



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

SFBC FAMILY NEWS

Volume 44 Issue 07

July 2023

721 West Main

Salem, IL 62881

618-548-4060 (phone) 618-548-6039 (Fax)

| Inside This Issue | Pages |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| From the Pastor's Desk | 2 |
| From the Associate Pastor's Desk | 3 |
| Women on Mission / Library | 4 |
| Poems | 5 |
| Schedules/ Nursing Home Ministry | 6 |
| Deacons' & Trustees' Reports | 7 |
| Announcements | 8 |
| Monthly Calendar July Birthdays | 9 |
| Information Page | 10 |

*I will be
their God,
and they will be
my people.*

HEBREWS 8:10

Listen to Sunday Morning
Services
WJBD 1350 AM 92.1 FM

- *Audio/Video Sermons*
- *Up Coming Events*
- *Ministries*

On the Web!
Salemfbc.com



SALEM FIRST BAPTIST

Pastor Dr. Andy DeWitt

Dear Church,

Jesus stated in John 14:23-24a, “Jesus answered, ‘If anyone loves me, he will keep my word. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. 24 The one who doesn’t love me will not keep my words.’” And the last word from Jesus recorded in Matthew is the Great Commission, to reach and teach others about Jesus and His commandments. According to a recent post by Jonathan Howe, he notes that “The majority of self-identified Christians do not invite others to church, or mention a Bible verses to a lost family member or friend, or ever explain the gospel to a lost person. The result of this inwardly focused Christianity is apparent in the SBC’s latest mixed bag of statistics” (Six Ways to Pray More Evangelistically, posted on June 21, 2023).

This indicates that many of us self-identified Christians are failing in our love for the Lord. We say that we love Him but our actions, or lack of obedience, tells a different story. If our love for the Lord Jesus is what it should be, then we will keep His word and seek others for whom He died. This is the first and greatest motivation for evangelism.

There is a second motive for evangelism: the reality of eternal separation from the Lord in a place prepared for the devil and his angels. This may be surprising to most, but Jesus had more to say about Hell than He did about Heaven. For example, Jesus spoke about the seriousness of life without a saving relationship with Him. In Mark 9:43 Jesus said, “And if your hand causes you to fall away, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and go to hell, the unquenchable fire.” He adds in Mark 9:47, “And if your eye causes you to fall away, gouge it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell.” My hands are important; I don’t want to do without them. My sight is extremely valuable to me—I don’t want to lose it; however, Jesus tells us here that losing a hand or an eye is far better than having both and cast into hell. This is serious!

The Bible also underscores the eternity of separation from God. In the following verses, the word “hades” is used with a reference to “hell.” The first example is that of the Rich man and Lazarus in Luke 16. Jesus states that the rich man was in a place of conscious and permanent torment. In Luke 16:23, Jesus said: “And being in torment in Hades, he looked up and saw Abraham a long way off, with Lazarus at his side.” When reading about this rich man, you should note that he is conscious, he knows where he is, he remembers his family, and he realizes that his condition is permanent. Added to this are the words of Revelation 20:14, “Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.”

The bottom line is: Do you love Jesus? Then obey Him. Do you love other people (family, friends, etc.), then warn them. Is there anything more important than these?

Sincerely,

Andy

Associate Pastor Christopher Spenner

How do we reach the next generation for Christ? This is a question that has been asked many times over the years and many different answers have been proposed. We know that we need young people to populate our churches in order for them to carry on with their ministry but we have no idea how that should be done. While I do not suggest that I have stumbled upon the perfect solution, I'd like to share some thoughts on this crucial issue.

The first thought is that it is not enough for the pastors alone to seek new people to come to church and follow up with visitors. Yes, pastors are primarily responsible to feed the flock and part of that includes finding new people to invite, but it just is not enough for pastors to do it alone. When pastors invite someone new to church, the person can often think that the pastor just wants someone else to tithe and boost their salary. That or they may think that the pastor is just inviting them because it's their job. "Of course he thinks their church is the best," they may think, "after all, he gets paid by the members." How much more does it mean to someone when they hear a church member who is so enthusiastic about their church family that they want to invite someone else to come be a part of it? Those invitations hold far more weight than any invitation a pastor could offer.

The next thought to consider is who we are inviting. Studies have shown that when the man or father of a household decides to start coming to church, over 90% of the time his family will follow. Conversely, when the woman or mother of the household decides to start going to church, her family will follow only around 17% of the time. This number is even lower when it comes to the children of the house making the decision. Why is it set up this way? It's impossible to fully know, but I would posit that many families are still led by the father even if our modern culture has rebelled against that notion. So what does this mean for the church? It means men, much more than women, need to be out there inviting others to join them on Sunday morning.

One final thought is that we need to make sure that when we invite people to join us for church, we are immediately inviting them to enroll in our Life Groups as well. Studies have shown that visitors who enroll in a Sunday School type program are much more likely to stay invested in church and come back week after week. Life Groups are not an extra we offer, they are essential. I hope you will join me in making sure we are a truly welcoming church and in doing so see great growth happen here.

In Christ,

Christopher Spenner

Women on Mission/Library

Although, we won't be meeting in July, we will continue to minister. Recently, we restocked our Blessing Bags which are given to individuals requesting aid. Theses bags contain non-perishable food and toiletry items.

We are continuing to request items monthly for Operation Christmas Child. These items will be used to fill boxes at our Packing Party. The July items to be collected will be school supplies.

*Blessings,
Karen*



Greetings from the library!

We are off and running! Some of you have checked out books and returned them even while we are updating the card catalog and videos. A big thank you to Abby Dice and Sadie Cantrell for their help in these areas!

Check out procedures remain the same...find a book, sign the borrower's card in the back of the book and put the card in the wooden box on the card catalog. When you return it, you can lay it on the card catalog, and I will replace the card to re-shelve it. If you feel comfortable shelving it after you replace the card, that is ok, too. The objective is for you to check out books!!

One of our new books comes highly recommended! *Where Do We Go From Here?* is written by Dr. David Jeremiah. He looks at issues we are experiencing in today's culture, explains how they are linked to Bible prophecy and provides practical ways to live with hope and courage. Each chapter highlights today's events, what scripture says and where we can go from here. The chapters include:

Socialism, Globalism, Cancel Culture, Pandemic, Spiritual Family, Jerusalem, and The Triumph of the Gospel. Even if just one of those chapters sounds interesting, check it out! Read that chapter!

Happy Reading!

Dina



Announcements/Thank You



My Father's Care

By Carrie Braden

*Do you every walk by a rushing
stream*

And wonder what song it's singing?

Or stop by a country church

To listen to the bells ringing?

*Don't you love to hear the sounds of
night*

While sitting on your porch

*And see the splendor of the northern
sky*

When it lights up like a torch?

And how about mornings after a storm

When there's a cleanness in the air

These many things all say to me

"In Times of Need"

You are here, my God
Always — all knowing
Waiting on us
To call Your name

You never change
Never disappoint
Forever in control

From our first heart beat
Till the last,
We are completely
Dependent upon You

Life is full of "Times of Need"
Always will be
We have all we need in You
Help us to see this

How blest we are!

Thank you for waiting on us,
Forgiving us, welcoming
Us home eternally

You, our refuge in times of need
By Bev Smith



| DATE | GREETER | ON CALL | SECURITY |
|---------|----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| July 02 | Greg Strother | Gary Watson | Dallas Bundy |
| July 09 | Mike Pugh | Myron Lloyd | Jon Wieldt |
| July 16 | Steve Smith | Tom Reed | Dale Helpingstine |
| July 23 | Gerald Purcell | Greg Strother | Ronnie Donoho |
| July 30 | Ken Smith | Rick Meador | Mike Pugh |



| DATE | TEACHER | LESSONS |
|---------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| July 02 | Deanna Buerster | Paws & Tales—To Have and Give Not |
| July 09 | | Family Worship—No Children's Church |
| July 16 | Deanna Buerster | Paws & Tales—The Hull a baloo at |
| July 23 | Deanna Buerster | Paws & Tales—Tiffany Cometh |
| July 30 | Deanna Buerster | Paws & Tales—Correction Course |



| Nursery Volunteers (Call the church office if you would like to serve) | |
|---|--------------------|
| July 02 | Reha Lloyd |
| July 09 | Annette Hardcastle |
| July 16 | Sheri Peradotti |
| July 23 | Janet Smith |
| July 30 | Dina Reed |



| DATE | VOLUNTEER | PIANIST |
|---------|---------------|----------------|
| July 02 | Ken Smith | Kathy King |
| July 09 | Angela Brooks | Lynette Wiedle |
| July 16 | Mark Tabor | Judy Bundy |
| July 23 | Ken Smith | Lynette Wiedle |
| July 30 | Paula's Class | 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 Betty Canon Carrie Braden

Helia Health Care Center—1201 Hawthorn Rd.
Ila Westerman Melody Webb

Cedarhurst of Centralia—1827 E. McCord St.
Ruby Chapman

Heritage Woods—2049 E McCord St., Centralia
Mary Anne Rollinson



Is It True?

There is a question of truth today. Is it true for you? Is it true for me? Do we tell the truth or do we think we tell the truth? How do others see the truth, and why?

Websters dictionary says truth is corresponding to reality, constancy, exactness, correctness, that which is true, conforms to fact.

My background is in engineering. And, yes, there is a definite right way and many wrong ways to do an engineering project. It's the same idea as truth has one way correctness. Some people (as I have met some) say "truth to me is . . .", meaning they have their own view of truth being mindfully what they think.

Let's look to the Holy Bible for what truth is. In John 14:6, Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." We believe in Him. Jesus is the Truth.

Blessings to all,
Deacon Greg



Trustees' Report

The trustees' would like to take this time and welcome Kristi Moody, who is our new custodian for the church. Please help make her feel welcome in her new job, when you get the opportunity to do so.

Also, want to once again thank all those who stepped up to keep the church clean and maintained while the trustees' were looking for a custodian.

The trustees' are still seeking a part-time maintenance/facility manger. Anyone interested can pick up an application in the church office.

The ladies new restroom is progressing along on schedule and should be completed in August.

Gary Hampton
Chairman of Trustees'

*Trustee
Ministry*



*Happy 80th
Birthday Betty
July 07, 2023*

If you would like to send Betty a birthday card, send to Odin Health and Rehab Center, 300 Green St., Odin, IL 62870

**EVERY MEMBER IS A MISSIONARY
@ SALEM FIRST
EPHESIANS 4:12**



2023 Throwback Thursday Cruise Nights

Celebrating All Types of Classic Cars and Trucks

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

Dates

- May 18th
- June 15th
- July 20th
- Aug 17th
- Sept 21st



Times: 6:00-8:00 PM



Dates to Remember

- * July 4th meet at the tennis courts at 8:30PM to handout VBS flyers
- * The week of July 3-7th Decoration Week!

VBS 2023 — JULY 9-13



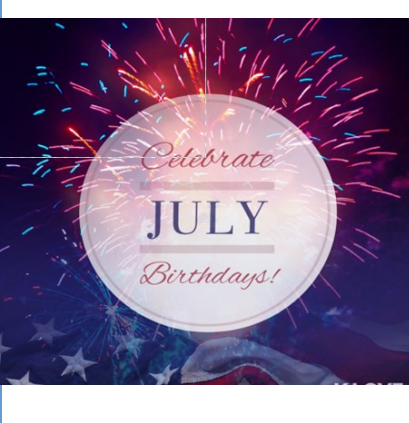
July

2023

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---|---|--|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
|  | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 5PM Church Council Mtg. | 3 Prayer Mtg. 6AM American Heritage Girls 5:30-7:30PM | 4  | 5 6PM Bible Study Youth Study Mission Journey: Kids Praise Team Rehearsal | 6 Week for Decorating for VBS! July 3-7th | 7 | 8 |
| 9  | 10 | 11  | 12 7PM Deacon's Mtg. | 13  | 14 Directory Pics 3-8Pm | 15 Directory Pics 10AM-3PM |
| 16 Directory Pics 12:30-8Pm | 17 | 18 | 19 6PM Bible Study Youth Study Mission Journey: Kids Praise Team Rehearsal | 20 Throwback Thursday Cruise-In 6-8PM | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 American Heritage Girls 5:30-7:30PM | 25 | 26 2PM Manor @ Salem Woods 6PM Bible Study Youth Study Mission Journey: Kids Praise Team Rehearsal | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up. Ephesians 4:12 | | | | |

- Marlene Hilger
- Rick Chapman
- Madison Keele
- Sandy Wright
- Pat Hampton
- Paul Womack
- Kyle Mazanek
- Johannah Stallard
- Betty Canon
- Garrett Welford
- Christian Boyles
- Rachelle Oziemkiewicz
- Kay Pullium
- Pat Nattier

- July 01
- July 02
- July 02
- July 02
- July 03
- July 04
- July 05
- July 06
- July 07
- July 07
- July 12
- July 12
- July 13
- July 15



- Mark Peradotti
- Jaysen Alston
- Noah Savin
- Jena Clifton
- Sharon Kavanaugh
- Paulette Murphy
- Fred Wiedle
- Emily Dice
- Darlene Page
- Charlene Eidson
- Gary Watson
- Tom Reed
- John Erickson

- July 15
- July 16
- July 17
- July 18
- July 20
- July 21
- July 21
- July 22
- July 26
- July 29
- July 29
- July 30
- July 31



SALEM
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Phone: 618-548-4060

Fax: 618-548-6039

Website: Salemfbccom

Facebook: Salem First Baptist Church



Our Vision

The vision of Salem First Baptist Church is to become a growing family of committed believers with an increasing

- Passion for God
- Passion for People
- Passion to Serve

Join Us . . .

Sundays

8:30 –9:20 AM

In the Fellowship Hall

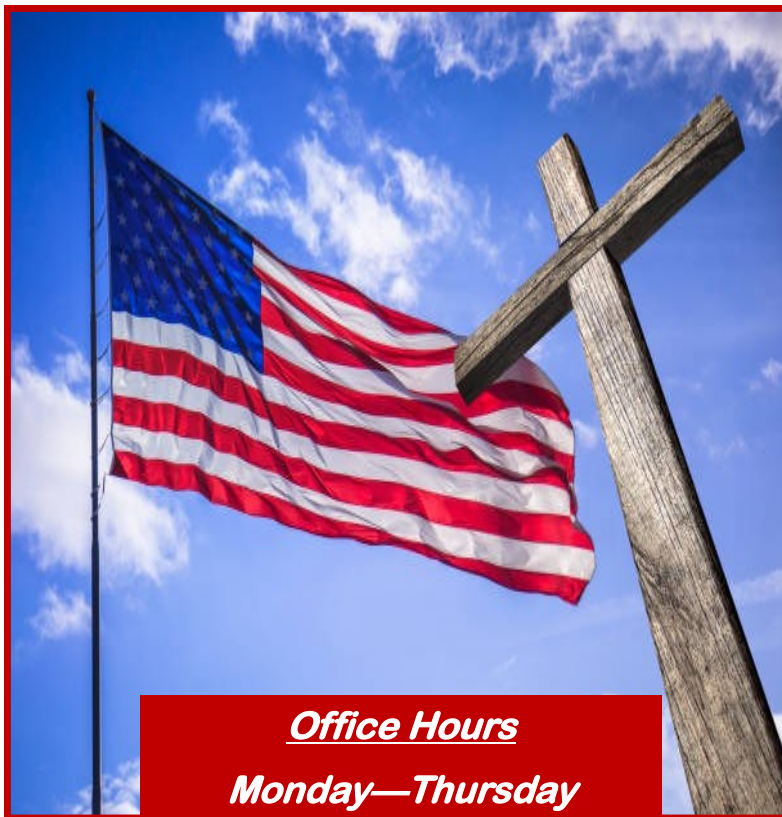
We serve bagels with cream cheese, donuts, fresh fruit, coffee, juice and milk.

Wednesday Evening

- 4:45 PM Women’s Chronological Bible Study
- 5:30—6PM Media Center Open
- 6:00 PM Adult Bible Study
Youth Bible Study
Praise Team Rehearsal
Mission Journey: Kids

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



Office Hours

Monday—Thursday

9:00 to 4:00

Closed 12:00 to 1:00

for lunch

Friday 9:00—12:00