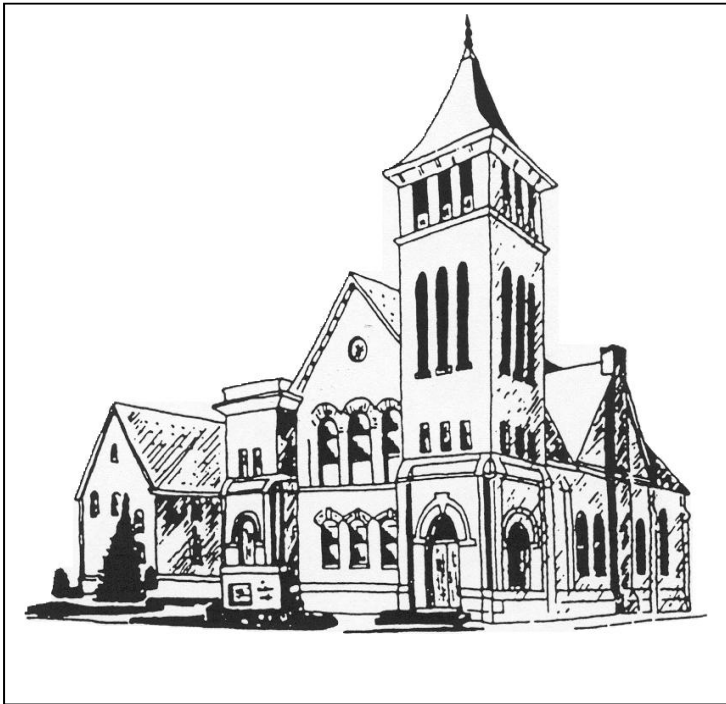


SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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**

September 20, 2026

10:00 a.m.

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

THE GATHERING

MUSIC BEFORE WORSHIP

WELCOME: No matter who you are or where you are in your life's journey, you are welcome here. With warm hearts and hands, we welcome all who have come to worship the Lord. May this be a time of encouragement and inspiration for us all.

NEWS OF THE CONGREGATION

ADDRESSING OURSELVES TO GOD

RINGING OF THE BELL

Piano Prelude "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

Bradbury/ arr. Raney

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name, make known to God's amazing love.

People: We will seek the Lord and his wisdom; we will continually seek to see God's love revealed in the world.

All: We give thanks to God, and call on his name; for God's goodness, mercy, and grace extends to all people.

*** HYMN**

"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

No. 52

***OPENING PRAYER (Unison)**

Gracious God of overwhelming mercy, you have claimed each generation as your family, for all of us are created in your image. Open our eyes to see the depths of your love. Open our ears to hear the truth of your never-ending mercy. Open our

hearts to accept the treasure of sharing your love with all people. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI**

No. 623

**HEARING AND RESPONDING TO THE
WORD**

MESSAGE FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Andy

HYMN

“All the Way My Savior Leads Me

No. 460

(Please write your joys and concerns on the card and hand it to the usher during the hymn)

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Preparation for prayer

PASTORAL PRAYER, THE LORD’S PRAYER

(“debts” and “debtors” words in hymn No. 426)

**MORNING OFFERING & DEDICATION OF FESTIVAL OF
SHARING OFFERING**

***Doxology**

No. 625

***Dedication Prayer**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Statement of Faith

(Printed inside front cover of Hymnal)

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

SCRIPTURE READING

Jonah 3:1-4:11 (O.T. p. 811)

SERMON

“The Jonah Syndrome”

Andy

THE SENDING

*** HYMN**

“Jesus Calls Us”

No. 375

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

“Praise Him, Praise Him”

Crosby/ Allen

Offering plates are at the exits from the sanctuary.

The Worship Service is over and our Service begins.

**Indicates please stand if you are able to do so*

Leading Worship Today:

Andy Mockridge – Pulpit Supply

Dennis Knipmeyer – Liturgist

June Howell – Christian Education Coordinator

Jamie Smith – Music Director

Micah Gibler & Bray Stoner – Acolytes

IN OUR PRAYERS:

Justin Salyer, continued prayer following his surgery for blood clots.

Jeanne Fleischmann, continued prayer following her heart procedure.

Elisha Stroupe, Teri Graham's best friend from New Franklin, is 43 years old and was diagnosed with breast cancer. Prayers would be appreciated.

Maxine Schloman, is at Meyer Care Center.

Reed Heimsoth, is at Riverbend in Lexington getting therapy following a car accident. Continued prayer is appreciated.

Charles & Evelyn Marcks, the family would appreciate prayers for both Charles and Evelyn.

Angie Erdman is taking treatments for breast cancer.

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.

UPDATES: The church secretary was on vacation last week, so, if there are any updates to the announcements, the liturgist will let you know.

BAPTIZED TODAY AT THE 8:00 A.M. SERVICE:

Elliott Jeffery Bargfrede, was baptized this morning at the 8:00 a.m. worship service. His parents are Abby and Holden Bargfrede and his big brother is Charlie. Elliott's Godparents are Dalton and Shelby Bargfrede. His grandparents are Bill and Paula Oelrichs, and Jeff and Sarah Bargfrede. Elliott's great grandparents are Evelyn Sander, Mac and Edna Oelrichs, and Sharon Naught.

Best Wishes for Birthdays this week...

Kathleen Begemann, September 20

Max Bergsieker, September 20

Jeff Kirchhoff, September 20

Clara Salyer, September 21

Dillon Bergsieker, September 21

Karen Fiene, September 21

Brittian Shaul, September 22

Cheryl LaRue, September 22

Shane Siegfried, September 24

Palmer Schloman, September 24

Adelynn Schloman, September 24

ALTAR FLOWERS:

Are placed in loving memory of C.W. & Deloras Hook's wedding anniversary.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

FESTIVAL OF SHARING 2026:

We will dedicate our Festival of Sharing Offering today.

Hand Bell Choir Fall Schedules:

The Hand Bell Choir will start rehearsals on Wednesday, October 7 at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. They will play during our worship service on the 4th Sunday of October, December, February, and April. Come and make a joyful noise with our Choirs! See you soon! Jamie Smith, Director

CALL TO MEETING FOR THE LAFAYETTE AREA WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP FALL MEETING:

The fall meeting of the Lafayette Area Women's Fellowship will be held at Trinity UCC on Thursday, September 24, 2026. Registration and fellowship will begin at 9:00 a.m. with the meeting beginning at 9:30 a.m. We will also be recognizing those who have died in the last year. The contributive meal will be pot luck. We look forward to seeing all on September 24th. Men are welcome too! PLEASE COME AND BRING A FRIEND.

LAMPLIGHTER: Articles for the October Lamplighter are due in the church office by Thursday, September 24. Thank you.

CHILDREN ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

If your child is most comfortable with you in worship, they are welcome. If you prefer, the nursery room is open and available for parents who would like to take their child there and stay with them. Our nursery has been recently updated!

PAPER COPIES OF THE LAMPLIGHTER AVAILABLE:

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

90th BIRTHDAY OPEN HOUSE:

There will be a 90th Birthday Open House for Kathleen Begemann TODAY, Sunday, September 20th (Her actual birthday!) from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Magnolia Manor. Everyone is welcome to stop by and wish her a Happy Birthday!

COMMUNITY NEWS:

LAFAYETTE AREA CROP HUNGER WALK:

The Lafayette Area CROP Hunger Walk will begin at 3:00 PM on Sunday, October 4, in the Confederate Park in Higginsville near the Chapel. Registration will begin at 2:30 p.m. Please read the full article in the September Lamplighter.

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. Terry Cook (Central Christian) will lead Bible Study during the month of September. The Bible Study is held every Wednesday, 10:15-10:45 a.m. in the Gathering Room.

PRAYERS AND CONCERNS:

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

UP COMING DATES:

September 20 – Youth Choir/Little Notes & Chime Bell rehearsals
resume/Dedication of Festival of Sharing gifts

September 22 – First Day of Autumn

ATTENDANCE FOR September 13, 2026 & INCOME & EXPENSES FOR September 18-September 24, 2026

Will be provided in the September 27 announcements. Sarah has been on vacation.

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

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS AT SALEM

September 20 thru September 27, 2026

Sunday - Festival of Sharing Offering Dedicated
Andy Mockridge, Pulpit Supply
8:00 a.m. Early Worship (Baptism)
8:45 a.m. Sunday School
8:50 a.m. Little Notes and Chime Bell
Rehearsal
9:10 a.m. Youth Choir
10:00 a.m. Worship and Live-Stream Worship on
YouTube

Monday - 6:00 p.m. Scouts

Tuesday - Food Pantry
First Day of Autumn

Wednesday - 7:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous
7:00 p.m. Al-Anon
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday - No Activities Scheduled
October Lamplighter Articles Due

Friday - 7:00 p.m. A. A.

Saturday - 9:30 a.m. A. A.
Noon-5:00 p.m. Schloman Family Event

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
9:10 a.m. Youth Choir
10:00 a.m. Worship and Live-Stream Worship on
YouTube
11:00 a.m. Confirmation