



# SALEM CHURCH

*God is still speaking*

435 S. 9th Street  
Quincy, IL 62301  
217.222.0601

**November 2023**

**Mission Statement: We are followers of Jesus, in the process of discerning what we need to let go of and what we need to embrace so we can be a light of Christ in the world.**



**Rev. Matthew Hunt**

Occasionally, a preacher/pastor gets the feeling God is wanting us to work on something specific in our spiritual journeys. I have seen it happen before where the same topic comes up in multiple sermons, scriptures, studies, and conversations. In this case, it's about being of one mind, reconciling, and overcoming our biases against those we do not like. This came up at least three weeks in OT scripture sermons. It was brought home in glorious fashion in the 4-week Connect Groups that are studying Jonah.

Jonah had a seething hatred of the people of Nineveh. According to historic reputation it's likely they earned such contempt from Jonah and the Israelites. Yet, it was God who would require Jonah to go to Nineveh to give the people a second chance to turn things around. I am pretty sure when Jonah finally agrees to go to Nineveh, it's in the hopes that God would wipe out the people he hates. Well...the opposite happens when the people turn from their evil ways so thoroughly, even the animals are included in this repentance. So, God's mind is changed, and the people are spared from holy destruction.

Of course, this really irks Jonah. It's like getting to the end of a classic Clint Eastwood/Dirty Harry movie only to see the bad guys have a change of heart, turn from their evil ways, and want to reconcile with their enemies. No - that's not how we want to see that movie end! We want that bad guy in the tower, and to see Clint Eastwood's character blow the bad guy away!

Yet, Jonah is an important reminder that God doesn't treat you, me, or the people we don't get along with like we are in a Hollywood movie. God never gives up on us, or the people we

don't care for. God is a God of second chances. God will continue to pursue you / us even when we feel like lost causes. It challenges us to be of one mind in Christ, even in conflict. The church is a great place to practice this discipline. If we can accomplish this type of unity with one another, perhaps we can accomplish it outside the walls of the church as well. Yes, relationships are messy, but we are not alone as we try to be of one mind in Christ, together.

Blessings, *Pastor Matt*



**World Communion Sunday was Sunday, October 1. Sue Welch did a wonderful job of arranging the communion table.**

Salem Operating Account - 2023				
Month	Operating Income	Operating Expense	MTD Change in Endowment Fund	YTD Change in Endowment Fund
Jan	\$ 16,584.24	\$ 25,040.15	(\$8,455.91)	(\$8,455.91)
Feb	\$ 14,320.26	\$ 19,543.97	(\$5,223.71)	(\$13,679.62)
Mar	\$ 12,326.55	\$ 29,429.79	(\$17,103.24)	(\$30,782.86)
Apr	\$ 12,064.86	\$ 19,251.70	(\$7,186.84)	(\$37,969.70)
May	\$ 9,728.39	\$ 22,593.74	(\$12,865.35)	(\$50,835.05)
Jun	\$ 22,007.20	\$ 22,475.49	(\$468.29)	(\$51,303.34)
Jul	\$ 12,554.31	\$ 20,530.33	(\$7,976.02)	(\$59,279.36)
Aug	\$ 9,180.57	\$ 29,257.86	(\$20,077.29)	(\$79,356.65)
Sep	\$ 12,820.96	\$ 25,513.94	(\$12,692.98)	(\$92,049.63)
Total	\$ 121,587.34	\$ 213,636.97	(\$92,049.63)	(\$92,049.63)

*Breathe Deep*  
Sunday, November 5—  
10:30 am



*This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to God's will, God hears us. 1 JOHN 5:14*

Ralph Baxter	Madeline Hendricks
Connie Boling	Sharon Higgins
Carolyn Carper	Carol Hillebrenner
Laurie Charity	Jenni Moran
Sandy Constable	Wanda Hamann-
Cindy Davis &	Salsman
Family	Robert Sronce
Victoria Dry	Andy Tappe
Denise Eastman	

### Congratulations!

Salem VMST President was recently honored by the Illinois Extension Agricultural Association with its Friend of Agriculture Award.



### CAROLS, COOKIES, AND COCOA

On Dec. 17 at 2pm we will take the wreaths we made at our Christmas Fun event to Good Samaritan Home.

We will sing carols with them and will have hot cocoa, cookies, and butter beer (you'll have to ask a Harry Potter fan about this drink - don't worry, it's NOT beer).

Please join us for this fun event with our older Salem Family. Please RSVP at the Christmas Fun event.

## Dates to Remember

### Saturday, November 4

8:00 am: Holiday Bazaar  
9:00 am: Breakfast Bunch  
11:30 am: BJ's Café—Saturday Meals

### Sunday, November 5

9:30 am: Youth and Adult Re:Charge  
10:30 am: Breathe Deep Worship with Communion  
11:30 pm: Potluck Meal

### Tuesday, November 7

4:30 pm: Property Task Force  
5:30 pm: Bell Choir Rehearsal

### Wednesday, November 8

6:00 pm: Ministries

### Thursday, November 9

4:00 pm: Loads of Love

### Saturday, November 11

10:30 am: Paws & Prayers Pet Food Distribution  
11:30 am: BJ's Café—Saturday Meals

### Sunday, November 12

8:15 am: Choristers Rehearsal  
9:00 am: Salem Worship  
10:00 am: Fall Congregational Meeting

### Tuesday, November 14

5:30 pm: Bell Choir Rehearsal  
6:45 pm: Choristers Rehearsal

### Wednesday, November 15

5:30 pm: Evening Guild

### Saturday, November 18

11:30 am: Household/Toiletries Distribution  
11:30 am: BJ's Café—Saturday Meals

### Sunday, November 19

8:15 am: Choristers Rehearsal  
9:00 am: Salem Worship  
10:00 am: Youth and Adult Re:Charge

### Monday, November 20

*Newsletter Deadline*

### Tuesday, November 21

5:30pm: Bell Choir Rehearsal  
6:45 pm: Choristers Rehearsal

### Saturday, November 25

11:30 am: BJ's Café—Saturday Meals

### Sunday, November 26

8:15 am: Bell Choir Rehearsal  
9:00 am: Salem Worship  
10:00 am: Youth and Adult Re:Charge  
10:30 am: Hanging of the Greens

### Wednesday, November 29

6:00 pm: VMST

### Thursday, November 30

4:00 pm: Loads of Love

**Church Office open Tuesday and Thursday, 9:00 to noon**

*Connect with us!*



[www.salemquincy.org](http://www.salemquincy.org)



**Salem Evangelical  
United Church of  
Christ**



*Instagram*

[salemeuccquincyl](#)



## IMPACT OF SALEM'S OUTREACH MISSIONS

Every month, Salem volunteers contribute to the community in many ways—but we don't always know the extent and impact of those contributions. We will use this newsletter to share that information for better awareness. The data tells the story...

**BJ's Café / Saturday Meals:** In the period from Saturday, 9/23, through Saturday, 10/21, **420 meals were served.**

**Loads of Love:** On two Thursdays — 9/28 and 10/12 — **80 people received assistance with their family's laundry, provided with the means to wash 547 loads of laundry.**

**Paws and Prayers:** On October 14, this ministry provided **147 bags & 14 cans of dog food, 110 bags & 32 cans of cat food, 19 bags of dog treats, 3 bags of cat treats, and 57 miscellaneous items** (leashes, bowls, toys, blankets, coats, collars, vouchers, etc.).

**God's Garden:** The garden is done for the year. Since we began harvesting, a total of **125 pounds of veggies have been donated to Quanada, Horizons or given to our guests at BJ's Café.**

**Health Fair:** On October 21, Health Fair volunteers **provided 100 grateful people with items to assist with personal hygiene.**

Salem is making a difference in our community.

Thanks to all the volunteers and to you for your support.



## November 2023

### Birthdays

- 11/3 Kathy Anastas  
Ruth Lantz
- 11/4 Axel Stitt  
Florence Stitt
- 11/5 Savannah Coelho
- 11/9 Ken Abbath  
David Tipton
- 11/11 Olivia Gross  
Kyle Vail
- 11/13 Cassie Koch
- 11/14 Harvey Dedert  
Madeline Hendricks
- 11/16 Jill Gross  
Sue Welch
- 11/17 Victoria Dry  
Jim Tipton
- 11/18 Robert Sconce
- 11/20 Hadley Moran
- 11/22 Rick Loos
- 11/24 Chuck McMullen
- 11/28 Stephanie Monroe
- 11/29 Kadi McDonnell

### Anniversaries

- 11/9 Miranda & Michael Amons
- 11/10 Darlene & Jerry Smith
- 11/20 Kim & Chad Akers
- 11/30 Linsey & Alicia Laughlin



## Holiday Bazaar

**Saturday, November 4 - 8:00 am to 1:00 pm**

**Craft and handmade items** 🌲 **baked goods**

🌲 **homemade candy** 🌲 **jewelry** 🌲 **floral**

**arrangements** 🌲 **cemetery flowers** 🌲

**Tupperware** 🌲 **pecans** 🌲 **placemats**



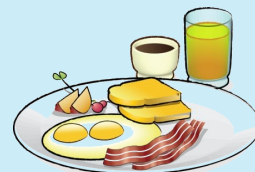
**Sunday,  
November 5**

*After Breathe Deep service*

- Tableware and drinks will be provided
- Please bring a dish to pass

*Join us for great fellowship!*

**Breakfast Bunch  
Fellowship & Bible Study  
All are welcome!**



**Saturday, November 4 —  
9:00am — Thyme Station,  
105 S. 48th Street, Quincy  
Please RSVP to Cindy at  
217-257-6970**

# Volunteers

## MAKE IT HAPPEN

Here's a little bit about a Salem volunteer who you rarely see, but if he wasn't performing his usual 'duties,' it would definitely be noticeable.

Ken Abbath is a lifetime member of Salem — baptized, confirmed, and married (to Marilyn). Some of the tasks he's assumed include:

- winding the interior Sanctuary clock weekly;
- keeping the Church's network safe and up to date;
- checking on the HVAC systems for the educational building and Sanctuary;
- sending out church-related emails;
- keeping the website up-to-date;
- checking on the grounds frequently with surveillance cameras
- keeping the sound and video systems working in the Sanctuary;

- modifying the Worship Services on Vimeo to be accessible to the public.

Ken does all of this as a way to reduce the expenses for Salem Church. Thanks for all you do, Ken; it is much appreciated!





## Join us!

### Fall CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

**Sunday,  
Nov 12  
10:00 am**

**The Evening Guild will meet on Wednesday, November 15, at 5:30 in the Lounge. There will be a Christmas party on December 20 in lieu of a regular business meeting.**

**Thanks to all who donated items for the Fall Rummage Sale and those who helped set up and tear down the room—and of course to those who purchased items.**



### 1 lb. bag of halved pecans

- Plain - \$13
- Honey Roasted - \$14
- Milk Chocolate covered / Dark Chocolate covered - \$15
- Sugar-free Chocolate covered - \$16

**Ask any member of the choir to reserve your order.**

**AWESOME TO EAT  
ALONE, GIVE AS A GIFT,  
OR USE IN BAKING!**



## Join us

### Sunday Morning Worship 9:00 am



## YouTube

If you can't leave home, the service streams on YouTube Sunday at 9:00 am. <https://www.youtube.com/@salemucc>. Recordings of Sunday worship are also posted on the Salem Facebook page.