



Monthly Newsletter of Salem UMC, Morganton, NC

Salem Scoop

SMALL PACKS, BIG IMPACT

Nourishing Our Students Together!

For more than twenty years, Salem has provided food each week for 10-12 students in need at Salem Elementary. In 2025-2026, we expanded our reach to meet the overwhelming needs of students at North Liberty, growing from 12 to 22 backpacks. This allowed the church to expand our impact on the community. This school year, we know the need is great. At this time, we do not have the exact number of students who qualify or need a food supplement through the backpack ministry for this school year; however, our goal is to provide, pack, and deliver 25 backpacks.

We appreciate Nina and Fred Horton and Margaret Carswell for their dedication, passion, and service in leading and serving in this ministry for many years. As the seasons of life change, so must our service. In July, Nina resigned from serving in this position to have more time for family matters. We are sad to see Fred and Nina resign from serving in this area but love and support them as they enter a new season of serving their family. We all hate change, but with the different seasons in life, change brings opportunity for newness and growth. We have assembled a new backpack ministry team of six people passionate about serving children in the community. The new team consists of Brandi McCurry (Chair), Margaret Carswell, Maggie Chrisetnbury, Ruth Fisher, Margaret Shell, and Jeff Miller.

As the backpack team begins serving the children in the community, we are kicking off a month-long campaign called Small Packs, Big Impact: Nourishing Our Students Together Campaign during September. Our goal is to serve 25 backpacks, which costs \$3,750.00 for the year. This campaign will allow everyone in the congregation to be a part of the ministry. Opportunities include:

1. Sponsor a student - \$150.00 is the annual cost for each backpack. Help sponsor a student's backpack for a year or give a portion of the cost to offset the cost of food.

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- 2.** Donating Good items such as: (pork and beans, tuna fish, canned chicken, Spam, canned pasta sauce, Hamburger Helper, canned soup, cereal packets, snack cakes, canned milk, small packs of chips, granola bars, Rice Krispies Treats) providing food cuts down on monetary costs.
- 3.** Memorials/honorariums or Donations - Designating funds in honor, memory, or gifts *above your weekly offering to this ministry.*

No matter which option you choose, you are making a deep and lasting impact on these students. Please drop off food donations at the church office or at the front or back of the sanctuary. Let's join together in nourishing our students this school year.

Pastor Monica

Salem United Methodist Church

1206 Salem Road

Morganton, NC 28655

828-433-6600

email: **saalemumc@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	saalemumc@sumcm.org
Director of Music Programs	John Savage	music@sumcm.org
Pianist	Sue Bunch	s_bunch@att.net
Audio Visual	Kevin Fite	worship@sumcm.org
	Bob Harbour	rwharbour@gmail.com

Creation Station Families



We have carefully evaluated the Creation Station Ministry to assess its sustainability to continue weekly. We carefully considered our resources of people, time, and energy, and your participant feedback to determine the fruitfulness and the sustainability in continuing Creation Station as an ongoing ministry during the school year.

The parent feedback and evaluation were valuable and truly affirmed that this is a ministry the community and families needed. However, in our evaluation of resources, we realize we are not able to sustain this ministry weekly during the school year. Instead, we are moving this ministry to a quarterly basis.

August 31st was our last Monday for the summer.

The next gatherings are:

Wednesday, October 21st 5:30 – 7:00 pm - Trunk or Treat

Monday, December 21st- 3:00 – 6:00 pm - Christmas Crafts

We will inform everyone as Creation Station dates are planned. We will resume our weekly Creation Station in June 2027. We appreciate each of you for your participation, friendship, and opening yourself and your families to create with us!

Sincerely,

Rev. Monica Childers

Salem United Methodist Church



Project AGAPE is a joint-ministry venture of the Western and North Carolina Conferences of the United Methodist Church. AGAPE is a religious humanitarian organization which has been invited by the Armenian Apostolic Church and registered by the State Council of the RA Committee on Religious Affairs.

The Project cooperates well with the Armenian Apostolic Church. Project AGAPE was launched in 1993 and received the first state registration in 1994.

From the day of its foundation until now, AGAPE has adopted and committed to the following goals:

- Share the love and hope of Christ with the people of Armenia
- Contribute to the Christian education of the Armenian people
- Develop humanitarian and benevolent activities

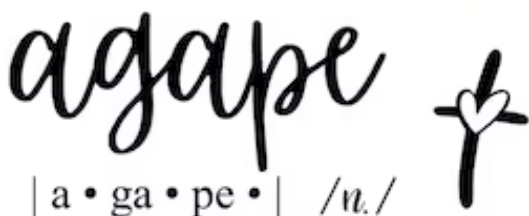
One way Salem UMC can support the humanitarian efforts is by providing shoe boxes for children.

Christmas Boxes

This project sends Christmas Shoe Boxes to Armenia for distribution. Last year, over 8,662 shoe boxes were distributed to children, many of whom would not have received a Christmas present during the Holy Season, if not for our generosity.

To participate in the ministry,

1. Pick up a box at the front of the church.
2. Choose the age and sex of a child from the shopping form inside
3. Shop for the items
4. Return to the church by Sunday, September 20th



1. *The highest form of love.*
2. *Selfless, sacrificial, and unconditional love; persists no matter the circumstance*
3. *God's love for me!*

IT'S 2027 BUDGET TIME!



Committee Chairs – With input from your members, please prepare your budget requests for 2027. ***Numbers will be due to our Finance Committee by month's end.***

Members – Please begin thinking about your financial commitment/pledge in support of our church operation, our ministries and our outreach for 2027.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

This year our Fall Festival (*Trunk or Treat*) will be held on **Wednesday October 21st** from 5:30 – 7:30 pm. This year there are plans to add new games, inflatable, vendors and even a second hayride! **Additional volunteers will be needed!** This is the largest outreach and community event Salem UMC hosts each year with 550-650 of our neighbors on campus! Please begin now to gather candy and pray where you can serve/help. Look for additional information in the next few weeks!

Cordless Vacuum Needed



Do you have a cordless vacuum that is no longer being used? We would like to have one on standby for small quick cleanups. (communion, children's activities, etc.) If so, please drop off at office or call for pickup.





The Trustees Committee will meet Wednesday, September 2nd at 6:00 pm. **Please notify Jerry Carroll if you will not be able to attend.**



Hadley Fite would like to invite everyone who bought stock for her *White Lake Mission Trip* to a special dinner on Sept. 12th from 5:30 – 7:00 pm! Dinner will consist of lasagna, bread, and salad. Hadley will take this opportunity to share a slide show and talk about her trip!

Please RSVP to Donna Fite at 704-519-6968



Staff Parish Relations Committee

The SPRC will meet on Tuesday, September 15th at 17:00. Please contact Bob Harbour if you are unable to attend.

- 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!



September

6th – Finley Fite
13th – Daniel Reinke / Sue Cronk
20th – Finley Fite
27th – Hadley Fite /



September

6th – Wes Bunch & Bruce Pollard
13th – Dave Childers & Jerry Ramsey
20th – Stephen & Daniel Reinke
27th – Trey & Colt Crowe



Monthly meeting in Fellowship Hall.

UWF will meet on September 5th at

12:00 Noon

All women are welcome and invited!

CHOIR PRACTICE

Wednesday 7 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!

Psalms 100:1-2 (ESV)



Church Council Meeting

Please note there will be a
Church Council Meeting on
Sunday, September 20th, 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

Offerings Received to Date: **\$131,780.72**

Ministry Expenses to Date: **\$131,711.75**

(Bolded totals reflected in Offerings received)

Other Ministry Gifts Received to date:

Offerings	\$125,019.49
Backpack	\$ 1,937.50
Building Fund	\$ 3,140.00
Cemetery	\$ 2,025.00
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	\$ 6,480.00
PR Paid Out	\$ 3,097.00

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

1st – Zane Whitener
4th – Stephen Reinke, Bill Hutchins
6th – Sara Reinke
7th – Joann Patton
10th – Ernest Stroup
11th – Kim Garrison
13th – Dawn Hutchins, Elizabeth Smith
15th – Katie Horton
16th – Kevin Reinke, Colt Crowe
20th – Monica Childers
23rd – Cindy Robinson, Lynda Woody
26th – Jodi Brown
27th – Wynn Whitener
29th – Hamilton Brown

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!!!

23rd – Charles & Lara Autrey



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.





**Celebrate the Season With
a Gift That Gives Back**

**GATEWAY
BRANDING**

**PORCELAIN
ORNAMENT**

3" x 3" x 1/2"

22K Gold Trim



This ornament
celebrates the JIRDC
and its community.

Since 1977, The Iverson Riddle
Developmental Center has been
a source of hope and healing for
many families. This ornament
honors the community and the
individuals who have made it
a special place for all.

\$20.00 each

plus, shipping

Assure the Future, Inc., foundation for JIRDC, is offering a limited-edition 3-inch porcelain commemorative ornament created exclusively to support programs and services at the J. Iverson Riddle Developmental Center.

This ornament, first in the series, has a design that honors our community, history, and the individuals and families we serve. Whether you display it on your tree, gift it to someone you love, or keep it as a treasured keepsake, your purchase directly supports meaningful opportunities for the residents of J. Iverson Riddle Developmental Center.

**ORDER ONLINE AT ASSURETHEFUTURE.ORG,
OR BUY ONE AT THE JIRDC AD BUILDING PAY WINDOW.**

Proceeds benefit enrichment programs, therapeutic activities, community inclusion efforts, and quality-of-life initiative that help residents learn, grow, and thrive.

RUN FOR LAMB

RAISING FUNDS FOR
INDIVIDUALS WITH
INTELLECTUAL &
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

5K & FUN RUN

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3
J. IVERSON RIDDLE
DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER
1 MILE- 8:15AM, 5K-8:30AM

A fun, family-
friendly event
for all fitness
levels!

\$15- 1 mile run
\$25- 5K run
\$30 after Sept. 20 for 5K

Register now at
**RUN FOR THE LAMB
FOUNDATION**

Early bird discounts available through September 20!
For more information: **TEXT PAPI @ 828-448-1535**

ASSURE THE FUTURE, INC.

JIRDC

Gingerbread CHASE

December
2nd

FUN RUN 2026

RACE CHECK IN- 5PM
RACE BEGINS- 6PM

J. IVERSON RIDDLE DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER
300 ENOLA RD.
MORGANTON, NC 28655

- DRESS IN A FESTIVE OUTFIT
- FIRST VIEW OF HOLIDAY LIGHTS DISPLAY
- 4 STATIONS OF FESTIVE FUN
- GINGERBREAD MEDAL AFTER FUN RUN



- \$25 FOR ADULTS (INCLUDES SHIRT & MEDAL)
- \$20 - AGES 4-11 YEARS OLD (INCLUDES SHIRT & MEDAL)
- FREE FOR AGES 4 AND UNDER (SHIRT NOT INCLUDED)
- LATE FEE OF \$30 BEGINS ON NOV16 FOR ALL CATEGORIES
- LATE REGISTRATION T-SHIRT NOT GUARANTEED
- REGISTER FOR RACE @ ASSURETHEFUTURE.ORG

**ALL FUNDS GO TO THE FOUNDATION OF JIRDC, ASSURE THE FUTURE, INC.,
TO SUPPORT QUALITY OF LIFE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL RESIDENTS OF JIRDC**

Kid's Creative Worship

On August 9th, Salem UMC launched our "Kid's Creative Worship". This worship experience is held on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month. Families participate in worship, then following Children's Time, leaders escort students to the Fellowship Hall for a messy church-style children's worship.

This multi-sensory worship service for students in grades 5 and below engages children in a worship experience that includes a floor piano keyboard, ten-foot tunnel and a maze to get to assembly where praise and worship video's and dancing await. This is followed by a Bible story that shares the message through role-playing, art, games, music, and even food. Multi-sensory learning has proven to have lasting effects on learning. Children then move from Bible story time to experience arts and crafts or activities that continue to reinforce the Bible story. After arts and craft time, children then move to snack and mission time. Even the snacks made by the children reinforce the Bible story! Once snack and mission time are complete, children move back to assembly for a closing music video. And, at any point during this worship experience, children "may" get a tad messy!! Please continue to pray for this ministry!



In Honor and In Memory

Joan Borden

by Alan Byrd, Jerry & Clarice Shuping,

Joan Borden

by Donald & Alia Borden, Edith Dale, Kay Duckworth

Joan Borden

by Mr. Wilson, Margaret Carswell, Nancy Brown

Jane Stroup, Linda Wilson,

by Kay Duckworth

Cary Clark, Gerald Duckworth

by Kay Duckworth

Charles Autrey, Kay Pollard

by Lisa & Mary Ann Propst

Prayer Concerns



Praises

This Week's Prayers

Edith Dale
Bob Harbour
Fisher Family – on their move to Canada
Dorothy Holland- Doris Garrison's Friend
Bobby Sigmon- Alan Byrd's Friend
Elaine Hemphill- Clarice Shuping's Friend
Norris Key- Fite Family Friend
Wes Bunch
Lloyd Fite- Kevin Fite's grandfather
Steve Stroup
Greg Getty's friend of Jack & Janice
Tim & Robin Arney
Alan Byrd
Muriel McNeilly
Jack Bridges

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

Homebound

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

Deaths

Joan Borden -7/15
Rev. Milton Young - 7/25
Rusty Tucker – Arnold Tucker's Brother 8/13
Shirley Clarke -8/15
Hemen Joshi - Jeff Miller's friend 8-21

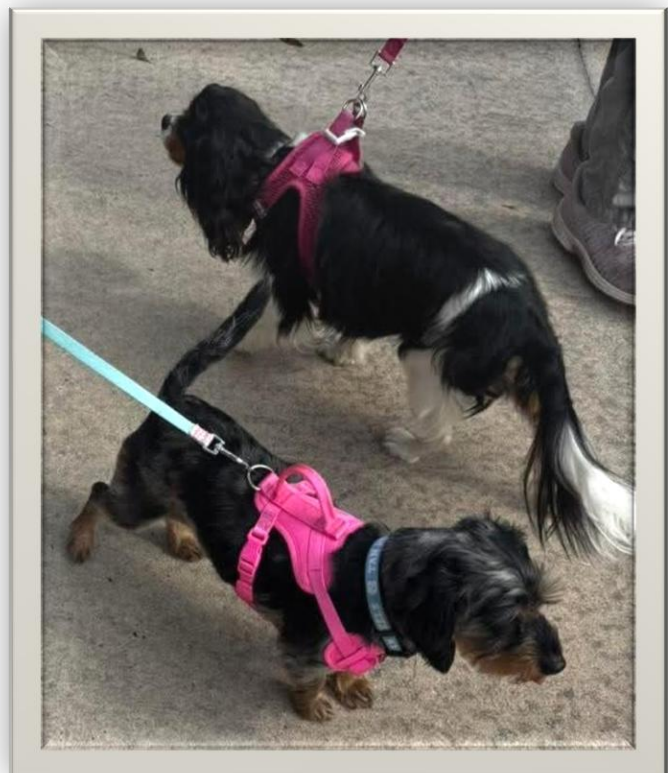
Ongoing Prayers

Joann Patton
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

Love in Action...



Back to School Biscuit Giveaway!



Back to School Backpack Giveaway!



September

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 4:00 – Cultivate Team Mtg.	2 10:00 – Prayer Shawl 6 pm – Trustee Mtg. 7 pm Choir	3	4 FH Reserved	5 12:00 - UWF Meeting
6 9:30 - Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	7	8	9 10:00 – Prayer Shawl 7 pm Choir	10	11	12 FH reserved for Hadley Fite Dinner for stockholders
13 9:30 – Sunday School 10:30 – Worship 10:45 – Kid’s Worship	14	15 5:00 pm - SPRC Meeting	16 10:00 – Prayer Shawl 7 pm Choir	17	18	19
20 9:30 - Sunday School 10:30 – Worship 12:00 – Church Council Blessing Box	21	22	23 10:00 – Prayer Shawl 7 pm - Choir	24	25	26
Project Agape Due by September 22						
27 9:30 – Sunday School 10:30 – Worship 10:45 – Kid’s Worship	28	29	30 10:00 – Prayer Shawl 7 pm Choir	31	1	2 12:00 - UWF Meeting



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