

SFBC FAMILY NEWS

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—HAPPY—
MOTHER'S
Day

*Honor her for all that her hands have done,
and let her works bring her praise.*

PROVERBS 31:31 (NIV)

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PASTOR DR. ANDY DEWITT

Dear Church Family,

There are so many advantages that we have that those who came before us did not enjoy. For example, consider the advent of drive-through restaurants. Not that many years ago, a family would return home from church only for the woman of the house to walk to the kitchen and begin preparing dinner. So, it took a while for dinner to be ready to serve. And, of course, after dinner there was the mess. Today, with a short wait at a drive-through window, a family can get their food, go home, eat it while watching TV and clean-up is a snap—just throw the stuff in the trash.

We are addicted to “fast” these days. We have microwave ovens that heat and cook rapidly. We have foods that only need to be warmed up. We can do our banking from a home computer. The list of modern conveniences can go on and on.

There was, however, something that those of yesteryear understood and we may not. When it comes to spiritual growth, “fast” is the wrong concept. Spiritual growth takes time—even a lifetime. Many Christians of the past would devote large chunks of their time to get to know God better and learn what a follower of the Lord Jesus (a disciple) was to become and do. This process cannot be hurried. Perhaps this is why there seems to be so few devoted disciples these days. A weed grows rapidly; an oak tree takes years.

Although the focus of the following story is not only time, it does help those who read it consider why discipleship (i.e. following Jesus) is so important and how it should be done.

After a distinguished performing career, virtuoso violinist Jascha Heifetz accepted an appointment as professor of music at UCLA. Asked what had prompted his change of career, Heifetz replied: “Violin playing is a perishable art. It must be passed on as a personal skill; otherwise, it is lost.”

We need to listen to this great musician. Living the Christian life is a highly personal experience. We can’t pull it off merely by watching skilled veterans “perform.” We need hands-on instruction (Today in the Word, February 8, 1997, p. 15).

“Hands on instruction” is imperative if we are going to follow the Lord Jesus faithfully. As a great violinist does not develop his skill overnight, Christians do not become mature disciples in a short time. It is time, dedication and effort. How does the Lord want you to proceed? By spending daily time in the Bible and prayer? By enrolling in Bible Study? By volunteering in a ministry? Or, perhaps there is something else. God wants us to become more like our Lord Jesus—this takes time.

God bless you all and may the coming summer be your best summer yet.

In His Grace,
Andy

ASSOCIATE PASTOR CHRISTOPHER SPENNER

We live in an era where the family is unquestionably under attack. As we prepare to celebrate Mother's Day and Father's Day, we have to accept the reality that many of the children we interact with these days do not have both a regular mother and father figure in their homes. The point of this article is not to point out something you already know, but to shed light on what the church can do in response to this.

Childhood as a concept has been completely rewired. I recently heard someone say that kids today are being overparented in the real world and underparented online. What he meant was that children are restricted from playing outside without supervision (often with good reason) and online are completely exposed and unrestricted. This means that kids are finding out about things and learning things far earlier than they have in other time periods. They are also exposed unfiltered to the addictive nature of the internet.

Internet addiction is not just a problem for some people. It is the basis of how modern apps and sites are designed to work. Professionals have been employed to ensure that psychologically all you want to do is keep scrolling, tapping, or whatever other function the app or website has. Disciplined adults can use these tools responsibly and not become dependent on them. Children are not as good at managing their minds in this way.

So what is the point of saying all this? Our church is in a unique period of time right now. Many are unsure of what we can do to reach the next generation. In reality we should be asking how we can help those who are coming next and offer them what they cannot get anywhere else. In 1 Timothy 5:1-2, Paul tells Timothy, "Do not sharply rebuke an older man, but rather appeal to him as a father, and to the younger men as brothers, to the older women as mothers, and to the younger women as sisters, in all purity." The idea here is that Timothy is to treat the people in his church as family, especially when correcting them.

We have the opportunity today to be a family to those who come from broken homes and broken families. We should never lose an opportunity to speak to those older and younger than us and to learn from them. We should do this in love and kindness, treating the other members of our church as the family that God says they are.

WOMEN ON MISSION & LIBRARY

Our April meeting began with a delicious breakfast. Our special guest, Aleena shared her testimony. She shared how during her times of abuse and bad choices she always knew that God had been there for her. Her sharing made the group more aware of the abuse that is going on in our backyard.

We are thankful that many from our church family are volunteering at the Salem Ministerial Alliance Food Pantry. Our next day to serve is Monday, May 11th. Our team is to be there at times between 12-5:30PM. We usually split that time up between our volunteers. Food items that we can donate for May are Pasta, sauce, and spices. A grocery cart is provided in our main hallway for those items.

Our next special offering emphasis will be the Mother's Day Offering. A special guest speaker, Melissa Pollard will be sharing of some of the ministries provided through our Carmi Children's Home.

Come join our Women On Mission on Monday May 4th at 9:30 in the Fellowship Hall.

Blessings,
Karen



Library NEWS

Complete the Quote...

1. "MENE, MENE ,..."
2. "Cast thy bread upon the waters ..."
3. I am the bread of life; he that cometh to me shall never hunger, ..."
4. If thy enemy hunger, _____; if he thirst, _____."
5. "O Death, where is thy sting? ..."
6. "For where two or three are gathered together in My name ..."
7. "Neither do I condemn thee: ..."
8. "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and ..."
9. "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall ..."
10. "If God be for us, ..."

1. "...TEKEL UPHARSIN." (Daniel 5:25)
2. "... for thou shalt find it after many days." (Ecclesiastes 11:1)
3. "... and he that believeth on me shall never thirst." (John 6:35)
4. "...feed him"; "give him drink." (Romans 12:20)
5. "... O grave, where is thy victory?" (1 Corinthians 15:55)
6. "... there I am in the midst of them." (Matthew 18:20)
7. "... go, and sin no more." (John 8:11)
8. "... a light unto my path." (Psalm 119:105)
9. "... make you free." (John 8:32)
10. "...who can be against us?" (Roman 8:31)



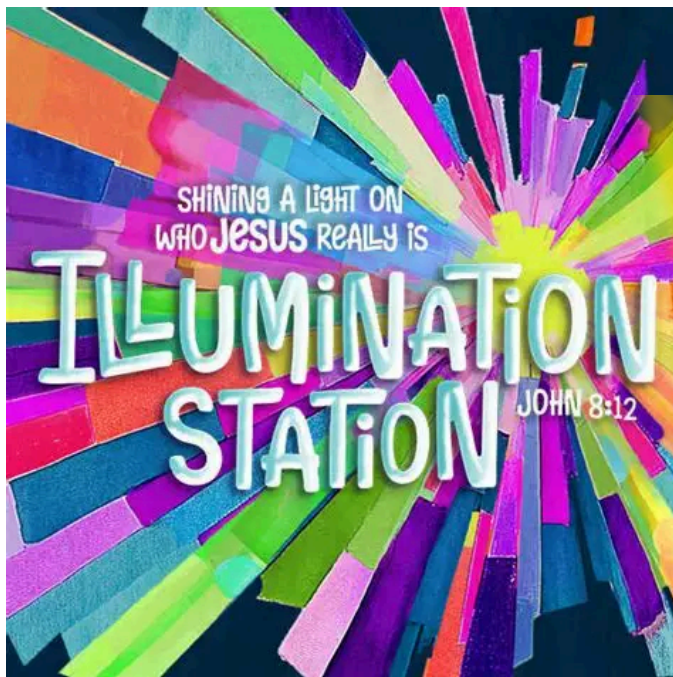
TRUSTEES' REPORT

During the month of April, the trustees were involved with the following projects. The booster circulating pump on the second floor was repaired. An old pendulum clock that had been used by the church many years ago has been repaired and is hanging on the wall in the library. Thanks to Myron Lloyd for taking care of having it repaired. Also a thank you to Dina Reed, our church librarian, for volunteering to keep it the clock wound.

A few weeks ago the HVAC system was changed from heating to cooling. A thank you to Mike Pugh and Jackson Lingenfelter for completing this project. You have possibly heard that this is not a quick changeover like your home system. The changeover includes turning "on" and "off" various switches relating to boilers and air conditioning units, uncovering room turbines, replacing drain tubes on the roof air conditioning units, drain the water in the boilers and fill the water in the outside cooling tower, removing insulation and replacing ceiling tiles with grids for air movement, and checking the air filters and changing those that need changed. There is also the yearlong process of occasionally bleeding the air out of the HVAC system and checking to see if water needs to be added.

Many ongoing projects are being addressed by the trustees. We will keep you informed when they get completed or updated.

Dallas Bundy
Chairman of the Trustees



SAVE THE DATE
VBS
JULY 6 -9

VOLUNTEER
LUNCHEON ON MAY 3RD



Date	Greeter	On Call	Security
03	Mike Pugh	Ronnie Donoho	Tom Reed
10	Steve Smith	Dale Helpingstine	Dallas Bundy
17	Rick Meador	Jon Wieldt	Gary Watson
24	Jon Wieldt	Ken Smith	Greg Strother
31	Gary Watson	Rick Meador	Mike Pugh



Children's
CHURCH!


Date	Teacher	Assistant
03	Melissa Spenner	Deric Rice
10	Susan Wieldt	Debbie Pugh
17	Melissa Spenner	Lesla Morris
24	Annette Hardcastle	Connie Seymour
31	Family	Worship

NURSERY
VOLUNTEERS

Date	Worship #1	Worship #2
03	Annette Hardcastle	Nancy Stallard
10	Wheat Collier	Melissa Spenner
17	Pat Hampton	Gary Hampton
24	Dina Reed	Susan Salliotte
31	Maggie McNeal	Reha Lloyd



Date	Volunteer	Pianist
03	Mike & Angela Brooks	Kathy King
10	Ken Smith	Lynette Wiedle
17	Ken Smith	Judy Bundy
24	Ken Smith	Lynette Wiedle
31	Karen Watson	Lynette Wiedle

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

God is always faithful. Our faith must always be in Him. Always be thankful for Christ, His Son and Savior as He gave Himself for all of us. His livelihood given on the cross. Also, please don't forget the faithfulness of the humble and sweet Holy Spirit.

Our faithfulness shows as faith in communication with God in prayer. It's a personal encounter with our heavenly Father. Are we all really needy people? Truly, this is so. But a promise in writing in God's word Phil. 4:19 says, "And my God will meet all your needs according to His riches in heaven."

Trials and temptations may come, but the Word of God are always true.

And again, sharing Paul's word in Phil. 4:8, "Finally brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable, if anything is excellent or praiseworthy, think about such things."

May we look forward to praising God in worship, bible study and prayer.

Please, if you have any prayer needs, please contact your deacon or any deacon.

In God's Love,
Ronnie Donoho
Deacon Chairman

*We want to thank all of you
for your many prayers,
comfort, and support during
this difficult time.*

*Also, thank you for the
wonderful meal you served
after the service.*

*May God Bless each and
everyone!*

The Austin Family



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

Contact: Dale Helpingstine 618-322-7123





2026

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

					01	02 AHG Mother/ Daughter Event 2PM
03 VBS Volunteer Luncheon right after worship.	04	05	06 5:30PM Youth 6PM Adult Bible Study Mission Kids Praise Team	07	08	09
10 	11 AHG/TL 5:30PM	12	13 5:30PM Youth 6PM Adult Bible Study Mission Kids Praise Team 7PM Deacon Mtg.	14	15	16
17 Lord's Supper	18	19	20 5:30PM Youth 6PM Adult Bible Study Mission Kids Praise Team	21 Throwback Thursday 6- 8PM	22	23
24 Youth VBS Prep Night	25 	26	27 5:30PM Youth 6PM Adult Bible Study Mission Kids Praise Team	28	29	30
31 Youth VBS Prep Night	<p><i>"Being the Church in Salem and Beyond"</i></p>					

Tara DeWitt May 01
 Kathy King May 02
 Aaron Watson May 02
 Blaire Longman May 04
 Wanda Keele May 07
 Mark Tabor May 07
 James Scott May 09
 Ashley Brooks May 12
 Maddox Hurley May 12
 Sawyer Cantrell May 15
 Serenity Shreve May 16
 Tina Martin May 18



Dorothy Schaubert May 18
 TJ Thompson May 18
 Sharon Campbell May 19
 Sean Collins May 19
 Johnny Powell May 21
 Bradley Oziemkiwwicz May 22
 Hope Summers May 22
 Ryder Savage May 24
 Luke Spenner May 24
 Langdon Collins May 27
 Neva Isett May 29
 Bonnie Becker May 30



SALEM

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Our Vision:

"Being the Church in Salem and Beyond"

Sunday

8:30 ~9:20AM

9:30AM

10:45AM

5~7:00PM

Cafe' Agape

Life Groups for all ages

Morning Worship

Awana

Phone: 618-548-4060

Website: Salemfbc.com

Facebook: Salem First Baptist Church



Join Us. . .

Sundays

8:30-9:20AM

in Fellowship Hall

For YouTube:



Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

9:00-4:00

Closed 12:00-1:00 for lunch

Friday 9-12

Wednesday Evening

5:30PM Yourth Bible Study

6:00PM Adult Bible Study

Mission Journey Kids

Praise Team Rehearsal