

Salem United Methodist Church

1321 Salem Church Road
Irmo, South Carolina 29063
Established 1873

February 22, 2026

1st Sunday in Lent

Purple is a color of penitence and is used to reflect the preparatory season of Lent.

(Liturgy printed for this service is adapted from
Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.)

THE GATHERING AND WITNESS OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

PRELUDE

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CHIMING OF THE HOUR and WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP AND OPENING PRAYER**

The good news of the gospel is:

manna in the desert, water turned into wine, love after loss, forgiveness after pain.

The good news of the gospel is:

release for the captive, hope for the hopeless, mourning turned to dancing, and strangers turned to friends.

So come on in. There's no time to waste! This surprising good news is here for you.

Let us worship this good-news God.

Let us pray:

Holy and loving God, it is easy to miss the holy that is in our midst. So as we turn to your texts today, surprise us, we pray. Speak to us. Move through us. Draw us ever closer to your good news. Amen.

***HYMN 269** *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days*

A TIME OF PRAYER & **LORD'S PRAYER**

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY 95**

FIRST READING Matthew 13:31-32

ANTHEM *If I Can Help Somebody* by Christopher Moore

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

INTRODUCTION TO THE LESSON

GOSPEL READING John 2:1-11

***HYMN 400** *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

PROCLAMATION

Series: *Tell Me Something Good*
Today: *The Good News Is...*
So Good It Catches Us by Surprise

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 881**

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose 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 holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

***HYMN OF RESPONSE 405**

Seek Ye First

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL RESPONSE 420** *Breathe on Me, Breath of God (v. 1)*
Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew, that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do

***WE FOLLOW THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD**

***THE CHIMING OF THE TRINITY**

***POSTLUDE AND DEPARTING**

Indicates that the congregation stands. If standing is uncomfortable, please remain seated and continue with your participation. **Bold titles indicate congregation participation.*

A Welcome to our Guests!

We are honored that you are worshipping with us. Please complete the "red book" registration to record your presence. Also, please introduce yourself to those around you and visit our Welcome Center. We have a welcome gift for our first-time guests in the welcome center. Please stop by the desk at the close of the worship service. We hope you will return to join us again in Worship!



Series: Tell Me Something Good
Today: The Good News Is...
So Good It Catches Us by Surprise

February 22, 2026
1st Sunday in Lent

STEWARDSHIP AND ATTENDANCE

Week of February 15, 2026

Needed each week to fund unified budget \$15,042.40

Unified budget received \$10,507.00

Needed to meet budget year to date (Inclg. bldg. fund) \$105,412.74

Unified budget received year to date (Inclg. bldg. fund) \$79,891.10

Attendance

Worship 106 Sunday School 50

On Line Viewing

147

PLEASE PRAYERFULLY REMEMBER:

Brookdale — Millie Howard, Mary Skenes

Carroll Campbell Place — Barbara Rolin

Encompass — Nancy Kyre

Generations of Irmo — Joyce Lewis

Heritage at Lowman — E.L. Ayers, Bob Davis, Vicky Harris

Tyborne UCP — Jessica Gore

White Oak Manor (Newberry) — Debra Ailes

Special Prayers — Amy Bundrick, Freddie Butler,

Emma Davis, David Dunn, Mary Ann Gibson, Peggy Gooch,

Dawn Haltiwanger, Inez Hyatt, Johnnie Metts, Lee McMillan,

Jonnie Mitchell, Margie Oswald, Mike Owen, Barbara Pereira,

Lucretia Seigler, Dustin Tanner, Gail Van Valkenburg,

Jim Van Valkenburg, Terry Waites, Marie Wicker

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY:

Ushers: Lead – Ted Hornsby

Ryan Cole

Randy Hilliard

Mike Thacker

Sound Booth: Dustin Tanner

Trustees: Steven Smith

Acolyte: Molly Vyskocil

Nursery: Katie Vyskocil

Dawn Horton

Flower Ministry

The flowers which grace the Holy Altar today are given to the Glory of God and in celebration of their 57th anniversary by Ted and Pete Hornsby.

Funeral Services

for Gwen Parnell will be on Friday, March 6th, at 3:00.

for Rafe Ellisor will be on Saturday, March 7th, at 3:00.

Thank You

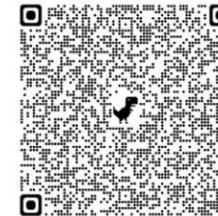
Thank you, Pastor Jeff and Salem Church friends, for your many loving expressions of condolence on the passing of my mom, Virginia Dionisio. I was greatly comforted by the many calls and text messages I received while I was so far from home in Arizona as my mom transitioned from life on earth to Life in Heaven. My mom loved visiting Salem Church while she was still able to travel—many of you knew her. She was blessed by you, just as you have been such a blessing to our family.

Love, Cheryl, Rick, Jeff, and Avett Denton

Genesis by Jamie and Donna Winship

Sunday Nights Beginning February 22nd from 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Would you like to go back to the beginning and gain understanding and learn about the thread that connects us all in the Bible? Would you like to understand your worldview and why you see things the way you do sometimes? Would you like to exchange a scarcity mindset with a connected mindset, seeking connection with God in all you do? Then this is the discussion for you... This course has a cost of \$30.00 (cost of the workbook) We will watch the video and then discuss the information we studied during the week. This will be a 10-week Bible study meeting in the Fellowship Sunday School Classroom. Please order the workbook and begin working prior to our first discussion. *Please contact Heather Magann at 843-446-7280 or hmagann@gmail.com with any questions.*



Ladies' Lunch Bunch

After our break for the holidays the Ladies Lunch Bunch will resume our regular meetings. This month we will meet on **February 23, 11:30 a.m. at Carolina Wings** in Ballentine. All ladies are welcome.

OASIS - March 17th at 11:30

Our next OASIS gathering will be on March 17th. Watch the bulletin for more information to come.

Rise Against Hunger

Rise Against Hunger is **Sunday, March 1**. If you have not signed up to work a shift yet, you may still do so. We will also accept and more donations through today. Contact Jim Magann at jimmagann2@gmail.com with any questions.

Al-Anon Group

Salem UMC welcomes a newly forming Al-Anon group in the Journey Classroom on **Thursdays at 1 PM**. The group welcomes all family and friends who have been affected by the problems of alcohol or drug abuse and addiction in a loved one. If you have questions, please call 803-465-1609.

Lighthouse for Life - Light the Night 5k Walk/Run

Join us in supporting Lighthouse for Life and their fight against Human Trafficking in their Light the Night walk on **Saturday, March 7** at Saluda Shoals Park. Go to their website to register for this event and enjoy a night of fellowship walking together or run if you want to. <https://lighthouseforlife.org/blog/events/light-the-night-5k-run-walk-2025/>

Salem UMC Over 50's PROM 2026

Salem UMC youth are going to host a PROM on Saturday, **March 21 from 5:00 - 7:00pm** for anyone and everyone 50 and over!!! Dress in your best and fanciest outfit and join for a blast to the past by walking down the red carpet to a night of dancing, dinner, pictures and more. This is a fundraiser hosted by the youth going to *Youth 2027* in Dallas TX. This PROM will be held in our fellowship hall and will be a night to remember. Tickets are \$50 per couple or \$30 per individual and now on sale in the Welcome Center as well as contacting jimmagann@gmail.com.

Safe Sanctuary Training

Sunday, March 8 will be a church-wide safe Sanctuary Training. This is for everyone who works with, or would like to work with children, youth and vulnerable adults. The training will be led by Rev Laurie Brandis who is the Director of Safe Sanctuary Training for the Methodist Conference. Even if you have been trained recently, please make plans to join us. There will be a lunch provided in the Fellowship Hall after church on March 8 and the training will begin at 12:30pm.

2026 Flower Calendar

The 2026 Flower Calendar has been placed in the Welcome Center. Cost is **\$96 for two arrangements** and is a thoughtful way to honor or memorialize someone special. The arrangements are yours to take following the service. If you would like to donate the flowers, they will be arranged into several different vases to be delivered to shut-ins and the sick. *Please help support the church in this meaningful manner.*

**Memorials in Loving Memory of
Joyce Cook**

by Rick & Cheryl Denton – Building Fund

Virginia Dionisio

by Melinda Hydrick – Building Fund

Gwen Parnell

by Melinda Hydrick - Building Fund

by Rick & Cheryl Denton - Building Fund

by Don & Miriam Lovett - Building Fund

by Nick & Eileen Leoncavallo - General Fund

by Dan & Carla Jennings - General Fund

by Salem United Women in Faith - Pew Fund

by Larry & June Salters - Pew Fund

Mary Rye

by Melinda Hydrick - Building Fund

Jacqueline Jayne Thacker

by Melinda Hydrick - Building Fund

Alan Wells

by Melinda Hydrick - Building Fund

THIS WEEK AT SALEM

Sunday, February 22

9:30 A.M. No Compass Kids
 9:30 A.M. Discovery
 9:30 A.M. Sunday School
 10:30 A.M. Morning Worship
 3:00 P.M. Genesis Bible Study
 4:00 P.M. No Kid's Quest
 5:00 P.M. Youth

Tuesday, February 24

7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

Wednesday, February 25

7:00 A.M. AA Meeting

Thursday, February 26

1:00 P.M. Al-Anon Group

7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

Saturday, February 28

7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

Sunday, March 1

9:30 A.M. Compass Kids
 9:30 A.M. Discovery
 9:30 A.M. Sunday School
 10:30 A.M. Morning Worship
 3:00 P.M. Rise Against Hunger
 3:00 P.M. Genesis Bible Study
 4:00 P.M. Kid's Quest
 5:00 P.M. Youth



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday
 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
 1321 Salem Church Road, Irmo, SC 29063
 CCLI #1562077

Website: salemumcsc.com
 E-mail: smethodist@aol.com

Phone 803-781-1626

*In case of an emergency,
 call 864-985-2456 or 803-422-9400*

OUR MINISTRY TEAM

- Jeff Childress — Pastor
- P. J. Baker — Director of Children's Ministries
- Ben Beam — Pianist
- Angie Lain — Manager of Business & Finance
- Miriam Y. Lovett — Organist
- Jim Magann — Coordinator of Children/Youth and Missions Ministries
- Christopher Moore - Director of Music Ministry
- Tina Overton — Director of Creative Ministries
- Dustin Tanner — Coordinator of A/V Tech and Communications
- Marie Wicker — Administrative Coordinator

Sharing God's Love

Urgent Pantry Needs: Pancake Mix, Syrup, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Can Soup, Canned Fruit, Diced Tomatoes, Coffee, Tea, Chili, Crackers (Ritz or Saltines), Fruit Juices, Cranberry Sauce, Canned or Powered Milk.

Household Items: King & Queen-sized sheets and comforters (new or gently used). New underwear for adults & kids, Winter coats, New socks all sizes, blankets all sizes, wash cloths, hand & bath towels, pots, pans, plates, glasses, cookware, bakeware, kitchen linens, small appliances.

Drop-off containers are located in each Sunday School Room, Church Office and in the hallway next to the Fellowship Hall entrance.

110 items were delivered to Sharing God's Love on Feb. 13th.

Follow us on Instagram (saalemumcofirmo) weekly for Pastor Jeff's **Wednesday in the Word**. It's a great midweek encouragement to get you through the rest of your week until we meet again on Sunday.

BLOOD SHORTAGE

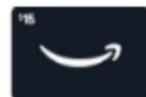
Blood donors needed now

Salem United Methodist Church

**Tuesday, March 10, 2026
 11:30 AM – 4:00 PM**

1321 Salem Church Road Irmo SC 29063
 Room Name: Fellowship Hall

Give in March for a \$15 Gift Card by email & successful donations get A1C testing! rcblood.org/March



For an appointment, please scan or visit RedCrossBlood.org
 Or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

E-Giving

Please prayerfully consider giving to Salem United Methodist Church through our e-Giving program. Scan the QR code below to be taken to Salem's donation page to present your offering.



You can also visit the link:

<https://giving.ncsservices.org/App/Giving/ncs-2365>

