

# Salem Forecaster

Salem United Methodist Church

October 2024  
Volume 36 Issue 10



**Do unto  
others as  
you would  
have them  
do unto you.**

**- JESUS**



facebook - salemchurchcr  
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[www.salemchurch.life](http://www.salemchurch.life) - [office@salemchurchcr.com](mailto:office@salemchurchcr.com)

# MONTHLY MISSION FOCUS



Cedar Rapids/Marion CROP Hunger Walk Team Salem  
1:00 registration 1:30 pm Walk begins Thomas Park  
343 Marion Boulevard Marion, IA 52302

Let's remember the goal of CROP WALK2024!

Walking to raise money to support feeding the hungry here in Cedar Rapids, as well as across the world is what it is about! Feeding our neighbors in need - such a large part of God's plan for each of us.

Matthew 25:40-45 The King will reply,  
'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these  
brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

Join Team Salem to Walk and/or Donate.

Our goal is to raise \$750 from our Salem family and friends.

There are already 5 people registered and working on FundRaising.

Contact Sandy Andreasen (319-541-2638) for more information  
on joining or donating or go to the website and look for the Salem Team to join or donate!  
<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/cropwalks>



WALK. GIVE. CHANGE THE WORLD.

*Cedar Rapids/Marion*  
CROP HUNGER WALK

OCTOBER 13, 2024

MARION, IOWA

Kindness &  
Respect &  
Love &  
Humility &  
Compassion



**October 6**

Jesus, Politics and Religion

**October 13**

Malice Towards None,  
Charity for All

**October 20**

Finding Common Ground

**October 26**

The Power of Kindness



## KINDNESS CAMPAIGN

Kindness, compassion, respect, and love. How do you want to be treated?

There is a phrase often referred to as the golden rule that simply states,  
"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

It is a call to treat others with the same kindness we would want to receive in return. Yet, during election season it seems division and polarization are common headlines.

In a time filled with negativity, we have a choice to make.

Choosing kindness is not about avoiding our differences but navigating them with respect and compassion. Kindness has the power to influence even more than an election.

It strengthens relationships, neighborhoods, and communities.

It helps us find common ground instead of taking sides. It allows us to disagree and remain friends. It builds bridges instead of walls.

I invite you to join us for our sermon series we will be kicking off the last weekend in September into October, leading up to the November election. As the election heats up, we the church will be the voice of reason to cool things down. The world is not looking for a replication for the divided culture.

It needs a solution. The solution is Jesus.



Let's vote for kindness. One small act at a time.

Be Bold, Be Strong,

Rev. Matt German



*kindness*

# KARAOKE CREW

🎵 Did you know...  
that music can keep your brain young? According to John Hopkins Medicine, music is structural, mathematical and architectural. It's based on relationships between one note and the next. You may not be aware of it, but your brain has to do a lot of computing to make sense of it. Listening to music provides a total brain workout. You don't even have to be the one who's singing! 🎵

So if you'd like to give your brain a good workout (or just want to have a good time), please join us for karaoke fun on Friday, October 18th at the Eagles Club ([1735 11th St NW](#)). The singing starts at 8:00 p.m. And if you need some nourishment before singing, the Eagles Club is having a steak dinner for \$20 from 5:30- 7:30 p.m. Dinner includes steak, baked potato, salad and a vegetable. You can also order a frozen pizza or other "bar bites" from the bar anytime. \*\*NOTE: For the month of October, karaoke will be held in the downstairs bar area due to a casino night being held upstairs.\*\*

We hope to see you all there! If you have any questions, contact [April Campbell](#).  
And PLEASE invite other friends that you think might be interested.

# FOODIES & FUN

Bring a friend and join the Foodies and Fun Group at the Starlite Room!  
The group will be gathering Thursday, October 10th 2024 at 6:30 PM  
The Starlite is located at 3300 First Ave NE in Cedar Rapids.  
For any questions, please contact [Dianne Redden](#) or [Ron Campbell](#)



# LEADERSHIP BOARD MINUTES

9.17.24

The monthly Board meeting opened at 5:30 PM. Those attending were Pastor Matt, Donna Sanders, \*Jan Graham, Ron Campbell, Tara Schlesselman, Billie Schaffer, Tim Sweet and Deb Fritz.

\* Virtual meeting attendees.

Guests: Brian Schooley and Mark Minger



5:30- Pre-Meeting called to order.

Trustees - Mark Minger

Mark is working on finding replacements LED canisters for sanctuary.

He recommended screw in bulb canisters, will get several bids and board will review and chose a contractor to complete the work.

The Garden Affinity Group has volunteered to clean up the flower gardens around the church on October 5th . It is very appreciated. Will also try to have a Fall cleanup day.

Approved Men's Supper for October 17th .

Stewardship - Brian Schooley

He presented financials for August. We received \$13,812.63 and expenses were 26,325.97 (3 payroll month), with a deficit of \$12,513.97. We are (\$29,256.69) short for the year.

The building fund has 3.63 months of reserve. We need to complete the 2023 Audit.

Board Outreach Phone Calls - connect and thank the members of our church for their generosity.

6:45 Meeting called to order.

Loving - What is a Fall Favorite for you?

Learning - Pastor Matt shared information about the upcoming Sermon Do unto Others Leading - Ephesians 4:29 says, "Don't use foul or abusive language. Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them."

SPRC - Discussion and Completion of 2025 Church Goals for Charge Conference October 6th .

Deb made a motion to approve, seconded by Tim and passed by all.

Complete Form I for Pastoral Pay - Tim S made a motion to approve a 5% increase, seconded by Deb F and passed by all.

Other Business.

League 33 has started back up with an addition of Middle-School Age Children

5th Sunday potluck September 29th .

Women's Garage Sale - Funds to Horizons (Meals on Wheels)

Ended the meeting with Prayer at 8:45

Next Meeting:

Tuesday October 15th @ 5:30

# 3-10 CONNECT

Almost every week, someone new visits our church. As much as we may feel like home at Salem, they may feel like a stranger and it is up to us to change that. We want them to know that we are glad they are here and that they are welcome in the family of God. There is a simple concept called 3-10-connect. It means that at the end of our worship services for the first 3 minutes look around in a 10-foot radius from where you are sitting. If you see someone in that space that you don't know, extend a handshake and say hi. You could simply say, "I don't think I know you." Then introduce yourself and make conversation with them as you walk out of the sanctuary together. You see, now you have made a connection with that person and they have with you. If it turns out they have questions about our church, you can connect them further. You can physically take them to the welcome center or introduce them to a pastor, church staff member, or someone you know who can help them. The idea is 3-10-Connect. Focus on the newcomer for the first 3 minutes after worship. Know that your mission field is a 10-foot radius from where you are sitting. Connect them with another person in the church. 3-10-connect. Let's start this Sunday!

**LET'S  
START  
THIS  
SUNDAY**

3 → 10  
connect

One woman Admin show seeks 5-10 volunteers to join her in correcting membership roles and assist in gathering accurate information for communications and annual reporting. Please contact Nicole at [office@salemchurchcr.com](mailto:office@salemchurchcr.com) or by phone at 319.362.6178

Please visit our [Planning Center page](#) to confirm the information we have for you at Salem and for our very own **online directory!**



# PAINT WITH US!



Register online at  
<https://artwork-by-julia-kulish.square.site/product/private-class-salem-uitd-methodist/342?cs=true&cst=custom>

Grab a friend and join a few Salem friends for some artsy fun! We're gathering on Saturday October 12 from 12 - 3 PM at Julia Kulish Studio (4198 Pikeview Drive, Center Point, IA) A step by step instructional paint class for all levels - all materials covered in registration fees.



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

10/01 SANDY ANDREASEN

10/02 CARTER & CATELYN SCHOOLEY

10/02 JILL TUNIS

10/03 RAUL SALAZAR

10/04 CONNIE WARNELL

10/05 CHERI DAVIS

10/05 DAVE HIGDON

10/09 LARRY SCHOOLEY

10/13 PAT CARLSON

10/13 DAVE FRITZ

10/20 DOLORES CROSS

10/20 JONI SALAZAR

10/24 COOPER & TESSA SANBORN

10/26 NAN LIVINGSTON

10/27 CAROLYN JARVIS

10/31 TERESA JANDA

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

10/04 RICK & DEB BLACK

10/09 LOUIS & SHARON BUSCH

10/18 KENNETH & ARLENE OTTO

## WEEKEND CLEAN UP CREW

In efforts to be good stewards, we've reduced staff hours to offset the strain on our budget. With that, to keep our church inviting and welcoming we're counting on volunteer support. We're asking for 2+ volunteers (bring a friend, make it a family event, sign up with someone you'd like to get to know better...) to spend 1-2 hours on a Friday or Saturday freshening up our building.

Duties include vacuuming, cleaning countertops, straightening chairs, etc.

There is a checklist in the maintenance closet in Fellowship Hall (near the bathrooms).

Please sign up at the Inspiration Station - if you or your cleaning partner don't have a key to the church; just let the office know and we will coordinate opening and closing the building.

A church isn't a building you go to; it's a family you belong to.

We appreciate everyone's time and efforts in the up-keep of our home.



# CHURCH CONFERENCE

Mark your calendars!

Our annual church conference is Sunday, October 6th at 6 PM.

The purpose of this annual gathering is to approve pastoral support and the Mission and Ministry Plan for 2024.

All are invited to attend to add voice, but please remember, only church members can vote.



Our annual Fall clean up will be October 5th, 9 AM - 1 PM.

Please join us in making sure our church home is hospitable and welcoming for all!

For questions, please contact

Mark Minger at

[markminger38@gmail.com](mailto:markminger38@gmail.com)

October is  
Pastor Appreciation Month.

Pastor Appreciation Month is a special time that the church sets aside each year to honor our pastors and pastoral families. We thank these special people for their hard work, sacrificial dedication, and the many blessings they provide to our congregation and community.

Please also remember that we have retired pastors and pastoral families in our congregation who are absolutely integral to making Salem a home.

Lord, hear our prayers of thanksgiving.





# CONNECT WITH US

Looking for new ways to plug in at Salem?

Visit our website and fill out our  
Ministry Interest Survey!

You can click the link above or go to  
[saalemchurch.life](http://saalemchurch.life) and choose the footprints  
at the bottom left corner of your screen,  
then select "See More" and then click on the  
Ministry Interest Survey button!



## CARE TEAM

How Does the Care Team Know When I'm in the Hospital?

Everyday someone from the Care Team calls St. Luke and/or Mercy to see if anyone from Salem UMC is in the hospital.

1. During the admission process you or a family member can let the admissions person know that you are connected with Salem UMC, Cedar Rapids, and they will add you to a list that is given to the operators. Sometimes you are asked, what is your "religious affiliation" you can respond with Salem.
2. You can also inform your primary care person that you are affiliated with Salem UMC, CR.
3. Lastly you can have a family member and/or friend contact the church or the Dir. Of Pastoral Care, Sandra Daniels at, (319 362 6178 or emergencies 319 531 8279)
4. If you have any questions please/contact me, Sandra at the above numbers or [s.daniels@saalemchurchcr.com](mailto:s.daniels@saalemchurchcr.com).



CARE TEAM

## LEAGUE 33

Jesus is the ULTIMATE Superhero.

This year for League 33, we're exploring His abilities  
by investigating Jesus' "I AM" statements.

Join us the first Wednesday of each month!

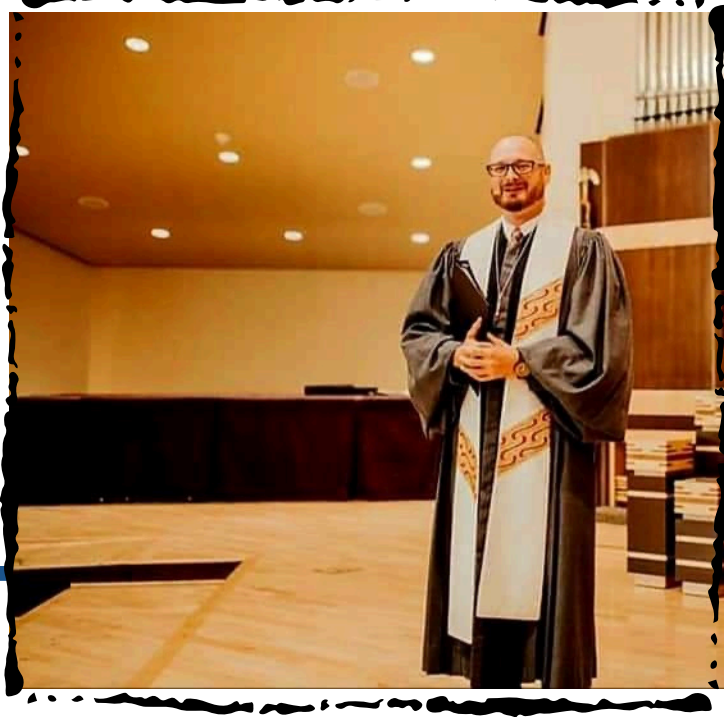
Next League 33 is October 2nd at 5:30 PM in Fellowship Hall

Join us for church in kid sized bites!

League 33 is open to elementary  
and junior high aged youth.

Register at <https://saalemchurch.life/league-33-registration>





When I was 19 years old, I started attending a small United Methodist Church in Bettendorf, Iowa. I had no idea you were allowed to bang on drums and shred electric guitars in church. I was immediately invited to join the band and within a few months became their worship leader. I love modern worship.

A few years later I joined the staff of another congregation in Eastern Iowa. While I was on staff as one of their youth pastors and worship leaders, my favorite service in that church was at 8:45am down in the chapel. The pastor wore a robe, communion was served every Sunday, music was lead from an old upright out of tune piano, there was a visible columbarium of members who had died. We sang the hymns of our faith and I fell in love with liturgy. I love traditional worship.

Today I am in the office in shorts and flip flops. Some Sundays I wear a suit. Some Sunday's I'm in jeans. I love both modern and traditional styles of worship. When we worship in Spirit and in truth, God is glorified. I want people to feel comfortable coming to church no matter what they wear or what style of worship connects with them.

When people ask me if I prefer modern or traditional worship....my answer is usually.....of course! It is through different mediums of church that I have grown in love of God and love of neighbor.

Most days I don't really look like a pastor. I have tattoos and piercings. My family and life is not perfect. I feel I have never really arrived in my faith. But here is what I know. I love Jesus. He has changed my life and transformed me into something new...and most days....better than I used to be.

And just on occasion...such as above...I kind of look like a pastor.



# FALL-O-WEEN

OCTOBER 30, 6 - 7:30 PM

SALEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
3715 33RD AVE SW, CEDAR RAPIDS

JOIN US FOR  
TRUNK OR TREATING, AN OUTDOOR  
MOVIE, FOOD TRUCKS AND MORE!

## FALL-O-WEEN

Wednesday, October 30th  
6 - 7:30 PM

6-7 PM - Trunk or Treat

7-7:30 PM - It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown  
outdoor movie on the front lawn

This year's Trunk or Treat is coming in quick - and with a few new ideas! The Fall-O-Ween planning group has come up with some new additions to the fun and ways to increase our outreach potential!

To increase our visibility to the community - we're inviting a few food trucks to park in our lot for the event! We're hoping this increases the number of participants, knowing they don't have to plan dinner and also more people may be likely to stop by - seeing that we're having too much fun.

The hayrack ride is coming back this year! It was a last minute addition to the event last year, but it may have been even better than the candy! The kids didn't just go for A ride - some of them went on at least a dozen!

We're also communicating about vehicle decor and options on a group on Facebook. Please reach out to anyone on the planning committee to be added if you're interested in partnering up with a friend and/or doing a theme and/or seeing what everyone else is doing to be creatively inspired!

In order to make events like this possible and effective, we need as much participation as possible! Be watching the Inspiration Station for a variety of ways you can participate and support this outreach endeavor!

Fall-O-Ween  
Coordinators :

Jan Johnson,  
Dawn Fouch, Stephanie Fouch,  
Kathy Miller, Angie Dennis-  
McMann, Kelly Dennis-  
McMann, Evelyn Prasil,  
TJ Reisen, Amy Reisen, and  
Nicole German.

Fall-O-Ween  
Facebook Group :

<https://www.facebook.com/share/g/uB8i9i7QwshPDQq5/?mibextid=K35XfP>

Feel free to join!  
The more the merrier!

# ANNUAL GIVING

# BUILDING FUND

	YTD 2024	July
Offering Income	\$146,105	\$13,813
Operating Expenses	\$175,362	\$26,326
Net over/(under)	(\$29,256)	(\$12,513)

	YTD 2024	July
Offering Income	\$32,613	\$3,566
Mortgage Payments	\$42,976	\$5,372
Net over/(under)	(\$10,363)	(\$1,806)

Average monthly deficit (under) (\$3,657)

Remaining mortgage balance \$505,881  
Building Reserve Fund - 3.6 months

## 5 ways to give

 VANGO MOBILE APP

SALEMCHURCH.LIFE/GIVE 

 TEXT 855-917-1810

MAIL GIFT TO CHURCH 

 IN PERSON 



### LEADERSHIP BOARD CONTACT INFO

Donna Sanders  
Board Chair  
donnasanders004@aol.com  
(319)533-3176

Deb Valenta 319-721-4687  
Ron Campbell 319-551-9814  
Tim Reisen 319-631-5100  
Tara Schlesselman 319-361-7136  
Deb Fritz  
Larry Janda 319-651-4677  
Billie Shaffer 608-215-8359  
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[btessend@hotmail.com](mailto:btessend@hotmail.com)  
[Douglaswhitmer59@gmail.com](mailto:Douglaswhitmer59@gmail.com)



# October



Sun

Mon

Tues

Wed

Thurs

Fri

Sat



PASTOR MATT'S  
FAVORITE THINGS



JESUS CHRIST  
PUMPKIN SPICE

1  
9:30 AM -  
Prayer Team

2  
10 AM -  
Bible Study  
5:30 PM -  
League 33

3  
11 AM - Options  
of Linn County  
12 PM - Senior  
Recreation

4

5  
8 AM - UMM's  
Breakfast  
9 AM - Fall Clean  
Up Day



6  
9 AM - Modern  
Worship  
10:10 AM -  
Fellowship/  
Sunday School  
11 AM Trad.  
Worship

7  
12 PM - Senior  
Recreation

8

9  
9 AM - Pastors  
Circuit Meeting  
10 AM -  
Bible Study

10  
10 AM - UWF  
Sarah Circle  
11 AM - Options  
of Linn County  
12 PM - Senior  
Recreation  
6:30 PM -  
Foodies & Fun

11  
1 PM - UWF  
Rachel Circle

12  
9 AM -  
Emmaus  
Walk #189  
Team Meeting  
12 PM -  
Salem Paint Class



13  
9 AM - Modern  
Worship  
10:10 AM -  
Fellowship/  
Sunday School  
11 AM Trad.  
Worship  
1 PM - CROPwalk

14  
10 AM - Missions  
Meeting  
2 PM - Senior  
Recreation

15  
9:30 AM -  
Prayer Team  
5:30 PM -  
Leadership  
Board

16  
10 AM -  
Bible Study

17  
11 AM - Options  
of Linn County  
12 PM - Senior  
Recreation  
5:30 PM - UMM's  
Supper

18  
8 PM - Karaoke  
Crew at the  
Eagles Club

19

20  
9 AM - Modern  
Worship  
10:10 AM -  
Fellowship/  
Sunday School  
11 AM Trad.  
Worship

21  
12 PM - Senior  
Recreation

22  
1 PM - Staff  
Meeting

23  
10 AM -  
Bible Study

24  
9:30 AM -  
Dignity for Girls  
11 AM - Options  
of Linn County  
12 PM - Senior  
Recreation  
Emmaus Walk  
#189 starts

25  
Emmaus  
Walk #189

26  
Emmaus  
Walk #189

27  
9 AM - Modern  
Worship  
10:10 AM -  
Fellowship/  
Sunday School  
11 AM Trad.  
Worship  
Emmaus  
Walk #189

28  
12 PM - Senior  
Recreation

29

30  
10 AM -  
Bible Study



31  
11 AM - Options  
of Linn County  
12 PM - Senior  
Recreation



Office hours  
Mon-Thurs  
9:30 AM -  
1:30 PM  
(Office closes  
@ 12:30 PM  
on Mondays)





*Salem*

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

3715 33RD AVE SW  
CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52404  
(319) 362-6178

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

OCTOBER 2024 FORECASTER

SALEMCHURCH.LIFE



# SUNDAY

*Services*

MODERN WORSHIP - 9 AM  
FELLOWSHIP - 10 AM  
SUNDAY SCHOOL - 10:10 AM  
TRADITIONAL WORSHIP - 11 AM

IN PERSON & ONLINE - LIVESTREAMED ON FACEBOOK. SALEMCHURCH.LIFE AND YOUTUBE.COM/SALEMCHURCHGR