



*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 ended last month's newsletter article by saying we are going to be headed on the upward swing towards the end of the year and that it will likely be a busy season. Friends, that season is upon us! I was in my office speaking with Janet Strine today and the men are out in the field working as hard and fast as they can to get the corn off the field because tomorrow rain is coming. The Church is in much a similar state this week and month. We are working towards Sunday's special commemoration of the fire 25 years ago. This Sunday's message is not related to that, however it will be starting us in a series of messages that I hope we all pay special attention to (more later). We are trying to get this newsletter into your hands this weekend as well and that is a signification production. It is crazy busy at the church office!

Our new Family Life **Pastor** Heather McLeod (pronounced Mc-Cloud) is joining us this coming weekend! I say Pastor because Heather is ordained. So the Family Life position is a Youth Pastor and children's and family ministry role. I'm sure many will shorten her title to Youth Pastor for convenience sake, just know there is more to her work than 6th-12th graders. Heather will be getting her feet wet over the next couple of months and as we prepare for the holiday season you'll be hearing news about ministry opportunities that will start in the new year. There is a short letter of introduction from Heather on the youth page. Please take some time to read that and reach out to get to know her.

Among other events that are happening in November: Our Annual Church Thanksgiving Dinner is Sunday, Nov. 16th after worship. Our annual church business meeting, the Church Charge Conference, is Monday, Nov. 17th at 6pm (all members are encouraged to attend). We just came off of an extremely successful New Consecration Sunday campaign. Per the estimate of giving cards that came in on October 26th, we have a projected 16.29% increase in giving anticipated for 2026. This is an awesome response to the blessings that God has given each of us, so thank you for your generosity!

Now is certainly not the time to take it easy. There is a spiritual harvest of souls to win and looking out over the horizon many of us might perceive rain is on the way—we need to get to work Church! That's why I am leaning into November's sermon series with a strange title "When God Won't Work." Not to share too much, but from "When We Lack Faith", consider how Nazareth responded to Jesus and because of their unbelief He could not work many miracles among them. In the same way, if we reject the empowering grace at the Lord's Supper, we are unrepentant, or we neglect prayer—these are all circumstances that lead to a lack of God's activity in our lives. It's not necessarily that God can't. He is sovereign and will work when and how He wishes. However, when we reject Him repeatedly in these ways, we might just find ourselves left without Him. Let's not do that! Lean in and let's open ourselves to the Lord's work.

Blessings 🙌,

### November Sermon Series: When God Won't Work

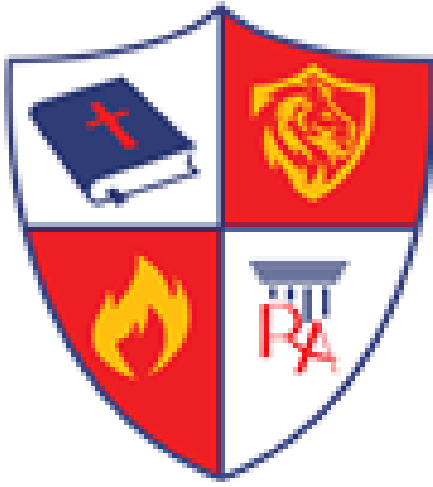
**2nd: Communion & Children's Sunday, Commemoration of Fire**  
**John Wesley's "The Duty of Constant Communion" Luke 22:19**

**9th: "When We Are Unrepentant" 2 Chronicles 7:11-22**

**16th: "When We Neglect Prayer" James 4:1-10—Church Thanksgiving**

**23rd: "When We Lack Faith" Matthew 13:53-58**

**30th: First Sunday of Advent**



### Rhema Chapels on Wed. 9am

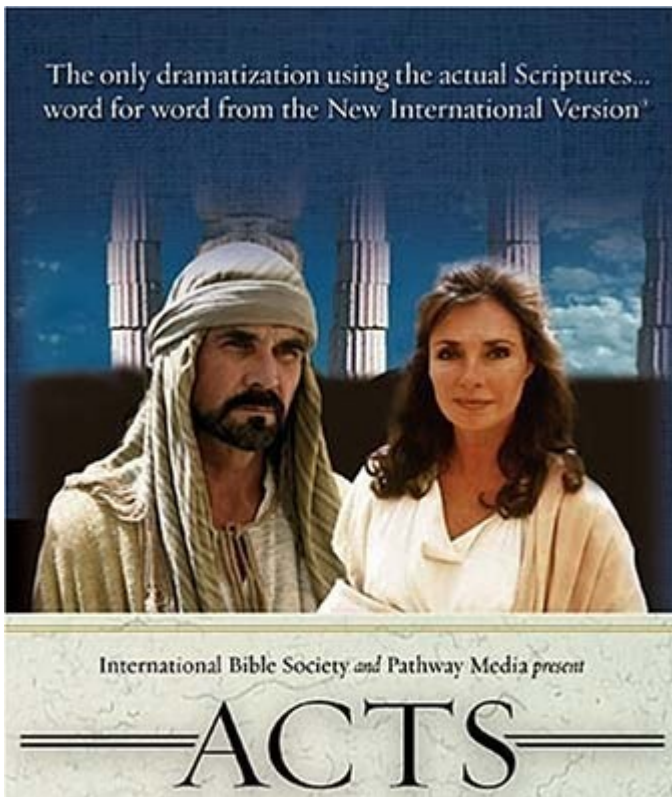
Rhema Academy invites the Salem Church Family to join them for worship on Wednesdays, please enter by the office door and check in at office before 8:50am.



## 46 Blankets!!

Were donated to Leapin' Outreach this year.

Thank you to all who helped and a special shout out to the Joy Renaissance Class for organizing.



### Thank You!

Your care and gifts are an overwhelming expression of love. Words fail to share our gratefulness for such a congregation.

—Jason & Emily Sharp

### Monday Afternoon Bible Study

The second part of the Bible Live! Series with the Book of Acts. You do not need to have attend the previous Matthew Bible Live! Series to drop into the Acts class. Come and learn about the historical, cultural, and theological background of the first Christians.

11/3: Acts 5:12-6:7

11/10: Acts 6:8-8:1

11/17: Acts 8:2-40

11/24: Acts 9:1-31

Afternoon study will be on hiatus after November until daylight returns.

### 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.

#### November Studies:

5th: no study

12th: study resumes

19th: study continues

26th: Thanksgiving break

# 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!!

## November Schedule:

11/2: Welcome Pastor Heather—6pm

Youth in grades 6-12 and their parents come join us for a time of fellowship and planning! Hotdogs & drinks provided bring a dish to share.

Regular youth group meetings start at 6pm on Nov. 9, 16, 23, and 30!



Hello! My name is Pastor Heather McLeod, but you can call me “Pastor Heather” or just “Heather” or if the students want to christen me with a cool nickname, that works too. I am super excited to be your new Director of Family Ministries! This is an answer to prayer, on both of our parts. I know that you as a congregation have been praying for this position to be filled for a while, and I have been praying for the Lord’s direction for the next chapter of ministry for almost the same amount of time. I love it when the Lord works all things together for good! (Seems to me that I’ve heard that somewhere before. Romans 8:28 anyone?)

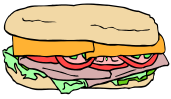
Allow me to introduce myself. I grew up outside of Pittsburgh, PA, though I have been an Ohio resident for over a decade. My husband, Sean, is the pastor of Woodlawn GMC in Bucyrus. We are both Ordained Elders in the Global Methodist Church. We got married late; we’ve only been married for about 6 ½ years. God has not blessed us with any children of our own, but He has graciously entrusted the children of other families into our hands, and we love each of them as if they were our own – even those that we have yet to meet! Pastor Sean will likely not be seen too often as he has a congregation of his own, but he will likely show up from time to time for special events. I have a younger sister, Megan, and brother-in-law, PJay. They live in Maryland. This past Valentine’s Day, my precious nephew (and Godson!), Logan, was born! My parents, Fritz and Dianne Runser, are still living, and reside in my former hometown outside of Pittsburgh.

I love to sing, and I also play the trombone, piano/keyboard, and organ (though I am out of practice on the last two). I also love arts and crafts of all kinds, including knitting. I am also a casual pc video gamer. The games I prefer are role-playing games (RPG) where I pretend to be a hero of an epic story. But that is enough about me.

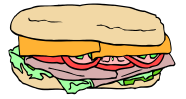
The most important thing I love to do is to point people to Jesus. This is our universal calling as Christians. I also believe very strongly in the call to discipleship. Yes, we are saved, by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ! He loves us just as we are; but He also loves us so much that He does not wish us to remain just as we are. All of us are sinners in need of forgiveness and grace. We are called to a life of holiness. This means that we are set apart by God through the power of the Holy Spirit to be an example to the world. But I will save the preaching for a more appropriate time.

Thank you for being willing to share your children with me. Thank you in advance for giving your time to support the ministry to children and youth. I am humbled by this opportunity, and I look forward to working with each one of you to spread the Good News throughout the world!

You can reach Pastor Heather via voice/text 412-527-4531 or email: [pastor.heather.gmc@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.heather.gmc@gmail.com)



# SUB SALE



**Sponsored by the Upper Room & Genesis Classes**

**Subs will be \$5 each**

**A Salem Sub is made with ham/salami/ bologna and cheese**

**\*\*Orders need to be turned in by Sunday, November 16th\*\***

**You may pick up your subs:**

**Thursday, Nov. 20th 7-8 pm**

**Friday, Nov. 21st 4-6 pm**

**Saturday, Nov. 22nd 9-noon**

**Sunday morning, Nov. 23rd before noon**

**Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_**

**Number of subs \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$5.00 Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Please give your order to Amy Springer (740-360-1329) or the church office.**

**Checks payable to: Upper Room**



## All Saints Sunday

We will be observing All Saints Sunday on Sun. Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>. All members who have passed in the last year will be recognized. In addition, anyone who has lost a loved one since November 1<sup>st</sup> last year is welcome to send name, date of passing, and a picture to Pastor Jason to include in the memorial during worship that day.

## Samaritan Purse

### Christmas Shoebox Time!

Please consider spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ world-wide by filling a Christmas Operation Child shoebox. Boxes and instruction pamphlets are in the back of sanctuary. Deadline to return boxes is Sunday, November 16th.



Senior Lunch

**No November lunch , but we will have the December lunch on 12/10**

**Pizza & white elephant exchange!**

**Save the date : Spaghetti Auction March 7, 2026**



# A Church on Fire 2000



## Fire guts church

Salem members meet in Claridon; damage estimated at \$500,000

By SHANE STEGMILLER  
The Marion Star

**CLARIDON TOWNSHIP** — While members of Salem United Methodist Church met for their normal Sunday service, firefighters were working to save their building.

A fire broke out shortly before 7 a.m. on the south side of the building at Salem and Marion Edson roads.

Rev. Jeff Grant, the church's pastor, said he was awakened 6:45 a.m. and was told something wasn't right about the church building. When he arrived, he found the bushes on the side of the building on fire. He said by the time he called 9-1-1, the fire had spread to the building.



"I tried to do what I could to try to stop it," said Grant, who lives next door to the church.

More than 60 firefighters from eight departments were called to battle the blaze.

"The fellowship hall was fully involved by the time we got there," said First Consolidated Fire Chief Randy



Firefighters discuss their plan of attack as flames erupt from the roof of the Salem United Methodist Church Sunday morning. The Salem Road church suffered \$500,000 damage.



Fire continues on SA

Photo Courtesy Dean Hord

Flames can be seen inside the structure at Salem United Methodist Church morning





### **Congratulations Kennedy Rensch!!**

She was named the Scholar Student of the Week and awarded a \$500 scholarship from Ohio State Marion. This honor recognizes students who demonstrate exceptional academic achievement, Leadership and dedication to both school and community. We are proud of you, Kennedy!



**All Church Thanksgiving Dinner 11/16 after worship**

Thank you to the Genesis Class for providing turkey & potatoes while we complete the meal with sides and desserts!

### **Thanksgiving Baskets**

The Children's Sunday school classes will be making Thanksgiving baskets on Sunday, **November 23rd** during the Sunday school hour. If you would like a basket made for someone, please give the name to Cheryl Slack or Jana Bauer. If you are able to deliver a basket, please let Cheryl or Jana know.

We also need help with donations of food items for the baskets.

- Apples, bananas, oranges
- Individual oatmeal packets
- Hot Chocolate
- Pudding, Jello, fruit & applesauce cups, raisins
- Breakfast, snack, nutrition bars, peanut butter & cheese crackers.
- Individually wrapped hard candy

**Thank you for your love and support!**



# Thanksgiving Food Drive

## **Morning Of:**

cereal, peanut butter, jelly, bread

## **The Big Meal:**

stuffing mix, instant potatoes, macaroni & cheese, canned fruit, canned vegetables (corn, green beans, carrots, mixed), rice, cream of mushroom soup, boxed crackers, applesauce (jars, not single serve), eggs

## **The Treats:**

cranberry sauce, baking mixes (cookies/cakes/brownies)

## **Leftover Upscales:**

soups, canned tomatoes, package of pasta, spaghetti sauce, oats, hamburger helper and other boxed meals

## **When you can't turkey any more!**

Hotdogs

## **Monetary donations accepted!**

Please make checks payable to  
Marion Salem Church  
memo Food Patry

# November 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Family Center Reserved
2 Communion	3 SPRC 6:30 pm	4 Election Day 	5 Knitting/Craft 1pm NCS team 6:30 pm	6 AHG 6 pm	7	8
9	10 Bible Study 4 pm	11 Veterans Day 	12 Knitting/Craft 1pm Bible study 7 pm	13	14	15
16	17 Bible Study 4 pm	18	19 Knitting/Craft 1pm Bible study 7 pm	20 SUBS!! AHG 6 pm	21	22
23	24 Bible Study 4 pm	25	26	27 Thanksgiving 	28	29 OSU v UM 
30						



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

Nov—Crusaders Class

Dec—Upper Room Class



### Birthdays

- 11/1 Kelly Wagner
- 11/3 Marcia Burden
- 11/9 Robbi Smart  
Natalie Wagner
- 11/10 Debbie Croft
- 11/13 Martha Crabtree
- 11/14 Riggins Pollock
- 11/16 Caitlin Smith
- 11/21 Shirley Klinefelter
- 11/23 Tracy Weisbrodt
- 11/24 Susan Rockwell
- 11/27 Hudson Pollock
- 11/28 Ruth Lutz



### GREETERS

- 11/2 Janet Burns & Janet Strine
- 11/9 Terry & Kathy Fisher
- 11/16 Marcia Burden & Susie Williams
- 11/23 Jerry & Karen Marquis
- 11/30 Phil & Marilyn Shroyer



### ANNIVERSARIES

- 11/19 Bruce & Conni McChesney
- 11/23 Steve & Joan Crock

### Children's Church

- 11/2 No Children's Church
- 11/9 Pageant practice
- 11/16 Pageant practice
- 11/23 Pageant practice
- 11/30 Pageant practice

### Nursery Schedule

- 11/2 Charisse Smith & Jesseca Wagner
- 11/9 Amanda & Marissa Loyer
- 11/16 Amy McGuire & Linda Seitter
- 11/23 Susan Rockwell & Susie Williams
- 11/30 Conni McChesney & Robbi Smart

### Pray for ....

- Ron VonAlmen
- Janet Schelb
- Jude Stitzel
- Sheryl Campbell
- Donna McKinnis
- Vicki Adams
- Israel
- Judi Myers
- Rick Hicks
- Haiti
- Mike Dilsaver
- Steve Crock
- Paul Messenger
- Kelly Marsh family
- Shawn Wilcox
- Jamie Marquis
- Dave Gerfen Family
- Inda Lama
- Janie Wooten
- Doug Burkhardt
- Nathan Cedric
- Mary Linn
- Joni McCray
- Mary Linn
- Bill Crabtree family
- Helen Denton family
- Jana Bauer

