

Salem Signal

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Newsletter for March

February 25, 2021



Deadline for next newsletter articles:
March 21, 2021

Pastor's Reflections

Special points

Of interest

- Upcoming Events
- Announcements
- Birthdays

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Last week, as we started Lent, a friend posted "God doesn't want your chocolate!" It's become a tradition to give up something for the season of Lent to make a small sacrifice. Her implication was that God doesn't want our chocolate, God wants our hearts, our minds, our spirits...and chocolate won't even make a down payment on that.

Jesus told two parables in Matthew 13;

44 "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field,
which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells
all that he has and buys that field.

45 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls;
46 on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had
and bought it.

The point in both parables was that these people found something so valuable that they would give up all that they had to possess it. This was how Jesus was describing the Kingdom of Heaven...not the Heaven we will live in one day, but the current Kingdom of God on Earth. When we look at what gives our lives meaning and purpose, nothing can beat being part of God's Kingdom, serving, loving, caring, giving, in God's Kingdom. And there is nothing we have or hold that should stand in our way of being part of the Kingdom.

We might think of giving something up for God as a hard sacrifice, a loss, something we will miss greatly. The parables don't exactly say, but I think we can guess though, that these men didn't regret their decisions. They counted what they had given up as small loss for what they gained. If the thing that is holding us back from serving God's Kingdom fully is still more valuable to us than what we are going to gain, maybe we aren't ready for it yet. Maybe we need to take a time of prayer and self-examination, so that we can make our sacrifice with joy and not look back.

Last Wednesday in our "Hymn Study" we looked at "When I survey the Wondrous Cross." The last verse says it all;

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were an offering far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

God Bless us,
Pastor David



March Birthdays

March 5

Harry Curtis
Jacob Driver

March 7

Jarod Wayne

March 10

Joe Martinez

March 13

Chester Walters
Bryan Bloodworth

March 14

Kenneth Gordon

March 15

Alice Rawlins

March 21

Robert Clark

March 26

Ronnie Ward

March 28

Abby Driver

Dede Keel

March 30

Dakota Bloodworth
Al Cole

March Anniversaries

March 9

Gary & Becky Truitt
David & Katie Cott

March 18

Sonny & Mary Alice Williams

Have we
missed your
Birthday or
Anniversary?
Be sure to call
the Church
Office
and let us
know.

MARCH

Birthdays & Anniversaries



Dear Friends,

I want to thank you so much for all the cards, prayers, calls and food. You all have been my rock. Bill sincerely loved each of you. A true gift from God. I was so blessed to share 56 years with him and we often said that to each other.

Love, Joan Tidwell



Refuge Pregnancy Center is one of the local missions that Salem UMC helps to support. This is a list of baby items that are needed.

6 – 9 month boy clothes

6 – 9 month & 3T girl clothes

Baby Wash, Shampoo, Lotion, Powder, etc.

Hooded Towels

Diapers size 4 and up

If you are able to help with any of these items you can bring by the church office on Monday & Thursday 8am – 12pm.



Flower Calendar for 2021

The flower calendar for 2021 is now available. You can sign up on the website www.salemumc.org or you can call the church office. Flowers are \$38.00 and we have a standing order with a florist.

In Person Worship will begin on Sunday, February 28 in the Family Life Center at 10:00 a.m. We are continuing with the Facebook Live service on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. You can watch it live or you can watch it at a later time. The service will remain on Facebook.



Food Barrels—you can bring canned goods by the church on Monday and Thursday for the Food Barrels. We are continuing to take the food to the Food Pantry.



Prayer List –

Please remember our shut-ins that are in nursing homes.

Shut-ins & Long Term Recovery: Weston Barnette, Willis & Jeanette Britt, Ann Deerman, Fran Enyart, Ed Hooten, Dave Kincaid, Cornelia Melton, Shirley Thomas, Ethelene Thompson, Ola Vaughn

Church Family: Debbie Anderson, Rosemary Breedlove, Al & Sara Coleman, Doris Compton, Dede Keel, Dave Kincaid, Sonia Lamb, Louise McGraw, Dale & Glenn Moore, Andy Peabody, Joe Peabody, Jr., Linda Schell, Don & Bev Stewart, Joan Tidwell, Betty Wayne