



# 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 – September 2011

## “Friends on the Journey”

Hearing the Call, Speaking the Truth, Living the Vision

The word “Homecoming” carries a particular significance in historic church traditions in the south. It was reserved as a time in Autumn when people who had moved away from home and family would return to their home church and reacquaint themselves with each other. The special time of worship and fellowship gave folks an opportunity to remember the origins of their faith, and visit old friends. The leadership of Salem wants to honor that, and combine with it a celebration of our present ministry and our shared vision for the future.

Among the things we hold as a shared experience here at Salem is a love and appreciation for those people who were instrumental in our faith journey. Some people became members here by way of Church members’ personal invitation, followed by their intentional nurture and friendship. Others were nurtured here from their youth. The gifts shared by this congregation go beyond an enthusiastic sense of evangelism. There exists a genuine spiritual discernment and wisdom in our fellowship. This has prompted mission activities, classes, and worship that provide a spiritual center for an ongoing environment of discipleship and growth. We have adult ministries that direct us outward in mission to our community, and give additional meaning to our worship of God and our experience in the power of the Risen Savior. There is a genuine sense of faith expressed in our ministries and worship life that promotes the love of Christ to be experienced in our love for each other. This is real Church. We celebrate these gifts weekly, of course; but we want this Sunday to be a special time to give thanks for those who have increased our faith by witnessing their own.

We want you to come celebrate the blessings we share here at Salem in this special service. We also ask you to be a “Friend on the Journey” by inviting someone to join you on September 25<sup>th</sup>. There will be Sunday School at 9:45 a.m., a worship service at 10:45 a.m., and a covered dish fellowship meal afterward. Please make plans to attend on this very special day.

*In Christ, Pastor Dave*



**Homecoming Sunday,  
September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

*Sunday School at 9:45 a.m., followed by  
A Special Service of Worship at 10:45 a.m.  
Celebrating the Faith Journey We Share*

*A Covered Dish Fellowship Meal will follow in the Christian Life Center*



**“Touch someone - not once, but always”**



### Ambassador Program

### NEW AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

Some of you have been wondering how this new program will work. The new ambassador program has been expanded to more of a leadership role to pull together a team of Greeters, Guides and Visitation Team Members.

If you have not signed up for this expanded role of Ambassador, that is okay, you may still be asked by the new Ambassadors to be on their team of Greeters, Guides, or Visitation Team Members.

The Evangelism Team put this new program together to provide a larger network of workers to go out and reach others but it also breaks down the positions into smaller chunks. Instead of feeling all alone as an Ambassador each Sunday there will now be a team that will be greeting, guiding and visiting Guests that walk into Salem UMC each Sunday. This also allows those who just wish to Greet and provide material or those who like to show others around the church the ability to be of service to the church and feel very comfortable in their role. It also allows those who wish to grow in the church with the ability to sign up for a role that will move them out of their comfort zone to a closer walk with God.

Please feel free to join up with those who have signed up for the New Ambassador Leadership role to be a Team for Christ. (Ambassador Team Leaders: 8:30 - Jerry Ennis, Sue Murdock, Ed Good 10:45 - Monica Childers, Joe Thomas, Glen Frix, Carol Duggins, Barb Lauro)

For those of you who have accepted this new leadership role, I thank you from the bottom of my heart and I ask you to still be recruiting others to join you in this leadership role so that there will be more teams to share the load. My hope and prayer is that everyone in the Church will be able to serve on one of the teams so that everyone will get used to reaching out to help one another.

To all of you: When someone asks for you to help out on a Sunday, please be willing to cheerfully give of your time. Thank you, *Debbie Homce*



### CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Congratulations to the East Lincoln Allstar/Challenge Baseball team. Three of our youth are members: Spencer Riddle, Andy Jones and Dawson Pia. They recently had a great season. They won the sectional tournament in Mallard Creek and the regional tournament in Smithfield, VA. They went undefeated in both of these tournaments. They finished second in the zone championship in Chesapeake, VA. They were one game away from the Pony League World Series. The team would like to thank Ms. Jenny and Salem for the words of encouragement and "treats" along with your prayers and support.



### It's a Girl!

Amy (Estep) and Danny Nichols announce the birth of their daughter Mallie Claire Nichols. Mallie was born on July 23, 2011, weighing 8 lbs. 15 oz. and was 22 inches long. The proud grandparents are Ernie and Sandy Estep, and the proud aunt is Laura Estep.

#### **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](mailto:salemmethodist@bellsouth.net)

**Church Office Hours:** (beginning Sept.2011)

Monday 8:30am–12:30pm

Tuesday—Thursday 8:30am-3:30pm

Friday—Closed

**Website:** [www.salemunitiedmethodist.com](http://www.salemunitiedmethodist.com)

**Webmaster:** Crystal Cody (volunteer)

**Salem Matters:** Articles due 20th of each month

#### **Church Staff**

**Pastor:** David Hobson [davesalem@bellsouth.net](mailto:davesalem@bellsouth.net)

**Dir. Christian Ed.:** Jenny Reilly [jennysalem@bellsouth.net](mailto:jennysalem@bellsouth.net)

**Dir. Youth Ministries:** Monica Childers [monicasalem@bellsouth.net](mailto:monicasalem@bellsouth.net)

**Dir. Music & Arts:** Cheryl Barker [cherylsalem@bellsouth.net](mailto:cherylsalem@bellsouth.net)

**Organist/Pianist:** Miriam Robinette [robinet2@bellsouth.net](mailto:robinet2@bellsouth.net)

**Office Admin.:** Debbie Harvey [salemmethodist@bellsouth.net](mailto:salemmethodist@bellsouth.net)

**Financial Secretary:** Joy Isenhour [joysalem@bellsouth.net](mailto:joysalem@bellsouth.net)

**S.A.M. Director:** Caroline Rinehart [salemsam@bellsouth.net](mailto:salemsam@bellsouth.net)

**Facilities Manager:** Ray Miller

**Please email newsletter articles to [salemmatters@bellsouth.net](mailto:salemmatters@bellsouth.net)**



## Our Faith Lives On Paul Janssen

### A Memorial for September 11, 2001

Our faith lives on, though nearly rent asunder,  
Beset by heartache, hate, revenge, and grief.  
What God, like you, inspires both fear and wonder,  
And, midst our fears, a word of sweet relief?

Our hope lives on, though tempered now by sorrow,  
With open eyes, and seasoned well with doubt.  
You call to us from your unseen tomorrow  
To do your will and work your purpose out.

Our loves lives on; though worn and thin by  
sadness,  
We stand together in a long embrace.  
For your great love has conquered human madness  
And sings to us in melodies of grace.

Faith, hope, and love, these three go on, abiding,  
Still standing strong and tall and firm and true!  
In you we trust, our open hearts confiding  
That, come what may, we still belong to you.

### A Prayer for Americans

I was the assigned volunteer chaplain that day at the hospital, busy with new arrivals and folks who were caring for loved ones there for surgeries and other ailments. And on my way down the hall I heard the scuttlebutt, and traversed to a television, and could not believe what was being shown and said. I had the chapel service at 10:00 a.m. to do. We found ourselves out of room, needing more space for the people at the service. We moved to the Episcopal Church across the street. We sang America, the Beautiful. We read the Scriptures...Psalm 54 .....

<sup>1</sup>Save me, O God, by your name, and vindicate me by your might. <sup>2</sup>Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth. <sup>3</sup>For the insolent have risen against me, the ruthless seek my life; they do not set God before them. Selah <sup>4</sup>But surely, God is my helper; the Lord is the upholder of my life. <sup>5</sup>He will repay my enemies for their evil. In your

Little did I know...as I prayed for all of us there, for strength, and courage, and for what unknown might come to us.

For those Sons and Daughters, some of them Fathers and Mothers, who would die in battle as a result of this horror. Husbands and Wives who would not come home again.

For the Parents and Grandparents, Brothers and Sisters, friends and teachers, all of whom would soon grieve as they stared at the incomprehensible at the graveside.

And for Priests, Rabbis, and Preachers... who would grope for words, uttering exasperated sentences spoken both to them, and to You, O Lord.

We have been forever changed, O Lord. We have lost, not only our children, but it seems we have lost our way.

Help us, O God. Teach us, that we may learn to love again, to respect each other's true nature; let us see the treasure of every person and rejoice again in every day.

Strengthen us to this end, O Lord, that we may indeed trust you with lost lives and lost loves; and that the ideals of the noble experiment You inspired on this continent may once again become the enterprise of our discourse and our vision.

We know You hold tomorrow – and that You hold our hands. Walk with us, and make your presence known we pray. Amen.



**Thanks to you, Salem was able to take 10 Cleaning Buckets to the Lake Norman District UMW Annual Meeting**

All three circles will resume meeting in September. We'd love to have you join us. *Helping Hands* meets at a member's home and *Circle of Friends* in Room 13 at the church. Both circles meet the third Monday at 10am. *Tabatha's Hands* meets on the third Wednesday at 5:15 in

the CLC. For information on all three circles, contact Nancy Luckey at 704-483-0454 or email me at [reidluckey@att.net](mailto:reidluckey@att.net)

Salem UMW was honored once again as a *Mission Today Unit* and received a **Membership Recognition** certificate. Our members who earned certificates for participating in the **Reading Program** are: Babs and Karen Yarbrough, Miriam Robinette, Bernice Nixon, Jean Workman and Nancy Luckey.

Our District Officer Training will be November 5 at Denver UMC. Details will follow. Our 2012 Reading Program Books will be available there, as well as the 2012 Program Book and Prayer Calendar.

**The items for East Lincoln Christian Ministry are canned corn, canned green beans and canned tomatoes.**

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**Food Backpack Mission**

**Pumpkin Center Elementary  
and  
Pumpkin Center Intermediate Schools.**

The Food Backpack Mission will be starting back up in September. Please look for the display in the Mission Hall. Also, please look for e-mails on Wednesdays for local sale items that will help the mission.

Please consider donating in an offering envelope marked Food Backpack Mission or placing food items in the green bin in the mission hall. This program makes such a big difference in the children's lives. **Thank you for being a part of this great mission!** If you have questions, please contact Anita Clark, [anita5110@yahoo.com](mailto:anita5110@yahoo.com), 704-483-5110, or any of the Circle of Friends group members.



Salem's Annual Bazaar is  
**October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 8 am – 1 pm.**

Again this year we want to do Silent Auction Baskets. We hope each Sunday School class will make a basket for the auction. Also, anyone can donate a silent auction basket. We will need jams, jellies, pickles, pickled beets, salsa, relish - anything homemade.

**We are having workshops on September 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in the gym.**

Without your help, the bazaar won't be a success.

Thanks, Diane Keeney (704) 483-6348

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*Circle of Friends* will meet at 10am on September 19 in Room 13. We will be discussing our upcoming Mission Projects as well as the Annual Church Bazaar. Our program will be "*We In The World*" from the new Program Book. We will discover our patterns of consumption as we participate in inventory taking so that we can be instruments of giving and encouragement in the world. Please join us!













