

SFBC FAMILY NEWS

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Salem, IL 62881

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Fathers' Day

*He shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children,
and the heart of the children to their fathers.*

MALACHI 4:6

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PASTOR DR. ANDY DEWITT

Dear Church Family,

As summer dawns, there are several summer activities that you should be aware of that will be happening. First, throughout the summer, the sermons that you will hear are subjects that you, the congregation, have suggested. Some of the suggested topics are end times, the Millenium, grace, the use and concerns with AI, Roman Catholicism just to name a few.

Sunday evenings will focus on improving and strengthening a Christian worldview. The title of these summer installments is *The Truth Project: An In-depth Christian Worldview Experience*. By the time these sessions are completed, those that participate will have a clear grasp on how to understand reality and how a Christian should see and understand the world.

I'm sure that you are aware that this is a special July 4th this summer. It's the 250th anniversary of our nations' founding. One of the ways that we plan to celebrate this occasion is by offering two showings of the excellent movie *Great Awakening*. This movie is produced by the *Sight and Sound Theater* folks and it is wonderful. Our schools ignore some of the most important events in history. I have a niece that earned a master's degree in history from a public university. I was casually talking about the First and Second Great Awakenings and she had no idea what I was talking about. This movie is a history lesson about what really led up to our nation's independence. I'm stunned that those who teach history can justify leaving out one of the most important events in our nation's past. This movie is a MUST SEE. It will be shown on Wednesday, July 1st at 7 PM at the *Salem Theater*. A second showing is scheduled at 7 PM on Thursday, July 2nd at *Salem First Baptist Church*. You might want to see this movie twice—it's that good!

I hope that your summer is a great one. Let's serve the Lord Jesus joyfully and enjoy His presence in ways that we haven't before.



Until He Comes,

Andy

ASSOCIATE PASTOR CHRISTOPHER SPENNER

What is the best way for a church to reach out to our community? Jesus' command in Matthew 28:19-20 is clear that this is something we need to be doing. He said, "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." So how do we do this? Do we need fancy decorations, a cutting edge band, and constant adoption of new technology? Or do we need to just try and convince people to show up to a service they may consider unnecessary? What is the best method of reaching those in our town for Christ?

One of the best options we have is something that we have had for a very long time. The Life Groups or Sunday School program is not something you may often think of as a model for outreach, but it is very helpful for this purpose. We have no other ministry in our church that can use the small group format and division by age and season of life to ensure that each enrollee is getting the best Bible instruction they can.

One of the areas we can grow most as a church is in the area of younger families and children. Studies have shown that younger people are more likely to invite their friends to church on average. One of the main issues plaguing our society at large, however, is the epidemic of shattered families. More people are divorced than ever before, and many young families are ignoring marriage altogether. There are more single parents than ever before, and especially single moms. What kind of ministry can we offer them? Once again, the Life Groups are the perfect opportunity for this. It is the one time during the week that we can guarantee there will be childcare offered for these often struggling parents, and they can be plugged into a relevant group to gain new friends, grow in their relationship with Christ, and even come to know Him if they have not done so already.

As we move into the summer, we are going to focus with more fervor on revitalizing our Life Group ministry. One thing we want to do as part of this is be open to the starting of brand new groups. I urge you to pray about God's calling to a position teaching or leading a Life Group this year for a demographic that we have not typically served. If God would call you to this exciting ministry, do not hesitate to answer Him!



WOMEN ON MISSION & LIBRARY

A big thank you to Melissa Pollard who gave a very informative and heart felt presentation explaining the five ministries under the umbrella of Baptist Children's Home and Family Services. Yes, we Illinois Baptist are blessed to assist in these ministries through our giving to the Mother's Day Offering which we just completed.

Also, thanks to all who donate monthly to our Salem Ministerial Food Pantry and our Operation Christmas Child emphasis.

The month of June will be our emphasis on the Salem Pregnancy Care Clinic. The empty baby bottles will be given out on the first Sunday of June. The bottles are to be returned by the end of June with our donations of change or checks.

There will be no meetings held in the month of June and July.

Blessings,
Karen



LIBRARY *news*

The newest addition to our library is a most exciting one and is highly recommended by Pastor Andy. Dr Jeremiah Johnston is the author of [The Jesus Discoveries](#) which explains ten historic finds that bring us face-to-face with Jesus.

Jesus is not legend. He is Lord and the archaeological record bears this out. This eye-opening, faith-fortifying book from acclaimed New Testament scholar and pastor Johnston shares ten of the most compelling historic finds that affirm the Biblical account regarding who Jesus said He was, when and where He lived, His claims and aims, how His life ended, and how that wasn't the end of His story. The burial cloth of Jesus known as the Shroud of Turin, the bone box of James, the brother of Jesus, ancient graffiti depicting the crucifixion, and more are discussed in this captivating book.

I will leave it on the table just inside the library door because I know someone will want to grab it up! Just don't forget to sign the card to leave in the box.

Blessings,
Dina

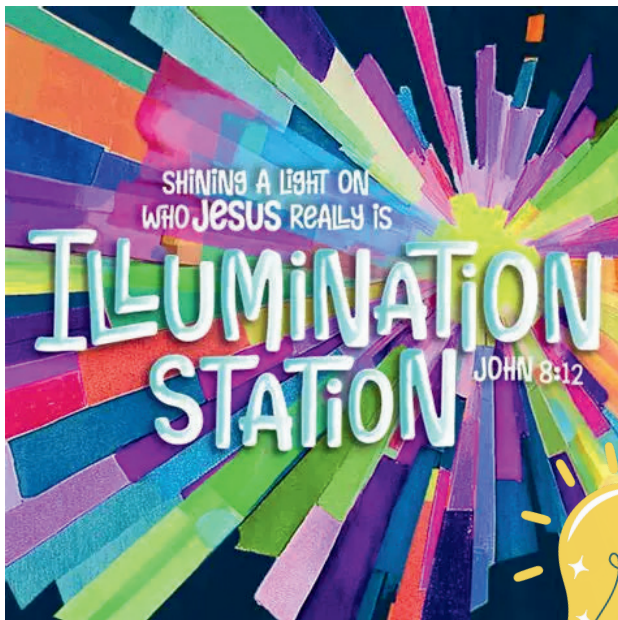


TRUSTEES' REPORT

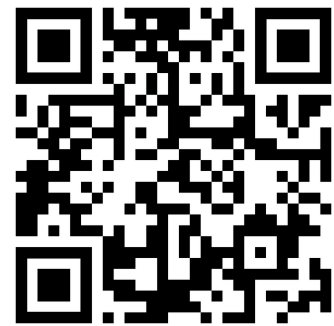
During the month of May, the trustees had two new LED lights installed in the berms in front of the church. Through an Ameren Incentive program, Top Electric was able to replace the old sodium bulbs with LED bulbs. This should be a savings on our electric bill, after we pay our part for the installation, of course. Sodium bulbs are expensive when they are replaced. Through the incentive program, Ameren paid \$281.50 while the church paid \$117.40. A water bladder in the basement which serves the first floor HVAC unit had developed a leak and was replaced. A thank you goes to Kevin Cantrell for donating his labor to install the new water bladder. Two new outside foyer doors at the office entrance have been installed. They are stronger doors than those that were replaced. Additional security will be installed on these doors during the Security Grant Program. The trustees have accepted a bid to have a tree by the playground removed. The trustees installed a lock on a custodian's supply closet door. A bid has also been granted to paint the three outside wood double doors and the exterior metal door in the southwest sanctuary foyer, and a griddle has been purchased for the kitchen.

One bid has been received for the Grant Program concerning the church's new security system. Two other bids are pending. The trustees will keep you up-to-date on the progress being made.

Dallas Bundy
Chairman of the Trustees



VBS 2026
Register Online Now!



JULY 6 -9

Date	Greeter	On Call	Security
07	Tom Reed	Greg Strother	Gary Watson
14	Ronnie Donoho	Steve Smith	Dale Helpingstine
21	Rick Meador	Gerald Purcell	Dallas Bundy
28	Steve Smith	Rick Meador	Mike Pugh



Children's
CHURCH!


Date	Teacher	Assistant
07	Melissa Spenner	Deric Rice
14	Susan Wieldt	Debbie Pugh
21	Melissa Spenner	Lesa Morris
28	Annette Hardcastle	Connie Seymour

NURSERY
VOLUNTEERS

Date	Worship #1	Worship #2
07	Paula Strother	Janet Smith
14	Barb Helpingstine	Sheri Peradotti
21	Annette Hardcastle	Nancy Stallard
28	Wheat Collier	Susan Salliotte



Date	Volunteer	Pianist
07	Ken Smith	Kathy King
14	Mike & Angela Brooks	Lynette Wiedle
21	Christopher Spenner	Judy Bundy
28	Ken Smith	Lynette Wiedle

 <p><i>Nursing Home</i> MINISTRY</p>	<p><i>Centralia Manor - 1910 E. McCord St.</i> <i>Faye Wood #206</i></p>
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DEACON'S MINISTRY

PLANT THE SEED!

It doesn't seem possible! Schools out for the summer, ballgames are starting, swimming pools are opening, Vacation Bible School, family vacations, picnics, etc.. How time flies!

No matter where you go you can still be missionaries and spread the gospel and relate to how God is in your life. You can also show it by your actions, how you live your life. Let the light shine in you and how you have the Spirit of our most precious Lord and Savior lives in your life.

Even if you have doubts, if your witnessing has help anyone to want to know more about our Lord and Savior, remember you have planted the seed and pray that the seed takes root and grows. No matter what time of year, you can plant God's seed.

Spend time in prayer thanking God for His work in your life, in you families life's, in your church and in our world. All people are made in the image of God, ones whom Christ died for and we should embrace the privilege and opportunity to introduce them to our Lord.. **"Plant the seed!"**

In God's Love,
Ronnie Donoho
Deacon Chairman



JOIN US FOR TWO FREE SHOWINGS!

Wednesday, July 1st @ 7:00PM - Salem
Theater

Thursday, July 2nd @ 7:00PM - Salem First
Baptist Church

For more information : 618-548-4060

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



Your kind and thoughtful expressions of sympathy is deeply appreciated and gratefully acknowledged

*The Family of Dorothy
"Dottie"
Helpingstine*

FAYE WOOD TURNS 102 ON JUNE 12TH

*Let's shower her with birthday cards.
You can bring them into the office by June 10th
and they will be delivered to her*



*Happy 45th Anniversary
to Mike & Joann Holzhausen
June 26th*

Thank you so much for the generous gifts, diapers, and wipes you blessed our family with as we we welcomed baby Ty, These past few weeks have been such a special (and busy!) time, and your kindness, love, and support mean more to us than we can put into words. We are so grateful to be part of such a caring church family. Ty is already so loved.

Love, The Savage's



JUNE

2026

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

	01	02	03 5:30PM Youth 6:00PM Adult Bible Study Mission Kids Praise Team	04 9AM/6PM Ruth/Precept	05	06 10-2PM Family Day in the Park
07 5PM Life Group Mtg. 7PM Business Mtg.	08	09	10 5:30PM Youth 6:00PM Adult Bible Study Mission Kids Praise Team 7PM Deacon Mtg	11 9AM/6PM Ruth/Precept	12	13
14	15	16	17 5:30PM Youth 6:00PM Adult Bible Study Mission Kids Praise Team	18 9AM/6PM Ruth/Precept Throwback Thursday 6-8PM	19	20
21 	22	23	24 5:30PM Youth 6:00PM Adult Bible Study Mission Kids Praise Team	25	26	27
28	29	30	<i>“Being the Church in Salem and Beyond”</i>			

Lyle Beckett	June 01
Bonnie Hosey	June 01
Kristen McMahill	June 01
Jonathan Stallard	June 05
David Hilton	June 06
Doris Powell	June 06
Reed Thompson	June 06
Bill Dennis	June 12
Faye Wood	June 12
Matthew Carrigan	June 14



Nathalee Shults	June 17
Shade Woodward	June 17
Daniel Meador	June 18
Linda Thompson	June 18
Michael Brooks	June 19
Beryl Jett	June 21
Kristina Bundy	June 27
Anthony Purcell	June 29
Bob Ward	June 29



SALEM

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Our Vision:

"Being the Church in Salem and Beyond"

Sunday

8:30 ~9:20AM

Cafe' Agape

9:30AM

Life Groups for all ages

10:45AM

Morning Worship

5~7:00PM

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 Yourth Bible Study

6:00PM Adult Bible Study

Mission Journey Kids

Praise Team Rehearsal