



# SFBC FAMILY NEWS

Volume 41 Issue 07

July 2020

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- Ministries
- Newsletter

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Salemfbcb.org



SALEM FIRST BAPTIST

**and My people who are called by My name humble themselves, pray and seek My face, and turn from their evil ways, then I will hear from heaven, forgive their sin, and heal their land. 2 Chronicles 7:14**

Pastor  
Dr. Andy DeWitt

Dear Church Family,

This past Sunday, June 14, was WONDERFUL! It was the first time that we, as a church family, were able to enter the church building and worship the Lord together since March. When 2020 began on January 1, I would never have considered the possibility that we would be instructed not to come to worship with other members of our church family. Thankfully, this has passed.

As I write this, I have finished my message for this coming Sunday a few minutes ago. The passage from Colossians I am preaching from finds Paul challenging the Colossians to not be taken in by the false teachers' rhetoric. With this still on my mind, I wish to deal in a brief fashion with something that's happening in Christianity today. First, however, I want you to read a couple brief passages from Paul's pen. *Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons, and Don't let anyone deceive you in any way. For [that day] will not come unless the apostasy comes first and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction* (2 Thessalonians 2:3, HCSB). Both of these passages tell us a similar truth: that the last days is going to reveal a wholesale departure from the Christian faith. Some will substitute "the teachings of demons" while there will be an "apostasy" or "a great falling away" (NKJV). If we were in the apostasy and a period when people were embracing the teaching of demons, what should we expect to find? Here are a few things but there are others to be sure. 1) I would expect to see the deemphasizing of biblical teaching. This is everywhere and in all Christian denominations. On many church web sites, it is a struggle to find any doctrinal statements. And if you find it, it is basic and generic. 2) I would expect to find a lack of biblical fidelity among professing Christians. By this, I have in mind the lack of biblical convictions. Decisions of where to attend church is not based on what the church teaches, but on items like musical styles, Bible translation choices, or church sponsored activities. Basically, the attitude of "What can this church offer me?" 3). I would expect to see compromise of professing Christians with the world. I know, this is likely to ruffle feathers. I saw this today and, quite frankly, it left me stunned (<https://popculture.com/country-music/news/florida-georgia-line-join-christian-artist-chris-tomlin-nashville-show/>, check this article out). I did not know who Florida/Georgia Line was, but I do know who Chris Tomlin is. I love his music—I still do. But after reading the lyrics of some of the songs of Florida/Georgia Line—they have no business being on the same stage. WAIT—before you tar and feather me, read what the Bible says: <sup>17</sup> *Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds.* <sup>18</sup> *They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart.* <sup>19</sup> *They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity.* <sup>20</sup> *But that is not the way you learned Christ!* And John writes: <sup>15</sup> *Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.* <sup>16</sup> *For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world.* <sup>17</sup> *And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.* I can cite many more passages that are in agreement with these.

Finally, 4) If we are in the last days, I would expect to see Christians defend and minimize sin. Yes, this is happening with professing Christians in defending abortion, homosexuality, and even looting; excusing all three of these (and many more). To top it all off, heroes of professing Christians today are not Lottie Moon, Annie Armstrong, Adoniram Judson, Jonathan Edwards, Hudson Taylor, or David Brainerd. No, today the heroes are celebrities that profess being Christians (too many of whom have renounced faith in Christ), My opinion—we are living in the last days.

So what should we do? *Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.*

Grace be with you all,

Andy

Associate Pastor

Jon Bell

## The Only Cure

Humpty Dumpty sat on the wall

Humpty Dumpty had a great fall

All the kings horses and all kings men

Couldn't put Humpty together again

Pastor Tony Evans, one of the leading voices for African American Evangelicals, uses Humpty Dumpty as an illustration in both his book and video series, "Oneness Embraced." He uses it to show that the government will not be who is going to fix the issues that plague our society. COVID-19, racism, sexual sin, sexual confusion, oppression, lies, idolatry, the love of money, evil... cannot be fixed by the government.

No one in the House of Representatives nor the Senate will fix us. No one in local government will fix us. Protestors to the government will not fix us. No celebrity endorsement will fix us. President Donald Trump will not fix us. Whoever he appoints to any level of the court, will not fix us. Only God can fix what plagues our country by His saving grace through the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Can God use anyone listed above, absolutely, just the same as He can use you and me to accomplish His purposes, but we must first seek His Kingdom and His righteousness.

We must seek the Lord and ask Him what He wants from His servants, and no one else. Just as Joshua did before the battle of Jericho at the end of Joshua 5, when the Commander of the Lord's Army reminded Joshua that the only side the Lord is on, is His side. Our focus must be on Him first and then everything else will come into line.

Only true repentance from His people, "His People," not everyone else, will help. His Word expresses this in 2 Chronicles 7:14. God is looking for the people who claim to be His followers to repent. He is not looking for us to blame others. Humility, nor repentance are shown by blaming others. If we truly believe in the power of the gospel. If we truly believe that our Lord can and will bring revival, then we need to seek Him by turning from our own evil ways to His way.

As we await His return, His request is that when He returns, He finds us doing what we are supposed to be doing, just as His Word tells us in Luke 12:35-40. His request is that upon His return, that we are found working for Him and living our lives for Him alone. His request is not for us to just sit around and talk about it.

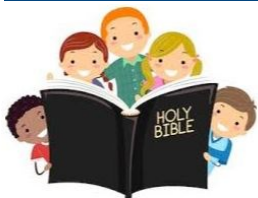
As Pastor Johnny Hunt says, "Too much talky talky, not enough walky walky," is taking place by those who claim to be followers of Jesus.

If we truly believe, then we need to show it by living our lives each and every moment like we truly believe.

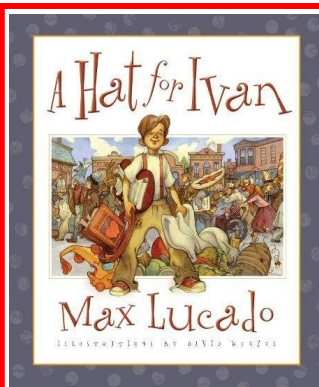
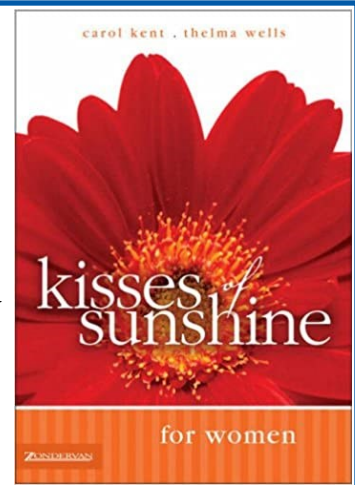
# Library News/Trustees



Your Librarian  
Sharon Dennis



Author and general editor Carol Kent, along with four additional co-authors, captures readers' hearts with tales about the joys, challenges, and frustrations that women face in all their various roles. Each book inspires women to remember that God loves them and that their purpose is simply to let his love so fill them that they become warmth, light, and love to everyone around them. Each devotional in these books includes a lighthearted or inspirational story, a thought-provoking quote, and a relevant verse from Scripture. *Kisses of Sunshine for Women*: a deep and heartfelt look into what it means to be a woman---turning everyday experiences into sparkling reflections of hope and joy.



All the grown-ups in Ivan's village wear a hat that shows what they love most. Because Ivan's father is the hatmaker, Ivan gets to watch his father create a hat that is perfect for each person. Ivan wonders what kind of hat he will have. Will he be a musician? A baker? A palace guard? Ivan doesn't need to worry about his future because his father, the hatmaker who loves him most, shows him that there is only one hat-and one life-created just for him.

## Trustees' Report for July

Since the last report, the trustees approved the purchase of a new battery for the church vehicle. The battery was six years old. The hot summer weather causes an old battery to fail the same as cold weather. The new battery should allow those using the vehicle to be able to start it without any problems. Two new items which the trustees will be discussing and bringing before the church for consideration include a new HVAC system for Room 101 and additional security cameras to cover some blind spots which the other security cameras do not cover.

Fifteen metal chairs were given away to those church members who requested them. Church families/members may have up to five per request. Please contact Dallas Bundy at 618-740-0571 or [salem-bundys@gmail.com](mailto:salem-bundys@gmail.com) if you would like to have some.

I was also able to obtain a drone and inspect the outside of the church bell tower. There appears to be no problems with the brick, gutters, shutters, windows, or copper steeple. The gutter fixed last year has taken care of the water leaks inside the tower.

Another item the trustees will be discussing is a new church inventory to update the one taken in May, 2016. If you would like to help, please contact me.

Dallas Bundy  
Chairman of the Trustees

*Trustee  
Ministry*



# Announcements/Poems



You are invited to a Open House  
Baby Shower!

Honoring and celebrating with Liz & Jordan on  
Joshua Andrew DeWitt's arrival!

Saturday, July 18th at 2PM -3:30PM at SFBC Fellowship Hall

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

Baby DeWitt is registered at [babylist.com](http://babylist.com) and [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

*"In Times of Need"*

*You are here, my God  
Always — all knowing  
Waiting on us  
To call Your name*

*You never change  
Never disappoint  
Forever in control*

*From our first heart beat  
Till the last,  
We are completely  
Dependent upon You*

*Life is full of "Times of Need"  
Always will be  
We have all we need in You  
Help us to see this*

*How blest we are!*

*Thank you for waiting on us,  
Forgiving us, welcoming  
Us home eternally*

*You, our refuge in times of need  
By Bev Smith*



*My Father's Care*

*By Carrie Braden*

*Do you every walk by a rushing stream  
And wonder what song it's singing?  
Or stop by a country church  
To listen to the bells ringing?*

*Don't you love to hear the sounds of night  
While sitting on your porch  
And see the splendor of the northern sky  
When it lights up like a torch?*

*And how about mornings after a storm  
When there's a cleanness in the air  
These many things all say to me  
"I'm in my Father's Care"*

**3-4 Year-old part-time teaching position** is available at Little Lamb Preschool at Salem Lutheran Church. We are a small Christian school that offers a quality education and are looking for a qualified teacher to prepare our Little Lambs for Kindergarten. If you are a caring, energetic person who would love to spend your mornings teaching some amazing 3 year-olds all about Jesus and His great big world, we would love to hear from you! Our 3-year old teacher should have a background in education or child development and have experience in a school or church setting. Hours vary slightly, but average 25 hours/week. Applications may be downloaded from our website [www.salemlc.org/little-lamb-preschool/](http://www.salemlc.org/little-lamb-preschool/). Applications may be submitted via email to [salemlps@gmail.com](mailto:salemlps@gmail.com) or delivered in person at Salem Lutheran Church, 1401 Hawthorn Rd, Salem. Please contact Jessica

## Women on Mission!

Often in life we take our opportunities and privilege's for granted and we don't appreciate these until they are taken away. When our ladies met in March for our time together, little did we know that we wouldn't have that blessing for an extended time. I have missed that sweet fellowship, praying for missionaries and working together on ministries. Even though we are unable to meet as a group, our ladies have continued serving in various ministries. I know some have called individuals, sent cards, took food, made masks, made cloth draw string bags to be placed in our Operation Christmas boxes for that ministry, some have purchased items for the boxes. We have been ask again this year to supply back packs filled with needed school supplies for children attending Hawthron School. Purchasing a child's needs for attending school can be a huge burden for some parents and we feel blessed to be able to assist with this ministry. All of the ministries which I have stated are very important, however we have been given the opportunity through the Holy Spirit to pray fervently for our missionaries safety and needs.

Thank you Salem First Baptist for you faithfulness in giving to our special mission offerings.



DATE	GREETER	ON CALL	SECURITY
July 05	Roy Rodgers	Gary Watson	Tyler Lux
July 12	Jon Wieldt	Myron Lloyd	Ronnie Donoho
July 19	Greg Strother	Ken Smith	Jon Wieldt
July 26	Gary Watson	Larry Blankenship	Dale Helpingstine



DATE	SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR	BUTTERFLIES	LADY BUGS
July 05			
July 12			
July 19			
July 26			



DATE	TEACHER	
July 05	Family Worship/ No Children Church	
July 12	Family Worship/ No Children Church	
July 19	Family Worship/ No Children Church	
July 26	Family Worship/ No Children Church	



NORTH ENTRY	EAST ENTRY	SOUTH ENTRY	WELCOME CENTER	HEAD GREETER



DATE	VOLUNTEER	PIANIST
July 05		
July 12		
July 19		
July 26		



**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

July 05	
July 12	
July 19	
July 26	



*Dale Helpingstine, Deacon Chairman*

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper me we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers." (Gal.5: 9-10)

I have used this scripture verse before, but it seems to be even more appropriate now, considering how things in our world seem to have been turned upside down. People have forgotten what it means to live in peace with each other. It seems that in nearly every corner of our country people are fighting and destroying other people's property and livelihoods. Everyone is told to be tolerant of other's beliefs, unless of course your beliefs happen to be Christian, then you are considered intolerant.

With all that is happening around us it is even more important now that we get back in the habit of coming to church and worshipping and fellowshiping together. The world around us is trying to tear us down and belittle us for our faith, so we have to stand in solidarity and unity in Christ and show that we cannot be broken of our faith.

It was great to see so many of our church family last Sunday as we re-opened for the first time in months. There was an excitement and joy in everyone as we once again were able to sing and pray together and listen to God's word preached in person. I am looking forward to when we can open up even further to have Sunday School and Wednesday evening Bible study and have fellowship times together as a church family.

I also want to commend you all for your steadfast giving throughout the months we have not been able to meet in person. I am also on the Finance Committee and see the weekly giving numbers and I am proud to say that we never missed a beat in our giving. That says a lot about the faithfulness and generosity of this church family.

I look forward to even greater days ahead at Salem First Baptist.

Sincerely,

Dale Helpingstine, Deacon Chairman

### Throwback Thursday Cruise Nights Return for 2020

Salem First Baptist Church  
721 West Main, Salem, IL

Dates: June 25<sup>th</sup>, July 16<sup>th</sup>, August 20<sup>th</sup>, September 10<sup>th</sup>  
Times: 6:00 to 8:00 PM



This event is open to all classic cars, trucks, muscle cars, hotrods, and antique vehicles. Just bring your car, a lawn chair and enjoy an evening visiting and looking at some of our area's classics.  
Please No Alcohol on Church Property.  
Contact Dale Helpingstine: 618-322-7123

*You are invited to the  
celebration of 50th  
Anniversary of  
Larry & Laura Rhodes!*

*August 9, 2020*

*2PM-5PM*

*At First Baptist Church*

*201 S. Moreland Rd.,*

*Bethalto, IL 62010*

*RSVP to 618-972-5683*



*No gifts please, cards  
are welcome.*

*Your attendance is  
the best gift.*

## 10 Reasons Many Churches Aren't Friendly to Guest by Chuck Lawless

I've [previously written about findings of “church secret shoppers”](#) we've used in church consulting. One of those findings is that many churches aren't very friendly to guests. Here are some of the reasons that's the case:

- 1. Caveat: Churches *are* friendly, but only to people they already know.** That's why churches almost always assert how friendly they are, and guests often talk of how friendly they *aren't*.
- 2. No one's ever evaluated them.** I've never talked to a church who told me how unfriendly they are. On the other hand, they've never really tested that conclusion by seeking input from guests—particularly, the guests *who never return*.
- 3. Congregations don't even know each other.** The reality is that most members have a small circle of friends in the church, and they don't know many people beyond that circle. If they aren't really in relationship with other church members, it's not surprising that they don't reach out to guests.
- 4. They leave the “friendliness” responsibility to others.** After all, they think, the extroverts and the talkers are wired for that task. When the greeters are doing their job, other members shouldn't have to worry about it.
- 5. They haven't fostered life-on-life Christianity.** Honestly, I'm not convinced that many believers understand what Christian hospitality and friendship are. Our relationships are generally surface-level, Sunday-to-Sunday “friendships.” It's little wonder we're not that friendly to people we don't even know.
- 6. Congregations treat church as if it's all about them.** They worship only where they like the style. They church shop any time their needs aren't met. They protect their positions and their turf, and they use language like “my church.” Self-centeredness seldom fosters friendliness.
- 7. They've built their “friendly moment” into the worship service.** Thom Rainer [has shown some of the problems with this approach](#), but many churches still have a forced “stand and greet” time during the service. When you know that time's coming, you don't need to reach out to anyone before the service.
- 8. They focus on their primary friends since they see them only once a week.** This issue goes back to #5 in this list. When you spend little intentional time with other believers outside of church, you give most of your attention to your friends when you do gather,
- 9. Their primary leader isn't perceived as friendly, either.** The longer a pastor is the leader, the more likely it is the church will adopt his personality. A perceived unfriendly pastor will produce an unfriendly church.
- 10. They don't have many guests anyway, so they have little practice.** Thus, the process comes full circle. An unfriendly church sees few guests return, and the congregation eventually becomes desensitized to inviting guests or greeting them when they come.



# July

## 2020

PAGE 9

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 
5	6 Prayer Meeting 6AM	7	8 Prayer Walking Begins	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 Throwback Thursday 6-8PM	17	18 Open House- Baby Shower for Joshua Andrew DeWitt 2-3:30PM
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Sadie Word  
Rick Chapman  
Madison Keele  
Sandra Wright  
Pat Hampton  
Paul Womack  
Kyle Mazanek  
Johannah Stallard  
Betty Canon  
Kaylynn Stahl  
Silas Lux  
Rachelle Oziemkiewicz  
Judy Held

July 01  
July 02  
July 02  
July 02  
July 03  
July 04  
July 05  
July 06  
July 07  
July 07  
July 10  
July 12  
July 13



Kay Pullium  
Kristy Hays  
Mark Peradotti  
Jaysen Aiston  
Sharon Kavanaugh  
Paulette Murphy  
Fred Wiedle  
Emily Dice  
Darlene Page  
Charlene Eidson  
Gary Watson  
Thomas Reed

July 13  
July 15  
July 15  
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July 21  
July 21  
July 22  
July 26  
July 29  
July 29  
July 30



**721 W Main Street**

**Salem, IL 62881**

Phone: 618-548-4060

Fax: 618-548-6039

Website: Salemfbcc.org



**Currently  
Dismissed**

### ***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 Worship**

**9:15 AM. .... First Worship Service**

**10:45AM ..... Second Worship Service**

**Available on Facebook/WJBD 13:50AM or 92.1FM**

A signup list on a first-come-first served basis will be online on the church's web site, Facebook, and in the church office.

### **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**

**(Currently Dismissed)**

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