



MAY 2024 ~ Marion Salem Church

1640 Salem Road, Caledonia

10 am Worship 9 am Sunday School

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

To the church of God as found at Marion Salem Church, called to be saints together with those in every place who call on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ: You are miracles of God's grace and mercy!

I've had some conversations lately that greatly encouraged me as it concerns a deep spiritual desire that seems to be bubbling up in our congregation. These conversations have centered around the topic of Communion. What's so encouraging about this is that there are folks here at Marion Salem that want to make Communion more available. This comes in a couple of ways. The first is making certain that we are appropriately extending the Table of the Lord to our shut-ins. The second is offering Communion at gatherings besides Morning Worship. The only hard thing about either of these is already behind us, the desire within the congregation to celebrate the Sacrament. So, let's talk about how to accomplish both.

It is the historic practice of the Church that ordained Elders are responsible for overseeing the sacramental life of the church and presiding at the Table. This does not exclude the laity from assisting in service, and those who are willing have served in worship regularly here at Salem Church for years. When we talk about extending the Table we are essentially saying that on Sunday mornings, when the Table is put back in order after we partake in worship, it is appropriate for lay folks to come forward at the end of the service and take bread and cup to those who were unable to attend the service. I recall reading this was done even in ancient times. Those little cups of juice can make it awkward to drive to someone's house. There are solutions both with prefilled-sealed cups and mobile kits. In either case, those elements are blessed with the others during worship and taken along with relating the Word shared that morning. If you're interested, please see me and we'll get this started.

The other means of increasing our participation in the Sacrament is having Communion during small group meetings or at other gatherings. Again, this is easily accomplished yet there is a right order. First, the pastor has to be involved (no worries if this slipped by in the past). The usual manner this is accomplished is that I would attend and participate, either for the entire meeting or simply to offer Communion at the time appropriate. If I'm unavailable or it is best for the small group that I not attend, I would simply meet with the leader of the group and we'd prepare the elements for Communion together before hand. It only requires a little planning ahead, just reach out about two-weeks before hand and we can make sure this happens.

The Protestant Reformers looked towards two things as the sign of the Church: The Word of God being rightly taught and the Sacraments rightly administered. It is a joy to serve where there are those who are just as concerned with the latter as to the former because as a pastor I dedicated my life to such service. So if you're a small group leader who wants to incorporate communion in an upcoming meeting, let me know. If you are interested in helping serve our shut-ins, let me know. And if you have been unable to receive communion for any reason, please reach out to me or the office so that we can ensure you have the opportunity to receive the gift of grace that Christ offers us in the Bread and Cup, His Body and Blood.

Blessings 🙌,

E-News Sign-up

Join our weekly E-news to get the latest updates. Go to: marionsalemchurch.org/Enews



Missed a Sunday or really want to catch a replay? Have you been to our Facebook page... it's all there facebook.com/MarionSalemChurch. You don't have to have a Facebook account to watch, it's livestreamed each week and the replays can be found there immediately.

New Membership Class Coming Soon



Pastor Jason has been working on material for a New Members Class. This class will cover basics of faith, particulars about the Wesleyan tradition and history, and the organization of the Church. Anyone interested in becoming a member, or those who are already members desiring to dig deeper are encouraged to share their interest with Pastor Jason. Target starting date is May.



Save the Date!!!

Sunday, May 5th – Cinco de Mayo

Church Family Fellowship @ 5pm

Invite your friends, family, and neighbors.

Bring a Mexican inspired dish to share and plan on enjoying an evening with your church family eating a yummy dinner and getting to know your brothers and sisters in Christ.

(For those of you who don't like to cook, this couldn't be easier – bring chips & salsa!!!)

On April 28th, there was a potluck after worship which was followed by brief reports from Ad Council.

The reports from each of the Ad Council members discussed the accomplishments from the last year and the dreams and missions of Marion Salem for the future.



Also at this meeting, there was a decision by the congregation to move forward with the Rhema Academy as a mission of Marion Salem, beginning this next school year. Stay tuned for more information as Rhema meets to decide if the terms are mutually agreeable.



**Join us at 12 pm
in the Family Center
May 22**

Daytime Bible Study?

Those who are interested in a daytime Bible Study should reach out to the church office or Pastor Jason. We'll start one if there is interest.



Pastor's Small Group Class Basic Christian Faith Wednesdays 7pm

Join Pastor Jason for an engaging time of discussion as we explore basic teachings of Christian Faith. This is a paced study and you can drop in anytime.

May Schedule:

1st: Session 7

8th: Session 8

15th: Session 9

22nd: No Study—Annual Conference

29th: No Study—Ad Council

Salem Strivers

Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. Hebrews 12:14

After lots of conversation, the Salem Youth have decided to call themselves “Salem Strivers” taken from the theme verse Hebrews 12:14. Their desire is to grow in their discipleship of Jesus Christ, seeking after holiness which is found in Him. At the same time, they want to learn to live as disciples in this world so that others may come to know Jesus Christ. We currently have 11 individual youth that have attended, with our average attendance being 6 each week. Please continue to pray for this group and also for the leader that God is calling to take them deeper in discipleship.

Salem Strivers News

Spring Study



STRIVER'S SCHEDULE: We currently meet each Sunday Night at 6:30pm. On 5/5 we'll join with the church fellowship activity starting 5pm, if there is time we'll continue with our lesson as usual. On 5/12 there is no youth group so that families can spend time with Mom! We hope to complete our study of Psalm 119 before summer break.

From RightNow Media: Even the most mature believers face dark nights of the soul. During those times God seems distant, his Word feels dry, and the vibrant intimacy we knew before seems absent leaving us wondering, “Where is the Lord in this?” In Psalm 119, Matt Chandler aims to introduce viewers to the words of King David who experienced similar seasons of life. Serving as the anchor for the study, Psalm 119 demonstrates the power of God’s Word in the lives of believers and its ability to provide a warm blanket for the soul.

YOUTH CHAPERONES NEEDED! Adults interested in helping the youth to meet should see Pastor Jason.

MITES MESSAGE: Anyone interested in sharing with the children during worship for the mites’ message should see Pastor Jason. Dates are available now through the end of July.



Building Together

The theme for the upcoming annual conference is **Building Together**. This year Pastor Jason and our lay member to annual conference, Charisse Smith, will be joined by Jim McGuire. Jim is going as a “district equalization member.” There are some active clergy who do not have congregations they are serving directly. In that case there is not an equal number of lay people at annual conference so each circuit or district is apportioned extra lay people to bring the clergy and laity to parity. We are thankful that Jim is able to join in and serve the Church this way. If you are interested in learning more, please see the Annual Conference website: <https://allegHENYwestgmc.org/conference-registration-2024/>.

Annual Conference 2024 ALLEGHENY WEST THE GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH

A Message from our Sessions Committee Chair:

Volunteer for Annual Conference

Approximately 800 people have registered so far for Annual Conference at Mount Vernon Nazarene University May on 22-25. To help make the annual conference experience enjoyable for everyone, we need additional volunteers for a few of our support roles. We know that some registrants are guests or spouses without voting responsibilities--and we especially encourage you to consider a volunteer opportunity if your schedule allows. If your church is within a couple hours of Mount Vernon, please also share the sign-up with your congregation. You may have people willing to come for a day to help out for a shift.

Please go to the following link to sign-up or email jperry@allegHENYwestgmc.org.
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B48ACA72BA0FAC70-48542461-allegHENY/164982590#/>



While Pastor Jason will not be attending as a delegate to the Convening Conference of the GMC, there is still opportunities for us to participate. You can keep up to date on the latest for the Convening Conference by going to www.sotheworldwillknow.org. This is also where you can submit and petition to the General Conference. While the Transitional Leadership Council has done a great deal of work in helping to start our new denomination, there are still things to work out. If you want to contribute to the work, you can do so through your prayers, keeping informed through this website, and even submitting petitions. If you have questions, see Pastor.

Allegheny West Conference Prayer Point Person

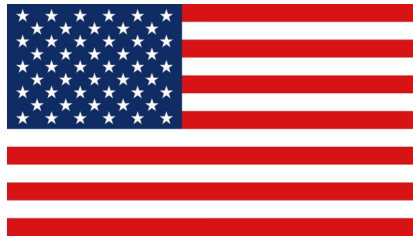
A friend familiar to Salem Church, Cindy Harvel, is working with our annual conference to help create a network of prayer ministries. If you are interested in helping to connect prayer needs in our congregation with those across the conference and to connect us to the prayer needs in the wider Church, please see Pastor Jason right away.



Please help us update our information for the Memorial Day Service which will be Sunday, May 26. Please let Amy McGuire know of those who are currently serving and any veterans that have died in the last year or so—even if they are buried in other cemeteries.



The worship service that day will be followed by a procession to Salem Cemetery to lay flowers on the graves of the veterans.



THANK YOU!



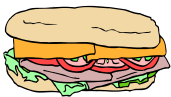
Once again, through God working in and through our people, we once again EXCEEDED our goal to help our friends in Haiti and beyond. The spaghetti dinner and auction raised \$13,200!!!! \$3,000 will go to each of the Haiti mission organizations for:

- Three Strands - Equipping a medical room at the new facility under construction
- Servants In Fellowship - Building a home which gives access to a community to share the gospel
- Mission Possible - The purchase of food to feed the children in their schools each day

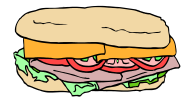
We also committed to sending \$1200 to a Global Methodist church in Kenya, who lost everything in the disaffiliation process.

Additional monies raised will go in our mission fund to help Salem church give, serve and go as called.

Thank you for your donations, prayers and support through Marion Salem Church!





Thank You!!



Sponsored by the Upper Room Class
SUB SALE

The Upper Room class would like to thank you for your support during its spring sub sale. We sold more than 300 subs. Our profits will be used to support various church and local missions. Also, a special thanks goes out to the Joy/Renaissance class for sharing their expertise in building the perfect sub. We truly appreciated your help!

May 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Knitting/Craft 1pm Bible study 7 pm	2	3	4
5 Communion Family Fun Night 5 pm	6	7 Choir 7 pm	8 Knitting/Craft 1pm Bible study 7 pm	9	10	11 All Church Workday 8:30 am
12 Mother's Day 	13	14 Choir 7 pm	15 Knitting/Craft 1pm Bible study 7 pm	16	17	18
19	20	21 Choir 7 pm	22 Sr Lunch 12 pm Knitting/Craft 1pm	Annual Conference		25
26	27  Memorial Day	28 Choir 7 pm	29 Ad Council 6:30/7pm	30	31	



1st Sunday every month in the Family Center at 8:30 AM.

May - Genesis Class
June - Joy /Renaissance



- Birthdays**
- 5/2 Jenny Bayles
 - 5/4 Mary Galloway
 - 5/6 Tierney Bender
 - 5/8 Julie Roth
 - 5/10 Leslie Jordan
Megan Pollock
 - 5/14 Colby Jordan
 - 5/18 Jerry Marquis
Joey Crawford
 - 5/20 Curt Galloway
 - 5/28 Chuck VanVoorhis
 - 5/30 Conni McChesney
Betty Woodruff



- Pray for**
- Karen Link
 - Ron VonAlmen
 - Janet Schelb
 - Dave Monroe
 - Jude Stitzel
 - Rodney Weisbrodt
 - Sheryl Campbell
 - Donna McKinnis
 - Vicki Adams
 - Israel
 - Judi Myers
 - Rick Hicks
 - Tom Seitter family
 - Haiti
 - Mike Dilsaver
 - Margaret Cash family



- GREETERS**
- 5/5 Susie Williams & Jim Van Meter
 - 5/12 Bill & Mary Linn
 - 5/19 Tony & Charisse Smith
 - 5/26 Jenny Bayles & Robbi Smart

- ANNIVERSARIES**
- 5/25 Jay & Betty Woodruff
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- Children's Church**
- 5/5 No Children's Church
 - 5/12 Megan Pollock & Becky Oliver
 - 5/19 Cheryl Slack & Jana Bauer
 - 5/26 Mary Galloway & Whitney Williams

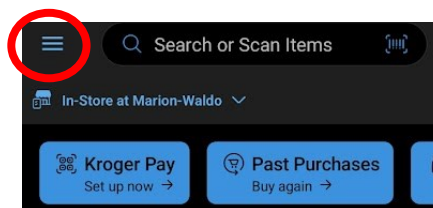
- Nursery Schedule**
- 5/5 Tracy Weisbrodt & Amy McGuire
 - 5/12 Kelly & Natalie Wagner
 - 5/19 Robbi Smart & Mallori Hedges
 - 5/26 Amanda & Marissa Loyer



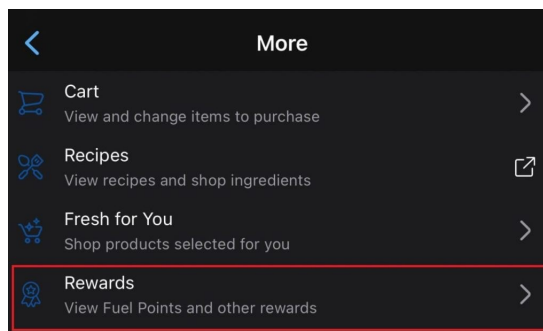
Support the Marion Salem Church Food Pantry:

You must have a Kroger Card, online account, and download the Kroger app to your smart device (the Kroger website does not list Marion Salem):

Tap the **Menu**:



Tap **Rewards** (then



Community Rewards on the next screen):

