

# The Salem Scoop

the monthly newsletter of Salem United Methodist Church ♦ Morganton, North Carolina

October 2011

Volume 17, Number 10

Recently I was meeting with the church's Staff-Parish Relations Committee, and we began talking about my leadership in ministry beyond Salem UMC. After listening to me describe the different endeavors, the committee strongly encouraged me to share with the entire congregation. You may be curious to know also about the other projects where I am involved. So let me offer you a brief look:

### **The Marion District Committee on Ministry**

This is my second year on this committee, having previously served for two years in the Charlotte District. This committee is charged with the responsibility of interviewing potential candidates for ministry! The candidates come from all different backgrounds and experiences. Each has a unique calling from God. So the committee will read essays on biblical and theological themes, looking particularly for sound interpretation and consistency with our Wesleyan heritage. Furthermore, and perhaps most notably, the committee will meet with these candidates for further conversation. We hope to help the candidates discern their callings. After all, all baptized Christians are called to serve in Christ's Kingdom! Some are "set aside" for a particular kind of service. This year I will serve as the committee's Chairperson.

### **The Young Adult Task Force**

Five years ago, I was invited to join a team in order to launch a new initiative within the Western North Carolina Conference. Our purpose is to provide resources and training to those local churches hoping to connect with young adults. We have examined what many different local churches of different sizes do. Also, we have looked into what other annual conferences within the United Methodist Church do as well. The Young Adult Task Force has planned two conference-wide training events in the past, and we are currently planning two

mission trips (one to Haiti, and one to West Virginia). The trip participants will engage in a leadership training module aimed toward helping them grow into leaders in their local churches. This will be my last year with the task force, and I am serving as its Lead Coordinator.

### **The Branch: Young Clergy on the Vine**

Four years ago, several of us young clergy began conversation around a variety of questions: *How can we support each other? How can we resource one another for ministry? What are the ways we can team together as colleagues?* This has been a terrific initiative, greeting with widespread appreciation across the Western North Carolina Conference. We have planned several "day apart" events plus overnight retreats. In the past, I have been an organizer for these, though I am planning to be a participant in the future so that other young clergy can step up and lead. I only have two more years to be considered "young clergy," so I look forward to helping The Branch (name derived from Jesus saying that He is the vine, and we are the branches in John's Gospel) graft in new young clergy each year.

I'm thankful for the Staff-Parish Relations Committee encouraging me to share all of this with you. I do so because we all need to see how Christ's church is bigger than the walls of Salem UMC. We can always benefit from a more expansive imagination of God's work within and through the Church. **How is God calling YOU to serve?** I would love to talk with you more about this!!!

**October**  
**Celebrations**

**Anniversaries**

- October 6 Winfred & Doris Garrison
- 10– Howard & Vickie Stevens; Kevin & Lisa Lowdermilk
- 11– Todd & Rebecca Shuping
- 12– Norman & Beulah Duckworth
- 15– James & Mary Carswell
- 25– Bobby & Lynn Woody
- 26– Bruce & Kay Pollard



**Birthdays**

- 1– Doris Ingram
- 3– James Clark
- 5– David Dale, Lisa Lowdermilk
- 6– Earl Causby
- 7– A.R. Wilson, Jr., Weston Key
- 9– Lindy Braswell, Max Pearson, Greg Yelton
- 10– Derreck Carswell
- 14– Don Freshour, Michelle Roper
- 17– Larry Putnam, Dustin Carswell
- 19– Heather McGhinnis, Chris Ross
- 23– Kevin Patton, Autumn Wellman
- 26– Destiney Tew
- 27– Scott Roper
- 28– Eric Bowman
- 30– Emma Goodnight



## Memorials Received...

In Honor of  
Lynda Woody by  
Emma Goodnight



In Honor of Rev. Mark Conforti  
By: Jerry & Rama Ramsey

In Memory of Harry Ingram  
By William & Susan Stroud

In Memory of Derlene Brittain  
By:

Alan & Joan Byrd  
Bruce & Kay Pollard  
Willie & Mary Ann Propst  
Cary Clark & Lisa Propst  
Charles & Dian Goodnight  
Charles & Leota Garrison  
Jerry & Rama Ramsey  
Diann Pearson

## Christians are like Jack O' Lanterns



God picks you from the pumpkin patch and brings you into his home. He washes off all the dirt on the outside that you got from being around all the other pumpkins. He cuts off the top and takes out all the yucky stuff on the inside. He removes the seeds of sinfulness and carves you a new smiling face. He puts *his* light inside of you to *shine* for all to see.

You can either stay outside and rot on the vine or have Jesus come inside and become something new and bright! **SHINE for Jesus!**

**God loves you so much! He sent Jesus, his only son, to earth to take the punishment for the wrong things you do. If you believe in Jesus and follow him, you will never die, but have everlasting life.**

**S**hare **H**is **I**ncredible **N**ews **E**verywhere!

Please consider donating to our

### **BACK PACK MINISTRY.**

All items may be dropped off in the  
Fellowship Hall.

Items needed include individually wrapped:

Little Debbie Cakes, Crackers, Soup, Jello, Apples, Cereal Bars, Mini Fruit Cups, Nature Valley Bars, Macaroni & Cheese, Oatmeal, Pop Tarts, Grits, Small Canned Ham, Cheese Crackers, Ravioli, Spaghetti & Meatballs, Spaghetti O's.



## Keep These In Your Prayers



Alvin Roper

Joe Roper

Betty Gibbs

Carrie Jones

Edward Shuping

Elsie Roper

Mabel Hoke

Leila Garrison

Pat Martin

Betty Bunch

Ben Franklin

Clayton & Wanda Johnson

Deborah Goodpaster

Winfred Garrison

Charles Whiteside

Grant Causby

Ethel Ledbetter

Rick Pruett

Obie Carswell

Adell Franklin

Lorece Wakefield

Robert Tyhurst

Ruth Anne Beaver

Carol King & Family

Derlene Brittain Family

Lib Burleson Family

Roper Family

**OCTOBER**

~ Ham Dinner~October 1st

We need you to be here from 3:30-8:00 pm

All Youth and Young Adults need to be here to clear tables

~HALO-Shirt Deadline~ October 17th

If you are interested in entering the T-Shirt design contest your entry must be in by October 17th. The complete list of rules and guidelines is posted on their Facebook page.

~Trunk-or-Treating~ October 26th

Any Youth or Young Adults who are available to help hand out candy are encouraged to join us. We will not have Bible Study this week.

**NOVEMBER**

~Christmas Program Practice~Nov. 6th

If you are interested in being a part of the Christmas production this year, join us at 4 pm every Sunday. We will have plenty of parts for everyone, both onstage and behind the scenes.

~HALO~Nov. 12th— We will be participating this year. Please sign up on the clipboard in the youth room to ensure your spot. More information to come!

~Casting Crowns Concert~ Nov. 15th— This is on a Tuesday night at UNC Asheville. Concert includes Casting Crowns, Sanctus Real and The Afters. If you are interested in going please sign up in the youth room. We need at least 10 people to get the group rate of \$20 per person.

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TRUNK ~ OR ~ TREAT



On Wednesday, October 26 from 6-7:30 pm we will have food, fun games and TONS of candy! Come dressed up and join the Fall celebration!



Safe Sanctuary Training

If you are a volunteer in either the children or Youth Ministries or would like to be please mark your calendars for this important training. The United Methodist church requires that all volunteers who work directly with minors go through the background screening and training.

We will hold the training at St. Matthews UMC from 2 PM-5 PM.

- Oct 2     ♦ Kacey Hensley & Muriel McNelly
- Oct 9     ♦ Amy Causby & Chelsea Greene
- Oct 16    ♦ Jackie Pruett & Brandi Woody
- Oct 23    ♦ Mary Ann Propst & Debbie Johnston
- Oct 30    ♦ Holly Keller & Maurice McCall

### **- Nursery Volunteers -**

**If you are unable to serve in the nursery as scheduled, please contact Joyce Gibson or the church office as soon as possible. Thank you.**

### **- Children Church Volunteers -**

**If you are unable to serve in the Children's Church as scheduled, please contact Dawn Wellman or the church office as soon as possible. Thank you.**

- Oct 2     ♦ Amy Causby
- Oct 9     ♦ Dawn Wellman
- Oct 16    ♦ Debbie Johnston
- Oct 23    ♦ Rebecca Shuping
- Oct 30    ♦ Candy Yelton

## **CHRIST BREAD**

Calling all Salem UMC senior adults!

Christ Bread meets monthly, September through

May, on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 11:00 am in the church fellowship hall.

We kick-off our gathering with a delicious covered-dish meal, followed by devotions and spirit-filled fellowship.

Come join us as we often have community-interest speakers, storytellers, seasonal programs, and even a hotdog/hamburger picnic in the spring!

We would love to have you; and bring a friend! Come enjoy Christ-centered fellowship...

*Our next Christ Bread is October 25<sup>th</sup>.*



## **Mark Your Calendar**

For more information concerning these events, please contact the church office at 433-6600

- UMM Annual Country Ham & Grilled Chicken Dinner will take place on October 1st.
- Wonderful Wednesdays continue on Wednesdays at 6 pm. Please remember to sign up at the Opportunity Corner each week to help people prepare for the number of meals.
- Deeper Water meets at 10 am each Wednesday morning.
- Choir Rehearsal is at 7:30 pm each Wednesday evening.
- UMM Meet on Oct 2 @ 8 am
- UMYF meets each Sunday at 5 pm.
- Praise and Worship Oct 2 @ 7 pm
- UMW Day Circles will meet on Thursday, Oct 13th at 7 pm.
- The Lois Velna Circle will meet on Tuesday, Oct. 18th at 10 am.
- Christ Bread continues on the fourth Tuesday of each month.





*Purpose*

The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative supportive fellowship; and, to expand concepts of mission through participation in the Global Ministries of the Church.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN NEWS – OCTOBER 2011

Debbie Bradley, our Shepherdess as well as the Marion District UMW Vice President, met with us and presented the World Thank program. Debbie referenced scripture from Mark 14:3-9. Debbie also mentioned that this year’s emphases for the Conference and District is on Domestic Violence. She asked that we participate in Domestic Violence observance by wearing purple ribbons on October 9<sup>th</sup>. We had a very good turn out for this meeting. Thanks to all those that attended.

The Salem United Methodist Women’s unit continues to be in mission for women, children and youth around the world. The October hands-on mission opportunity is Good Samaritan Clinic. The needs for the clinic will be announced. Watch the bulletin for a list of items.

Hostesses for **October 7<sup>th</sup>** (7:00 pm) meeting are as follows:

- Cora Ora .....Beulah Duckworth
- Mary Alice .....Joyce Gibson
- Sadie Rosemary .....Joyanne Benfield

The Lois Velna Circle meets the third Tuesday of each month at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall of Salem United Methodist Church.

All ladies are invited to join the United Methodist Women. If you have mission work in your heart, come and be a part of our mission team.

Seven ladies from our unit attended the Marion District Annual Meeting held at Oak Grove UMC in Ellenboro.

**Upcoming Events**

- Ham Supper:** October 1
- Executive Comm. Meeting:** October 3 – 7:00 pm
- Bazaar Work Days & Week:** October 29, October 31 – November 4
- Bazaar:** November 5

Lynda Woody, President Salem UMW

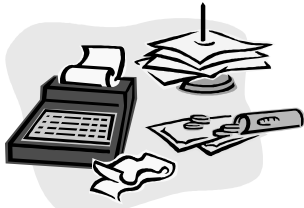


**Special Thanks from the United Methodist Men**

The United Methodist Men of Salem UMC would like to extend sincere thanks and appreciation for everyone who came out to support our Annual Country Ham/Chicken Supper. We had a great crowd that enjoyed fantastic food and fellowship for the evening.

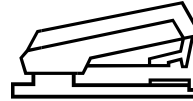
Thank you to everyone who contributed supplies, baked desserts, helped set up, serve and clean up for this important event. This event supports many mission projects within the Church.

We thank you for your continued support and we look forward to seeing you at future events.



## Finances

	General Balance
Beginning Bal(8/25/11)	\$21,786.18
Deposits	\$22,780.00
Distributions	<u>\$16,207.27</u>
Ending Balance. (9/25/11)	\$28,358.91



## From the Church Office

*The deadline for the November  
newsletter,*

**Is Monday, October 24th**

If you have items for the bulletin, please have  
these to the church office by 9:00 am

Friday mornings.

### Office hours

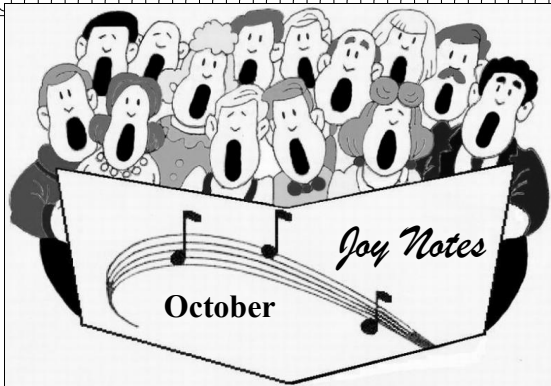
Mondays 8 am until 2 pm

Wednesdays Noon —3 pm

## Grant's Fund

We wish to acknowledge the recent donations total  
of \$816.00. This is greatly appreciated.

If you would like more information regarding how  
you can help with this  
ministry, please contact the church office.



*Make joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous  
song and sing praises.*

*Psalms 98:4*

*Rehearsals for the Christmas Cantata  
are underway.*

*Please consider joining our great choir and using  
the voice that God gave to you, the greatest musical  
instrument of all.*

*Wednesday night practice begins promptly at 7:30  
pm.*

Virginia Robinson,  
Choir Director

## A Friendly Reminder

Please remember the following items any-  
time you use the  
church buildings.

- Turn off all lights
- Be sure all doors are securely closed.
- Be sure air conditioner/heat is on the  
proper setting.
  - Kitchen is clean and tidy.
- All trash is taken out of fellowship hall.

Let us be good stewards  
of the resources  
that have been  
bestowed upon us



Salem United Methodist Church  
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(828) 433-6600

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## Return Service Requested

### **Wonderful Wednesdays**

Meal at 6 pm with classes to follow

Choir Practice—7:30 pm

### **United Methodist Men**

The UMM meet the 1st Sunday of each month @ 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.

### **United Methodist Women**

- Evening Circles meet 1<sup>st</sup> Thurs. of each month @ 7:00 pm.
- Day Circle meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues. @ 10:00 am.

**Deeper Water—Wednesday Morning Bible Study** 10-11:30 am.  
Launch into deeper water with us.

**Christ Bread**— Meets the 4th Tuesday of the month at 11 am

**Intercessors Prayer Group**—Meets each Tuesday @ 6:30 pm.

**Praise & Worship**—A service is held the first Sunday of each month @ 7:00 pm. Please make plans to attend. ***“It Could Change Your Life.”***

**Kids Klub**— Meets the last Friday night of each month.

**United Methodist Youth (6-12th grade)**—Meet each Sunday @ 5:00 pm. Other activities as scheduled.

### **Sunday Worship**

\*Contemporary Worship 9:00 AM

\*Sunday School 9:45 AM

\*Traditional Worship 11:00 AM

#### CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Mark Conforti, Pastor

Erica Miracle— Director of Children & Youth

Virginia Robinson, Director of Music

Sue Bunch, Pianist

Tori Cole, Congregational Care Visitor

Tammy Severt, Administrative Assistant