

The Salem Heartbeat

Sharing Christ with the world!

AUGUST 2026 Edition

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FROM THE PASTOR'S HEART ✝ *The Songs That Lifted My Soul*

There is something refreshing about stepping away from the normal rhythms of life for a few days.

Like many of you, I look forward to a vacation each year. It's a chance to spend time with family, enjoy God's creation, and simply slow down. Yet this year, I found myself carrying more into vacation than just a suitcase. I was carrying the normal weight of ministry—the concerns, decisions, responsibilities, and prayers that come with shepherding God's people. None of those burdens were unusual. In fact, they are a privilege. But they had quietly left me feeling tired and a bit overwhelmed.

During my vacation, I sensed the Lord gently leading me to spend time in a portion of Scripture I had never studied in depth before: the Songs of Ascents (Psalms 120–134). These fifteen psalms were sung by God's people as they made their pilgrimage to Jerusalem to worship. As I read them, I realized they weren't just songs for ancient pilgrims. They are songs for weary pilgrims today. The journey begins with a cry from distress:

"In my distress I cried to the Lord..." (Psalm 120)

How many of us have prayed those very words?

But the psalms don't stay there.

They lift our eyes to the hills, reminding us that our help comes from the Lord (Psalm 121).

They rejoice in gathering with God's people (Psalm 122).

They teach us to wait for God's mercy (Psalm 123), remember His faithfulness (Psalm 124), trust Him when life feels uncertain (Psalm 125), and keep sowing faithfully even through tears because God promises a harvest (Psalm 126).

Perhaps the verses that spoke most deeply to me were these:

"Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain." (Psalm 127)

As a pastor, it's easy to begin carrying burdens that belong to Christ alone. Psalm 127 reminded me that Jesus is the One who builds His Church. My calling is not to carry the Church on my shoulders, but to faithfully serve the One who already does.

Then Psalm 131 brought unexpected peace. David writes,

"I have calmed and quieted myself, I am like a weaned child with its mother."

What a beautiful picture of trust. A weaned child no longer comes to its mother simply because it wants something. It rests there because it simply wants to be near her. I realized that God wasn't asking me to have all the answers. He was inviting me to rest in His presence.

By the time I reached the final Song of Ascent, Psalm 134, the journey ended exactly where every journey with God should end:

"Praise the Lord."

I began vacation carrying the weight of ministry. I returned home filled with gratitude for the privilege of ministry. The circumstances hadn't changed. God had changed my perspective. That is what His Word does.

As I reflected on these psalms, I also began writing a series of modern devotional reflections for pastors called A Shepherd's Songs of Ascent. It has been one of the most meaningful writing projects I've undertaken because it continually reminded me of a simple truth:

Pastors are pilgrims too. But so is every Christian.

All of us are making our way home. Along the journey there will be seasons of joy and seasons of tears, days when we feel strong and days when we feel weary. Yet every step is guided by the same faithful Shepherd.

As we continue our own pilgrimage together at Salem Church, may we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus Christ, the Chief Shepherd. He is the One who builds His Church, strengthens weary hearts, and walks with His people every step of the way.

And until the day we stand together in His presence...

Keep climbing.

Pastor Brent

AUGUST IN WORSHIP

Sermon Series: “ACTS-The Church Comes Alive (Part 2): The Kingdom Unstoppable” Acts 3-13:3

Series Big Idea: The Kingdom of God is unstoppable because the risen Christ is building His Church.

WEEK 6 — AUGUST 2 / Summer Communion — “Rise Up and Walk”

Text: Acts 3:1–26 / Big Idea: The power of Jesus transforms lives so that God receives the glory.

WEEK 7 — AUGUST 9 — “A Church on Its Knees”

Text: Acts 4:1-31 / Big Idea: Boldness is born from being with Jesus.

WEEK 8 — AUGUST 16 — “A Church Without Walls”

Text: Acts 4:32-5:16 / Big Idea: The Holy Spirit forms a radically generous and holy community.

WEEK 9 — AUGUST 23 — “We Must Obey God”

Text: Acts 5:17-42 / Big Idea: Faithfulness is measured by obedience, not comfort.

WEEK 10 — AUGUST 30 — “Called to Serve”

Text: Acts 6:1-7 / Big Idea: Healthy churches multiply when every believer serves.



ANNUAL SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC will be held on Sunday, August 16 / 5:30 PM in the Salem Fellowship Center. Chicken and beverages will be provided; bring a side dish or dessert to share. Please sign up on the sheet hanging in the back of the sanctuary, if you plan to attend. Sunday School Picnic coordinators are Tom McCloud and Linda Stoler, if you have any questions.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR ‘BORO BLAST 250!

Salem Church will be present at the 'Boro Blast 250' (rescheduled from July 3 to August 22) to share some of the history of the oldest church in the Waynesboro area. The hours are 5:30 to 8:30 PM, and if you would like to help for an hour or so, let Tom McCloud know - 717-300-0215.

MISSIONARY NEWS: The Stauffers are still doing some local missionary work, but they are no longer going into the field with 'That All May See'. They have always appreciated Salem's effort in collecting used glasses. The basket for used glasses will still be collecting glasses for Lions International. Thanks, Fern McCloud



Each week we pray for members and friends of our Salem Church family, a church here in the Waynesboro or surrounding area, one of the countries in which Christians are suffering severe persecution, and one of the ministries we support with our mission funds. Please join us in the ministry of prayer!

August 02: Anna Snavely

Fairview Avenue BIC Church
Persecuted Christians in Laos
PMI-Pregnancy Ministry

August 09: Chucky & Jamie Snyder

Faith United Methodist Church
Persecuted Christians in Vietnam
Relay for Life

August 16: Linda Stoler

Family Life Worship Center
Persecuted Christians in Yemen
Jonathan & Garima Rider (India)

August 23: Robert Stouffer

First Community Church
Persecuted Christians in Egypt
Bruce & Deb Robinson (Crossworld/Haiti)

August 30: Frank & Marilyn Tracy

First Pentecostal Church
Persecuted Christians in Ethiopia
Samaritan's Purse

PRAYER REQUESTS: Please continue using the Prayer Cards on Sundays as they allow the prayer request and name to be accurately passed from the Pastor to the Secretary to be added to the bulletin. It is very difficult to hear and record the requests when given verbally during the service. It also allows them to be read so those in the Fellowship Hall and parking lot hear them. Thank you for your help with this important ministry of the church.

To send requests through the Prayer Chain, you can email them to
Sandi Barnett at:
barnetts05@comcast.net
or call her cell: 240-675-3495



**SALEM CHURCH SPECIAL OFFERING PROJECT FOR AUGUST-OCTOBER:
Disaster Relief / Samaritan's Purse**

Please put "Disaster" on the memo line of your check or on the offering envelope.



AUGUST 2026 CALENDAR OF EVENTS / ACTIVITIES

Dates to Remember:

August 12	Leland Ministry
August 13	Ministry Council
August 16	Sunday School Picnic-Fellowship Center
August 17	Newsletter Deadline -September edition
August 21	Game Nite
August 22	'Boro Blast 250 / Mainstreet Park, Waynesboro

Time:

2:00 PM
7:00 PM
5:30 PM
8:00 PM
6:00 PM

Regular Weekly Activities: Wednesday Bible Study 10 AM Salem Fellowship Center. Celebrate Recovery-Wednesdays 6:30 PM Fairview Ave. BIC Church, Waynesboro. **Men's Bible Study**-Thursdays 8:30 AM. **Men's Community Book Study**-Fridays 6:30 AM Salem Fellowship Center. / **Regular Monthly Activities:** Leland Ministry-2nd Wednesday 2 PM The Leland, Waynesboro. **Game Nite**-3rd Friday 6 PM Salem Fellowship Ctr.

AUGUST 2026 WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS SCHEDULE

DATE	Worship Leader	Greeter/Usher	Acolyte	Counters	Flowers	Nursery
8/02	Fred West	Tom & Fern	Josiah	Troy / Terry	Sherry	OPEN / TBD
8/09	Michelle Lushbaugh	Wendy / Frank	Frank	Sandi / Linda	Diane	OPEN / TBD
8/16	Aurita Rose	Ruth Ann & John	OPEN / TBD	Ruth Ann / John	Randy & Wendy	Wendy E.
8/23	Tom McCloud	Mary Margaret / John	Josiah	Lana / Fred Wh.	Troy & Cindy	OPEN / TBD
8/30	Linda Stoler	Nancy B.	OPEN / TBD	Linda / Troy	OPEN / TBD	Wendy E.

BIRTHDAYS

8/04 Joie Rotz
8/06 Aurita Rose
8/09 Sandi Barnett
8/10 Kaden Mangus
8/10 Kyra Mangus
8/18 Lesa Warren
8/19 George McCabe
8/21 Robert Hess
8/22 Paul Rumbaugh



ANNIVERSARIES ♥



8-7-71 Terry & Paula Eigenbrode
8-22-81 John & Ruth Ann Helman
8-22-54 Ken & Sandy May

PLEASE NOTE-A NEW FAMILY HAS BEEN ASSIGNED FOR MEALS: Keystone Family Alliance of Franklin Co. has assigned Salem Church the Black Family to receive meals. They are a young couple with no children of their own. They are fostering a sibling family of 3; ages 5, 2 and an infant. If you are interested in participating, please see Joie Rotz. **August meal delivery schedule:** 8/4-Deidra Mangus; 8/11-Fern McCloud; 8/18-Ruth Ann Helman; 8/25-Mary Margaret & Cathie

Salem Church Leadership

Ministry Council Officers & Members 2026: **Council/Congregation, President:**

Butch Rotz 717-762-6961

Council/Congregation, Vice President:

Ruth Ann Helman 717-762-8972

Secretary:

John McGuire 240-357-6237

Co-Treasurers:

Sandi Barnett 240-675-3495

Kim Kennedy 717-977-0461

Members:

Mike Eisenberger 717-977-0292

Michelle Lushbaugh 717-762-4193

Deidra Mangus 724-689-7169

Linda Stoler 717-655-7833

Fred West 717-762-7093

Judy White 717-762-7008

Ex-officio members:

Brent Mangus (Lead Pastor)

Sandi Barnett (Treasurer)

Kim Kennedy (Asst. Treasurer)

Council of Elders 2026:

Terry Eigenbrode 717-762-4720

Troy Johnson 717-762-4426

Jean Kahl 717-977-0867

Jim Ressler 717-762-2643

Jeff Rhodes 717-762-9435

Sam Rose 717-762-8582

Butch Rotz 717-762-6961

Linda Stoler 717-655-7833

Ministers to the Community:

All members

Church phone: 717-762-8531

E-mail: salemchurch@pa.net

Join us on Sundays:

9:30 AM Sunday School

10:45 AM Worship Service

4881 Salem Church Rd., Waynesboro, PA 17268



Ministry Teams

Administrative Ministry Teams - TBD

Financial Oversight - Bob Crouse

H.E.L.P. - Linda Stoler

Historical Records - Wendy Eigenbrode

Personnel - Linda Stoler

Caring Ministry Teams - *Deidra Mangus

Board of Deacons - Joie Rotz

Funeral Meals - Paula Eigenbrode

Family Assistance Fund - Linda Stoler

Meals - Bonnie Rhodes

Prayer Chain - Sandi Barnett

Christian Education Ministry Teams - *Michelle Lushbaugh

Adult Sunday School - Tom McCloud

Bible Studies, Classes, Seminars - Pastor Brent

Children's Ministries- Jack Martin

Nursery - Cindy Johnson

Fellowship Ministry Teams - *Fred West

Game Nite - Jean Kahl

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner - Diane E., Lu K. Judy W.

Outreach Ministry Team - *Ruth Ann Helman

Leland Ministry - Lu Kennedy

Mission Team - Jim Ressler

Relay for Life Team - Linda Stoler

Salvation Army Bell Ringers - Tom & Fern McCloud

Property & Maintenance Ministry Team - *Judy White

Cemetery - Troy Johnson/John McGuire

Property & Maintenance - Troy Johnson/John McGuire

Columbarium/Scattering Garden - Paula Eigenbrode

Safety & Security - Chuck & Jamie Snyder

Property Improvement Committee - TBD

Spiritual Council - *Linda Stoler

Pastoral Relations Ministry Team - Jeff Rhodes

Worship Ministry Teams - *Mike Eisenberger

Worship Team - Linda Wilson

Praise Music Team - Wendy Beeler

Tech Team - Sam Rose

Marquee - Michelle Lushbaugh

Acolytes - Fern McCloud

*The names with an asterisk are the liaisons for that ministry