Monthly Newsletter of Salem UMC, Morganton, NC

Salem Scoop

"Making a Way to Hear"

As we have been reading through the Gospels. There are many stories of the miracles of Jesus. One account is the healing of a deaf and mute man, recounted in Mark 7:31-37. Jesus takes the man aside, away from the crowd, and performs a series of actions: He puts His fingers into the man's ears, spits, and touches the man's tongue. Looking up to heaven, Jesus sighs and says, "Ephphatha," meaning "Be opened." Instantly, the man's ears are opened, and his tongue is loosened, allowing him to speak plainly. This miracle highlights Jesus' personal and compassionate approach to healing, as well as His authority over physical ailments.

When I first arrived at Salem in July of 2025, many in the congregation had a hard time hearing anything in the worship service. Some weeks people would share, "I do not know what you said, but I am sure it was good." These words would break my heart, not because they weren't hearing me preach; rather, they were not able to hear the Word of God proclaimed and professed in worship.

Jesus in Matthew commissions the disciples to*: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you."* This commission sets us apart, as followers of Christ, to do the work of Christ in the world. This means tending to the needs of the people just as Jesus tended to the needs of the blind man. There are times we may think we are only one person and cannot do anything. We may ask, " How can I heal anyone or offer Christ? I do not have that power in me." But through our Baptism, we do! The Holy Spirit lives in us and initiates us into a life of service. By believing and following Christ, we allow the Spirit to move. The Gospel of John reminds us that whoever believes *in Christ will also do the works that Jesus did and do even greater things John 14:12.* Through Jesus, anything is possible when we believe, stay committed, and use our resources to bring the message of Jesus to others.

Over the past 9 months, church leaders recognized the growing number of people struggling to hear God's word. They worked on a solution to bring the Word to those with hearing impairment by finding solutions in a hearing-assistance product. Leaders visited churches with hearing-assistance devices and began researching companies, trying to find the correct solution for Salem.

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Through passionate efforts, leaders stepped out in faith, shared the information with some in the congregation, and the Lord worked! Leaders found a cost-effective product that fits the needs of the church, and an anonymous donor gave the money to purchase the devices for the congregation. Another member of the congregation worked with leaders to test the product. On his first Sunday testing the new product, he met me at the door, sharing, " I heard the message for the first time today." Praise God!!!! This is evidence of how the Holy Spirit works in and through us and how we, Christ's disciples, can offer healing and care to others. I pray that you continue to seek out ways to use your gifts and resources in your discipleship. You never know how you can impact the life of another.

Praise be to God!

Pastor Monica

Salem United Methodist Church

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Morganton, NC 28655

828-433-6600

email: **salemumc@sumcm.org**

website: **www.sumcm.org**

YouTube Channel: **http://www.youtube.com/@SalemUMCMorganton**

Office Hours: *Tuesday & Thursday*

12:30 – 6:00 pm

PASTOR MONICA CHILDERS

pastor@sumcm.org

Administrative Assistant	Zachary Cagle	salemumc@sumcm.org
Pianist	Sue Bunch	s_bunch@att.net
Audio Visual	Kevin Fite	worship@sumcm.org
	Bob Harbour	rwharbour@gmail.com



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21st

5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Please join us for our annual Trunk or Treat Fall Festival! Over the past 5 years, this annual community outreach, sponsored by Salem United Methodist Church, has welcomed hundreds of children and adults from the Salem community to our campus. This year we have expanded the event to include an additional hayride and an inflatable!



As you can imagine, an outreach that welcomes hundreds of our neighbors requires more than just a handful of volunteers. Volunteers are needed for;

Food Services	*Dining Area Attendants*	*Set up & Take Down*	*Advertising*
Photo Op	*Bounce House Bouncer*	*Game Attendants*	*Candy Runner*
Rovers	*Hayride Attendants*	*Decorated Trunks*	*Greeter*

In addition to multiple volunteers, we will need roughly 2,000 pieces of individually wrapped/boxed candy to give out! Will you prayerfully consider volunteering? Signup sheets are located by the organ. There will be a Fall Festival Meeting for all volunteers on Saturday, October 10th at 10:30 am. Please contact Kevin with any questions!



SALEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

BLOOD DRIVE

Thursday October 15th

2:30 pm – 7:00 pm

Consider giving the gift of life! *Sign up Online at:*

www.redcrossblood.org



United Women of Faith

Pecan Sale!

The time to order is NOW! You can order either pecan pieces or halves @ $12.00 per pound.

Please turn in your order along with payment to Kay Pollard. Checks should be made payable to Salem UWF. ***Deadline October 11th***



- REMINDER –

Please remember 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 outreach!

2026 Laity Service Award

The primary agents of God's mission in today's world are the lay people, or laity of the United Methodist Church: you and me. The ministry of the laity flows from a commitment to Christ's outreaching love. Lay members of the United Methodist Church are called to be active advocates of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Every lay person is called to be in mission. The witness of the laity, their Christ-like examples of everyday living and their sharing of their own faith experiences of the gospel, is the primary evangelistic ministry through which all people will come to know Christ and the way the United Methodist Church can fulfill its mission to make Disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world.

We are called to serve in our homes, our work, our local community, and the world. The laity's role is that of a servant who models the love of Christ by example, and the local church is where our labor is constant in witnessing and sharing our faith experiences of the gospel in many different ways.

The Laity Board has developed a system that honors our laity and celebrates their ministry through the Lay Ministry Recognition Awards. The Laity Service Award is our district's way of recognizing those persons (or couple) who have provided exemplary service to their church leaders, looking for honors due in your congregation. On Sunday, November 1, we will recognize a person (or couple) that has lived out their servant call at Salem.

If you would like to nominate a person or couple who deserves this special honor, please fill out the form below and submit it to Pastor Monica on or before Sunday, October 18th.

Name of Nominee: _____

Using the space below, please provide a short statement as to why you believe the person you nominated should be selected for the Laity Service Award.

(Please note that to be eligible for selection, the person nominated must meet the following criteria: 1) The nominee must be a member of the local church or charge. 2) The nominee exemplifies a commitment to the Christian way of life. 3) The nominee's contribution to the life of the church and the community reflects a devotion of self to the service of others.)

Submitters Name:_____ Phone:_____

Email:_____

WORKDAY CHECKLIST

Tuesday :, October 6th and 13th
10:00 am to Noon

- ✓ Clean out Ed Bldg
- ✓ Clean up in Nursery
- ✓ Clean room beside nursery
- Sort and Organize items
- .....
- .....
- .....



SPRC MEETING

The SPRC will meet on Tuesday, October 6th at 5:00 pm. **Please notify Bob Harbour if you will not be able to attend.**



TRUSTEES MEETING

The Trustees Committee will meet Wednesday, October 7th at 6:00 pm. **Please notify Jerry Carroll if you will not be able to attend.**



FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Finance Committee will meet SATURDAY, October 10th at 9:00 am. **Please notify Vicki Reinke if you will not be able to attend.**



NOTARY SERVICES

For all documents that may require notarization, including mail-in voting, Zachary Cagle is available Tuesday and Thursday during office hours.

Exclusive For Sunday, November 1st

BREAKING NEWS

All Saints, Charge Conference & Laity Service Luncheon

A Day to Celebrate and Remember

on November 1st, We will be observing All Saints' Day, Charge Conference and Laity Service Luncheon. These three recognitions and celebrations on the same day are held together by the love and community at Salem.

First we will remember our Christian brothers and sisters of the church who have died in the past year.

For Christians, as for anyone, death is an occasion of sorrow, but in the words of Paul to the Thessalonians, we do not grieve as others who have no hope. Indeed, All Saints Day is a day of celebration as we give thanks for the faithfulness of the saints and the heritage they have left to us, and as we look forward in hope to God's promise of eternal life.

During worship, we will light a candle in memory of each member who has passed since November of 2025. An additional candle will be on the altar for each person to remember someone they may have lost in the past year.

Charge Conference

Charge Conference is the annual meeting of the governing body of each United Methodist Church when we, as the body of Christ celebrate the ministries of the church, direct the work of the church, set salaries for the pastor and staff, elect new leaders, and recommend candidates for ministry. On Nov. 1st Charge Conference will take place at the close of worship.

Laity Service Award & Luncheon

The Administrative Council set forth a process to honor a lay person by extending a Laity Service award to a person who has provided exemplary service to their church and model Christ's love by example. This years Laity Award Recepient will be announced on Nov. 1st. Following the Charge Conference, we will gather for a Celebratory lunch in the fellowship hall.

Members can nominate a person to recieve this award by filling out and submitting a nomination form to Pastor Monica by October 18th



1st – Doris Ingram
Alan Schneider
2nd – Dennis Johnson
Larry Koon
Frank Phillips
3rd – Lindsay Cabe
4th – Mike Smith
Nancy Krall
5th – David Allen Dale
10th – Derreck Carswell
13th – Kathie Waldroup
Lara Autrey
17th – Dustin Carswell
19th – Chris Ross
20th – Curtis Marty
21st – Portia Smith
22nd – Maria (Elizabeth) E. Perry
24th – Jerry Carroll
29th – Brandy Crowe
Richard Duckworth

Happy Anniversary!

11th – Todd & Rebecca Shuping
15th – Donna & Kevin Fite
26th – Bruce & Kay Pollard



In Honor and In Memory

Shirley Clarke *by Lisa & Mary Ann Propst*



AUDITOR NEEDED!

Do you know someone
who knows someone?

The Finance Team is currently seeking contact information or recommendations for assistance with our financial audit. Please contact Vicki Reinke.

United Women in Faith

Monthly meeting in Fellowship Hall.

UWF will meet on October 3rd at

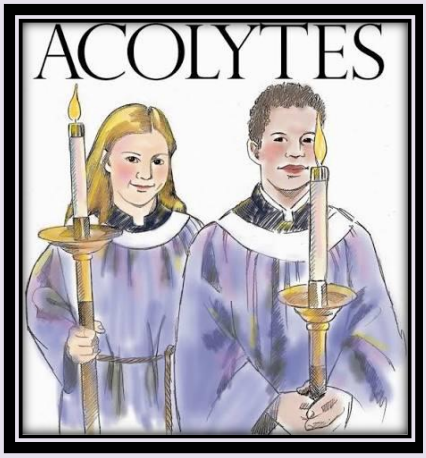
12:00 Noon

All women are welcome and invited!



October

4th – Sue Cronk & Kim Clardy
11th – Brady & Tim Keller
18th – Charles Autrey & Jeff Miller
25th – Wes Bunch & Bruce Pollard



October

4th – Hadley Fite
11th – Daniel Reinke / Denise Magri
18th – Finley Fite
25th – Daniel Reinke/ Jeff Miller

Please contact Kay Duckworth to volunteer or obtain additional info.



NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

The Nominations Committee will meet Wednesday, October 7th at 4:00 pm. **Please notify Pastor Monica if you will not be able to attend.**



COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

The Communications Team will meet Sunday, October 11th at 12:00. **Please notify Pastor Monica if you will not be able to attend.**

Church Council Meeting

Please note there will be a Church Council Meeting on **Sunday, October 18th, 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.

Our Financial Stewardship

Offerings Received to Date:	**$158,106.89**
Ministry Expenses to Date:	**$147,140.74**

(Bolded totals reflected in Offerings received)

Other Ministry Gifts Received to date:

Offerings	**$140,124.65**
Backpack	**$ 3,777.50**
Building Fund	$ 3,190.00
Cemetery	$ 2,075.00
Souper Bowl	**$ 181.49**
Missions Memorial	**$ 377.50**
To HELP A FAMILY	$ 2,000.00
Missions/ Ice Cream Social	**$ 263.00**
WNCC Pastor Salary	**$ 7,190.00**
Choir Director	**$ 1,100.00**
Building Parsonage Rent	$ 9,720.00
PR Paid Out	**$ 3,097.00**
Hearing Device	**$ 1,000.00**
Fall Festive	**$ 10.00**



Praises

This Week's Prayers

Dorothy Holland- Doris Garrison's Friend
Bobby Sigmon- Alan Byrd's Friend
Norris Key- Fite Family Friend
Lloyd Fite- Kevin Fite's grandfather
Greg Getty's - friend of Jack & Janice
Tim & Robin Arney
Brenda Autrey
Dan Hodges
Anthony Magri

Prayers for Family and Friends

Abigail and Bentley- Trace Riley's grandchildren
Joel Thompson-Friend of the church
Marley Byrd- Alan Byrd's sister-in-law
Patsy Bridges- Doris Ingram's sister
Jeanette Stamey-Sue Bunch's sister
Anna-Grace Rawls family- Lara Autrey's friend
Tanya Speagle- Brandy Crow's mom
Tyler Schmitt- Denise Magri's family
Dan Hodges- Trey Crowe's family

Hospital

Doris Ingram
Joann Patton

Homebound

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

Deaths

Shirley Clarke - 8/15
Hemen Joshi - Jeff Miller's friend 8/21

Ongoing Prayers

Kevin Patton
Steve Stroup
Troy Patton
Zach & Lucy Cagle
Gary & Wanda Byrd
Lisa & Mary Ann Propst
Kathryn Duckworth
Roger Hicks- Sue Bunch's brother
Ernie Stroup

Nursing Home

Doris M Garrison
Brenda Dellinger
Aaron Clardy- Kim Clardy's husband
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** Craft Show	**3** Craft Show 12:00 - UWF Mtg.
4 9:30 - Sunday School 10:30 - Worship	**5**	**6** 10:00 - Workday 5:00 – SPRC Mtg	**7** 10:00 – Prayer Shawl 4:00 – Nominations Mtg. 6:00 – Trustees Mtg.	**8**	**9**	**10** 9:00 – Finance Mtg. 10:30 – Fall Festival Mtg.
11 9:30 – Sunday School 10:30 – Worship 10:45 – Kid's Worship 12:00 – Comm. Mtg.	**12** 6:30 – Girl Scouts	**13** 10:00 - Workday	**14** 10:00 – Prayer Shawl	**15** 2:30 – Blood Drive	**16**	**17**
18 9:30 - Sunday School 10:30 – Worship 12:00 – Church Council ***Blessing Box***	**19**	**20**	**21** 10:00 – Prayer Shawl 5:30 – Fall Festival	**22**	**23**	**24**
25 9:30 – Sunday School 10:30 – Worship 10:45 – Kid's Worship	**26**	**27**	**28** 10:00 – Prayer Shawl	**29**	**30**	**31**

Salem United Methodist Church
Love In Action

Explore Faith…Embody Christ…Embrace Others