

# The Salem Heartbeat

## *Sharing Christ with the world!*

### From the Pastor's Heart

#### ***"Peace, Peace, Wonderful Peace"***

When I look back on my teenage years, the season that most tried my faith wasn't a tragic loss or a deep betrayal by the world. It was a church split.

Now, for those who didn't grow up in the world of independent Baptist churches, a church split might sound foreign. Imagine a close-knit family feud that escalates past reconciliation—accusations whispered, alliances drawn, hearts broken, and people packing up their pews and leaving, never to return. That's a church split. And more often than not, it doesn't look anything like Jesus.

My grandfather had planted Landmark Baptist Church, and for much of my childhood, it was the center of our family and faith. He wasn't just the pastor—he was the spiritual patriarch of the congregation and of our family. But in May of 1999, my grandfather passed away, and with his passing came a void—a vacancy in the pulpit that would reveal cracks in our foundation no one knew were there.

His longtime assistant, Brother Dennis, stepped in as the interim pastor. It seemed like the natural move, but for reasons I still don't fully understand, the church never called him as senior pastor. Instead, a parade of guest preachers began—a spiritual audition of sorts. There were whispers and wonderings, even hopes. Would they call Uncle Brad, married to my Aunt Lee Ann? Would the soft-spoken and gentle Michigan pastor return?

In the end, the search committee offered the position to another uncle of mine—Mark Landolt. Tall, thin, intellectual, and intense, Uncle Mark was a former missionary with years of experience in East Germany and Romania. I looked up to him. He felt like a spiritual giant. At first, things seemed to go well. New people came. Salvations happened. Guest preachers with global experience came and went. I was a teenager, dreaming of doing big things for God, and for a while, it felt like the momentum of revival was catching wind. Then came Christmas Eve.

Landmark didn't typically hold special Christmas Eve services, but if it fell on a Wednesday, we'd still have church. That particular night, the crowd was small, the sanctuary dim, and Uncle Mark stepped into the pulpit with a sternness that caught us off guard. He scolded the congregation—his voice hard, his words sharp. I remember feeling confused and uneasy.

And then my father stood up.

From halfway back on the right side, my dad's voice cut through the sanctuary: "Brother Mark! It's Christmas Eve. Don't you think you've fleeced us enough? Maybe you could try feeding us for a change."

Time slowed. I was sitting up front to the left. I turned around, heart pounding. Did that really just happen?

In our church culture, pastors weren't just leaders. They were spiritual monarchs—challenging them publicly was unthinkable.

#### **JANUARY 2026**

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***"The Little Church with a Big Heart!"***



#### **REGULAR SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES:**

**9:30-10:30 AM**  
**Sunday School for all ages**

**10:45 AM**  
**Traditional Worship Service**  
Pastor Brent Mangus, MDIV

## IN WORSHIP - JANUARY 2026

### In Worship: Wonderful Peace – Living in the Shalom of the Shepherd An Expository Journey Through Psalm 23

**Sunday, January 4** - Series Title: Wonderful Peace: Living in the Shalom of the Shepherd

Sermon Title: The Peace of Rest and Restoration / Text: Psalm 23:2-3a

**Big Idea:** God brings peace by leading us into rest and restoring what has been worn down or broken within us.

**Sunday, January 11** - Series Title: Wonderful Peace: Living in the Shalom of the Shepherd

Sermon Title: The Peace of Right Paths / Text: Psalm 23:3b

**Big Idea:** Peace flows from trusting God's guidance and walking in obedience to His righteous paths.

**Sunday, January 18** - Series Title: Wonderful Peace: Living in the Shalom of the Shepherd

Sermon Title: The Peace of God's Presence in the Valley / Text: Psalm 23:4

**Big Idea:** Peace is not found in avoiding the valley, but in trusting the nearness and protection of the Shepherd within it.

**Sunday, January 25** - Series Title: Wonderful Peace: Living in the Shalom of the Shepherd

Sermon Title: The Peace of God's Table and Eternal Home / Text: Psalm 23:5-6

**Big Idea:** True and lasting peace is found in God's gracious welcome, His pursuing goodness, and the promise of dwelling with Him forever.



Each week we pray for members and **friends of our Salem Church family**, a church here in the Waynesboro or surrounding area, one of the countries in which Christians are suffering severe persecution, and one of the ministries we support with our mission funds. Please join us in the ministry of prayer!

#### Jan. 04: **Sherry Hill**

St. Mary's Episcopal Church  
Persecuted Christians in Iran  
Fisher House

#### Jan. 11: **Connie Hollenshead**

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Persecuted Christians in Eritrea  
Fruitbelt Farm Workers

#### Jan. 18: **John Honodel**

St. Stephen's United Church of Christ  
Persecuted Christians in Syria  
Gideons International

#### Jan. 25: **Roy & Elsie Horton**

State Line United Methodist Church  
Persecuted Christians in Sudan  
The Tide / Gospel Tide



**PRAYER REQUESTS:** Please continue using the Prayer Cards on Sundays as they allow the prayer request and name to be accurately passed from the Pastor to the Secretary to be added to the bulletin. It is very difficult to hear and record the requests when given verbally during the service. It also allows them to be read so those in the Fellowship Hall and parking lot hear them. Thank you for your help with this important ministry of the church.

To send requests through the Prayer Chain, you can email them to Sandi Barnett at: barnetts05@comcast.net or call her cell: 240-675-3495

# MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY 2026

## USHER/GREETER

1/04 Butch & Joie Rotz  
 1/11 John McGuire  
 1/18 Allan & Linda Wilson  
 1/25 Tom & Fern McCloud

## WORSHIP LEADER

1/04 Aurita Rose  
 1/11 Dennis Goshorn  
 1/18 Dennis Goshorn  
 1/25 Michelle Lushbaugh

## ACOLYTE

1/04 Joie Rotz  
 1/11 Fern McCloud  
 1/18 John McGuire  
 1/25 **OPEN / TBD**

## OFFERING COUNTERS

1/04 Wendy E. / Linda S.  
 1/11 Ruth Ann H. / John Mc.  
 1/18 Lana L. / Fred Wh.  
 1/25 Terry E. / Troy J.

## NURSERY

1/04 **OPEN / TBD**  
 1/11 **OPEN / TBD**  
 1/18 **OPEN / TBD**  
 1/25 **OPEN / TBD**

## \*ALTAR FLOWERS

1/04 **OPEN / TBD**  
 1/11 **OPEN / TBD**  
 1/18 **OPEN / TBD**  
 1/25 **OPEN / TBD**

\*If you signed up for Altar Flowers and plan to have them on display in the Sanctuary, please contact the church secretary no later than the Sunday before (one week prior) in order to have your dedication in the bulletin. We also have silk flowers on hand for those who do not wish to use live floral bouquets.

## **CHERISHED**

By Glenda Bennett

How we cherish the Father  
 Who sent us His Son.  
 Though born a wee infant,  
 King of kings He'd become.  
 How we cherish the sacrifice  
 Christ made for us all;  
 New sons and daughters  
 By His Grace He did call.  
 How we cherish the Spirit -  
 Our Teacher and Guide  
 To quicken and lead us -  
 In Him to abide.  
 How we cherish each other,  
 Our family of God  
 Together forever -  
 How the angels applaud!

## **SALEM GAME NITE!**

The next Game Nite is scheduled for Friday, January 16 / 6 PM in the Fellowship Center. Please contact Jean Kahl if you have questions or suggestions. Let's PLAY!



**PLEASE NOTE: 2025 Annual Reports from each Ministry Team for are due by the end of January at the latest.**

**Thank you for your help!**

# January 2026 Calendar of Events / Activities

## REGULAR WEEKLY / MONTHLY ACTIVITIES:

Wednesday Morning: Bible Study, 10 AM-12 PM Salem Fellowship Center

### Dates to Remember:

January 01	Happy New Year 2026!
January 08	Ministry Council
January 16	Game Nite
January 18	Newsletter Deadline
January 31	2025 Annual Reports due to office

### Time:

7:00 PM  
6:00 PM  
8:00 PM  
N/A

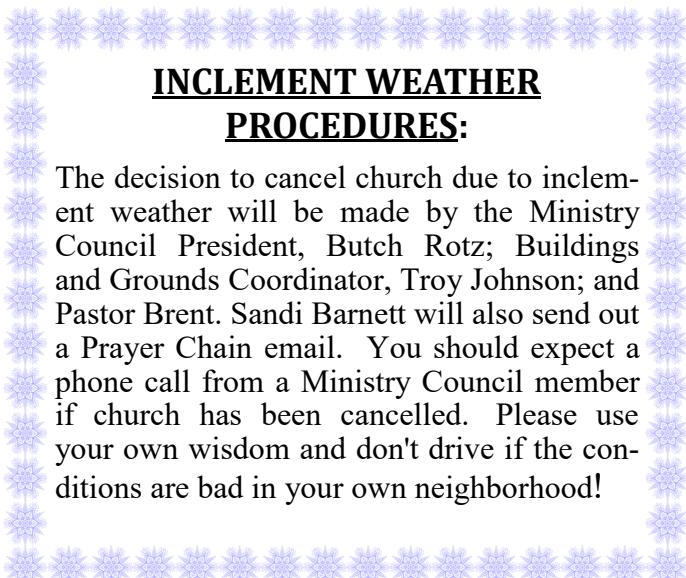


1/1 Linda Wilson  
1/4 Anita Johnson  
1/5 Fern Martin  
1/6 Jean Johnson  
1/9 Lana Lemmond

1/10 Bob Crouse  
1/11 Jan Goshorn  
1/12 Charlotte Rodriguez  
1/13 Chase Penrose  
1/14 Kamryn Mull  
1/17 Olivia Carbaugh  
1/17 Kody Mull  
1/17 Elsie Horton  
1/21 Ann Sheeley  
1/27 Wendy Beeler



1-15-55 George & Connie McCabe  
1-15 TT & Cleve Williford



### INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES:

The decision to cancel church due to inclement weather will be made by the Ministry Council President, Butch Rotz; Buildings and Grounds Coordinator, Troy Johnson; and Pastor Brent. Sandi Barnett will also send out a Prayer Chain email. You should expect a phone call from a Ministry Council member if church has been cancelled. Please use your own wisdom and don't drive if the conditions are bad in your own neighborhood!



Wednesdays 6:30 PM  
Fairview Ave. BIC Church  
152 Fairview Ave.,  
Waynesboro, PA 17268



### MISSION BULLETIN BOARD

Want to know what is going on with our supported missionaries? Don't forget to check out the Mission Bulletin Board in the Fellowship Center. There you will find the latest newsletters and updates!

## WINTER COATS & TOYS FOR CHILDREN THIS CHRISTMAS!

A heartfelt thank you to our Salem Church family for the generous donations for Waynesboro Human Services. We collected a total of \$1,045.00 towards the purchase of winter coats and toys for children this year! The Human Services staff was thrilled and very grateful for this support!

Thank you, Salem Church Family! Linda Wilson



### *"Peace, Peace, Wonderful Peace" continued from front page*

But my dad, who I've come to understand more with each passing year, wasn't trying to disrespect. He was doing what so few had the courage to do—speak truth when the sheep were being wounded by the shepherd.

Not long after, the church leadership asked Uncle Mark to step down. But not all agreed. The deacon board split—two for, two against. The church split too. Anonymous letters, harsh accusations, whispered rumors—all of it followed.

Eventually, Brother John Allen became the new pastor. He was a man of quiet strength—an Army veteran who had faithfully served at Landmark for years, cleaning toilets, serving quietly, loving deeply. But even his appointment brought division. Some left again. Some letters resurfaced. Peace felt impossible.

And our family? Torn in two. My dad's stand had placed us on one side. Uncle Mark and his family were on the other. I wasn't allowed to see my cousins. And that—that—was what broke me the most. The church hurt. The confusion. The betrayal. I could handle all of that. But not the loss of my family.

I spiraled. In my foolish teenage heart, I resented my father. I resented the church. I resented the school. I fantasized about running away and living with my cousins. I didn't yet understand that my dad—wise, discerning, painfully obedient—saw things I couldn't. Things I didn't want to see.

In that darkness, I began to cry out to God. I found an old journal recently from that time, pages filled with teenage prayers begging for peace, for reconciliation, for healing.

And in the midst of my ache, I found a song—an old hymn that wrapped itself around my heart like a warm blanket:

*Far away in the depths of my spirit tonight, rolls a melody sweeter than psalm;  
In celestial-like strains it unceasingly falls  
O'er my soul like an infinite calm.  
Peace, peace! wonderful peace,  
Coming down from the Father above,  
Sweep over my spirit forever,  
I pray, In fathomless billows of love.*

That hymn became my anthem. And though I couldn't see the full picture then, I know now that God never left me in the storm. He was working behind the scenes, stitching together what felt hopelessly unraveled.

My family did reconcile—at least most of us. Uncle Mark remained apart, but that's a story for another day.

The church? Still standing. Still preaching Christ. Still growing. God had a plan. And I've found peace.

Peace not in the absence of storms, but in the presence of a Savior who holds all things—churches, families, and teenage hearts—in His hands.

## Salem Church Leadership

### Ministry Council Officers & Members 2026:

#### Council/Congregation, President:

**Butch Rotz** 717-762-6961

#### Council/Congregation, Vice President:

Ruth Ann Helman 717-762-8972

#### Secretary:

John McGuire 240-357-6237

#### Co-Treasurers:

Sandi Barnett 240-675-3495

Kim Kennedy 717-977-0461

#### Members:

Mike Eisenberger 717-977-0292

Dennis Goshorn 717-504-2068

Michelle Lushbaugh 717-762-4193

Deidra Mangus 724-689-7169

Linda Stoler 717-655-7833

Judy White 717-762-7008

#### Ex-officio members:

Brent Mangus (Lead Pastor)

Sandi Barnett (Treasurer)

Kim Kennedy (Treasurer)

### Council of Elders 2026:

Terry Eigenbrode 717-762-4720

Troy Johnson 717-762-4426

Jean Kahl 717-977-0867

Jim Ressler 717-762-2643

Jeff Rhodes 717-762-9435

Sam Rose 717-762-8582

Butch Rotz 717-762-6961

Linda Stoler 717-655-7833

### Ministers to the Community:

All members

Church phone: 717-762-8531

E-mail: salemchurch@pa.net



## Ministry Teams

Administrative Ministry Teams - \*Dennis Goshorn

Financial Oversight - Bob Crouse

H.E.L.P. - Linda Stoler

Historical Records - Wendy Eigenbrode

Personnel - Linda Stoler

Caring Ministry Teams - \*Deidra Mangus

Board of Deacons - Lu Kennedy

Funeral Meals - Paula Eigenbrode

Family Assistance Fund - Linda Stoler

Meals - Bonnie Rhodes

Prayer Chain - Sandi Barnett

Christian Education Ministry Teams - \*Michelle Lushbaugh

Adult Sunday School - Tom McCloud

Bible Studies, Classes, Seminars - Pastor Brent

Children's Ministries - Jack Martin

Nursery - Cindy Johnson

Fellowship Ministry Teams - \*John McGuire

Game Nite - Jean Kahl

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner - Diane E., Lu K. Judy W.

Outreach Ministry Team - \*Ruth Ann Helman

Leland Ministry - Lu Kennedy

Mission Team - Jim Ressler

Relay for Life Team - Linda Stoler

Salvation Army Bell Ringers - Tom & Fern McCloud

Women's Fellowship Project Group - Joie Rotz

Property & Maintenance Ministry Team - \*Judy White

Cemetery - Troy Johnson/John McGuire

Property & Maintenance - Troy Johnson/John McGuire

Columbarium/Scattering Garden - Paula Eigenbrode

Safety & Security - Chuck & Jamie Snyder

Property Improvement Committee - TBD

Spiritual Council - \*Linda Stoler

Pastoral Relations Ministry Team - Jeff Rhodes

Worship Ministry Teams - \*Mike Eisenberger

Worship Team - Linda Wilson

Praise Music Team - Wendy Beeler

Tech Team - Sam Rose

Marquee - Michelle Lushbaugh

Acolytes - Fern McCloud

\*The names with an asterisk are the liaisons for that particular ministry