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The consensus of the people I have talked to, tell me that they want a strong Sunday School, and they definitely want to continue the way we worship at 8:30 a.m. So here is what I am thinking and praying about:

Beginning the first Sunday in February...**8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship;****9:45 a.m. Sunday School;****11:00 a.m. (not 10:45) Contemporary Worship—wherever the worship leadership decides to have the service. (CLC or Sanctuary)**

What pleases me most is that in NCD studies and the consensus of the congregation I find no group or family who is opposed to the idea of having a Contemporary Worship Service. Most people agree, *and I know and believe*, that it is a responsible thing to do. It is part of our Evangelism to the community. Lots of younger folks, and their families, who are not attracted to the Traditional setting are indeed attracted to Contemporary settings.

It would be better to add a third service, and rearrange those three services accordingly, **after** we have established a very free and spiritually open Contemporary Service. We do not need to start a three-service format, find out that it is not working, then have to go back to some other plan. The community needs to know we have worship at 8:30 and 11:00 always. If we want to add something later – fine and dandy. But I do not believe we need to risk moving our Contemporary Service around and around - it would take a year to re-establish our times in the minds of the non-churched community again. That is how I see it. Based on the people I have talked to, and prayed with, we need this continuity. Pray about it with me through this Christmas season, and let it be a discussion among your most trusted friends and your family as you do. We have a new year ahead of us – let it be glorious!

Love, In Christ, *Pastor Dave*

Since it has grown too impossible for me to keep up with personal contact to all of you who have remembered me with prayers, cards, visits, gifts, food, calls, emails and any other way during my latest surgery on Oct. 22 and the Christmas holidays, I want to say through Salem Matters that I thank you. As one who has very often been on the receiving end of your thoughtfulness, I feel inadequate in expressing my sincere appreciation.

A Note of Thanks *It was a surprise blessing to have Pastor Dave, Jenny Reilly and all the youth with bus driver Glen Frix who came on the first Sunday morning in December bringing Communion to me! Thanks for the church committee groups, Ronnie Bridges and Shirley Nixon for Thursday morning care visits, special group prayers and cards from youth groups, my Adult Fellowship Sunday School class, Circle of Friends and Tabatha's Hands circles, the Tuesday night Bible Study group, my Salem Church Family and others like the UMM for the Thanksgiving meal.*

May each of you have a 2012 filled with challenging blessings at Salem United Methodist Church. I am blessed to still be a part of such a caring church family.

~Sarah M. Nixon

Salem United Methodist Church378 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.salemunitiedmethodist.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

What Is Lay Speaking?

The lay speaking ministry is a training opportunity for laity who would like to use their witness, leadership, and service to inspire others to a deeper commitment to Christ and more effective discipleship. This may include the interpretations of the Scriptures, doctrine, organization, and ministries of the church.



Lay Speaking helps church members be effective leaders. It does NOT mean you have to speak in worship services unless you feel called to serve in this way. There are a variety of ways to serve.

The 2012 Lay Speaking Training is being held on Monday evenings in February (6, 13, 20,17) 6:30 - 9:00 pm at New Covenant UMC– 14514 Lucia-Riverbend Hwy. - Mt. Holly, NC 28120 - (704) 827-4468

Lay Speaker Celebration Event: Sunday, March 4, 2012, Pleasant Grove UMC, Charlotte, NC

Cost: \$25.00 for course materials **Optional:** Pay an additional \$15.00 for a light meal to be served at 6:00 pm to accommodate participants arriving directly from workplace (Total Cost for Course Books & Meal \$40)



Results of Commitment Sunday:

Projected Giving for 2012:	\$ 466,573.00
Projected Giving for 2011:	\$ <u>503,055.00</u>
Difference from last year:	\$ <u>(36,482.00)</u> -7.30%

BUDGET NEWS

How our gifts have been designated year to date through 11/30/2011 vs 11/30/10



	YTD Thru 11/30/2010	YTD Thru 11/30/2011	Yr. To Yr. Difference Increase (Decrease)	
			\$	%
Offerings designated to:				
Building/Capital Improvement	\$ 32,235.00	\$ 19,028.95	\$ (13,206.05)	(40.97% Decrease)
Cemetery/Driveway	\$ 8,287.00	\$ 17,319.00	\$ 9,032.00	108.99 % Increase
Missions/Misc.	\$ 17,929.17	\$ 33,908.00	\$ 15,978.83	89.12 % Increase
Budget (Oper. Exp. And Ministry)	\$ 387,919.63	\$ 399,873.41	\$ 11,953.78	3.08% Increase
Total Giving	\$ 446,370.80	\$ 470,129.36	\$ 23,758.56	5.32% Increase

Profit and Loss at 10/31/11

Income related to the Budget	\$433,781.41
Expenses related to the Budget	\$423,520.11
<u>Ordinary Income</u>	<u>\$ 10,261.30</u>

Attendance

<u>11.06.2011</u>	213	<u>11-20-2011</u>	166
<u>11-13-2011</u>	207	<u>11-27-2011</u>	194



PRAYER BREAKFAST 2012

“Living as the Garden of God”

Speaker: **Rev. Susan Heafner-Heun**
Sr. Associate Pastor of Davidson UMC
and Pastor of Inclusion Community

Saturday, January 21, 2012

Please let Nancy Luckey know if you are attending
Tucker’s Grove UMC Family Life Center
(Intersection of Beth Haven Church Road and Hwy. 73)
4501 Highway 73, Iron Station, NC 28080

Breakfast - 9:15 AM Program - 10:00 AM



Tabitha's Hands Circle

Tabitha's Hands Circle will meet at the home of Elinor Heermans on Wednesday, January 4th at 5:30 pm for Chicken and Yankee Dumplings. Some members of Hickory Grove UMC will also be there. Then on Wednesday, January 18th, they will meet at their usual time, 5:15 pm, during the Wednesday evening supper. Please call Elinor Heermans to let her know if you will or will not be able to attend.



Circle of Friends will meet on
January 16th at 10:00 am in
Room 13.



On December 19, seventeen members enjoyed a delicious Christmas party pot luck lunch at the home of Sue Murdock. A plethora of Christmas gifts were collected to be given to the children at the Barium Springs Children's Home in Troutman. Each member read her favorite Bible verse. Then we played a "left/right" Christmas story game. Sometime in the New Year we hope to have a unit meeting with all the Circles.

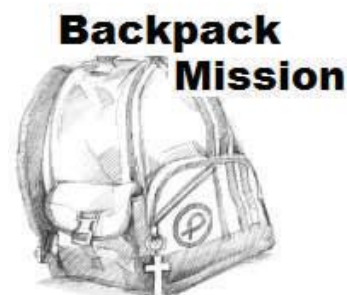
A special thank you to Judy Broussard for her years of serving as our Circle President.

On January 16, 10 am, we will be meeting at Kim Riley's home. Jean Robinson will be co-hosting and Frances Mundy will give the program.

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 12 children at Pumpkin Center Primary (5) and Pumpkin Center Intermediate (7) Schools. These children really benefit from your gracious donations.

We have 22 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.



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).

MUSIC AND ARTS MINISTRIES

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



Luke 9:23 "And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me."

When missionary Dr. David Livingstone was working in Africa, a group of friends wrote him: "We would like to send other men to you. Have you found a good road into your area yet?" Dr. Livingstone sent this message in reply: "If you have men who will only come if they know there is a good road, I don't want them. I want men who will come if there is no road at all."

There's a big difference between just being interested in doing something and actually making a commitment to doing it! Just being interested allows us the freedom do a thing only when our circumstances permit. But making a commitment to do that thing means accepting no excuses and no reservations — it means putting aside our fears and reservations moving forward till we see the end result! Dr. Livingstone was looking for results, and this required men of commitment!

With 2012 under way, let's make some commitments! Our Lord, our families, our jobs and our congregations are awaiting us!

Worthy Devotions - Bible Based Christian Daily Devotional

COME JOIN US IN MUSIC...

There is a time
for everything,
and a season for every
activity under heaven...



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

Nothing is impossible with God. Nothing is impossible with God. Nothing is impossible

2012 Music & Arts

First Quarter of 2012.... WHAT TO LOOK FOR AND BE A PART OF....

January 29th 7pm - 5th Sunday Hymn Sing

"The Gospel Through Music"

If you have a gift of music that you would like to perform this night, please sign up through Cheryl Barker. Love offering will be taken for Youth Missions.

February 12th 7-9 – "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. Tickets are \$12 Adults and \$6 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.

Special thanks ..
to those of you who have participated in the Music and Arts Ministries of Salem in 2011.

Your prayers, patience, talents and drive have served to grow the Kingdom of God. Know that He is well pleased!

May we continue to move ahead in HIS ministry to reach others for Christ!

Cheryl
Dir of Music and Arts

