

PASTOR NEILL'S THOUGHTS

Desmond Doss was a World War II medic in the 77th Army Division and served on Okinawa, a small island off the coast of Japan. Mel Gibson has made a movie about his story called *Hacksaw Ridge*. Doss's story is powerful and moving. Doss was convinced that his faith in God prevented him from carrying a weapon or using it to kill another person. However, he was also convicted to serve his country. He decided to do that by being a medic. His convictions made it tough in boot camp. While there, his fellow soldiers made life difficult because he honored God. Even amid trials and torment, Doss held firm to his convictions. He persevered. During the battle at Hacksaw Ridge, he saved the lives of 75 men by carrying or dragging several of them over 100 yards, near the enemy's front lines, then lowering them to safety. Soldiers who'd once ridiculed him respected and honored the humble medic who'd given them a chance to live. The story is incredible, and the movie, while graphic, is powerful.

Praising, honoring, and respecting the one who gives you a chance to live -- it makes sense. Every Sunday is a little Easter. Every Sunday we gather to celebrate the One who has given us new life, the One who died our death and was resurrected. We celebrate the One who conquers death so that people have a chance not just to live, but to live eternally. Live for Jesus and worship Him in Church EVERY Sunday.

The Journey Continues,
Neill



EASTER EVENTS

March 29	4-5:30 pm	Easter Egg Extravaganza
April 2	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Service @ Salem
April 3	7:00 pm	Tennebrae Service @ Friendship GMC, 24696 NC 73 Hwy
April 5	7:00 am	Sunrise Service & Breakfast
	9:00 am	Worship Service-Sanctuary
	10:00 am	Sunday School
	11:00 am	Worship Service-Fellowship Bldg.

No Salem Kids & Salem Students on Easter Sunday



SALEM KIDS: for kindergarteners - 5th graders, meet Sundays in the Hut, 4:30-6:00. During April we will meet weekly except for Easter Sunday, April 5.

SALEM STUDENTS: for young people in 6th grade and older, meet for a fellowship meeting at the Hut on Sunday evenings from 6:00- 7:30, and we meet on Wednesdays for Bible study from 6:00 - 7:30 at the parsonage. The exceptions:

1. No meeting on Easter Sunday.
2. Sunday, April 12, we will meet in the Fellowship Building.
3. On Wednesday, April 15, we will serve the fellowship meal as our fundraiser for the Mission Trip.
4. Sunday, April 19, we will travel to Good Hope GMC in Lexington for a Leadership Team meeting for the mission trip.

CONFIRMATION CLASS 2026

We will begin class the week after Easter. Participants will only meet with mentors each week and then participate in a day-long retreat on Saturday, May 9, with Pastor Neill. Confirmation Sunday is May 24. If you have finished at least 6th grade and are ready to explore church membership, please speak with or send a text to Neill or Selwyn by Easter Sunday, April 5.



FELLOWSHIP MEAL-April 15

On April 15 celebrate with us that taxes are done with a fellowship meal! Our menu: Rosemary Pork Loin, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Homemade Rolls, Desserts, and Beverages. All proceeds will help the youth go on their mission trip June 21-27, 2026.



2026 HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE GRADUATES—May 17

Salem will honor our graduates during the worship services on Sunday, May 17. A luncheon after the worship services for graduates and their immediate



family is being planned. Because catering is involved, a **headcount is needed by May 1**. Please contact the church office with the graduate's name and future plans. We are excited to celebrate this important milestone in our young people's lives.

GILBERT AND LECTIE HARDWOOD SCHOLARSHIP—May 29

Applications are now being accepted for the Gilbert and Lectie Harwood Scholarship for the 2026-2027 school year. This scholarship will be awarded to someone pursuing post-secondary education with preference given to active members of Salem who demonstrate good academic standing and financial need. All application materials will be due to the Church Office by May 29, 2026, with the scholarship award to be given in August. For an application, please contact the Church Office or Anne Nance

UNDER THE STARS-May 30

May 30 is the Salem Night Under the Stars "Prom." This year we are opening it to everyone at every age so we can enjoy an evening together. Get dressed up, invite a friend, and be ready to dance like King David! It's a wonderful time of fellowship even if you don't dance. Everyone enjoyed the prom last year. Hope you will join us!

MISSION TRIP-June 21-27

June 21-27 is the annual Youth Sponsored Mission Trip. This year we are going to Plymouth, NC. Anyone finishing 6th grade and older may go with us. Speak to Pastor Neill or Selwyn if interested. Don't want to go, but would like to "help"? We need prayer partners and people to send homemade cookies, snacks, and other food items. Contact Selwyn for more information.



ART CAMP-JULY 12-15

Art Camp is July 12 - 15, and it will be here before we know it! We still need helpers in classes, and "guides" to take a small group of children to classes. We especially need preschool teachers, leaders for yarn art (like crocheting, weaving, etc.), and some creative music leaders. Please speak with Selwyn if you are interested.



READ THE BIBLE IN A YEAR-WEEKLY

Week 14 (April 5)

Evangelism

- ◇ Acts 8:26-40
- ◇ Deuteronomy 32:3-4
- ◇ Matthew 28:19-20
- ◇ Romans 10:10-17
- ◇ Colossians 4:2-6

Week 15 (April 12)

God's Word

- ◇ Psalm 119:9-16, 103-105, 114, 129-131
- ◇ Isaiah 40:8
- ◇ Romans 1:16-17
- ◇ 2 Timothy 3:16-17
- ◇ Hebrews 4:12

Week 16 (April 19)

One Body

- ◇ 1 Corinthians 12:12-27
- ◇ Proverbs 27:17
- ◇ Acts 2:42-27
- ◇ Romans 12:1-8
- ◇ Ephesians 4:11-13

Week 17 (April 26)

Faith & Faithfulness

- ◇ Hebrews 11
- ◇ Lamentations 3:22-23
- ◇ Mark 11:22-24
- ◇ Luke 16:10-12
- ◇ 2 Corinthians 5:7



Stanly Community Christian Ministries' needs for April are canned vegetables, such as green beans, corn, carrots, peas, mixed vegetables, tomatoes, etc.



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|----|--|----|---|
| 1 | Amber Luevano | 17 | Heather Almond |
| 3 | Ella Huneycutt
Amy Preslar | 19 | Pat Winecoff |
| 5 | Misty Smith | 20 | Bryce Raybon |
| 6 | Caity Godfrey
Cody Lowder
Bridget Nance | 22 | Chuck Preslar |
| | | 24 | Liz Davis |
| | | 26 | Gwen Whitley |
| 7 | Parker Tegels
Starr Hasenmayer
Colby Mauldin | 27 | JoAnn Miller |
| | | 29 | Marlys Lipe
Penny Hatley |
| 9 | Lisa Clayton | 30 | John Herlocker
Mike "Andretti" Smith |
| 13 | David Hudson | | |
| 15 | Cedel Lowder | | |
| 16 | Weslyn Blankenship | | |



Salem's Mission Statement:

**To Know Christ's Love,
To Grow in Christ's Love,
To Share Christ's Love**

GMC INFORMATION

Learn about the Global Methodist Church and how they are making disciples of Jesus Christ and spreading scriptural holiness by visiting these websites:

ncglobalmethodist.org
globalmethodist.org



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Linda Almond | Annie Laura McCroskey |
| Pat Blankenship | Jacob McDaniel |
| Paula Case | Beth Plowman |
| Billy Clayton | Lee Preslar |
| Cyrus Cooper | Robin Ray |
| Evelyn Drye Family | Jeanette Raybon |
| Ron Drye | Ruby & Robert Rummage |
| Sam Eudy | Rodney Russell Family |
| Genny Fast | Bob & Gaynelle Shires |
| Jim & Pam Furr | Shelby Shoe |
| Jerry Hager | Brooke Smith |
| Becky Harris | Jeremy Smith |
| Ann Hatley | George Winecoff |
| Jimmy Heglar | Keegan Woolwine |
| Carol Herlocker | |
| Roger Lowder | |
| Sharon L. Lowder | |



TREASURER'S REPORT

General Fund

3/1	\$7,800
3/8	\$4,307
3/15	\$4,969
3/22	\$5,815





MEMORIALS

Good Neighbor Food Pantry

In loving memory of Evelyn Drye by Roger & Ginger Lowder, Robert & Marlys Lipe, Bill & Audrey Rigsbee, Mike & Gwen Hinson, Oscar Avila & Magnum Manufacturing, Eila Maddox, Linda Williamson, Prospect Baptist Church

Playground Fund

In loving memory of Becky Blankenship Leeper by Gwen and Mike Hinson

THANK YOU

Jerry Hager wishes to thank everyone for the cards and prayers during his recent hospitalization. It meant so much to him.

My dear father, Rommie Sells, was the recipient of a great kindness recently. Tim's Youth Group built a deck with a wheelchair ramp for him. It is not just a deck, it is his main source of joy and pride. He brags on the excellent workmanship to everyone who visits. The easy access makes life so much safer. It is wonderful to have his mind engaged with ideas for furniture and naming the birds in the yard. We are grateful and blessed.

Love, Crystal Hatley

My family and I would like to extend our deepest heartfelt gratitude to the members of Salem Global Methodist Church as we were all touched by the support and care given to us during the time of Evelyn's passing. Your presence and that of many others with the comforting words and acts of kindness have helped us all thru this challenging time by the profound demonstration of the love of Christ and of their fellow neighbor. I have been blessed to be a member of this body of believers.

Jackie Drye

The Ladies Fellowship Class would like to thank everyone for their support of the March Fellowship Meal.

OFFICE CLOSED—Monday, April 6 in observance of Easter

CHURCH COUNCIL—Sunday, April 12 @ 2 pm in FB

LADIES CIRCLE—April 12

All ladies are invited to join us on Sunday, April 12, at 3:00 pm in the Fellowship Building. Please bring breakfast casseroles for Grace Place if you have not already done so.

APRIL FELLOWSHIP MEAL—April 15

See Family Life Section for more information.

IRON SHARPENS IRON MEN'S CONFERENCE—April 18 @ 8:30am

DEMENTIA CAREGIVING SUPPORT GROUP—April 21

Our next meeting is April 21, at 6:00 pm in the Hut. Please invite anyone you know needing support as they care for their loved one at home or in a facility. Contact Lisa Clayton

JOYFUL HEARTS—April 25

Salem's Joyful Hearts group will meet on Saturday, April 25, from 1-3:00 pm in the Fellowship Building. You are invited to bring a snack to share with the group. There will be some fun activities.

MOTHER'S DAY/FATHER'S DAY BULLETIN—due April 13

The Ladies Circle will again be preparing Mother's Day and Father's Day special bulletins. Each name you place in these bulletins in honor or memory of a loved one is \$2. This money is used to support the needs of local individuals and organizations as well as mission projects.

Forms are located in classrooms, the Sanctuary, the Fellowship Building and the church mailboxes. Please print names as you want them to appear in the bulletin. The deadline is Monday, April 13. Please give forms and money (cash or checks payable to Salem Circle) to Jo Hatley, Anne Nance, the church office or place in the offering plate.

LADIES NIGHT OUT—May 12

Salem's annual Ladies' Night Out hosted by the Ladies' Circle will be on Tuesday evening, May 12, for all single ladies of the church and community in the Fellowship Building.

Social time is at 5:30 pm, and dinner will be served at 6:00 pm. Please RSVP to a circle member or the church office as soon as possible. Let the church office know of any other ladies who might also enjoy attending from the community.

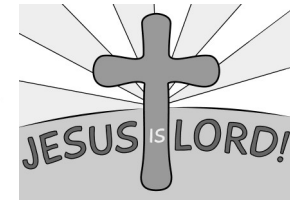
BACK-TO-SCHOOL CLOTHING EVENT

Salem will host a clothing giveaway event in July to provide our community children with clothing for school. To do this, we need donations of clean used clothing for students aged preschool through high school. When your children or grands outgrow their clothes, please bring them to the church office or Mission Room for sorting and storage. Hangers and clothes racks are also welcome. For more info call/text Marlys Lipe.





April, 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 9am - Worship Service 10am - Sunday School 11am - Worship Service- 4pm - Easter Egg Hunt	30 10am - The Village	31 6:30pm - Lent Bible Study	1 6pm - Youth Bible Study 6:30pm - Choir Practice	2 7pm - Maundy Thursday Service - Salem	3 7pm - Tennebrae Service- Friendship GMC	4
5 Easter Sunday 7am - Sunrise Serv + Bkpt 9am - Worship Service 10am - Sunday School 11am - Worship Service-	6 Easter Monday Office Closed	7	8 6pm - Youth Bible Study 7pm - Choir Practice	9	10	11
12 9am - Worship Service 10am - Sunday School 11am - Worship Service- 2pm - Church Council-FB 3pm - Ladies Circle-FB 4:30pm - Salem Kids-Hut 6pm - Salem Students-Hut	13 10am - The Village	14	15 Tax Day 5pm - Fellowship Meal 7pm - Choir Practice	16	17 Men's Conference	18
19 9am - Worship Service 10am - Sunday School 11am - Worship Service- 3pm - Mission Trip Leaders 4:30pm - Salem Kids-Hut 6pm - Salem Students- Hut	20 10am - The Village	21 6pm - Dementia Support- Hut	22 6pm - Youth Bible Study 7pm - Choir Practice	23 11:30am - Deliver school backpacks	24	25 1pm - Joyful Hearts-FB
26 9am - Worship Service 10am - Sunday School 11am - Worship Service- 4:30pm - Salem Kids-Hut 6pm - Salem Students-Hut	27 10am - The Village	28	29 6pm - Youth Bible Study 7pm - Choir Practice	30	1	2 Reserved-FB



WORSHIP LEADERS FOR APRIL

GREETERS

Stan & Donna Bowers

Ushers & Greeters

HEAD USHER

David Hearne



COMMUNION SERVERS

Andy, Christa & Andrew Hager

WORSHIP LEADERS

4/5 Gwen Hinson

4/12 Valrie Hefty

4/19 Amy Preslar

4/26 Travis Gordon



FLOWERS

4/5

4/12

4/19

4/26



Sanctuary Flowers