



Salem Scoop

Loving Boldly

We are now a third of the way through reading the Bible. Our journey through The Bible Year, the past ten weeks, led us to look at the Holy Character presented in Scripture. We see the **Courage** of Joshua as he led God's people. The Lord told him, "Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them" (Joshua 1:6). The **Loyalty** of Ruth as she chose to stay with Naomi over going back to her own homeland (Ruth 1:6-22). Samuel's **Attentiveness** in listening to God's still small voice, then delivering a hard message to Eli (1 Samuel 3:1-21). God choosing David to be King, revealing that God looks at the **Character** of our hearts, not our size, accomplishments, or outward appearance (1 Samuel 16:1-13). Solomon sought the **Wisdom** of God, asking, "Give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and distinguish between right and wrong" (1 Kings 3:1-15). The **Hope** given to Elijah when he hid in a cave, feeling defeated, hopeless, and alone (1 Kings 19:1-18). We journeyed through Holy Week and Easter, remembering that the death and Resurrection of Christ have paid the way for us to have resurrected life here and now and in the future (Mark 16:1-8). Josiah served the Lord with great Obedience as he reminded the people of God's covenant to them and their call to be obedient to God. He put God back at the center of their lives by tearing down the erected statues to other gods (2 Kings 23:1-14). The past two weeks, we dove into the books of Ezra and Nehemiah, read in tandem, the **Rebuilding** of the temple, the temple walls, the spiritual lives of the people, and **Reforming** the culture of the community of God to live in obedience to God. Ezra and Nehemiah do so in the midst of conflict and opposition (Ezra 3:7-13, Nehemiah 8:1-12). These stories are examples of what it means to love God with boldness.

All of these texts help us to think about how these stories connect with our own lives today. In every text, there is a call to action, whether it be a personal shaping of our lives or a movement to serve the Lord by loving our neighbor. Bishop Carter's commission to the churches in the Western North Carolina Conference is to Love Boldly, Serve Faithfully, and Lead Courageously. Reading Scripture and responding to God's word through action go hand in hand. Over the next couple of months, we will be putting our faith into action to **love people boldly** in our community, region, and world.

(cont'd on page 2)

(Cont'd from page 1)

May 4th- 9:00 am-1:30 pm- Honoring and encouraging the teachers at Salem Elementary and North Liberty for Teacher Appreciation Week.

May 8th- Mother's Day Love- providing Mother's Day gifts for North Liberty students to give to their mothers.

June 6th- 8:30 am- 5 pm- Morganton Pride Festival- The church will have a booth to show love to ALL God's people.

July 11th- Church-Wide Mission Trip to Leicester, NC- The church will join Bell UMC in caring for God's people through food distribution, organizing supplies, home repair, visitation, and more. All ages are welcome. Sign-up and details are to come.

I encourage each person to lean into the possibility of what God can and will do as we commit to putting our love into action by loving God and loving our neighbor in new and profound ways!!!

Love and Peace

Pastor Monica

Scripture encourages loving boldly through active, sacrificial, and courageous action rather than mere words.

Pastor Monica Childers

828-493-3179

pastor@sumcm.org



Salem United Methodist Church

1206 Salem Road

Morganton, NC 28655

828-433-6600

www.sumcm.org

Office Hours:

Tuesday & Thursday

12:30 – 6:00 pm

Administrative Assistant: Zachary Cagle

Music: Virginia Robinson & Sue Bunch

Audio & Visual: Bob Harbour & Kevin Fite



Missions

Project Agape



THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION!
SALEM COLLECTED \$100 FOR PROJECT AGAPE

Stay Tuned for our annual Project Agape Box Collection this fall!

Mother's Day

Did you know?

Anna Reeves Jarvis is most often credited with founding Mother's Day. After her mother Ann died on May 9, 1905, Jarvis set out to create a day that would honor her and moms as a group. She began the movement in West Virginia, which prides itself on hosting the first official Mother's Day celebration three years later at Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson signed a bill recognizing Jarvis' idea as a national holiday to be celebrated each second Sunday in May.



DAY PICTURES

The congregation is asked to bring a framed picture of your mother (no larger than 5x7 picture) with yours and your mother's name noted on the back no later than May 5th.

We will honor the mothers by displaying the photos in worship on May 10th. If there are any questions, please contact Margaret Shell.



*Pentecost
Sunday*



MAY 24th

CHURCH WIDE

Work Day- May 16th



Interior clean-up



Exterior Clean-up/repair



Painting

9:00-
1:00

More Information:



Contact Jerry
Carroll or
Pastor Monica



828-433-6600



CAN YOU HELP?

Stay Motivated. Stay Strong. Thrive.

Options is sheltering some strong and hard working women who need your help!

Shelter Wish List

Women's Deodorant

Body Wash

Laundry Detergent

Pine Cleaner

Aluminum Foil

Donation are accepted Monday-Friday (8am-4pm)



CULTIVATE TEAM UPDATE

In support of Salem's planning and vision for growth and witness to our community, a group of individuals have been working to create and define what different aspects of our children's ministry might look like. In their meetings, the "*Cultivate Team*" has received multiple resources and personal guidance from our Conference to develop exciting and faith-based ministries for our next generation!

The team is reviewing, researching and discussing various ideas and programs. One program/idea that continues to generate excitement with the team is the concept and model of a "Messy Church" time that would take place during regular worship. The children would begin and remain in worship until after children's time. They would then be dismissed with leaders to have their own worship service that would incorporate activities, games, snack and bible lessons that all tie together to support the biblical lesson.

In the coming weeks, using the connectional system that the United Methodist Church is known for, the team will be reaching out to discuss and visit other churches that have implemented similar children's worship programs. Their goal is to observe, ask questions and learn both the good and the challenges from their experiences before moving forward.

The team is committed to a methodical and meticulous process that ties directly not only to our planning and vision for Salem's future growth but also to guide our next generation to a personal relationship with Christ that is biblically grounded and fun!

Updates will continue and as the team decides on the children's worship experience, volunteers will certainly be needed during the implementation phase. If you have a desire to volunteer, please let Donna, Jodi, Kevin, Carmen or Pastor Monica know!



Acolyte Ministry

May

3rd - Daniel Reinke
10th - Lucy Fisher
17th - Finley Fite
24th - Daniel Reinke
31st - Hadley Fite



USHERS

May

3rd - Trey & Colt Crowe
10th - Sue Cronk & Kim Clardy
17th - Tim & Brady Keller
24th - Charles Autrey & Jeff Miller
31st - Wes Bunch & Bruce Pollard



Monthly meeting in Fellowship Hall.

Saturday, May 2nd

12:00 Noon

All women are welcome and invited!

**CHOIR PRACTICE
WEDNESDAYS @ 7:00 PM**



You're Invited!

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

Serve the Lord with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

Psalm 100:1-2 (ESV)



MAY 31st - FOLLOWING WORSHIP!



MAY WORSHIP FOCUS



REMINDER

Please don't forget to bring non-perishable food items for our community blessing box on the third Sunday of each month!

Please contact Clarice (828-413-4862) with any questions or assistance with pickup.

THANK YOU for your support with this community outreach!

Music Director Wanted!



Salem UMC is seeking a Music Director that will organize and oversee all music for the church. This is a part time position that will help us live into our vision work in creating engaging worship.

Referrals and resume' can be sent to

Salem@sumcm.org

or to Bob Harbour.



The WNCC
Annual
Conference is
coming up June
18-21.

This is the annual gathering of clergy and laity in the conference, where we celebrate the ministries of the church, vote on any changes in conference changes, hear the reports from our apportionment dollars, fellowship and worship with our brothers and sisters in Christ, as well as receive encouragement and guidance from the Bishop and Cabinet. Lara Autrey will represent Salem as the appointed church delegate. Ray Duckworth, Doris Ingram, and Zane Whitener have also been appointed to serve as District Delegates. I ask that you begin praying for the preparation, leadership, and delegates as they prepare to go and serve at this year's annual gathering.

SAVE THE DATE

The Wonder Summit:

REIMAGINING CONGREGATIONAL WORSHIP & PRAYER WITH CHILDREN

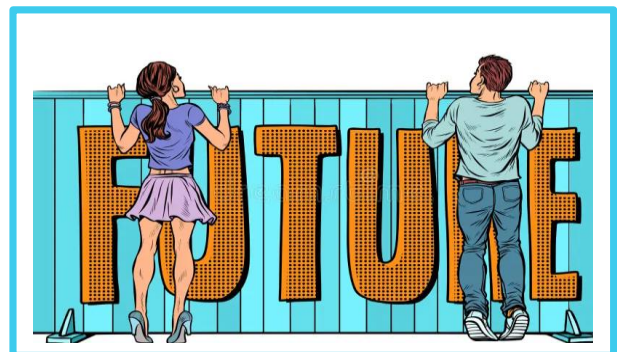
NOVEMBER 4-6TH 2026
LAKE JUNALUSKA, NORTH CAROLINA
EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION: \$155
REGISTRATION AND WEBSITE GO LIVE EARLY 2026

HOSTED BY

Lake Junaluska

CULTIVATE

Western North Carolina Conference



Salem UMC Worship from home!



You can find our worship service broadcasts:
<http://www.youtube.com/@SalemUMCMorganton>
If you have a smart TV, you can even watch the service there. Just search @SalemUMCMorganton in the YouTube app.



TAKE A BOTTLE AND FILL IT WITH CHANGE FOR PCCOB

Or...no change? NO problem! Scan
the QR code to donate



pregnancy care center

OF BURKE COUNTY

113 Clay Street, Morganton, NC 28655

Medical Services:

- Free Pregnancy test
- Free Ultrasounds
- Options Education
- Prenatal Program
- AND more!

Non-Medical:

- Custom video lessons
- Boutique shopping: diapers, wipes, clothes, maternity, postpartum, carseats, strollers, hygiene, first aid, and more
- ALL FREE

Get involved:

- Volunteer
- Prayer Warrior
- Share our posts
- Support fundraisers
- Word of mouth
- Donate



Church Council Meeting

Please note there will be a Church Council Meeting on **Sunday, April 17th, at 12:00 Noon.**

(Lunch will be provided)

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

Church Council Chair – *Charles Autrey*

SPRC – *Bob Harbour*

Trustees – *Jerry Carroll*

Finance – *Vicki Reinke*

Outreach – *Jodi Brown*

Witness –

Nurture – *Joyce Gibson*

Parsonage – *Lara Autrey*

Secretary – *Barbara Harbour*

UWF – *Virginia Robinson, Kay Pollard*

Lay Leader – *Kevin Reinke*

Our Financial Stewardship

Through April 28

Offerings Received to Date: \$59,626.28

Ministry Expenses to Date: \$67,877.54

(Bolded totals reflected in Offerings received)

Other Ministry Gifts Received to date:

Offerings	\$56,849.79
Backpack	\$ 1,787.50
Building Fund	\$ 565.00
Cemetery	\$ 1,450.00
Souper Bowl	\$ 181.49
Missions Memorial	\$ 377.50
To HELP A FAMILY	\$ 1,500.00
Missions/ Ice Cream Social	\$ 263.00
WNCC Pastor Salary	\$ 2,595.00

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

4th – Kaitlin Autrey, Elizabeth Burnette

7th – Courtney Calisti, Avalon Smith

10th – Tim Keller

11th – Lonna Wilson

13th – Mickie Henry

15th – Hannah McCurry

17th – Eric Woody

22nd – Lisa Propst, Joe Woody

27th – Barbara Lowe

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

6th – Alan & Barbara Schneider

14th – Kevin & Vicki Reinke

20th – Jack & Rita Russ

24th – Randy & Janet Davis

30th – Garland & Billie Ross



The finance team is committed to overseeing the financial resources and providing ongoing financial transparency to the church. The first quarter financial reports are complete. The current financial status of the church up through April 28th is:

Income: \$ 59,626.28
Expense: \$ 67,877.54
Deficit: \$ 8,251.26

Average Attendance for 1st QTR 2025: **46**
Average Attendance for 1st QTR 2026: **52**

Giving Units 1st Qtr. 2025: **61**

Giving Units 1st Qtr. 2026: **51**

Thank you to those who have given this year. If you have not yet given, we hope that you will prayerfully consider giving to the ministries of the church and joining where Christ is already at work at Salem, in the community, and in the world.

The next finance team meeting is scheduled for July 22. The team will review and discuss ways to invest our resources to rebuild our reserves and continue preparation for a church audit. If you know an accountant who can assist us in a simple audit or if you have further questions regarding this report, contact Vicki Reinke.

Thanks,
Vicki Reinke - *Finance Chair*
Pastor Monica



In Honor and In Memory

Cary Clark

by Nicole Mull

Gerald Duckworth

by Nicole Mull

Mildred Dale Mull

by Nicole Mull

Linda Wilson

*by Nicole Mull, Lisa & Mary Ann Propst,
Linda & Joe Woody, Troy & Joann Patton*

Gerald Wilson

by Lynda & Joe Woody

Doyle Holland

by Bruce & Kay Pollard, Lisa & Mary Ann Propst

Prayer Concerns



This Week's Prayers

Bob Harbour
Tim and Robin Arney
Faye Ross
Joel Thompson
Mikey and Kathy Fite
Marley Byrd
Jon Lowdermilk
Mike Dolan
Chelly Franklin
Lloyd Fite
Jeremy and Angela Amick
Buddy Shields
Randal James
Karen Brittain
Patsy Bridges
Jeanette Stamey
Anna-Grace Rawls
Elizabeth Dale Smith
Tanya Speagle
BJ Taylor
Hemen Joshi
Tracy Benfield
Trey Higgins
Forrest Propst
Gene Cole
Jim Pittman
Asher and Ben

Homebound

Brenda Autrey
Larry & Janet Koon
Billie & Garland Ross
Leota Garrison

Deaths

Dayle Holland- Doris G. Sister
Lois Holland- Bruce P. Aunt
Robin Mabe- Church Friend

Ongoing Prayers

Muriel McNeilly
Steve Stroup
Troy & Joann Patton
Kevin Patton
Zach & Lucy Cagle
Gary & Wanda Byrd
Lisa & Mary Ann Propst
Kathryn Duckworth
Joe Woody
Roger Hicks
Arnold Tucker

Nursing Home

Doris M Garrison
Brenda Dellinger
Shirley Smith Clarke
Aaron Clardy
Allen Schneider



The Church Office will be open every Tuesday & Thursday 12:30 – 6:00 pm

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 12:00 – UWF
3 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	4	5	6 10:00 – Prayer Shawl 6 pm – Trustee Mtg. 7 pm - Choir	7	8	9
10 MOTHER'S DAY 9:30 – Sunday School 10:30 – Worship	11 6:00 pm Girl Scouts	12	13 10:00 – Prayer Shawl 7 pm - Choir	14	15	16 9 am – 1pm Church workday
17 9:00 – JIRDC 9:30 - Sunday School 10:30 – Worship 12:00 – Church Council	18	19	20 10:00 – Prayer Shawl 7 pm - Choir	21	22	23
24 Pentecost Sunday 9:30 – Sunday School 10:30 – Worship	25 6:00 pm Girl Scouts	26	27 10:00 – Prayer Shawl 7 pm - Choir	28	29	30
31 Home Coming 9:30 – Sunday School 10:30 – Worship	June 1	June 2	June 3	June 4	June 5	June 6 11am - 5pm Pride



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