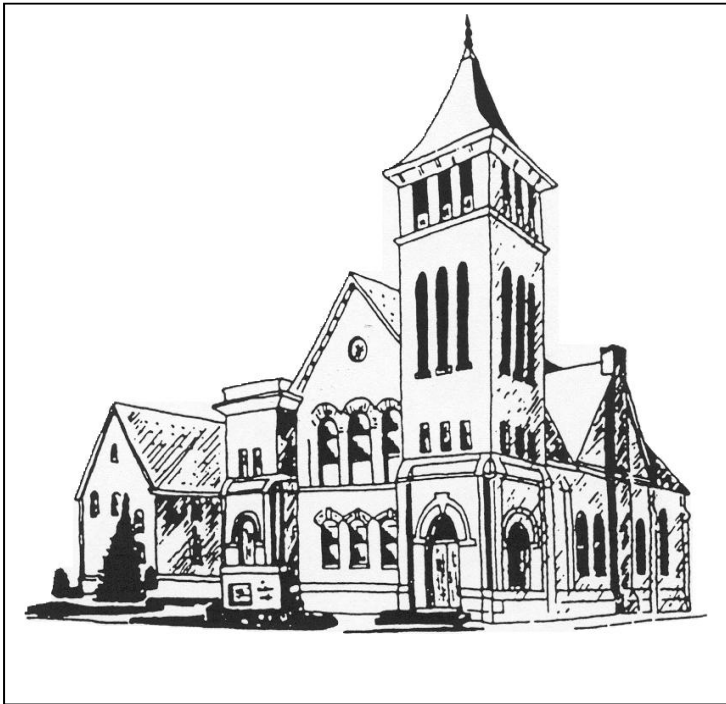


SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

8:00 a.m.

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST BAPTISM

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

Reader 2: 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.

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** Apostles' Creed
I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the one holy universal Christian Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

BAPTISMAL HYMN

"This Child We Dedicate to Thee"

Liturgy for The Sacrament of Baptism

Elliott Jeffrey Bargfrede

Invitation & Welcome

Leader: Members and friends in Christ, we gather now to celebrate the gift of grace in the sacrament of baptism.

People: **There is one body and one Spirit.
There is one hope in God's call to us.**

Leader: There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
and one God and Creator of us all.
As children were brought to Jesus that he might touch them; the disciples rebuked them. But, when Jesus saw it, he was indignant, and said to his disciples,

People: **“Let the children come to me, do not hinder them;
for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly,
I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom
of God like a child shall not enter it.”**

Leader: And Jesus took the children in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them. And, when Jesus came to John to be baptized by him, John tried to make him change his mind saying, “I ought to be baptized by you, yet you have come to me.”

People: **Jesus said, “Let it be so for now. For in this way
we shall do all that God requires.” So John agreed.**

Leader: As soon as Jesus was baptized, he came up out of the water. Then heaven was opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God coming down like a dove and lighting on him.

People: **Then a voice from heaven said, “This is my own dear
Son, with whom I am well pleased.”**

Leader: The sacrament of baptism is an outward and visible sign of the grace of God. Inasmuch as the promise of the gospel is not only to us but also to our children, baptism with water and the Holy Spirit is the mark of their acceptance into the care of Christ's church, and the sign and seal of their participation in God's forgiving grace, and the

beginning of their growth into full Christian faith and discipleship.

People: This is the water of baptism. Out of this water we rise with new life, reminded of God's loving forgiveness, one in Christ, members of Christ's body.

Questions of the Candidate's Parents & Sponsors

Congregational Assent

**Would all who are able please stand.*

Pastor: Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations and to offer them the gift of grace in baptism.
Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, Promise your love, support, and care to the one about to be baptized, as he lives and grows in Christ?

People: We promise our love, support, and care.

Pastor: Let us unite with the church in all times and places in confessing our faith in the triune God.
Do you believe in God?

People: I believe in God.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ.

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

People: I believe in the Holy Spirit.

**The congregation may be seated.*

Act of Baptism

Act of Praise

Prayer for the Baptized

Introduction of the Newly Baptized

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF DEDICATION & DEDICATION OF FESTIVAL OF SHARING OFFERING

MESSAGE HYMN

SCRIPTURE READING Jonah 3:1-4:11

SERMON “The Jonah Syndrome” Andy

BENEDICTION

TIME OF FELLOWSHIP

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

Leading Worship Today:
Andy Mockridge

BEING BAPTIZED TODAY:

Elliott Jeffery Bargfrede, is being baptized this morning. 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

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

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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.

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!

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

FESTIVAL OF SHARING 2026:

We will dedicate our Festival of Sharing Offering today.

PAPER COPIES OF THE LAMPLIGHTER AVAILABLE:

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

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!

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.

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