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Salem

United Methodist Church

Forecaster

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The Power of Pentecost

And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind (Acts 2:2).

On May 20 we celebrate Pentecost, one of the most important days in the Christian year. We usually think of Christmas and Easter as the biggest days on the Christian calendar, but Pentecost is right there with them. Pentecost is the great climax of the Easter season and commemorates the birthday of the Church when God poured out upon us the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Ten days after the ascension of Christ and fifty days after his resurrection, the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples on the day of Pentecost. Pentecost was an established Jewish festival also known as the Feast of Weeks, which drew people from many nations back to Jerusalem (*Leviticus 23:15-21; Deuteronomy 16:9-12, 16*). That's one of the reasons there was such a crowd when the Holy Spirit came upon those first disciples with tongues of fire and gave them the ability to speak in other languages so they could share the good news about Jesus.

Pentecost symbolizes a new beginning. It celebrates the unleashing of the Holy Spirit on the

world and the empowering of the church to reach the world with the gospel. In celebrating Pentecost, the church expresses its gratitude for the faithfulness of Christ in fulfilling his promise to send "another counselor" (John 14:16); celebrates the work of the Spirit in renewing all of creation; professes its confidence and security in knowing the Spirit's power is available for its mission; and grows in awareness of the immensity of its calling to reach the world with the gospel.

The Spirit continues to be poured upon us, gifting each of us with spiritual abilities to use in ministry with the church for the world (*1 Corinthians 12:1-11*).

The traditional color for Pentecost is red, after the flames (tongues of fire) described in Acts 2:3. (Adapted and reprinted by permission from *The Worship Sourcebook*, © 2004, Faith Alive Christian Resources)



Becoming Members



John Louk, Pastor

What
does it mean
to be a member
of the church?

Salem is receiving new members on Sunday, May 13. Sixteen people have been fulfilling the requirements and responsibilities of membership and are ready to step up and help take responsibility for Salem.

When we receive the new members during worship, there's a moment when the people in the congregation renew their membership vows, as well. Because of that, I want to remind you of those membership responsibilities. Members are people who have professed faith in Jesus, been baptized, completed the membership orientation, and regularly practice spiritual disciplines to worship, grow, serve, give, and share. What does that that look like?

Members **worship** each Sunday (9 or 11 AM) unless they are sick or out of town. Worshiping weekly gives them an opportunity to gather with others to love God, offering praise, honor, and glory; to hear what the Lord God says to them by reading scripture; and to speak their prayers to the Lord. It's an incredibly powerful moment to re-center their lives in communion with the One who created everything, including us, and loves us and wants to be in relationship with us.

Members **grow** in their faith outside of worship through some kind of small group. Participating in a Sunday school class or small group of some type will contribute to their faith journey by helping them grow as followers of Jesus and by helping them make friends. Knowing even a few other people more deeply makes a church feel like home as we live life together.

Members **serve** by using their gifts and talents both inside and outside the walls of the church. Each of us is given spiritual gifts and natural abilities that we can use to serve others and glorify God. The church is the Body of Christ, and each of us is a member of the Body. We are all invited to participate in God's mission to renew creation. God invites us to touch the lives of others and help transform the world.

Members **give** financially in proportion to their income, with the tithe (10%) as their goal. Giving regularly not only supports the ministry and mission of the church, but also is their way of giving God priority in their life. One way to determine what people really care about is to review where they spend their money. Sometimes life circumstances mean we cannot give regularly, but when we are able to do so, it deepens our faith as we love God and serve the church and the world through our giving.

Members **share** their faith with others through words and actions. We are called to be witnesses and share our good news with others. Often we think this means awkward conversations, but it doesn't (and shouldn't) have to be like that. It does mean being ready to answer questions like, Why do you go to church? Do you believe in God? Sometimes the best witness is when others see how you live your life in God.

If you're a member of Salem, take some time to consider how *you* are fulfilling these membership responsibilities. If you've been struggling with these, let me know. I'd love to talk with you and pray for you. Be sure to gather with us to support and welcome our new members on May 13, and be ready to renew your own membership vows.

Of course, the congregation that day also will include persons who are not members. That's good! Membership isn't required at Salem. We love to receive new members who step up and help take responsibility for Salem. But our purpose is to make disciples of Jesus. So whether we become members of a local church or not, all of us are called to follow Jesus, to become more like Jesus. Interestingly, the way we do that is with these same practices: worship, grow, serve, give, and share. Don't hesitate to contact me or our new Director of Discipleship, Tim King. We'd love to help you become more like Jesus. That's why we're here!

Grace and peace to you,

John Louk

May 2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 9:30 AM Prayer Room 9:30 AM Staff Meeting	2 10 AM Wednesday Morning Bible Study 5:15 PM Confirmation 6:15 PM Youth Group 6:30 PM Mom's Small Group 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	3 8:30 AM Foster Grandparent Program Meeting 12 PM Mission Team 12:30 PM Options of Linn County 3:30 PM Salem Servants Serve Green Square Meals	4 8:30 AM Van Buren School Backpack Program	5 8 AM UM Men's Breakfast
6 6th Sunday of Easter 9 AM Worship (Modern) 10 AM Fellowship 10:10 AM Children's Sunday School 11 AM Worship (Traditional) 12:45 PM Membership Orientation Lunch	7 12 PM Recreation for Seniors 6 PM Women's Small Group	8 5:15 PM Leadership Board	9 10 AM Wednesday Morning Bible Study 5:15 PM Confirmation 6:15 PM Youth Group 6:30 PM Mom's Small Group 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	10 9:30 AM UMW Sarah Circle Meeting 12:30 PM Options of Linn County 5:55 PM UMW Rachel Circle Meeting	11 8:30 AM Van Buren School Backpack Program	12
13 Ascension Sunday 9 AM Worship (Modern) 10 AM Fellowship 10:10 AM Children's Sunday School 11 AM Worship (Traditional) 5 PM Salem Son Walkers	14 12 PM Recreation for Seniors 6 PM Women's Small Group	15 9:30 AM Prayer Room	16 10 AM Wednesday Morning Bible Study 12 PM Golden Links 5:15 PM Confirmation 6:30 PM Mom's Small Group 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	17 12:30 PM Options of Linn County	18 8:30 AM Van Buren School Backpack Program	19
20 Day of Pentecost 9 AM Worship (Modern) 10 AM Fellowship 10:10 AM Children's Sunday School 11 AM Worship (Traditional) 12:30 PM Women's Care Group	21 <u>Forecaster articles due to Church Office</u> 12 PM Recreation for Seniors	22	23 10 AM Wednesday Morning Bible Study 6:30 PM Mom's Small Group 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	24 12:30 PM Options of Linn County 3:30 PM Salem Servants Serve Green Square Meals	25 8:30 AM Van Buren School Backpack Program	26
27 1st Sunday after Pentecost 9 AM Worship (Modern) 10 AM Fellowship 10:10 AM Connecting Point 11 AM Worship (Traditional) 5 PM Salem Son Walkers	28 Memorial Day Church Office Closed 11—2 PM Mara Louk's Graduation Open House	29 12:30 PM Cards and Fellowship	30 10 AM Wednesday Morning Bible Study 6:30 PM Mom's Small Group 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	31 12:30 PM Options of Linn County		Salem Office hours: Monday—Thursday 9 AM to 4 PM (closed holidays)

Worship Series for Easter — *Life After Death*

In May we continue to celebrate the Great Fifty Days of Easter. The Day of Pentecost is the fiftieth and last day of the Easter Season, celebrating the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church. After that we enter into Ordinary Time. The first Sunday after Pentecost is Trinity Sunday and celebrates the Trinity: one God in three persons (Father, Son, Holy Spirit). The liturgical colors are white and gold for Easter, red for Pentecost, and white for Trinity Sunday (from the *Book of Worship*).

Our Easter worship series, *Life After Death*, continues with the stories of what life is like after death was conquered and Jesus was raised from the dead. Come and worship!



Come and Worship!

Sundays

9 AM—Modern

11 AM—Traditional

May 6 **Sixth Sunday of Easter**

Acts 10:44-48

Psalm 98

1 John 5:1-6

John 15:9-17

Holy Communion

Gentiles Receive the Holy Spirit
The Whole Earth Has Seen God's Victory
Faith Conquers the World
The Command to Love One Another

May 13 **Ascension Sunday**

Acts 1:1-11

Psalm 47

Ephesians 1:15-23

Luke 24:44-53

(3rd Anniversary of Consecration Sunday with Bishop Trimble in 2015)

The Promise of the Holy Spirit
God Is King Over the Nations
Paul's Prayer for the Gift of the Spirit
Power from on High

May 20 **Day of Pentecost**

Acts 2:1-21

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Romans 8:22-27

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Holy Communion

The Coming of the Holy Spirit
God Sends Forth the Spirit
The Spirit Helps Us in Our Weakness
Jesus Will Send the Advocate



May 27 **Trinity Sunday**

Isaiah 6:1-8

Psalm 29

Romans 8:12-17

John 3:1-17

A Vision of God in the Temple
The Voice of God in a Great Storm
Life in the Spirit
Nicodemus Visits Jesus

May Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays:

- 1 Rachel Clayton
- 2 Diane Foss
- 3 Tom Harrison
- 3 Bob Walker
- 6 Morgan Schutt
- 7 Sheryl Hansen
- 8 Bob Lanz
- 10 Daniel Stanford
- 11 Richard Pankey
- 14 Keaton Schooley
- 14 Donovan Kohl
- 15 Alana Lindo Steele
- 18 Marlene Andersen
- 18 Bill Heald
- 19 Bev Carnahan
- 20 Roger Lindo
- 22 Janet Wilfong



- 24 Alissa Lefebure
- 26 Carol Thompson
- 26 Nelly Lindo
- 27 Peyton Carnicle
- 27 Coranda Pankey
- 28 Sydney Kohl
- 30 Piper Black
- 31 Sue Mihal

Anniversaries:

- 1 Roger & Nelly Lindo
- 8 Charles & Fran Martinec

Salem Servants



Salem Servants are serving at Green Square Meals at the Ecumenical Community Center every first and fourth Thursday of the month (May 3 and 24) at 3:30 PM. Any questions contact Linda Curson at lcursion@me.com or 319-651-8029; or Donna Borntreger at donnajborntreger@gmail.com or 319-213-1077.

Women's Care Group

Women's Care Group meets monthly to encourage and care for one another and to extend that care beyond the walls of Salem.

Please plan to join us Sunday, May 20 at Fazoli's on Edgewood Rd at 12:30 PM for food & fellowship.



New Director of Discipleship

We're very pleased to announce that Tim King has joined Salem's staff team as the Director of Discipleship. The primary purpose of this new position is to oversee Salem's discipleship pathway, the method for becoming like Jesus. John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist movement, defined a disciple of Jesus as having a heart habitually filled with love of God and neighbor, having the mind of Christ, and walking as Jesus walked.

In this position, Tim will oversee opportunities for children, youth, and adults to become like Jesus by supporting and coaching the leaders in those areas. There will be a special focus on launching small groups. Tim organized our small groups during Lent when we focused on Jesus' final words from the cross.

Tim and his wife, Nancy (in her last year serving as the Leadership Board chair), have been members of Salem for many years. He retired recently



from Quaker after 45 years. He enjoys reading, history, traveling, and cooking. He's a musician and has played for 30 years or so in a Polka band.

Tim loves to teach and is passionate about discipleship and the importance of it in our lives. He has served and led the Walk to Emmaus and Chrysalis for many years. He is gifted, experienced, rooted, and yet open to doing new things. We are very blessed to have Tim in this new position.

Job Opportunity



We're hiring! Do you, or someone you know, have a passion for worshipping our God? Are you task oriented with an eye for detail? Do you like to organize and recruit others to participate? We're expanding Salem's staff team with a new position: Worship Coordinator. The primary

purpose of this position is to oversee all aspects of Sunday morning worship (and other special services), directing these worship experiences. This person will lead a worship design team to produce Salem's worship services and oversee the leaders of the various components (audio/visual, lectors, communion stewards, greeters, ushers, etc.).

Stop by the church office for the job description and application or access them on our website at <http://salemchurchcr.com/resources/job-opportunities>.

May Mission Focus: Hygiene Kits

UMCOR is currently asking United Methodist's to, "Help us restock relief supply kits!" Relief Kits are those most needed because of recent hurricanes in the U.S. and to help restock the shelves for upcoming disasters. The relief kits include: school kits, hygiene kits (formerly health kits) and cleaning kits (formerly flood buckets).

Beginning in 2018, these three Relief Kits will remain in the U.S., so there will no longer be need to remove or cover patriotic symbols, such as flags.

Sometimes in-kind donations aren't the best way for us to be in ministry with another community. One of the realities is that when UMCOR ships kits into a country, we are flooding their market with free products and impacting local economies. UMCOR and United Methodist churches alike, are seeking ways to buy items in-country for that reason. "Because the kits are so regimented, they also don't always adjust well to cultural realities in a given place. This change will allow communities to get items that are appropriate to their context."

In May, Salem will be collecting hygiene kits and these kits will be



given to people in the United States when the need arises. The hygiene list includes:

- 1 Hand towel
 - 1 Washcloth
 - 1 Adult size toothbrush
 - 6 Adhesive Band-Aids
 - 1 Bath-size soap 3 oz. No Ivory or Jergens soap
 - 1 Comb 6 inches long
 - 1 nail file
 - \$1.00 to purchase toothpaste
- Please put all items in a one gallon zip lock bag.

School Kit Bags



We are getting ready to start School Kits soon, but we need some help. We need someone handy at cutting material to make the school bags. Then, we also need people to start sewing several bags. Please contact Joni Salazar at (319)573-3943 or Kathy Wickham at (319)362-9429 and we can give you the material and/or school bag pattern.

United Methodist Men

United Methodist Men's breakfast is Saturday, May 5, at 8 AM in Fellowship Hall. All men are invited for fellowship and breakfast. Please make your reservations by calling Jeff Cook at 319-393-9180.

Mark Minger



Cards and Fellowship



Come and enjoy an afternoon with your Christian friends!

Cards and Fellowship meets the last Tuesday of the month in Fellowship Hall. Come at 12:30 PM for a potluck, followed by devotions and games. Usually a hot UNO game, also Royal Rummy and Kings in the Corner. If you would like to try another game, please bring it and directions and we will join in.

Everyone is welcome so invite friends and relatives. The food is delicious! Love to see you all!

All Golden Agers Welcome!

Golden Links will meet on Wednesday, May 16, at 12 PM at Pizza Ranch (2450 Westdale Drive SW). Bob Walker will be speaking. Please join us! Call Josie Lanz (362-3859) or Judy Thomas (390-6574) for information.



United Methodist Women



Sarah Circle will meet on Thursday, May 10, at 9:30 AM in Fellowship Hall. Hostess is Marilyn Schade. Scripture: Luke 2:41-52 and Ruth 1:6-18. The lesson theme is "The Sacred Space of Nurturing". May is the month for

Nan Livingston, President

celebrating Mother's Day. As you read the scripture think of a woman who has nurtured your faith. Join Sarah Circle for fellowship and sharing.

Rachel Circle will meet on Thursday, May 10, at 5:55 PM in Fellowship Hall.

Report of the Leadership Board

Following the subcommittee meetings at 5:15 PM, the full board met at 5:47 PM. Chair Nancy Rawson led the meeting. She opened with prayer and shared a scripture reading from 1 Peter 1:3-5 reminding each of us that since Jesus was raised from the dead, we have each been given a brand-new life, including a future in heaven and a future that starts now.

Treasurer's Report – Linda Curson reported on the income and expenses for the first three months (January – March) of this year. March was a healthy giving month and we are beginning to make up the deficit from earlier in the year when expenses were higher than income. The building fund also has received an influx of gifts. Online givers, who have not set up their giving for this year, will be contacted by the Treasurer to see if she can help them through the renewal process.

Leadership Board Development/Training – The LB continued discussing the book: *Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory* by Tod Bolsinger. How do you canoe the mountains? You don't. Instead you need to "go off the map" into a new adventure that requires "adaptive capacity." Through this study, we are hoping to learn more about effective church leadership in this ever-changing world.

Another Set of Eyes – This ministry appraisal, evaluating the performance of the pastor, will be conducted this spring. Each member of the Leadership Board will complete the appraisal independently. The responses will be compiled and discussed with Pastor Louk for the final report.

Leadership Board Meeting Schedule – Due to scheduling conflicts, the May Leadership Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 8, instead of May 15.

Reconfiguration of Sanctuary Seating – The LB members provided additional feedback to the current seating arrangement in the sanctuary. Some minor adjustments, particularly to the front rows of seating, will be considered.

Trustees – *To correct some AV issues we have been experiencing in the sanctuary, new cabling is needed. The LB approved costs related to this installation. *The Cedar Rapids Emmaus Community plans to make a donation to help cover the costs for pouring a concrete slab (for the parking of the trailer on church property). *The new security system is fully installed. *The original contractor for our lighting in the sanctuary was able to repair one of the canned lights in the ceiling that had quit working. *The Trustees plan to send a card of thanks to Bud Carnahan for repairing the communion table in the sanctuary. *A dinner to honor volunteers in the church was suggested. *Lawn mowing for this year was discussed.

Meeting Notes 4-17-18

Stewardship – *Dave Davis completed the annual review of the Fund Balance Report for 2017 for our church. He concluded that the report presents an accurate reporting of the activity (income, expenses, and transfers) by fund balance. No exceptions were noted. He stated that "the Financial System is set up to handle Fund Accounting very well and the Treasurer does an exceptional job of maintaining the receipts/income and disbursements/expense of the various Funds." *The Stewardship Subcommittee reviewed a report from the United Methodist Women regarding their receipts and disbursements in 2017. Some of the beneficiaries of the UMW funding include Mission of Hope, Days for Girls, House of Hope, the Catherine McAuley Center, and the Community Health Free Clinic.

SPRC – *Annual staff evaluations will be conducted. It is a two-step process where the staff member completes a self-evaluation and then meets with the pastor and members of the SPRC. *Job descriptions for the Director of Discipleship and the Worship Coordinator have been completed. A candidate for the Director of Discipleship will be interviewed. The SPRC will begin their work on developing job descriptions for the Service Coordinator and the Community Ambassador.

Other Items - *Additional Sunday School teachers may be needed for next year as some current teachers may not be available to teach.

Closing – Nancy Rawson closed with prayer. The meeting adjourned at 7:54 PM.





May 2018 Forecaster

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RETURN SERVICE

REQUESTED

**Salem's mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.
"connecting people, building community, transforming lives through Jesus"**

Salem's Sunday Morning Schedule

9:00 AM	Modern Worship	Sanctuary
10:00 AM	Fellowship Time	Fellowship Hall
10:10 AM	Children and Adult Sunday School	Lower Level
11:00 AM	Traditional Worship	Sanctuary

Nursery for infants through 4-year-olds is available on the Lower Level during worship services and Sunday School.

Salem Office hours: Monday—Thursday 9 AM to 4 PM
(closed standard holidays)

