

The Salem Heartbeat

Sharing Christ with the world!

From the Pastor's Heart

The Letter, the Table, and the Call

It was a Saturday—one of those quiet, slow-moving ones where the weight of Sunday was already pressing in, and the sermon needed finishing. I had been preaching through a series on the mothers of Genesis, a journey rich with stories of faith and struggle, barrenness and blessing. I had intended to go a little further with it. But when I sat down with my notes that morning, something shifted.

There's a still, sacred whisper that sometimes rises up when you're prepping a sermon. It's not loud, but it's unmistakable. That morning, I sensed the Lord nudging me—"It's time to bring this series to a close." No explanation, just a quiet clarity. It wasn't resignation. It felt more like release. And almost immediately, another idea stirred—Father's Day was coming, and with it, a call to preach something that had long lived in my heart.

My mind didn't wander far before it landed squarely on two of my favorite stories from Scripture. Neither are explicitly about fathers and sons, but both are drenched in Gospel grace that redeems broken relationships and redefines identity—hallmarks of what fatherhood, at its best, is meant to reflect.

The first was Paul's letter to Philemon. Short and deeply personal, the letter carries the weight of eternity in its few verses. Paul writes from prison, pleading on behalf of Onesimus, a runaway slave who had wronged his master. But somewhere along the way, Onesimus had met Paul, and more importantly, he had met Jesus. Now, transformed, he was being sent back—with a letter in hand and grace in his heart. Paul, ever the advocate of reconciliation, tells Philemon to receive him not as a slave, but as a brother. And if he owes anything? "Charge it to me," Paul says. A picture of the Gospel, if there ever was one.

The second story is found in 2 Samuel 9—the tale of King David and a man named Mephibosheth. The son of Jonathan, David's best friend, Mephibosheth had royal blood but broken feet. Crippled in a fall as a child, forgotten and hidden away for years, he was a living remnant of a fallen dynasty. And yet, when David searched for anyone to whom he could show covenant kindness, it was Mephibosheth he found. Brought trembling before the king, he expected judgment—but received mercy. David restored to him the land of his grandfather Saul and invited him to eat at the king's table, like one of his own sons.

As I mapped out the beginnings of this new series, I was pulled back to the summers of my teenage years. Unlike most kids my age, I didn't carry around a Walkman loaded with the latest pop hits. My soundtrack was different: old cassette tapes of sermons by my grandfather, a preacher whose voice still echoes in my memory like the low hum of a church organ.

Two of his best—at least to me—were on Philemon and Mephibosheth. He didn't just preach them; he told them. He wove story and truth together like a tapestry, each thread vibrant with grace. I remember him describing Onesimus on his long journey home, the dusty road stretching out in front of him, doubt hanging like a fog around his shoulders. But each time the fear rose, Onesimus would reach into his pocket, pull out Paul's letter, and read it again and again, until the words were written not just on parchment, but on his heart. My grandfather would smile, hold up his well-worn Bible, and say something like, "That's what

JULY 2025

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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

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IN WORSHIP - JULY 2025



**July 06, 2025--Pastor Brent--Sermon: "Ministers of Mercy in the Midst of War"
Text: 2 corinthians 5:18-20**

July 13, 2025--Guest Speaker: Dr. Sherri Yoder

**July 20, 2025--Guest Speaker: Pastor Steve Wagoner.
Sermon: "Noah's Ark--Fact or Fable?"**

**July 27, 2025--Pastor Brent--Sermon: "Hope that Endures: Living in Light of the End"
Text: Matthew 24:3-14**



*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!*

- July 06: Teresa Baker**
Jesus Alive Ministries
Persecuted Christians in Afghanistan
Waynesboro Community Human Services
- July 13: Sandi Barnett**
LCBC - (Lives Changed By Christ)
Persecuted Christians in Iraq
WCRH Radio
- July 20: Rick & Wendy Beeler**
Liberty Baptist
Persecuted Christians in Somalia
Xin Luan & Ying Deng (China Outreach)
- July 27: Brad & Glenda Bennett**
Lifegate Ministries
Persecuted Christians in Maldives
Camp Joy El



Salem Church Special Offering Project for July: Fruitbelt Farmworkers Christian Ministry





MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR JULY 2025



USHER/GREETER

7/06 Mary Margaret B. / Jean K.
 7/13 **OPEN / TBD**
 7/20 Deb Nash
 7/27 Wendy E. / John Mc.

WORSHIP LEADER

7/06 Dennis Goshorn
 7/13 Joie Rotz
 7/20 Fred West
 7/27 Michelle Lushbaugh

ACOLYTE

7/06 Fern McCloud
 7/13 Jean Kahl
 7/20 **OPEN / TBD**
 7/27 John McGuire

OFFERING COUNTERS

7/06 Ruth Ann H. / Linda S.
 7/13 Wendy E. / Fred Wh.
 7/20 Lana L. / John Mc.
 7/27 Terry E. / Troy J.

NURSERY

7/06 **OPEN / TBD**
 7/13 **OPEN / TBD**
 7/20 Wendy E.
 7/27 **OPEN / TBD**

*ALTAR FLOWERS

7/06 Linda Stoler
 7/13 John & Ruth Ann Helman
 7/20 Jean Kahl
 7/27 Rodney & Tina Anderson

**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.*



**Salem Church's
 Vacation Bible School
 has been postponed to
 Summer 2026 primarily
 due to Greencastle's
 Old Home Week .**



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

Relay for Life 2025 Wrap-up

May 16th began as a cloudy day and remained that way until about 5 PM. Then the thunder, lighting, and the clouds opened up with a heavy rain. For safety purposes, the event was moved indoors. The event continued in the High School gym.

Opening ceremonies began with prayer by our Salem Church Pastor, Brent Mangus. Most everything took place inside. The rain did eventually stop, so the Luminary Lighting could be held outdoors. This is a very important part of our Relay, as the lighting of the bags is in memory of those who passed from this dreadful disease, and in honor of those have gone through the trials associated with cancer.

The goal this year was \$100,000.00. We did not reach goal as this part of the event ended. \$62,780.09 was the total for the day. In July, the ladies at Penn National Golf course are sponsoring a golf tournament with all the proceeds to be added to the total, already turned in. Last year, their events raised \$20,000.00.

Our Salem Church Team raised \$6,748.00. At the end of calculations for May 16th, our team was 4th in monies turned in. Jean and I are looking forward to next year. We would love to add more to our team of 2!

At the end of the indoor ceremony, they recognized all those who have participated in the number of Relays. This year marked the 30th year in Greencastle. Jean Kahl (29) years and Linda Stoler (30) years, were the only ones standing!

Thanks to everyone who contributed in any way to support our endeavor!

Linda Stoler, Team Captain / Jean Kahl, Team Member



July 2025 Calendar of Events / Activities

REGULAR WEEKLY / MONTHLY ACTIVITIES:
Wednesday Morning: Bible Study, 10 AM-12 PM Salem Fellowship Center

Dates to Remember:

		<u>Time:</u>
July 04	Independence Day	All Day
July 09	Leland Ministry (all welcome to come)	2:00 PM
July 10	Ministry Council	7:00 PM
July 18	Salem Game Nite	6:00 PM
July 20	August Newsletter deadline	8:00 PM



- 7/3 Tom McCloud
- 7/6 Kalea Mangus
- 7/7 Sandy May
- 7/12 John Farmer
- 7/14 Bev Henicle
- 7/17 Chesney Carbaugh
- 7/17 Bai Edward Fornah
- 7/25 Tom Kennedy
- 7/28 Michelle Anderson
- 7/31 Jean Kahl



- 7-5 Steve & Kim Wagoner
- 7-20-85 Frank & Marilyn Tracy
- 7-26-80 Randy & Wendy Eigenbrode
- 7-31 Mike & Bev Henicle

"The Letter, the Table, and the Call" continued

we do with God's Word. When fear comes, when we feel unworthy, we pull out the letter of love He gave us and read it—until we believe it again."

And then there was Mephibosheth. I can still hear Grandpa's voice describing the royal dinner table—Adonijah, the heir apparent; Absalom, strong and striking; Solomon, full of youthful energy. And then, Mephibosheth, dragging his crippled legs behind him. As he pulled up to the table, he might have looked at his twisted feet and felt the sting of shame. But once they were under the tablecloth, hidden from sight, he looked just like everyone else—an equal among royalty, because the king had chosen to make him one of his own.

That image has never left me. And neither has the dream that was born in those moments—of one day preaching with the same conviction and grace that my grandfather did.

I'm a pastor now. A preacher. Each week I step into the pulpit and try to bring the Word to life. I'm not him—not yet. He had decades of storytelling and Spirit-filled wisdom behind him. But I'm learning. I'm growing. And on days like today, I'm simply grateful.

Grateful for a grandfather who left me a legacy of Gospel storytelling. Grateful for the sacred stories of slaves made sons and cripples given a place at the table. Grateful for the voice of God that still calls me, still redirects me, still whispers when it's time to change course.

And above all, grateful for the high honor of proclaiming the same good news he once preached: that in Christ, the runaway is welcomed home, the broken are restored, and mercy always has the final word.



CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Ministry Council Officers & Members 2025:

Council/Congregation, President:

Butch Rotz 717-762-6961

Council/Congregation, Vice President:

Sherry Hill 717-794-2785

Secretary:

John McGuire 240-357-6237

Co-Treasurers:

Sandi Barnett 240-675-3495

Ruth Ann Helman 717-762-8972

Members:

Mike Eisenberger 717-977-0292

Lu Kennedy 717-762-9692

Michelle Lushbaugh 717-762-4193

Deb Nash 503-891-5448

Linda Stoler 717-655-7833

Judy White 717-762-7008

Ex-officio members:

Brent Mangus (Lead Pastor)

Ruth Ann Helman (Treasurer)

Sandi Barnett (Treasurer)

Council of Elders 2025:

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 - *Sherry Hill
Financial Oversight - Bob Crouse
H.E.L.P. - Linda Stoler
Historical Records - Wendy Eigenbrode
Personnel - Linda Stoler

Caring Ministry Teams - *Deb Nash
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 - *Lu Kennedy
Game Nite - Jean Kahl
Guess Who's Coming to Dinner - Tom & Fern McCloud

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