



THE MESSENGER

~ A Communication Ministry of Salem United Church of Christ ~

May 2015
Volume 61, Issue 5

We are God's children called to seek, share, teach, and continue to experience the Word of God.

Be still, and know that I am God! ~ Psalm 46:10a

I remember when I was young, my family would gather every Sunday night to watch the Ed Sullivan Show. I can still remember seeing the Beatles for the first time. Of course, there also were the regulars: Connie Francis, Topo Gigio, and all the comedians. The list goes on and on. The one act I always was mesmerized with was the plate spinners. It was a novelty act in which one person would get a plate spinning on a tiny pole and move on to the next one and get the plate spinning. It always was fascinating to watch him run around and get at least 6 plates spinning at the same time.

I often think of that person when things get hectic. There are times when, like you, I am that person—rushing from plate to plate, trying to keep them all spinning lest one should fall and well, you know the rest. Why do we allow ourselves, or our children, to be so busy, that we, or they, are afraid a plate may fall? And, if we let a plate fall, does that mean we are failures? Is it because we think by having such full schedules that it somehow validates us as “worthy?”

I have Psalm 46:10a etched on a painted block of wood in my office sitting on top of one of my bookcases. I placed it there to remind me that I need to be still and know God. It has been my experience that it was not in my “busyness” I experienced God, but rather in my times of “stillness.” Where did we ever get the idea that we need to fill every moment of our lives (or our children’s lives) with non-stop activities? When does that leave time for us to experience God?

I am reminded of Simon & Garfunkel’s song, “59th Street Bridge Song”:

*Slow down, you move too fast. You got to make the morning last.
Just kicking down the cobble stones. Looking for fun and feelin' groovy.*

*Hello lamppost, Whatcha' knowing?
I've come to watch your flowers growing. Ain'tcha got no rhymes for me?
Doot-in' doo-doo, Feelin' groovy.*

*Got no deeds to do, No promises to keep.
I'm dappled and drowsy and ready to sleep.
Let the morning time drop all its petals on me. Life, I love you, all is groovy.*

If we were to replace “feelin’ groovy” with “waiting for God,” we would have a sense of what Psalm 46:10a suggests.

One other thing—when the person on the Ed Sullivan Show would fail to balance a plate, which sometimes he did, he just kept going. Just saying!

Blessings,

Pastor Jerry

DID YOU KNOW?

On the 12th of December 1861 for the consideration of \$5.00 a deed was recorded in Edwardsville, Illinois, on behalf of the Alhambra and Silver Creek German Evangelical Society. What was the purpose of this deed transaction and who were the first and second parties involved?

- Levi Harnsberger and his wife, Nancy E. Harnsberger, accepted the \$5.00 payment from William Highlander, John Wetzel, and Ernst Mindrup as Trustees of the above named Society for one half acre of land to be used for a burying ground. This transaction was the beginning of Salem Cemetery west of Alhambra.

For more than 153 years, Salem Cemetery has been well maintained by many dedicated individuals. Salem UCC is fortunate to have such a respected and peaceful resting place for loved ones. (Note: Stop by the Historical Display Cabinet in the passageway for more information on Salem Cemetery.)

“Kingdom Building”

(Suggested Readings: Ecclesiastes Chapters 2 & 12 and Matthew 7:24-27)

As we pray the Lord's Prayer, we are challenged to be that for which we pray. When we pray "Thy will be done," surely we are not only asking the Lord to make His kingdom reality come to the world but also to our own lives. We have the ability to make that petition a reality in our individual lives! As we do live out God's will, we are building God's kingdom, which is real and everlasting.

Much of my work on a daily basis is destruction of previous work and then installation of something new. Over time, I see myself tearing out my own work from days gone by, along with the work of others who have went before me. The world is a broken place allowing only transitory victories. Everything worldly breaks down, wears down, or becomes obsolete. The only thing which has real permanence is that which is the will of God, such as reaching out to help someone today, not to be seen or glorified in any way. That which we took part in as we give glory to God for all goodness becomes a living building block of God's kingdom. If we pray, trust, praise, or give thanks to God, we are united with a piece of eternity. Our daily work can become a part of this beauty, if we do our work as a gift to God. While the work itself will fall into ruin, it does give help and hope for the present time. The heart that gave it as a gift to God has built kingdom treasures that will be forever.

Surely we want our life to leave a legacy of beauty and goodness as we are the will of God. The wondrous legacy goes on forever, just as we go on forever. Who will we build for today? The choice is ever before us. God is not very subtle to our heart. God always is saying choose me; choose life! Build kingdom with me!

May we ever be about building something beautiful!

Pastor John

EXHALE – YOUTH NEWS

*“You gotta do much more than believe, if you want to see the world change.”
~ Gaucho – Dave Matthews Band*

I recently watched the movie, “Whiplash,” starring J.K. Simmons, who actually won a well-deserved Oscar for his performance. If you haven’t seen the film yet, I highly recommend it. Although the language is pretty intense in it, so be wary with little ones around.

In the movie, Simmons plays a Jazz band director. He is in charge of the best of the best. It is his job to push the students in his band to their absolute best, even if that means using some unorthodox methods to accomplish this. Simmons does whatever is necessary to make sure his students reach their full potential. At one point in the movie as he is talking to one of his students he says, “The two most dangerous words in the English language are ‘good job’.” This stuck with me. One side of me completely disagrees with him. We all need positive reinforcement, if for nothing else just reassurance that we are doing the right thing. On the other hand, I completely agree with him. For many of us, when we hear we are going a good job become content, we stop pushing ourselves because we subconsciously think that we have made it.

I think this is true with Christianity in a way. We think that if we come to church, put our money in the plates, shake hands, sing the songs, eat lunch with the family, and call it a day, then we, as Christians, have done a “good job.” I believe it goes further than that. Being a Christian is something you do. It’s in all your actions, not just the actions on Sundays. My challenge for all of us is to push ourselves to always make Christianity a verb, and not just a noun. When you think about it, Christianity makes a pretty awful noun.

Love Wins,
Nick Atkins-Harris
Email: hoosierdrummer60@gmail.com / Cell: 812-589-1918 / Facebook: ExhaleSalemUCC

Trivia Night Thank You:

Thank you to everyone who came out to support Exhale at the Trivia Night in March. We had 10 tables of competitors and tons of fun and fellowship. I want to send a special thanks out to the Women’s Guild, Board of Christian Education, the Men’s Fellowship, as well as Patti Reckmann, The Uhe Family, and Paige Basler for providing baskets for our silent auction. I also want to thank all the parents who showed up to help judge, collect 50-50, and everything else. You all made the night go extremely smooth, and I cannot thank you enough. I lastly need to thank everyone who came out to support us; without you, there would be no mission trip! So thank you and we hope to see all of you, plus some new players next year!

Love Wins,
Nick Atkins-Harris

Important Dates for Exhale:

- **May 3:** Exhale @ 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
- **May 10:** No Exhale (Mother’s Day)
- **May 17:** Exhale @ 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
- **May 24:** No Exhale (Memorial Day Weekend)
- **May 31:** Exhale @ 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

April 9, 2015

The following members were present: Pastor Jerry Amiri, Gary Boda, Scott Demkey, Bobby Frank, Shirley Gall, Donita Prott, Dawn Reagan, Ronna Renken, Steve Stille, and Tim Stille.

The meeting was called to order by President Bobby Frank. Pastor Jerry read the devotion, *The Song of the Bird*.

The Secretary's Report and Treasurer's Report were approved.

Committee Reports were presented with the following highlights:

- **Evangelism/Worship:** Committee will consider removing the pews in the choir loft and replacing them with padded stacking or folding chairs to allow more room and for the area to be more versatile.
- **Long Range Planning:** Committee will hold a Salem United Vision lunch and meeting after worship on Sunday, May 31, to discuss the positive things going on at Salem, identify needs of the church, and set goals.
- **Mission/Stewardship:** Salem has 10 members participating in the Ecuador Mission Trip. They will hold a Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser on May 27. Dinner can be delivered in Alhambra for an additional fee. (Mary Reinhardt's spaghetti will be served.)
- **Property:** Committee found a replacement for the old water fountain.

Meeting closed by reciting the Lord's Prayer. The next Church Council meeting will be on May 14 at 7:00 p.m.

Note: The approved minutes of all Church Council meetings are available in the church office.

Salem UCC Scholarship

Deadline: Friday, May 1, 2015

Salem UCC scholarship applications may be picked up
in the church office or on the table outside the church office.

Mission To Go!!!

The Mission Committee is having a takeout only fundraiser to support our group going to Ecuador in June. The menu will consist of spaghetti, green beans, salad, bread, and dessert for \$10.00 and will be on Wednesday, May 27, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

- You may purchase advance tickets from any Mission/Stewardship Committee member.
- You may pre-order by calling the church office.
- You may come that evening and order on the spot!
- Also for folks who live in Alhambra, we can deliver for a small donation!

Please come and show your support to these people going to do God's worldly work!

What is SUV?

Salem **United Vision** (SUV) is a project launched by the Long Range Planning Committee to assess the future needs of Salem Church. The first step is sponsoring an event on May 31, 2015, after worship. We will begin with a light meal, and then be led through a series of questions which will enable Salem Church to:

- Identify Salem's strengths
- Identify areas of ministry that need to be worked on
- Where does the congregation see itself in 5 years and in 10 years?
- Identify what it would take to achieve those goals

The success of this event relies on the congregation's participation. The Long Range Planning Committee is interested in your opinions.

The second step is for the Long Range Planning Committee to take the gathered information and develop a long range plan for Salem.

The third step is to present the plan to the congregation for consideration.

Please mark your calendars to join us on May 31. Your opinion counts, and we want to hear it!

Salem UCC Treasurer's Report

(Month Ending 03/31/2015)

	Current Activity	YTD Activity
GENERAL FUND BEGINNING BALANCE	17,316.02	12,521.25
Offering – Loose	10,282.36	23,401.36
Offering – Envelopes	10,791.00	30,006.00
Facility Use Donations	3,300.00	3,350.00
Miscellaneous Receipts	1,438.50	2,594.53
Interest Income – General Fund	3.05	7.93
Benevolence Received	417.00	5,201.00
Total General Fund Income	26,231.91	64,560.82
Salaries	9,478.72	27,958.98
Employee Benefits	4,779.53	7,245.62
Maintenance/Property Services	1,060.55	3,873.21
Insurance	3,084.00	3,084.00
Utilities	1,935.07	5,927.40
Supplies – General	515.00	2,036.63
Professional Expense	70.59	386.89
Miscellaneous	10.00	30.00
Worship	137.81	229.80
Christian Education	35.08	343.96
Stewardship	386.87	386.87
Benevolence Paid	1,594.00	5,118.00
Total General Fund Expenses	23,087.22	56,621.36
GENERAL FUND ENDING BALANCE	\$ 20,460.71	\$ 20,460.71
 MEMORIAL FUND BEGINNING BALANCE	 73,022.32	 73,860.94
Memorials Received	260.00	360.00
Memorial Fund Expense:		
Worship – Music & Visual		791.62
Postage		147.00
MEMORIAL FUND ENDING BALANCE	\$ 73,282.32	\$ 73,282.32
 BUILDING FUND BEGINNING BALANCE	 9,165.65	 8,580.65
Building Fund Offering	1,965.00	2,550.00
BUILDING FUND ENDING BALANCE	\$ 11,130.65	\$ 11,130.65
 SABBATICAL FUND BEGINNING BALANCE	 11,896.12	 11,896.12
Contribution from Men's Fellowship	1,000.00	1,000.00
SABBATICAL FUND ENDING BALANCE	\$ 12,896.12	\$ 12,896.12
 ENDOWMENT FUND BEGINNING BALANCE	 59,509.77	 61,748.28
Memorials – Endowment Fund	45.00	45.00
Endowment Fund Disbursements:		
Interest Distribution – General Fund		1,118.53
Interest Distribution – Benevolence		1,119.98
ENDOWMENT FUND ENDING BALANCE	\$ 59,554.77	\$ 59,554.77
 INVESTMENT FUND BEGINNING BALANCE	 191,619.47	 189,646.93
Change in Market Value	(1,681.96)	290.58
INVESTMENT FUND ENDING BALANCE	\$ 189,937.51	\$ 189,937.51
 MISSION MATCHING FUND BEGINNING BALANCE	 127,361.78	 127,751.87
Change in Market Value	(960.52)	2,173.39
Mission Fund Disbursements:		
Mission Match Paid		3,524.00
MISSION MATCHING FUND ENDING BALANCE	\$ 126,401.26	\$ 126,401.26
 RESERVE FUND BEGINNING BALANCE	 15,130.59	 15,102.56
Interest Income – Reserve Fund	41.30	69.33
RESERVE FUND ENDING BALANCE	\$ 15,171.89	\$ 15,171.89
 OTHER RESTRICTED FUND BEGINNING BALANCE	 2,270.49	 2,623.93
Other Restricted Expense:		
Grant Expense – 2014 Literacy Grant	21.42	374.86
OTHER RESTRICTED FUND ENDING BALANCE	\$ 2,249.07	\$ 2,249.07

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH SPECIAL OFFERING

Each day, visions and dreams are created in the hearts of many in the United Church of Christ. Through the Strengthen the Church offering, they can become a reality. As God calls our congregations to be “church” in new ways, your gift will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches, and develop spiritual life in our youth and young adults. Because of this offering, many more will hear the good news that “God is still speaking.” Strengthen the Church offering envelopes will be in the Sunday, May 24, bulletins. This offering will be collected on Sunday, May 31.



Salem Seekers

"Rebekah"	May 3	May 10	May 17	May 24	May 31
Gathering Room	Opening 8:45 – 9:05 a.m.	Opening 8:45 – 9:05 a.m.	Opening 8:45 – 9:05 a.m.	No Sunday School ~~~~~ Memorial Day Weekend	No Sunday School
God's Oasis (Puppets)	5th & 6th	All Children Will Meet in the Faith Island for a Mother's Day Celebration	All Children Will Meet in the Gathering Room for the Bible Bucks Store		
Gathering Room (Media)	3rd & 4th				
Faith Island (Games)	1st & 2nd				
Scribe's Den (Science)	Pre-K & K				
Gathering Room	Closing 9:40 – 9:50 a.m.	Closing 9:40 – 9:50 a.m.	Closing 9:40 – 9:50 a.m.		

All children will start in the Gathering Room at 8:45 a.m.
 After the opening gathering, the children will be led to their specific workshop by their shepherds.
Please pick up your child in the Gathering Room at 9:50 a.m.

~ Kids For Christ (KFC) ~

Kids For Christ and the Board of Christian Education would like to thank the congregation for filling 1,203 plastic eggs and Exhale for hiding the eggs for the children to hunt. On Saturday, April 4, the 1,203 eggs were hunted by 52 children, newborn through fifth grade. After finding the plastic eggs, the children and their families enjoyed donuts, muffins, and fruit in the basement.



SAVE THE DATE:
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
JUNE 7 – 11, 2015
6:00 P.M. – 8:30 P.M. (NIGHTLY)

JOIN US for the COOLEST Week of SUMMER!

At Everest VBS, kids will embark on the coolest adventure of the summer! Everest VBS is filled with incredible Bible learning experiences kids see, hear, touch, and even taste! Team-Building games, cool Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the standout activities that help faith flow into real life. (Since everything is hands-on, kids might get a little messy. Be sure to send them in play clothes and safe shoes.) Plus, we'll help kids discover how to see evidence of God in everyday life.

The fun starts at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall for Base Camp Sing & Play and ends at 8:30 p.m. with Summit Celebration, a daily exploration of God's mighty power, you won't want to miss. We invite parents to come around 8:10 p.m. to share in this special nightly closing.

So mark these dates on your calendar: June 7 to June 11, 2015.

Registration forms are available on the table outside the church office. We would appreciate you submitting these in a timely manner, so we may plan accordingly. Also, please check out the mountain in the hallway with items needed for VBS. We appreciate all your help and support and look forward to another successful year!

Everest VBS is for children ages 3 years old to 5th grade.
 Children ages 6th grade to high school are encouraged to join our Crew—please contact Nick.

CONGRATULATIONS CONFIRMANDS!!!

Confirmation was on Palm Sunday, March 29, 2015. This year's Confirmands were Taylor Ernst, Lexi Gibbons, Tori Lynn, Wyatt Reckman, Catlyn Thomas, & Cameron Verson. They took their first communion at the Maundy Thursday Worship Service on April 2, 2015.



FROM THE MEN'S FELLOWSHIP & WOMEN'S GUILD

Next Meeting of the Men's Fellowship & Women's Guild:

Thursday, May 21, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. Pastor Jerry Amiri will have the devotion.

May Golden Agers Are:

Vernon Otto on May 18

Hilbert Klenke on May 22

Looking For All Graduates...

If you are or know someone who is graduating from high school, college, trade school, or graduate school this year, please contact the church office at 488-3215 or salemuccalh@gmail.com by Sunday, May 3.

The church office also would like a picture of graduate and a short paragraph on graduate consisting of full name (including middle), name of parents, name of school graduating from, date of graduation (at least month and year), if from college the degree graduating with, and future plans such as further education or career. If you have any questions, please contact Jenn Henschen in the church office.

Graduates will be recognized during the Sunday, May 17, 2015, worship service at 10:00 a.m. Thank you.

Thank You Note Received By:

- **Hitz Memorial Home** for \$275.00 donation received given by Salem UCC
- *****



MONDAY MORNING REFLECTIONS WITH PASTOR JERRY

Come join us at Maedge's on Monday mornings at 10:00 a.m. to have a cup of coffee, discuss the sermon, read scripture together, and talk about whatever is on your mind.

(Please Note: There will be no Monday Morning Reflections on May 25.)

Looking for Volunteers For Special Music This Summer!!!

We can use people of all ages as well as various instruments and vocal talents.
Please see Dawn Reinhardt or sign up on the calendar in the choir room.

Read Aloud!

On Saturday, May 16, at 10:00 a.m., we will have our next Read Aloud event here at Salem. We will read the book, "Wherever Love Is" by Sherry Favre and Brian Sirchio. Please call the church office to reserve your copy of the book and let everyone know who has kids aged kindergarten through fifth grade to come join us!

The Illinois South Conference & DuBois Center present:

50 Years of Faith & Fun on May 3, 2015, at the Gateway Grizzlies Stadium

Join the family and friends of the Illinois South Conference & DuBois Center
For a day of celebration filled with fun!!!

There will be the following from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.:

Homerun Derby
Kickball Tournament
Bag Toss
Horseshoes

Gaga Pit
Washers
Bocce Ball
9-Square in the Air

Bounce House
Tricycle Races
Historical Revue
Music

Concession Food
Available
T-Shirts
Duck Pond

Cost at the door is \$10.00 per person or \$15.00 per family (Ticket price includes games, not food & drinks.)



Worship Ministry Schedule



Date	Acolytes	Greeter(s)	Liturgist	Recorder	Ushers
May 3 (10am)	Ian Grandame Austin Reinhardt	Jim Annable	Bill Reckman	Joe Bolyard	Brian & Connie Duncan Emily & Katelyn Duncan Gene & Terri Templeman
May 10 (10am)	Anna Brase Kara Braundmeier	Gale Bolen	Lisa Uhe	Ron Mindrup	Ken Gehrig Lewis & Lorene Knackstedt Steve Stille / Ken Suhre
May 17 (10am)	Sydney Basler Barbie Meguire	Kathy Porter	Bill Reckman	Ron Mindrup	Gale Bolen / Richelle Braundmeier Cindy Henschen / Kathy Porter
May 24 (10am)	Brienna Bowers Tessa Renken	Lewis & Lorene Knackstedt	Carol Reckman	Larry McGee	Larry & Lorna McGee Alice Stille / Jeff Warnke
May 31 (10am)	Shayden Hogg Sylar Hogg	LaVerne Bloemker	Lewis Knackstedt	Patti Reckmann / Larry McGee	Bill & Carol Reckman Laura Renken / Tessa Renken Dave & Ronna Renken

Nursery Schedule

May 3	May 10	May 17	May 24	May 31
Gale Bolen Tammy Burton	Ashley Prott Donita Prott	Jessie Ketcham Danielle Porter	Amanda Brase Jennifer Hunsche	Emily Uhe Patty Uhe

Worship Schedule

Date	Scripture Readings	Sermon Title	Pastor
May 3 – 10 a.m. Mission Fest / Worship with Communion	John 15:1-8 1 John 4:7-21	<i>Hoyleton Ministries</i>	Chris Cox, Hoyleton
May 10 – 10 a.m. Mother's Day / Worship	John 15:9-17	<i>Who Is My Parent?</i>	Rev. Jerry Amiri
May 17 – 10 a.m. Graduation Sunday / Worship	Psalm 1 1 John 5:9-13	<i>The Way, the Truth, and the Life</i>	Pastor John Mindrup
May 24 – 10 a.m. Pentecost / Worship	John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15 Acts 2:1-21	<i>A Holy Gathering</i>	Rev. Jerry Amiri
May 31 – 10 a.m. Praise Worship	Romans 8:12-17 John 3:1-17	<i>Impossible Birth</i>	Rev. Jerry Amiri

Communion Schedule for Hitz Home

May 3 – 10 a.m.	Justin & Melanie Bonnell
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If you are sad or struggling inside, do not suffer alone. Ask for help. We have a team of Stephen Ministers who are ready to listen, care, encourage, pray, and help you through a tough time. (It is confidential too!) Find out more about Stephen Ministry by talking with one of our Stephen Leaders listed below. Our Stephen Ministers are there to care!

Rev. Jerry Amiri: (O) 618-488-3215 / (C) 636-328-3332
Pastor John Mindrup: (C) 618-409-3941/ Betty Imboden: (C) 618-973-0572

SALEM CONFIRMATION HOMECOMING

The 3rd Annual Confirmation Homecoming will be held on Sunday, August 2, 2015. This year we will be honoring classes: 1945, 1955, 1965 (50th Anniversary), 1975, 1985, 1995, 2005, and 2015. More information will be coming soon in later Messengers. ~ Evangelism/Worship Committee & Historical Committee

MISSION FEST SUNDAY

On Mission Fest Sunday, May 3, Chris Cox from Hoyleton will share information and give us an update about the ministry of Hoyleton. Hoyleton Ministries seeks to enable all people, young and old alike, to realize the wholeness of life that God intends. This will be accomplished with the compassion of Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit reaching out to meet the physical, emotional, intellectual, spiritual, and social needs of those with whom we journey. A potluck luncheon will immediately follow worship. Please bring a side dish and/or a dessert to share for the potluck luncheon. Meat will be provided by the Men's Fellowship.

Prayer List

Cancer Concerns:

Wayne Gentry / Richard Bunte / Sam Merkel

Health Concerns:

Quintin Byrne (Cousin of Lisa Reinhardt)

Vickie Conrad / Diana Donohoo

Katie Ferch (Daughter of Pastor Jerry & Carol Amiri)

Jack Frandsen / Morgan Hackethal

Thomas Kinnett / Marie Mindrup

Fred Monk (Son-in-Law of Bob Mindrup) / Melvin Roberts

Alhambra Care Center:

Velma Henkhaus

Eden Village:

Hilbert & Verna Klenke

Lawrence Ramach

Faith Countryside Homes/Apartments:

Dorothy Knabel

Four Fountains:

Carol Ruehrup

Highland Home:

Anita Suhre

Hitz Memorial Home:

Orlean Hosto / Electa Leitch / Herb Schmidt

Legacy Place:

Al & Betty Volz

Our Servicemen & Servicewomen:

Lt. Col. Derek Bright / Thomas Eyman

Airman Dustin Garner / Jason Schlechte

Kenny Randle / Jared Thiems / Kyle Thornton

Our Sympathies to the Family of:

Hilda Ramach

(Wife of Lawrence Ramach)

Who died on April 9, 2015.

May Anniversaries

05/01/1976	Peter & Eva Babic
05/03/2003	Charlie & Davina Brown
05/04/2002	Brien & Tonia Bowers
05/06/2006	Scott & Michelle Warford
05/07/1993	Brian & Denise Grandame
05/08/1993	David & Tina Poggemoeller
05/08/2010	Dave & Lindsey Duffin
05/09/1959	Vernon & Marie Mindrup
05/14/1994	Mark & April Korsmeyer
05/18/1984	Kenneth & Barb Randle
05/18/1985	Larry & Laura Muench
05/20/2006	Bryan & Nicole Wernle
05/21/1999	Tony & Sheryl Cecco
05/23/1981	Jed & Brenda Schlechte
05/24/2008	Richard & Danielle Porter Jr.
05/28/1960	Roger & Janelle Reilson

The Baptisms of Teyton Henkhaus & Tenley Henkhaus

Teyton Dale Henkhaus & Tenley Georgia Henkhaus were baptized at Salem UCC on April 19, 2015, by Rev. Jerry Amiri. Teyton was born on July 26, 2008, and Tenley was born on March 13, 2012. Their parents are Trevor & Heather Henkhaus. Their grandparents are Dale & Gail Henkhaus and Carl & Terri Lurkins. Their great-grandparents are Velma Henkhaus, Rosemary Allen, Georgia Lurkins, and LaMar & Mabel Gruen.

Cradles Rolls Received

**Caroline Kate Bolyard,
Piper Anna Duffin, & Nolan Patrick Luitjohan**
received their cradle rolls on Sunday, April 12, 2015.



May Birthdays



May 1

Steve Price
Jayden Henschen
Leighton Buzick

May 2

Dawna Mize
Gus Townzen Jr.
Sam Ahlmeyer

May 3

Russ Reinhardt
Jennifer Henschen

May 4

Tiffany Gillison

May 5

Megan Henschen

May 6

Lorene Knackstedt
Charley Vassier

May 6

Tyson Rakers
Gavin Goodwin

May 7

Presley Reeves

May 8

Kory Brink

May 9

Ashlie Mindrup

May 10

Merilee Mindrup

May 11

Ronald Debatin
Lawrence Henschen
Ronnelle Mindrup
Carrie Gibbons
Travis Porter

May 12

Becca Braundmeier

May 13

Judy Henschen

May 14

Bonadell Litton

May 15

Lori Horner
Colton Prott
Alison Brase

May 16

Brienna Bowers

May 17

Anna Brase

May 18

Vernon Otto
Sandra Reckmann

May 18

Seth Schlechte
Laura Renken

May 20

Dawn Schmidt

May 22

Hilbert Klenke
Tessa Renken

May 23

Shirley Gall
Sydney Basler
Shayden Hogg

May 24

Emily Take

May 25

James Schmidt
Leonard Suhre
Connie Duncan

May 26

Leroy Engelke
Karen Landolt
Marcus Doubet
Ryan Hodapp
Molly Thornton

May 27

Wanda Knackstedt
Pastor Jerry Amiri
Kelsey Quade

May 28

Ed Noeth

May 29

Dean Reckmann
Emma Otto

May 31

Debra Reckmann
Nancy Heidbrink
Sharyn Gieseking



MAY CALENDAR



Friday	May 1		Church Office Closed
Sunday	May 3	8:45am	Salem UCC Scholarship Applications Due
		10:00am	Salem Seekers
			Worship with Communion / Mission Fest Sunday
			Food Collection for Local Food Pantries
			Potluck following Worship
		3:00-8:00pm	ISC 50th Anniversary at Grizzlies Stadium
		4:00-5:30pm	Exhale
Monday	May 4	10:00am	Monday Morning Reflections at Maedge's
		7:00pm	Property Committee Meeting
Tuesday	May 5	6:30pm	Evangelism/Worship Committee Meeting
		7:00pm	Ecuador Mission Trip Meeting
Wednesday	May 6	6:30pm	Salem Ringers
Thursday	May 7	7:00pm	BOCE Meeting
Friday	May 8		Church Office Closed
Sunday	May 10	8:45am	Salem Seekers
		10:00am	Worship / Mother's Day
			No Exhale
Monday	May 11	10:00am	Monday Morning Reflections at Maedge's
Tuesday	May 12	1:00pm	Senior Citizens
Wednesday	May 13	6:30pm	Salem Ringers
Thursday	May 14	7:00pm	Church Council Meeting
Friday	May 15		Church Office Closed
Saturday	May 16	10:00am	Read Aloud
Sunday	May 17	8:45am	Salem Seekers
		9:00am	Teacher/Shepherds Appreciation Breakfast
		10:00am	Worship / Graduation Sunday
			Historical Committee Meeting after Worship
			Mission/Stewardship Meeting after Worship
		4:00-5:30pm	Exhale
Monday	May 18	9:00am	June Messenger Articles Due
		10:00am	Monday Morning Reflections at Maedge's
Thursday	May 21	7:00pm	Guild & Brotherhood Meeting
Sunday	May 24		No Salem Seekers
		10:00am	Worship / Pentecost Sunday
			No Exhale
Monday	May 25		No Monday Morning Reflections at Maedge's
		10:00am	Memorial Day Worship at Salem Cemetery
Wednesday	May 27	5:00-8:00pm	Mission To Go (Carry-Out Only Dinner)
Sunday	May 31		No Salem Seekers
		10:00am	Praise Worship
			SUV – Salem United Vision Lunch & Discussion
		4:00-5:30pm	Exhale

The Pastor/Parish/Personnel Relations Committee

The Pastor/Parish/Personnel Relations Committee (PPPRC) is always ready to hear ideas and suggestions. 2015 PPPRC members are: Dennis Conrad, Krista Mansholt, Kathy Porter, Ken Suhre, Linda Uhe, and Lisa Uhe.

The Salem Wire

There is a lot that happens from Sunday to Sunday—deaths, births, weddings, etc. Wouldn't it be nice to know these things sooner than later? The *Salem Wire* is an email message delivery system where you would receive notice of events and happenings in the church. To sign up for the *Salem Wire*, please email the church office at salemuccalh@gmail.com.

The Salem E-Messenger

Would you rather receive *The Messenger* by email? The *Salem E-Messenger* is a delivery system where you would receive *The Messenger* and all committee meeting minutes by email instead of regular mail. To sign up for the *Salem E-Messenger*, please email the church office at salemuccalh@gmail.com.

2015 SALEM CHURCH COUNCIL:

- President Bobby Frank
- Vice-President Gary Boda
- Secretary Donita Prott
- Treasurer Scott Demkey
- Financial Secretary Dawn Reagan
- Dagmar Annable
- Shirley Gall
- Ron Mindrup
- Ronna Renken
- Steve Stille
- Tim Stille
- Christopher Uhe

Pastor Jerry's Office Hours:

Tuesday – Thursday: 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
(Available for Walk-Ins and Appointments)

Youth Director's Office Hours:

Tuesday – Thursday: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Office Coordinator's Office Hours:

Tuesday – Thursday: 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Friday: 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.



Salem United Church of Christ

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Alhambra, Illinois 62001
Phone: 618-488-3215
Fax: 618-488-3212

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Rev. Jerry Amiri, Senior Pastor

Pastor John Mindrup, Assistant Pastor
Rev. Arnold A. Bizer, Pastor Emeritus
Nick Atkins-Harris, Youth Director
Jennifer Henschen, Office Coordinator
Dawn Reinhardt, Music Director
Patti Reckmann, Custodian



THE MESSENGER

~ A Communication Ministry of Salem United Church of Christ ~

Church's Email: salemuccalh@gmail.com
Pastor's Email: jerryamiri@hotmail.com
Web Address: www.salemuccalh.org



**Would You Like
Home Communion or a Visit
From Pastor Jerry?**

If you would like or know of someone who would like home communion or a visit from Pastor Jerry in your home for conversation and prayer, please contact him to schedule a time.

Church – 618-488-3215 / Cell – 636-328-3332
Email – jerryamiri@hotmail.com