

PASTOR NEILL’S THOUGHTS

Wesley believed in Holiness as a way of life. He believed that what we say and what we believe should be evident in our day to day lives. So, in our words, actions, devotional life, and at all times there would be continuity. In fact, John Wesley insisted that forgiveness of sins gives believing people the right to heaven; but only holiness renders us fit for heaven. In other words, Justification (pardon, forgiveness) admits us; sanctification (holiness, new birth) fits us. Justification means that in Christ believers have a new standing with God; sanctification (holiness) means that in Christ believers have a new nature from God. Wesley believed that God had raised up the Methodists to renew the Church and bring Holiness and Holy living back to the Church universal. That is also what we believe about the Global Methodist Church! We are a renewal movement Maybe it is time to go back and embrace Holiness! Holy living, Holy believing, being Holy devoted to God.

Here is one set of twenty-one questions which John Wesley gave to members of his discipleship groups more than 200 years ago. The questions may have their origin in the spiritual accountability group started by Wesley when he was a student at Oxford -- a group that detractors called "The Holy Club."

- 1. Am I consciously or unconsciously creating the impression that I am better than I really am?
In other words, am I a hypocrite?
- 2. Do I confidentially pass on to others what has been said to me in confidence?
- 3. Can I be trusted?
- 4. Am I a slave to dress, friends, work or habits?
- 5. Am I self-conscious, self-pitying, or self-justifying?
- 6. Did the Bible live in me today?
- 7. Do I give the Bible time to speak to me every day?

- 8. Am I enjoying prayer?
- 9. When did I last speak to someone else of my faith?
- 10. Do I pray about the money I spend?
- 11. Do I get to bed on time & get up on time?
- 12. Do I disobey God in anything?
- 13. Do I insist upon doing something about which my conscience is uneasy?
- 14. Am I defeated in any part of my life?
- 15. Am I jealous, impure, critical, irritable, touchy or distrustful?
- 16. How do I spend my spare time?
- 17. Am I proud?
- 18. Do I thank God that I am not like other people, especially as the Pharisees who despised the Publican?
- 19. Is there anyone whom I fear, dislike, disown, criticize, hold a resentment toward or disregard?
If so, what am I doing about it?
- 20. Do I grumble or complain constantly?
- 21. Is Christ real to me?

How did you do?
Are you living a Holy life?
Are you becoming more like Christ each day?
Is my holiness really self-righteousness?

These are all good Wesleyan questions to ponder each day to tell us how it is with our souls. I, as your pastor, clearly have some work to do! If we allow ourselves to become accustomed to the atmosphere of secularism and moral perversion that dominates our culture, then we, too, will find that our Christian lives are going the way of the dinosaurs. It is time for Christians to get back to the life for which we were created. Holiness... priceless!

The Journey continues...

Neill

GMC CIRCLE CAMP MEETING-September 17

Our GMC "Circle of Churches" will have a Camp Meeting at Friendship GMC on September 17. The speaker is Rev. Randy Foster, the Asheboro District's Lead Presiding Elder.

Salem's Youth will serve a fellowship meal at 6:00 pm in Friendship's Hut. Freewill donations will be accepted and will go to our Youth Group.

The Worship Service will begin at 7:00 pm under the shelter, weather permitting. You may bring your lawn chairs or sit at the picnic tables.

Please come out and support our "Circle" and our youth.

BISHOP GREENWAY’S TEACHING--September 21

At Annual Conference this year Bishop Greenway taught about the great Methodist doctrine of Holiness. Everyone present was amazed and blessed by his teaching. His teaching was so good that I wanted to share it with you. On Sunday, September 21, at 6:30 pm, we will share in the Bishop's teaching. All are encouraged to come and recapture this doctrine of the church.

FINANCE UPDATE

Through July we are running behind on our contributions to the General Fund compared to last year, right at \$9,000 less. Please make every effort possible to help us meet budget. July is always a tough month with the yearly insurance payment due on July 1. This year it was \$20,228 and combined with normal expenses, it hurts to see that invoice come in, but we normally recover by the end of the year.
Thanks for your continuing faithfulness in giving.
Bill Rigsbee, Finance Chair



READ THE BIBLE IN A YEAR-WEEKLY

Week 36 (September 7)

Kindness

◇ Luke 10:25-37

◇ Joshua 2:1-16

◇ Jeremiah 31:3

◇ Matthew 5:43-48

◇ Ephesians 4:32

Week 37 (September 14)

Good Shepherd

◇ John 10:1-18

◇ Psalm 23

◇ Luke 15:1-7

◇ Hebrews 13:20-21

◇ 1 Peter 2:25

Week 38 (September 21)

Lord's Supper

◇ Luke 22:7-20

◇ Exodus 12:1-8

◇ John 6:52-58

◇ 1 Corinthians 10:14-17

◇ 1 Corinthians 11:23-29

Week 36 (September 28)

Kindness

◇ Luke 10:25-37

◇ Joshua 2:1-16

◇ Jeremiah 31:3

◇ Matthew 5:43-48

◇ Ephesians 4:32



Stanly Community Christian Ministries' needs for September are paper goods (toilet tissue, paper towels, facial tissue) and cleaning supplies



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



1 Julio Ferrer

Bill Rigsbee

Jody Smith

2 Robin Barbee

4 Vickie Furr

Lorene Goodrum

Sandy Combs

5 Alexis Almond

6 Nancy Lipe

7 Richard Rothe

11 Joe Lambeth

12 Crystal Hatley

16 Chase Godwin

Kaylan Roland

18 Eric Slone

Joe Parker

Jack Blankenship

Corey Harwood

19 Brooke Burrage

Braylon Love

21 Sharon C. Lowder

22 Laura Hatley

25 Paige Janey

26 Charlotte Tegels

27 Silas Lowder

Joni King

29 Cindy Newsom

Charlie Burrage



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

During September, we are collecting dolls, small cars, girl and boy toys for the shoeboxes. These may be left at the church office, in the boxes in the Sanctuary or the Fellowship Building.

Monetary donations will also be accepted. Please mark the envelope or check as "OCC" or "shoeboxes."



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Larry Almond Family

Keith Anderson

Karen Ash

Pat Blankenship

Daryl Christy

Doug Clayton

Andria Coble

Patsy Eudy

Sam Eudy

Bobbie Frick

James Michael Furr

Jim & Pam Furr

Cynthia Goodman

Faye Hall

Ann Hatley

Reggie Hatley

Terry Herlocker

William Huneycutt

Ron & Rita Janey

Roger Lowder

Rodrigo Luevano, Jr.

Coleman Markham Family

Annie Laura McCroskey

Lori Meyer

David Montague Family

Linda Morgan

Nathan Nance

Joe Parker

Lee Preslar

Robin Ray

Audrey Rigsbee

Alice Rothe

Richard Rothe

Shelby Shoe

Sherrill Smith

Darrell Story

Kate Tesch

Tim Wyatt



Salem's Mission Statement:

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

General Fund

7/27 \$5,660

8/3 \$4,521

8/10 \$4,356

8/17 \$4,217

8/24 \$3,134



CONGRATULATIONS

Everette Samuel Hinson was born on July 22. He is the son of Zack and Kaina Hinson, grandson of Jodi Lyons, Joe Lambeth and Waleska Marquez, great-grandson of Linda and Charles Thompson, and little brother of Emerald. Everette weighed 5 pounds 7 ounces and was 20 inches long.



“You are God’s masterpiece.” -Ephesians 2:10

MEMORIALS/HONORARIUMS

General Fund

In loving memory of Dolan Sides & Horace Furr by Nadine Bowers

In loving honor of Warren Hatley by a friend

THANK YOU

Do you believe in Angels? I do. The Angels from Salem have helped me to make the move from my home to Trinity Place. Thanks to the Millingport Men's Cub and Bill Rigsbee and a super Thank You to special angels, Boyd and Vickie Furr. God Bless and Thank You! Richard Rothe

The Youth Group would like to thank everyone for their support of the ice cream social. They raised \$1,165 for their upcoming projects.



Salem Friends,
We want to thank you all for the cards, thoughts, prayers and concern during this difficult time of Earl’s passing. Thank you again, Edie Dedmon, Melissa Zaleski, Carrie Pope, Erin Blakley and families.

Salem Church, Thank you all so much for the delicious back to school lunch, our goody bags, and supplies for our students. More importantly, thank you for the prayers that you pray over our staff, students, and their families. We appreciate your support more than you know.
Love, Millingport Staff

CONTACT INFORMATION UPDATES

Valrie Hefty’s phone number is 704-207-4000.

Richard Rothe’s address is Trinity Place, 24724 S. Business 52, Albemarle, NC 28001. Room phone is 980-423-6217. Mobile phone is 704-438-5286.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED Monday, September 1 for Labor Day

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE -Tuesday, Sept. 2 @ 6:30 pm-Hut

MILLINGPORT MEN’S CLUB – Sunday, Sept. 7 @ 7:30 am - FB

PPRC (Staff Parish) - Monday, Sept. 8 @ 7:00 pm - Hut

FINANCE COMMITTEE – Thursday, Sept. 11 @ 7:00 pm - Hut

UPCOMING GMC “CIRCLE” REVIVAL - September 15

We have an opportunity to support Pastor Neill in a neighboring church revival. Please mark your calendar. He will preach Monday, September 15 at 7:00 pm at Love’s Grove GMC, 4360 Polk Ford Road, Stanfield.

GMC “CIRCLE” CAMP MEETING—September 17 - Friendship GMC (See Pastor’s Page for more information.)

BISHOP GREENWAY TEACHING—Sun., Sept. 21 @ 6:30 pm

BACKPACK BUDDIES PROGRAM

Wow! We are already getting wonderful donations.

Some items we could use are protein items (pop top cans of spaghetti& meatballs, spaghetti-o’s, pouches of tuna or chicken, etc.) packs of nuts or trail mix, cheese or peanut butter crackers and individual cereals.

Please do not donate sweets, canned goods requiring can openers, fragile items, fresh foods that can spoil.

Donations can be left outside the office or in the mission room. Thanks for your support! Teresa Bangle

ADULT MISSION TRIP—October 22-25

Salem will be going on a mission trip October 22-25 to Plymouth, NC. We will stay at Plymouth UMC and work through Carolina Rebuilding Ministries. Please let Tim Bennett or Pastor Neill know as soon as possible if you would like to participate or for more information.



SAVE DATES OCTOBER

3-4		Renew Youth Event
10-11		Unityfest Youth Event
12	2:00 pm	Church Council—FB
12	3:00 pm	Ladies Circle—FB
22-25		Adult Mission Trip
26		Trunk-or-Treat

SALEM’S 2025-26 COLLEGE STUDENTS

Jaquelin Ferrer

High Point University
One University Parkway
High Point, NC 27268



Ella Huneycutt

Western Carolina University
245 Memorial Drive
Suite 7611
Cullowhee, NC 28723

Lannah Huneycutt (Pfeiffer University)

25648 Austin Road
Albemarle, NC 28001

America Magana (Stanly Community College)

814 Yorkshire Drive
Albemarle, NC 28001

Erika Slone (Stanly Community College)

28527 Millingport Road
Albemarle, NC 28001



September, 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31 10am - Sunday School 11am - Combined Service	1 Labor Day Office closed	2 6:30pm - Nominations - Hut	3 6pm - Youth Bible Study 7pm - Choir Practice	4	5	6
7 7:30am - Men's Club-FB 9am - Worship Service 10am - Sunday School 11am - Salem Too 4:30pm - Salem Kids Hut 6pm - Youth Group Hut	8 7pm - PPRC - Hut	9	10 6pm - Youth Bible Study 7pm - Choir Practice	11 7pm - Finance Committee - Hut	12	13
14 9am - Worship Service 10am - Sunday School 11am - Salem Too 3pm - Ladies Circle 4:30pm - Salem Kids Hut 6pm - Youth Group Hut	15 7pm - Neill-Love's Grove Revival	16	17 6pm - GMC Meal- 7pm - GMC Camp Meeting Friendship GMC	18 6pm - Dementia Support - Spring Arbor	19	20
21 9am - Worship Service 10am - Sunday School 11am - Salem Too 4:30pm - Salem Kids Hut 6:30pm - Bishop's Teaching - FB	22	23	24 6pm - Youth Bible Study 7pm - Choir Practice	25	26	27
28 9am - Worship Service 10am - Sunday School 11am - Salem Too 4:30pm - Salem Kids Hut 6pm - Youth Group Hut	29	30	1 6pm - Youth Bible Study 7pm - Choir Practice	2	3 Renew Youth Event	4 Renew Youth Event



WORSHIP LEADERS FOR SEPTEMBER

GREETERS

Teresa Bangle & Anne Nance

Ushers & Greeters



HEAD USHER

Eric Slone

COMMUNION SERVERS

Anne Nance, Reggie & Vickie Hatley

WORSHIP LEADERS

9/7 Andrew Hager

9/14 Gary Hatley

9/21 Nadine Bowers

9/28 Penny Hatley



FLOWERS

9/7 Lisa Almond

9/14

9/21

9/28 Ann Hatley



FAMILY LIFE MINISTRIES

Philippians 4:6-7 says, “Do not be anxious about anything, **but in everything by prayer** and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” Certainly rearing children never gets any easier, but Philippians 4:6-7 is encouraging as we all seek to bring our children up in faith. Might we during this school year as parents and Salem members take the promises we make when a child is baptized and put on repeat : **but in everything by prayer**. I promise you that I will have this phrase in my mind as we love your children and plan for the church’s part in their Christian formation. Won’t you join me? —Selwyn

SALEM KIDS

We tried to meet just once a month with the children, but it wasn’t enough. So, beginning September 7, we will meet weekly, 4:30-6:00 pm. We are honored that Nadine Bowers, Daniela Carpenter, Carly Kenley, and Brooke Burrage will all be helping to lead.



If you have children, grandchildren, friends, or neighbors, ages Kindergarten - 5th grade, we’d love to spend some time (in the Hut) with them on Sunday afternoons. We learn, laugh, play, craft, and snack together as we praise Jesus! Interested in more info? Please talk with Selwyn.

SALEM YOUTH

Middle School and High School students gather in the Hut on Sunday evenings, 6:00 -7:30 pm. Since as stated in the Bible, sharing food together is one of the primary ways relationships with God and others are established, deepened, and enjoyed, we eat together— sometimes a snack while other times a meal, along with looking into scripture and playing games to help us get to know one another better.

- Sept 7 — Make Care Packages for College Students
- Sept 14—Make desserts for Circle Camp meeting
- Sept 17 - Circle Camp Meeting — making and serving the meal as a fundraiser
- Sept 21 — Regular meeting
- Sept 28 — Regular meeting

Coming up in October:



Global Methodist Church

RE Conference

Renew • Refresh • Rejoice

Youth Retreat | October 3-4, 2025

 **Crossroads Church**
220 George W. Liles Parkway NW
Concord, NC 28027

More Info & Registration



Selwyn MUST know by September 13 if you want to go — registration deadline is September 15. Incentive to go? Rev. Andy Lambert will be preaching one session, and we get to help build another Cabin For Christ on Saturday afternoon.



This music festival unifying the Body of Christ will be at the Luck Barn in Seagrove, NC. Tickets are “free” but a donation is accepted. We will give based on participation and ask \$10 from each youth. Please let Selwyn know by September 13 if you will attend.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10th 6:00pm
Karen Peck & New River, Consumed By Fire, NATALIE GRANT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11th 12:00pm
Blessing Offor, The Martins, Madisen Renee, The Sound, Warren Peay, Jason Crabb, RED ROCKS WORSHIP

YOUTH/YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY

The group continues to meet on Wednesdays, 6:00-7:30 pm. We are almost finished with Crazy Love by Frances Chan, but since lessons don’t build upon each other, new participants are encouraged to join us. Bring a Bible, open heart and mind to be filled with God’s Spirit.

GMC CIRCLE CAMP MEETING—September 17

Join us!
Our GMC Circle Camp Meeting will be Wednesday, September 17 at Friendship GMC, 24696 NC 73 Hwy, Albemarle.

The fellowship meal is at 6:00 pm at Friendship, and the worship service is at 7:00 pm. Our Salem Youth are preparing and serving the meal. Cost: Freewill donation to be used for our youth ministries.



This is an article from Bishop Greenway. If you would like more information on what the GMC is doing check out this great site: <https://www.globalmethodist.org>

SOME THOUGHTS ON INTEGRITY

One of my favorite axioms about integrity is: “All tea bags look alike until you put them in hot water.” It’s a reminder that integrity isn’t always seen at first, but it’s revealed in a person’s life over time and through circumstances. Anyone can be a person of integrity when life and its choices are easy, but when life is challenging and the choices are complex, our true integrity is revealed in the heat of the moment.

Solomon spoke of one of the many benefits of integrity in Proverbs:

“Whoever walks in integrity walks securely.” (Proverbs 10:9)

A description of integrity includes words like character, honesty, truthfulness, decency, righteousness and trustworthiness. Who wouldn’t want to be described with these words?

The Bible devotes little space to Hananiah, but it nicely summarizes his character.

“I put in charge of Jerusalem my brother Hanani, along with Hananiah the commander of the citadel, because he was a man of integrity and feared God more than most people do. (Nehemiah 7:2).

A reputation like that is hard to earn. What does your reputation reveal about your integrity? Are you known for your character, honestly, truthfulness and decency? Do your words and actions reflect righteousness and trustworthiness? Do you revere God more than most?

I recently read about a professor who told his students, “I am giving two tests today: one is trigonometry and the other is integrity. I hope you pass them both. But if you have to fail one, fail trigonometry. There are many good people who cannot pass trigonometry. But there are no good people who cannot pass integrity.”

I’m so grateful my mom and dad pounded the importance of integrity into me as a child and adolescent. They always told me. “Remember who you are and who you belong to.” That meant I was Harold and Betty Jo Greenway’s son. I carried their name, and everything I said and did was a reflection of my family name. But more importantly, it was a reminder that I am a child of God. I was baptized as a child—set apart to be raised in the community of faith. It meant that I represented not only my family, but also God’s family. My integrity matters—even today!

Remember who you are and who you belong to, my friends!

Bishop Jeff Greenway