



Salem Matters

Salem United Methodist Church
378 N. Pilot Knob Road, Denver, NC 28037
704-483-5055

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors
Monthly Newsletter – February 2012

New Time for Second Worship Service



New
Worship
Time

Begins February 5th.
8:30 am Traditional Service
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Blended Service



Ash Wednesday Service

February 22, 6:30 pm
Community Meal at 5:00 pm



LENT

Making Lent Personal

Lent is often a time of repenting. Think back over the past few years and consider how you have repented. It was probably a focus on words, of asking God to forgive your sins and you promising to “repent” from your ways that have been less than “Godly.” And then you might have gone right back to your regular routine after Easter.

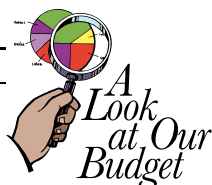
What if you took this year to make Lent a time of true repentance? As we teach the children, this word means “turning around” and is sometimes compared to the U-turn traffic sign. Studies have shown that it takes 21 days to develop a new habit or break an old one. How great that Lent gives us 40 of these days (plus a few extra days of Sundays)! Many people choose to make this a time of giving up something. But turning around is more than just giving up something. It often means giving up one thing in order to fill that space or routine or habit with something more meaningful. It is about making a real change...a change of heart...a change of mind...a change of routine...for the purpose of being filled in a way that makes us a more faithful disciple of Christ.

Salem is committed to offering support and opportunities for you to make this Lenten season one of true change for the purpose of becoming the person God is calling you to become...a more faithful disciple. In addition to the usual Bible studies, Sunday School classes, and worship, there will be special times for growth like the “Courageous” Movie Night, prayer room opportunities, and special worship times, like Ash Wednesday Worship on February 22, that can guide you on this Lenten journey. See page 13 for a “Top Ten” list of suggestions for everyone in your household to work towards making this Lenten journey one of true change.

“Touch someone - not once, but always”

GIVING REPORT SUMMARY

How our gifts have been designated year to date through 12/31/2011 vs 12/31/10



	YTD Thru 12/31/2010	YTD Thru 12/31/2011	Yr. To Yr. Difference Increase (Decrease)	
			\$	%
Offerings designated to:				
Building/Capital Improvement	\$ 38,070.00	\$ 19,753.95	\$ (18,316.05)	(48.11% Decrease)
Cemetery/Driveway	\$ 10,304.00	\$ 17,719.00	\$ 7,415.00	71.96% Increase
Missions/Misc.	\$ 18,481.14	\$ 37,731.00	\$ 19,249.86	104.16% Increase
Budget (Oper. Exp. And Ministry)	\$ 402,524.21	\$ 449,039.73	\$ 28,515.52	6.78% Increase
Total Giving	\$ 487,379.35	\$ 524,243.68	\$ 36,864.33	10.10% Increase

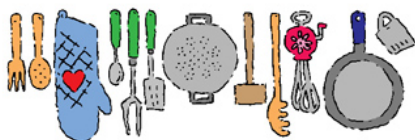
Profit and Loss at 12/31/11

Income related to the Budget	\$486,770.73
Expenses related to the Budget	\$481,789.34
<u>Ordinary Income</u>	<u>\$ 4,981.39</u>

Attendance

12-04-2011	169	12-18-2011	226
12-11-2011	200	12-25-2011	126

KITCHEN TUTORIAL



Since the last kitchen tutorial was held, I've gotten many questions that are all answered when I do a tutorial. If you are a leader of one of the dinners, you need to be there. If you are on a team that does dinners, you need to be there. If you use the kitchen for any reason, you need to be there.

There will be three tutorials held in February. The dates are February 9th @ 10:00a.m., February 16 @ 1:00p.m. and February 24 @ 3:00p.m. I've spread them out over the month and all of them are held during the week. If you work and can't get to one of these, please email me or call me and I'll be more than happy to do one on a Saturday. I'll even do a one on one if you need me to. There needs to be more than 2 or 3 people who know how to operate the equipment in the kitchen, so I'm looking forward to seeing lots of people. Come to the kitchen and learn!

~Vickie Good

edsgoodgirl@gmail.com

704-483-3839

Salem United Methodist Church

378 N. Pilot Knob Road
Denver, NC 28037

Church phone: 704-483-5055

Fax: 704-483-0778

Email: salemmethodist@bellsouth.net

Church Office Hours:

Monday 8:30am–12:30pm

Tuesday—Thursday 8:30am-3:30pm

Friday—Closed

Website: www.salem unitedmethodist.com

Webmaster: Crystal Cody (volunteer)

Salem Matters: Articles due 20th of each month

Please email newsletter articles to salemmethodist@bellsouth.net

Church Staff

Pastor: David Hobson davesalem@bellsouth.net

Dir. Christian Ed.: Jenny Reilly jennysalem@bellsouth.net

Dir. Youth Ministries: Monica Childers monicasalem@bellsouth.net

Dir. Music & Arts: Cheryl Barker cherylsalem@bellsouth.net

Organist/Pianist: Miriam Robinette robinet2@bellsouth.net

Office Admin.: Debbie Harvey salemmethodist@bellsouth.net

Financial Secretary: Joy Isenhour joysalem@bellsouth.net

S.A.M. Director: Caroline Rinehart Cardais salemsam@bellsouth.net

Facilities Manager: Ray Miller



Mark 1: 21-28

How to Make Mark's Bible Study Interesting - Talk About Its Meaning: "Authority!"

²¹They went to Capernaum; and when the Sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. ²²They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having **authority**, and not as the scribes. ²³Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." ²⁸At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Luke 4: 31- 37 (Parallel to Mark 1: 21-28) (Luke follows the story of Mark more explicitly than Matthew does)

4.31 And he went down to Caper'na-um, a city of Galilee. And he was teaching them on the sabbath; 4.32 and they were astonished at his teaching, for his word was with **authority**. 4.33 And in the synagogue there was a man who had the spirit of an unclean demon; and he cried out with a loud voice, 4.34 "Ah! What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." 4.35 But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And when the demon had thrown him down in the midst, he came out of him, having done him no harm. 4.36 And they were all amazed and said to one another, "What is this word? **For with authority and power** he commands the unclean spirits, and they come out." 4.37 And reports of him went out into every place in the surrounding region.

This passage takes the shape of a sandwich, a familiar pattern in Mark. It begins and ends with comments about Jesus' authority as a teacher (1:21-22 and 1:27-28). In between is an exorcism (1:23-26). Already this simple structure tells us a lot. We are meant to find a connection between Jesus, the teacher and Jesus, the exorcist. More than that, this is the first episode in Jesus' ministry which Mark recounts after the call of the disciples. Following the conventions of ancient writing we would expect the passage to hold important clues about what is to come. Authority is also the first main theme in the collection of controversy stories in 2:1 - 3:6, the authority to declare to people God's compassion in forgiving their sins (MK 2:10). "New" also features at the heart of that collection in the sayings about new wine and new garments (MK 2:21-22) Note: Remember...Mark is telling us: Jesus is the Son of God, with His power and authority.

In 1:21-22 the first point to note is that Jesus enters the synagogue on the Sabbath. He is at home in his own religious tradition among his own people. Mark tells us more: he teaches. So he is not only at home there; he takes on a responsibility within that tradition: he teaches. After the powerful introduction of 1:1-15, we might wonder what this Jesus is going to do. Here we have an answer: he teaches. By implication that will also be a role for the fish-workers who follow him, right through to today. It is a little odd that in so many parts of the church teaching must be defended or reawakened – sometimes desperately, when we realize how lack of teaching has created such a gap between pastors and laity. The people are amazed not that he teaches, but at the authority with which he teaches. What did they mean? Did he rant and rave? Did he shout? Was he 'so sincere', a quaint blessing bestowed on earnestness by people baffled by intensity? Was he clever with rhetoric, an adept story teller? He may have done all of those things or none of them. The context forces us to guess what Jesus must have taught. It does not get much better for chapters to come, because even in Mark 4, where we get parables, they are all about the effects of his teaching, rather than the teaching itself.

Our best guess is to look back at 1:14-15. He taught about the kingdom. Our next guess is to note the sandwich structure: it must be about forcefulness or, at least, it must have been disempowering of oppressiveness, i.e.. liberating. 'And not as the scribes' in 1:22 is an important clue. How did they teach? From Mark's gospel we would have to conclude that much of their teaching was concerned with fine points of interpretation of the Law. And from

the rest of the gospel we would have to conclude that Jesus' teaching must have focused on central themes like God's compassion. In Mark and elsewhere we find Jesus often teaching with a directness which drew on common life experience rather than derivatively by interpreting scripture.

This had the effect of shifting the power base of knowledge from the experts (in scripture, scribes) to the common people, who all knew about common life experience. It was a different way of doing theology, which democratized the process. This may have been in Mark's mind. From the perspective of the New Testament as a whole it makes a lot of sense. Mark interrupts our thought by the account of the exorcism but will lead us back to the theme – wiser – in 1:27-28. Mark doesn't mean the synagogue is a gathering place for demons and the demonic. Rather Jesus is, if you like, is claiming the space and belonging to it. (His authority) The confrontation is described simply but powerfully. The demons ask, 'What are you doing here?' It will be echoed in the words of the Gerasene demoniac in 5:7. It is desperately confrontative, because the demon recognized that Jesus could destroy its power. Jesus has that kind of Authority. 'The holy one of God' says what it means. Peter will acclaim Jesus in these terms in John 6:69. It may have no particular technical background. It certainly recalls all that was said of Jesus at his baptism and must mean something similar to 'the Son of God' which we find on the lips of other demons (3:11; 5:7; cf. also 1:34). *Through it, Jesus becomes the way of defining holiness – Jesus is true Holiness: worth remembering!*

Claiming knowledge was a power game then among demons – as it is now! Naming is supposed to allow one to control what or who is named – just watch the way names are used in interviews! The demoniac gets his Christology right! He will not be the first to think that getting the theology right is a fine way to silence Jesus. Jesus silences the demon and demands he depart. The demon does so, but not without yelling at the top of his voice. The exorcism is achieved. The demoniac has been liberated. For those of us brought up with strict scientific methods such accounts of exorcism call for more informed explanations. They feel so strange that we may want to avoid them altogether. It is then very hard to appreciate Mark who has made them so central. There are ways of slipping the awkwardness we feel. The trouble is we may end up slipping past the message of Mark. However we understand exorcisms, those reported from the ancient world or from present day cultures unlike our own, something real is happening. People are being set free. Physical contortions and hugely dramatic moments will occur in many different therapies, whether the frame of thought is demonology or modern medicine. *Care and healing are manifestations of the will of God – all of us must practice it.*

The important thing is liberation, setting people free. This is an essential component of the "good news" of God's reign. It is a demonstration of what is meant when John predicts that Jesus will baptize with the Spirit. For Mark exorcising unclean spirits is a primary function of the Holy Spirit and the key element one should recognize in what Jesus is doing (see 3:28-29 and remarkably according to Matt 12:32 even more important than getting one's Christology right!). In 1:27-28 Mark returns us to the theme of authority and teaching. Now we know that he is writing about the kind of teaching which liberates, which discerns the demonic powers which oppress people (whatever the intellectual framework used to identify them) and seeks to bring about new beginnings. We must not slide too quickly into a kind of liberation theology which then uses such exorcisms only as a symbol and sums up Jesus' or Mark's gospel as a program to combat political oppression. That is certainly an implication, although the social analysis it presupposes is a product of modern thought and not to be read back into Mark or Jesus. Their ancient social analysis used the language of apocalyptic as its sphere of discourse and rarely saw beyond it. Jesus is establishing His Kingdom, one person at a time, one town at a time, by each heart! *Jesus assumes the power and authority of the Divine nature to fulfill God's purpose – our salvation.*

Love, In Christ,

Pastor Dave

MUSIC AND ARTS MINISTRIES

Director of Music & Arts – Cheryl Barker 704-483-5055 Ext 310 or cherylsalem@bellsouth.net Cell: 704-530-5657

My Jesus I Love Thee

#172 United Methodist Hymnal

*"My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign;
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art Thou;
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.*

SIXTEEN-YEAR-OLD William Featherston of Montreal wrote this simple hymn shortly after his conversion in 1862. He died before his twenty-seventh birthday, and this is apparently the only hymn he wrote.

Young Featherston sent the poem to his aunt in Los Angeles, who then sent it to England, where it appeared in *The London Hymnbook* of 1864. Back in Boston, Massachusetts, a Baptist minister was preparing a hymnal for Baptist congregations when he saw "*My Jesus, I Love Thee*" in the British hymnal. He didn't like the music the words were set to, and he later wrote that "in a moment of inspiration, a beautiful new air sang itself to me." The simple tune he wrote perfectly complemented the simple words, and soon the hymn was being sung across America.

That composer, A. J. Gordon, had a remarkable ministry in New England. But putting music to this hymn by a teenage boy may be the accomplishment in A. J. Gordon's life that has touched the most lives of all.

"Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

1 John 4:11

What A Mighty God We Serve!

In the Music and Arts Ministries at Salem, we strive to serve a Mighty God and a Risen Savior. The gifts and talents God has given Salem will be used for his glory, no matter what! We can try to hide from it, look in a different direction of it, walk around it, climb over it, but, God has made us for a purpose. It doesn't cost anything to participate, materials are provided, gifts are shared, and friends are made. Any ministry at Salem UMC would love to have you. Find your place, and find *new excitement in Christ!*

S.P.A.R.K.

Music for kids is part of the Wednesdays Night Ministries beginning at 6:30pm.

MESSENGERS OF JOY

Adult Sanctuary Choir

Rehearsal 7:00pm - 8:30pm Wed.
Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

HIMS OF PRAISE

Men's Choir

Rehearsal 5:30pm - 6:30pm Wed.
Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

NEW CREATION

Praise Band

Rehearsal 12:15pm - 1:30 m Sun.
Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

YOUTH PRAISE BAND

Vocalists and Instrumentalists

Auditions Feb 11 & 19th
3pm-4pm Salem UMC Sanctuary

Praise
Band

Hey! Check out the exciting news about the new **YOUTH PRAISE BAND** found on the Youth Page of *this* newsletter!!

2012

Music & Arts Opportunities

February 12th 6-9 – "That's Amore Night" for everyone!

Spaghetti Supper and Entertainment – If you have a gift of music that you would like to perform in the way of love songs, please let Cheryl know. **TICKET PRICE HAS CHANGED!!** are \$8 Adults and \$4 for Children 12 and under. All proceeds go to Youth Missions.

April – Holy Week – 6th Good Friday Service "Tenebrae"

You are invited to join the Messengers of Joy in presenting the Tenebrae Service in music. Information available from the Messengers of Joy if you would like to join us.

April – Holy Week – 8th Easter Sunday Services

We will present our Easter Cantata during the 11:00 worship. You are invited to join us in singing. Information available from members of the Music and Arts.



"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Adult Ministries.....

Bible Study Opportunities

- **Study With Pastor Dave**

Sundays at 5:45 and Wednesdays at 6:30 in Room 13.

We are studying the *Gospel of Mark* and are always open to those wanting to know more about the word of God.



- **Young with the Restless**

Wednesdays at 6:30 in Room 9. This group is studying *Heaven is for Real*.

- **Tuesday Night Study – 7:00 pm**

This group meets in the home of Lorinda Schwartz and is studying James Moore's *I Hear Voices...and That's a Good Thing!* Contact Elinor Heermans at 704-840-8080.

Women's Conference

Stepping in, Stepping Up, Stepping Out!

February 24-25, Grace Covenant Church

Interested in a weekend conference close to home, easier to work into your busy schedule, will start your new year off with a spiritual boost, will satisfy your need to fellowship with your sisters in Christ, offers charismatic speakers and very practical classes to strengthen your spiritual walk, yet inexpensive? This may just be the conference for you!

Registration: \$35 through Feb. 5th, then \$45
\$10.00 box lunch option

Register online at gracecovenantfamily.org or print registration form from web site and mail it to Grace Covenant Church. Contact Lori Rapp (704/827-3371 or email to Lorirapp@bellsouth.net) if you have questions or to discuss carpool and sitting with the group.

Prayer Shawls

Please contact the church office if you know of someone who needs a prayer shawl. We have some beautiful shawls made by loving members of our congregation and want these to be shared with those who need our prayers and support.

Do you knit or crochet? We are always in need of new prayer shawls as we continue to offer this ministry. Please bring your completed shawl by the church office with your name attached. Thank you for making this a beautiful ministry to the world.

....& More

Salem Trip to Historic Salisbury

February 7, 8:30 am – 5:00 pm

Spend the day in a place full of history, art, shops, and more. We will visit the **Waterworks Visual Arts Center** for the "Art of Faiths" exhibit which includes Robert Doares' 54 paintings and works from two other artists who receive inspiration from God's word. Shopping, lunch, learning about the history of this town, touring the local sights, and fellowship are some of the options as you set your own pace and schedule. In addition to lunch on your own and shopping money, the cost will be no more than \$20 per person to cover the expense of a bus if one is needed. (Museum and art trails are free) Sign up as soon as possible in the Mission Hall or by calling the church office or send a message to jennysalem@bellsouth.net.



A 72-hour experience designed to help you grow in your faith with other Christians seeking to find a closer walk with the Lord, these walks fill up very quickly, so make plans now to attend. Emmaus brochures are available outside Jenny's office and in the narthex. For more information, contact Jerry Ennis at 704-483-5696.

Men's Walks

March 8-11

April 12-15

Women's Walks

March 15-18

April 19-22



Thursdays at 6:30 pm in Room 4. Please share this ministry with those you know who have lost a loved one and could benefit from this group and study of support. For more information contact Debbie Homce or Judy Holmes.

Getting Fit @ Salem

- **Faith, Fellowship and Fitness**

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 pm

- **Morning Fit Club**

Thursdays at 9:30 am



Kids Korner

Igniting a SPARK in Children's Ministries



Wednesday SPARK @ 6:30 pm

February Calendar

1st – **P**arting Power – There are many examples of God's power in the Bible. The story of the Parting of the Red Sea is one that also teaches us about trusting God today.

8th – **A**ll Together Game Night – For parents, kids, and anyone else who wants to join the fun. Bring your favorite game and be ready to play!

15th – **R**adical Explosions – We all get angry at one time or another and the Bible tells us that Jesus did too. Some "explosions" will help us discuss how dealing with anger can be tough if we do not know how to let it go safely and with respect.

22nd – No SPARK – Ash Wednesday Service

29th – **K**ettle of **K**indness -We will learn how **K**ing David showed **K**indness and how we can do the same.

Vacation Bible School

June 24-27

Go now! Mark your calendars! Right now! Do not let anything else interfere with you being part of this awesome time!!! The Salem kids have asked for it, and so it shall be! The biggest and best VBS experience this place has ever seen! With a new concept that will allow our older children to help lead as well as prepare all children to take God's word out into the community and the world, our VBS will only be all God calls it to be with your participation.

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What is the theme? What will we do? How can we serve? Look for all details in the next newsletter and on the board in the children's hall.

WINTER WARM UP

A Special Thanks to those who joined in this ministry with donations, helping hands that set-up, prepped, helped the children at the stations and cleaned up, and to the children who came out to make items and lift up prayers for others. It was a great time and we know God will "warmly" bless those who receive these items.

NEW!!! Tweens & Teens Singing & More Group



A new group has begun and plans are in place for those who like to sing and for those who would rather be involved in visual aspects of worship like setting an altar, banners, cardboard or stick ministry and much more. See Crystal Cody or Jenny Reilly for more details and for our upcoming practice schedule.

God's BIG Backyard Preschool Day Camp

Begins June 26!

Back by popular demand, our summer preschool camp will be offered for six weeks. Registration begins February 15. Spread the word about this wonderful ministry.



Family Idea for February



It's Leap Year! With an "extra" day in mind, do something extra this month. Be creative, have fun, and let Jenny know what you did! Here are some ideas to get you thinking...

- On your next grocery run, buy an extra can of food to donate to the Backpack ministry.
- Set an extra place for dinner and invite someone who may not have family close by.
- Buy an extra valentine card to send to one of our college students.
- Bring an extra friend to SPARK or Sunday School or worship.
- Take an extra step to help someone who needs a hand (like a teacher or parent or neighbor)
- Give an extra hour at the church to help clean toys, straighten the craft closet, do some organizing for a staff member, and more.
- Make family game night special by inviting an extra family to join the fun.

Looking Ahead...



Look for more information about Marchmellow Day Date (TBA) and our annual Easter Event that will be held on March 31.



FEBRUARY YOUTH CALENDAR



Wired Senior High
Wednesdays 6:30pm-7:30 pm

The Senior High will continue their study on “Evange Phobia” and “Reach Out” to discover why youth fear telling others about their faith and overcome the “Freak Out” of sharing their faith with others.

- Feb. 1st**- Dunamis: Dynamite
- Feb. 8th**- Just Ask
- Feb. 15th**- Sharing your Faith
- Feb. 22nd**- **Ash Wednesday Service**
- Feb. 29th**- Leap Year Party, Master the Basics

Plugged In
Sunday 10:00am -10:45 am

Feb. 5th – Feb. 26th

I invite all the youth to join the fellowship becoming plugged in as the youth explore and study the Minor Prophets. Learning:
Who are the Minor Prophets? What did they do?
How did God use them in the Old Testament?

Surge
Sunday 5:30pm -7:00 pm

- Feb. 5th** – Super Bowl Gathering hosted by the O’Brien family.
- Feb. 12th** – **Amore’ Night** – Youth will be serving
- Feb. 19th** – Bring your questions as we will “Grill the Pastor”
- Feb 26th** – **Church wide Cover dish Dinner and Movie night with “Courageous”**



Wired Middle School
Wednesdays 6:30pm-7:30 pm

Middle school youth will embrace God’s love by making valentines for others and learning more about God’s love story to his creation, the Bible.

- Feb. 1st**- Make Valentines
- Feb. 8th**- Make Valentines
- Feb. 15th**- Authors of the Bible
- Feb. 22nd**- **Ash Wednesday Service**
- Feb. 29th**- Leap year Party/ Signs that God loves us.



Community Dinner

The youth are signed up to prepare and serve the community meal on **Feb. 29th**. We will be serving Lasagna, salad, garlic bread and dessert. I will pick up all the food; however I need 10 volunteers to help with preparation, cooking, set-up and clean up. Please let me know who will be available to help. All volunteers for food prep and set up are asked to be at the church by 3:30. Proceeds from the meal will go toward the 2012 mission trips. Please encourage your youth to show their support and love for their fellow brothers in sisters at Salem by serving.





Free Family Movie Night
Sunday, February 26th 6:00pm
Salem United Methodist Church
Covered dish dinner before the movie from 5:00-6:00

HONOR BEGINS AT HOME

“But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord” Joshua 24:15 (NIV)



Salem is proud to announce they are starting a youth praise band. The goal of the praise band is to live out the vision of being the spirit of Jesus alive in the world by expanding youth praise on Sunday nights offering the love of Christ through music and a time of response.

Positions needed: lead guitar, bass guitar, drummer, and lead female vocalist.

Other positions available: wind, string, or percussion instruments.

Bring your own instruments and music selections for the audition

If instruments are needed for audition, please contact Nick Glenn or Cheryl Barker

We hope that everyone will come out and audition.



In each issue of our newsletter and on our Prayer cards, there are names of those serving in the military who are connected to members of our Salem family. Throughout this year, the United Methodist Women would like to invite you to help provide "care packages" for them.

These first items are more useful than fun, but the inclusion of at least a few of them will be appreciated because they can be hard to find. Deodorant is always considered a prize possession; not

antiperspirant, because soldiers stationed in warmer climates need to perspire. Extra-strength foot powder and antifungal foot spray are particularly useful to those who are unable to take their boots off for several days at a time. Disposable spinning toothbrushes, ultimate care or extra protection toothpaste and dental floss are always a welcome addition to a care package, as are cotton swabs, shampoo and soap or body wash. Individually wrapped antibacterial hand wipes are also useful for keeping clean in situations where water is limited.

Almost every care package includes a few snacks. Keep the weather in mind when you're packing things and remember that refrigeration isn't always available and mail delivery in other countries isn't always as reliable as it is in the United States. Edibles that travel well include: individually wrapped cookies, boxes of granola bars, Rice Krispie treats, gum, mints, nuts, snack mix, cans of mini Pringles, coffee, powdered Gatorade, beef jerky, macaroni and cheese, instant hot chocolate or cappuccino mix, and tubes of peanut butter. If you plan a bit ahead of time, you can create a seasonal themed snack pack filled with Halloween, Christmas, Valentine's or Easter treats.

Days off, or "down time," can really drag if there's nothing to do. To help alleviate the boredom, include a few of these fun items: disposable cameras, playing cards, dice, travel versions of popular board games, dominoes, handheld electronic games, hacky sacks, flexible Frisbees, paperback books, magazines, word puzzle books, Sudoku puzzles, DVDs, music CDs, and poker chips. Don't forget to include a package of pencils or pens if you're sending puzzle books. An international calling card is a particularly nice finishing touch as it will allow soldiers to have access to the one thing they really want--their loved ones back home.

Of course, we're still collecting for Amy's House – toiletries, cleaning and baby supplies, etc. and the item for East Lincoln Christian Ministries for this month is tomato soup. Bins for all collections are in the Mission Hall. And don't forget our Backpack ministry!

*****Scott Fowler's** new Young Adult novel, *Lost on the Road to Nowhere*, has been recommended for inclusion in the *United Methodist Women's Reading Program* for 2013. I think this book will become a Christmas Classic! It's available from Scott and I'll bet he will autograph it for you! See additional details on page 11.



Our Circle met on January 16 at Kim Riley's home. Following our unison reading of the UMW Purpose, we were reminded of the prayer breakfast on January 21 at Tuckers Grove. Toni Griffin's funeral service is also that day and those assisting with the post funeral meal designated what they would be providing.

An altar guild is forming that will require 24 people to form 2 person teams. Each team will serve for one month preparing the sanctuary for Sunday services. Those who have volunteered will receive a list of their duties. It was decided that we will form teams to visit our shut-ins. Sue Murdock will devise a visitation plan for those who have volunteered. Frances Mundy gave the program on Love.



Circle of Friends will meet on February 20th at 10:00 am in Room 13.



Tabitha's Hands Circle

Tabitha's Hands Circle will meet Wednesday, February 15th, 5:00 pm, during the Wednesday evening supper.



The Helping Hands Circle will meet on February 20th at the home of June McIntyre.

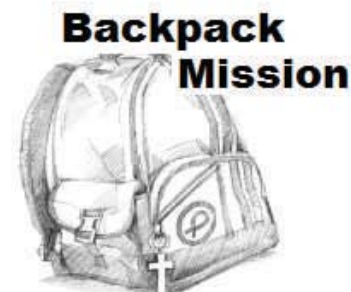
Food Backpack Mission:

Thank you everyone that has contributed to the Food Backpack Mission with food and/or money. We are blessed to be able to provide food backpacks to 14 children at Pumpkin Center Primary (7) and Pumpkin Center Intermediate (7) Schools. These children really benefit from your gracious donations.

We have 17 more weeks of the 2011/2012 school year. You can continue to help this great mission by making a donation via an offering envelope and write in Food Backpack Mission. Or you may place food items in the green bin in the mission hall for the Food Backpack Mission.

We are low on Peanut Butter and Jelly (plastic jars). These items will go home with the children Feb. 17 because the children are out of school Feb. 20.

Thank you! If you have questions about the Food Backpack Mission, please check with a Circle of Friends member or Anita Clark (anita5110@yahoo.com or 704-483-5110).



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Upcoming Women's Conference

Interested in a weekend conference close to home...easier to work into your busy schedule....will start your new year off with a spiritual boost.... will satisfy your need to fellowship with your sisters in Christ....offers charismatic speakers and very practical classes to strengthen your spiritual walk....yet inexpensive? Look no further, this may just be the conference for you! Perfect for teenagers, our senior friends and everyone in between

Where: Grace Covenant Church, Cornelius

When: Friday, Feb. 24th 7-9 (registration starts at 6:00)
Saturday, Feb. 25th 9-3

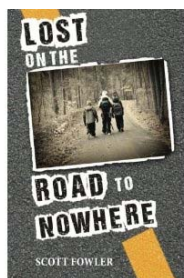
Conference Title: "Stepping In, Stepping Up, Stepping Out!"

Registration: \$35.00 through Feb. 5th
\$45.00 after Feb 5th
\$10.00 box lunch option

~~~~~Registration opened Jan. 1, 2012~~~~~ (so don't delay your registration)

-You may find more info on line and register at [gracecovenantfamily.org](http://gracecovenantfamily.org) or print registration from web site, then mail to Grace Covenant Church. There will also be some registration forms in the mission hall. If you're interest in carpooling and/or sitting with our group, or have questions, email [Lorirapp@bellsouth.net](mailto:Lorirapp@bellsouth.net), 704-827-3371.

Several of us have attended in the past. We have 10 who are interested already-come and join us.



Salem Methodist member and writer Scott Fowler has published his first novel for kids -- "Lost on the Road to Nowhere." The chapter book is a fast-paced adventure story with Christian overtones and is geared mostly toward children ages 8-14. Scott and Elise's four children are characters in the book but are cast into a fictional situation where they are stranded deep in the woods in wintertime after a car accident.

Copies of the book can be purchased at Amazon.com for \$7.99 or directly from Scott for \$7.00 apiece to be delivered at church (you can email him at

[scottfowlerbooks@aol.com](mailto:scottfowlerbooks@aol.com)). **All proceeds from any copies of the book that church members buy directly from Scott will go toward the Salem youth's 2012 mission trips.**

**Salem United Methodist Church  
2012 Operating Budget**

| Account                                                  | Description                        | 2012 Budget          |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 100                                                      | Staff                              | \$ 297,668.00        |
| 200                                                      | Apportionments                     | \$ 38,103.00         |
| 300                                                      | Worship                            | \$ 864.00            |
| 305                                                      | Congregational Care                | \$ 1,440.00          |
| 310                                                      | Evangelism                         | \$ 2,160.00          |
| 320                                                      | Education                          | \$ 6,984.00          |
| 330                                                      | Family Ministries                  | \$ 1,368.00          |
| 335                                                      | Adult Ministries                   | \$ 1,317.00          |
| 340                                                      | Children's Ministries              | \$ 3,960.00          |
| 350                                                      | Youth Ministries                   | \$ 10,857.00         |
| 360                                                      | Safe Sanctuaries                   | \$ 288.00            |
| 370                                                      | Mission Outreach                   | \$ 4,572.00          |
| 380                                                      | Music & Arts                       | \$ 8,023.00          |
| 400                                                      | Child Care                         | \$ 576.00            |
| 500                                                      | Bldgs/Grounds/Maint.               | \$ 80,600.00         |
| 590                                                      | Finance Committee                  | \$ 1,656.00          |
| 600                                                      | Office Expenses                    | \$ 16,450.00         |
| 660                                                      | Communications/P.R.                | \$ 1,440.00          |
| 680                                                      | Long Range Planning                | \$ 1,080.00          |
| 700                                                      | Miscellaneous                      | \$ 1,080.00          |
| 800                                                      | Recreation                         | \$ 720.00            |
| <b>Total Operating Expense &amp; and Ministry Budget</b> |                                    | <b>\$ 481,206.00</b> |
| 900                                                      | <b>Capital Improvements Budget</b> | <b>\$ 112,500.00</b> |

**Salem United Methodist Church  
Church Council Members – 2012**

|                                   |                                                |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Lay Leader: Co-Lay Leaders        | Jerry Ennis,<br>Ernie Estep                    |
| Lay Delegate to Conference        | Barb Lauro                                     |
| Reserve Lay Delegate              | Joe Thomas                                     |
| Church Council Chair              | Joe Thomas                                     |
| Church Council Vice-Chair         | Charlie Nartker                                |
| Secretary of Church Council       | Sandy Race,<br>Beth O'Brien                    |
| Child Care Coordinator            | Tracy Zilker                                   |
| Children's Ministries Coordinator | Mandy Hilton                                   |
| Youth Ministries Coordinator      | Teresa Watkins                                 |
| Family Ministries Coordinators    | Phil & Wendi Riddle                            |
| Adult Ministries Coordinator      | Dan McIntyre                                   |
| Evangelism Chair                  | Debbie Homce                                   |
| Congregational Care Co-Chairs     | Judy Broussard,<br>Sara Froneberger            |
| Finance Chair                     | Janice Rankin                                  |
| Financial Secretary               | Joy Isenhour                                   |
| Church Co-Treasurers              | Steve Froneberger,<br>Connie Nartker           |
| Long Range Planning Chair         | Richard Bisanar                                |
| Missions/Outreach Co-Chairs       | Barb Lauro,<br>Sandy Race                      |
| Staff Parish Chair                | Terry Pressley                                 |
| Trustees Chair                    | Harold Cook                                    |
| Worship Chair                     | Joe Thomas                                     |
| UMM President                     | Ed Good                                        |
| UMW President                     | Nancy Luckey                                   |
| Membership Secretary              | Debbie Harvey                                  |
| Communications Coordinators       | Scott Fowler,<br>Diane Keeney                  |
| Cemetery Committee Co-chairs      | Jerry Nixon,<br>Jim Robinette                  |
| Youth Representatives:            | Wyatt Manlove,<br>Nick Glenn,<br>Taylor France |
| Historian                         | David Keck                                     |

**Members at Large:**

2012: Ernie Estep, Bob Tallent  
 2013: Judy Gibson, Marie Moore  
 2014: Christi Gordon, Matt Williams





## Top Ten List: Things You Can Try For the Lenten Season

10. Fast (choose one that speaks to you)
  - Worry fast – try focusing on God instead of worrying or filling those times of worry with scripture and prayer.
  - Electronic fast - Give up TV, Guitar Hero, texting, tweeting, e-mail and all things electronic for one day every week (or everyday of Lent!). Use the time to read & pray or give the time to something that God is calling you to, like family.
  - Meals – going without food for days is not necessary for fasting, but instead try giving up one meal and use that time to pray or read instead, feeding on God's word and message for you.
9. Start a prayer rhythm. Say a prayer every time you brush your teeth, hear an ambulance, or check your email. Before you text someone, pray for them.
8. Read one chapter in the Bible each day. (Matthew's a good book to start with. Psalms, too.)
7. Forgive someone who doesn't deserve it (maybe even yourself.)
6. Give up soft drinks, fast food, tea or coffee. Give the money you save to help folks in crisis.
5. Create a daily quiet time. Spend 30 minutes a day in silence and prayer.
4. Cultivate a life of gratitude. Write someone a thank you letter each week and be aware of how many people have helped you along the way.
3. Be kind to someone each day. Choose a special way to make this possible whether someone new each of the 40 days or a special way to be kind to one particular person for all 40 days.
2. Pray for others you see as you walk to and from classes or drive to and from work. It is okay that you do not know the person or their life circumstances. God knows.
1. Volunteer one hour or more each week with a local shelter, tutoring program, nursing home, prison ministry or a [Habitat for Humanity](http://www.habitatforhumanity.org) project. Or even at the church. We have lots of projects and ministries that can always use an hour of service.

Portions of this Article excerpted from [www.upperroom.org](http://www.upperroom.org)





**BIRTHDAYS**

- 3 Amy Jones  
Emily Michael
- 5 Madeline Hill  
Aaron Page
- 8 Richard Race
- 9 Jeremiah Love  
Valerie Schmieder
- 15 Rebecca Drum
- 16 Elizabeth Covington
- 17 Brett Shanklin  
Gavin Tedder  
Jean Wilson
- 19 Catherine O'Brien
- 21 Charles Henley  
Ellie Zilker
- 22 Cheryl Barker  
Tim Froneberger  
Sarah Nixon
- 23 Julie Sigmon
- 24 Tyler McCutchan  
Gene Simmons  
Caitlin Thomas
- 25 Betsy Burnell  
Eli Cipriano  
Pat Lauro  
Christina Williams
- 28 Jordan Cody  
Hannah Springs

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

- 18 Dan and Jenny Reilly
- 21 Carl and Susan Robinson Jr.

**GIFTS TO SALEM**

*In Memory of*

**Harold Arthurs**

Kevin and Amy Jones, Andrew and Lindsey  
Scott and Elise Fowler  
Chapel, Salem, London and Georgia Fowler  
Lori and Davis Rapp

**Gene Beard**

Rose Marie Young

**Toni Griffin**

Bob and Sarah Sigmon  
Martin and Elsie Oakes  
Taylor and Carol Duggins  
Betsy Burnell  
Jim and Miriam Robinette  
Joy Isenhour

*In Honor of*

**Catherine O'Brien**

Reverend Elinor Heermans

**Pastor Dave Hobson, Cheryl Barker,**

**Miriam Robinette**

Joy Isenhour

**Ray Miller, Jenny Reilly, Monica**

**Childers**

Joy Isenhour

**Debbie Harvey and Caroline Cardais**

Joy Isenhour



We are currently updating our military list and would like names, service locations and addresses (if available) so that our church family can send notes of encouragement to our service men and women. Please contact the church office with this information.



To the family of Toni Griffin who passed away January 14, 2012

**New Time for  
Second Worship  
Service**

Begins February 5th.  
8:30 am Traditional Service  
9:45 am Sunday School  
**11:00 am Blended Service**

**WELCOME!!!**

**TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!**

Bryan, Carol, Mary and Sydney Field

We are excited to have you as members of the Salem Family!



*That's Amore!*  
**Night**

Spaghetti Supper and Entertainment

**February 12th, 6-9 pm**

**Tickets are:**

**Adults: \$8**

**Children 12 and under: \$4**

All proceeds go to Youth Missions

## UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

**Lay Speaker Training:** February 6, 13, 20, and 27 - 6-9 pm (New Covenant UMC, Mt. Holly)

**Adult Day Trip:** A Day in Historic Salisbury: Tuesday, February 7th, 8:30 AM - 5:00 pm

**Youth Praise Band Auditions:** February 11th and 19th, 3:00-4:00 PM (Sanctuary)

**Amore Night:** Sunday, February 12th, 6:00 - 9:00 PM

**Ash Wednesday Service:** Wednesday, February 22nd, 6:30 PM

### MONTHLY EVENTS

**Holy Communion** - 1st Sunday

**Circle of Friends** - 3rd Monday at 10:00 AM

**Helping Hands** - 3rd Monday at 10:00 AM

**Tabatha's Hands** - 3rd Wednesday at 5:00 PM

**United Methodist Men** - 1st Saturday at 7:30 AM

**Newsletter Deadline** - 20th of each month

### WEEKLY EVENTS

#### Sunday

8:30 AM Traditional Worship

9:30 AM Coffee Time – Meeting Room

9:45 AM Sunday School for All Ages

11:00 AM Praise and Worship Service-Sanctuary

12:15 PM New Creation Practice

5:30 PM **'SURGE'** Youth

5:00 PM Bible Study (Pastor Dave) only on 2/5

5:45 PM Bible Study (Pastor Dave) (not 2/12)

#### Monday

2:30 PM SAM After School Care  
(7 am-6pm on 2/20)

6-7:30 PM Girl Scouts (1st and 3rd Mondays)

7:30 PM Spirit Alive Reunion Group

#### Tuesday

9:30 AM Staff Meeting

2:30 PM SAM After School Care

6:30 PM Fitness

7:00 PM Bible Study at Lorinda Swartz's home

#### Wednesday

2:30 PM SAM After School Care

4:00 PM Spirit Alive Reunion Grp (1st and 3rd Wed.)

5:45 PM Hims of Praise Practice

6:30 PM Bible Study (Pastor Dave) (not 2/22)

6:30 PM Nursery (not 2/22)

6:30 PM **'SPARK'** for Children (not 2/22)

6:30 PM Young with the Restless (not 2/22)

6:30 PM **'Wired'** Youth Ministries (not 2/22)

7:00 PM MOJ Choir Practice (not 2/22)

7:30 PM Basketball Practice (CLC)

#### Thursday

9:30 AM Fit Club

2:30 PM SAM After School Care

6:30 PM Fitness

6:30 PM GriefShare

#### Friday

2:30 PM SAM After School Care

7:00 PM One Day At a Time (2nd Friday)

### FEBRUARY MEETINGS

Tuesday, February 14, 6:00 PM Missions

Thursday, February 16, 7:00 PM Church Council (NCD)

Tuesday, February 21, 7:00 PM Evangelism

Tuesday, February 23, 7:00 PM Finance Meeting

The February item for East Lincoln  
Christian Ministry is:

*Tomato Soup*

### REMINDER:

Begins February 5th.

**8:30 am Traditional Service**

**9:45 am Sunday School**

**11:00 am Blended Service**



### Wednesday Night Community Dinners

#### MENUS:

**February 1st:** Variety of soups, sandwiches and desserts

**February 8th:** Ham, green beans, mashed potatoes, rolls, and desserts

**February 15th:** Potato and Salad Bar with all the fixins, and desserts

**February 22nd:** Beef sandwiches, pasta salad, chips, pickle and dessert

**February 29th:** Lasagna, salad, garlic bread and desserts



#### Monday

**8:30am-12:30pm,**

**Tuesday - Thursday**

**8:30am-3:30pm**

**Closed - Friday**