



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 pray that I do not confuse anyone with the following thoughts. So as to be clear, I am directing them to certain groups as a means of challenge, because I believe that there are ways that each of us can improve as followers of Jesus Christ.

To those who for any reason, typically watch service on Facebook: Easter Sunday is coming. We revere it as a particularly special and Holy day among the various Sundays of the year. For various reasons, many of them legitimate health issues, there are folks who cannot make it to worship each week. I want to challenge you to please go above and beyond to make the effort this year. If you must, call your doctor's office as soon as you read this, leave them a message about how you can adjust medications or whatever routine you need so that you can be in-person for Easter Sunday worship.

To those trying to pick which service, I love Sunrise Service, especially as we can support our youth by attending, and I greatly enjoy the tradition of Easter Breakfast with my church family. That said, if you are deciding between Sunrise and Breakfast or the 10am Service—please come to the 10am service. I want you to come to all our activities, yet if there must be a choice, come to the 10am Service.

To those who have family that stay home, this is the week. This is the important one. This is the week to pick the battle with your teenager. This is the week to put your foot down and say, "Come be with me in worship on Easter Sunday!" You do not have to be rude about it, but do be passionate about it! It's important, it matters.

To those who have family, friends, coworkers, & neighbors that are not in worship, this is the day! Easter and Christmas are the "expected to be in Church" times. Those who watch you drive to church every week and see how important it is to you, they are kind of expecting you to make an invitation. They might say no. It's really possible for them to say yes – yet you have to ask first. The de facto answer is no if you never ask so make the ask this year.

To those who believe Easter is the goal, or that the Resurrection is the end of the story, hang on to your bonnets—you might get blown away. The Resurrection was only the beginning of the story and the work that is ahead of the Church grows larger each and every year that has followed. When Easter comes this April 5th, it is not a moment of arrival for those who call on the name of Jesus Christ. Easter is only the starting point for the plans God has in store for those who love Him.

Blessings 🙌,

New Membership Class

Those who are interested in joining the membership of Marion Salem Church should reach out to Pastor Jason. Plans are beginning for the next 6-week cohort.





Marion Salem Auction 2026

**Over \$11,000
raised for
missions!!**



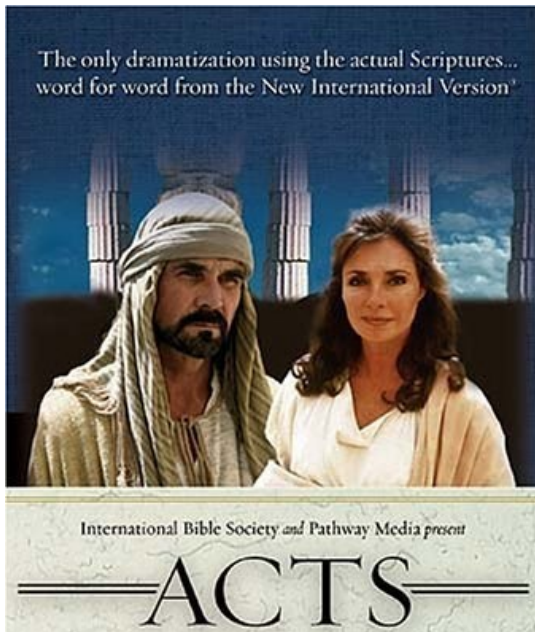
**Thank you to all
who helped
make it a
success!**





Easter Breakfast with Purpose!

Because Easter is the first of the month, we have a slight change-up in our normal schedule. We will not be having Donuts and Devos. Instead we encourage everyone to be in fellowship especially with our guests that morning, to encourage building relationships and inviting folks to come to worship regularly at Salem. Together we are the Body of Christ at work in the world today!



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.

April Studies:

- 1st: No study (Holy Week)
- 8th: Study continues
- 15th: Study continues
- 22nd: Study continues
- 29th: Study continues

Monday Bible Study

Join in the study where we watch the Word come to life with the Visual Bible's presentation of the Book of Acts. We are trying to take a chapter a week, however the schedule may spillover.

- April 6: No Study (Easter Week)
- April 13: Acts 13
- April 20: Acts 14
- April 27: Acts 15

Spaghetti Dinner
to Support Aspire Ministries

2026
March 21
May 30
August 29

Donations

Aspire MINISTRIES

Waldo Methodist Church
Serving 4:30 till 7pm

Gluten Free Available
Carry out
740-726-2777

Aspire Events



Annual Conference 2026
June 24-27 | Mount Vernon Nazarene University

<https://alleghenywestgmc.org/ac-2026/>

Beginning on Wednesday June 24 through Saturday June 27, the Global Methodists of Ohio and western Pennsylvania will gather again at Mount Vernon Nazarene University. Pastor Jason, Pastor Heather, Charisse Smith, and Karla Sharp will be joining with about 2000 other disciples. Last year a group of Salem Singers joined the conference choir and Tony Smith helped with golf cart transportation around campus. There are learning and volunteer opportunities. At only an hour drive away from Salem, this is a great opportunity for our church family to worship, learn, and fellowship with other disciples of Christ. Registration is on the conference website.

Volunteer Opportunities

Annual Conference Tech Team

The Annual Conference Tech Team is seeking camera operators and computer graphics operators. Bring your tech expertise or come with a willingness to learn.

Training will be provided Wed June 24th at MVNU. Contact Jim Beck for additional details and to volunteer. jbeck@reycc.com.

Event Logistics Volunteers

The Annual Conference Event Logistics Team is a fun way to help make sure everyone enjoys the conference experience. You can help with registration, drive golf carts to help people get around campus, or ensure health and safety by serving at the First Aid station. Visit conference website.

The Posture of Prayer

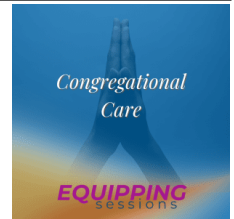
Breakfast: 8:30-9:00am
Praise and Worship: 9-9:30 am
Dr. Terry Teykl: 9:30am to noon
Lunch: Noon- 1:00pm
Praise and Worship: 1-1:30pm
Pastor Jeremy Barkley: 1:30-4:00 pm

Word and Spirit. Share with other church partners what the possibilities of prayer ministry can look like in both the small and large church family. Registration on conference website.

Join us for The Posture of Prayer at Mt. Vernon Nazarene University, one day before Annual Conference. Grow in the grace and power of prayer ministry as Dr. Terry Teykl and Pastor Jeremy Barkley share in

awaken

As we are seeking to ignite congregational care ministry at Marion Salem Church, Pastor Jason wants to encourage a team to attend the "Congregational Care and Ethics" training. Registration available at conference website. (Be sure to select "Congregational Care" in the session options.)



HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY APRIL 12th 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.

A box is 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.

"He tends His flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in His arms and carries them close to His heart; he gently leads those that have young." Isaiah 40:11

The Strivers Sheepdog Spot

ASSISTING THE GOOD SHEPHERD IN TENDING THE FLOCK, ESPECIALLY THE LAMBS AND THOSE THAT HAVE YOUNG



Attention All Volunteers Who Work With Children and/or Teens under 18 years old



We are currently in the process of transferring background check records to a new computer system. You should

have received emails from Ministry Safe on behalf of Pastor Heather regarding Child Abuse training and renewing background checks. Thank you to those who have already responded!

The child abuse training is required to be completed once, and a background check is to be completed every two years as per our church's child protection policy. This applies to all those who help with children/youth Sunday School, Children's Messages, Children's Church, the Nursery, VBS, Youth Group, other special events throughout the year, or those who would like to serve this way in the future.

If this applies to you, and you did not receive any emails, first check your spam folder, and if you still do not see them, please send an email to pastor.heather.gmc@gmail.com.

If you have completed child abuse training elsewhere, or have passed a background check in the last two years, please send a copy of your certificate(s) to the email address listed above.

There is no need to send a copy of any certificates if you have completed your training through the Ministry Safe emails. There is no cost to you for completing the background training.

Thank you for helping to keep our children and teens safe!

Strivers Youth Schedule

- **April 5 (7:30 am arrival) 8:00 am** Easter Sunrise Service
NO YOUTH GROUP Happy Easter
- **April 12 6:00pm** Youth Group
- **April 19 6:00pm** Youth Group
- **April 24-26** Encounter Retreat
- **April 26** NO YOUTH GROUP

Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will

Special Events Coming Up at Youth Group

May 16	Work Day at the Church
June (TBA)	Lock-in
July 16-26	Camp Sychar

Children's Message Schedule

April 5 (Easter)	Pastor Heather
April 12 (Holy Humor)	Mike Springer
April 19	Ruth Lutz
April 26	Amy Springer

KILTS FOR A CAUSE

Charity Dinner • April 18, 2026

at Cornerstone Alliance Church



CATERED BY ALL OCCASIONS CATERING

Appetizer, Dinner Salad, Rolls, Beverage, Choice of Entree (Chicken w/ Champagne Mushroom Cream Sauce, OR Pasta Primavera), Cheesecake with Chocolate, Caramel, or Raspberry Drizzle

SILENT AUCTION running throughout the night.

BRIEF LIVE AUCTION following the program.

DOORS OPEN
at 6:00 P.M.
PROGRAM BEGINS
at 6:30 P.M.

RESERVED SEATING: \$50 EA.

RESERVED TABLE FOR SIX: \$300

- Includes (6) Tickets

PROGRAM ADVERTISEMENTS:

- Full Page (Inside) - \$200
- ½ Page - \$100
- ¼ Page - \$75
- ⅛ Page - \$50

FRIEND OF ASPIRE TICKETS: \$150

- Includes (2) Tickets
- Name listed in program
- Name listed in Aspire Ministries Newsletter

EVENT SPONSOR: \$500

- Includes (2) Complimentary Tickets
- Full-Page Ad in Program
- Name listed on Aspire Ministries Website
- Name listed in Aspire Ministries Newsletter

TICKETS ARE GOING FAST!
• LIMITED SEATING AVAILABLE •

Questions?
Call Director, Jenni Hypes
at 740-751-6554



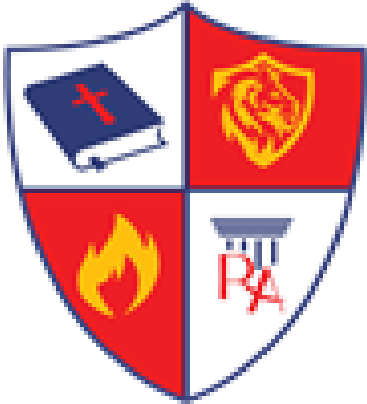
Buy tickets now:
givebutter.com/kilts2026



Learn more about
Aspire Ministries
at aspiremarion.org

Rhema Academy has increased enrollment to 25 students!!

Rhema is also recruiting for the 2027 school year. Open houses in April.
Come and see what Rhema Academy is all about!



Families can donate to Rhema in two different ways:

1. Direct tax deductible donation by check or by giving online to:
<https://rhemaacademyk12.education/>
2. Through Ohio Christian Education Network (OCEN) at:
https://app.ocen.org/users/sign_in
This is an OHIO STATE TAX CREDIT & thus will reduce your state tax liability up to \$750 per person.

See Brian Sparling with any questions.



Wed. April 29th—Noon

Menu: pasta

Please bring a side or dessert to share

Rhema Chapels on Wed. 11am


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 10:50am.

Food Pantry

Hours: Monday 10-noon



April 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 No Bible study	2 Maundy Thur 7pm	3 Good Fri 7 pm	4
5 Happy Easter! <i>Communion</i> 	6	7	8 Choir 6:15 Bible study 7 pm	9 SPRC 6:30 pm	10	11
12	13 Bible study 4 pm	14 Rhema conferences 4 pm	15 Rhema ribbon cutting 11 am Choir 6:15 Bible study 7 pm	16	17	18
19	20 Bible study 4 pm Ad Council 6:30 pm	21 Rhema 5 pm	22 Bible study 7 pm	23 AHG 6 pm	24	25 Family Center Reserved
26	27 Bible study 4 pm	28	29 Sr. Lunch 12 pm Choir 6:15 Bible study 7 pm	30		



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

April—Easter

May—Genesis Class



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

Shawn Wilcox
Jamie Marquis
Inda Lama
Janie Wooten
Doug Burkhardt
Nathan Cedric
Mary Linn

Joni McCray
Andrew Pfeiffer
Norm Titus
Tierney Bender
Max Strine
Family of Kip McCollough
Jim Miracle



GREETERS

4/5 Terry & Kathy Fisher
4/12 Janet Burns & Jack Sharp
4/19 Marcia Burden & Becky Oliver
4/26 Roses & Layton Sharp



ANNIVERSARIES

4/08 Jerry & Karen Marquis
4/10 Curt & Mary Galloway
4/28 Bob & Dorothy Barker

Children's Church

4/5 No Children's Church
4/12 No Children's Church
4/19 Megan Pollock & Emily Sharp
4/26 Jennifer Croskey & Jesseca Wagner

Nursery Schedule

4/5 Jennifer & Piper Croskey
4/12 Charisse Smith & Jesseca Wagner
4/19 Avy Bauer & Susie Williams
4/26 Amanda & Marissa Loyer

Birthdays

4/10 Steve Crock
4/13 Parker Smith
4/16 Ric Harvel
4/18 Cindy Harvel
4/19 Scott Kimes
4/21 Peggy Smith
4/28 Carol Crawford