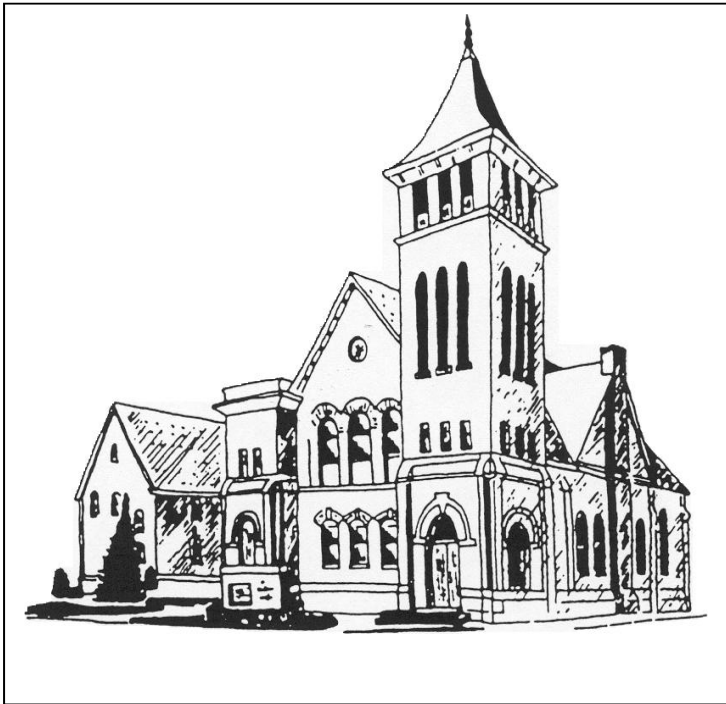


SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

1500 North Main

Higginsville, Missouri

web page: salemucchigginsville.org



**We are a gathering church sent out
by God to bring the good news of
God's grace, justice, peace, and
love to the world**

Welcome to Salem United Church of Christ! No matter who you are or where you are on your life's journey, you are welcome here in the United Church of Christ.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAISE SONG

RESPONSIVE READING

Reader 1: We gather today, not clinging to the past, but stepping into the promise of what is to come.

Reader 2: Our eyes are lifted to the horizon, where God's light breaks through the dawn.

Reader 1: The One who began a good work in us will be faithful to complete it.

Reader 2: We trust in His timing, His leading, and His unfailing love.

Reader 1: Come, let us worship the God who makes all things new.

Reader 2: With open hearts and expectant spirits, we worship the Lord of our future.

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Statement of Faith

We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify:

**You call the worlds into being,
create persons in your own image,
and set before each one the ways of life and death.**

**You seek in holy love to save all people from
Aimlessness and sin.**

**You judge people and nations by your righteous will
declared through prophets and apostles.**

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified
and risen Savior,
you have come to us
and shared our common lot,
conquering sin and death
and reconciling the world to yourself.

You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and
renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding
in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues,
and races.

You call us into your church
to accept the cost and joy of discipleship,
to be your servants in the service of others,
to proclaim the gospel to all the world
and resist the powers of evil,
to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his
table, to join him in his passion and victory.

You promise to all who trust you
forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace,
courage in the struggle for justice and peace,
your presence in trial and rejoicing,
and eternal life in your realm which has no
end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you.
Amen.

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

MESSAGE HYMN

SCRIPTURE

Philippians 3:13-14

SERMON SONG

"Come Jesus Come"

Evelyn

SERMON

"Looking Forward"

Evelyn

BENEDICTION

TIME OF FELLOWSHIP

**Please stand if you are able to do so.*
Worship is over and our Service begins.

Leading Worship Today:
Evelyn Elmore – Pulpit Supply

Best Wishes for Birthdays this week...

Denise Kirchhoff, January 18
Jim Stoner, January 18
Danny Long, January 19
Teri Graham, January 20
Joyce Gross, January 22
Conner Moore, January 23
Nikala Nevels, January 24

IN OUR PRAYERS:

John Koenig, had surgery on Friday, Jan 16th to remove his right kidney at St. Luke's East. His daughter Aren will keep us updated.

Andy Mockridge, had knee replacement surgery on Tuesday, January 13, 2026 at Warrensburg Hospital. She is now recovering at home.

Roger Erdman & Tillie Erdman, are at Meyer Care Center.

Hubert Dickmeier, is hospitalized at Research Hospital. There are improvements, they are continuing to run tests. Prayers are appreciated.

Bobby Bergsieker, as he receives chemotherapy treatments for lymphoma.

Prayers, for anyone with a health issue, anyone grieving, and anyone that has a heavy burden on their heart, mind, and soul.

Prayers, for our world and nation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SLATE OF NOMINEES:

The nominating committee met Thursday, January 8, 2026. These are the nominees:

Nominees for Church Council: Courtney Bergsieker & Pete Thaller

Nominees for Board of Elders: Eric Kirchhoff & Dennis

Knipmeyer

Nominees for Board of Christian Education: Tina Gibler & Tania Pessetto

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED: The church office will be closed Monday, January 19, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

LAMPLIGHTER: Articles for the February Lamplighter are due in the church office by Monday, January 26. Thank you.

2026 ENVELOPES:

If you are using offering envelopes they are available outside the church office.

PAPER COPIES OF THE LAMPLIGHTER AVAILABLE:

Paper copies of the Lamplighter are available in the back of the Sanctuary and by the church office.

COMMUNITY NEWS:

COMMUNITY WIDE WORSHIP HONORING MLK JR

LEGACY: Will be held Sunday, January 18, in the West Gym, C-1 Schools at 2:00 p.m. Pastor Ivan James, UMC, Guest Preacher and David Pollard, Music Leader.

JKV AND MEYER CARE CENTER BIBLE STUDY:

John Knox Village and Meyer Care Center have a weekly Bible Study that is led, on a rotational schedule, by the Ministerial Fellowship. Father Justin Hoyer (St. Mary's Catholic) will lead Bible Study during the month of January. The Bible Study is held every Wednesday, 10:15-10:45 a.m. in the Gathering Room.

JANUARY SOUPER SUPPER SCHEDULE:

All suppers are 5:30–6:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 25 First Presbyterian Church: Phone: 660-584-3372

Monday, January 26 Salem UCC: Phone: 660-584-3603

(Immanuel Lutheran Church partnering)

Menu: Turkey Pot Pie, Banana, Dessert

Tuesday, January 27 First Baptist Church: Phone: 660-584-7165

Wednesday, January 28 St. Mary's Catholic Church: Phone:

660-584-3038 (New Beginnings partnering)

Thursday, January 29 Grace United Methodist Church:

Phone: 660-584-2211

PRAYERS AND CONCERNS:

Anyone who is in need of prayers, please call the church office,
(660) 584-3603.

ATTENDANCE FOR January 11, 2026

8:00 a.m. worship service attendance: 14

10:00 a.m. worship service in-person attendance: 56

10:00 a.m. live-stream attendance on YouTube: 20

INCOME & EXPENSES FOR Jan. 9-Jan. 15, 2025

General Fund Income: \$2,213

General Fund Expense: \$2,907

UP COMING DATES:

January 26 – Souper Supper at Salem

February 7 – Bingo and Chili Cook-off

FINANCIAL GIVING OPTIONS:

1. Check or Cash is always accepted. You may place your donation in the offering plate on Sunday morning. Offering plates are placed in the back of the Sanctuary at the 10:00 a.m. service or by the bulletins at the 8:00 a.m. service. On special occasions the offering plate will be passed at the 10:00 a.m. service. You may also mail your contribution to Salem, 1500 Main, Higginsville, MO 64037.
2. Salem Church website (salemucchigginsville.org). Click on the Resources & Links tab then click the online giving link
3. Text 73256 on your phone and use the code SalemHigg and then click on the link
4. Download the Salem church app and under the giving tab is a link for online giving



**4th Annual
Bingo and Chili Cookoff!**
**February 7th at 5:00pm
in the Fellowship Hall**

**Bring your best Chili
and your best
“Bingo” voice and
plan to have a great
time!**

**Prizes for Bingo
and 1st place
prize for the best
Chili!**

**You don't have to bring Chili to attend.
If you don't want to make Chili and still want to bring something,
June has a whole list of other things you can bring.
Please call the church office to find out what the list of items are!**
(660) 584-3603

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS AT SALEM

January 18 thru January 25, 2026

Sunday - Evelyn Elmore-Pulpit Supply
8:00 a.m. Early Worship
8:45 a.m. Sunday School
8:50 a.m. Little Notes and Chime Bell Rehearsal
10:00 a.m. Worship Live-Stream Worship
/YouTube
11:15 a.m. First Year Confirmation
7:00 p.m. Middle/High School Lock-in

Monday - 7:00 a.m. Middle/High School Lock-in Ends
Church Office Closed in observance of MLK Jr
Day

Tuesday - Food Pantry
6:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting

Wednesday - 5:00 p.m. A. A. (One on One)
6:00 p.m. Worship Committee Meeting
7:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous
7:00 p.m. Al-Anon
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday - 5:30 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. Staff Interviews
6:00 p.m. Wolf Cub

Friday - 5:00 p.m. A. A. (One on One)
7:00 p.m. A. A.

Saturday - 9:30 a.m. A. A.

Sunday - Evelyn Elmore-Pulpit Supply
8:00 a.m. Early Worship
8:45 a.m. Sunday School
8:50 a.m. Little Notes and Chime Bell Rehearsal
10:00 a.m. Worship Live-Stream Worship
/YouTube
11:15 a.m. Second Year Confirmation