



## *Lent and Easter at Salem UMc*

*Lent* began with Ash Wednesday, on February 17th. The first of Seven Sundays of Lent began on February 21st. The last Sunday of Lent is Palm Sunday, March 28th. Two significant days following that last Sunday are Maundy Thursday (that commemorates the last supper of the Christ and the mandate to Love as we have been loved) and Good Friday (which commemorates the death and burial of the crucified Christ). All through the Lenten Sundays we will hear the story of Jacob's night of wrestling with God from the Old Testament. This will be coupled with the various verses of a Charles Wesley hymn titled, "Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown".

On Tuesday nights of Lent there will be a virtual study by way of Zoom conferencing. The book and video series "*Savior: What the Bible Says about the Cross*" will be the backbone of the class. The class has begun but you can still drop in and catch up. Contact Pastor Gary to sign up and to receive the invitations to log into the gatherings.

On *Palm Sunday*, our kids will perform an enactment of the Palm Parade via video. Instead of them parading through the sanctuary, we will see them as they stand on the pathway as Christ passes by. It will be more authentic to the original. And later that week, on Thursday we will gather for a *Maundy Thursday* service. Whether we gather in person or virtually depends on the state of the world at that point. Fingers crossed we can be in person. We will broadcast our service either way. At some point that week our kids will be treated to an Easter surprise, just in time for Easter.

*Easter Sunday* is April 4<sup>th</sup>. As usual we will host two services of worship, one at 8:30 and the other at 10:30. The 8:30 will be outside, weather permitting; the 10:30 will be in the sanctuary and will be broadcast. The cross will be decorated for photo opportunities. More details will be available as we draw closer to that day. It may not be a normal Lent/ Easter season, but it will and can be a holy time nonetheless.



## Salem UMC Children

Children are invited to join us every other Sunday evening from 5-6 pm for **"Escape"**, a time of fellowship and fun. **March 7th and March 21st**

On the afternoon of Sunday, March 21st, the children will create a recording of the Procession of the Palms to be aired on Palm Sunday. More details will be emailed to you.

Children's Ministries is planning an Easter surprise for the kids since we unfortunately will not be having our Breakfast with the Easter Bunny this year.

Children are a vital part of the life of Salem and the church in general. This past year has certainly made it challenging to engage our children, and adults alike. We were not able to invite our children to the pulpit for readings in February as we have in the past, but we would like to invite them to have a part in worship the three Sundays after Easter: **April 11th, April 18th, and April 25th**. This could mean your child physically speaking from the pulpit or recording your child ahead of time and virtually presenting it during the service. If you have a child of reading level and would like him/her to take part in this opportunity (whether virtually or in-person), please contact Ashley Anderson and let her know which date(s) your child is available and which format you are most comfortable with. We would love to have your child participate!

We are planning to resume **Children's Sunday School April 11th**. More details are forthcoming.

If you are not receiving email updates about children's ministries and would like to, please contact the church office or Ashley Anderson at [ashley.poppell@gmail.com](mailto:ashley.poppell@gmail.com) to be added to that list.



*A few pictures of some of the children of Salem UMC  
that received a special treat for Valentine.*





# Memorials & Honorariums



## **Building Fund**

*In loving memory of Lynda Faulkenberry by*  
Lou Holmes

*In loving memory of John Hilliard by*  
Ruth Hilliard

*In loving memory of Barry Joye by*  
Phillip & Millie Fore

*In loving memory of Kenneth Koon by*  
Phillip & Millie Fore  
Daniel Koon  
Ron & Deborah Joye  
Fellowship Sunday School Class  
Larry & June Salters  
Don & Miriam Lovett  
Robert & Christine Lowman  
Cynthia Morrison  
Warren H. & Johnnie G. Metts  
Rose Koon, Molly & David  
Bill & Sandra Sills  
Walt & Sharon Greene

*In loving memory of Jim Lewis, Sr. by*  
Nick & Eileen Leoncavallo  
Don & Miriam Lovett  
David & Martina Thomas  
Seekers Sunday School Class  
Phillip & Millie Fore  
Ron & Deborah Joye  
Steve & Mary George Smith  
Fellowship Sunday School Class  
Larry & June Salters  
Robert & Christine Lowman  
Salem OASIS  
Bill & Sandra Sills

*In loving memory of Lois McNair by*  
Lou Holmes

*In loving memory of Mary Mack by*  
Fellowship Sunday School Class

*In loving memory of Ruth Smith by*  
Salem OASIS  
Joy Circle

## **General Fund**

*In loving memory of Jim Lewis, Sr. by*  
Dan & Carla Jennings

*In loving memory of Kenneth Koon by*  
Dan & Carla Jennings

## **Playground Fund**

*In loving memory of Caitlin Hill by*  
Bill & Claudia Dubose

## **Cemetery Fund**

*In loving memory of Kenneth Koon by*  
Jimmy & Brenda Dye  
Brady & Mary Bouknight

*In loving memory of Jim Lewis, Sr. by*  
Jimmy & Brenda Dye

*In loving memory of Doris Monts by*  
Jimmy & Brenda Dye

## **Nursery Fund**

*In loving memory of Doris Monts by*  
Bill & Sandra Sills

## **Children's Ministry**

*In loving memory of Doris Monts by*  
Salem OASIS  
Walt & Sharon Greene  
Don & Miriam Lovett

## **Columbarium Fund**

*In loving memory of Doris Monts by*  
Larry & June Salters

*In loving memory of Ruth Smith by*  
Larry & June Salters

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## **Building Fund**

*In honor of Faith Circle Ladies by*  
Phillip & Millie Fore  
Sharon Greene

# Notes for Our Church Family

## COLUMBARIUM

A small group has taken on the task of planning for the possibility of a columbarium in the Salem Church Cemetery. They are working with the Cemetery Committee and all of their plans will be approved by the Church Trustees before anything is implemented. There is space in the lower corner, where the old shed used to be, that could be used without disrupting any claimed spaces. They are considering both options, in ground interment and above ground inurnment. While the project is in the very early stages of planning and design, this is a project that has been talked about and set aside several times. The time now seems right to make it a serious pursuit.

Cremation is becoming a more common option for people. The space availability for selection is growing more limited in our cemetery. A columbarium provides the opportunity to provide space for more people to be serviced and it provides for the persons that wish to be cremated and interred in the church cemetery to be given that opportunity without using a full space. The one caveat is that to provide a columbarium there is a cost to build and install the unit, whether above ground or in ground. A space (niche) in the columbarium would not be free as is the plot that we provide to our members. A space in the columbarium (niche) could include either an individual or a couple (husband and wife)

With all of that in mind the task force wants your input. There are three specific pieces of information that are of interest.

*1. Without making a specific commitment, would you be interested in claiming a space in the columbarium? (If you have space already that is not*

*made use of it could be surrendered in order to make this happen)*

*2. Would you prefer the above ground space or an in ground one?*

*3. Do you have an amount in mind that you would be willing to spend? (Remember that no head stone or coping needs to be purchased).*

Once you have thought that through please contact Pastor Gary to let him know. You can do that by phone or by email. Please do so before the end of March. The steps yet to be taken are the specific design/ layout, the cost factors, and policy and procedures. Additionally, if you are interested in being part of the task force, inform Pastor Gary.

### *Precept Bible Study*

Precept Bible Study started on **Tuesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>** in the Fellowship Hall. This time we are going to study the book, "**The Daniel Prayer**" by **Anne Graham Lotz**. This is the prayer in chapter 9 that Daniel prayed for the nation of Judah while they were in exile in Babylon. Anne describes it as a "prayer that moves Heaven and changes nations." It is a six week study with DVD and individual workbooks. There is minimal homework. As our nation, and the world, is in such turmoil, it is the responsibility of the church to pray for God to turn the hearts of our country back to Him. This study examines Daniel's prayer in detail and tells us how we can be the "Daniels" of our time. If you are interested in joining us, please call or text Dolly Kent at 803-240-2831 to have a workbook ordered for you.

## "Savior: What the Bible Says About the Cross"

Beginning on Tuesday evening, **February 23<sup>rd</sup>**, at **7:00** we will be offering a study for Lent. The study will be presented by means of Zoom. We will be using the book "**Savior: What the Bible Says About the Cross**" by Magrey DeVega. While it is not necessary to purchase the book, it is available in paperback through Cokesbury and electronically through Amazon and Barnes and Noble. There are related videos that will be the back bone of the study. Those are viewable for free through the Amplify Media by way of our church account. To sign up for the study and/ for the Amplify media, please contact Pastor Philips. The invitation to the zoom gathering will be sent out a few days prior to the study.

## Life Line Screening



We are pleased to host a Life Line Screening event **Wednesday, March 3**, at Salem United Methodist Church. Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete.

**We have a limited number of spaces available.**

*In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6450 or visit [www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle](http://www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle).*

## Outside Worship Service

When the 8:30 is outside (any Sunday that is dry and the temperature is over 35 degrees) persons will be able to remain in their car and listen to the service on their radio. Simply dial into FM 95.7 and enjoy. We ask that you park in the upper portion of our parking lot.

## Blood Drive

Salem is proud to partner with the American Red Cross to host a blood drive for our community. Please mark your calendar and register online to be a much-needed donor during this historic time. For questions, contact Jennifer Hodges @ 865.437.7950.

**WE'RE ALL  
IN THIS  
Together**



All donations are tested for COVID-19 antibodies.  
Plasma from antibody-positive donations may help current coronavirus patients in need.

**Blood Drive**  
**Salem UMC - Bloodmobile**

**Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup>**  
**1 PM – 6 PM**

To sign up, please visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter Sponsor Code: **SalemUMC**.

*Pro Tips: Bring photo ID, eat iron-rich foods, hydrate and complete your [RapidPass](#) online before arrival*

Schedule a blood donation appointment today:  
Download the Blood Donor App | [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767

## Chicken Pot Pie Fundraiser

The Youth would like to thank all who took part in the Chicken Pot Pie Fundraiser on Feb. 16. The night was a huge success as we were able to bring in over **\$1000 to go towards the Youth Foreign Mission Trip**. We served 140 Pot Pie Orders. A special thank you to Janet Haas for preparing all of the Pot Pies, also thank you to Sheri Hood and Kim Stutts for assisting in preparing the pies. Finally, a thank you to Maggie Brewton and Julia Rose Hood for helping hand them out during the drive thru time. Thank you again to everyone.

# Youth News

## Confirmation: 3:30 P.M. each Sunday

March 7 - John Wesley - Jim Magann  
March 14 - **Confirmation Retreat**  
March 21 - General Rules - Jim Magann  
March 28 - Prayer - Heather Magann

## Youth Group: 5:00 P.M. each Sunday

March 7 - Wienie Roast & S'Mores  
March 14 - **NO YOUTH GROUP**  
March 21 - Small Groups  
March 28 - Golden Egg Hunt

We have set a date for starting Sunday School again for Sunday, April 11, 2021. This is the Sunday following Easter Sunday. We hope everyone will join us for this time of fellowship and spiritual growth.

## Mission of the Month

During the month of March the Missions Committee will be collecting Bottles of Laundry Detergent, shampoo and bars of soap to be given to the "Clean of Hearts" Ministry. This is an organization that allows the homeless to have a place to come and shower as well as wash their clothes. This helps to prevent clothes being worn until too dirty to wear anymore before being thrown out. Those downtown can clean up and clean their clothes. Please provide detergent no larger than 64oz. and please make sure it is not "he" type. Shampoo can be regular size bottles and bars of soap. They will all be delivered at the end of the month.

## Thank You!

*Salem Family,  
Words cannot express our gratitude for your prayers and concerns. It has been a harrowing month, but God has certainly made himself real to us through friends like you. We are so grateful. Please don't stop the prayers; we have a long road ahead!*

*Blessings to you all,  
Matthew & Tracy Shores*

## A SPECIAL THANK YOU!

A special thank you goes out to Nick Leoncavallo for the two beautiful flower altar tables and two matching offering tables. Nick crafted and stained all four of these accent pieces for use in our sanctuary. We are so happy to have them and know you will agree they add a nice touch. Thank you Nick for giving of your time and energy into crafting such beautiful pieces.

## Jigsaw Puzzle Swap

The next Jigsaw Puzzle Swap will be held on **March 20<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 to 12 in the Fellowship Hall**. Anyone interested in "puzzling" is welcome to attend. Just bring your puzzles and put your name and a title for your puzzle on the box if you want them returned to you. Even if you do not bring a puzzle, you are welcome to participate. We will swap again at a later date!



# March

Sunday      Monday      Tuesday      Wednesday      Thursday      Friday      Saturday

	1	2 Precept Bible Study 9:30 Lent Bible Study 7:00	3 Life Line Screening	4	5	6
7 Blood Drive 1-6 5:00 Escape Salem Ringers 4:00	8 6:00 Outreach Committee Meeting	9 Precept Bible Study 9:30 Lent Bible Study 7:00	10	11	12 Confirmation Retreat	13 Confirmation Retreat
14 	15	16 Newsletter Deadline Precept Bible Study 9:30 Lent Bible Study 7:00	17 	18	19	20  First Day of Spring Puzzle Swap 10-12
21 Salem Ringers 4 4:00 Children's Council Mtg 5:00 VBS Mtg 5:00 Escape	22	23 Precept Bible Study 9:30 Lent Bible Study 7:00	24	25	26	27
28 3:30 Playground Committee Mtg Palm Sunday	29 6:30 Missions Meeting	30 Precept Bible Study 9:30 Lent Bible Study 7:00	31			

## Sunday's

## Notes

8:30 Outside Worship Service  
9:30 Sunday School  
10:30 Worship Service  
3:30 Confirmation  
5:00 Youth Group

AA 7:00 Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday  
Choir Practice 7:00 Wednesday



**salem**  
United Methodist Church

**1321 Salem Church Road  
Irmo, SC 29063**

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Permit No. 14**

**Church Office Hours**

Monday - Thursday  
8:30-12:00 1:00-3:30  
803-781-1626  
E-mail: smethodist@aol.com  
website: salemumcsc.com

**Worship Hours**

Early Worship: 8:30 am  
Sunday School: 9:30 am  
Sunday Morning  
Worship: 10:30 am

**Newsletter Information**

If you would like to receive this newsletter by e-mail, or if you have questions, comments, or articles for the newsletter, please send an e-mail or call the church.

Anyone who would like to submit an article or item for the **April** newsletter should do so by **March 16<sup>th</sup>**.



**OUR MINISTRY TEAM**



- Gary Phillips — Pastor
- Bill Childs — Pastor of Visitation
- Ashley Anderson — Children’s Ministries
- Sarah Bridges — Director of Music
- Stephanie Knott — Pianist
- Angie Lain — Business/Finance Manager
- Miriam Y. Lovett — Organist
- Jim Magann — Youth/Outreach Ministries
- Tina Overton — Director of Creative Ministries
- Marie Wicker — Administrative Assistant

**E-Giving**

Please prayerfully consider giving to Salem United Methodist Church through our e-Giving program. Scan the QR code below to be taken to Salem’s donation page to present your offering.



You can also visit the link:  
<https://giving.ncsservices.org/App/Giving/ncs-2365>