

SFBC FAMILY NEWS

Volume 47 Issue 10

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721 W Main

Salem, IL 62881

618-548-4060



*The grass withers and
the flowers fall, but
the word of our God
endures forever.*

Isaiah 40:8

forever

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PASTOR DR. ANDY DEWITT

Dear Church Family,

Finally. . .there is a chill in the air. Our unusually hot August and September are now in the rearview mirror—thankfully!

With the arrival of Fall and the changing of the seasons, I'm reminded how our lives pass through seasons, too. At the same time, I know that not every season is easy. Some are carrying burdens that others may never see. Some are waiting for answers to prayers that seem to have gone unanswered for far too long. Others are celebrating new beginnings and blessings. Wherever you find yourself today, my prayer is that you will remember that God is present with you.

So, what will the Fall bring? Quite frankly, I don't know. But what I do know is that the Lord who saved us will be with us. Remember what He promised: “. . . and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:20b). And Hebrews 13:5, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” Isaiah also includes these words from the Lord:

Declaring the end from the beginning,
And from ancient times things that are not yet done,
Saying, ‘My counsel shall stand,
And I will do all My pleasure, (Isaiah 46:10).

God knows the future as if it has already happened. He is the Great I Am, God Most High, El Shaddai (God Almighty). This is a good reminder for me personally, and perhaps for many of us. We may not know everything the coming months will bring, but we can know Who walks with us into them.

Grace and peace,
Andy



ASSOCIATE PASTOR CHRISTOPHER SPENNER

Fall has arrived along with cooler temperatures, crisp air, and colorful foliage and decorations. We are all beginning to gear up for the winter season while we enjoy the fruits of the harvest in autumn. Every year we hope for a bountiful harvest that we can enjoy throughout the winter, even if sometimes we don't think about it. With so much food easily available to us just by going to Wal-Mart, we can often forget the great effort it takes to provide the harvest of food.

In John 4 we find a familiar passage relating to harvest. However, directly before it, we find a conversation held between Jesus and a Samaritan woman. This conversation, while fruitful, was very strange for Jesus to have. As a Jew, talking to a Samaritan was outside of His societally expected role. After that, He had to talk to her openly and be willing to call her on her honest behavior. Despite this, His conversation was successful. The Samaritan woman went off and told others about Jesus.

As she brought a crowd back to hear more from Jesus, this is when He made His famous remark about the field being white for harvest. The thing we don't often talk about is how much work it is to gather the harvest at times. Jesus even explains this in verses 37-38. The disciples who were now going out to "harvest" and would see incredible conversions to the Christian faith were seeing the results of other labor that had been done. Sometimes we can feel like we never see any great results or conversions, but God may have us in someone's life to plant the seed that someone else will harvest later in life.

In a similar passage found in Matthew 9, Jesus tells His disciples to pray that the Lord of the harvest would send out workers. More than ever, we need to be a church that is working. There are so many people we have the potential to reach and it will require hard work to reach them. I will pray as Jesus did that God will raise up workers. Perhaps this season you will find that God is calling you. Will you answer?



WOMEN ON MISSION & LIBRARY

A huge thank you to those who serve faithfully each month at the Salem Ministerial Food Pantry. Salem First Baptist Church ministers in various ways to the guests who visit the pantry. September 14th was our day to serve and one of our ladies who is a NAMB Certified Chaplin shared with a young mother how to install a Bible App on her phone.

Thanks to our Women On Mission and youth who helped to prepare the empty boxes for Operation Christmas Child ministry and the boxes will be available on Sunday, October 11th and due back on Sunday, November 8th. Our annual church packing party will be on Monday, October 12th at 6:30PM.

Blessings,
Karen



Library News

Brock Thoene and his wife, Bodie, have captured eight Gold Medallion Awards (Christian Book of the Year) and have sold well over twenty million copies of their books worldwide. Over thirty-five million of their 65 titles of historical fiction are in print.

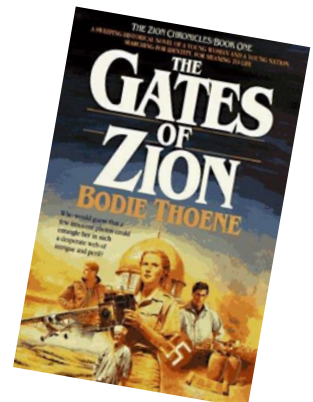
Out of the ashes of the Holocaust, a magnificent novel of indomitable courage and hope comes to life in *The Gates of Zion*. Ellie, a young American photojournalist, finds herself in the Jerusalem of 1947. She unwittingly becomes a pawn in a political chess game when she photographs some ancient scrolls.

This first book in a series of five, *The Zion Chronicles*, vividly portrays the intense struggle of the Jewish people in the aftermath of the Holocaust and the forces, within and without, which engulf the Middle East in conflict and controversy even today.

Due to such careful research, this series of books is recognized by the American Library Association as well as Zionist libraries around the world, as classic historical novels and are used to teach history in college classrooms.

I encourage you to check it out!

Happy Reading,
Dina



TRUSTEES' REPORT

During the month of September, the trustees have addressed the following projects. A broken pedestal fan has been replaced for use in the fellowship hall. The two cores have been installed in the sanctuary on the air handlers. An air conditioner has been repaired that cools the youth room area. Security Alarm will begin its work on September 30 to replace and install cameras and other equipment. This work is in relation to the \$150,000 grant given the church. Top Electric has measured an electrical panel to install two missing panels over exposed electrical wires and will install another cover over three other exposed wires in the basement. Dan's Glass of Effingham has measured the east and south double doors for replacement. After installation, these two doors will have security devices installed on them. The security devices are a part of the Grant Program. The wooden exterior doors for the sanctuary and bell tower and the west metal door are scheduled for painting. Door signs for times of worship services and office hours have been ordered and will be installed. The church vehicle has received its semi-annual inspection. The inspection certificates has been received for the boilers. We are still working with the state to receive the elevator inspection certificates.

Another item about which we have been concerned are the occasional flickering lights in the sanctuary. The trustees are addressing this problem. It is also the time of year to switch the HVAC systems from cooling to heating. This changeover involves shutting down the ten air conditioners on the roof, covering roof vents, draining the cooling tower, filling the boiler lines with water, and flipping various switches to the right positions.

Dallas Bundy
Chairman of the Trustees

Pastor Appreciation

Pastor Andy and Pastor Christopher, we appreciate you, we thank you, and we thank God for both of you!

Thank you both for answering God's call and for faithfully serving our church family. Your leadership, prayers, encouragement, compassion, and dedication means more than words can express.

Thank you for being there in times of difficulty, for sharing God's Word, and continually pointing us toward Christ. Your service is a blessing and we are grateful for the love and heart you pour into this church and its people.

May God continue to bless, strengthen, and guide you as you serve Him.

There will be Family lunch with more information to follow. Sign Up Sheet will be provided soon.



Date	Greeter	On Call	Security
04	Greg Strother	Gary Watson	Dallas Bundy
11	Mike Pugh	Myron Lloyd	Tom Reed
18	Steve Smith	Tom Reed	Dale Helpingstine
25	Greald Purcell	Greg Strother	Ronnie Donoho

Children's
CHURCH!

Date	Teacher	Assistant
04	Melissa Spenner	Deric Rice
11	Susan Wieldt	Debbie Pugh
18	Melissa Spenner	Lesa Morris
25	Annette Hardcastle	Connie Seymour

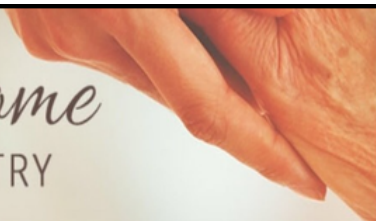
NURSERY
VOLUNTEERS

Date	Worship #1	Worship #2
04	Annette Hardcastle	Wheat Collier
11	Pat Hampton	Gary Hampton
18	Dina Reed	Janet Smith
25	Maggie McNeal	Sheri Peradotti



Date	Volunteer	Pianist
04	Karen Watson	Lynette Wiedle
11	Ken Smith	Kathy King
18	Mike & Angela Brooks	Candance & Wayne Howard
25	Christopher Spenner	Judy Bundy

Nursing Home
MINISTRY



Centralia Manor - 1910 E. McCord St.

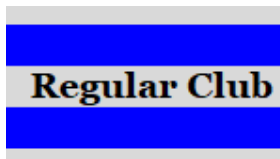
Faye Wood #206

AWANA MINISTRY



Awana has hit the ground running and we are excited! God sent 54 Clubber on our second night of Awana. We are so thrilled to see what God has in store this year!

October 4th



Pancakes and Biscuits & Gravy

October 11th



Chilli and Hot Dogs,
Apples

October 18th



Beef Ravioli, Chips, Fruit

October 25th



Macaroni & Cheese, Carrot
Sticks & Peaches

ANNOUNCEMENTS



“Trust”

This trust is a bond
Between you and me
Strengthen our love
Deep as the sea

My walk is carefree
Trust lights the way
When the shadowy darkness
Enters my day

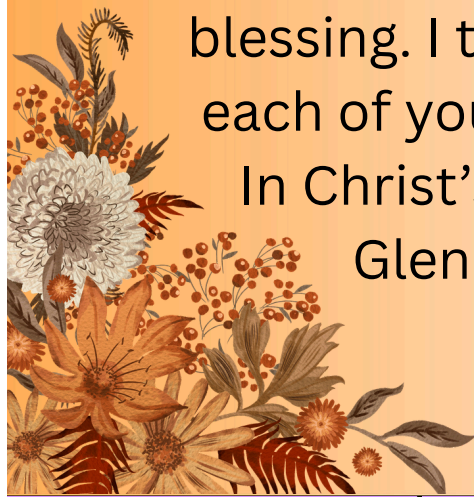
I pray for your kingdom on Earth
To be as in heaven

I walk and talk with You
Preparing for eternity
Along the path of life.

By
Bev Smith

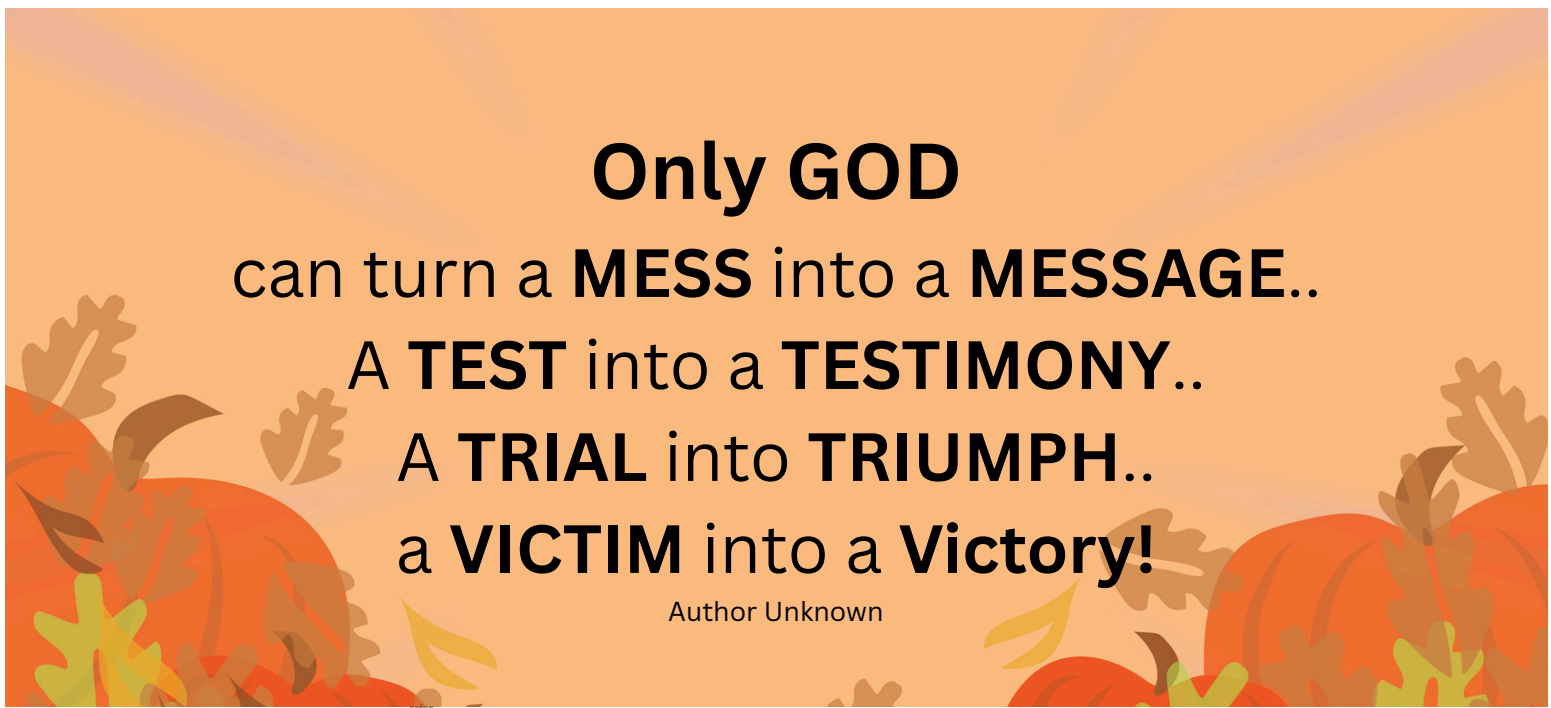


Salem First Baptist
Church Family,
What can I say but,
thank you for the
privilege of serving as
your Secretary these
past seven years. It
has truly ben a
blessing. I truly love
each of you dearly.
In Christ's Love,
Glenda



Only GOD
can turn a **MESS** into a **MESSAGE..**
A **TEST** into a **TESTIMONY..**
A **TRIAL** into **TRIUMPH..**
a **VICTIM** into a **Victory!**

Author Unknown



October 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 9 AM & 6 PM Covenant 11:30AM Fellowship Luncheon	2	3 Little Egypt Festival @ 10:00AM Parade @ 2:00PM
4 Awana 5:00PM Fire Safety 	5 6:00AM Early Prayer Meeting 9:30AM WOM	6	7 5:30PM Youth 6:00PM Adult Bible Study Mission Kids Praise Team	8 9 AM & 6 PM Covenant	9	10
11 Pastor Apreciation Day OCC. Shoe Boxes hand out Awana 5:00PM Crazy Socks 	12 12PM- 5PM Food Pantry 5:30-7:30PM AHG/TL 6:30PM Packing Party	13	14 5:30PM Youth 6:00PM Adult Bible Study Mission Kids Praise Team	15 9 AM & 6 PM Covenant	16	17 Youth Holiday World Trip Leaving @ TBD
18 Awana 5:00PM Crazy Hat Night 	19	20	21 5:30PM Youth 6:00PM Adult Bible Study Mission Kids Praise Team	22 9 AM & 6PM Covenant	23	24
25 2:00PM Budget Mtg Awana 5:00PM Wear Orange 	26 5:30-7:30PM AHG/TL	27	28 5:30PM Youth 6:00PM Adult Bible Study Mission Kids Praise Team	29 9 AM & 6 PM Covenant	30	31 Candy Handout 6:00PM- 8:00PM

Grant Reed Oct. 02
Shawn Timm Oct. 04
Jerri Chapman Oct. 06
William H. Wantland Oct. 06
Deborah Hays Oct. 09
Brenda Lingafelter Oct. 11
Mary Lou Chitwood Oct. 14
Evelyn Parker Oct. 15
Madison Moheit Oct. 17
Judy Quick Oct. 18

Happy Birthday



Joann Holzhausen Oct. 19
Brandi Albert Oct. 20
Brandon Albert Oct. 20
Sharon Woodward Oct. 22
Larry Blankenship Oct. 23
Thomas Gordon Oct. 24
Jeanna Chapman Oct. 25
Susan Salliotte Oct. 26
Samuel Hardcastle Oct. 27
Simon Hays Oct. 29
Charles Stallings Oct. 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: Salemfbcc.com

*Facebook: Salem First Baptist
Church*



Join Us. . .

Sundays

8:30-9:20AM

in Fellowship Hall

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

8:00-4:00

Closed 12:00-1:00 for lunch

For YouTube:



Wednesday Evening

5:30PM Youth Bible Study

6:00PM Adult Bible Study

Praise Team Rehearsal