SALEM FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 721 W. Main St. Salem, IL 52831 Volume 45 Issue 11 SFBC FAMILY NEWS November 2024

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Pastor Dr. Andy DeWitt

Dear Church Family,

One of the simplest Christian disciplines is also the most difficult to consistently practice—prayer. Prayer is simply talking with the Lord and making requests. Sounds easy until one begins to do this. Open the Bible, set down with a prayer list, begin to pray, then, the phone rings or someone comes to the door or the dog barks or vomits on the area rug. The devil doesn't want you to pray and, I believe, will provide every obstacle he can to prevent us from praying. As a preacher from the past once stated, "The devil is not concerned with our meetings, he is not bothered by our Bible studies, but he trembles when we pray." On one occasion, Jesus was questioned by His disciples about their inability to cast out an unclean spirit. Jesus responded, "This kind does not come out except by prayer. . ." (Matthew 17:21). James, in his letter, states: "Yet you do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive because you ask amiss. . ." (James 4:2b-3a). The teaching of Scripture and the examples of biblical people underscore the essential important of prayer.

In an effort to improve our ministry of prayer, I will soon introduce SOW app for your smartphone that will enable to you pray for people, both those with needs and those who are lost. (*If you don't have a smartphone, there is a hardcopy version that can be provided.*) This app is made available through IBSA. It is easy to use and it will aid you in your personal praying. The app emphasizes the power of prayer, *the power of love in action, the power of community, and the power of consistency.*

When life is busy, the first practice that becomes neglected is often prayer. One minister of yesteryear wrote: "If Satan can't get you through temptation, he will make you busy." I have to agree. Our days sometimes seem to fly by because of all that should be done. Hopefully and "prayerfully" being reminded to pray and praying consistently will raise the spiritual temperature of our lives and the life of our church. Remember Paul encouragement in Philippians:

6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6-7 (NKJV)



Grace and peace, Andy

Associate Pastor Christopher Spenner

Thank you so much for your cards and words of encouragement this Pastor Appreciation Sunday. We are so grateful to have a church family that cares so much about us and we cannot fully express how thankful we are for all of you. It's hard to believe how fast the Holidays have gotten here again. In just a month we will be celebrating Christmas. During this season of the year, more people are willing to go to church than at any other time of year besides Easter. Because of this, we should be aware of any opportunities to invite those we know are lost to church.

If this is to be accomplished, the first thing we need to do is pray for the lost. God is pleased to work through our prayers and especially when we ask according to His will. 2 Peter 3:9 says that God is "...not willing that any should perish, but for all to come to repentance." In this we know that praying for the lost to come to repentance is part of God's will. In addition, praying for the lost encourages us to think about them. One of the easiest ways for us to lose focus of the Great Commission is to forget about those who are perishing.

Next, we need to look for opportunities to bring up our faith to the lost. People are constantly being assaulted by messages from the world about the world they are living in. They are told that the only hope they have against a barrage of hopelessness is to trust themselves, or do what feels good to them. They are left without any real hope, but just false promises of hope. This leads people to fall into a depressive state. We have what they want, but they do not realize it. We have the hope of the Gospel that their life has a purpose and meaning far beyond what they could imagine. When we hear about the hopelessness we have, even simple affirmations of our own faith may make the lost interested in wanting to hear more.

Finally, we need to take the opportunity to invite them to church. The holiday season is the perfect time of year for this. People who do not normally engage in spiritual matters may feel the desire to experience a church service focused on Thanksgiving or Christmas. At this time of year, hearts may be softer towards what God has to say about the true path of salvation. This invitation can be very difficult for us to make, but we have encouragement throughout Scripture.

Moses himself was nervous when God asked him to deliver a message to Pharaoh. He made every excuse he could think of to get out of this requirement from God. But God continually assured Moses that He would be with him. God is happy to go with us in doing His will. He is not pleased when we reject his call due to our fear, but he is happy to accept our fear and give us reassurance if we have the courage to go. Rejection is a terrifying concept to face, but we are not really the ones being rejected if they end up saying no.

It is wonderful to reflect on the things we are thankful for at this time of year. I am thankful for the growth I have seen God give this church, in both the new members and new visitors. But I have also seen spiritual growth in the church this year and that is even more encouraging. May God bless you and give you a powerful season of thanksgiving.



Women on Mission/Library

As everybody can see, Operation Christmas Child is here!

Empty boxes are being filled with gifts and love to be sent to children all over the world. Not only do these boxes contain items to be cherished and utilized, they represent a love given to us through God's Son, Jesu! Please pray for each box that will be filled and received by a child chosen by God. The boxes are due back NO later than Sunday, November 18th!

Our next Women On Mission meeting will be on Monday, November 4th at 9:30AM in the Fellowship Hall. Please come and bring a friend.

Blessings, Karen



Both of our pastors highly recommend <u>Shepherds for Sale</u> which is written by Megan Basham. John MacArthur agrees with them and says, "This may just be the single most important book on modern evangelism in recent years. It is bold, clear, and very well researched."

Agreeing with those, Ben Shapiro writes, "Megan Basham is an indispensable voice in a chaotic time. <u>Shepherds for Sale</u> is a clarion call for churches to return to the faith of their ancestors – and to reinvigorate our republic by reinfusing it with eternal truths."

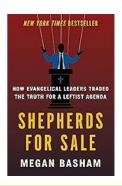
Tom Ascol gives an eye-opening review when he writes, <u>"Shepherds for Sale"</u> is a devastating book. Every evangelical needs to read it and take action to stop bad shepherds from trading Biblical truth for thirty pieces of worldly silver."

Aren't we thankful for our pastors that are not for sale? We are truly blessed and appreciate their devotion to God, His Word and their example for us to live lives worthy of our calling!

It is a recent addition to our library with a call number of 277.308 Bas.

Happy Thanksgiving! Dina





Announcements/Thank You



Come Celebrate the 100th Birthday of John Scrivner Saturday, Nov. 9th Open House in Church Fellowship 1-2PM (please omit gifts)



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.



Google Play





	DATE	GREETER	ON CALL	SECURITY
	November 03	Mike Pugh	Ronnie Donoho	Tom Reed
acons	November 10	Steve Smith	Dale Helpingstine	Dallas Bundy
lled Serve	November 17	Rick Meador	Jon Wieldt	Gary Watson
	November 24	Gerald Purcell	Ken Smith	Greg Strother

TEACHER



DATE	TEACHER	ASSISTANT
November 03	Melissa Spenner	Dina Reed
November 10	Susan Wieldt	Debbie Pugh
November 17	Melissa Spenner	Deric Dodd
November 24	Annette Hardcastle	Connie Seymour
November 17	Melissa Spenner	Deric Dodd



(Call	Nursery Volu the church office if you Life Group	
November 03	Janet Smith	Nancy Stallard
November 10	Barb Helpingstine	Wheat Collier
November 17	Kristen McMahill	Pat & Gary Hampton
November 24	Susan Salliotte	Andrea Hays



DATE	VOLUNTEER	PIANIST
November 03	Mike & Angela Brooks	Kathy King
November 10	Mark Tabor	Lynette Wiedle
November 17	Ken Smith	Judy Bundy
November 24	Paula's Class	Lynette Wiedle

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

<u>Twin Willows—1600 N Broadway:</u> Donna Shoemaker

Helia Health Care Center-1201 Hawthorn Rd. Melody Webb <u>Centralia Manor - 1910 E McCord St.</u> Barbara Phillips #103

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

Heritage Woods—2049 E. McCord, Centralia Carrie Braden



Thanksgiving Activities for Church and Families Celebrating Thanksgiving as Christians

- 1. Act it Out: Read the story of the ten lepers (Luke 17:11-19) Remind your children that Jesus was pleased with the one man who returned to give thanks for being healed. Provide rags for bandages and let your children play the roles of the lepers and Jesus.
- 2. Make Some Notes: Look up the story of the Israelites' celebration after the walls of Jerusalem were rebuilt (Nehemiah 12:27-46) Talk about the instruments they used and the two great choirs that marched atop the walls to the temple; a joyous, active "thanksgiving" that could be heard "far away" (Nehemiah 12:43) Put together a home grown band using real or handmade instruments. Practice joyful praise songs and march around the "walls".
- 3. Read a Book: Share a book that expresses gratitude and thanksgiving. For example, consider Corrie ten Boom's book "The Hiding Place" teaches a great lesson in thankfulness. Share Corrie's story, pointing out her struggle to be "thankful in all things." She even thanked God for fleas in her barracks. She later learned that the fleas kept the guards away and allowed Corrie and others to study the Bible undisturbed.
- 4. Create a Chain Reaction: Make a "God is Good" chain. Gather scissors, stickers, pencils, crayons, glue and construction paper. Cut the paper in strips and ask your kids to think about the many ways God is good. Have them write or draw these attributes on the strips, then connect them to form a chain and hang it in a place where it will remind your family of God's goodness.
- 5. Make a Blessing Basket: Place a pretty fall basket containing a pencil and pad of paper in an easy to reach location. Throughout the month, encourage family members to jot down ways God has blessed them. Younger children can draw or cut out pictures from magazines. Read these together and give God thanks each day or set aside some time on Thanksgiving Day.
- 6. Trim a Tree of Thanks: Draw and cut out a large paper tree with lots of loose leaves in autumn colors. Mount the tree in a prominent place and put the leaves nearby in a box with glue and markers. Ask your family to write things they are thankful for on the leaves, filling the tree by the end of the month. Consider the following question: "If I could keep only the gifts I've thanked God for today, what would I have?" Ask younger children: "What do you want to thank God for today?" Encourage your family to add to the tree daily.
- 7. Create Scripture-themed Place Cards: Have the children make a place card for each place setting on the Thanksgiving table. On one side, write name of guests and family; on the other, type a Scripture verse about being thankful. Let each person read a verse before the blessing.
- 8. Encourage Sharing: Place a paper leaf at each place with an assignment written on it. Each person adds to the festivities by completing their assignment. Assignments might include: Read Ps. 100, Share a Thanksgiving memory (use this on several paper leaves), sing a thanksgiving song (good for preschoolers), Lead group in a praise chorus (have copies of the lyric available), Say the blessing for our meal.
- 9. Let your Light Shine: Give an unlit votive candles to each person. Begin by lighting your own candle and thanking God for specific blessings. Then, continue the process around the table until all the candles are lit, making sure to keep the flames away from small children. Lead your family in a candlelight service of thanksgiving.





November 2024

Date	Verses	Date	Verses
11/01/24	Luke 21-22	11/17/24	Acts 14-15
11/02/24	Luke 23-24	11/18/24	Acts 16-17
11/03/24	John 1-2	11/19/24	Acts 18-20
11/04/24	John 3-4	11/20/24	Acts 21-23
11/05/24	John 5-6	11/21/24	Acts 24-26
11/06/24	John 7-8	11/22/24	Acts 27-28
11/07/24	John 9-10	11/23/24	Romans 1-3
11/08/24	John 11-12	11/24/24	Romans 4-7
11/09/24	John 13-15	11/25/24	Romans 8-10
11/10/24	John 16-18	11/26/24	Romans 11-13
11/11/24	John 19-21	11/27/24	Romans 14-16
11/12/24	Acts 1-3	11/28/24	1 Corinthians 1-4
11/13/24	Acts 4-6	11/29/24	1 Corinthians 5-8
11/14/24	Acts 7-8	11/30/24	1 Corinthians 9-11
11/15/24	Acts 9-10		
11/16/24	Acts 11-13		

Christy Jordan, Seeking Scripture 2024

SeekingScripture.com

Needs of the Pregnancy Care Clinic

For Baby:

Thermometers Infant Tylenol/non-aspirin fever reducer Lotion, shampoo, diaper rash ointment Baby wipes, cotton swabs Disposable Diapers (sizes newborn, 4 & 5) Onesies (newborn & 0-6 months) Sleepers or outfits (newborn-& up to 6mo) Pack & Play sheets Diaper bags Socks and shoes Baby towels Bottles Formula

Car seats (please check expiration date on back. They are good for 6 years after manufacture date) Bassinets, strollers, playpens, swings, highchairs, changing tables etc.

We accept gently used baby clothes and items from 0-12 mos.

More info. on bulletin board

Sunday		nday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday		Saturo
) >>		_	e Church the Nat	in Salem ions"		1	2
3 5-7 PM Awana	4 Women of Mission 9 Great Am Prayer @ AHG Boa 5:30-7:30	9:30AM nerican 96PM ard Mtg.	5	6 6PM Bible Study Youth Study Mission Journey Kids Praise Team Rehearsal	7 Fellowship Luncheon @11:30	8	9 Celebratic John Scrivner's 100th Birt 1-2PM
10 Lord's Supper 5-7 PM Awana	11		12	13 6PM Bible Study Youth Study Mission Journey Kids Praise Team Rehearsal 7PM Deacon's Mtg.	14	15	16
17 OCC boxes due back 5-7 PM Awana	18 AHG/TL / Ceremon		19	20 6PM Bible Study Youth Study Mission Journey Kids Praise Team Rehearsal	21	22	23
24 5-7 PM Awana	25		26	27 2 PM Manor @ Salem Woods 6PM Bible Study Youth Study Mission Journey Kids Praise Team Rehearsal	28 Thanksgiving	29	30
Colton Chancell Greg Strother Ken Smith Steve Smith Don Wayman Dewayne Scott Deanna Phelps Reha Lloyd Aubree Hoaglan Susan Wieldt Nicholas Purcell Kenny Robinsor	ıd	Nov. 03 Nov. 03 Nov. 04 Nov. 07 Nov. 07 Nov. 08 Nov. 09 Nov. 10 Nov. 11 Nov. 11 Nov. 13 Nov. 13	H	APPY VEMBER THDAYS!!	Brenda A Connie S	son Purcell vner ton arris reeman /s Helpingstine ustin	Nov. 13 Nov. 13 Nov. 14 Nov. 14 Nov. 17 Nov. 19 Nov. 22 Nov. 22 Nov. 23 Nov. 27 Nov. 27



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



Our Vísíon 'Beíng the church ín Salem and to the Natíons"

HHL

NOVEMBE

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

5:30—6PM	Media Center Open
6:00 PM	Adult Bible Study Youth Bible Study
	Mission Friends/Mission
	Journey Kids
	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
5:00 PM	AWANA

<u>Office Hours</u> Monday—Thursday 9:00 to 4:00 Closed 12:00 to 1:00 for lunch Friday 9:00—12:00