



SFBC FAMILY NEWS

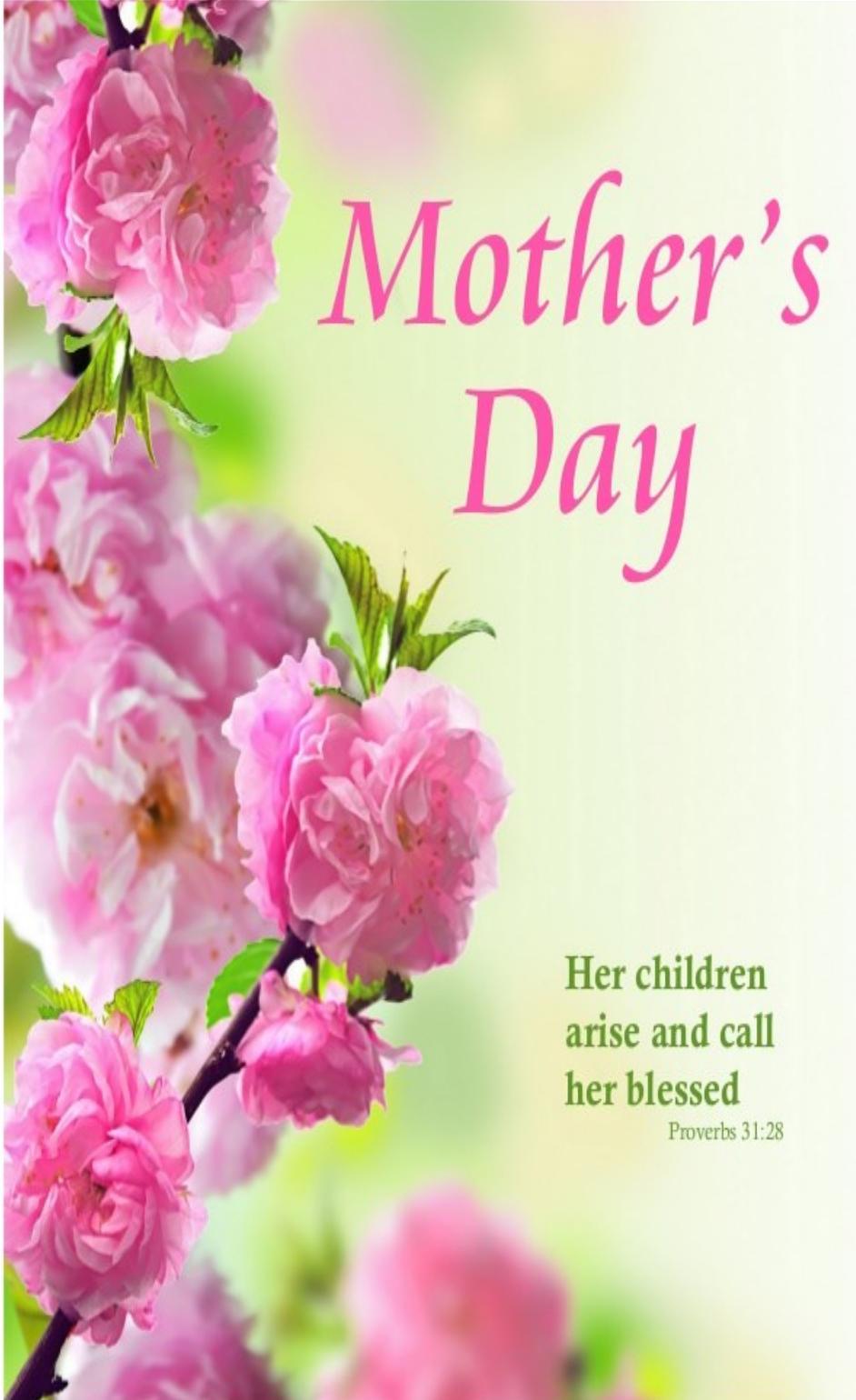
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SALEM FIRST BAPTIST

Pastor
Dr. Andy DeWitt

Dear Church Family,

Over the past several weeks, the “shelter at home” executive order has changed life for many of us. There are no set-down restaurants meals. Sports of all kinds and at all levels are suspended. The spring activities like graduations and weddings are deferred. Yes, there are no worship gatherings permitted, also. So, how has the past several weeks impacted you and your family? Has there been any lessons that you have learned or frustrations that irritate you?

I’ve learned a few lessons—you may or may not identify with what I’m writing here.

I’ve learned that. . .

1). *I really miss you.* I know—I’m a pastor so people are very important to what I do. True, but you are more than a job. It’s not possible that I see you all every day. But seeing you regularly on Sundays keeps us in touch. Hebrews 10:25 is vitally important: *“not abandoning our own meetings, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging each other, and even more so because you see that day drawing near”* (NET). I understand this much more clearly because we have not met as a church family for weeks now.

2). *Change isn’t easy.* My routine is similar; yet different. I still study and prepare sermons. I still arrive at the church office the same time in the mornings—even on Sunday—but, I must visit folks with phone calls and not in person. I text people, email people, post items on Facebook for people to read—but not face-to-face visiting. It feels so weird being at home on Wednesday and Sunday evenings. The COVID-19 sequester has forced me to change in some degree—and I don’t like it. Change, however, is unavoidable. Things change, life changes and you either change with it or are laid to rest under a field of stones.

3). *There are some changes that may continue into the future.* This is more of something that I anticipate rather than learned. When this has passed and a vaccine is widely available like a yearly flu shot, certain changes will continue. People will continue to be hyper-vigilant in regards to sickness. What I mean is some will still wear masks and gloves when they go out. Online purchasing will continue to escalate. This will be the demise of many remaining business (can anyone say K-Mart, Venture, Sears). Technology will continue to grow in how we communicate. And it will affect public gatherings; churches included! (Don’t forget Hebrews 10:25)

4). *The importance of technology.* I think that Facebook was created “for such a time as this” (Remember Esther in the Old Testament?). Facebook Live has kept us in touch. One can get up on Sunday morning, eat a bowl of cereal in pajamas, and watch the worship service. (Remember, however, this is and can never be a substitute to gathering with God’s people to praise and worship the Most High.) The radio program that the church has had for years is gloriously important. People from all over the area can tune in to our worship services. Not everyone has a computer but, I imagine, everyone has a radio.

When the “stay at home” edict is lifted—I SO LOOK FORWARD to our gathering together again to worship and praise the Lord together in keeping with Hebrews 10:25. What have you learned? Email your insights to me (andy@salemfbc.org) or call (548-4060).

Until we meet here or there or in the air.

Andy

Associate Pastor
Jon Bell

Prayer Warriors

When my family left for Bangladesh my Mom helped set a non-stop 24 prayer chain for our entire time of travel fueled by the ladies in her church family. We knew no matter where we were, in the sky, in an airport or just arriving and going through customs, someone was praying. We made the trip safely with a two-month old who slept almost the whole way. Many of you know our little girl, and it is hard to imagine her as a sleeping baby, but she did, thanks to answered prayers.

Prayer has always been a key focus of my Mom's. When I was a trouble making teenager, my Mom was praying. When my Mom first meet Lacey, my Mom was praying (for her to be the one). Throughout our family's entire time in ministry, my Mom has been praying. When anyone in our family needs prayer, you can count on my Mom to be praying. She is a prayer warrior, and I am thankful for her.

I am thankful that my wife is also a prayer warrior. She is in constant prayer for our family, our church, missionaries overseas and anyone's needs that come our way. She is helping our little girl see what it means to be a prayer warrior as well.

We have a prayer chain established for our church family and the majority of people on the chain are the ladies from our church. Why, because those with a Mother's heart pray.

God answers prayer. He answers all of His children's prayers, but the main ones praying seem to be the ladies. Sometimes they are even praying that men will step up and be the prayer leaders. I am so thankful for the prayer warrior ladies of our church, whether they have children or not, they have the desire to pray and seek the Lord's care for His flock.

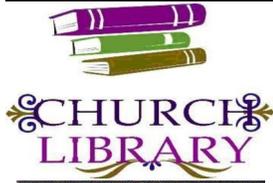
I have no doubt that the pray warriors leading the way right now in the midst of the times we are in, are the ladies of our church.

Happy Mother's Day
and thank you for your prayers!

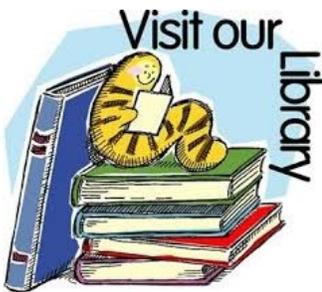
Proverbs 31:28–29: *"Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: 'Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all.'"*



Library News/Trustees



Your Librarian
Sharon Dennis



Trustees' Report

Last month I wrote that the three newest furnaces are all working properly after several years of frustration relating to them. While Weeke Sales and Service of Breese/Okawville was here on those furnaces, their workers also looked at a water pump on the second floor of the educational building that was making a noise. Upon inspection, they found that the oil ports had been painted over and apparently the pump had not been oiled for a long time. They repaired the coupler between the motor and the pump and fixed both problems. Their work took care of the noise that Kevin Keele had noticed the motor and pump making.

Kevin Keele has been repairing sign posts on the south end of the east parking lot. These signs display child care parking. Some signs/posts had either been blow over, or broken, by the wind or pushed over by vehicles, but they still needed repaired, and the trustees appreciate Kevin's hard work.

Though the trustees have not met because of the coronavirus, I am keeping in contact with Kevin Keele in order to find out if there are other repairs that need to be made or things that need the trustee's attention. I will contact each trustee concerning those things needing our immediate attention.

Dallas Bundy
Chairman of the Trustees

Announcements/Poems

I would like to thank all my church family and friends for all of the wonderful cards and phone calls the last few weeks.

They mean a lot to me and my family, we feel the love that is in each one of the cards & calls.

I am doing fine, as we know God is in control of the situation. He will see me through this, as God says, "I will never leave your or forsake you".

Thank you & God Bless,
Larry & Debbie Dodd



You are invited to a
Baby Shower!

Honoring and celebrating with
Liz & Jordan on Baby Boy DeWitt's
upcoming arrival!

Sunday, July 18th at 2PM SFBC
Fellowship Hall

Text or call 618-322-5673 (Paula)
for regrets only.

Baby DeWitt is registered at babylist.com and
amazon.com

*I was glad when they said
unto me,
Let us go into the house of the
LORD.
Psalm 122:1*

**My Savior Walks Beside Me
By Carrie Braden**

**My Savior walks beside me
Where troubled paths I tread;
He whispers words of comfort
And fills my every need**

**He went this way before me,
Up Calvary's hill to climb
To bring His salvation
And joyous peace sublime.**

**Everyday He walks beside me;
I lean upon His breast,
I know the way He leadeth
Will always be God's best.**

"A Risen Jesus"

*How wonderful to celebrate You Easter
Sunday on our east parking lot with smiling
faces surrounding us.*

*I thank You for your precious love that
led You to the cross taking our place.
Thank You for the eternal life awaiting
us.*

*You are not at all surprised at the hap-
penings in our world, today or ever. You
are all knowing, never changing.*

*Help us to keep praying and loving one
another.*

*Preparing our soul, we wait in anticipa-
tion for Your return.*

By Bev Smith

The greatest message the has ever heard;

"He is not here, for He is risen,"

(Matthew 28:6)



Several of our ladies have been making masks for anyone that needs one. You can pick one up at the church office window. Some have been running errands for ones with underlining conditions. Find a way to be on ministry to others even by phone.

Our Annie Armstrong offering total was \$5140.00. Thank you for your gift.

We will be starting our Mother's Day Offering this month. This offering goes to Baptist Children's Home and Family Services. Our goal is \$1200.00. Pray about your contribution for this great ministry.



Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, The fruit of the womb a reward. Psalm 127:3



DATE	GREETER	ON CALL	SECURITY
May 03	Ronnie Donoho	Myron Lloyd	Ken Smith
May 10	Roy Rodgers	Gary Watson	Gerald Purcell
May 17	Tyler Lux	Dale Helpingstine	Ronnie Donoho
May 24	Greg Strother	Jon Wieldt	Gary Watson
May 31	Gerald Purcell	Roy Rodgers	Tyler Lux



DATE	SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR	BUTTERFLIES	LADY BUGS
May 03		S. Salliotte & A. Trammel	U. Smith & S. Wieldt
May 10		S. Dennis & Dallas Bundy	L. DeWitt & T. Huffhine
May 17		L. Bell & E. Dice	S. Rose & J. Purcell
May 24		S. Murfin & A. Hardcastle	U. Smith & S. Peradotti
May 31		D. Reed & B. Helpingstine	G. Hampton & P. Hampton



DATE	TEACHER
May 03	Family Worship/ No Children Church
May 10	Family Worship/ No Children Church
May 17	Family Worship/ No Children Church
May 24	Family Worship/ No Children Church
May 31	Family Worship/ No Children Church



NORTH ENTRY	EAST ENTRY	SOUTH ENTRY	WELCOME CENTER	HEAD GREETER
Kyle Rose	Sharon Dennis	Ronnie Donoho	Myra Donoho	Ronnie Donoho



DATE	VOLUNTEER	PIANIST
May 03		
May 10		
May 17		
May 24		
May 31		



**MANOR AT SALEM WOODS—441 HOTZE RD, SALEM:
Faye Wood #103**

**Twin Willows—1600 N Broadway:
Donna Shoemaker**

**Odin Care Center 300 Green St.:
Earline Kohrig**

**Doctors Nursing Home 1201 Hawthorn Rd:
Sadie Word Room 302 Bed #1**

KAEDAN'S HELPERS	
May 03	
May 10	
May 17	
May 24	
May 31	

Dale Helpingstine, Deacon Chairman

How the Virus Stole Easter
By Kristi Bothur
With a nod to Dr. Seuss

Twas late in '19 when the virus began
Bringing chaos and fear to all people, each land.

People were sick, hospitals full,
Doctors overwhelmed, no one in school.

As winter gave way to the promise of spring,
The virus raged on, touching peasant and king.

People hid in their homes from the enemy unseen.
They YouTubed and Zoomed, social-distanced, and
cleaned.

April approached and churches were closed.
"There won't be an Easter," the world supposed.

"There won't be church services, and egg hunts are out.
No reason for new dresses when we can't go about."

Holy Week started, as bleak as the rest.
The world was focused on masks and on tests.

"Easter can't happen this year," it proclaimed.
"Online and at home, it just won't be the same."

Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, the days came and
went.

The virus pressed on; it just would not relent.

The world woke Sunday and nothing had changed.
The virus still menaced, the people, estranged.

"Pooh, pooh to the saints," the world was grumbling.
"They're finding out now that no Easter is coming.

"They're just waking up! We know just what they'll do!
Their mouths will hang open a minute or two,
And then all the saints will all cry boo-hoo.

"That noise," said the world, "will be something to hear."
So it paused and the world put a hand to its ear.

And it did hear a sound coming through all the skies.
It started down low, then it started to rise.

But the sound wasn't depressed.
Why, this sound was triumphant!
It couldn't be so!
But it grew with abundance!

The world stared around, popping its eyes.
Then it shook! What it saw was a shocking surprise!

Every saint in every nation, the tall and the small,
Was celebrating Jesus in spite of it all!

It hadn't stopped Easter from coming! It came!
Somehow or other, it came just the same!

And the world with its life quite stuck in quarantine
Stood puzzling and puzzling.
"Just how can it be?"

"It came without bonnets, it came without bunnies,
It came without egg hunts, cantatas, or money."

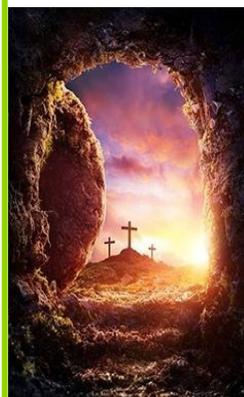
Then the world thought of something it hadn't before.
"Maybe Easter," it thought, "doesn't come from a store.
Maybe Easter, perhaps, means a little bit more."

And what happened then?
Well...the story's not done.
What will YOU do?

Will you share with that one
Or two or more people needing hope in this night?
Will you share the source of your life in this fight?

The churches are empty - but so is the tomb,
And Jesus is victor over death, doom, and gloom.

So this year at Easter, let this be our prayer,
As the virus still rages all around, everywhere.



May the world see hope when it
looks at God's people.
May the world see the church is not
a building or steeple.
May the world find Faith in Jesus'
death and resurrection,
May the world find Joy in a time of
dejection.
May 2020 be known as the year of
survival,
But not only that -

Origin Of Mother's Day

The "Mother's Day" concept has a long history of religious connections which in modern times seem to have been predominantly Christian.

In ancient Greece, the idea of paying tribute to motherhood was given expression with a regular festival tantamount to mother-worship. Formal ceremonies to Cybele, or Rhea, the "Great Mother of the Gods," were performed on the Ides of March throughout Asia Minor.

For Christianity, the concept seems to date back to establishment of England's "Mothering Sunday," a custom of the people which provided that one attend the mother church in which he was baptized on Mid-Lent Sunday. Gifts were to be offered at the altar to the church and to worshippers' mothers. The concept was divorced of any "mother worship," but nevertheless perpetuated its religious association.

U.S. observance of Mother's Day, too, has been characterized by church ties from the start. The first general observance of the occasion was in the churches of Philadelphia after Miss Anne Jarvis campaigned for a holiday for mothers more than 50 years ago.

—*Christianity Today*



MAY

2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					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 Memorial Day 	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Tara DeWitt
Kathy King
Wanda Keele
Calvin Albert
Katie Shelton
Jan Womack
Ashley Brooks
Leon Tate

May 01
May 02
May 07
May 08
May 11
May 11
May 12
May 16



Andrew Howard
Dorothy Schaubert
Shirley Garden
Johnny Powell
Tope Adendkan
Neva Isett
Lauryn Shelton
Bonnie Becker

May 17
May 18
May 21
May 21
May 27
May 29
May 29
May 30



721 W Main Street

Salem, IL 62881

Phone: 618-548-4060

Fax: 618-548-6039

Website: Salemfbc.org



Join Us . . .

Sundays

8:30 –9:20 AM

**In the
Fellowship Hall**

**We serve bagels with
cream cheese, donuts,
fresh fruit, coffee, juice
and milk.**

Our Vision

**The vision of Salem First Baptist Church is to become a growing family
Of committed believers with an increasing**

- Passion for God**
- Passion for People**
- Passion to Serve**

Office Hours

Monday—Thursday 9:00 to 4:00

Closed 12:00 to 1:00 for lunch

Friday 9:00—12:00 Noon

Closed Friday after noon

Sunday Morning and Evening

8:30—9:20 AM Café Agape - Donuts & Coffee

9:00—9:30 AM Media Center Open

9:30 AM Sunday School for All Ages

9:40 AM Nursing Home Ministry

10:45 AM Morning Worship

5:00—7:00 PM AWANA (Fall—Spring)

Youth

CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Andy DeWitt	Pastor
Jon Bell	Associate Pastor
Rick Meador	Financial Secretary
Glenda Lipe	Secretary
Kevin Keele	Maintenance and Security
Judy Bundy	Organist
Joyce Scrivner	Pianist
Deanna Buerster	Minister to Children

Wednesday Evening

3:00 PM Franklin Park Mentoring Program

5:00 PM Wednesday Night Supper
(Fall-Spring)

5:00 PM Women's Chronological Bible
Study

5:30—6:00 PM Media Center Open

6:00—7:00 PM Adult Bible Study

Praise Team Rehearsal,
Nursery

CIA, Mission Friends (Fall-Spring)

7:00 PM Evening Prayer Meeting