



# Tower Talk

February 2024

WORSHIP

GROW

SERVE

## SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

Join us for lunch after worship on  
Sunday, February 11

Sign up to bring soup or sandwiches on the sheet outside of Gresham Hall. Bring financial donations or cans of soup to vote for your favorite team!



## Souper Bowl Sunday!

No matter what team you will cheer for in the Superbowl, you can be part of the winning Salem Presbyterian Church team that raises money and collects canned goods for the Salem Food Pantry! The youth will be hosting a luncheon after church on February 11. Volunteers are making pots of soup and a variety of sandwiches. Help us continue our SOUPER tradition of helping others by stocking up on items you can share and bringing them to the church on February 11. You can "vote" for which team you hope wins by placing your donations (canned goods or dollar bills) in the appropriate box. All donations will be given to the Salem/Roanoke County Food Pantry.

*Salem Presbyterian Church*

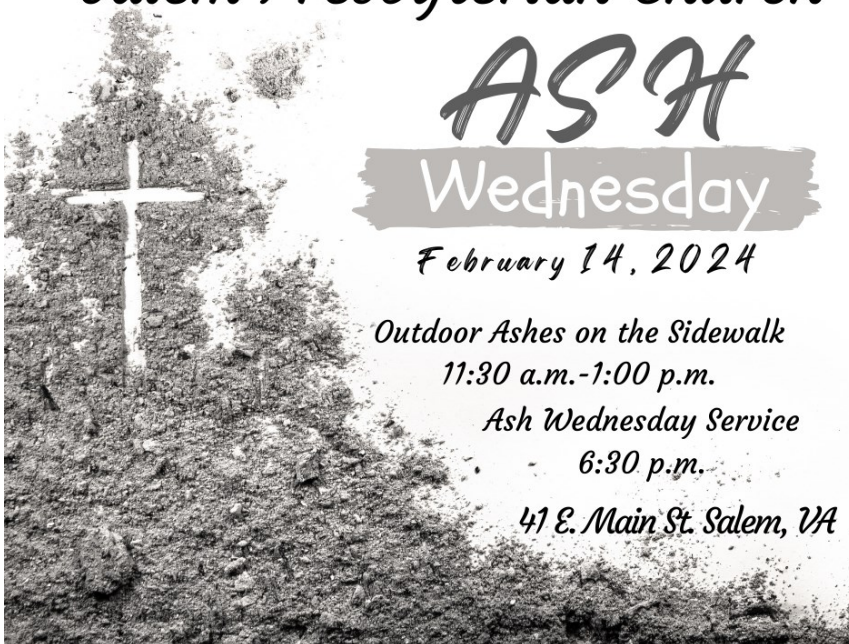
**ASH**  
Wednesday

*February 14, 2024*

*Outdoor Ashes on the Sidewalk  
11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.*

*Ash Wednesday Service  
6:30 p.m.*

*41 E. Main St. Salem, VA*



**CALVIN & HOPS!**

**OLDE SALEM BREWERY**  
BEVERAGES • THEOLOGY

COME JOIN THE FUN  
& CONVERSATION!

**FEBRUARY 25**  
**4:00 P.M.**  
21 E. MAIN ST.

# a note from *Chris*



The church season of “Lent” is soon to begin, and depending upon one’s experience in the church this word “Lent” could mean several things. If your mind goes first to dryer vents, staticky sweaters, or something you have loaned in the past tense to a friend, you are not alone.

In church lingo, however, Lent is simply a season where we mark the forty days before Easter as a time for spiritual reflection, study, and preparation for Easter. Not all denominations observe this season, but for the ones who do, it is usually a time of fasting in some form. Often this is a literal fasting from certain types of food, as some traditions avoid the more savory foods like meat or sweets in preference for simple and basic meals, a reflection of the forty days Jesus fasted in the wilderness.

Others take this fasting to be a self restriction in some other aspect of life, as one friend told me last year they were fasting from social media. Instead of scrolling before bed, in that time they would read a chapter of scripture before bed.

Others still have interpreted Lent as not a time to give something up, but a time to add something to our lives which helps us follow God more closely and notice the world more intently. My sister, for example, during Lent posts a poem on social media each one of the forty days as for her, finding and posting a poem enlivens her faith and the poems are also a benefit to others. However you choose to observe Lent, the goal is to focus on some part of our day which reminds us of our need for God and keeps us spiritually grounded.

As a church, there are a few exciting and thoughtful ways we will be marking the season to help us navigate these forty days as a community! **We will begin the season of Lent in traditional form with an Ash Wednesday service on February 14 at 6:30 PM in the sanctuary.** Yes, nothing says “Happy Valentine’s Day” quite like remembering your mortality, and there will also be a Wednesday night dinner at 5:30 PM like normal for all who would like dinner before the service.

If you’ve never been to an Ash Wednesday service, we are “marked” with ashes and a sign of the cross usually on our foreheads hearing the words “We are dust and to dust we will return” as a sign of humility toward God and one another. It’s a powerful service, and a different kind of worship service from any other type we have throughout the year.

Alongside the traditional Ash Wednesday service, we will also be having **“sidewalk ashes” for our church and community in front of the church from 11:30 AM-1:00 PM on February 14** for all who would like ashes and a blessing. While sidewalk ashes are not as “mediative” as the Ash Wednesday service will be in the evening, it’s another good way to observe Ash Wednesday especially if you cannot make it to the evening service for any reason and still would like ashes.

**The following Wednesday, February 21, we will begin our Lenten Wednesday night study which will meet for five weeks until March 20.** Together, we will be reading a book called, “Lent in Plain Sight: A Devotion through Ten Objects” by Rev. Dr. Jill Duffield. This study will consider ordinary objects Jesus encountered on his way to Jerusalem like dust, coins, thorns, bread, and stones, and in each object, we will hopefully find new meaning in these Bible stories as we consider Jesus’ final days. The books will be available for pick up outside Gresham Hall, and I hope you can join this study as we journey through Lent together!

**Lastly, for our own individual Lent observances, we will have a set of 40 Lenten devotional cards for anyone to take home for personal use.** These Lenten cards offer a short prayer, scripture passage, and devotion every day until Easter. Like last year, they are created by “Sanctified Art” and the theme of this year’s devotional cards is “Wandering Heart.” This is a great Lenten devotional, especially if you need a little help thinking through your own Lenten practices, and they are great to read on the way out the door in the morning, or conclude the day with a card each evening. The cards will be available for pick up outside Gresham Hall starting February 11, and will be also available in the sanctuary.

However, you make time to consider Lent this year, in the words of our Greek Orthodox friends who call Lent “blessed days” may it be a time of blessing for your own faith as we ponder Jesus’ journey to the cross.

*Chris*



# WORSHIP

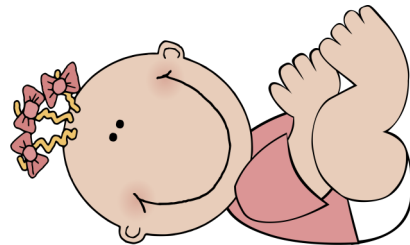
## Hymn Sing Saturday

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!



## Nursery Care Every Sunday

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



## Sanctuary Flowers

Each Sunday, flowers are placed at the front of the sanctuary in honor or memory of loved ones. If you would like to provide flowers for a worship service in 2024, please sign up on the calendar in the Church Office.



## Let Us Pray...

### Church Members

- Carol and Bill Clapp
- Spencer and Joy Frantz
- Nancy Gattoni (recovering from kidney transplant)
- Carlos Hart
- Skip and Faye Hastings
- John Hildebrand (recovering from fall, broken hip)
- Lawrence Koontz
- Horst and Anna Oedel
- Carol and Carl Rydell

### Family and Friends

- Judith Conn (Anna Kennedy's sister-in-law)
- Harry Fitch (16-year-old friend of Anna Kennedy who received a heart transplant)
- Jack and Kathy Mills (Diane Holdridge's sister)
- John Rybacki (Wendy Rotanz's nephew with cancer)
- Scott Sagester (former member battling ALS)
- Joseph (17-year-old great-nephew of Teresa Auldridge recovering from heart surgery)
- Israel, Ukraine, Russia, Sudan, and peace in the world

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

## *To the Church Triumphant*

**George Lester**, a member of Salem Presbyterian Church since 1997, passed away on January 12. A Service of Witness to the Resurrection was held on January 24.

*We give thanks for George's life and pray for his family and friends.*

## 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 classes are structured to reach different audiences and engage people in different ways. All of the classes are from 9:30-10:30 AM, followed by a fellowship time in Gresham Hall before 11:00 worship. Find your class . . . and invite someone to join you!

### Adults

**Disciple**—"Christian Believer: Knowing God with Heart and Mind" will help students to understand the scriptures more deeply and live out God's Word in their lives. There are daily readings and many participants in this class volunteer to teach several sessions.

**Kingdom Living**—"Illuminating Lent," part of the "Being Reformed" series will lead learners through an exploration of the Lord's Prayer, its theological understanding and what it means in practical ways during Lent.

**Journey On**—"The Gospel According to Leviticus" by David Kalas. This study is about finding God's Love in God's Law. Kalas says, "We might be inclined to ignore Leviticus with its many regulations, but Jesus himself taught that the law was important. Jesus came not to replace the law, but to fulfill it."

**Youth** (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade)—Connections with the Scriptures. Each week, four scriptures are suggested for worship. This class will explore the relationships between the scriptures and what they are saying for us today.

**Children** (Preschool and Kindergarten-5<sup>th</sup> grade)—Active lessons about Bible stories (Sparkhouse Lectionary)

**Nursery**—Bible stories, play time, and activities

### MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL

## YOUTH GROUP

The **Youth Group** (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders) will meet every Sunday night in February as we prepare to lead worship on February 25. We are hoping that the whole congregation will join together for the Souper Bowl of Caring luncheon after worship on February 11. The youth will serve soups, but we could use some good soup makers to provide the soup. The February schedule is available at the church (in print), on the website, and is emailed to each family with youth in 6-12<sup>th</sup> grade.

Sun. Feb. 4	6:00-7:30 PM	<b>Youth Sunday Prep.</b> Dinner and then work on worship.
Sun. Feb. 11	10:30-1:00 PM	<b>Souper Bowl of Caring.</b> We'll help heat up soups, set tables, serve soups, collect and count money for the Souper Bowl. Youth are needed from 10:30 AM-1:00 PM. There will be no evening Youth Group.
Sun. Feb. 18	6:00 –8:00 PM	<b>Youth Sunday Prep.</b> Dinner and then work on worship. Note the extended time!
Sun. Feb. 25	9:00 AM	<b>Youth Sunday!!</b> Youth are leading worship in the morning. Come at 9:00 AM for your sugar fix. We'll run through the service again before worship.
	11:00 AM	<b>Worship.</b>
	6:00 PM	<b>Youth Group activity TBA.</b>

# Wednesday Nights at SPC

There are two different programs on Wednesday nights at Salem Presbyterian Church.

Everyone is welcome to join us for **Circle of Friends** on Wednesday nights this winter!! Dinner will be served at 5:30 PM, with programming for children and adults to follow. Children will be answering the question, "Who is Jesus?" Adults will finish Adam Hamilton's book "Half Truths: God Helps Those Who Help Themselves and Other Things the Bible Doesn't Say." On February 21, they will begin our Lenten study, "Lent in Plain Sight: A Devotion through Ten Objects" by Rev. Dr. Jill Duffield, led by Rev. Vogado. Circle of Friends will run through March 20.

**Ignite**, meets on the second Wednesday of each month. Mark your calendars for February 14 (followed by an Ash Wednesday service), March 13, April 10, and May 8. 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.

WEDNESDAYS AT 5:30 PM  
DINNER, LESSONS,  
ACTIVITIES, AND FUN FOR  
CHILDREN AND ADULTS!

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

WEDNESDAY NIGHT PROGRAM

JANUARY 17-MARCH 20  
REGISTER ONLINE!  
WEEKLY COST: \$8 ADULTS/\$4 CHILDREN



## 20s/30s Somethings Shrove Tuesday Pancakes!

February 13 @ 6:00 p.m.

Come flip some flapjacks, enjoy a pancake dinner, and have some fun and fellowship!

Chris and Rachel's House  
34 Upland Drive, Salem, VA



## Salem Presbyterian Story Time



Tuesdays at Salem Presbyterian Church—41 East Main Street (enter on Market Street)

10:15-10:45

**Infant Story Time**—Foster a love of books and time together. Sing songs, hear stories, and connect with other young children and their families. Ages 0-18 months.

11:00-11:30

**Children Story Time**—Foster a lifelong love of books and words while spending time together. Sing and move to music, hear stories, and connect with other young children. Ages 0-5.

Join us for  
**PAL!**  
PRESBYTERIANS AT LUNCH

THIRD TUESDAYS  
11:30 AM



## Kroger Community Rewards

Salem Presbyterian Church is now enrolled in the Kroger Community Rewards program. By linking your Kroger Plus card to our church, each time you use your Kroger Plus Card, the church begins to earn a rebate of up to \$300 per family quarterly. You can connect your Kroger Plus Card online or through the app.





## DRIVING MISS DAISY

### When Is It Time to Stop Driving?

Remember the popular, Oscar-winning movie, *Driving Miss Daisy*, in which an elderly woman is forced to come to grips with her inability to continue driving safely? She rails against her loss of independence and takes it out on the driver hired by her son. No one takes change easily, and Miss Daisy was no exception. But at some point, we all realize there is a time and a season for everything.

#### I Can Do It Myself!

To adults of all ages, driving is a powerful symbol of independence. It means we can go wherever we want, whenever we want. We like the spontaneity and freedom it affords. And if we're fortunate enough to live many years, there will come a day when we'll need to turn in the car keys. Being able to determine just when that time has come requires careful examination and self-awareness. There is no "one-size-fits-all" solution.

#### In the Driver's Seat

As we age, there are physical and mental changes that can affect our driving abilities that include:

- Visual decline
- Hearing loss
- Limited mobility and slower response time
- Loss of muscle strength and flexibility
- Drowsiness due to medications or difficulty sleeping
- Dementia (With any signs of dementia or brain impairment, limit driving and consult a doctor.)

If you are experiencing any of the above, try the following:

#### The Mayo Clinic's Top 7 Tips for Older Drivers

1. *Stay physically active*- this improves strength, coordination and flexibility.
2. *Manage chronic conditions*- especially those that may affect driving ability such as low blood sugar related to diabetes or medications that can cause drowsiness.
3. *Schedule regular vision and hearing tests*- these are common age-related problems that make driving difficult. Make sure your corrective lenses are current and if you were prescribed hearing aids, wear them when driving.
4. *Understand your limitations*- for example, if arthritis is a challenge, use a steering wheel cover for an easier grip. (\* If mobility is an issue for you, I would also recommend consulting an occupational therapist or a certified driving rehabilitation specialist who can prescribe equipment to make it easier to steer the car or operate the foot pedals.)
5. *Drive under optimal conditions*- avoid nighttime driving and rush hour traffic, or driving when tired or taking medications that impair driving ability. Purchase a vehicle with "user-friendly" features and make sure it is kept in proper working order.
6. *Plan ahead*- know the route you plan to take and get directions ahead of time to new destinations.
7. *Update your driving skills*- local community organizations such as A.A.R.P. offer refresher courses for older drivers that may even earn a discount on your car insurance.

#### Are You An Accident Waiting to Happen?

There is no magic age when one should no longer get behind the wheel of an automobile. Everyone ages differently, and many seniors can continue to drive capably in their seventies, eighties, and beyond while others cannot, and more importantly, should not. Watch for these telltale signs of unsafe driving:

- Driving at an inappropriate speed, either too fast or too slow
- Confusing the gas and brake pedals
- Ignoring or misinterpreting street signs or traffic signals, or failing to yield to cars or pedestrians who have the right-of-way
- Difficulty changing lanes or making turns, especially left-hand turns
- Hitting the curb or drifting across lanes
- Making slow or poor decisions- unaware of pedestrians, bicyclists and other drivers
- Having difficulty turning head, neck, shoulders or body while driving or parking
- Having had one or more minor accidents or close calls
- Becoming anxious, angry or confused while driving
- Getting lost easily, even in familiar areas

#### "The Grandchild Rule"

Dr. Gary Kennedy, former president of the American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry, boils everything down to "the grandchild rule." Stated as follows, "If a patient's children don't want the grandchildren in the car when the patient is driving, he or she needs to relinquish the keys before hurting someone else's grandchildren." When it becomes evident that you or someone you know is a danger, not only to yourself but also to others, it is time to look into alternative forms of transportation.

**Ecclesiastes 3:1 "For everything there is a season, and a time for every activity under heaven."**

Shalom,  
Kitty

#### Inflation is Good

Tire inflation, that is! One in 4 cars has at least one tire that is under-inflated by 8 pounds or more, and low tire pressure is a major cause of accidents.

#### Distracted Drivers

Auto collisions involving cell phone use (talking and texting) account for more than 1.6 million crashes each year. Teens are more likely to text or talk on their mobile devices while driving but adults do it, too. Never text behind the wheel and keep cell phone conversations, even with hands-free Bluetooth devices, at a minimum!



## The Rescue Mission of Roanoke

The Rescue Mission of Roanoke is one of the projects that Salem Presbyterian Church helps support through our Outreach Committee.

With the mission statement “helping hurting people in Jesus’ name,” the Rescue Mission is a comprehensive crisis intervention center for men, women, and children, that offers life-saving services aimed at transformation and restoration.

Homelessness may be a symptom of varying conditions such as job loss, domestic violence, physical and mental health challenges, and more. Many people think of the Rescue Mission as a place for homeless people to eat and sleep. Besides providing food and shelter, the Rescue Mission attempts to equip and empower people to live independently and intentionally by providing employment training, drug and alcohol recovery, and intensive case management.

The Rescue Mission also offers:

**EMERGENCY SHELTER** - The Rescue Mission of Roanoke is the only overnight shelter in our region that is open 24/7, 365 days a year. All individuals who are in need and wish to seek their services are welcomed.

**MEALS** - On average, the Mission serves 600 meals per day. That’s breakfast, lunch, and dinner for all guests, with hospitality meals open to the public for lunch and dinner. More than 70 corporate food donors and countless churches (including SPC), organizations, and individuals help make sure that hungry people are fed every day at the Rescue Mission. “A plate of good food, served with a joyful heart in the name of Christ, can be the first step towards healing, recovery, and wholeness.”

**The G. FRALIN FREE CLINIC FOR THE HOMELESS** – This ministry of the Roanoke Rescue Mission serves individuals currently experiencing homelessness and those transitioning into permanent housing in the Roanoke Valley. A volunteer Medical Director and numerous other volunteer healthcare workers provide the care and services an individual needs to improve their quality of life, including primary and preventative care, behavioral health services, medication assistance, dental and vision care, vaccinations and more.

**MANNA FOOD PANTRY** - Manna is a weekly grocery box distribution program serving struggling families in the Roanoke region. Each food box contains approximately 60 pounds of food including, non-perishable food staples, fresh produce and frozen meats.

**THE WAY FORWARD RESIDENTIAL RECOVERY PROGRAMS FOR ADDICTION** –Through coaching, spiritual guidance, and education, the program provides participants the tools they need to move from a life of self-abuse and destruction to a life lived in recovery, punctuated by grace.

**CLOTHING VOUCHER PROGRAM** - Clothing vouchers are offered to shelter guests and individuals/families in the community who are in need.

If you’d like to learn more about the Rescue Mission, please see [www.rescuemission.net](http://www.rescuemission.net)



## Family Promise

Salem Presbyterian and Restoration churches will be hosting our first Family Promise week for 2024 March 10-March 17. The sign-up board will be ready on Sunday, February 11 for volunteers to sign up as dinner and overnight hosts, to prepare meals or supplies, and to set up and take down the bedrooms.

Please consider setting aside a few hours of your time this week to support this wonderful program. The support of this congregation for the homeless families in the Family Promise program has always been amazing.

*“....Truly I tell you , just as you did to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did for me ...”Matthew 25:40*

## Outreach Committee Seeks Input From The Church

The outreach committee is responsible for distributing about \$40,000 to organizations that serve others each year. The current maximum distribution is \$5,000. Except for CEDEPCA and our PC(USA) Mission Co-workers, the money is distributed to local organizations that our members are also actively involved in doing “boots on the ground” activities. Some organizations receive general donations to support their on-going programs, and some organizations we support with one-time specific donations. If you would like to have an organization you are involved in considered, please send an email to the church office by March 1 explaining the purpose of the organization, your (and other church members) involvement, and how the money would be used by. The organizations we supported last year included (in no specific order) CEDEPCA, Presbyterian Community Center, Roanoke Asylum Seekers Support Network, Habitat for Humanity, Young Life, Family Promise, Roanoke Area Ministries (RAM), Rescue Mission of Roanoke, Salem/Roanoke Food Pantry, PC(USA) Mission Co-Workers (Betsey Moe and Leslie Vogel), The Giving Garden, SAEM: Ms. Dorsey’s Clothes Closet/ACT Packs, and Piecemakers .

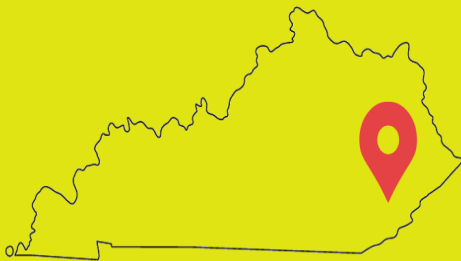
## Ryan’s Case for Smiles

Ryan’s would like to thank the church for their support. Our local chapter uses 311 yards of case fabric and 121 yards of border fabric each month to make a total of 450 pillowcases. Our own Lorain Petersen is the master of great deals on fabric. She was able to use the Alternative Christmas funds to purchase 22 bolts (330 yards) of fabric. If you would like to buy fun cotton fabric on your own, please consider purchasing 3 yards of a fabric to minimize waste. If you would like to join the fun of making them, please do so. No sewing experience is required.



## Summer Mission Trip

### MISSION TRIP



**HAZARD, KY**

**JULY 28-AUGUST 3**

There are five reasons for our work trips...

- To live out God’s commandment of loving our neighbors as ourselves
- To help others
- To experience a different cultural setting from our own
- To learn from those with whom we work
- To share the experience of living, working and having fun together

Mission trips are a week of hard work, lots of fun, good friends and an opportunity to do something that makes a difference in the life of another person or family. This summer we will be working through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) and Housing Development Alliance (HDA) in Hazard, KY. The two organizations are working together both for new construction in an impoverished area, and also for flood relief from the summer 2022 floods. We will know more specifically closer to the time of the trip the types of jobs we will be doing, but likely we will be putting in subflooring, installing windows and doors, putting up insulation and sheet-rock, painting, and landscaping. The mission trip is open to students entering ninth grade through adults.

We will be staying at First Presbyterian Church of Hazard. We will need to provide our own sleeping bags or linens, and we will cook our own meals. We are asking each person to pay \$100, which will help to cover costs of food, transportation, and supplies. Please speak with Janet Chisom if you have questions, need more information, or wish to sign up to be part of the team. The registration form is on the church website.

## Confirmation Class

The Confirmation Class began January 21. This year we have 7 youth, ranging from 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade. With Chris and their mentors they will learn about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit; the Bible; the Presbyterian Church; what trust in God looks like today, and will be preparing to make their own statement of faith and join the church as full members. We have a Bible to present to each of the students. We would like congregation members to sign the Bibles with their names and a favorite scripture passage. Please come to Gresham Hall in the next few weeks before or after worship to sign the Bibles.





Financials	
Total Amount Pledged 2023	\$426,000
Projected Pledges through December 2023	\$426,000
Pledges Received through December 2023	\$440,891



## Walter (Buddy) Lipes Charitable Trust

In 2023, Salem Presbyterian Church received a very generous bequest from long-time member Walter (Buddy) Lipes, who set up a Charitable Remainder Trust in 1997. When Mr. Lipes' widow passed away last year, the church was informed that we were entitled to 50% of the trust assets. After completing lots of paperwork, including releases, indemnification, banking information, and corporate resolutions, the church received several payments totaling just shy of \$300,000. This gift is specified in the trust "In honor of the family of Mr. & Mrs. Walter M. Lipes, Sr." What a blessed and generous gift for our beloved church, and we remember and thank the Lipes and Garst families for their patriarch's wonderful bequest.

After much deliberation in our Stewardship and Finance Work Group, the following recommendation of allocations for this money passed the Session at their June meeting:

- 1) 10% to Outreach, enabling us to help local, regional and international missions to aid our neighbors in need, wherever they may be.
- 2) 25 % to the Building Repair Reserve Fund to replenish funds used to decrease recent operating budget deficits and support near term requests and needs.
- 3) 40% to the Building & Maintenance Endowment Reserve in order to build up and support annual operations distribution as is done for outreach.\*
- 4) 25% to a newly established "Lipes Fund," a line in the Endowment for unrestricted use, subject to Session approval.

This gift will be used as the Holy Spirit leads us – to follow in the footsteps of Jesus, loving our neighbors and caring for those in need while we also maintain our historic building on the corner of Main and Market. We are truly blessed in receiving this gift!

If you have any questions or want addition information about this bequest and how you may also benefit our church's ministries and missions, feel free to contact any member of your Stewardship and Finance Work Group: Ginny Savage, Chair; Jim Bowen, Assistant Treasurer; Tom Burns, Treasurer; Jim Cochrane; Sarah Eller; Becky Ring; and Mava Wingate.

\*There is a line in the church's Endowment account called the Outreach and Benevolence Fund and 4% of the value of this fund goes directly to our Outreach Committee for distribution annually.

## February Birthdays

Feb 2	Jensen Akers Millard Williams
Feb 4	Larry Curfiss Irene Leech
Feb 6	James Lutz
Feb 8	John Hildebrand
Feb 9	Sally Baker
Feb 11	Carlos Hart Lee Johnson
Feb 13	Bob Rotanz
Feb 14	Rich Watts
Feb 16	Eric Darby Cam Fulcher Roland Minton
Feb 17	Kiley Weaver
Feb 19	Gib Brown Jacob Carroll Emma Carter
Feb 20	Bill Dennison
Feb 21	Kevin Stovall Heather Weaver
Feb 24	Horst Oedel Donna Welch
Feb 25	George Lugar
Feb 26	Brittany Gurley
Feb 28	Marge Sielinski

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

# SAVE THE DATE

February 3	Ski Trip to Winterplace
February 11	Souper Bowl Sunday
February 13	20/30 Somethings Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner
February 28	Calvin and Hops at Olde Salem Brewing
June 10-14	High School Mini Missions
June 24-28	Middle School Mini Missions
July 7-13	Montreat Youth Conference for High School youth
July 21-26	Vacation Bible School for elementary children (and maybe even an all-church component!)
July 28-August 3	Mission Trip to Hazard, KY

FROM THE

## SESSION

**Session met on January 23, 2024.**

**Please note:**

- The Session is considering upgrading the technology in Gresham Hall and a few other meeting/Sunday School rooms.
- The Nominating Committee for the

Class of 2027 Elders has been decided. If you are interested in working on this committee or interested in nominating yourself or a church member, please speak to Sarah Eller.

*Submitted by Lee Cole*



The Christian Education Committee believes we've come up with some good themes for our next art shows in Gresham Hall. The purpose of the shows are to (1) give a space for members and friends to display their talents for others to enjoy, (2) encourage people to think about a theme . . . and maybe even think theologically, as there are often several directions a theme can be taken, (3) brighten up our Gresham Hall. We welcome all art submissions—poetry, paintings, photographs, textile arts—from all ages. You do not need to be a professional.

We are looking for submissions by February 11 to fit the theme “*Colors of the Season.*” This is a time of year when there are many overlapping seasons: Valentine’s Day (red and pink), Lent (purple) and Ash Wednesday (grey and black), Winter (white and grey), Football (brown and green). Be thinking about the season and what colors stand out for you and share your art with the community!

The following Art Show (due April 7) will be on the theme of “Let There Be Light.”

# February 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 7:00 PM Ignite Plan- ning Meeting 7:30 PM NA	2	3 7:00 AM Ski Trip 10:00 AM Hymn Sing Saturday (via Face- book Live)
4 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship with communion in -person and live streamed  6:00 PM Youth Group	5  6:00 PM Nominating Committee 7:00 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM NA	6 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 10:15 AM Storytime 10:30 AM Morning Circle 7:00 PM VBS Planning 7:00 PM Evening Circle 7:00 PM Salem Choral Society	7 9:00 AM Piecemakers Group 11:00 AM Women's Bible Study  5:30 PM Circle of Friends 7:30 PM Choir	8   7:30 PM NA	9	10  10:00 AM Hymn Sing Saturday (via Face- book Live)
11 TWO CENTS-A-MEAL 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship in person and livestreamed 12:15 PM SouperBowl Luncheon	12  7:00 PM Out- reach 7:00 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM NA	13 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 10:15 AM Storytime  7:00 PM Salem Choral Society	14 11:00 AM Women's Bible Study <b>11:30 AM Ashes on the Sidewalk</b>  <b>5:30 PM Ignite</b> <b>6:30 PM Ash Wednes- day Service</b>	15 9:00 AM Presbytery Meeting via Zoom  7:00 PM Joy Circle 7:30 PM NA	16	17  10:00 AM Hymn Sing Saturday (via Face- book Live)
18 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship in person and livestreamed 12:15 PM Worship and Music Commit- tee  6:00 PM Youth Sunday Rehearsal	19 Church Office Closed  7:00 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM NA	20 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 10:15 AM Storytime 11:30 AM PAL  7:00 PM Christian Edu- cation Committee 7:00 PM Salem Choral Society	21 9:45 AM Stewardship and Finance Work Group 10:00 AM Garden Club 11:00 AM Women's Bible Study  5:30 PM Circle of Friends 7:30 PM Choir	22   7:30 PM NA	23	24  10:00 AM Hymn Sing Saturday (via Face- book Live)
25 <b>Youth Sunday</b> 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship in person and live streamed 12:15 PM Inreach Committee 4:00 PM Calvin and Hops at Olde Salem 6:00 PM Youth Group	26  7:00 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM NA	27 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 10:15 AM Storytime  7:00 PM Salem Choral Society 7:00 PM Session	28 11:00 AM Women's Bible Study  5:30 PM Circle of Friends 7:30 PM Choir	29  7:00 PM SPC Book Club 7:30 PM NA		

**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..... Kim Murray  
Assistant Clerk..... Sarah Eller  
Treasurer ..... Tom Burns  
Assistant Treasurer..... Jim Bowen

### **Class of 2024**

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

### **Class of 2025**

Jim Cochrane  
Sarah Eller  
Reid McClure  
Kim Murray  
Ginny Savage

### **Class of 2026**

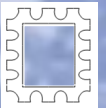
Teresa Auldridge  
Lee Cole  
Ken Cook  
Anna Kennedy  
Becky Ring  
Don Taylor  
Andrew Crumpacker,  
(Youth Elder)



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.*



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[salempres.org](http://salempres.org)