



## **KALEIDOSCOPE**

### **SALEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

#### **May - 2026**

#### *Communications Update*

*On behalf of our Communication Specialist, Amy Ahlstrom, I am pleased to share that the recent upgrade to Shepherd's Staff has been successfully completed. This system, which had not been updated in approximately ten years, serves as Salem's central database for membership, attendance, contributions, and financial records.*

*Team members are actively adapting to the updated platform, including Jean Kottke (Attendance), Pam Davidson (Contributions), and Karen Kalsbeek (Finance). Amy Ahlstrom is overseeing system management and is currently responsible for maintaining membership records.*

*Efforts are underway to ensure that all member information is accurate and up to date, including records of funerals, baptisms, confirmations, and weddings. To support this initiative, members and friends of Salem are encouraged to complete a "Personal Survey" form, one per individual,*

*and place it in the designated basket on the Narthex table.*

*In communications outreach, Salem continues to expand its presence through its website and Facebook. Content is being regularly updated to reflect church events, and engagement continues to grow, with the Facebook page now reaching 548 followers. Thank you Sharon Cowles, for your faithful ministry with social media.*

*Grace and Peace,  
Rev. Eliud Martinez.*

	Mar-26			YTD				Comments
	Actual	% of Sales	Variance	Budget	Actual	% of Sales	Variance	
<b>Revenue</b>	\$ 16,253			\$ 66,301	\$ 85,091		\$ 18,791	Includes \$10,000 from Foundation Endowment Account
Staff Parish: Pastor	\$ 7,856	48.3%		\$ 25,323	\$ 23,938	28.1%	\$ (1,385)	
Staff Parish: Staff	\$ 4,008	24.7%		\$ 12,805	\$ 11,892	14.0%	\$ (913)	Decreased staff hours
Christian Education	\$ -	0.0%		\$ 892	\$ 614	0.7%	\$ (278)	
General Admin:	\$ 4,082	25.1%		\$ 14,455	\$ 14,085	16.6%	\$ (370)	Apportionments fully paid
Worship: Worship	\$ 127	0.8%		\$ 1,114	\$ 890	1.0%	\$ (224)	
Development:	\$ -	0.0%		\$ 38	\$ -	0.0%	\$ (38)	
Caring Ministries:	\$ -	0.0%		\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	
Evangelism:	\$ -	0.0%		\$ 107	\$ 168	0.2%	\$ 62	
Missions:	\$ -	0.0%		\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	
Trustees: Utilities	\$ 3,363	20.7%		\$ 6,469	\$ 9,084	10.7%	\$ 2,616	Utilities more than projected
Trustees: Insurance	\$ -	0.0%		\$ 4,227	\$ 3,074	3.6%	\$ (1,153)	No Insurance in March, 1st month of new payment cycle
Trustees: Maintenance	\$ 174	1.1%		\$ 3,581	\$ 3,975	4.7%	\$ 395	
Trustees: Capital Expense	\$ -	0.0%		\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	
Finance: Audit	\$ -	0.0%		\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	
<b>Total Expense</b>	\$ 19,610			\$ 69,008	\$ 67,720		\$ (1,288)	
<b>Net Income</b>	\$ (3,357)			\$ (2,707)	\$ 17,372			

2026	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Revenue	\$ 23,871	\$ 44,967	\$ 16,253										\$ 85,092
Expense	\$ 24,237	\$ 23,873	\$ 19,610										\$ 67,720
Net Income	\$ (366)	\$ 21,095	\$ (3,357)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,372

2025	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Revenue	\$ 13,762	\$ 13,621	\$ 25,104	\$ 30,736	\$ 15,954	\$ 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					
Dedicated Account Money Market	\$ 68,442.91	\$ 70,260.70	\$ 68,325.12					
Capital Fund: Money Market	\$ 55,965.87	\$ 55,965.87	\$ 56,066.98					
UMF Investments	\$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	Date	Amount
Warming Shelter	Jan-26	\$ 730.00
Feed My Starving Children	Feb-26	\$ 2,692.00
Sleep in Heavenly	Mar-26	\$ 645.00
Red Bird Vehicle	Apr-26	
Golden Cross	May-26	
Food Pantry (+ 1/2 FM Proc	Jun-26	
Astop (+ 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	
		\$ 4,067.00

## MAY MISSION OF THE MONTH: Golden Cross



The Golden Cross Ministry began in 1921. The Wisconsin Conference of the United Methodist Church is blessed to have 13 committed Health and Welfare Ministries responding in the name of Jesus Christ to persons in need. Those served are of all religions and races from all parts of the states. They include the homeless, troubled children and families, the unemployed, the hungry, the ill, the disabled and the aged.

These Ministries grew out of the hearts of people within United Methodist congregations who were called to do as Jesus taught by serving others. They are ongoing expressions of the values of John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, since they are the result of our call as United Methodists for inner spiritual discipline combined with outer service to others.

Four of the Ministries are particularly dependent on this offering since they primarily serve persons with great needs and few resources. These are Harbor House Crisis Shelters, Northcott Neighborhood House, United Methodist Children's Services and United Methodist Hospitals Ministry. Through our congregation's support of all the Ministries, which includes at least one in our District, we have the opportunity to live out the Gospel beyond the walls of our church.

Please mark your offering envelope in the OTHER section as Golden Cross.

THANK YOU!



**Prayer Chain:** Do you have a concern or a joy you'd like to share with the prayer chain? [Call Julie Francis at 920-948-4032](tel: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.



### **Feed My Starving Children update:**

Here are the totals for our FMSC mobile pack 2026.

There were a total of 534 volunteers, 648 boxes filled, 139,968 meals to feed 383 children for a year!!!

Salem had 52 members and friends, who volunteered to pack.

With appreciation for everyone helped with this endeavor.

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**College students:** if you are graduating this spring, or you graduated in December, please contact Julie Francis to let us know when you graduated, where you graduated and what degree you received. Salem would like to honor all graduates during a worship service in June.

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### **Women's Life Group Update**

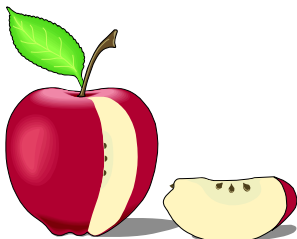
Our **Women's Life Group** continues to meet on the **2nd Thursday of each month from 6:30–8:00 p.m.** (in the Chapel)

All women are welcome!

Each month, the group selects a topic for open, honest, and faith-centered discussion. Together, we explore real-life experiences through the lens of **Scripture**, sharing insights, questions, and encouragement to help us better understand how God is leading us. These gatherings are **uplifting, safe, and filled with genuine connection** — a place where we can be real about life, faith, and the challenges we all face.

**May 14 topic: "Finding Joy in Real Life)**

We hope you'll join this amazing group of women as we continue to **grow in faith, share in love, and support one another** in life's journey.



### **27<sup>th</sup> Annual Apple Harvest Planning**

Join us in Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, May 13, 5:30-7:00pm as we look ahead to Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup>. Please bring along your ideas for making apple pie-in-a-jar, apple pies, and memorable fun in the kitchen!



## Upcoming Special Worship Services

Confirmation, May 3



Celebrate Joshua Klebs, Samuel Schwalbach, Brady Nelson, Johnathan Vogelsberg, Landon Hammack, Sawyer Zimbelman & Liam Schafer as we welcome them into Salem's membership.

Sunday, May 10



Sunday, May 17



THANKS FOR LIGHTING  
THE WAY FOR ME

Christian Education Sunday

Celebrating Teachers and Learners

Remember and Honor

Sunday, May 24



Sunday, June 14 - Graduate Recognition

**College students:** if you are graduating this spring, or you graduated in December, please contact Julie Francis to let us know when you graduated, where you graduated and what degree you received. Salem would like to honor all graduates during a worship service in June.



**Sunday School Mission Lenten Mission - Birthday Boxes for Food Pantry**

WOW!...37 birthday boxes were donated to the Fond du Lac Food Pantry; along with an extra box of supplies (all total approximately 40#)! Thank you, Salem family, for helping the children and youth support this celebration!!



# Adult Sunday School

## Sunday Morning Men's Bible Study

***Ecclesiastes: Chasing after Meaning*** by Bill Syrios and Teresa Syrios

This study was written about a book that takes on life's most difficult questions. As a matter of fact, the very first sentence lays out the author's stunning conclusion, "*Meaningless! Meaningless!*" says the Teacher. "*Utterly meaningless! Everything is meaningless.*" ~*Ecclesiastes 1:2 NIV*

Ecclesiastes is the one book in the Bible that just does **not** seem to fit. What place could such a harsh assertion of *meaninglessness* have in a Scripture that intends to reveal the redeeming work of God in history? Along with the book of Job, Ecclesiastes reminds us that God is bigger, and our life in this world more unpredictable, than we might think. This study invites you to take a realistic tour of life.

All are invited to meet in the Gathering Room following the worship service for some "arm-chair" quarterback discussion, followed by digging into the Scriptures, and of course, great food. Weekly leadership (and food) is shared by class members. New members are always welcome to join!

## Visions Adult Sunday School

***Acts: Catching Up with the Spirit*** - by Prof. Matthew L. Skinner

The Acts of the Apostles is a unique and crucial book that chronicles the story of God's grace flooding out to the world through the lives of the apostles in the decades immediately following Christ's ascension into heaven.

In *Acts: Catching Up with the Spirit*, author and biblical scholar Matthew Skinner provides a broad yet theologically attuned introduction to this important book and its story of the early church learning to bear witness about God's salvation through Jesus Christ. In this study, Skinner explores six key themes that illustrate the ways in which reading Acts is capable of igniting our imagination about the character of the Christian message, the work of God's people (the church), and the challenges of living faithfully in a complex and changing world.

We'll look at three of these themes now: **May 3:** What God Has Done; **May 10:** What God Does, and **May 17:** Discernment and Change. Stay tuned for the next three themes when Sunday School resumes in September. If interested, cost of the study book is \$15.

Join Visions class in Fellowship Hall following the worship service for some food, fellowship and discussion. ~*Julie Francis, Visions Class Leader*



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**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Mission Trip Fundraiser**

**Held at Haentze Floral on Saturday, May 16**

**Trees, Flowers, Plants!**



Once again, Salem and Haentze Floral are teaming together to offer this great fundraiser to help support the Mission team serving at Red Bird Mission in Kentucky. You can help by purchasing your spring plantings from Haentze Floral, 658 Fond du Lac

Avenue, on Saturday, May 16, 8:00am - 4:00pm. *Here's a sampling of what you can find...*

- |              |            |                      |
|--------------|------------|----------------------|
| Alyssum      | Begonia    | Coleus               |
| Cosmos       | Dahlia     | Dianthus             |
| Dusty miller | Gazania    | Lobelia              |
| Impatiens    | Marigold   | New Guinea Impatiens |
| Pansy        | Petunia    | Wave Petunia         |
| Portulaca    | Savia      | Snapdragon           |
| Verbena      | Zinnia     | Geranium             |
| Spikes       | Vinca Vine | German Ivy           |

Hanging Baskets, pots and **SO MUCH MORE...**

**To ensure that Salem gets proper credit, you must provide a "Salem Credit Form" at checkout when you have finished your shopping. These forms will be on the table across from the church office, or as inserts in the bulletin closer to the date of the sale.**

**Thanks for supporting Salem's Mission Trips!**

# Accountable Leadership Board (ALB)

## Agenda/Minutes - April 20, 2026

Meeting convened at 6:02 pm

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

**Excused:** Mark Runke, Penny Kottke

**Visitor:** Harry Classen

**Opening Prayer** provided by Pastor Martinez

### **Fiduciary Work:**

- Approval of March minutes: Motion made by Phil Corbin to approve as written. Seconded by Mickie Anderson. Motion voted on by those present and passed unanimously.
- March Finance Report - Rick Roth
  - Income \$16,253; Expenses ~\$19,000.
  - Deficit of ~ \$3,300 between income and expenses
  - Increase in utilities, decrease in staff payroll
  - 100% apportionments paid
  - New Insurance policy payment starts in April. ~ \$15,000 paid over 11 months = ~\$1,365/payment

### **Generative Work:**

- **Trustees**-Phil Corbin
  - Wenger Construction to come on 4/23 to start repair on gutter above office & front lower door
  - Kitchen hood suppression of recertifying will be completed in June or July. Fire Marshall is aware of plan
  - Lawn mowing schedule for the summer has been completed.
  - Men's group will be meeting in spring to trim church property trees, paint doors on garage, clean window wells, etc.
  - Safe Sanctuary Policy Review to be completed by Task Force (members TBD) and implement within 6 months. (Component of Insurance policy)
- **Liaison to congregation** - Doug Hammack
  - No new requests

### **Wills and Memorials-Scholarships:**

- Per Jon Gilliland, no update from Joel Lamonska, however possibly 3 students are eligible

### **Update from Communications** - Amy Ahlstrom

- Upgrade completed on Shepherd's Staff which was ~ 10 years overdue. This is Salem's database for Membership, Attendance, Contributions and Finances
  - Jean Kottke (Attendance), Pam Davidson (Contributions), Karen Kalsbeek and Penny Kottke (Finance) adjusting to changes. Amy Ahlstrom will be managing and currently doing Membership. Updating information on deaths, baptisms, confirmation, weddings

- *Asking members to complete **Personal Survey sheets** to verify that we have the correct information on each member*
- Salem Website and Facebook
  - Continue to get more exposure to each
  - Keeping current with events at church
  - 546 followers on Facebook

### **Pastor Martinez Discussion Time**

- Thank you to Amy for taking on the task of Shepherd's Staff of updating and managing it.

### **Open Discussion**

- Mickie Anderson gave update on Salem's Farmers Market booth and signage:
  - Will have 2 spots so have new tent (10' x 20') ordered. Sign for Bread Ministry weeks ordered.
  - Sign up in entryway for people to volunteer to help on Bread Ministry weeks and Outreach Ministry /Non-Bread weeks. Includes set up, helping at event and take down.
- Mickie Anderson gave update on two events for summer and fall:
  - July 26-Outdoor Service and Picnic-focus is to welcome new pastor and his family. Will be sending out postcard invites to current and past members.
  - September 26 -Outreach Event to FDL community-will need many, many hands and feet for organizing, advertising, and running this event.
  - Grant of \$1,800 from Wisconsin UMC Conference to help with expenses of two events
  - Upcoming planning meetings: April 30-9:30 am-11 am and May 14-12:30-2:30 pm
  - Mickie requested ALB members to help make brief announcements about experiences to share and to help promote July and September events. Jon Gilliland will work something up.
- Requests from Harry Classen
  - Suggestion to all Sunday School representative to ALB.
    - Discussion had. Will bring to next meeting
  - Suggestion to publish to congregation general giving categories, e.g. ranges and number of people in that range/year
    - Discussion of what purpose would this provide for congregation
    - How to capture this information in a general aspect
    - Suggestion discussed of appropriateness of at this time vs. Stewardship campaign time
    - Will bring to next meeting

**Next meeting date:** May 18, 2026 at 6:00 pm

Closing comments, close meeting with prayer by Pastor Martinez

Meeting concluded at 7:53 pm

Respectfully submitted

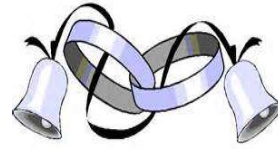
Amy Ahlstrom, Communication Specialist

## MAY BIRTHDAYS



- 1 Randall Davidson  
Mickie Anderson
- 2 Pat Jarvis
- 4 Terry Fink
- 5 Brady Francis
- 14 Corrina Capoyianes
- 16 George Capoyianes
- 17 Matthew Harding
- 20 James Jarvis
- 23 Michelle Buck  
Donna Schaack
- 24 Patrick Hicken
- 26 Stacy Hammack
- 30 John Jarvis
- 31 Carter Bell

## MAY ANNIVERSARIES



- 3 Chris & Paul Schwalbach
- 8 Sara & Dale Rock
- 12 Carol & David Sasada
- 14 Patty & Neil Thompson
- 15 Heather & Doug Getchel  
Stephanie & Rick Roth
- 21 Jan & Wayne Schingen
- 22 Gayle & Clayton Fraley
- 30 Jenifer & Phil Corbin



# May



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 <b>CONFIRMATION</b>	4 5:00 PM Missions (Conference Room) 6:00-8:00 PM Mickie's Dance Class	5	6 10:00 AM Baptism Class 6:00 PM Worship Planning 7:00 PM Choir	7	1 Pastor day off  8 Pastor day off	2  9
10 <b>MOTHER'S DAY</b> <b>** SCRIP ORDERS DUE **</b> 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Fellowship 10:15 AM Sunday School	11	12	13 5:30 PM Apple Harvest Planning 7:00 PM Choir	14 11:30 AM Outdoor Worship/Picnic Planning 6:30 PM Women's Life Group (Chapel)	15 Pastor day off  Bread Making	16 Bread Baking (Farmer's Market) <b>**Haentze Floral Mission Trip Fund Raiser**</b>
17 <b>CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SUNDAY</b> 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Fellowship 10:15 AM Last day of Sunday School	18 <b>**Kaleidoscope Deadline**</b> 6:00 PM Accountable Leadership Board	19	20	21 6:30-8 PM Outreach Fund Raising (Conference Room)	22 Pastor day off	23
24 <b>**SCRIP ORDERS DUE**</b> 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Fellowship	25	26	27	28 5:45 PM Green Thumb Garden Club (Fellowship Hall)	29 Pastor day off	30
31 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Fellowship						