#### Monthly Newsletter of Salem UMC, Morganton, NC



# Salem Scoop

Dear Church Family,

As my time with you as interim pastor comes to a close, my heart is full of gratitude. It has been a sacred privilege to walk alongside you in this season of transition—sharing in worship, conversation, prayer, and the quiet work of growing together in faith.



Thank you for trusting me with the tender work of guiding and supporting you during this in-between time. Thank you for your patience as we discerned next steps, tried new things, and listened for God's direction. And thank you for your kindness and encouragement—you've offered me far more than I could have ever expected.

Transitions are never easy, but you have navigated this one with grace, courage, and a deep commitment to your faith and your future. You've shown that the church is not just a place or a person—it's a people, living the gospel together with hope and purpose.

As you prepare to welcome your new pastor, I want to encourage you to keep doing what you've done so well: show up with open hearts, stay rooted in love, and support one another generously. Your new chapter is filled with possibility, and I truly believe that God has great things in store for you.

I'll carry the memories of our time together with me, and I'll continue to pray for you in the days ahead. May you continue to grow, serve, and shine as a light in your community—grateful for your past, grounded in the present, and hopeful for the future.

With heartfelt thanks and blessings,

Pastor Keith



As our parsonage challenge continues, we are finally able to report some very good news! Our Trustees recently solicited bids for repairing the front basement wall which imploded earlier this year. It was determined that instead of rebuilding the wall as previously constructed, it could be reconstructed by pouring concrete into a thicker wall frame as opposed to the original four-inch smaller block. This proposal was submitted to the county for structural engineering approval.

The engineering approval was granted! The "lean-to" was removed from the front of the parsonage, it was excavated, and forms were constructed for the new concrete wall. The next step was to submit the reconstruction plans back to the county for a building permit. After review by the county, the building permit was granted. The next step is to have concrete brought in and poured into the forms, creating the new stronger foundation wall. As the concrete cures, new siding will be installed on the front of the parsonage and proper drainage will be configured and installed. Once this process is complete, interior deep cleaning can take place, and the parsonage will once again be ready for occupancy!

We would like to extend a special thanks to our Trustees for their dedicated perseverance in the restoration efforts thus far as well as our Conference for their amazing support! We look forward to a Parsonage Re-Dedication and Blessing Service this fall!





# Looking Good!



Join us in welcoming
Pastor Monica and David!
Sunday, July 13<sup>th</sup>
12:00 Noon
Covered Dish Luncheon!

# Updated Church Office Hours



Effective Tuesday, July 1<sup>st</sup> the church office will be staffed from 12:30 pm to 6:00 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays.



# **Salem UMC Blood Drive**

Here is the breakdown of our blood drive:
39 scheduled donors
23 presenting donors
24 units collected on goal of 25
13 whole blood units
11 units from Power Red

Our recent Salem UMC blood Drive will potentially save 72 lives!

Thank You to Margaret Carswell and Margaret Shell for coordinating our latest drive!

Mark your calendars! Next Salem Blood Drive OCTOBER 16<sup>TH</sup>!



Our condolences to the Frankie Devine family. Frankie passed away in SC on June 17<sup>th</sup>. Please note there will be a Church Council Meeting on Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, at 12:00 Noon. (Please note the time change!)

If you or a member of your team will be unable to attend, please ensure you provide a status report to Brady Keller prior to the meeting.

**Church Council Chair** – *Brady Keller* 

**SPRC** – Bob Harbour

**Trustees** – Pietro Magri / Jerry Carroll

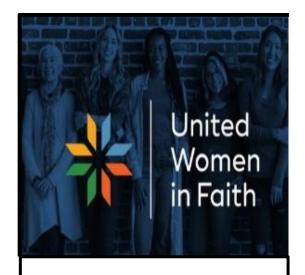
Finance – Vicki Reinke

Outreach - Jodi Brown

Witness -

**Nurture** – Joyce Gibson

Parsonage – Lara Autrey



# YOU'RE INVITED!

Saturday, July 5<sup>th</sup> 12:00 Noon Fellowship Hall

Please note new email for Kay Duckworth

azaliekayduck@gmail.com

## **GIFTS GIVEN**

**Millie Avery** by Beulah Duckworth by Bruce & Kay Pollard by Nicole Mull

Marilyn Davis by Bruce & Kay Pollard by Nicole Mull

Shirley Causby

by Martin & Beth Whitaker

by Margaret Carswell

by Beulah Duckworth

by Geraldine Hayes

by Tamara Deal

by Candace & Kin Cook

by Kim & Henry Miller

by David & Cora Haynes

by Nicole Mull by Betty Whitaker
by Donna Aubuhan by Lynda & Joe Woody

Charles Garrison Sr., Robert & Louise Garrison, Dean Garrison

by Charles Jr. & Cheryl Garrison

IN HONOR

IN MEMORY





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WINTER BLAST 2026!
Winterplace, WV
January 9-11, 2026
\$206.00
Includes...

- Lodging
- Lift Tickets
- Ski Rental
- And more!

abbifumc@gmail.com

# -Pastoral Care-

**Pastor Monica Childers** 

828-493-3179

pastor@sumcm.org

# **Our Financial Stewardship**

Through June 28th

Ministry Expenses to Date: \$ 116,421.65 Offerings Received to Date: \$ 128,880.06

### **Other Ministry Gifts Received to date:**

Backpack Ministry	\$ 1,245.00
Restoration/Parsonage	\$ 4,200.00
Building Fund	\$ 1,073.00
Cemetery	\$ 300.00
Youth	\$ 1,445.00
Steeple	\$ 1,041.00
Roof	\$ 1,742.00
Organ Concert	\$ 2,350.00



6 – Tracy Benfield

9 - Keith Garrison, Sara Pons

25 - Beulah Duckworth

29 - Norman Jones Jr.



17 – Ronny & Carolina Causby

20 - Cary Clark & Lisa Propst



## **MONTHLY GREETERS**

1st Sunday - Jack Bridges

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday - Charles Autrey

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday - Holly Keller

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday - Kevin Reinke

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday - "Need Volunteer!"

#### A WORD ABOUT GREETERS . . .

Greeters are the first face our members and visitors see when attending SUMC. As such, their smile and warm welcome can often set the tone and right frame of mind for the rest of the worship experience!

Aside from greeting, our Sunday morning greeters perform a few additional duties which include, handing out bulletins, getting volunteer ushers for the offering, perform our morning attendance count and solicit volunteer to acolyte.

We currently have the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Greeter position available. *Will you Consider?* 



# PRAYER CONCERNS



Gerald Duckworth, Steve & Jane Stroup, Troy & Kevin Patton, Zach & Lucy Cagle, Billie & Garland Ross, Gary & Wanda Byrd, Brenda Dellinger, Mary Propst, Trey & Brandy Crowe, Kathryn Duckworth, Alan Byrd, Joe Woody, Linda Wilson, Linda Henson, Cary Clark, Liz Park, Cindy Robinson, Sue Bunch, Robert Pruett, Arnold Tucker, Buddy Crowe, Tammy Carroll, Noel Franklin, Eddie Spiegel, Pietro and Denise Magri, Tommy Grier, Angela Reid, Roger Hicks, Kim Clare, Kathy Greer, Johnnie McLaughlin, Wynn Whitener, Bernice Peabody, Barbara McKinney, Margaret Shell, Norma Turner, Vicki Reinke & Sheila Van Wormer, Colon Byrd.

**Nursing Home:** Doris Garrison

Home Bound: Leota Garrison, Brenda Autrey Larry & Janet Koon



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		Church Office Open 12:30 - 6:00 pm	2 10:00 – Prayer Shawl	Church Office Open 12:30 – 6:00	4	<b>5</b> 12:00 – UWF
9:30 – Sunday School 10:35 – Worship	7	8 Church Office Open 12:30 – 6:00 pm	9 10:00 – Prayer Shawl	Church Office Open 12:30 – 6:00 pm	11	12
9:30 – Sunday School 10:35 – Worship 12:00 – Welcome Reception	14	15 Church Office Open 12:30 – 6:00 pm	16 10:00 – Prayer Shawl	Church Office Open 12:30 – 6:00 pm	18	19
9:00 – JIRDC Worship Volunteers 9:30 – Sunday School 10:35 – Worship	21	22 Church Office Open 12:30 – 6:00 pm	23 10:00 – Prayer Shawl	24 Church Office Open 12:30 – 6:00 pm	25	26
9:30 – Sunday School 10:35 – Worship 12:00 – Church Council Mtg.	28	29 Church Office Open 12:30 – 6:00 pm	<b>30</b> 10:00 – Prayer Shawl	31 Church Office Open 12:30 – 6:00 pm		



Explore Faith...Embody Christ...Embrace Others