



# Salem LIFE

*A Newsletter of the Salem United Methodist Church of Cedar Grove*

**Salem's Mission: To bring others into Christ's family by demonstrating God's love through Fellowship, Learning, Outreach, Worship, and Service.**

## *Salem Life - June 2004*

### **Salem's Theme for 2004**

"The world is our parish"...beginning in our community.

Offering Christ in the 21st Century.



Directly above is the theme for our church for this year. You can also see it on several posters scattered around the church building. The theme is:

"The world is our parish " ...  
beginning in our community.  
Offering Christ in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

I thought that you might find it interesting to know the source of portions of this theme.

The phrase "The world is our parish" is a slightly modified quotation from the founder of Methodism, John Wesley. His exact statement was, "The world is 'my' parish," symbolizing the fact that he was not a parish minister serving just one church, but saw all the area he could reach as being his responsibility and opportunity for proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ.

In our theme we added the words "beginning in our community" to emphasize the fact that every United Methodist Church has multiple ministry fields: we are a worldwide church, an evangelical and missionary church, but our mission field begins in our local community. We should feel the need to reach out and embrace anyone and everyone we can reach, in the spirit of Jesus when he spoke of "the mother hen gathering her chicks". If, however, we go no further than our local community we have only partially fulfilled our church's expectations for us. More importantly, we have only fulfilled part of our Lord's expectations for us.

The third portion of the theme is also a modification of a statement made by Wesley. As he sent missionaries to other parts of the British Isles and to the British colonies in North America, he sent them with the marching orders "offer them Christ". In that spirit, Salem's theme reminds us

that, in the simplest of terms, this is our mission statement, and indeed that of the whole of Christianity, "Offer Christ." We do not have a product to sell or even a program to promote; we have a Savior to give. Everything we do in the life of Salem Church and in the life of every church should be seen in the light of the gift we have to share, and how we can share it and how that sharing, that offering can be effectively done in the 21st century. Worship, fellowship, stewardship, discipleship ... all of these "ships" of faith can be summarized and energized in the context of fulfilling our mission of "offering Christ" in the time and place God has given to us as our mission field.

Salem Church is a product of these Wesleyan themes. We are in debt to our forebears who took seriously the tasks to which they felt divinely called. We can best repay the indebtedness by reclaiming the spirit of John Wesley's words and living them in the 21st century.

Your Pastor in Christ,  
Dr. Carroll R. Gunkel

## AS WE WORSHIP

**June 6th - Born From Above**  
John 3: 1-17  
Holy Communion

**13th - Pastor on Vacation**  
Guest Preacher  
The Rev. Dr. Andrew Leigh Gunn

**20th - Fathers' Day**  
Our Father

**27th - Jesus Is ...**  
I Corinthians 13

### LOOKING AHEAD

**July 4th - Celebrating Our Nation's Independence**  
Service Outdoors - weather permitting  
"Where there is no vision"  
Proverbs 29:18

## Sunday Services



Adult/Teen Bible Studies –  
9:30 a.m. (Alternate weeks)  
Fellowship Time – 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday Worship – 10:30 a.m.  
With Children's Church

Come Join Us - Bring Your Friends



The next Salem LIFE Newsletter deadline will be Tuesday, June 15. Please submit your articles and pictures as early as possible so that they can be included in the newsletter.

If you are able, please send your articles (as Word files) and pictures electronically to Salem Life Editor, Jeannie Boyle, at [ELBoyle@erols.com](mailto:ELBoyle@erols.com), or leave them in the newsletter drawer at the church.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

June 3 – Barbara Staub  
7 – Jenn Pletcher  
12 – Nancy Staub  
16 – Charlie Hertel  
27 – Cheryl Piquette





## Highlights of the May Church Leadership Council (CLC) Meeting

1. Minutes from the April 5, 2004 CLC meeting were reviewed and approved.
2. Pastor's report:- The pastor reported that all shut-ins received communion.
3. Finance:
  - a. The financial data has almost all been entered in the new financial program.
  - b. A draft budget was reviewed. Last year's actual amounts will be entered.
4. Reviewed our Goals:
  - a. Maintenance & Improvement:
    - 1) The outside light fixture needs to be selected.
    - 2) The rerunning of the outside wiring is waiting on a "community service" volunteer.
    - 3) A quote was received from a siding contractor to re-side the church for \$12,450.00. Another quote was received for the replacement of all Basement Windows. (\$6,160.00) Other quotes may be obtained, including a quote for painting the trim.
  - b. Land Use: No report.
  - c. Membership: Working on flag planting.
  - d. Financial Campaign:
    - 1) Drafted letter for mailing
    - 2) Article in May Newsletter
    - 3) Material should be ready to send out as soon as the draft budget is complete. The

information is expected by mid to late May.

- e. Christian Education:
  - 1) Decided not to hold Vacation Bible School this year since there is little time to pull it together.
  - 2) There will be no formal children's church during the summer.
  - 3) Our child care assistant will be leaving for college around the end of August. She has identified a replacement.
- f. Worship Services: No Report.
- g. 135<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration:
  - 1) The kickoff will be May 23<sup>rd</sup> with the Reverend Donald Stewart as our guest speaker.
  - 2) Article published in the May newsletter.
  - 3) The council is considering doing commemorative plates.
  - 4) The council decided to buy a full-page ad in the Damascus Community Fair Book as a means to advertise our anniversary celebration.
  - 5) A web page will be designed for the 135<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations as soon as material is available.
  - 6) All of the church historical files will be stored in the church. A recommendation was made to scan these for ease of storage and retrieval.
  - 7) The council discussed participating in the Damascus Days Parade. We are looking for a Steel Drum Band and a wagon.

5. New Business:

- a. The council agreed to pay \$500 apportionments per month starting in May.
- b. A decision was made to send proceeds from the Lenten boxes to apportionments / benevolence.
- c. All salaries will be made current by mid-May.
- d. The council approved the tuning of the piano on a not-to-exceed basis of \$125.00.
- e. The council decided not to renew the bulk-mailing contract.
- f. Outdoor services will be scheduled to celebrate Memorial Day, the Fourth of July, and Labor Day.
- g. The council decided to do the "Summer Wednesdays" program again this year. Three events will be planned.
- h. A \$1,000 gift to Salem will be sent to apportionments/benevolence.

The next CLC meeting is scheduled for June 7, 2004 starting at 7 PM.



**WE CELEBRATE the Baptisms of Joshua Covel Suthard and Jena Elizabeth Suthard** on Sunday, May 16, 2004, at the 10:30 AM Service at Salem.

This was a special time for all since Jena has spent so much time in the hospital since her and Joshua's birth on January 20, 2004, and it was a joy that she is now home and doing well. Parents of Jena and Joshua are Curtis and Jean (nee Jackson) Suthard and the babies' big brother is Zachary. Good health and blessings.



May 15th was a beautiful day, treasures were abundant, customers were many, and the Yard Sale was a success, producing proceeds in excess of \$600 for the church.

THANKS are very much due to ever-faithful Jerry Staub for his leadership and to those who so ably assisted in making the sale a success: Mary Robinson, Pam Barkanic, Wanda Webb, Michael Staub, and Chris Denham(chef). Thanks as well to all who sent items to be sold and to all of our customers.

**Celebrating**   
*An Anniversary This Month*

- June 3 – Charlie & Ora Ann Shoemaker
- 14 – Chris & Susan Denham
- 14 – Carl & Ellen Hicks
- 18 – Paul & Donna Largent

**CONGRATULATIONS TO:**



**Carmen and Michael Mulheisen**, married at Salem on Saturday, May 8, 2004, at 4 PM. Mike and Carmen have been worshipping with us for a little more than a year and we are pleased that they chose to share this very special day with us. We wish them well in their life together.

## A Cautionary Tale

A man was being tailgated by a stressed-out woman on a busy boulevard. Suddenly, the light turned yellow, just in front of him.

He did the right thing, stopping at the crosswalk, even though he could have beaten the red light by accelerating through the intersection. The tailgating woman hit the roof, and the horn, screaming in frustration as she missed her chance to get through the intersection with him.



As she was still in mid-rant, she heard a tap on her window and looked up into the face of a very

serious police officer. The officer ordered her to exit her car with her hands up. He handcuffed and took her to the police station where she was searched, fingerprinted, photographed, and placed in a cell.

After a couple of hours, a policeman approached the cell and opened the door. She was escorted back to the booking desk where the arresting officer was waiting with her personal effects. He said, "I'm very sorry for this mistake. You see, I pulled up behind your car while you were blowing your horn, flipping the guy off in front of you, and cussing a blue streak at him. I noticed the 'Choose Life' license plate holder, the 'What Would Jesus Do' bumper sticker, the 'Follow Me to Sunday School' bumper sticker, and the chrome-plated Christian fish emblem on the trunk. Naturally, I assumed you had stolen the car."



### PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

- ✘ Anna Linthicum
- ✘ Martha Looper
- ✘ Linda Watkins
- ✘ Edith Miller
- ✘ Randall Webb
- ✘ Carl and Ellen Hicks
- ✘ Ollie Watkins
- ✘ Bob Tregoning
- ✘ Father of Rob Mixell
- ✘ Father of Michael Mulheisen
- ✘ Jena Jackson-Suthard
- ✘ Joshua Jackson-Suthard

World peace, safe return from Iraq and Afghanistan for military and civilian personnel

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO CAN'T GET TO CHURCH:

- |                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Minnie Cleveland | Eleanor Nehouse |
| Lillian Horney   | Luther Staub    |
| Martha Looper    | Rena Walker     |

## THINGS ARE NOT ALWAYS WHAT THEY SEEM

Two traveling angels stopped to spend the night in the home of a wealthy family. The family was rude and refused to let the angels stay in the mansion's guestroom. Instead the angels were given a small space in the cold basement. As they made their bed on the hard floor, the older angel saw a hole in the wall and repaired it. When the younger angel asked why, the older angel replied, "Things aren't always what they seem."



The next night the pair came to rest at the house of a very poor, but very hospitable farmer and his wife. After sharing what little food they had the couple let the angels sleep in their bed where they could have a good night's rest. When the sun came up the next morning the angels found the farmer and his wife in tears. Their only cow, whose milk had been their sole income, lay dead in the field. The younger angel was infuriated and asked the older angel how could you have let this happen? The first man had everything, yet you helped him, she accused. The second family had little but was willing to share everything, and you let the cow die.

"Things aren't always what they seem," the older angel replied. "When we stayed in the basement of the mansion, I noticed there was gold stored in that hole in the wall. Since the owner was so obsessed with greed and unwilling to share his good fortune, I sealed the wall so he wouldn't find it."

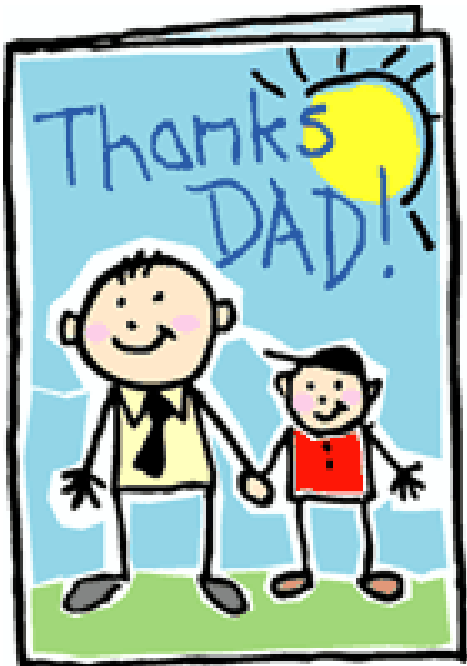
"Then last night as we slept in the farmer's bed, the angel of death came for his wife. I gave him the cow instead. Things aren't always what they seem."

Sometimes that is exactly what happens when things don't turn out the way they should. If you have faith, you just need to trust that every outcome is always to your advantage. You might not know it until some time later...

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Celebrate Father's Day  
with us at Salem  
June 20 at 10:30 AM