



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

SFBC FAMILY NEWS

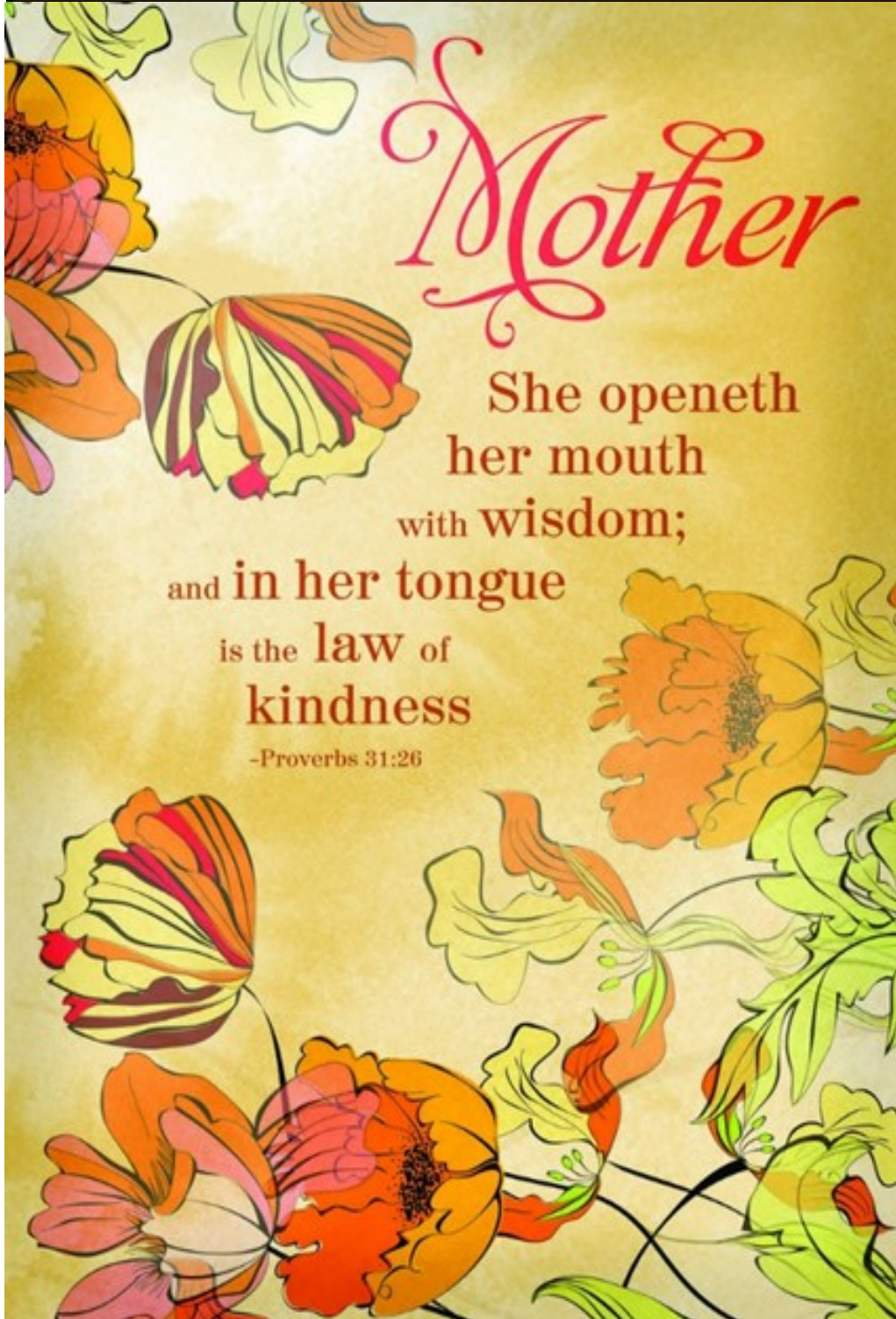
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721 West Main

Salem, IL 62881

618-548-4060



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SALEM FIRST BAPTIST

Pastor Dr. Andy DeWitt

Dear Church Family,

Thankfully, after what seems to have been a long winter, warmer weather is finally here. (I know that we are prone to complain about the hot, summer days, too!) There are a few events and opportunities I wish to make you aware of this summer.

Behold Your God video series: Last summer we learned a lot about God in the first *Behold Your God series*. This summer, beginning on Sunday, June 1 at 6 PM is the second installment of *Behold Your God: The Weight of Majesty*. This is a new series that we have not viewed previously. This is a twelve-week study that will take us through the summer on Sunday nights. You will be blessed to attend these video lessons.

Early Morning Prayer: Early morning prayer meetings will resume at 6 AM June 2. This prayer meeting meets the first Monday of each month. Our primary focus is praying for revival and spiritual awaking in our lives, our church, our community, and beyond. Yes, this is early but what better way to greet a new month than beginning it with prayer.

Vacation Bible School: VBS is a regular summer event that almost goes without saying. Yes, this is a tradition that many churches practice; however, it's waning in many churches. Please continue praying for VBs and, if you can, participate.

Apologetic Conference: Something new is an Apologetic Conference on July 19-20. Apologetics is not saying "I'm sorry," rather, it is answering questions and giving a defense for what we believe as Christians. We are privileged to have Rob Phillips from the Missouri Baptist State Convention and director of the Missouri Apologetics Network as our teacher. Rob has written several books on apologetics (8 that I have) and he will bring some copies of those when he's with us. Mark your calendars for this event. And come with your questions!

First Responders Appreciation Sunday: Around September 11, we hope to have a Sunday to say "thank you" to first responders. This will include a luncheon and expressions of gratitude for all that they do.

This is only a few of events planned or in the planning stage for the summer. May the Lord bless you and your family this summer. Please remember John 17: 26: "I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

Grace and peace,
Andy

Associate Pastor Christopher Spenner

The start of Summer is always an exciting time. Whether it's planning a vacation with family and friends, planning for various festivals and events in the nice weather, or simply sitting outside on your own porch, Summer always has something for you to do. I find it interesting that this attitude factors into the Bible as well. We know that Easter took place in the Spring because of the Passover. So let's investigate what the summer would have looked like right after that first Easter Sunday.

After Easter and right before Jesus ascended to Heaven, He spoke to His disciples about what would come next. Matthew 28:18-20 records, "And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to follow all that I commanded you; and behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'" His most important instruction was the Great Commission. He assured His disciples that He would be with them and that He had all authority, so whatever happened to them was under His power. Then He expanded on that immediately before His ascension. In Acts 1:8, Jesus informed them, "...You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and Samaria, and as far as the remotest part of the earth." Jesus was about to set His disciples to work.

The next big day for the disciples was the day of Pentecost, which would have occurred in the early summer. It was here that God sent the Holy Spirit as tongues of flame to

indwell the disciples and give them great power to proclaim what Jesus had done for the world, in many different languages. Soon after establishing the church, they would fulfill what Jesus had told them and begin spreading outwards to bring the hope of the Gospel to others in their area and soon the entire world.

I think it's very interesting that God first sent the disciples out in the summer. As mentioned, this time of the year is known for increased activity. What better time is there for us to share the Gospel with others than in this time of the year, when we have ample opportunity to talk to people? Even if you don't go anywhere this summer, it's likely that you will run into someone who needs to hear the hope of the Gospel. Pray that God will give you the opportunity to truly touch someone's life this year.

Women on Mission/Library

Much visiting and mission activity were enjoyed by 12 ladies at our April meeting. Small Easter baskets were assembled with candy for our Homebound along with Easter cards. The group also prepared Easter gift bags for the students who attend the ROE Preschool in our church facility.

Just a reminder that the month of May is Mother's Day Offering Emphasis. This offering helps in the ongoing work of Baptist Children's Home and Family Services and their life-changing ministries. Our goal this year is \$2000.00.

We are still collecting items monthly for Operation Christmas Child. The requested items for May are small flashlights with extra batteries and reuseable plastic bottles.

A huge thanks to Marlene Hilger for the beautiful Get Well flower mugs which we have used to bless some of our church members.

Blessings,

Karen



Salem First Baptist Church is blessed to be hosting Rob Phillips July 19 & 20th. Mr. Phillips is the gifted author of several books written in an easily understood conversational style. This month I would like to introduce you to one of his books: What Every Christian Should Know about The Trinity.

Would it surprise you to know that six out of ten U.S. adults say the Holy Spirit is a force, not a personal being? Or more shocking, that seventy-eight percent of Americans with "evangelical beliefs" agree with the statement that Jesus was the first and greatest being created by God the Father?

First, from a historical perspective, the Trinity was the first doctrine that the church felt it necessary to explain in a definitive way at the councils of Nicaea (AD325) and Chalcedon (AD381), which set orthodox Christianity apart from heretical movements.

Next, the doctrine of the Trinity distinguishes orthodox Christianity from other monotheistic religions such as Judaism and Islam. It also separates Christianity from polytheistic and pantheistic religions like Hinduism and Buddhism.

Third, a proper understanding of the triune God builds a solid foundation for other Christian doctrines, such as creation and redemption. How is it that the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit all are depicted as actively involved in the ex nihilo (out of nothing) creation of everything, both visible and invisible – and yet, "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. (Gen. 1:1)? Further, how can it be that the second person of the Godhead took on human form, without abandoning His deity, in order to bear our sins on the cross – an offering the Father accepted for our justification and the Spirit applied in bringing new life to believing sinners?

Rather than view the doctrine of the Trinity as a stumbling block to belief, we should explore the triune God and enjoy the majesty and the mystery of this one divine being who has eternally existed as three co-equal, loving, selfless persons in whose image we are created.

Looking forward to meeting this author!

Dina

Announcements

MISSION MOMENT

Shaddox Missions Serving in Czech Republic

Our English Club Easter Meal which was held yesterday (Tuesday, April 15) went fantastic! Our Czech friends laughed so much and were so loud at one point that it shocked me! But it was so fun to see! They enjoyed every second of the evening! They mingled with our American team at different tables all evening rotating around and having different conversations. They left with full stomachs and feeling very loved, seen and cared for. Their interest in the team gave some of them an interest to come to our Saturday event and others to our Sunday Service. And this is exactly why we do these types of meals. We are building trust and creating an atmosphere where they see they are accepted and loved for who they are. It breaks down the walls for them, and they entertain the idea of participating in other things we do. Through those other things, we pray it will one day lead to their salvation in Christ Jesus!

Our cooking team was amazing in the kitchen! So thank you for your prayers for the special night we had!



Happy 100th
Birthday
*Dorothy
Schaubert*





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



DATE	TEACHER	ASSISTANT
May 4	Melissa Spenner	Deric Rice
May 11	Susan Wieldt	Debbie Pugh
May 18	Melissa Spenner	Dina Reed
May 25	Annette Hardcastle	Connie Seymour



Nursery Volunteers (Call the church office if you would like to serve) Life Group Worship		
May 04	Janet Smith	Dina Reed
May 11	Barb Helpingstine	Nancy Stallard
May 18	Susan Salliotte	Paula Strother
May 25	Kristen McMahon	Wheat Collier



DATE	VOLUNTEER	PIANIST
May 04	Mike & Angela Brooks	Kathy King
May 11	Karen Watson	Lynette Wiedle
May 18	Karen Watson	Judy Bundy
May 25	Mike & Angela Brooks	Lynette Wiedle

Centralia Manor - 1910 E McCord St.
 Barbara Phillips #103
 Faye Wood #204

Heritage Woods—2049 E. McCord, Centralia
 Carrie Roberts

Helia Health Care Center—1201 Hawthorn Rd.
 Melody Webb



This past Sunday our church celebrated the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This was the culmination of Jesus' last week on earth, what has been termed the "Passion Week", when Jesus experienced the Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem, The Last Supper, betrayal by Judas, his arrest, trial, beating, and finally His Crucifixion. Jesus told the Sanhedrin, in Matthew 26:56, *"But this has all taken place that the writings of the prophets might be fulfilled."*

But that was not the end of the story. On the morning of the third day, just as Jesus told everyone, and as is recorded in Matthew 28:2-6, *"There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from Heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. And the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not there; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay."*

Now what? Jesus left his disciples with specific instructions. Matthew 28:18-20 it says, Then Jesus came to them and said, *"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

Now I pray that each of us try to live out this calling that Jesus gave his followers. That we in our everyday lives look for opportunities to seek out the lost in our community and to serve fellow believers as needs arise. Let our church be a "Great Commission" church.

Blessings,
Dale Helpingstine
Chairman of the Deacons

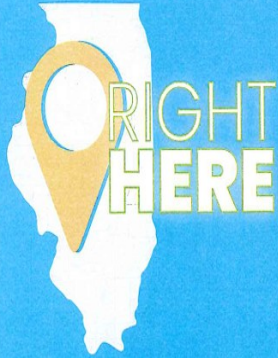
TRUSTEE REPORT

This article is written to let the church know what projects and/or repairs are being addressed or have been completed during the previous month. Flush valves have been installed in the men's downstairs restroom in the educational building and in the women's and the men's restrooms behind the baptistry. Weekes has repaired the leak in a sanctuary air-handler. Doorstops have also been installed throughout the building. A doorbell has been installed at the east doors and rings in the kitchen and the office. We still ask church members to use the office entrance as much as possible. This doorbell will alert someone to open the door for those who may be bringing food for a funeral dinner, letting someone enter the building for a meeting in the educational part of the building, or for some other reason. Weight limit signs (130 pounds) have been purchased and are being installed on the playground. Another sign stating that the playground is under 24-hour surveillance is to be installed. I want to thank the church members who have worked to complete these projects.

Other projects that have been approved but are not completed will be shared in this article next month. If you have any concerns that the trustees need to address, please let one of the trustees know. If you would like to help with some of the projects at the church, please let me know.

Dallas Bundy
Chairman of the Trustees

MISSION ILLINOIS OFFERING



In recognition and appreciation as a

TOP TEN GIVING CHURCH

From the Illinois Baptist State Association

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH SALEM

was one of the TOP TEN churches in giving statewide for the 2024 Mission Illinois Offering.

Thank you for your participation, promotion, and generous giving. Your partnership in the MIO provides essential support for advancing the gospel across Illinois.



Sincerely Yours,

Nate Adams

Nate Adams
Executive Director



Celebrating all classic
cars and trucks

May 15th | June 19th
July 17th | Aug 28th
Sept 18th

6:00-8:00
PM

Rain
Cancels

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

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.

"Thou art a sea without a shore, a sun without a sphere..."

Behold your God

**Sunday Nights
Starting June
1st @ 6PM**

JOHN SNYDER

Nothing provides the true follower of Christ with more profound and enduring satisfaction than turning from the limitations of self and this world to the unfathomable fullness of the living God. Nothing so directly affects the study of Scripture as one's understanding of what lies behind the little word "God." Nothing calls for such an entire consecration of the mind, heart, and will of the student as the study of this eternal Being, who is the cause and reason for all things. Nothing holds more practical value for the Christian than the realities of God's perfection.

For twelve weeks, *Behold Your God: The Weight of Majesty* guides the reader through passages that reveal God's perfections: His incomprehensibility, self-existence, independence, transcendence, immutability, infinity and eternity, omnipresence, omnipotence, omniscience, wisdom, sovereignty, righteousness, holiness, wrath, goodness, love, patience, and zeal. The aim of this study is to provide the student with a tool for vastly enlarging his or her understanding of God in a manner that enlightens the mind, captivates the heart, and redirects the will.

God truly is "a sea without a shore, a sun without a sphere." Each of us stands before the boundless immensity of God's majesty. He commands us to know Him. He has provided all that we need to know Him through the redemptive labors of His Son, the illuminating work of the Spirit, and the Bible. A.W. Tozer wrote only the truth when he stated that God "can show a new aspect of His glory to us each day for all the days of eternity, and we have but begun to explore the depths of riches of His infinite being."

May God raise up a people who will say as David did so many years ago:

When You said, "Seek My face," my heart said to You,
"Your face, O Lord, I shall seek."
(Psalm 27:8)

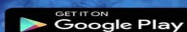
- John Snyder

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT US AT BEHOLDYOURGOD.ORG

SOW EVANGELISM APP


The SOW Evangelism app helps you apply God's word and His principles and prepare to join God in His mission of reaching and saving the lost.

Download today and contact your Pastor for the unique church code.



Church Number
795442



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
“Being the Church in Salem and Beyond”				1 11:30AM Fellowship Luncheon Last one until fall	2	3 AHG Potluck Tea Party 2PM
4	5 9:30AM Women on Mission	6	7 6PM Bible Study Youth Study Mission Journey Kids Praise Team Rehearsal	8	9	10
11 	12 AHG/TL Mtg. 5:30PM	13	14 6PM Bible Study Youth Study Mission Journey Kids Praise Team Rehearsal 7PM Deacon's Mtg.	15 Throwback Thursdays 6-8PM	16	17
18 Lord's Supper Business Meeting 6PM	19 AHG/TL Mtg. 5:30PM	20	21 6PM Bible Study Youth Study Mission Journey Kids Praise Team Rehearsal	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 2PM High Point 6PM Bible Study Youth Study Mission Journey Kids Praise Team Rehearsal	29	30	31

Tara DeWitt
Kathy King
Blaire Longman
Wanda Keele
Mark Tabor
James Scott
Katie Shelton
Beulah Lupkey
Dorothy Schaubert
TJ Thompson
Tina Martin

May 01
May 02
May 04
May 07
May 07
May 09
May 11
May 18
May 18
May 18
May 18



Sharon Campbell
Shirley Garden
Johnny Powell
Sherri Snow
Bradley Oziemkiewicz
Ryder Savage
Langdon Collins
Neva Isett
Dustin Becker
Bonnie Becker

May 19
May 21
May 21
May 21
May 21
May 22
May 24
May 27
May 29
May 30
May 30



SALEM

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Phone: 618-548-4060

Website: Salemfbc.com

Facebook: Salem First Baptist Church



Our Vision

*"Being the Church in Salem
and Beyond"*

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.

*Happy
Mother's Day!*

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

5:30PM Youth Bible Study

6:00 PM Adult Bible Study
Mission Friends/Mission
Journey Kids
Praise Team Rehearsal

Sunday Morning

8:30—9:20 AM Café Agape

9:00—9:30 AM Media Center Open

9:30 AM Life Groups for All Ages

10:45 AM Morning Worship