



# Tower Talk

April 2023

WORSHIP

GROW

SERVE

## Holy Week

at Salem Presbyterian Church

### Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 6  
Gresham Hall

6:00 PM Simple Supper

6:45 PM Communion Service

*"Take, eat; this is my body."*



Good Friday

Friday, April 7  
7:00 PM

He was despised and rejected



### STATIONS OF THE CROSS ART WALK

During Holy Week we are opening the sanctuary for a Stations of the Cross Art Walk. This self-guided tour features the work of liturgical artist Scott Erickson, and follows twelve stations (images) which move toward the cross. Each image has a QR code which offers reflections and devotions as you move from station to station. The tour can take as little as 20 minutes to complete, but participants are encouraged to take their time as they look, read, and pray their way around the sanctuary. We will be open to church members and the public. Please stop by for this reflective way to prepare for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter.

MONDAY, APRIL 3	10:00 AM-2:00 PM
TUESDAY, APRIL 4	10:00 AM-2:00 PM
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5	10:00 AM-2:00 PM & 5:00-7:00 PM



### Easter Sunday

APRIL 9

8:30 AM	Worship in the Columbarium
9:00 AM	Breakfast in Gresham Hall
9:45 AM	Easter Egg Hunt & Activities for Kids
11:00 AM	Worship

*Join us!*



# a note from *Chris*



Happy Easter, happy Spring, happy, happy, everything! Okay, that might be overly enthusiastic considering we are finishing out the last days of some chillier weather, but soon enough we will be celebrating Easter and observing the events leading up to Jesus' death and resurrection. As is our tradition here, we will have several opportunities to join in the story, from Palm Sunday to the empty tomb. I wanted to share a few details about these services and what they will entail as sometimes it is not always clear.

I hope you've been practicing your "hosannas" as the Palm Sunday service is Sunday, April 2 at 11:00 AM. This service marks the beginning of Jesus' arrival into Jerusalem and the last week of his ministry. It is a lively Sunday and as normal, we will have a hand palm for you to pick up in the narthex! Ah, but the crowd is fickle and what begins as shouts of hosannas (Lord save us) in just a few days transforms into "Crucify him." While a joyful Sunday, it carries with it a sense of foreboding and reflecting for what the next few days will hold. It's an important Sunday, however, and it is the headwaters of holy week. More so a celebration this year, as we are welcoming back pastor Janet having concluded her Sabbatical! Her first Sunday back is April 2!

On April 3, 4, and 5, the Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of Holy Week, we are having a Stations of the Cross Art Walk in the sanctuary from 10:00 AM-2:00 PM. There is an additional time on Wednesday evening from 5:00-7:00 PM if you cannot come during the day. This is a very unique experience in that it is a self-guided tour around the sanctuary where you consider twelve images or "stations." Each station has a corresponding reflection and devotion to go along with the image. Bring your phone, as these images each have a QR code that will link you to the devotion. We will have a few paper copies of the devotions as well. The tour takes as little as 20 minutes to complete, but you are encouraged to take your time in quiet reflection.

The Maundy Thursday service will be on April 6. We will gather in Gresham Hall for dinner at 6:00 PM and the service will begin at 6:45 PM. Maundy comes from the Latin word meaning, "command" which references the command Jesus gave to his disciples during the last supper: "Love one another as I have loved you." We will celebrate communion during this service in remembrance of the Last Supper before we transition into Good Friday.

Good Friday this year is on April 7 and the service will be in the sanctuary at 7:00 PM. This service will be in the style of a "Tenebrae" service, where shadows lengthen into night, symbolically representing the light going out of the world in Jesus' death. This is a very solemn and reflective type of service, where we'll hear together the crucifixion story in its entirety, this year from John's Gospel.

There are two services on Easter Sunday as we proclaim the empty tomb! The 8:30 AM service will be in the columbarium for most of the service. However, toward the end we will conclude the service by leaving the columbarium and decorating a Flower Cross in front of the church. It's always a little chilly so make sure to dress warmly. We will have some chairs available, but feel free to bring a folding chair as the service is around thirty minutes. The church will provide some flowers to decorate the cross, but you are invited to bring some flowers from your yard to add to the cross. The more variety the better! There will be breakfast in Gresham Hall directly following the Columbarium Flower Cross service. After breakfast there will be activities for children, including an Easter egg hunt. During the 11:00 AM service, we will continue our Easter jubilee and celebration of the resurrection of our Lord. This is a triumphant service, led by our choir and guest musicians!

I hope you can join us for one or all of these special services, as taking time to consider Jesus' road to the cross certainly highlights even more the significance of Easter morning. It's hard to appreciate Easter without Good Friday, as it is hard to understand Good Friday without Easter. If you can't join in person or online with a Holy Week service, one good practice is to pick your favorite Gospel and make space in your week to read the whole Easter week story. If you are looking for the most detailed of the accounts, chapter 18 of John's Gospel is a wonderful place to begin.

Blessings on all our Holy Week journeys as we prepare for Easter Sunday together!

*Chris*

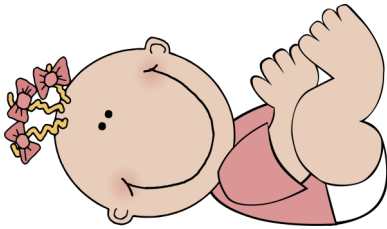


## COVID Guidelines at SPC

The Session maintains the following recommendations regarding COVID: Currently, **wearing masks is optional** during indoor activities at SPC. We encourage people to follow their own conscience and be respectful of others. Although most gatherings are in person, we will continue to livestream worship on YouTube and have opportunities to participate in some church activities via Zoom.

## Nursery Care Every Sunday

Nursery care is available in Room 103 for infants and young children during worship. No reservations are necessary.



## Hymn Sing Saturday

Join Reed Carter, Director of Music on Facebook every Saturday morning at 10:00 AM for live hymns. Request your favorite and sing along every week!



## Let Us Pray...

### Church Members

- Spencer and Joy Frantz
- Carlos Hart
- Skip and Faye Hastings
- Lawrence Koontz
- Ginger Miller

- Horst and Anna Oedel
- Mike Parr (recovering from foot surgery)
- Carol and Carl Rydell
- Hank Sullivan

### Family and Friends

- Marty Hildebrand Sherwood (John and Tootie Hildebrand's daughter being treated for breast cancer)
- Justin Minton (friend of Sarah Eller's recovering from open heart surgery)
- Friend of Teresa Auldridge's recovering from injury
- Debbie Tucker (Sandra Hawthorne's sister)
- Jack Waddell (battling brain tumors)
- For an end to hatred and gun violence
- Ukraine, Russia, and peace in the world
- Those suffering from natural disasters, especially in Turkey and Syria

Have updates or changes for the prayer list? Let us know: [churchadmin@salempres.org](mailto:churchadmin@salempres.org).

# Say Cheeeeeeese!



Get ready for **Picture Day**. We are updating our  
**Pictorial Directory**.

We will be putting it online (password protected)

Paper copies at your request.

No appointment needed.

Come to the Library any Sunday below

10:30-10:55 (Before Church)

12:00-1:00"ish" (After Church)

**April 2**

**April 16**

**April 23**

**April 30**

# SUNDAY SCHOOL

## Sundays at 9:30 AM

We offer Sunday School classes for every age student and you are encouraged to find the one that fits you! The adult classes explore different topics and engage students in different ways.

**The Disciple Class** is using a Bible-based curriculum to study in depth about “Jesus in the Gospels.” There are daily readings and many participants in this class volunteer to teach several sessions.

**The Kingdom Living class** uses various resources to ask the tough questions about faith. They are currently studying Richard Rohr’s *Jesus’ Alternative Plan: The Sermon on the Mount*.

The **children** (Pre-K-5 years, Kindergarten-5<sup>th</sup> grade), **youth** (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade), and adult **Journey On classes** all use the same curriculum so that conversations can continue at home over lunch. The topics usually last for four weeks at a time, and are often multi-sensory (music, discussion, games, activities, readings). The current lesson is on the theme of “Love God, Neighbor, Enemy.”

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## THANK YOU!

Friends, I can’t thank you enough for all the love, support, cards, group photos, and well wishes that went along with my installation on March 5. It was a certainly a day that brought my family and I great joy, and even better to share it together with all of you! A special thank you to my PNC, everyone who helped set up the beautiful reception, our choir for leading the music during the service, and the Piecemakers for making me a stole I’ll treasure for years. I can’t wait to wear it this summer! It is a blessing to be at Salem Presbyterian!

Peace and Love,  
Chris

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## SCHOLARSHIPS

Through the generosity of members and friends of SPC, we have several scholarships available to assist with college expenses. There are 4 scholarships: Jerry W. Barnett Memorial Scholarship, John T. Bowman Living Award, Harvey Bredlow Scholarship, and Iris Peterson Scholarship. Scholarships are not limited to college freshman, so returning students and graduate students are also encouraged to apply. Applications can be found in the church office and online at [salempres.org](http://salempres.org), or requested in electronic form from Janet ([janet.chisom@salempres.org](mailto:janet.chisom@salempres.org)). **Applications should be fully completed and returned to the church by April 23.**



## THIS IS MY FATHER'S WORLD

### Caring for Creation

*"This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears*

*All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.*

*This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought  
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas  
His hand the wonders wrought."*

How often we have sung this hymn professing that this is indeed God's wondrous world and yet, do we really hear its message? Do we appreciate and care for His creation or do we neglect and abuse it, giving no thought to what impact that may have on future generations? Scripture reveals a loving Father who carefully planned and created the earth and all living things. Giving mankind "dominion over the earth," God asks that we respect and steward the land, taking seriously our responsibility to protect His creation for our children, and for their children.

#### **STOP Your Engines, Please!**

Let's face it, we rely heavily on automobiles for transportation. This "habit" greatly contributes to poor air quality (air pollution), which in turn, pose serious risks to our health. The *Union of Concerned Scientists: Science for a healthy planet and safer world* states, "Poor air quality increases respiratory ailments like asthma and bronchitis, heightens the risk of life-threatening conditions like cancer, and burdens our health care system with substantial medical costs."

It is worth noting that during the pandemic lockdowns, when we were sheltering at home and traveling less, air pollution levels dramatically dropped around the globe. Bottom line- less cars on the road equals cleaner air. Obviously, we can't avoid our cars altogether, but we can strive to walk more. In addition to helping the environment, walking is an excellent form of exercise, enabling us to gain strength, lose weight, reduce stress, and fight off chronic illness.

#### **Earth Day is April 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Let's look for creative ways to care for the earth *and* ourselves! Small changes make a difference! Consider the following:

- Use electricity and water, especially hot water, sparingly.
- Read food labels & avoid additives, processed foods and trans fats.

- Buy energy efficient cars, appliances, & light bulbs.
- Get more exercise.
- Use cars less, bikes and sidewalks more!
- Be a tree hugger! Plant a couple of trees or a garden.
- Eat more fruits and vegetables, less saturated fats.
- Turn the thermostat down in winter and up in summer.
- Recycle paper, plastic and metal. Take advantage of recycling stations located in Salem and Roanoke.
- Give lawns and gardens a rest from pesticides and chemicals this growing season.
- Wear sunscreen but make sure to get enough supplemental Vitamin D.
- Avoid using chlorine at home and wash clothes in cold water.
- Green up with houseplants. Many varieties including spider plant, peace lily, aloe and mums actually clean and purify the air in your home.
- Turn off lights and TVs when leaving a room.
- Stop smoking! It is harmful to both you and the environment.
- Reexamine your habits of energy consumption. Find new ways, and rediscover old ways, of doing things that allow you to enjoy God's world without using electricity or fuel!

*"This is my Father's world. O let me ne'er forget  
That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is  
the ruler yet.*

*This is my Father's world: the battle is not done;  
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,  
And earth and heaven be one."*

***Psalm 24:1 "The earth is the Lord's, and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it."***

Shalom,  
*Kitty*

Words: Maltbie Davenport Babcock, 1901  
Music: Franklin L. Sheppard, 1915  
Copyright: 1990 Westminster/John Knox Press

# MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

The **Youth Group** (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders) meets on most Sunday evenings. Time together usually includes food, laughter, devotion, discussion, balls, running, and prayer. Join us this month! The full schedule is available at the church (in print), on the church website, and is emailed to each family with youth in 6-12<sup>th</sup> grade. Friends are always welcome!

Sun. Apr. 2	6:00-7:30 PM	<b>Easter Egg Stuffing.</b> After dinner we will stuff Easter eggs!
Sun. Apr. 9		<b>Easter Sunday.</b> No youth group.
Fri. Apr. 14	7:30 PM	<b>Lock In.</b> Bring a snack and your sleeping bag!
Sun. Apr. 16, 23, 30	6:00-7:30 PM	<b>Youth Sunday Preparation.</b> After dinner we will spend time getting ready for Youth Sunday. There will be time for fun and games too.



## Wednesday Nights at Salem Presbyterian Church

**Intergenerational Wednesday Night Fellowship** (which is still seeking its catchier title) meets on the second Wednesday of each month. These evenings are a great time of food and fellowship, friends and learning, fun and games. Join us at 5:30 PM for dinner (\$8 for adults, \$4 for children 2-4 years) and the program from 6:15-7:15 PM.

### INTERGENERATIONAL WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP

JOIN US!

- ✓ Fellowship
- ✓ Fun
- ✓ Enjoy a chef-prepared meal (\$8/adult, \$4/child)

Wed. Apr. 12  
**Intergenerational Night #6**

Wed. May 10  
**Intergenerational Night #7**



# outreach

AT SALEM PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Jesus tells us to visit the prisoners. However, for most of us that is an overwhelming proposition. We can pray for them, and now we also have an opportunity to help them in another way. The **Virginia Tech Prison Book Project** sends books to incarcerated readers in Virginia. SPC will begin accepting donations of new and used *paperback* books in *good condition*. Please consider donating any of the following: dictionaries and thesauri; world almanacs; foreign language learning materials; law or medical dictionaries; how-to books; educational books (GED, business, etc.); and popular fiction. Please no hardcovers, magazines, old textbooks or books in poor condition. There will be a collection basket at the Clay St. entrance. Contact Ginny Savage with questions.

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## Habitat for Humanity



SPC will participate in the Habitat for Humanity Apostle's Build on Saturday, May 6, and Friday, May 12 8:00 AM-2:00 PM. We need up to 12 volunteers both days to help us at the worksite at 1023 Jamison Ave. SE in Roanoke near Belmont Christian Church. No experience necessary, but volunteers must be at least 16 years old. Please bring your own lunch, water bottle, and work gloves. Dress for the weather and wear sturdy closed toed shoes.

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## Family Promise

The Family Promise committee appreciates the support of the congregation for the families in the Family Promise program. We had many volunteers willing to provide for families during our planned host week of March 12-19. However, the family we expected to house found housing, and there were no other families who qualified or needed for housing for our host week. Our next host week is June 11-18.



## Giving Garden



There will be work days/mornings for the Giving Garden on the first Saturday of each month from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM. They work days are April 1, May 6, June 3, July 1, Aug 5, Sept 2, and Oct 7. All dates and times are subject to change depending on the weather.



Other than the kingdom of God, Jesus says more about money than anything else. It matters to him what we do with it because it's not ours but a *gift from God*. We're stewards of his gift, using some of it to help do his work through the church.

While we continue to face many uncertainties, we know that God is with us, knows our needs, and has promised to provide. Through our gifts to the church and to community agencies, we are giving back to God a portion of what God has provided for us. Through our giving, we can help provide for others. We ask that you, as you are able, continue your generous financial support of the ministries of Salem Presbyterian Church: worship, education, outreach and mission, and support for organizations that provide direct services to individuals in need.

For information on Pledging and Tithing, the Church Budget, or online giving, contact the Church Office, Treasurer Tom Burns, or Stewardship and Finance Work Group member Jim Bowen. Statements on giving for tax purposes are mailed out quarterly and at the end of each year. Thank you for your prayers, your participation in online worship, and your continuing generous financial support.



Scan to donate online

Financials	
Total Amount Pledged 2023	\$426,000
Projected Pledges through February 2023	\$71,000
Pledges Received through February 2023	\$108,258

## Where the Money Goes.....

*"And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the father through Him." -Colossians 3:17*

## More Bits and Pieces

Last month we wrote about the elevator, insurance, pest control, telecommunications and bulletins. This month we have a few more "bits and pieces". Most, but not all of these expenses come from the budget for Facilities.

I hope you have noticed the new windows into the courtyard outside Gresham Hall. The bottoms of the old ones were rotting away and had needed replacing for a long time. The company we used did a great job (in fact some of us may not have even noticed a change)! We have new windows and casements and the cost was about \$17,000.

We also have new signs on Main Street and on Clay Street. Chris is now officially welcomed in signage! Cost was around \$900. Our very old, but very reliable commercial dishwasher is in need of repair and that has been approved by Session to the tune of about \$900. (A new Commercial dishwasher can cost between \$5,000 and \$40,000!) For security, ease of operations and convenience, Session has approved an access control system for the Clay Street door with a touch pad. The lowest bid price came in at about \$2,700. And let's not forget about the palms for Palm Sunday. They add so much to our worship that day and the cost for all of them is just under \$100.

As you can see, we are a church on the move, and your generous pledges not only help us keep things safe, and well-maintained, but aids in our worship in the Easter season. Many thanks for your kind generosity in response to God's abundant love!

*Stewardship and Finance Work Group  
Ginny Savage, Chair; Jim Cochrane; Tom Burns; Jim Bowen; Becky Ring; Sarah Eller*

## APRIL Birthdays

APR 1	Jackie O'Neill
APR 2	Carlis Carroll Danny Hart
APR 4	Chip Donahue Sarah 'Beth Walton
APR 6	Kathy Bowen Anna Oedel
APR 10	Fran Ferguson Faye Hastings Janet Yost
APR 11	Lonna Carter Chuck Fischer
APR 12	Gaven Conner Ryland Darby Graham Fischer Jan Minton Debbie Werner
APR 13	Rachel Burks Susan Burnett Berkley Wall
APR 15	Taylor Fry
APR 16	Susan Ahalt
APR 17	Katelyn Crumpacker Elli Fulcher
APR 19	Teresa Clapp Kelly Johnson
APR 20	Cynthia Dyer Shanda Johnson Karen Nelson Carson Williams
APR 21	Lee Cole Ginger Miller
APR 24	Andrew Crumpacker Cinda Curfiss
APR 25	Tyler Williams
APR 27	Ruthie Barnett Anne Lee Stevens
APR 30	Kathy Highsmith Reid McClure

*Is your birthday on  
our calendar? If not,  
please call the church  
so we can add it.  
Thank you!*



# SAVE THE DATE

April 2	Palm Sunday Worship
April 3-5	Stations of the Cross Art Walk in the Sanctuary
April 6	Maundy Thursday Dinner and Service in Gresham Hall
April 7	Good Friday Service
April 9	Easter Sunday

## FROM THE **SESSION**

### Session met on March 28, 2023.

#### Please note:

- Meeting was called to order by Rev. Chris Vogado and a quorum was declared.
- Janet will return from sabbatical on April 1, 2023.
- Facilities Work Group is having the commercial dishwasher repaired.
- Session accepted a motion for the installation of a key pad lock on the Clay Street entrance door.
- A member of our congregation do-
- nated a portable sound system that will be used in Gresham Hall and for the Sunrise Service Easter morning.
- A motion from Outreach was approved by Session to reimburse \$1500 for those going to Guatemala.
- The class of 2026 will be installed in April.
- Meeting was closed with prayer.

*Submitted by Kim Murray*

## CHECK THE ADDRESS!

SPC's mailing address is:  
PO Box 536  
Salem, VA 24153

In the past, as a courtesy, the USPS would forward all mail that was addressed to our physical address to the PO Box. They have decided they will not continue doing this for all PO Box users. Please make sure that when you send mail to the church you are using the PO Box and not the physical address.

# APRIL 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 10:00 AM Hymn Sing Saturday (via Face- book Live)
2 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship with communion in person and live streamed  6:00 PM Youth Group	3 10:00 AM Stations of the Cross Art Walk  7:30 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM NA	4 9:15 AM Staff Meeting 10:00 AM Stations of the Cross Art Walk  7:00 PM Salem Choral Society	5 9:00 AM Piecemakers 10:00 AM Stations of the Cross Art Walk 11:00 AM Women's Bible Study  5:00 PM Stations of the Cross Art Walk 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	6 Maundy Thursday  6:00 PM Dinner in Gresham Hall 6:45 PM Communion Service 7:30 PM NA	7 Good Friday  7:00 PM Good Friday Service in the Sanctu- ary	8 10:00 AM Hymn Sing Saturday (via Face- book Live)
9 TWO CENTS-A-MEAL 8:00 AM Worship in the Columbarium 9:00 AM Breakfast in Gresham Hall 9:45 AM Egg Hunt and Activities for Children 11:00 AM Worship in person and live streamed	10 Church Office Closed  7:00 PM Outreach Committee 7:30 PM NA	11 9:15 AM Staff Meeting 10:30 AM Morning Circle  7:00 PM Salem Choral Society 7:30 PM Evening Circle	12 11:00 AM Women's Bible Study  5:30 PM Intergenera- tional Wednesday Night Fellowship	13  7:30 PM NA	14  7:30 PM Youth Lock In	15 10:00 AM Hymn Sing Saturday (via Face- book Live)
16 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship in person and livestreamed  6:00 PM Youth Group	17  7:30 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM NA	18 9:15 AM Staff Meeting  11:30 AM PAL  7:00 PM Salem Choral Society	19 9:45 AM Finance Committee 11:00 AM Women's Bible Study  7:30 PM Chancel Choir	20  7:00 PM Joy Circle 7:30 PM NA	21	22 10:00 AM Hymn Sing Saturday (via Face- book Live)
23 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship in person and live streamed with Ordination and Installa- tion of Elders	24 7:30 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM NA	25 9:15 AM Staff Meeting  7:00 PM Session 7:00 PM Salem Choral Society	26 11:00 AM Women's Bible Study  7:30 PM Chancel Choir	27  7:30 PM NA	28	29 10:00 AM Hymn Sing Saturday (via Face- book Live)
30 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship in person and live streamed						

**PLEASE NOTE:** Please be sure to read all church communications and announcements shared on website, through emails, and on Facebook. If you are not receiving emails, contact Emily at churchadmin@salempres.org. Sunday worship will continue to be livestreamed on our YouTube channel and bulletins will be posted in the Friday Teaser and on our church webpage.

## SESSION

Moderator..... Rev. Chris Vogado  
Clerk..... Cynthia Dyer  
Assistant Clerk.....Sarah Eller  
Treasurer .....Tom Burns  
Assistant Treasurer.....Jim Bowen

### Class of 2023

Joy Aird  
Teresa Auldrige  
Alex Brown  
Jessica Crumpacker  
Cynthia Dyer  
Shanda Johnson  
Anna Kennedy  
David McClung  
Carl Rydell  
Katie Johnson, Youth Elder

### Class of 2024

Susan Burnett  
Norman Ferguson  
Kathy Highsmith  
Karen Nelson  
Sydney Nordt  
Jenny Sease

### Class of 2025

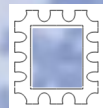
Jim Cochane  
Sarah Eller  
Reid McClure  
Kim Murray  
Ginny Savage  
Hank Sullivan



Salem Presbyterian Church  
41 East Main Street  
P.O. Box 536  
Salem, Virginia 24153

## Tower Talk

Return Service Requested



*Our mission, inspired by God through the Holy Spirit, is to be a visible sign of  
God's love for all people by sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ in word and  
deed, so that all people may know Him as Lord and Savior.*



Like us on Facebook: Salem Presbyterian Church  
[salempres.org](http://salempres.org)