



Salem Scoop

Following Jesus: A Way of Life - Together

As a church, we have spent the past month reflecting in worship what it means to follow Jesus: not only as individuals, but as a way of life. We've been reminded that discipleship is both personal and communal. Each of us is called to live faithfully day by day, but we are also called to live faithfully together as the body of Christ.

This year has brought tremendous change and challenge. The parsonage was condemned due to the effects of hurricane Helene, we experienced a pastoral transition, we said goodbye to a music director, and we've walked through seasons of financial strain. These are not small things, and I want to acknowledge the weight they carry. At the same time, I believe that even in the midst of challenges, God is doing something new. I see new sprouts of life emerge each day in the way you are caring for one another, showing up to serve, and people agreeing to use their gifts to serve. These things reveal God stirring in our midst. Scripture reminds us that God can use every circumstance to shape and guide His people for His purposes.

Now is a season for us to recognize God at work in our midst and realign ourselves with God's direction—not just as individuals, but as a congregation. Who are we called to be in this community? What needs around us require the hands and feet of Jesus? Where is God leading us in the days ahead? These are questions we cannot answer alone. They require prayer, conversation, and a willingness to listen deeply to God and to one another.

To help us discern our next steps, I have planned a **Vision Planning Gathering on Sunday, October 12th, 12:00-2:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall**. This will be a time for church leaders to gather, assess where we are, dream together, and seek God's wisdom for our shared ministry. It is not just a meeting—it is a moment of prayerful listening and hopeful imagining.

I ask you, as the congregation, to begin praying now:

- Pray for clarity as we discern God's direction.
- Pray for courage to step into new opportunities.
- Pray for unity as we seek to follow Jesus together.

Following Jesus is indeed a way of life. And the beautiful truth is, we don't walk this way alone. We walk it together—with one another, and with Christ who goes before us.

Let us continue forward with hope, trust, and open hearts, believing that God will guide us into the next chapter of our life together.

In Christ's love and hope,

Pastor Monica

COMMUNITY INVITED!



Fall Festival



HAYRIDE!

FREE FOOD!

VENDORS!

**Wednesday
OCTOBER 22ND
5:30 PM – 7:00**

GAMES!

MAGICIAN!

BALLOONIST



TRUNK or TREAT!



Salem United Methodist Church

1206 Salem Rd.

Morganton, NC. 28655



(cut to use as flyer)



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

On Wednesday October 22nd, Salem United Methodist Church will hold their annual Fall Festival! Our Festival will have Trunk or Treat, Vendors, Balloonist, Magician, Games, Dinner, Hayride and much more! In anticipation of hosting 500+ visitors this year, volunteers are still needed for multiple areas! Please see the sign-up sheet in our sanctuary or contact Kevin to see where you can prayerfully support this annual community outreach!



Our status report this month indicates that the basement mold remediation is in progress and should be completed this week.

Items that still need to be completed:

- Repair and paint the upstairs crack
- Repair/replace downstairs paneling along with a few additional wall repairs.
- Re-slope the front yard away from the house for better drainage.

Status updates to be continued!



Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood, such as accident and burn victims!

Cancer and sickle cell disease patients require blood transfusions, sometimes daily.

Blood is constantly needed for essential surgeries, organ transplants, and other complex medical treatments.

On Thursday, October 16th, Salem UMC will host a blood drive from 2:30 pm to 7:00 pm. Please sign up at www.redcrossblood.org



“The mission of the United Women in Faith is to connect and nurture women so that they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.”

The Salem UWF will meet Saturday, October 4th and Saturday, November 1st in the Fellowship Hall. An open invitation is extended to ALL women!

**UPCOMING
EVENT!**

On Saturday November 8th, the UWF will host a bake sale in conjunction with our girl scout yard sale! The sales will be held from 9:00 am to Noon!

Backpack Information

The goal of the backpack program is to send food to supplement families on the weekends.

The Backpack Ministry is currently serving families from Salem Elementary and North Liberty schools. We have 11 families with a total of 25 children.

We pack 50 breakfast and plus 22 lunch & 22 supper items include individual grits, cereal and breakfast include granola bars, Jello, snack cakes, pudding includes dried fruit and



50 snack items a week items weekly. Breakfast servings of oatmeal, bars. Snack items also individually wrapped fruit cups and cans. Lunch cookies. Supper items

include canned vegetables, canned pasta, ramen noodles, canned and dried soups, boxed pasta, hamburger helper, tuna, spam, canned stew, stuffing, imitation potatoes, and mac and cheese.

Please remember we cannot send glass jars, oversized heavy cans or fresh food as they may spoil.

	WINTER BLAST 2026! Winterplace, WV January 9-11, 2026 \$206.00 <i>Includes...</i> • Lodging • Lift Tickets • Ski Rental • And more! abbifumc@gmail.com 	MORGANTON COLLABORATIVE YOUTH EVENTS FALL 2025 SCHEDULE <table border="1"><tr><td>21</td><td>SEPTEMBER</td><td>5:00-6:30 PM</td><td>GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS COLLABORATIVE YOUTH EVENT FIRST UMC MARION- 176 Robert St, Marion, NC 28752</td></tr><tr><td>19</td><td>OCT</td><td>TIME TBA</td><td>MC KINNEY FARMS CORN MAZE cost \$15 per person Those interested need to sign up at the Opportunities Corner or with Pastor Monica</td></tr><tr><td>16</td><td>NOV</td><td>5:00-6:30 PM</td><td>MEALS THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE youth will be prepping and cooking meals for Fostering Hope Oak Hill UMC 2239 NC-181, Morganton, NC 28655</td></tr><tr><td>7</td><td>DEC</td><td>TIME TBA</td><td>CAROLING AT JIRD & CHRISTMAS PARTY Eco-friendly events to raise environmental awareness. Salem UMC 1206 Salem Road, Morganton 28655</td></tr><tr><td>17-19</td><td>JAN</td><td>TIME TBA</td><td>WINTER YOUTH RETREAT Students will gather to retreat, rest, have fun, and BE1 At Christmount Retreat Center/ Black Mtn. NC</td></tr></table> More information to come	21	SEPTEMBER	5:00-6:30 PM	GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS COLLABORATIVE YOUTH EVENT FIRST UMC MARION- 176 Robert St, Marion, NC 28752	19	OCT	TIME TBA	MC KINNEY FARMS CORN MAZE cost \$15 per person Those interested need to sign up at the Opportunities Corner or with Pastor Monica	16	NOV	5:00-6:30 PM	MEALS THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE youth will be prepping and cooking meals for Fostering Hope Oak Hill UMC 2239 NC-181, Morganton, NC 28655	7	DEC	TIME TBA	CAROLING AT JIRD & CHRISTMAS PARTY Eco-friendly events to raise environmental awareness. Salem UMC 1206 Salem Road, Morganton 28655	17-19	JAN	TIME TBA	WINTER YOUTH RETREAT Students will gather to retreat, rest, have fun, and BE1 At Christmount Retreat Center/ Black Mtn. NC
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Vision Planning Gathering

*Sunday, October 12th – Following Worship
(lunch is provided for all)*

Salem has faced a season of great change—but also of great possibility. Now is the time to pray, listen, and seek God’s direction together.

Church leaders will gather to:

- Assess where we are
- Dream about what could be
- Discern God’s call for our future

You can support this important work by praying for clarity, courage, and unity. Together, let’s follow Jesus into the next chapter of our life as a church.

**This Vision Planning Session will also serve as our October Church Council meeting.*

IN MEMORY	<u>GIFTS GIVEN</u> Richard Van Wormer <i>by Beulah Duckworth</i> <i>by Mary Ann Propst, Lisa Propst, & Cary Clark</i>	IN HONOR
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Our condolences to the William Stanely Garrison family. William passed away on September 23rd.



October 1st thru October 10th

Reverend Jacob Lancaster 704-961-6399

October 11th thru October 31st

Pastor Monica Childers 828-494-3179

Our Financial Stewardship

Through September 28th

Ministry Expenses to Date: \$ 162,593.18

Offerings Received to Date: \$ 209,824.51

(Bolded totals reflected in Offerings received)

Other Ministry Gifts Received to date:

Offerings	\$160,458.76
Backpack Ministry	\$ 1,585.00
Back to School Biscuits	\$ 25.00
SUMWF Yard Sale	\$ 2,250.00
Youth	\$ 380.00
Youth St. Matthews Van	\$ 750.00
Youth Retreat	\$ 315.00
Parsonage Relocate/ Restore	\$ 1,900.00
Building Fund Cemetery	\$ 475.00
BF Cemetery Grave Purchase	\$ 5,000.00
Building Fund Steeple	\$ 1,541.00
Building Fund Roof	\$ 1,742.50
BF Restoration/Parsonage	\$ 800.00
Building Fund	\$ 1,598.00
Organ Concert	\$ 2,350.00
WNCC Pastor Salary	\$ 16,793.36
WNCC Pastor Interim	\$ 12,800.00
WNCC Roof Helene Relief	\$ 19,112.50
WNCC Reimbursements	\$ 1,292.45
WNCC Rent Check	\$ 5,200.00
WNCC Restor/Relocation	\$ 1,500.00
Pass Through	\$ 149.94
Pass Thru To Help a Family	\$ 1,500.00
Pass Thru Cross Connection	\$ 280.00
Pass Thru Halloween Candy	\$ 50.00
Pass Thru Helene Fund	\$ 245.00

PRAYER CONCERNS



Arvella Berryhill
Jeanette Stamey
Anna-Grace Rawls
Tom Shuping
Kisha Isbell
Melissa Blankenship's
Mother-by Margaret Shell
Steve Stroupe
Brandy Crowe
Tracey Hall
Rick Pruett
Angie Miller Reid
Teachers and Students
Trish Johnson
Tanya Speagle
Lorna Damron
Barbara Medlin
BJ Taylor
Hemen Joshi

Praises

Parsonage Repairs
Workday Wed Workers

Deaths

William Garrison 9-23

On Going Prayers

Muriel McNeilly
Cary Clark
Gerald Duckworth
Steve & Jane Stroup
Troy & Joann Patton
Kevin Patton
Zach & Lucy Cagle
Gary & Wanda Byrd
Mary Ann Propst
Kathryn Duckworth
Joe & Lynda Woody
Linda Wilson
Cindy Robinson
Roger Hicks
Wynn Whitener
Bernice Peabody
Arnold Tucker
Robert Pruett

Nursing Home

Doris Garrison
Brenda Dellinger
Shirley Smith Clarke
Mark McGhinnis

Homebound

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

** Prayer requests may be submitted by filling out a prayer request card and placing it in the offering plate or by notifying the church office or Pastor Monica.*

GREETERS



October 5th -
October 12th -
October 19th -
October 26th -

Jack Bridges
Charles Autrey
Holly Keller
Kevin Reinke



THANK YOU!

WE WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND A SPECIAL
“THANK YOU”
TO THOSE WHO SPENT THE PAST 6 WEEKS
VOLUNTEERING ON WORKDAY
WEDNESDAY. ROOMS WERE CLEANED,
CLUTTER WAS DISPOSED, SEASONAL
DECORATIONS SORTED, LIGHT BULBS
CHANGED, AND COUNTLESS “TREASURES”
WERE SORTED AND ORGANIZED! WE
APPRECIATE YOUR HARD WORK!



11 – Todd & Rebecca Shuping
15 – Kevin & Donna Fite
21 – Gerald & Kay Duckworth
26 – Bruce & Kay Duckworth

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

1 – Doris Ingram
2 – Larry Koon
3 – Lindsay Cabe
4 – Mike Smith, Nancy Krall
5 – David Allen Dale
10 – Derreck Carswell
13 – Kathie Waldroup, Lara Autrey
17 – Dustin Carswell, Trey Crowe
19 – Chris Ross
21 – Portia Smith
24 – Jerry Carroll



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 10:00 – Prayer Shawl	2 Church Office Open 12:30 – 6:00 pm	3	4 12:00 – UWF meeting
5 9:30 – Sunday School 10:30 – Worship Noon - Choir	6	7 Church Office Open 12:30 – 6:00 pm	8 10:00 – Prayer Shawl	9 Church Office Open 12:30 – 6:00 pm	10	11
12 9:30 – Sunday School 10:30 – Worship Noon - Choir 12:00 – Church Visioning Mtg.	13	14 Church Office Open 12:30 – 6:00 pm	15 10:00 – Prayer Shawl	16 2:30 – 7 pm Blood Drive Church Office Open 12:30 – 6:00 pm	17	18
19 9:00 – JIRDC Worship Volunteers 9:30 – Sunday School 10:30 – Worship Noon – Choir	20	21 Church Office Open 12:30 – 6:00 pm	22 10:00 – Prayer Shawl 5:30 – 7 pm TRUNK OR TREAT	23 Church Office Open 12:30 – 6:00 pm	24	25
26 9:30 – Sunday School 10:30 – Worship Noon – Choir	27	28 Church Office Open 12:30 – 6:00 pm	29 10:00 – Prayer Shawl	30 Church Office Open 12:30 – 6:00 pm	31 	<i>Yard Sale & Bake Sale November 8th 9 am - Noon</i>



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