



SALEM CHURCH

God is still speaking

435 S. 9th Street
Quincy, IL 62301
217.222.0601

May 2025

Mission Statement: Building a community around the love of Jesus, where all are welcome.



Rev. Matthew Hunt

MAY IS SALEM CHURCH OUTREACH MINISTRY MONTH

- **Anchor Scripture** □ Hebrews 13:16 (NRSVUE)

“Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.”

• *We will be featuring Salem Outreach Ministries each Sunday in May, and at the end of the month we will take up a special offering and divide it evenly. Each week will include information about two ministries on the PowerPoint during the Invitation to Generosity. We ask that our members and friends prayerfully consider their giving for this special offering and that if be over-and-above your normal giving. These ministries provide significant help to people in need, and partner with community outreaches to provide critical resources for people and animals who need it most. Jesus says when we help the most vulnerable in society, it's the same as us helping him.*

May 4—BJ's Café and God's Garden

May 11—Health Fair and Loads of Love

May 18—Paws and Prayers and Unmet Needs

May 25—Special Collection for Outreach Ministries

Giving and generosity are worthwhile efforts on our part. These six ministries are foundational to Salem Church. Each one has financial needs. I encourage everyone to join me in prayerfully considering your giving. I want to give as much as I am able, and as much as God prompts me. I believe in these ministries and I am proud to be part of a church that does so much good in the community.

Peace and Blessings,

Rev. Matt

Birthdays & Anniversaries

May 2025

Birthdays

5/3 Gwen Zimmerman
 5/4 Catherine Vernetti
 5/8 Jeannie Kanauss
 5/17 Charlie Hall
 5/29 Dr. Debra Phillips

Anniversaries

5/2 Dr. Kerstin & Brian Stitt
 5/3 Jayne & Rich Clouser
 5/5 Norma & Carl Spory
 5/6 Earl Bricker & Rob Cane
 5/7 Catherine & Daniel Hellige
 5/8 Karen & Rod Cookson
 5/18 Carol & Michael Eddy
 5/18 Samantha & Jordan Fuller
 5/19 Kelly Klingele & Jane Mitchell

Dates to Remember

Saturday, May 3rd

11:30 am: BJ's Café—Saturday Meals

Sunday, May 4th

9:00am: Salem Worship
 10:00 am Youth and Adult
 Re:Charge

Tuesday, May 6th

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

Thursday, May 8th

4:00 pm: Loads of Love

Saturday, May 10th

9:30 am: South Park Vision Quest
 10:30 am: Paws & Prayers Pet
 Food Distribution

11:30 am: BJ's Café—Saturday Meals

Sunday, May 11th

9:00am: Salem Worship
 10:00 am Youth and Adult
 Re:Charge

Wednesday, May 14th

6:00 pm: Arty Party

Saturday, May 17th

11:30 am: Household/ Toiletries
 Distribution

11:30 am: BJ's Café—Saturday Meals

Sunday, May 18th

9:00am: Salem Worship
 10:00 am Youth and Adult
 Re:Charge

Tuesday, May 20th

6:45 pm: Breathe Deep Rehearsal
Newsletter Deadline

Wednesday, May 21st

5:30 pm: Evening Guild meeting

Thursday, May 22nd

4:00 pm: Loads of Love

Saturday, May 24th

11:30 am: BJ's Café—Saturday Meals

Sunday, May 25th

9:00 am: Salem Worship
 10:00 am: Youth and Adult
 Re:Charge

4:00 pm: Ecclesiastical Council
 meets regarding Becky
 Emerson's UCC Ordination

Tuesday, May 27th

6:45 pm: Breathe Deep Rehearsal

Wednesday, May 28th

6:00 pm: VMST

Saturday, May 31st

11:30 am: BJ's Café—Saturday Meals

4:00 PM: Movie Afternoon—
 Inside Out 2



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

Scenes From Garden Day

Photos by Kerstin Stitt



David Schaffer hauling loose branches.



Flossy and Axel Stitt



Sue Welch and Flossy Stitt filling a new raised bed.



Paul Goehl and Brian Stitt enjoying a well earned break.

Scenes From the Easter Egg Hunt

Photos by Debbie Husar, Barb Edwards, and Linsey Laughlin



Oliver Koch– check out that focus!



Oliver Koch, Felicity Koch, and Audrey Hoffman showing off their adorable baskets.



The kids lining up to go outside—
can you feel the excitement?!



Prynne, Mara, Micah, and Aiden are ready
to hunt!

Scenes From the Easter Egg Hunt

Photos by Debbie Husar, Barb Edwards, and Linsey Laughlin



Alex Spory with his game face on!



Ezra Elder and Hadley Moran looking good!



Hadley and Aurora Hellige– What lovely friends.



Savannah, Gwen, Cleo and Jacob. Such a great family picture!

Pie in the Sky Contest Announcement

Back by popular demand! It is the Pie in the Sky contest!

Here is what interested competitors needs to know:

1. The contest will be held **May 4th** during fellowship time.
2. There are 2 categories– **Baked** and **No-Baked**
3. The pies must be 100% homemade. No pre-made pastry, crusts, or canned foods.
4. Judging will take place **BEFORE** service, to avoid a pie frenzy during fellowship hour. *Drop off your pie on Saturday or by 8:30 on Sunday morning.*
5. First place winner will go to the pie that looks AND tastes good.
6. There will be runner-up prizes this year!
 - Top to Bottom– Tallest/ Deepest Pie
 - Most Unusual Flavor
 - Kid's Favorite (although I hear this one is pretty much secured.. So good luck..)
 - Ugly But good
 - Fan Favorite– This is voted on during fellowship time.

Pie in the Sky Drop off Instructions

Bring your pie to the kitchen on Saturday or **by 8:30** on Sunday Morning. This allows for judging before fellowship time.

Important: Mark your entry with your name, bake/no bake, and the filling.

The Caring Ministry will be providing coffee, punch, ice cream, Cool Whip, and Redi-Whip for the contest.



Please call Paster Matt, Jayne Clouser or the church office if you enter the hospital.



They would love to visit and pray with you!

217-222-0601– Church Office Phone Number

Email Ken Abbath at ken@salemquincy.org to *give* or receive updates for prayer requests, news and announcements.



Thoughts from Left Field

The trees are in full bloom, the flowers have sprouted, and the beautiful blue sky radiates gloriously against the bright hues of the fields. That can only mean one thing- Mother's Day has arrived.

I saw a video on the internet a few weeks ago that has stuck with me. It showed a dog giving birth. It was an epic 10+ hour event, which yielded 11 puppies. What amazed me the most is that this mother was simultaneously giving birth, cleaning her newborns, and nursing. To the biological mothers reading this, I am sure you are not surprised. At least my wife was not impressed, when I shared the video with her. She said that is simply what mothers do for their babies.

Mary, Jesus's mother, showed up for him. She looked for him when he disappeared at the temple, she was there for his teachings, she was also there for his death.

I am honored to see mother's showing up for their children every week at church.

Thank you to all the mother and mother figures who show up for us when we need you the most!

Galatians 6:9 "And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up."



You are invited to our monthly vision quests!

Join likeminded nature lovers as we engage in the wilderness every second Saturday.

Saturday, May 10th at South Park

We will meet at the Soccer Field

Questions? Contact Linsey Laughlin at 217-231-1774

And now.. An Invitation to an exciting event!

You're Invited: Ecclesiastical Council for Becky Emerson
Sunday, May 25 at 4:00 p.m. at Salem Church**

We are thrilled to share that **Becky Emerson**, a beloved member of Salem UCC, has completed all the steps required to be considered for **ordination in the United Church of Christ!** This is a profound milestone, and we are honored to host the next step in her journey: an **Ecclesiastical Council**, right here at Salem Church.

What's an Ecclesiastical Council?

In the UCC, an Ecclesiastical Council is a formal gathering where a candidate presents their theological reflections, personal call to ministry, and understanding of faith, justice, and the Church. Clergy and lay delegates from area churches attend to ask questions and vote on whether the candidate is ready to be approved for ordination (pending a call to ministry). While only delegates vote, **everyone is welcome to attend and show support.**

When & Where:

- ☐ **Sunday, May 25 at 4:00 p.m.**
- ☐ **Salem United Church of Christ**
- ☐ **Livestream available on YouTube** (link will be shared closer to the event)

We are grateful to Ken Abbath, who is helping us set up a YouTube livestream.

This is a rare and meaningful moment—not just for Becky, but for Salem Church as we help affirm and uplift someone answering God's call. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend. Your presence—whether in person or online—will mean the world to Becky and reflect the full support of her church family.

Let's celebrate and surround her with love and encouragement!



But wait.... There's More!



A Fun Movie Afternoon

Saturday, May 31st @4PM

Featured Production: Inside Out 2

Light Snacks Provided Bring A Beverage