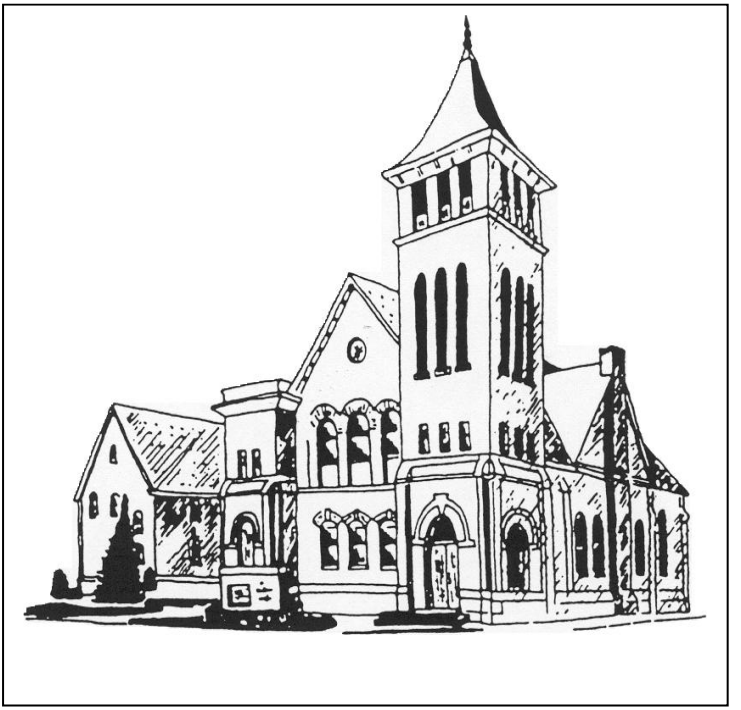
SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

November 22, 2026 10:00 a.m.

MEMORIAL SUNDAY

THE GATHERING

MUSIC BEFORE WORSHIP

WELCOME: No matter who you are or where you are in your life's journey, you are welcome here. A friendly welcome to each worshiper! We are pleased to have each of you here to glorify God and sing praises to the Almighty.

NEWS OF THE CONGREGATION

ADDRESSING OURSELVES TO GOD

RINGING OF THE BELL

Piano Prelude "How Great Thou Art" Hine/ arr. Kartsonakis

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: We gather today in the company of a great cloud of witnesses, surrounded by the wise ones, the courageous ones, and the gentle souls who have walked before us.

People: We come to worship in the company of the beloved saints who have called us to walk in the way of the Lord.

Leader: We remember those whose voices we still echo, whose laughter still warms our hearts, and whose love continues to shape our lives.

People: Praise be to God, who weaves our past, our present, and our eternal future into one tapestry of grace.

Leader: Let us praise the God of yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

People: Let us worship God together.

*** HYMN** "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" No. 43

***OPENING PRAYER (Unison)**

We gather today on this Totenfest Sunday surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses. You are the source of our life, our comfort in times of grief, and our eternal hope beyond death. Today, we pause to remember and give thanks for the saints

who have gone before us—our church members, friends, and family who have passed away this past year. We thank you for their love, their example, their laughter, and the ways their lives shaped our own. As we carry our grief and our memories into this sacred space, envelope us with a peace that surpasses all understanding. Bind us together as a congregation, and grant us strength and hope as we continue our own journeys of faith. In the assurance of the resurrection, we pray. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI** No. 623

HEARING AND RESPONDING TO THE WORD

MESSAGE FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES June

HYMN "Now Thank We All Our God" No. 556

(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

After each petition please respond: God of Grace, **hear our prayer.**
("debts" and "debtors" words in hymn No. 426)

MORNING OFFERING

Offertory "Give Thanks" Smith
*Doxology No. 625
*Dedication Prayer

WE REMEMBER…..

A Word of Introduction
Remembering God's Promise:

All: For we are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord!

Naming those we remember.
(F*amily members may stand when their loved one's name is called*)

THE BLESSED ARE:

Gregory "Goose" Brian Berry
62 years, 2 months, and 8 days — January 8, 2026

Hubert Ray Dickmeier
82 years, 8 months, and 4 days — January 17, 2026

Randall Schowengerdt
66 years, 4 months, and 10 days — January 24, 2026

Brenda G. White
62 years, 6 months, and 7 days — April 18, 2026

Rufus "Bill" Davenport
89 years, 10 months, and 9 days — May 2, 2026

Howard N. Fisher
102 years, 9 months, and 7 days — June 9, 2026

Misty Michelle Begemann
61 years, 2 months, and 25 days — July 10, 2026

Roger Warren Erdman
94 years, and 6 days — August 14, 2026

Jacqueline (Jackie) Meinershagen
95 years, 3 months, and 10 days — October 16, 2026

"Further Remembrances – Congregation"

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** UCC Statement of Faith as a Doxology
(Printed inside front cover of Hymnal)

CHANCEL CHOIR "Our Hope (O God, Our Help)"
Elsey and Sterling

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 25:31-46 (N.T. p. 27)
Pastor Jessie Lent

SERMON "Sacred Time" Pastor Jessie Lent

THE SENDING

***HYMN** "For All the Saints" No. 546

***BENEDICTION**

Pastor: Hold fast to the faith of God's saints, past and present.
People: In our living and in our dying, we belong to God.
Pastor: Trust the example they left for us to follow.
People: In our living and in our service, we are heirs with Christ.
Pastor: Walk in the puddles of light the saints left as footprints for us to follow.
People: In our journeys of faith, we are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord.

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

****

Leading Worship Today:
Pastor Jessie Lent
Cindy Nuelle – Liturgist
June Howell – Christian Education Coordinator
Jamie Smith – Music Director
Jessie Cramer & Autumn White - Acolytes

ALTAR FLOWERS:
Are placed in memory of loved ones by the Memorial Committee.

MEMORIAL SUNDAY:
Today, we will remember and honor those who have gone before us during this past year. After we have remembered those listed in the bulletin, there will be a time for "Further Remembrances" from the congregation. If you have someone you would like to include, please let Cindy Nuelle know.

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS:
Are available in the back of the sanctuary and outside the church office.

Best Wishes for Birthdays this week…
Justin Salyer, November 22
Sharon Knehans, November 23
Michelle Alumbaugh, November 23
Sandy Riekhof, November 24
Mary Ann Vorwark, November 25
Loren Dickmeier, November 25
Cherri Wilson, November 27

IN OUR PRAYERS:
Rick Goring, has been diagnosed with early stage throat cancer. Radiation is planned at a later date.
Clayton Lettau, had an MRI November 19 to confirm that there are no signs of reoccurrence, but surgery is unlikely. They are running some more tests, but they think he might have had something like a mini stroke which set off his symptoms. Thank you Salem family for your love, care, and support!
Elisha Stroupe, Teri Graham's best friend from New Franklin, MRI results show the chemo is working. No cancer found!! Still has to continue treatment to make sure there are no microscopic cancer cells left. Still has 3-4 more rounds of chemo to go.
Reed Heimsoth, continues to have physical therapy at Riverbend in Lexington. He is in good spirits. 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.

Items purchased with Memorial money:
Carpet for the nursery, stamps, plates for under pots, plants for 2025/2026, doors, Samsung Galaxy tablet, VoxBox 12 channel mixer.

Memorial Gifts in Memory of:
Hubert Dickmeier, Bill Davenport, Howard Fisher

Memorials to Endowment Fund:
Roger & Tillie Erdman family, Bob and Alice Jarman

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

THE SECOND GENERATION GREAT SALEM FOOD FIGHT…MEN VS. WOMEN!

It's week four of the Great Salem Food Fight, the lead has changed with a nice donation for the men's side. The challenge to stock the Food Pantry will run through the entire month, so we would love to have a big push in the next week. Women, please place your food on the south side of the altar; men on the north. Let's grow cascades of corn, masses of macaroni, and tons of tuna!
Hint: Both Moose's and Walmart have some GREAT prices going into Thanksgiving…make the most of your gift while sharing with others!
Church Council

SALEM VETERANS SLIDESHOW:

Can be viewed anytime on our Salem website under the "Church News" heading, web page: salemucchigginsville.org

FALL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:

Will be held Sunday, December 6, 2026 in the Sanctuary immediately following the 10:00 a.m. worship service. The church council will be presenting the 2027 budget.
Thank you,
The Salem Church Council

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED: The church office will be closed Thursday, November 26, and Friday, November 27, in observance of Thanksgiving.

LAMPLIGHTER: Articles for the December Lamplighter are due in the church office by Monday, November 23. Thank you.

EVE CIRCLE:

Eve Circle will meet December 1, at 6:00 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room. We will have a Pot Luck meal. The program will be a Christmas memory or article to share or a reading that is special to you. All women of the church are welcome to attend our meeting. Please join us.
Mary Dickmeier, Chairman

TURKEYS FOR HIGGINSVILLE/CORDER FOOD PANTRY: The Evangelism Committee is having their Annual Turkeys for Higginsville/Corder Food Pantry project to purchase turkeys for the Food Pantry. This is to benefit families in need in the Lafayette County C-1 School District. There is a turkey box in the church's sanctuary thru today, November 22, to take monetary donations. You may also give a monetary donation by bringing it to the church office. Checks may be made out to Salem UCC and in the memo line please write "Turkeys."

ADVENT CHORALE:
The 41st annual Advent Chorale will be held at Salem United Church of Christ on December 6, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. The director will be Jamie Smith. The rehearsals will be November 22 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and the fourth rehearsal will be December 6 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. All who enjoy singing and fellowship are invited to participate!

ANGEL TREE NEWS:
Angel Tree tags can be picked up November 22nd, & 29th. Please return wrapped gifts by December 6th.

COOKIE DONATIONS NEEDED:
Cookie donations are needed for the Advent Chorale on December 6. Please drop your cookies off at Salem on Friday, December 4 by 2:00 p.m.
Thank you in advance.

2027 ENVELOPES: are available in the back of the sanctuary thru November 22, and then they will move into the Fellowship Hall until the end of the year.

STEWARDSHIP NEWS:
Stewardship "Time & Talent" sheets will be emailed and available in the back of the sanctuary and by the church office beginning November 23, 2026. Please fill them out and bring them back to church by Sunday, December 20. Thank you,
The Stewardship Committee.

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.

COMMUNITY NEWS:

REQUEST FOR DESSERTS:
The Higginsville Senior Center is asking for desserts of any kind for the Community Thanksgiving Dinner. You may drop your desserts off at the Senior Center, Wednesday, November 25, 7:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. or November 26 after 7:00 a.m. Thanks in advance.

Ministerial Fellowship Community Thanksgiving Service
Will be held Sunday, November 22, 6:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church. David Auxier from First Baptist Church will have the sermon.

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. Glenn Elmore (New Beginnings Fellowship) will lead Bible Study during the month of November. The Bible Study is held every Wednesday, 10:15-10:45 a.m. in the Gathering Room.

ATTENDANCE FOR November 15, 2026
8:00 a.m. worship service attendance: 12
10:00 a.m. worship service in-person attendance: 69
10:00 a.m. live-stream attendance on YouTube: 26

INCOME & EXPENSES FOR Nov. 13-Nov. 19 2026
General Fund Income: $3,594
General Fund Expense: $4,023

PRAYERS AND CONCERNS:

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

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

UP COMING DATES:

November 22 – Memorial Sunday/No 8:00 a.m. Worship/
Advent Chorale Practice
November 26 – Thanksgiving Day (Church Office Closed)
November 27 – Church Office Closed for the Holiday
November 29 – First Sunday of Advent
December 6 – Second Sunday of Advent
Fall Congregational Meeting
Advent Chorale
Please have Angel Tree gifts to church
Homebound Communion
December 7 – Stage set-up
December 13 – Third Sunday of Advent
Children's Christmas Program/No 8:00 a.m. worship
December 16 – Please call Church Office with Poinsettia Information
December 18 – Please have Poinsettias to church this day by noon
December 20 – Fourth Sunday of Advent
Dedicate Time & Talent Sheets
Please return Budget ballots

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS AT SALEM
November 22, thru November 29, 2025

Sunday - **Pastor Jessie Lent**
Memorial Sunday
No 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 with meeting to follow
1:30 p.m.– 3:00 p.m. Advent Chorale Practice
6-8:00 p.m. Middle School/High School Youth Group

Monday - **Time & Talent Sheets will be emailed**
December Lamplighter Articles are due

Tuesday - **Food Pantry**

Wednesday – **7:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous**
7:00 p.m. Al-Anon
No Chancel Choir

Thursday - **Thanksgiving Day (Church Office Closed)**

Friday - **Church Office Closed for the Holiday**
7:00 p.m. A. A.

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

Sunday - **First Sunday of Advent**
Pulpit Supply: Andy Mockridge
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


Lafayette County
United Church of Christ
Advent Chorale
Sunday, December 6, 2026
4:00 p.m.
Salem UCC, 1500 Main
Higginsville, MO
Members from: Blackburn, Concordia,
Emma, Grand Pass, Higginsville,
Levasy, Lexington, & Mayview
Please join us for the 41st
Advent Chorale.
Come celebrate with us!
Jamie Smith, Director
Instrumentalists:
Teresa Begemann,
Keri Borchers, Laurel Gooden,
David Rogers, & Bob Scott
All are welcome! Refreshments
will be served following
the Chorale.
Come and enjoy!


If there are any parents or grandparents interested in bringing 1 or 2 dozen cookies for the reception after the Christmas Program.
Please drop them off at the church office the week before the program or bring them the morning of the program.
Christmas Program is December 13th during the 10:00am worship service.
Thank you!


Christmas Program Stage Set Up
Dads or anyone able and willing are invited to help set up the stage
Monday December 7th at 6pm.
The Dads or anyone able and willing are also invited to hang around after the program to take the stage down on
December 13th.
Without you, the program wouldn't be possible!
Thank you!!!


Christmas Program Information
"The Light Before Christmas
Parts
I will be assigning parts in November
Practice
will be held during Sunday School
8:45am - 9:45am November 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
and December 6.
Dress Rehearsals will be
December 12th
8:30am get in costume
9:00am - 11:00am practice
December 13th
8:00am Rehearsal
10:00am worship service
with Christmas Program

Food Scavenger Hunt!

Lets help fill to the food pantry for the holidays!





November 22nd 6:00pm Tonight!

The Salem youth will be going on a food scavenger hunt!





If you would like for the youth to come by and pick up your donation of food for the food pantry please sign up in the back of the sanctuary!

Please make sure you have your food donation on your porch by 6pm on November 22nd!



(Corder and Country folks we will come to you too!)



For Those Who Have
Experienced Loss, Faced Illness,
Or Carried Heavy Burdens Christmas Isn't
Always The Most Wonderful TIme Of The Year.
This Season Can Feel Heavy & Once Loved
Traditions Can Cause Emptiness & Longing. Blue
Christmas Creates Space For Honesty -A Reminder
That It's Okay To Feel Sorrow, Even in A Season
Often Associated With Happiness. In This Spirit,
We InviteYou & Your Family to Share In A Blue
Christmas Memorial Service Honoring Your Loss.

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

DECEMBER

12.3.2026 -- 6:00 pm

John Knox Village East
Activity Room
1201 W 19th St
Higginsville, MO