

July 2017

Volume 29, Number 7

# Salem

United Methodist Church

## Forecaster

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## It's Vacation Bible School Time!

Salem's annual Vacation Bible School is a time of growth and learning for the children of our Salem family and throughout our community. We are excited for this year's VBS program, held here at Salem Sunday, July 16 – Thursday, July 20, from 6-8 PM. Bring your children, your grandchildren, your neighbors, and friends! Spread the word!

This year's curriculum, Maker Fun Factory, focuses on discovering how each of us is lovingly created by God, built for a purpose. We look forward to a fun and impactful week!

We could use your help! It takes additional hands and hearts (about 25 more!) to make the week go well. We are in need of a leader for the Imagination Station area, where children learn about God's word through projects, a leader/co-leaders of snacks and refreshments to organize the kitchen activities, a volunteer who is able to support the week's audio visual needs, as well as many helper roles. If you are not able to be present during the week of VBS, and would like an alternative way to contribute, there is a poster of needed supplies in Fellowship Hall. Feel free to take a card, procure the supplies and drop off the supplies listed on the card in Fellowship Hall before July 14th.



Would you consider transforming the world through Jesus in one of these ways?

Flyers are available at the Welcome Center to assist you in inviting the children in your life to join us for a fun week of learning about our amazing God. Let's all work together to help our children experience the power of God!

Contact Amy Schilling at 319-573-1933 for more information.



## Our Stories Are Important



Julie Lefebure,  
Director of  
Communication

God can  
use any  
story to  
minister to  
His people.

Six weeks have passed since I began my position as Salem's Director of Communication. *Time flies when you're having fun, right?* As with all relationships, even with those in a church, communication matters. My hope is to bridge any gap that might exist, so we can live out Salem's mission even more effectively on a daily basis. It's been a joy for me to serve in this capacity thus far!

Being drawn to stories, I look forward to this month's worship series *Genesis: The Beginning of Our Story*. I anticipate what God will teach us through this series. You know, we each have a story. Yours might be dramatic, filled with twists and turns, ups and downs. Or, maybe it's more simple and contains beautiful, every day kind of moments. The unescapable truth is: our stories are important.

A number of years ago God blessed me with the opportunity of serving at a local mission, and while there, I learned many stories of the hurting and homeless in our community. They grabbed a hold of my heart and captured my attention. So much so, I began to share them on my blog once a week. These precious people's stories were too good to keep to myself, as they were filled with God's faithfulness, redemption, and love. I've begun compiling them in the pages of a book with the hopes of publishing them someday soon.

Steve, one whom I met at this mission, and his story changed me and my family. Here's an excerpt:

"Steve is special to our family. The more time we spend with him, the more he gives us glimpses into his struggle of drug addiction. We've never witnessed him under the influence, but I can discern his addiction is stronger than he is on his own.

When we think of the drug-addicted, sadly our minds often conjure up images

of dirty, indecent, hurtful people. We unfairly put them in boxes and label them as ones unqualified to be used by God.

During the summer of 2005, God used Steve to shift our perspective. Steve was released from drug rehab and came to live with our family for three months. We found ourselves many an evening reclining in our living room hanging on to every one of Steve's words as he shared pieces of his story and how substance abuse, what he called, 'ruined my life.'

Yet, the thread of hope weaved through his words as his love for Jesus etched every story. His story impacted our young children in ways their parents words could never do. Steve showed us the love of his Savior and opened our eyes to how God can use any willing heart, and any story, to minister to His people. We thought God brought Steve into our home to help him, but there's no doubt we were the ones impacted the most."

God rescued Steve from his addiction through Steve's physical death in 2009. But, before He did, God used him in mighty ways to impact a family of four in rural Benton County.

Yes, our stories are important. As we journey together through Genesis this month, may we pause not only to ponder God's story, but also the stories of those around us. May we allow God to mold us through them, and be willing to share our own stories to transform the world through Jesus.

Blessings,  
Julie Lefebure

## Summer Worship Series — *Genesis: The Beginning of Our Story*

In July we continue in Ordinary Time when the scripture readings do not relate together. Rather, we follow a continuous or semi-continuous track of scripture readings and they all stand on their own. Therefore, even though we will read the Old Testament, New Testament, and Gospel reading each week, they do not relate to one another intentionally. We will continue to focus on the Genesis readings from the Old Testament and build the worship services around them.

Our summer worship series is *Genesis: The Beginning of Our Story*. “Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing...in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” (Genesis 12:1-3) There is a Jewish prayer, Mi Shebeirach, that says: “May the source of strength who blessed the ones before us help us find the courage to make our lives a blessing.”

One special note: we will commission Joe Dunnwald on July 2 as his family is moving to Latimer, Iowa where Joe will pastor the Immanuel United Church of Christ. The liturgical color for this season is green, symbolizing growth in Christ. Come and worship!

### July 2 **Genesis: The Beginning of Our Story**

**Genesis 22:1–14** The Command to Sacrifice Isaac  
Psalm 13 Prayer for Deliverance from Enemies  
Romans 6:12–23 Slaves of Righteousness  
Matthew 10:40–42 Jesus Speaks about Rewards  
**Holy Communion**  
**Commissioning**

### July 9 **Genesis: The Beginning of Our Story**

**Gen 24:34–67** The Marriage of Isaac and Rebekah  
Psalm 45:10–17 Ode for a Royal Wedding  
Romans 7:15–25a The Inner Conflict  
Matt 11:16–19, 25–30 Come to Me, All You That Are Weary

### July 16 **Genesis: The Beginning of Our Story**

**Genesis 25:19–34** The Birth and Youth of Esau and Jacob  
Psalm 119:105–112 Your Word Is a Lamp to My Feet  
Romans 8:1–11 Life in the Spirit  
Matt 13:1–9, 18–23 The Parable of the Sower  
**Holy Communion**

### July 23 **Genesis: The Beginning of Our Story**

**Genesis 28:10–19a** Jacob’s Dream at Bethel  
Psalm 139:1–12, 23–24 The Inescapable God  
Romans 8:12–25 Life in the Spirit and Future Glory  
Matt 13:24–30, 36–43 The Parable of Weeds Among the Wheat

### July 30 **Genesis: The Beginning of Our Story**

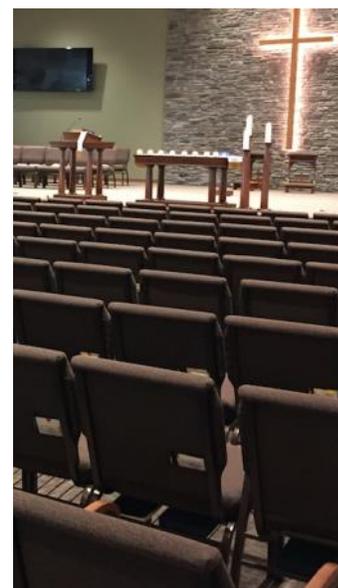
**Genesis 29:15–28** Jacob Marries Laban’s Daughters  
Psalm 105:1–11, 45b God’s Faithfulness to Israel  
Romans 8:26–39 God’s Love in Christ Jesus  
Matt 13:31–33, 44–52 Parables of Jesus

**Come and Worship!**

*Sundays*

*9 AM—Contemporary*

*11 AM—Traditional*



# July 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>2 Ordinary Time</b> 9 AM Contemporary Worship 9 AM Lectionary Class 10 AM Fellowship 10:10 AM Adult Sunday School 11 AM Traditional Worship	3	<b>4 Independence Day</b> Church Offices Closed	<b>5</b> 10 AM Wednesday Morning Bible Study	<b>6</b> 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 1 PM Mission Team 3:30 PM Salem Servants Serve Green Square Meals	<b>7</b> 8:30 AM Foster Grandparent Program Meeting	1 8 8 AM UM Men's Breakfast
<b>9 Ordinary Time</b> 9 AM Contemporary Worship 9 AM Lectionary Class 10 AM Fellowship 10:10 AM Adult Sunday School 11 AM Traditional Worship	10	<b>11</b> 9:30 AM Prayer Room	<b>12</b> 10 AM Wednesday Morning Bible Study 5 PM Ministry Teams Leader Meeting 6 PM Outreach Team Meeting	<b>13</b> 9:30 AM UMW Sarah Circle 5:55 PM UMW Rachel Circle	14	15
<b>Summer Games University youth camp at Grinnell</b>						
<b>16 Ordinary Time</b> 9 AM Contemporary Worship 9 AM Lectionary Class 10 AM Fellowship 10:10 AM Adult Sunday School 11 AM Traditional Worship	<b>17</b> <a href="#"><u>Forecaster articles due to Church Office</u></a>	18	<b>19</b> 10 AM Wednesday Morning Bible Study 12 PM Golden Links (Pizza Ranch)	20	21	22
<b>Vacation Bible School 6-8 PM</b>						
<b>23 Ordinary Time</b> 9 AM Contemporary Worship 9 AM Lectionary Class 10 AM Fellowship 10:10 AM Adult Sunday School 11 AM Traditional Worship 2:05 PM Salem Kernel's Game	24	<b>25</b> 9:30 AM Prayer Room 12:30 PM Cards and Fellowship	<b>26</b> 10 AM Wednesday Morning Bible Study	27	28	29
<b>30</b> 9 AM Contemporary Worship 9 AM Lectionary Class 10 AM Fellowship 10:10 AM Adult Sunday School 10:10 Connecting Point 11 AM Traditional Worship	<b>31</b> UMW Garage Sale Set Up					<b>Salem Office hours:</b> Monday—Thursday 9 AM to 4 PM (closed holidays)

## July Birthdays and Anniversaries

### Birthdays:

- 1 Joe Dunnwald
- 3 Bud Carnahan
- 3 Orrin Ward
- 3 Nancy Rawson
- 4 Sharon Ernberger
- 5 Nate Houstman
- 6 Stephanie Meyer
- 7 Dave Clark
- 8 James Engvall
- 12 Warren Holst
- 15 Charles Martinec
- 17 Donna Borntrager
- 18 Peggy Rosenkranz
- 21 Fran Martinec
- 21 Jacob Hansen
- 25 Thomas Holmes
- 26 Marilyn Schade



### Anniversaries:

- 3 Orrin & Marilyn Schade
- 5 Jeff & Melinda Gipple
- 8 John & Carol Thompson
- 10 Gene & Sue Mihal
- 16 Mark & Lori Hixson
- 19 Dave & Deb Fritz
- 21 Mark & Sandy Minger
- 24 Gary & Roberta Sweet

## In Gratitude



Thank you to our wonderful Salem Church family for all the cards, calls, and prayers during my recuperation from my recent surgery. It all helped in getting me through this difficult period.

In Christ's Love,

Linda Jandik

I am truly blessed. My knee surgery was successful and I'm on the road of recovery. My church family has been so supportive during this time. You showed me God's love in many ways. Thanks for your outreach and caring actions.

Heidi Pankey

## United Methodist Women Nan Livingston, President

**Sarah Circle** will meet on Thursday, July 13 at 9:30 AM in Fellowship Hall. Barb Whitmer is hostess. Lesson: "A LEARNING COMMUNITY" The Bible story is about Lydia, whose eagerness to learn led her to become a Christian and a leader of a church in her home. As we look at her life, the lesson will focus on how today women are engaged in programs of education that can transform lives. In honor of Lydia as the seller of purple cloth, Sarah circle members are encouraged to wear Purple or bring a purple cloth.

**Rachel Circle** is meeting Thursday, July 13 at 5:55 PM in Fellowship Hall, for a light supper and discussion for the upcoming church-wide garage sale. Hope to see you there.



## United Methodist Men



## Mark Minger

United Methodist Men's breakfast is Saturday, July 8, at 8 AM in Fellowship Hall. All men are invited to be a part of the United Methodist Men. Please make your reservations by calling Jeff Cook at 319-393-9180.

## All Golden-Agers Welcome!

**Golden Links** will meet on Wednesday, July 19, at 12 PM at Pizza Ranch (2450 Westdale Drive SW). Program by Roger Lindo. All seniors are invited. Please join us!

Call Jeff Cook (393-9180), Judy Thomas (390-6574) or Dick Talbott (247-9919) for information.



## Church-Wide Garage Sale



Salem's Church-Wide Garage Sale, an annual event sponsored by UMW, will be held Thursday, August 3, 8 AM-5 PM, and Friday, August 4, 8 AM-noon, in Fellowship Hall. Donation items may be dropped off in Fellowship Hall Tuesday, August 1, 9 AM-6 PM, and Wednesday, August 2, 9 AM-noon.

## Salem Servants

Salem Servants are serving at Green Square Meals at the Ecumenical Community Center every first Thursday of the month at 3:30 PM.

Any questions contact Linda Curson at [lcursion@me.com](mailto:lcursion@me.com) or 319-651-8029; or Donna Borntreger at [donnajborntreger@gmail.com](mailto:donnajborntreger@gmail.com) or 319-213-1077.

Items NOT accepted are baby cribs or car seats (recall issues), adult clothes, or furniture, but we will accept any other donations including CHILDREN'S clothes and shoes, and all those treasures around your house that you no longer need or use.

For additional questions, please contact Charlene Harrison at 319-393-9511.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and support.



## Cleaning Up Cancer Carnival Wrap-Up



On Saturday June 25, we partnered with Time in a Bottle and hosted the Cleaning Up Cancer Carnival. It was a wonderful opportunity to make a difference in our community and transform the world. Thanks to everyone that made this another successful outreach event.



## July Mission Focus: UMCOR School Kits

This month's Mission Focus is UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) School Kits. These kits help empower children by making school supplies available. Most of these children do not have access to books and other educational resources. The School Kits are simple, yet important gifts to children who might otherwise be significantly limited in their ability to fully engage in an educational experience.

School supplies sales will soon be starting in our local stores. As they do, the Mission Team encourages you to pick up a school bag in the Mission Center this month, and fill it with the following supplies:

3 wide ruled notebooks, approx. 8-1/2 x 11, 210 to 250 sheets

30 cm metric ruler

box of 24 crayons (ONLY 24)

eraser – 2" or larger

children's blunt scissors

hand pencil sharpener, not less than 2" in size

6 unsharpened pencils



Bulk donations of any of these items are also welcomed. Financial contributions may be placed in the offering during worship services or brought to the Church Office.

Please bring the filled School Kits to the brown collection box in the Mission Center July 31 or before.

The Mission Team is also looking for several people with sewing skills who could help sew the remainder of bags together. They are easy to sew. Please contact Kathy Wickham at 319-563-9427 if you can help in that way.

Thank you in advance for empowering children in education.

Contact Joni Salazar at 319-362-3943 or Evelyn Prasil at 319-389-0946 for additional information.

## News From the Salem Library



Many items have been added to almost every shelf in the Salem Library. Shelves are getting full, yet we

are still striving to complete some series. We also hope to do some weeding out by fall to make room for new books, DVDs etc.

On your Salem Library shelves are; VHS, CDs, cassettes, DVDs and books. The selections are rich and varied. Come, look for your favorite author or subject or just come check out entertainment or music. Interests on the shelves are Toddler through Adult. Come explore your Salem library this summer.

## Momodu Kamara's Commissioning



It was an extra-special Sunday on June 25 as Momodu Kamara's commissioning to Christian service took place at our 11 AM service. A reception was held during Fellowship time between the two services.

Momodu and Saffie and their children, Sahid, Don, and Esther came to us from Sierra Leone originally, but they have been with us for many, many years now. Momodu has served the church in many ways. Most recently, he and his family began a large mission work that we support, Books without Borders, Global, collecting, packing, and sending books to Sierra Leone.

At Annual Conference in 2015, Bishop Trimble gave an altar call. Momodu responded and went forward at the prompting of the

Holy Spirit when the Bishop invited people to come forward who felt called to ministry. Board of Ordained Ministry leaders were at the front to pray with individuals who went forward. Momodu came home feeling called to a deeper, more extensive witnessing of his faith.

Momodu and Pastor John began meeting together to discern his call and prepare him for ministry. The Leadership Board recommended Momodu as a candidate for Certified Lay Ministry in December 2015.

In April last year (2016), the District Committee on Ministry approved Momodu as a Certified Lay Minister, indicating he could be assigned by the District Superintendent to serve a local church. The dCOM was very impressed with Momodu and have encouraged him to switch from a Certified Lay Minister to a Licensed Local Pastor. That requires more work but that may be on the horizon for Momodu.

Finally, at the end of May, Momodu was assigned to serve the Springdale UMC, beginning July 1.

Congratulations, Momodu!

## Joe Dunnwald's Commissioning

It's an exciting time at Salem! Sunday, July 2, we are celebrating the commissioning of Joe Dunnwald during the 9 AM service, with a special reception to follow during Fellowship time. Joe will begin serving Immanuel United Church of Christ in Latimer, Iowa in July. Please join us as we celebrate and rejoice with Joe, his wife, Anna, and their children as they enter into ministry!



## Salem T-shirts

Could your wardrobe use an updated Salem T-shirt? The Outreach Team is offering new Salem T-shirts which will be available for viewing and ordering between services on Sundays, July 9 and July 16. They are available in light blue, light pink, and ash gray. Pricing as follows:

—Adult and youth screen printed short sleeved \$10 each up to XL; 2XL \$12; 3XL \$13; 4XL \$14

—Adult screen printed long sleeved \$12 each up to XL; 2XL \$14; 3XL \$15; 4XL \$16

—Adult embroidered polos short sleeved \$15 each up to XL; 2XL \$17; 3XL \$18; 4XL \$19



Personal checks may be made out to Salem. Contact Debbie Klatt at 816-668-6101 for questions and additional information.

## Summer Games University Camp

Worship together and spend time with Jesus, play hard and develop relationships... these are just a few things you (or your teen) will experience at Summer Games University Camp 2017. It's approaching quickly, July 10-14, held at the Grinnell College campus. SGU is for youth who have completed 6th through 12th grades. A few of our youth from

Salem are attending this camp. Registration and additional information can be found at [sgu.camp](http://sgu.camp).



## Salem Day at the Ballpark



Come join your Salem family for a fun afternoon at the ballpark on

Sunday, July 23, at 2:05 PM at Veterans Memorial Stadium. We'll cheer on the Kernels as they face the Lansing Lugnuts! Tickets are \$8 each and money is due to the Church Office or to Debbie Klatt by Sunday, July 16.

For additional information, please contact Outreach Team Leader, Debbie Klatt at 816-668-6101.

## Report of the Leadership Board

Following the subcommittee meetings at 5:15 PM, the full board met at 5:42 PM. LB Chair Nancy Rawson led the meeting. She opened with prayer and a scripture reading from Matthew 28 regarding the Great Commission. Charlie Thomas shared his faith story.

**July Meeting** – Due to summer scheduling conflicts, the Leadership Board will not meet in July. However, pertinent information will be communicated as needed.

**Scam Man** – Nancy presented information regarding a man who has been attending area churches telling them his parents were killed in Syria in a roadside bombing and he was flying there to be with family. This man visited Salem in May and some members of the congregation gave him money to help with his travel expenses. It was subsequently revealed that his story was untrue and he has been “scamming” many churches in this same way for some time. He was arrested in June and charged with theft. Any members of the congregation who continue to be concerned about this incident are encouraged to speak to one of the LB members or Pastor John.

**Faith Perceptions Report** – Since January, 12 people have visited Salem as “mystery guests.” These individuals pose as first-time visitors to our worship services and provide survey information describing their experiences. The information is compiled into a Faith Perceptions Report. We will be receiving the completed report in the near future.

**Security** – The LB discussed safety concerns at Salem particularly for those people attending evening meetings when there are very few people in the church. The possibility of an enhanced security system was proposed. This discussion will be ongoing.

**Stewardship** – ●The LB approved a request from the Outreach team to offer t-shirts and polo shirts with the Salem logo on them for sale on July 9 and 16. ●The income and expenses for the first five months (January – May) of this year were reviewed. The church finances continue to be in great shape.

**Trustees** – ●The Outreach team inquired into the possibility of having electrical outlets installed on the exterior of the building to use during outdoor events. In reviewing the electrical capacity in that area of the church, a more economical solution appears to be to rent generators for the days when they are needed. ●Preliminary grading has been done on our property to

## Meeting Notes 6-20-17

help with water run-off issues.

- Three groundhogs have been captured on the property.
- The Trustees plan to continue a business relationship with Edgewood Do It Best Hardware.
- An area near the outback buildings with holes in the ground will be fenced off to prevent possible injuries during the Cleaning up Cancer carnival.

**SPRC** – ●Nancy shared additional information about the Lilly Endowment National Clergy Renewal Program (discussed initially at last month’s LB meeting) that offers pastors the option to apply for a grant to cover expenses related to a sabbatical leave. Pastor John is interested in pursuing this opportunity with the support of the congregation and the conference. April 2018 is the next deadline for applications (for leave beginning no sooner than January 2019). The LB will encourage Pastor John to begin to formulate a proposal for consideration. ●The possibility of a month-long Continuing Formation renewal period (mid-January to mid-February 2018) for Pastor John was discussed. ●Salem has the honor of commissioning two Salem members for Christian Service. Momodu Kamara will be commissioned during the 11 AM service on June 25 to serve as the pastor of Springdale United Methodist Church. A reception will precede the service. Joe Dunnwald will be commissioned during the 9 AM service on July 2 to serve as the pastor of Immanuel United Church of Christ in Latimer, Iowa. A reception will follow. ●The SPRC plans to connect with new staff members to offer support.

**Closing** – Nancy Rawson closed with prayer. The meeting adjourned at 7:09 PM.





## July 2017 Forecaster

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## RETURN SERVICE

REQUESTED

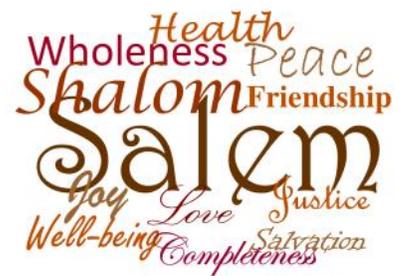
**Salem's mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.  
"connecting people, building community, transforming lives through Jesus"**

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## Salem's Sunday Morning Schedule

9:00 AM	Contemporary Worship	Sanctuary
9:00 AM	Lectionary Class	Lower Level Room 6
10:00 AM	Fellowship Time	Fellowship Hall
10:10 AM	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)