Stallard



DATE	VOLUNTEER	PIANIST
August 04	Mark Tabor	Kathy King
August 11	Karen Watson	Lynette Wiedle
August 18	Dale & Barb Helpingstine	Judy Bundy
August 25	Ken Smith	Lynette Wiedle

MANOR AT SALEM WOODS - 441 HOTZE RD, SALEM:
Faye Wood #204

Centralia Manor - 1910 E McCord St.
Barbara Phillips #103

Twin Willows—1600 N Broadway:
Donna Shoemaker

Odin Health and Rehab Center— 300 Green St.
Suzanne Pollard

Helia Health Care Center—1201 Hawthorn Rd.
Melody Webb

Heritage Woods—2049 E. McCord, Centralia
Carrie Braden





REVIVAL
AUGUST 18-21
WITH EVANGELIST
SAM MOORE
Make plans to attend
and bring a friend!




**Sisters
in Christ**

August 24, 2024
Grace United Methodist
Dinelle Frankland,
Guest Speaker

Registration is open!

The Woman at the Well.
Mary. Mary & Martha. You. Me.

SAME GOD

 Sisters In Christ
(Southern Illinois)



August 2024

Date	Verses	Date	Verses
08/01/24	Isaiah 23-27	08/17/24	Jeremiah 23-25
08/02/24	Isaiah 28-30	08/18/24	Jeremiah 26-29
08/03/24	Isaiah 31-35	08/19/24	Jeremiah 30-31
08/04/24	Isaiah 36-41	08/20/24	Jeremiah 32-34
08/05/24	Isaiah 42-44	08/21/24	Jeremiah 35-37
08/06/24	Isaiah 45-48	08/22/24	Jeremiah 38-41
08/07/24	Isaiah 49-53	08/23/24	Jeremiah 42-45
08/08/24	Isaiah 54-58	08/24/24	Jeremiah 46-48
08/09/24	Isaiah 59-63	08/25/24	Jeremiah 49-50
08/10/24	Isaiah 64-66	08/26/24	Jeremiah 51-52
08/11/24	Jeremiah 1-3	08/27/24	Lamentations 1-3:36
08/12/24	Jeremiah 4-6	08/28/24	Lamentations 3:37-5
08/13/24	Jeremiah 7-9	08/29/24	Ezekiel 1-4
08/14/24	Jeremiah 10-13	08/30/24	Ezekiel 5-8
08/15/24	Jeremiah 14-17	08/31/24	Ezekiel 9-12
08/16/24	Jeremiah 18-22		

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Back-To-School Prayer

Loving God,
Watch over our children as they begin their new school year. Bless them with joy at seeing friends, excitement at new experiences, and a love of learning.

Guide and protect all who learn, replacing fear with joy, anxiety with peace, and tiredness with energy. Give wisdom, patience, and joy to teachers as they serve their students.

In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.



2024 Throwback Thursday



Dates
May 16th
June 20th
July 18th
Aug 22th
Sept 19th



Times: 6:00-8:00 PM

"Celebrating all classic cars and trucks"



Contact: Dale Helpingstine 618-322-7123

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. Please No Alcohol on Church property.

Mission Journey Kids will not be meeting for the month of August! See You In September!





AUGUST



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
“Being the Church in Salem and to the nations”				1	2	3
4	5 Prayer Meeting 6AM Women on Mis- sion 9:30AM	6	7 6PM Bible Study Youth Study Praise Team Rehearsal	8	YOUTH LOCK-IN 8:00PM—800AM	
11	12 AHG/TL 5:30PM	13	14 6PM Bible Study Youth Study Praise Team Rehearsal 7PM Deacon's Mtg.	15 First Day of School	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 Throwback Thursday 6-8PM	23 Youth Guys night 6-8PM	24
REVIVAL WITH SAM MOORE						
25 6PM Business Mtg.	26 AHG/TL 5:30PM	27	28 2 PM Manor @ Salem Woods 6PM Bible Study Youth Study Praise Team Rehearsal	29	30	31

Mary Alice Dice
Danelle Sands
Ruth Ann Wilkerson
Dora Tate
Sandy Smith
Janet Smith
Kayla Huffhine
Wren Jackson
Nick Bowerman
Karen Dobbs
Frank Harris
Shawnee McDaneld

August 03
August 03
August 03
August 04
August 05
August 08
August 10
August 10
August 11
August 11
August 12
August 13
August 14



Carol Smith
Sharon Brown
Elowen Collins
Debbie Dodd
Judy Propes
Deric Rice
Angela Brooks
Bill Wells
Mike Holzhausen
Dina Reed
Cara Stallard
Suzanne Pollard
Jane Spence

August 15
August 16
August 18
August 21
August 21
August 23
August 24
August 27
August 28
August 29
August 29
August 29
August 30
August 31



SALEM
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Phone: 618-548-4060
Website: Salemfbc.com
Facebook: Salem First Baptist Church



Join Us . . .
Sundays
8:30 –9:20 AM
In the
Fellowship Hall

We serve bagels with
cream cheese, donuts,
fresh fruit, coffee, juice
and milk.

OUR VISION
“BEING THE CHURCH IN SALEM
TO THE NATIONS”



Office Hours

Monday—Thursday

9:00 to 4:00

Closed 12:00 to 1:00

for lunch

Friday 9:00—12:00

Wednesday Evening

5:30—6PM Media Center Open
6:00 PM Adult Bible Study
Youth Bible Study
Praise Team Rehearsal

Sunday Morning

8:30—9:20 AM Café Agape - Donuts & Coffee
9:00—9:30 AM Media Center Open
9:30 AM Life Groups for All Ages
10:45 AM Morning Worship
6:00 PM Behold your God:
Rethinking God Biblically