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**It is almost here! It is the week we have been waiting for all year long!** I hope that is the way you are thinking of Holy Week. As you read this newsletter, we are still in the Lenten season and Easter is quickly approaching. However, before we can rejoice at Easter/Resurrection Sunday, we have to remember the last week of Jesus' life: the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem; the Passover meal with the disciples followed by the betrayal of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane; and the self-sacrificing love of Jesus on the cross. As Christians, we know that Holy Week is important, but at times we want to rush to the celebration of Easter without the mourning of Holy Week.

In the book *Season of Ash and Fire*, Blair Gilmer Meeks shares how our mourning during Lent and our celebration of Easter connects us to all Christians who have gone before us. She writes "The traditions of Lent and Easter are as old as they come for Christian worship. Part of our sense of renewal is discovering just how ancient they are and joining the faithful, myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, whose mourning has been turned to dancing with each new celebration of Easter."

Easter is indeed a time of celebration and dancing. As Christians, Easter Sunday is the most important day of the year; it is the day we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus the Christ and his defeat of sin and death. The late Billy Graham summed up Easter by saying "God proved His love on the Cross. When Christ hung, and bled, and died, it was God saying to the world, 'I love you.'"

As the Lenten season comes to an end and the Easter season begins, I invite you to think of ways in which we can share God's message of love with others. The wonder of Easter invites us to consider the new life that is offered in Christ and the best way to share what we have first received.

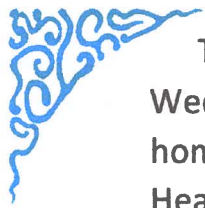
Christ is risen indeed!  
Pastor Bertina



## PRAYER BREAKFAST

### Men's Prayer Breakfast

will be held on Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 am. Also, for the month of May the Men's Prayer Breakfast will meet on Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 am. Ladies are invited to join the men for a wonderful time of fellowship in May to celebrate Mother's Day!



The Agape Circle will meet on Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm at the home of Teresa Stewart. UMCOR Health Kits will be prepared.

The Agape Circle will meet on Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm at church. Host will be Sharon Morgan.



## ACOLYTES SCHEDULE



### April Acolytes

07<sup>th</sup> Ray & Michael  
14<sup>th</sup> Lincoln & Sam  
21<sup>st</sup> Seth & Adam  
28<sup>th</sup> John Stephen & Andrew

### May Acolytes

05<sup>th</sup> Sam & Michael  
12<sup>th</sup> Lincoln & Seth  
19<sup>th</sup> Melody & Harmony  
26<sup>th</sup> Adam and John Stephen



### SOUP WITH LOVE

Soup with love will be held at Kingston Episcopal Parish on **Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at noon** with Rev. Dede Parrish as speaker and **Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at noon** with Rev. Gary Barker as speaker.



## FAMILY WEEK LUNCHEON

On Sunday, May 19, 2019 we will celebrate Family Week with a covered dish luncheon in the fellowship hall after the worship service. Everyone is asked to bring their favorite dishes to be shared. This is a special time for our church congregation as we gather to share a meal and wonderful fellowship. Plan to join us!



## HER LOVE

A mother's love is always pure  
No trace of insecurity but a better cure.  
A mother's love maybe strict  
But her loving way to make you stick.

A mother's love is always true  
It's all you need to get you through.  
A mother's love can seem like hate  
She's only firm to keep you safe.

A mother's love is a shelter  
In times of troubles you don't have to fear.  
A mother's love is always there  
In simple ways she'll show she cares.

A mother's love can never compare  
With anyone else's anywhere  
It is always here to stay.

*Happy Mother's Day!*



United Methodist Women wish to thank all those who continue to contributed to our project of Snack Packs. Your donations as well as the help of those who purchase and help pack and deliver make this mission project possible. The need continues to grow. We wish we could say that about our membership. We are truly a group that serves, in our community and the world. If we are to continue the work we will need more people! Think about it. Is Jesus calling you to participate in this ministry. Your blessings will be many and the world will be a better place because of you.

Both Circles meet on the second Wednesday. The Lillies meet at 1:00 pm (sometimes for lunch) and the Apapes meet at 7:00 p.m. Pray about it!

LILLY HOPKINS CIRCLE



In April the Circle will meet on Wednesday, April 10.at 1:00 pm. Mary Ann Thomas will be hostess, The program will be presented by Sis Thomas.

Sara Ann Brooks will be the hostess for the May meeting. It will be on Wednesday, May 8 at 1:00 pm. Mary Ann Thomas will present the program.

**BOYD GUNN CLASS NEWS.....**

The Boyd Gunn Class did not publish the amount of money we contributed to the Mortgage Fund from the Yard Sale in the Fall, but the amount was \$1250.00

We will again sponsor the Mother's Day Bulletin. The form will be in the bulletin the Sundays leading up to Mother's Day. The deadline is Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> . Get your form to Glenna Hudgins or Faye Respress by that date. The cost is \$1.00 a listing. It is a nice way to remember or honor someone you care about. The proceeds will be used for our mission work.

We are happy to welcome Art Wells as a new member of our Sunday School Class.



## HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Mathews Ministerail Association Holy Week Services will be held each day at **12 noon** at Westville Christian Church starting on **Monday, April 15, 2019**.



## MAUNDY THURSDAY

On **April 18, 2019, Maunday Thursday**, there will be a covered dish supper at church at **6:00 pm**. The meal will be followed by worship service at **7 pm**. Join us for this special time in our lives as Christians.



## SUNRISE SERVICE

The Sunrise Service will be held on **Easter Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:15 am** at the home of Ed Clayton at 1205 Aaron's Beach Rd. Join the early risers to worship as the sun rises out on the beautiul Aaron's Beach.



## EASTER SERVICE

**Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup> 2019 at 10:50 am** come celebrate the joy of the resurrection at Salem United Methoidst Church! Worship will include the sharing of the Good News, festive music, prayer and communion.



## Easter Prayer

The veil of darkness  
Transformed to the brightest light.

The most dreadful end  
Became the most beautiful beginning.

The depths of despair  
Fade to reveal hope everlasting.

The curse of death  
Defeated by eternal life.  
Thank you Lord, for the wonder of Easter.





## CHILDREN'S EASTER PARTY

Please join us for our Children's Annual Easter Party. It will be held on **Palm Sunday, April 14, 2019**. Join us for hunting Easter eggs, crafts, games, food and fun!

**Pre-K - 1<sup>st</sup> Grade: 2:00 to 3:00 pm**

**2<sup>nd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade: 3:30 to 4:30 pm**

If you'd like to help out, please let Christina Tomcany know at [cptomcany@gmail.com](mailto:cptomcany@gmail.com) or text at **815-0650**.



## SALEM'S VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2019

The Incredible Race

Exploring God's love for all nations!

Kids will race from continent to continent uncovering clues and attempting challenges as they examine the events surrounding the Tower of Babel. They will learn that God is calling people from every tribe and nation through his Son, Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world. He wants us to share this good news in kindness and love with our neighbors nearby and far away.

Please join us in The Incredible Race and experience God's love for every tribe, language, and nation!

**June 17<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> - 6pm-8pm**

**For ages 3 through 6<sup>th</sup> grade**

For questions or if you would like to help with this event please contact Tyler Murphy at **804-384-2330/tmurfy23@yahoo.com**



## **VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED**

Looking for volunteers to help with Salem's Children's Church Bags. Each Sunday, the children receive their personal worship bag for worship service. This bag is equipped with a children's activity bulletin (aligned with the weekly scripture and sermon), pencils/crayons, a snack, and a book (for the younger children). The purpose of these bags is not only to help the children connect with Pastor Bertina's sermon, but also to be a place to keep special church items from week to week including bibles, etc. Please let me know, if you would be interested in helping with these bags. I am looking for volunteers to donate snacks new or gentle used books, and seasonal/holiday activities that could be included for special occasions. I would also love to have more volunteers to stuff the bags. Contact Stacie Wiatt at 854-8778 or [swiatt@mathews.k12.a.us](mailto:swiatt@mathews.k12.a.us) if you are interested. Thank you!

## GO! TEAM UPDATE

The Go! Team wishes to thank ALL of you for purchasing cookie mix from our annual cookie mix fundraiser! We really appreciate your support! We have a few activities coming up in the future!



### Dates to Remember:

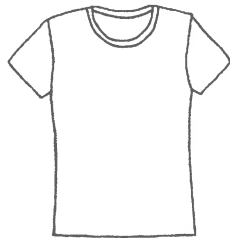
**March 29<sup>th</sup>:** Game Afternoon at the Daily Grind right after school. Students will meet in Mrs. Tomcany's room at Lee Jackson and depart from there to the Daily Grind for an afternoon of games and refreshments. No money is required! We will hang out there until **5 pm**. Hope to see you there.

**April:** Roadside Clean-up Day. To Be Announced.

**May 31<sup>st</sup>:** Farwell Pizza and Ice Cream gathering to say good bye to Go! Team members moving up to Tyler Bass's Youth Group.

## SALEM SHIRT FUNDRAISER

Just a reminder that the children and youth of Salem are selling shirts to raise money for a new outside play area. Shirt color options include Navy blue, Carolina blue, Charcoal, and Coral. All colors can be ordered as a short or long sleeve shirt, except coral, which is short sleeve only. Sizes range from Youth S, M, L, XL, Adult S, M, L, XL, XXL and XXXL. Short sleeve shirts cost \$15.00 and long sleeve shirts cost \$18.00. There will be an additional \$2.50 charge for sizes XXL and larger. Below is the logo for the front/ left chest and the back of the shirt. Logos are printed in white ink. Please Contact Stacie Wiatt if you are interested in ordering. [Swiatt@mathews.k12.va.us](mailto:Swiatt@mathews.k12.va.us) or (804) 854-8778.



## SALEM'S NIGHT AT HARBOR PARK



Mark your calendars! You are invited to venture out to Harbor Park for "Salem's Night at Harbor Park" on **Friday, June 14<sup>th</sup>**. Tickets will run around **\$13** a piece before taxes and fees. As soon as tickets are purchased, Christina Tomcany will let you know how much you owe. The sign-up sheet will be on the front pew each Sunday until **Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>**. If for some reason the game is canceled, we will not go as a group, but you will be able to rearrange the day that you attend on your own. This was so much fun last year! I hope to see lots of people sign up!



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY



### April Birthdays

01 Eddie Bridgers  
02 Dean Hudgins  
04 Robert A. Hudgins  
05 Natalie Clark  
05 Megan Pruitt  
06 Seth James  
10 Stacie Wiatt  
11 Kayla Robins  
12 Lorraine Hollandsworth  
14 Mary Ann Thomas  
15 Troy Richardson  
15 Zoe Sadler  
16 Laura Holmberg  
16 Adam Morgan  
16 Emma Wood  
20 Nelda Gibbs  
21 Dale South  
22 Gage Gaskins  
22 Morgan Sterne  
23 Faye Respress  
25 Ronnie Mitchem  
29 Greyson Dehoux  
30 Wayne Brown  
30 Becky Livermon

### May Birthdays

01 Polly Rowe  
01 Charles Snellings  
02 Kelly Williams  
03 Leslie Armstrong  
04 Wilson Cherry  
04 Mark Dehoux  
04 Sam Tomcany  
05 Carolyn Smith  
05 Jonathan Holmberg  
07 Joanie Daniels  
08 Jamerson Dehoux  
08 Timmy Thomas  
09 Anna Thorp  
09 Tyler Thorp  
10 Nancy Ashberry  
10 Craig Holmberg  
11 Oona Mae  
11 Madalyn White  
12 Ray Owens  
15 Kris Long  
15 Jack Ramsey  
16 Violet Brownley  
16 Harper Tomcany  
17 Colton Haywood  
17 Kenneth Burroughs  
20 Amber Williams  
21 Caitlyn Dixon  
24 Mark Tomcany  
25 Jeanette Armsteac  
25 Geneva Munn  
26 Karen Mantell  
27 Daniel Mitchem  
28 Robin Dehoux  
32 Lauren Fleharty



## PRAYER LIST

Jonnie Adams  
Tate Bennette  
Patricia Bing  
Jo Bridges  
Dickie Clements  
Suzanne Fisher  
Joe Forrest  
Albert Foster

Lex Foster  
Don Ray Hudgins  
Paul Wesley Hudgins  
Jerry Wayne Jagger  
Eugene Jones  
Margaret Leonard  
Bishop Sharma Lewis  
James Ralph Mitchem

Abby Rowe  
William Earl Sadler  
Carolyn Smith  
Charles Snellings  
Joan Williams  
Gloria Wood  
William Young  
Becky Zeller

## NURSING HOME BOUND

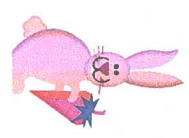
Betty Durkovich  
Martha Ellen Hall  
Judy Mitchem  
Patty Morgan  
Stanley Payne  
Mary Jo Robins  
June Rowe  
Erma Webb

March

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2			
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

# April 2019

User: Ray Owens  
Greeters: Mary Jo Robins Class



May

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Choir 7pm	1 No Bible Study 6:30 pm	2 Administrative Board 7 pm Soup with Love at Kingston Episcopal Parish Time: Noon Speaker: Rev. Dede Parish	Bible Study 7pm	4	5
Communion	7 Choir 7pm	8 Bible Study 6:30 pm	9 Agape Circle 7pm Lilly Hopkins Circle 1pm Soup with Love Time: Noon Speaker: Ray, Gay Barker	10 Bible Study 7pm	11	12
						13
Palm Sunday Men's Prayer Breakfast 7:30am Children's Easter Party	14 Choir 7pm	15 Bible Study 6:30 pm	16	17 Maundy Thursday Ser. 7 pm	18 Good Friday	19
Holy Week Services - 12 noon						
Mortgage Fund Sunday Sunrise Service 6:30 pm Easter Sunday	21	22 Bible Study 6:30 pm	23	24	25	26
Food Pantry	28 Choir 7pm	29	30			27



April

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

# May 2019

User: Warren Waddell  
Greeters: William Davis Class



June

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			Administrative Board 7pm		2	4
Communion 5	Choir 7pm 6		Agape Circle 7pm Lilly Hopkins Circle 1:00pm		9	11
Men's Prayer Breakfast 7:30 am Mother's Day	Choir 7pm 13	14		15	16	18
WOMEN						
Mortgage Fund Sunday Family Week Luncheon	Choir 7 pm 20	21		22	23	25 Gol Team (Farwell Pizza & Ice Cream)
Food Pantry Beach Service 8am	Memorial Day 27	28	29	30	31	