The Salem Heartbeat

Sharing Christ with the world!

NOVEMBER 2026 Edition

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FROM THE PASTOR'S HEART: *A Place to Land-Finding a home in Christ when life comes apart*

Recently, my heart broke for a friend. He is a minister, and his family's life was woven into the ministry. Church, Christian school, work, friendships, family—their lives and their children's lives were wrapped up in that community. Then some things happened, and suddenly, so much was gone. Relationships with physical and spiritual family were fractured. Jobs were lost. Their sense of belonging was shaken. A big part of their identity disappeared. Man, my heart broke because, at different times in my life, I have been there.

As a teenager, not long after my grandfather passed away, my church went through a split that also affected my Christian school and divided my family. I was already grieving. Then the people and places that should have provided comfort became part of the hurt.

Years later, after nine years of marriage and serving as youth pastor alongside my father-in-law, I went through a divorce. Suddenly, I found myself without family nearby and without a church home. There is a particular loneliness that comes when your family life and church life unravel together. The people you would normally turn to are connected to the circumstances causing your pain. You need somewhere to go, but you aren't sure where you belong.

Even marrying my wife ten years ago, a joyful beginning, involved another difficult transition. I moved to a new town, still far from family, including my children, and had to find a new church home. I remember wishing I could bring my church with me. I wanted familiar faces and the comfort of being known without explaining my whole story.

Those experiences helped shape the pastor I wanted to become. I wanted hurting pastors and ministers to find someone willing to listen and walk with them toward healing. And I prayed that my church could become a shelter in life's storms. Somewhere a minister and his family could worship, breathe, and receive care. Somewhere their children could be loved, and their weary souls could rest. Maybe they would stay. Maybe God would eventually call them elsewhere. Either way, I wanted us to love them well.

So that is what I told my friend. He, his wife, and their children would be welcomed with big, open arms. We would love them—and probably spoil their kids a little, too. That is one blessing of pastoring a church with so many older folks. They love seeing young families arrive. There are people ready to offer hugs, learn children's names, and become another grandmother or grandfather.

Sometimes healing begins with knowing people will be glad you came. After several texts, I ended our conversation with the truths that have carried me: ***You, my brother, are loved by God. There is nothing you can do to make Him love you less, and nothing you can do to make Him love you more. He has a purpose for your life. And even here, He is working all things together for the good of those who love Him and are called according to His purpose.***

Man, do I believe that. I remember hearing the first part in a Rob Bell *NOOMA* video when I was a youth pastor, fresh out of college. I don't know whether it resonated with my teenagers, but it stayed with me.

Years later, I encountered the other half—possibly in Sarah Young's *Jesus Calling*: nothing I could do would make God love me more. What a liberating truth. I cannot earn more of God's love by preaching better sermons, growing a ministry, or keeping everyone happy. His love comes to me by grace, through Jesus Christ. At the cross, Jesus bore my sin and gave himself for me. His resurrection assures me that my darkest chapter cannot have the final word. My standing with God rests in Christ's finished work. That doesn't make repentance unnecessary. It means I return to a Father whose love I never had to earn.

As I have grown more deeply rooted in Reformed theology, God's sovereignty has become another anchor. Romans 8:28 promises that God works all things together for the good of those who love Him and are called according to His purpose. That doesn't mean everything that happens is good. Church conflict, divorce, fractured families, and lost livelihoods leave real wounds. But God is at work even there. The next verse identifies His purpose: conforming us to the image of His Son. I may not understand His providence, but I can trust His character.

My role can change. Relationships can fracture. Yet in Christ, I still belong to God. Maybe you need that reminder today. Perhaps you have lost your community or something that gave you purpose. I pray you find a home in Christ—and a church where that belonging becomes tangible. Somewhere you can tell the truth, worship through tears, and let others help carry the weight. And if you belong to a church, help make that home for someone else. Learn their names. Make room at your table. Love them without measuring what they can contribute.

Hang in there, brother. Hang in there, sister. You are deeply loved, and you do not have to walk alone.

Father, shelter those whose lives have been shaken. Make our churches places of welcome and rest. Help us trust Your love and providence through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Blessings,
Pastor Brent

SALEM CHURCH SPECIAL OFFERING PROJECT FOR NOVEMBER:
Persecuted Christians / Voice of the Martyrs

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



NOVEMBER IN WORSHIP / ADVENT SERIES BEGINS 11/29/2026

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.

NOVEMBER 01: "The Church Called Christian" (Acts 11:1-30)
NOVEMBER 08: "The Word of God Increased" (Acts 12:1-25)
NOVEMBER 15: "Set Apart" (Acts 13:1-3)
NOVEMBER 22: Thanksgiving Communion Service / Communion Elder: Jeff Rhodes
NOVEMBER 29: First Sunday of Advent / Series: "*Jesus--Eternally Begotten of the Father*"
Advent 1: "Before the Manger"—John 1:1-5
Central Truth: The Son was already there

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!

Nov. 01: ***Teresa Baker***
Greenwood Assembly of God Church
Persecuted Christians in Eritrea
Disciple Makers

Nov. 08: ***Sandi Barnett***
Greenwood Hills Gospel Chapel
Persecuted Christians in Syria
Fisher House

Nov. 15: ***Rick & Wendy Beeler***
Hades Church of the Brethren
Persecuted Christians in Sudan
Fruitbelt Farm Workers

Nov. 22: ***Brad & Glenda Bennett***
Hawley Memorial Presbyterian Church
Persecuted Christians in Nigeria
Gideons International

Nov. 29: ***Mary Margaret Bittle***
Hollowell Brethren in Christ Church
Persecuted Christians in Pakistan
Gospel Tide / The Tide

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

PLEASE NOTE: Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, November 1st. Turn your clocks BACK one hour and enjoy some extra sleep!



NOVEMBER 2026 CALENDAR OF EVENTS / ACTIVITIES

Dates to Remember:	Time:
November 01- All Saints Remembrance Service	**7:00 PM**
November 08- Stand Sunday-Night of Worship / Hollowell BIC	**6:30-8:00 PM**
November 11- Veteran's Day Prayer Breakfast /Salem Reformed Ch.	**8:00-10:00 AM**
November 11- NO Leland Ministry (to be rescheduled-TBD)	
November 12- Ministry Council	**7:00 PM**
November 14- Pennsylvania State Sunday School Convention	**8:00 AM-4:00 PM**
November 15- OCC Shoeboxes due back / Newsletter Deadline	**10:45 AM / 8 PM**
November 19- Salem Game Nite	**6:00 PM**
November 26- Happy Thanksgiving!	
November 28- Hanging of the Greens / Salem Fellowship Ctr.	**5:00 PM**

Regular Weekly Activities: Wednesday Bible Study 10 AM Salem Fellowship Center. **Men's Bible Study**-Thursdays 8:30 AM. **Men's Community Book Study**-Fridays 6:30 AM Salem Fellowship Center. Men's Alliance Plowman Tribe Saturdays 7 AM / **Regular Monthly Activities: Leland Ministry**-2nd Wednesday 2 PM The Leland, Waynesboro. **Game Nite**-3rd Friday 6 PM Salem Fellowship Ctr.

NOVEMBER 2026 WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS SCHEDULE

DATE	Worship Leader	Greeter/Usher	Acolyte	Counters	Flowers	Nursery
11/01	Jamie S.	Butch & Joie	**OPEN**	Lana L. / Ruth Ann H.	**OPEN / TBD**	TBD
11/08	Deidra M.	Wendy Eigenbrode	Josiah	Linda S. / John Mc.	Viola E.	TBD
11/15	Aurita R.	Linda W./John Mc.	John M.	Terry E. / Troy J.	Nancy B.	TBD
11/22	Michelle L.	Cathie M./Mary M.	**OPEN**	Sandi B. / Fred Wh.	Troy & Cindy	TBD
11/29	Mary Margaret B.	Butch & Joie	**OPEN**	Ruth Ann H. / Wendy E.	Jamie S.	TBD

BIRTHDAYS



11/06 Charlotte Beeler
11/09 Asher Layne Grove
11/11 Lu Kennedy
11/11 TT Williford
11/17 Ken May
11/18 Allan Wilson
11/25 Pastor Brent Mangus
11/26 John Andersen
11/27 Emma Rose Grove
11/29 Coby Grove
11/29 Bertie Lawyer

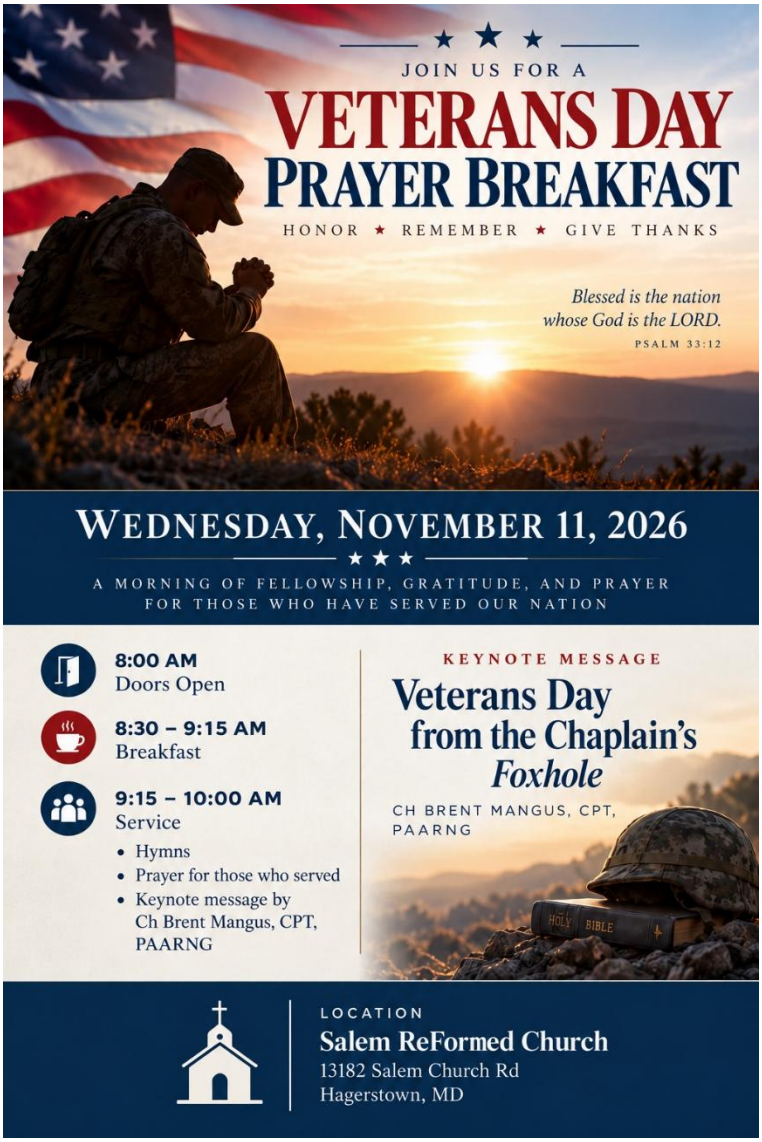
ANNIVERSARIES ♥



11-03-12 Rick & Wendy Beeler
11-07-21 Coby & Emma Grove
11-19-82 Allan & Linda Wilson
11-25-88 Troy & Cindy Johnson
11-30-86 Mike & Tammy Eisenberger

MEAL DELIVERY SCHEDULE FOR FOSTER FAMILY: Our foster family - the Black's meal delivery day is currently Wednesdays /drop-off time is 4:30-5 PM. If the Black Family is not home when you arrive with their meal, please place it in the cooler located at the front door. If you are interested in providing a meal or donating money towards these weekly meals, please see Joie Rotz. **November meal delivery schedule: Nov. 4-Joie Rotz; Nov. 11-by donation; 11/18-Bonnie Rhodes.**







Hanging of the Greens

Join us on Saturday, November 28th / 5 PM in the Salem Fellowship Center for a meal and decorating the church sanctuary for the beginning of the Season of Advent!



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 (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

Ministry Teams

Administrative Ministry Teams – *John McGuire
- 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