



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!

We are entering a very busy season in the life of the Church. Ash Wednesday is March 5th and we'll have our traditional soup supper and service with imposition of ashes as a reminder of our mortality and need for God's grace.

Our Lenten series will begin the Sunday before Lent actually begins, the Seven Last Words of Christ. This message is dedicated for each of the utterances that Christ offered while being crucified for our sake. Six of these messages will be on Sunday morning, the final one will be at the Maundy Thursday service April 17th.

It is my hope that we all lean into the Attendance Rally that will be going on through Easter. I have used this as a fun and engaging way of encouraging the congregation to become invitational. First, by helping to practice on reaching out to others within the congregation that are a part of our team. This increases congregational care in a way that few others duplicate. Secondly, we work towards bringing new people to worship who are not currently a part of our fellowship. It's also great practice for the fall when Back to Church Sunday comes around.

We are beginning a cohort for new members who are interested in joining the professing membership at Marion Salem Church. This is also an adventure and gives us an opportunity to deepen our faith. It is not too late to join the class if you are interested. We are meeting Sundays after worship. Currently there are 7 participants.

I am leading the youth group through a series on Essentials of Faith from RightNow Media. Our current study is on God's Word and it has been too good not to share with others in the church as well. I hope you avail yourself the opportunity to join the youth group on Sunday evenings at 6:30 or to watch the series on your own.

Coming up sooner than we think is our annual Spaghetti Dinner and Auction. Originally conceived as a fundraiser for our youth group, over recent years it has supported many great mission causes. Now, we are back to supporting ministry here at Salem by helping to fund a new position that we are working on, the Family Life Director. This position is envisioned to have hands on responsibility for our youth group (Grades 6-12), leading their discipleship on Sunday evenings and planning other activities. Also, this position will provide guidance and administrative support for our children's ministry on Sunday mornings, be hands on during a future mid-week children's activity, and also planning for other family ministry opportunities. Please continue to give your prayer support to the Staff Parish Relations Committee as they step out into this adventure.

We have a new 13-week study coming up on Sunday nights. Bible study on Mondays and Wednesdays continue. The Sunday School Classes continue in their activities: Renaissance/JOY is preparing for Lent, Genesis is looking at Shane Wood's Daniel series on RightNow, Crusaders are working on the Gospel of John with Tony Evans on RightNow, the Upper Room is focused on a discipleship deck, and the young adults class after worship is wrapping up Being Human from RightNow. These are all great opportunities to grow as disciples of Christ. At Salem the only excuse to not be growing is one we make up - there are simply that many opportunities!

So that's a wrap up of what's happening. As Lent begins there is something for you to be involved with whether it is growing as a disciple or helping others to grow as a disciple. It may not seem like it right now, but this is a prime season for spiritual sowing—and we know that we reap what we sow. That means we need to be generous with our sowing.

Blessings 🙌,

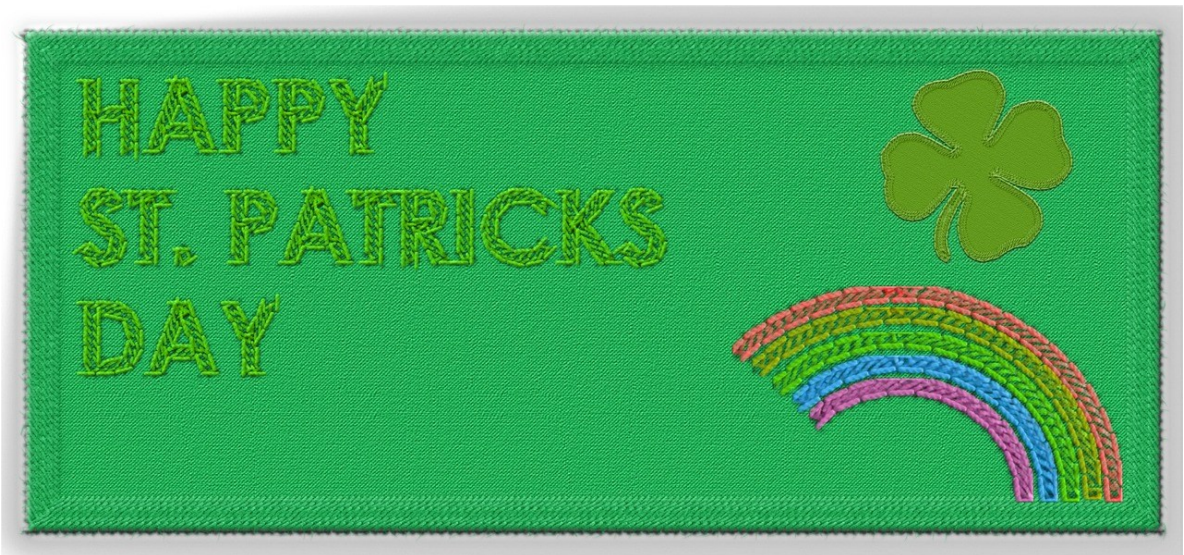
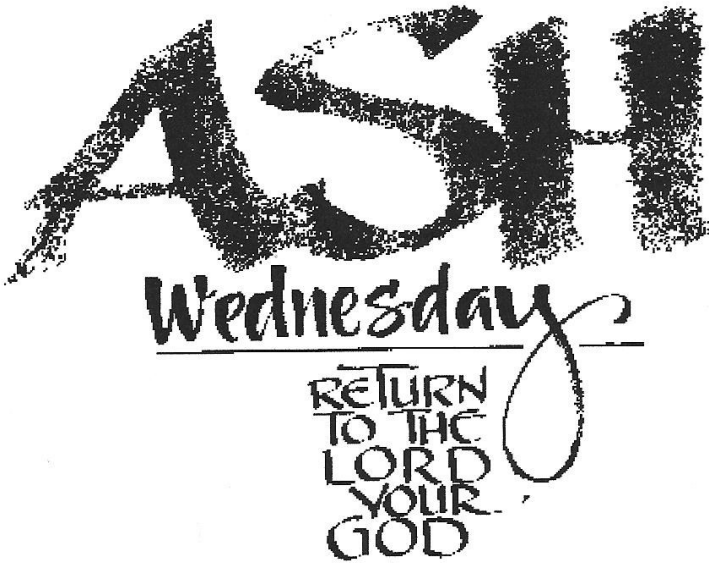
Ash Wednesday

March 5

Soup Supper at 6 pm

Service at 7 pm

Please come as we begin the Lenten season with a service focused on repentance, recognition of our mortality, and dependence on Christ.



Food Pantry

Hours: Monday 10-noon



Next peanut butter sandwich making
3/30



Wed. 26th—Noon

SPAGHETTI DINNER & AUCTION

SATURDAY, March 8th 5:30 PM

Join us for fellowship, a spaghetti dinner and some auction fun! Profits will support our Youth!

3-10 years old - \$5.00 11 & over - \$10.00

Make checks payable to: Marion Salem



Open Houses

At Salem Church

Thurs., 3/13 (5-7)

Sun., 3/30 (Noon-2)

Mon., 4/14 (5-7)

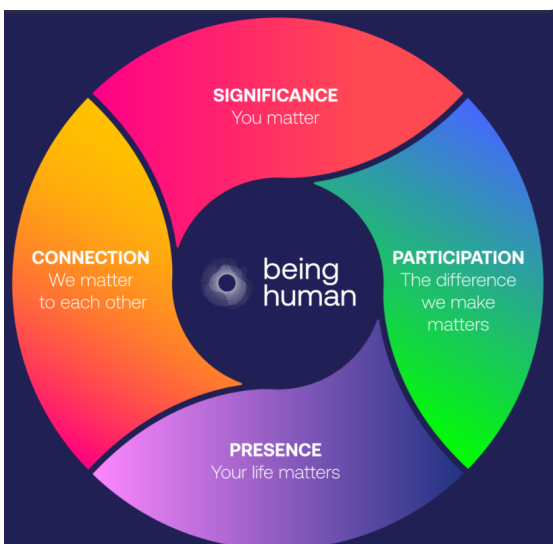
Rhema Academy Update

Our friends at Rhema Academy continue to advertise and seek students enrolling in next school year '25-'26. There are parent information packets at the information table in the sanctuary as well as in the gathering space outside the offices. If you or anyone you know is interested in this Christian, classical, and chartered opportunity for education, please check out rhemaacademyk12.education or reach out to Brian Sparling brians@rhemaacademyk12.education



NEW Teen/Young Adult study

Join Emily Sharp for a time of conversation and digging into God's Word. All High School students and young adults are encouraged to join us *following worship* for this 6-week study. We will meet in the Crusader's classroom (beside the kitchen) and take a look at the "Being Human" study from RightNow Media, exploring cultural stories shaping our world and seeking Biblical answers to what it means to be a human being. We will keep our time to 45 min (15 min video and 30 min discussion). Contact Emily with any questions.





invite—Invite—INVITE

Mark your calendars for these upcoming opportunities for worship:

Lenten Sermon Series: The Seven Last Words of Christ starting Sunday, March 2nd

Ash Wednesday, March 5th: Soup Supper at 6pm
Service 7pm

Palm Sunday, April 13th: Easter Cantata 10am

Maundy Thursday, April 17th: Service 7pm

Good Friday, April 18th: Tenebrae Service 7pm

Easter: Sunrise Service 8am, Breakfast 8:30am

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.

No study 3/5, Ash Wednesday.

MITES MESSAGE: Anyone interested in sharing with the children during worship for the mites' message should see Pastor Jason. Available dates: 3/2, 9, 23, 30.



The Gospel LIVE! Mondays 4pm

Discover the Gospel of Matthew in a whole new way with the Visual Bible. This portrayal of Scripture is taken directly from the 1984 New International Version, word for word. Every line of dialogue spoken is either by the narrator (Matthew) or the individuals in Scripture. The screenplay follows the Gospel as closely as possible. We'll work slowly through the Gospel, comparing to the other Gospel texts and the rest of Scripture. We will also explore the historical and cultural elements that the Visual Bible highlights as we dive into Scripture together.

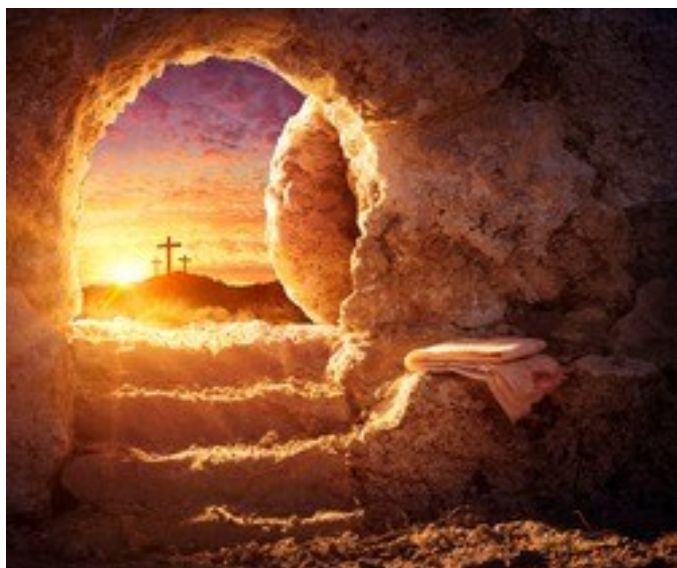
Columbus East Circuit Newsletter

Our circuit (the new district) has a semi-monthly newsletter that introduces the various congregations from southeastern Franklin county all the way to Marion county.

If you would like to receive it, scan the QR code to sign-up.



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.



Trail of Easter—April 1-20

The “Trail of Easter” provides a fun way for families to experience the story of Holy Week and the Resurrection from the convenience of their own car. The route is mapped out for you and will take you past different locations where objects relating the story are placed for you to find as you drive by. You’ll stay in your car and spot the items from the road, Scripture passages will be available to read on the map handout. Maps will be available March 30.

— Credit to Lockport Mennonite Church for the idea.

The Great Lent Attendance Rally—2025

Lent this year we’re going to have a special emphasis on worship attendance with an Attendance Rally! Starting on Sunday, March 2nd and running through Easter we will have a friendly competition between two teams. The teams are members and active attenders at Salem Church (not included are shut-ins who do not already participate with us through the livestream). These teams have been divided to have parity between numbers on each team (76/77), parity with respect to women (41/42), equal between men (35/35), and parity on things like perceived attendance patterns and age groups (we don’t have exact numbers on these categories, yet they are educated guesses). The teams will earn a point for:

1. Members attending and turning in a connection card (used to track attendance).
2. Members attending the livestream and checking in (no double counts for in-person).
3. When you invite someone to worship, your team will receive two points on the first Sunday they attend (one for the successful invite, and one for the visitor). Future Sundays the visitor will be a member of our team.

The last Sunday for points will be Easter Sunday, April 20th. The winning team will be announced on Holy Humor Sunday and gets to go through the line for ice cream treats first.

An attendance rally is a fun way to encourage us to be in worship and invite new people to be with us. What’s better than this? Well, by being in worship more we are becoming deeper disciples and by inviting others to worship we are helping to make new disciples. That’s definitely a great thing.

Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making His appeal through us.

2 Corinthians 5:20a

Salem Strivers

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

Strivers do all they can to seek after the Lord. Part of that is sharing Christ with others. Remember to invite someone to youth.

Calendar of Events: March

2nd: Youth Group 6:30 pm

9th: Youth Group 6:30 pm

16th: Youth Group 6:30 pm

23rd: Youth Group 6:30 pm

30th: Youth Group 6:30 pm

Looking for meals and chaperone help during youth on 3/2, 16, 23, and 30.

The Strivers are still looking for a mature disciple of Christ who will help lead their meetings on a weekly basis. Please pray for and help us find this person by sharing it word of mouth.



Essentials of Faith III: Why Do We Need the Bible?

The Bible is a wonderful book filled with poetry, historical events, exciting narratives, and stories from the life of Jesus. Because it is an ancient text, it can also be intimidating and confusing. Its complexity makes many people wonder if we even need the Bible—can't we experience God without it? In this six-session series, author and Bible teacher Lisa Harper unpacks the value and importance of the Bible for everyday believers. In this series, we will learn about what the Bible is, how God communicates with us through it, and why we should read it.

Have you prayed lately:

- For the youth in the congregation?
- For the youth in our community?
- For our youth director search?
- For the kids in our congregation?
- For the kids in our community?
- For families and their spiritual growth, as well as protection?

Youth Group Bowling Night

Sunday, April 6th @ 6:30 pm

Meet up at Cooper's Bowling for a fun night of knocking down some pins! Pizza and drinks provided. Students planning to attend must come to youth group at least once in March and return a permission slip by Sunday, March 30th. (Those needing rides need to speak with Pastor Jason as soon as possible.)

**HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY
APRIL 27th
SERMON IN A BOX**

Holy Humor Sunday is the Sunday after Easter, when God's people get to laugh at the devil because Jesus rose from the dead and the devil lost! Pastor Jason invites the congregation to participate in this service through the creation of an on-the-spot message utilizing images that the congregation provides.

Starting on Sunday, March 23 a box will be in the sanctuary marked "Sermon in a Box." Everyone is encouraged to place a picture of an object (no words) in the box (photographs can be sent to marionsalem1640@gmail.com to be printed). Keep these secret from Pastor Jason! He will not be looking at the photographs prior to the service.

One picture will be drawn randomly on Easter Sunday for Pastor to start working on ideas for the message on Holy Humor Sunday. On Holy Humor Sunday another 4 pictures will be drawn at the beginning of the service. Pastor Jason is challenged with incorporating all 5 pictures into the message. At the end of service we'll enjoy some ice cream treats together.

Dear Salem Church,


On behalf of the homeschool co-op, I want to thank you for your generosity to us in the use of your building for the past four years. This building has truly been a Godsend for the homeschool community in our area. I can speak to the fact that four years ago, the homeschoolers in our area felt alone and unsure if we could continue to do what God had laid on our hearts to do in regards to the education of our children. Through the use of this facility, over 100 families have come together over the years to learn, laugh, and connect to each other and to God. The use of your facility has meant so much to the people. I have a mother that wanted to specifically thank you for providing the space. Her husband will not enter a church, but he came to Salem Church to listen to his preschool girls sing songs about Jesus in the final program. That is just one story of many I could share about the impact of the simple use of your facility.

I personally do not love change and when I felt God asking me to find another space for such a large group to meet, I was unsure of what God had planned for us. I want you to know that since we moved to Dayspring Wesleyan Church in January, we have added 12 new families with 18 more joining us in the fall. The group is thriving and growing in our faith through connection and community. This facility has helped plant seeds that I am so excited to see grow in the years to come. We will all carry special memories of this space. This is where some of our kids learned to read, learned to speak publicly, learned about Jesus every week, and we have all made friends to last a lifetime. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you!

May your church be blessed,

Michaela Burbury
Director, Marion Ohio Cornerstone Homeschool Co-op

March 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Fam Center reserved
2 Communion Youth Group 6:30p	3 Bible Study 4p	4	5 Knitting/Craft 1pm Lenten meal 6 pm Service 7 pm	6 AHG 6 pm	7 Kairos Cookies	8 Dinner/ auction
9 Youth Group 6:30p	10 Bible Study 4p	11	12 Knitting/Craft 1pm Bible study 7 pm	13 Rhema 5pm	14	15
16 Youth Group 6:30p	17 Bible Study 4p	18	19 Knitting/Craft 1pm Bible study 7 pm	20 AHG 6 pm	Kairos Weekend	
23 Youth Group 6:30p	24 Bible Study 4p	25	26 Sr. Lunch—12 pm Knitting/Craft 1pm Bible study 7 pm	27	28	29
30 Youth Group 6:30p	31 Finance 6:30p Ad C 7p					



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

March—Crusaders Class
April—Upper Room Class



Pray for

Ron VonAlmen
Janet Schelb
Dave Monroe
Jude Stitzel
Sheryl Campbell
Donna McKinnis
Vicki Adams
Israel
Judi Myers
Rick Hicks
Haiti
Mike Dilsaver
Paul Messenger
Betty Woodruff
Kelly Marsh
Cassidy Starkey
Jamie Marquis
Dave Gerfen
Inda Lama
Janie Wooten
Bill Crabtree
Doug Burkhart
John Wiseman

Nursery Schedule

3/2 Linda Seitter & Robbi Smart
3/9 Kathy Fisher & Susie Williams
3/16 Tracy Weisbrodt & Amy McGuire
3/23 Conni McChesney & Karen Marquis
3/30 Carol Crawford & Karla Sharp

Children's Church

3/2 No Children's Church
3/9 Megan Pollock & Becky Oliver
3/16 Cheryl Slack & Karen Marquis
3/23 Mary Galloway & Emily Sharp
3/30 Cheryl Slack & Karen Marquis

Birthdays

3/1 Robin Schelb
3/3 Mike Springer
3/5 Hunter Smith
Sam Galloway
3/9 Jim Van Meter
3/10 David Pinkerman
3/19 Jeff Schelb
3/21 Shad Pollock
3/23 Janet Strine
3/26 Mary Linn
3/27 Mallori Hedges
3/29 Dave Monroe
3/29 Annette VanVoorhis
Jacob Howard

GREETERS

3/2 Mark & Kim Lemmon
3/9 Nancy Jackson &
Jenny Bayles
3/16 Tierney Bender &
Janet Strine
3/23 Kerr & Sharon Murray
3/30 Bruce & Conni McChesney



ANNIVERSARIES

3/19 David Pinkerman &
Jennifer Alwood
3/28 Shad & Megan Pollock