



## **KALEIDOSCOPE**

### **SALEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

#### **June - 2026**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

It has been one of the greatest blessings of my life to serve God alongside the people of the United Methodist Church and, particularly, the people of God's Salem United Methodist Church. Together we have worshiped, prayed, celebrated baptisms, confirmations, weddings, shared Holy Communion, comforted one another in times of grief, and witnessed the faithfulness of God through every season of ministry.

Now, Salem United Methodist Church has a new structure that we call ALB, "Accountable Leadership Board." With this new way of governing the Church, I can envision a significant impact on Salem United Methodist Church's mission.

I give thanks to God for the privilege to preach the Good News of the Gospel, make disciples of Jesus Christ, and serve this congregation of Salem United Methodist Church. I acknowledge that your love, support, prayers, and partnership have enriched my life and strengthened my calling throughout these years.

As I prepare to enter retirement, I do so with gratitude, and I will always cherish the memories we have shared in ministry. Thank you for allowing me the honor of walking beside you in faith. And I ask for your prayers for my family and me as we begin this new chapter of life, and I will continue to pray for all of you.

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit remain with you always.

Faithfully in Christ,

Rev. Eliud Martinez  
Ordained Elder of the United Methodist Church

Salem United Methodist Church  
Apr-26

	Apr-26			YTD				Comments
	Actual	% of Sales	Variance	Budget	Actual	% of Sales	Variance	
Revenue	\$ 18,269	\$ 15,366		\$ 84,570	\$ 100,457		\$ 15,887	Includes \$10,000 from Foundation Endowment Account
Staff Parish: Pastor	\$ 8,441	\$ 10,630	69.2%	\$ 33,764	\$ 34,568	34.4%	\$ 804	
Staff Parish: Staff	\$ 4,313	\$ 5,777	37.6%	\$ 17,118	\$ 17,669	17.6%	\$ 551	
Christian Education	\$ 100	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 991	\$ 614	0.6%	\$ (377)	
General Admin:	\$ 3,728	\$ 4,723	30.7%	\$ 18,183	\$ 18,808	18.7%	\$ 625	Apportionments fully paid, Internet expenses are up
Worship: Worship	\$ 172	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 1,286	\$ 890	0.9%	\$ (397)	
Development:	\$ 13	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 50	\$ -	0.0%	\$ (50)	
Caring Ministries:	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	
Evangelism:	\$ 72	\$ -	0.5%	\$ 107	\$ 240	0.2%	\$ 133	
Missions:	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	
Trustees: Utilities	\$ 1,818	\$ 2,564	16.7%	\$ 8,286	\$ 11,648	11.6%	\$ 3,361	Utilities more than projected
Trustees: Insurance	\$ 1,409	\$ 1,437	9.4%	\$ 5,636	\$ 4,511	4.5%	\$ (1,125)	No insurance in March, 1st month of new payment cycle
Trustees: Maintenance	\$ 1,317	\$ 2,882	18.8%	\$ 4,897	\$ 6,857	6.8%	\$ 1,960	Building maintenance up over budget
Trustees: Capital Expense	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	
Finance: Audit	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	
Total Expense	\$ 21,311	\$ 28,084		\$ 90,318	\$ 95,804		\$ 5,486	
Net Income	\$ (3,042)	\$ (12,718)		\$ (5,748)	\$ 4,653			

2026	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Revenue	\$ 23,871	\$ 44,967	\$ 16,253	\$ 15,366									\$ 100,457
Expense	\$ 24,237	\$ 23,873	\$ 19,610	\$ 28,084									\$ 95,803
Net Income	\$ (366)	\$ 21,095	\$ (3,357)	\$ (12,718)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,654

2025	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Revenue	\$ 13,762	\$ 13,621	\$ 25,104	\$ 30,796	\$ 15,994	\$ 44,442	\$ 12,768	\$ 22,856	\$ 23,795	\$ 22,022	\$ 20,309	\$ 19,634	\$ 265,001
Expense	\$ 25,011	\$ 20,990	\$ 19,693	\$ 17,703	\$ 25,603	\$ 14,425	\$ 34,869	\$ 15,864	\$ 23,785	\$ 28,197	\$ 17,648	\$ 20,179	\$ 263,970
Net Income	\$ (11,249)	\$ (7,369)	\$ 5,411	\$ 13,033	\$ (9,649)	\$ 30,016	\$ (22,102)	\$ 6,992	\$ 10	\$ (6,176)	\$ 2,661	\$ (545)	\$ 1,032

2024	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Revenue	\$ 18,686	\$ 13,171	\$ 44,004	\$ 12,543	\$ 19,392	\$ 17,624	\$ 13,020	\$ 13,786	\$ 18,701	\$ 36,681	\$ 15,127	\$ 43,315	\$ 266,050
Expense	\$ 21,720	\$ 20,345	\$ 19,016	\$ 28,103	\$ 20,360	\$ 17,796	\$ 17,290	\$ 23,815	\$ 17,770	\$ 24,325	\$ 19,690	\$ 44,450	\$ 274,681
Net Income	\$ (3,034)	\$ (7,174)	\$ 24,987	\$ (15,560)	\$ (969)	\$ (172)	\$ (4,270)	\$ (10,029)	\$ 932	\$ 12,356	\$ (4,562)	\$ (1,135)	\$ (8,631)

2023 Monthly	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Revenue	\$ 29,992	\$ 18,987	\$ 17,489	\$ 39,468	\$ 13,541	\$ 21,511	\$ 17,475	\$ 16,328	\$ 13,636	\$ 23,403	\$ 38,130	\$ 25,071	\$ 275,030
Expense	\$ 18,339	\$ 51,077	\$ 93	\$ 18,053	\$ 22,809	\$ 26,143	\$ 25,556	\$ 21,357	\$ 19,025	\$ 22,091	\$ 47,555	\$ 22,876	\$ 294,973
Net Income	\$ 11,653	\$ (32,090)	\$ 17,396	\$ 21,415	\$ (9,268)	\$ (4,632)	\$ (8,081)	\$ (5,029)	\$ (5,389)	\$ 1,312	\$ (9,425)	\$ 2,195	\$ (19,943)

Cash On Hand:	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August
General Fund Checking	\$ 4,434.05	\$ 25,183.26	\$ 22,025.02	\$ 9,614.30				
Dedicated Account Money Market	\$ 68,442.91	\$ 70,260.70	\$ 68,325.12	\$ 67,972.44				
Capital Fund: Money Market	\$ 35,965.87	\$ 35,965.87	\$ 56,066.98	\$ 56,066.98				
UMF Investments	\$ 472,320.97	\$ 472,320.97	\$ 472,320.97	\$ 472,320.97				

Cash On Hand:	September	October	November	December
General Fund Checking				
Dedicated Account Money Market				
Capital Fund: Money Market				
UMF Investments				

Mission of the Month		
Warming Shelter	Jan-26	\$ 730.00
Feed My Starving Children	Feb-26	\$ 2,692.00
Sleep In Heavenly	Mar-26	\$ 745.00
Helper Project	Apr-26	\$ 495.00
Golden Cross	May-26	
Food Pantry (+ 1/2 FM Proceed)	Jun-26	
Astrop (+ 1/2 FM Proceed)	Jul-26	
Habitat for Humanity	Aug-26	
Red Bird Mission	Sep-26	
Blankets	Oct-26	
Rooted & Rising	Nov-26	
UMCOR	Dec-26	
		\$ 4,662.00



## Please join us on Sunday, June 21,

following worship in the Fellowship Hall for cake, ice cream, coffee, and fellowship as we recognize Pastor Martinez and his upcoming retirement.

Those who would like to do so are welcome to bring a card or note with well wishes for this next chapter of life.

As many of us know, Pastor Martinez has always appreciated a good cup of coffee... so we felt it only fitting to include that in the celebration.

We hope you will join us for this time of fellowship together.

Contact Doug Hammack or any ALB member with questions!





## June Mission of the Month

### Nourishing Our Community One Neighbor at a Time!

Food Insecurity is Real in Fond du Lac County. More than 15,000 households in the county, over one in three, cannot afford the basic cost of living. These include working families, seniors on fixed incomes, and people doing their best in a challenging economy. Many are employed, some working multiple jobs, yet still struggle to make ends meet.

According to the ALICE Report, 35 percent of households live below the ALICE threshold. A family of four needs more than \$60,000 per year just to cover basic needs, which is far above the federal poverty level. When budgets are tight, healthy food is often the first expense to be cut.

That is where the Fondy Food Pantry comes in.

In 2024, Fondy Food Pantry served 43,991 individuals across Fond du Lac County providing fresh produce, dairy, meat, and pantry staples in a welcoming, grocery store-style setting. Most recently; 1,250 households are served monthly, 90,000 pounds of food are dispersed monthly, and 1,100 kids are fed each week through the "Food for Thought Program".

Whether you need food, want to volunteer, or are looking for ways to give back, you are in the right place. Fondy Food Pantry is there for our neighbors with compassion, dignity, and hope.

Please consider giving a donation and noting on your offering envelope "Fondy Food Pantry".

## Katherine Howard's Vocal Recital Saturday, June 6 at 1 PM



Katherine Howard just completed her senior year of high school at St. Mary Springs Academy.

Katherine was very involved in the music and theater programs all years of her High School career.

In addition to choirs, Katherine also plays the flute. Katherine has been a private voice student of Libby Reinbold for the past four years.

She has sung with South Shore Chorale during the past two years and was recently awarded their student scholarship which she will apply towards her education at Gillette College of Gillette Wyoming this fall. She is planning on pursuing an English major but will also continue to pursue her passion for music by participating in the programs they have available.

Salem United Methodist has enjoyed having Katherine participate in their adult choir several times in the past few years. Not only did she sing soprano in the Christmas Cantatas, but she also eagerly volunteered to read some of the narration.

Salem is pleased to host Katherine's vocal recital in the Sanctuary on **Saturday, June 6th, at 1:00 PM.**

**DO YOU HAVE A CONCERN OR A JOY** you'd like to share with the prayer chain? Call Julie Francis at 920-948-4032 with these requests. All prayer concerns are *confidential and kept within the prayer chain*. Prayer requests are sent out via email; if you're interested in being a prayer warrior, you may also contact Julie.



## Upcoming Special Worship Services



June 7 - Penny Kottke will give the message  
Celebration of Holy Communion

Join us on Sunday, June, 14 as we celebrate and honor Salem's graduates!

Mark Runke will give the message

**High School Graduates:** Carrisa Bell, Autumn Klebs, Lucas King

**College Graduates:** Anna Riley, Fox Valley Technical College; Dental Hygienist. Hanna Boelk, Moraine Park Technical College; Nursing Degree



Sunday, June 21



Celebration of Pastor Martinez's Retirement  
After Worship in Fellowship Hall



Salem's Accountable Leadership Board is excited to announce that we have a new administrative coordinator effective June 1. Her name is **Patricia Sabel**. She brings special gifts to Salem and will be a good match for Salem. She has the skillset and experience for the position, as well as what we believe is a calming personality. She resides in the Holyland with her husband and grown children.

The church office hours will remain the same of Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sue Gerritson will be training Patti. Feel free to stop into the office and give her a warm Salem welcome!



## **Notice on use of Church Physical Property**

With the celebration season upon us for graduations, summer weddings, etc we wanted to remind all members of the policy of borrowing church physical property.

There is a form located in the church office where you can reserve different items such as tables and chairs, Nesco roasters, etc. If you have a need please fill them out in advance and file them in the office so that we make sure we do not have conflicts between members as well as a tracking mechanism.

We loan these items out on an honor system, so we hope the items are returned to church in the same condition as they left and are returned in a timely manner after your event.

If you do need to utilize tables, we have 4 – 8’ tables and 3 – 6 ft tables currently in the garage for use. Please do not take tables out of fellowship hall unless approved by the ALB via request. It is a risk moving them out of the basement and we do not want anyone to get hurt or damage the tables or facility. Any chairs you may need should only be taken from the soda room, where they are currently located on racks. Do not remove any padded chairs from the fellowship hall. Also, the tables in the garage are also for use for events such as the Farmer’s Market so please plan accordingly with your reservations.

If you have had a recent event over the last few years and utilized items, please check to see if you still have them by mistake. We are currently missing 3 – 6’ white plastic tables, and an additional 3 – 6’ white tables that fold in the middle with handles for transport.

If possible, pick up and return the items during normal church office hours so that staff can provide access to the church or garage. If that is not possible, please contact Phil Corbin at 920-960-7559 (cell) and he will either meet you or have another individual with the proper keys meet you at church to load or return the items.



# **Strawberry Social**



**Tuesday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Fellowship Hall**



**Strawberries, Ice Cream,  
Short cake, Sloppy Joe,**



## Salem's 27<sup>th</sup> Apple Harvest Festival



Mark your calendars "now" for the "2<sup>nd</sup> Annual" curbside pickup on Saturday, October 10, 2026; 9:00am – 2:00pm

PLEASE – note dates indicated below and plan to participate as you are able

### Apple Pie-in-a-Jar



Help turn bushels of apples into Apple Pie-in-a-Jar on Saturday, August 22 and September 12. We start peeling apples at 7:00am and work until 2:00pm. Come and work as long as you can; even an hour or two is greatly appreciated. **Everyone** is welcome; you don't need to sign up, just come and enjoy good fellowship during production! **Order deadline for Pie-in-a-Jar is Friday, September 1; watch for the order forms in upcoming Kaleidoscope!**

### Apple Pie Making



If you are newly retired or have flexibility in your work schedule, join our Appealing Peelers, Cutting Edge Cleaners, Dough Boys, Holy Rollers, Merry Mixers, Talented Toppers, and Minute Men as often and for as long as you are able. We begin at 7:00am peeling apples; and work until the freezers are full and orders are ready; 10-15 people will make this happen. Typically, we're finished by 1:00 PM depending on number of orders. And as always, the fellowship is fantastic! **Please:** mark your calendar now and plan to help make pies beginning Monday, September 28 through Friday, October 9. **Order deadline for pies is Wednesday, September 23; watch for the order forms in upcoming Kaleidoscope!**

Checkout Salem's website, Facebook page, bulletins, and E-News for updates as decisions are made as well as for the order blanks!

## Have you turned in your personal survey???



We have received approximately 30% response thus far.

Any questions, please contact Amy Ahlstrom.

Members and Friends of Salem are asked to fill out a "Personal Survey" sheet and place it in the basket on the Narthex table. (every person in the family)

Thanks for your help

## OFFICE EQUIPMENT UPDATED

Thank you for the generous donations of a second monitor & new keyboard for the Administrative Assistant Office. These updates are greatly appreciated!



## NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY COMING....

We're in the process of creating our own church directory through Shepherd's Staff (our church database). We need your household picture (immediate family members)

Please e-mail photos to church office. Thank You!

## **Accountable Leadership Board (ALB)**

### **Agenda/Minutes**

May 18, 2026

Meeting convened at 6:00 pm

**Attendees:** Mark Runke (presiding), Jon Gilliland, Phil Corbin, Bob Mikkelsen, Pastor Martinez, Rick Roth, Doug Hammack, Mickie Anderson, Penny Kottke, Amy Ahlstrom

**Visitor:** Harry Classen

**Opening Prayer** provided by Pastor Martinez

**Devotion** provided by Mark Runke based upon verses from Thessalonians 5, Hebrews 10 and Ephesians

#### **Fiduciary Work:**

- Approval of April minutes: Motion made by Jon Gilliland to approve as written. Seconded by Bob Mikkelsen. Motion voted on by those present and passed unanimously.
- **April Finance Report** - Rick Roth
  - Income: Budget \$18,200, Actual \$15,300
  - Expense: Budget \$21,300, Actual \$28,000
  - Increase in utilities, decrease in staff payroll, building maintenance up, 3 payrolls
  - 100% apportionments paid
  - New Insurance policy payment started in April

#### **Generative Work:**

- **Trustees**-Phil Corbin
  - No major repairs

- Men's group has divided up tasks of trimming church property trees, painting garage doors, cleaning window wells, etc.
- Will follow up with building inspector of proposed plan of security for Libby when she is practicing on the organ
- **Safe Sanctuary Policy**-Mark Runke
  - Need task force of 3-4 people. Bring suggestions for June meeting
  - Need background check done every 2 years of church leaders, and those working with youth and vulnerable. And provide training
  - Wis. Conference resources: [Safe Sanctuary Support - Wisconsin Conference of the UMC](#)
- **Liaison to congregation** - Doug Hammack
  - No new requests

**Wills and Memorials-Scholarships:**

- Per Mark Runke, no update from Joel Lamonska, however 3 students are eligible. Mark will follow up with Joel. Recognition of graduates will be June 14 during service.

**Update from Communications** - Amy Ahlstrom

- Most of Shepherd's Staff clean up done.
- Dashboard statistics comparison of 4/20/2026 to 5/18/2026
- Church Phone Book up to date
- Church Directory up to date. To be completed with household pictures by July 1.
- Salem Website and Facebook
  - Upcoming events being kept up
  - 550 followers on Facebook

**Pastor Martinez Discussion Time**

- Attended ICD Training in Dayton, OH. Shared how churches in that area have consolidated congregations and resources to maintain presence in the area.
- Thanked Salem for use of kitchen for Tamale sale. They made 1285 tamales!

**Open Discussion**

- Update from Harry Classen
  - Reported has ordered Strawberry Social sign for both sides of outdoor sign from Hopper's
  - Harry will clean up the name tags in the front entry according to the Church Phone Book list
- Jon Gilliland stated that he is working with Harry in regards to a Sunday afternoon program with Michael Hillestad and Suzie Frey. Will pursue when Pastor Hakki comes.

**Next meeting date:** June 15, 2026 at 6:00 pm

Closing comments, close meeting with prayer by Jon Gilliland

Meeting concluded at 7:41 pm

Respectfully submitted

Amy Ahlstrom, Communication Specialist



We are excited to announce our VBS 2026. August 4th-6th daily 8am- 4:30 each day. This year we will also be planning a teen/young adult fun nights within VBS.

In addition to kid participants, we are looking for youth helpers, adult leaders, and meal stewards (aka, kitchen prep, serving and clean up). Monetary donations, food, craft/art needs, and prayers for God’s guidance, grace and mercy as our United Methods Church’s do His work for our community. Contact Katherine Ahrens if you find the call on your hearts to be a blessing in the rainforest.

An adventure you’ll fall for!



New friends 🍀 Amazing experiments 🍀 Creative games  
Super-fun snacks 🍀 Surprising adventures 🍀 Incredible music

**Location:**

Community United Methodist Church  
701 Minnesota Ave  
North Fond du Lac, WI 54937

**When:**

August 4-6 8am-4pm  
Breakfast, Lunch and Snack Provided

**Ages:** 3-12

**Cost:** Free

**Sign up**

<https://www.myvbs.org/cumc2026>

Or at your local United Methodist Church

Sponsored by:

Pacto de Gracia UMC, Community UMC, Salem UMC





Ann Bradley became a member of Salem on May 17<sup>th</sup>.

## Notable & Quotable: Loud Kids in Church

*From a notice posted to Facebook on February 25 (and credited to Mississippi's First Baptist Union) by the Mount Washington United Brethren in Christ, a church in York, PA.*

Mt. Washington Church Official Release  
Notification of Policy Change  
Re: Loud Kid Policy

### Effective Immediately

At Mt. Washington Church, we are committed to transparency and accountability in all matters of church life. The following document outlines our comprehensive procedures regarding loud children in worship. Please consider this your official notice of policy clarification.

Effective immediately, if a family is considering visiting Mt. Washington Church and they have a loud kid, the following options are available:

- Option 1: The family should bring the kid.
- Option 2: The family should make sure they bring the kid.
- Option 3: The family is to see that the child is brought to church.
- Option 4: The kid is absolutely welcome and expected.

We believe the sounds of children in worship is not a distraction. It is evidence of life, growth, and the future of the church.

If your child makes noise, you are not bothering us. You are blessing us!

Policy enacted. No exceptions!

Fully endorsed by Salem United Methodist Church, Fond du Lac, WI!



**Thank you to** Kazuyo Roehrdanz & Marilyn Hays for the work they put in planting flowers and cleaning up the beds by the back entrance doors.

Also Thanks to the Men's Group for cleaning out the window wells & maintaining Salem's lawn.

## Confirmation Class of 2026



### Johnathan Vogelsberg - Faith Statement

Hi, my name is Johnathon, and I'm 13 years old. This year in confirmation, I've realized that my faith isn't just something my family believes it's something I truly believe too.

There are times when I feel stressed, unsure of myself, or worried about the future. Sometimes I don't feel good enough. But my faith reminds me that God's love isn't based on how perfect I am. As a Methodist, I believe in God's grace that He loves me before I even deserve it, forgives me when I mess up, and never gives up on me. That makes me feel safe and hopeful.

I believe that Jesus died and rose again because of His deep love for us. Because of Him, I know I can always start over. No matter what happens in my life, I'm never alone.

One Bible verse that means a lot to me is Jeremiah 29:11: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." That verse reminds me that even when I don't know what's coming next, God does. He has a purpose for my life.

Confirmation is important to me because I'm choosing to say yes to this faith. I want to keep growing, keep learning, and keep becoming the person God created me to be. I know I won't be perfect, but I trust that God's grace will guide me every step of the way.

### **Brady Nelson - Faith Statement**

Hello, My name is Brady Nelson. The scripture I chose today is Joshua 1:9 "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid... the Lord your God goes with you."

To me, this means that when you are going through something hard, don't give up you're not alone God is with you. Some people give up on what they're doing if it's hard but all they have to do is take a deep breath and believe in yourself because God is always there for you.

When I started speech therapy it was challenging. I had to put in a ton of work to get better. I got frustrated and mad. I took a break for a while but then got back on track. I'm still in speech therapy now and I am going to keep working hard and not give up because I know God is there for me.

Also, when I went to a new soccer team I didn't know most of the kids so I was nervous about meeting new people and friends. But one of the kids came up to me and started to talk to me. I started to get more used to my team and I started to make new friends. Now I'm friends with everyone on my team on and off the field.

Most of the time in basketball I'm smaller than everybody else, and I'm always doubting myself before the game thinking I'm too small, and we're not going to win because they're big. But I have to realize that size doesn't matter and it's how hard you work. Because God is always there for you. When you're going through something hard all you have to do is trust god because God will help you get through the challenge you are facing.

### **Joshua Klebs - Faith Statement**

Matthew 6:34 "So don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today's trouble is enough for today."

I chose this scripture because we face a lot of worries throughout our time the most. Many of my worries are because of school. "Will I get a good grade? I don't understand this. How can I do better? Did I study hard enough?"

I also worry about if my dad will be activated again. This scripture helps me to not worry what may come in the future but to focus on the now.

These worries are very difficult to handle, but I know that God is always there for me. When I worry, I know I can ask God to help me get through my troubles. This scripture helps me to remember to focus on one worry at a time. With God's help I know everything will be ok.

### **Sam Schwalbach - Faith Statement**

Today, I am basing my faith statement on Romans 8:1, which says, "For there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ." This verse stands out to me because it highlights the depth of God's love and grace.

When I think about this verse, I'm reminded that none of us are perfect. We all make mistakes and fall short. We don't earn God's grace, and we certainly don't deserve it. Yet, despite that, God still chooses to love us. Through Jesus' sacrifice, we are offered forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. That truth is both humbling and comforting to me.

This verse has also changed the way I think about guilt and judgment. If God does not condemn those who are in Christ, then we should not condemn others harshly. We are all growing, learning, and trying to do better.

Of course, this doesn't mean our choices don't matter. Grace isn't an excuse to ignore our mistakes. Instead, it encourages self-reflection and repentance which simply means choosing to change and move in a better direction towards God.

Overall, Romans 8:1 gives me hope. It reminds me that faith is not about perfection, but about trust in God's mercy and love. That is something I continue to learn and grow in every day.

Thank you for listening. Amen.

### **Sawyer Zimbelman – Faith Statement**

I am [SAWYER ZIMBELMAN](#) and I am here today to read my Faith statement. At the beginning of confirmation, I wasn't sure about it but as it progressed it started getting better and we covered a lot of good topics like anxiety and 10 commandments.

One subject that touches me is the topic of anxiety because I used to have a lot of anxiety. When I went to bed at night, every night I thought that someone was going to break into my house. I started to pray more and that helped me.

Another thing that helped me was covering the topic of anxiety in confirmation which helped me know that god was always with me which helped me work through my anxiety and not just that topic helped me through my anxiety all of confirmation helped me with knowing that god was with me and he will be with me for the rest of my life and even after my life when I'm in heaven.

The Bible verse that I picked means a lot to me because of my anxiety and it is from Deuteronomy 31:6. "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you".

To me this means never be afraid or terrified because God is always with you and will never leave you for your whole life and more because he will be with you forever and ever. **Thank you for listening and Amen.**

### **Liam Schafer Faith Statement**

When I was in second grade I was swinging outside at recess with my friends. Some of my friends were doing back flips off the swings and I thought I could do it too. I tried and I overshot landing on my arms. I stood up, felt fine and then felt the pain when I looked down at my wrist and it looked twisted.

The teacher at recess had me go to the nurses office and they called my parents. As I waited for them the pain got worse and they took me to the ER. In the ER x-rays showed 2 broken wrists. One was just a fracture and the bones were in place so I only needed a cast.

The other fracture the bones had moved and the doctor decided to reduce me in the ER instead of going to the OR. They told my parents they gave me pain mediation and numbing

medication, but it did not seem that way at all. When they twisted my wrist it was the worst pain I had ever felt. When my school found out they didn't think I was safe to be there so I had to learn from home.

That day I chose faith over fear even as I walked through the pain of a broken wrist. The scripture from the bible I choose is Isaiah 41:10 "So do not fear for I am with you, do not be dismayed for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will uphold you with my righteous right hand".

This promise speaks directly to my heart even though my wrists were injured I knew I was not alone. God was with me in every moment of discomfort, every doctor's visit and every step of the healing process. I believed that that same God who created my body had the same power to restore it. What felt broken that day would not be broken forever.

My injury did not define me and does not limit what God can do in my life. Instead it reminds me to slow down, trust him more deeply and depend on his strength rather than my own. During the season of healing I declare that God was strengthening me physically, mentally, and spiritually. Each day brought progress, patience and renewed hope.

Still today, I trust that God is working even though I cannot see it. He continues to guide the hands of those caring for me and brings restoration to my body. Though my wrists had been weak my faith remained strong. God upheld me with his righteous hand, gave me peace and endurance.

I did not let that moment discourage me, instead I use it as a reminder of God's faithfulness. I believe healing returned, strength had returned and God carried me through 2 broken wrists with love and grace.

### **Landon Hammack – Faith Statement**

When I started my journey in faith I was at a crossroads, unsure of which direction to take. I would make plans that wouldn't unfold as I expected, I tried things that wouldn't go well. I didn't always get the things I wanted and instead of seeing reason I blamed myself. This led me into a path of doubt and discouragement that would take me two years to get out of. There were times when I doubted God so much I thought about turning away from his light completely.

But then as I was scrolling through my phone I saw a video about Jesus' death and resurrection. This video led me down a rabbit hole of other videos and I learned so much about myself and God. My doubt was cleared and my faith was strengthened into what it is now. I'm so happy that I found God's light once again because without it I would be shrouded in darkness as it says in John 8:12 "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." Without faith we would be stuck in darkness and never be granted the light of life. When I was down in the dumps without God's light there were signs that I see now and wish I had seen earlier. One time when I was in school I saw the number 777 ten times in a short period. At that time I thought nothing of it. I went on with my day and forgot about it. Eventually though I got curious and searched up, "what does 777 mean?" I got the answer, "divine alignment, spiritual awakening, and inner wisdom." This showed me how God was reaching out and making his presence clear. I just needed to look closer. Proverbs 3:5-6 says, "trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight." When I followed the advice in that verse my life got better. I was more happy stress free and there was nothing that could stop me from walking in the light of God. So that's why I believe in God, Christ the son, and the Holy spirit.

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



3 Libby Reinbold  
4 Marsha Riley  
4 Steve Sheridan  
5 Rebecca Roth  
6 Joyelle King  
6 Sara Rock  
9 Adam Nelson  
10 Brian Belanger  
11 Maxwell Pitchford  
14 Ann Bradley  
14 Larry Kent  
14 Brooke McDowell

19 Dave Jackson  
22 Nick Capoyianes  
22 Joel Lamonska  
27 Richard Kottke  
27 Ronald Kottke  
28 Corrin Cornelius  
28 Glen Kottke  
28 John Vogelsberg  
29 Wesley Kottke  
29 Kay Lock  
30 Julie Francis



4 Michelle & James Dais  
11 Curt & Kay Lock  
12 Pam & Randall Davidson  
18 Chris & Kim Margelofsky  
18 Tim & Marsha Riley  
19 Dave & Judy Jackson

20 Jim & Penny Kottke  
24 Tom & Shannon Foth  
25 Norm & Julie Francis  
25 Bryan & Becky McDowell  
29 Mark & Jeannie Runke



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5 <u>Pastor – WI Annual Conference</u>  3-5 pm Bread making	6 <u>Pastor – WI Annual Conference</u> 4am-Noon Bread Baking 1:00 pm Katherine Howard Vocal Recital
7 <u>Pastor – WI Annual Conference</u> <b>** SCRIP ORDERS DUE **</b> 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 am Fellowship	8 <u>Pastor -Tennessee Annual Conference</u>	9 <u>Pastor -Tennessee Annual Conference</u>  6:30 Outdoor Worship/picnic planning	10 <u>Pastor - Tennessee Annual Conference</u>	11 <u>Pastor -Tennessee Annual Conference</u>  6:30 PM Women’s Life Group (Chapel)	12 Pastor day off	13
14 <b>GRADUATE RECOGNITION</b> 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Fellowship	15 <b>**KALEIDOSCOPE DEADLINE**</b> 6:00 PM (ALB) Accountable Leadership Board	16	17 5-8:30 ALB/Wis Conference Mtg. (members only)	18 6:00 pm ALB dinner at Pastor’s house	19 Pastor day off	20
21 <b>**SCRIP ORDERS DUE**</b> 9 AM Worship/Baptism 10:00 AM Fellowship Celebrating Pastor Martinez	22	23 4:30-6:30 Strawberry Social	24	25 5:45 PM Green Thumb Garden Club (Fellowship Hall)	26 Pastor day off  3-5 pm Bread Making	27  4am-Noon Bread Baking
28 <b>PASTOR MARTINEZ LAST SUNDAY</b> 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Fellowship	29	30				