

Salem United Methodist Church

1321 Salem Church Road
Irmo, South Carolina 29063
Established 1873



Series: Tell Me Something Good
Today: The Good News Is...
Together, the Impossible is Possible!

March 8, 2026
3rd Sunday in Lent

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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**

If you need good news this day,
settle into this space. We have good news to share.

If you need a word of hope today,
then trust us when we say, there is hope enough to go around.

This is the good news of the gospel.
**God is here. Love is real. Joy is on the move. Let us worship our
compassionate God!**

Let us pray:

**Holy God, open up space in our hearts this morning, and in our
spirits and our minds, to feel your presence among us. With you,
anything is possible. We believe. Help our unbelief. Amen.**

***HYMN 139** *Praise to the Lord, The Almighty*

A TIME OF PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY 95**

FIRST READING Ephesians 3:20-21

ANTHEM *So Will I (100 Billion X)* Peyton Baker

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

INTRODUCTION TO THE LESSON

GOSPEL READING Mark 6:32-44

***HYMN 173** *Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies*

PROCLAMATION

Series: *Tell Me Something Good*
Today: *The Good News Is...*
Together, the Impossible is Possible!

***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 546** *The Church's One Foundation*
(verses 1,2, and 5)

*BENEDICTION

***CHORAL RESPONSE 420** *Breathe on Me, Breath of God* (v. 3)
*Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly thine, till all this
earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.*

*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!*

STEWARDSHIP AND ATTENDANCE

Week of March 1, 2026

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

Unified budget received \$18,070.00

Needed to meet budget year to date (Inclgd. bldg. fund) \$135,497.54

Unified budget received year to date (Inclgd. bldg. fund) \$109,984.26

Attendance

On Line Viewing

Worship 134 Sunday School 60

136

PLEASE PRAYERFULLY REMEMBER:

Brookdale — Millie Howard, Mary Skenes

Carroll Campbell Place — Barbara Rolin

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, Nancy Kyre, Johnnie Metts,

Lee McMillan, Jonnie Mitchell, Margie Oswald, Mike Owen,

Barbara Pereira, Lucretia Seigler, Dustin Tanner,

Gail & Jim Van Valkenburg, Terry Waites, Marie Wicker

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY:

Ushers:	Lead – Sherri Puette Callie Dunn Melinda Hydrick Lee Newman
Sound Booth:	Dustin Tanner
Trustees:	Eric Puette
Acolyte:	Molly Vyskocil
Nursery:	Susan Price Thomas Brewton

Flower Ministry

The flowers which grace the Holy Altar today are given to the Glory of God by Francis Haltiwanger and in memory of Virginia Morris.

Safe Sanctuary Training

There will be a church-wide safe **Sanctuary Training** today. 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 and the training will begin at 12:30pm.

OASIS Surprise!

Calling all John Wayne enthusiasts! Have we got a surprise for you for our next OASIS event? Larry Brown, a retired addictions counselor and life-long movie buff with the Shepherds Center will be here to share in a look at the life, times and films of the legendary Western Star, John Wayne. We'll view movie clips from some of his most famous Westerns and learn lots about this popular figure. We'll additionally enjoy a baked potato bar with chili and all the toppings, salad and dessert. The charge for our meal will be \$10.00. There will be no charge for our entertainment, but a love offering will be collected. Make plans to join us for this most popular presentation and fun event on **March 17th at 11:30** and be sure to call to **RSVP by Thursday, March 12th!**

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.

Ladies' Lunch Bunch

The Ladies Lunch Bunch will meet on Monday, **March 30** at our normal time **11:30a.m.** We will meet this month at **M's Kitchen; 340 Columbiana Drive, Irmo.** All ladies are welcome!

Memorials in Loving Memory of

Virginia Dionisio

by Al & Debbie Berry - Building fund

by Jim & Marie Lewis - Pew fund

by Tommy & Allison McLendon - Building fund

by Larry & June Salters - Pew fund

Gwen Parnell

by Brady & Mary Bouknight - Cemetery fund

by Anna Mary & Creighton Forrest - Building fund

Ernestine Gravely

by Larry & June Salters - Pew fund

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).

GLOW IN THE DARK

EASTER EGG HUNT

SUNDAY, MARCH 29TH

SALEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
4:00 - 5:00 P.M.

Sharing God's Love

Urgent Pantry Needs: Cold Cereal, Pancake Mix, Syrup Peanut Butter, Jelly, Tea Bags Elbow Pasta, Pasta Sauce SpaghettiOs, Ravioli, etc., Chili, Soup, Crackers (Ritz or Saltines), Canned Tomatoes, Canned Meats, Fruit Juices, Fruit Snacks, Canned or Powdered Milk

Household Items: XXXL Clothing, New Underwear for Adults & Kids, Used Underwear for Kids & Men, White Socks All Sizes Sheets, Blankets, Comforters, Wash Cloths, Hand Towels, Bath Towels, Household Items: Pots, Pans, Plates, Glasses, Cookware, Bakeware, Kitchen Linens, Small Appliances.

Collecting for Easter: Now thru March 31st:

Children's Easter Outfits, Easter Baskets, Grass, Eggs, Bibles, Journals, Easter Books, Devotional Items, Candy, Small Stuffed Animals, Spring Toys.

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.



.....It's not March Madness
..... It's a March Mission
...Blessings in the Bag!

James 1:27 reminds us that caring for children in need is part of living out our faith. During this season of prayer and self-reflection, Salem's UWIF is leading a mission titled "Blessings in the Bag" to partner with the SC Youth Advocacy Program to provide needed items for youth who are being transported to foster homes.

Salem's members may help by donating simple items like toothbrushes and travel size soaps/shampoos (even from hotel stays) to include in toiletry bags. Other items needed are individually packed snack items: crackers, pretzels, popcorn, granola or cereal bars. These items will assist SCYAP drivers as they transport hungry youth. Yes, small things can make a big difference during a very difficult transition.

Sunday school classes, groups or individuals who would like to contribute a financial donation to help UWIF order sample size toothpaste, deodorants or snacks in bulk to include in individual bags are also much appreciated.

Donated items should be placed in the designated collection areas in the Church Office and Welcome Center by Thursday, March 19. Financial donations should be clearly labeled Bags of Blessing Mission with checks written to Salem's UWIF and turned in at the Church Office or to one of the UWIF leaders: Lisa Lee, Miriam Lovett, Lou Holmes or Debbie Joye.

All of Salem's ladies and friends are invited to attend a **fellowship gathering on Sunday, March 22 at 4:00 pm**, for a time of prayer and action for children/youth in need. Ladies will meet in the Fellowship Hall working together to assemble and attach encouraging messages to each bag. Thanks for helping to make this March Mission possible!

PORK 4 PEWS



EASTER MEAL MADE EASY AND ALL PROCEEDS GO TO RECOVERING OUR CHURCH PEWS

HUDSON'S BONE-IN SPIRAL GLAZED SMOKED HAM
\$70/PER HAM (APPROX. 12 SERVINGS)
ALL PREORDERS DUE BY TUESDAY MARCH 31ST
PICK UP EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5TH
11:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. AT SUMC

Contact church office or text Jennifer Hodges at 865.437.7950 to place order

Rise Against Hunger

Thank you so very much to everyone who helped with the Rise Against Hunger packing event last weekend. **We had over 80 volunteers between 2 shifts and were able to pack over 16,848 meals.** Over the past 3 years we have packed 51,192 meals. We do not know where they will be going yet but we will let everyone know when we find out. We would also like to thank local businesses Trusslink, and Carolina Infrastructure and Development for their financial support as well as volunteers. We also were so happy to have several of our friends from Aldersgate Special Needs Ministry join us for the afternoon. We look forward to another great event next year and hope everyone will join us again.

Vacation Bible School

The summer is coming and that means another exciting week of Vacation Bible School. This year the dates will be **June 22-25 from 5:00 - 7:30p.m.** with dinner included. The theme for this year is going to be "Journey to the Center of the Bible". Volunteer and Camper registrations will begin very soon so please look for those details in the near future. We hope for lots of excited campers and also lots of excited volunteers.

Sharing God's Love Pantry Needs 2026

147 Friarsgete Blvd - Irmo, SC

Baked Beans	Ensure
Spaghetios	Boost
Chef Boyardee	
Quick Pasta Sides	Diced Tomatoes
Quick Rice Sides	Tomato Sauce
Mac & Cheese	Pasta Sauce
	Whole Tomato
	Canned Fruit
Cereal	
Oatmeal	
Grits	Pasta
Pancake Mix	Bow Ties
Syrup	Elbows Spaghetti
Peanut Butter	
Jelly	Tea
	juice
Tuna Canned	Dried Milk
Salmon Canned	
Chicken Canned	
Dried Beans	Saltine Crackers
Rice	Packaged Crackers
Soup	Pop Tarts
Chili	Protein Bars
Stew	Granola Bars



Drive Through Prayer Ministry is back!

Our Drive Through Prayer Ministry will ramp back up on **Monday, April 13th from 7:30-9:00** here in the church parking lot. If you are interested in helping out to hold up signs or offer up a word of prayer for a neighbor, we'd love to hear from you! The ministry will run for 6 weeks each Monday and is a great way to start off your week. If you are interested and available on any Monday during this time, please call the church office or let Tina Overton know.

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.

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.**

Genesis by Jamie and Donna Winship

Sunday Nights 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.*



THIS WEEK AT SALEM

Sunday, March 8

9:30 A.M. Compass Kids
 9:30 A.M. Discovery
 9:30 A.M. Sunday School
 10:30 A.M. Morning Worship
 11:30 A.M. Lunch & Safe Sanctuary Training
 3:00 P.M. Genesis Bible Study
 4:00 P.M. Kid's Quest
 5:00 P.M. Youth
 6:00 P.M. Outreach Zoom Meeting

Monday, March 9

6:00 P.M. Booking It (Seekers Class)
 6:30 P.M. Missions Meeting

Tuesday, March 10

9:00 A.M. Staff Meeting
 10:00 A.M. Blood Drive
 7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

Wednesday, March 11

7:00 A.M. AA Meeting

Thursday, March 12

1:00 P.M. Al-Anon Group
 7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

Saturday, March 14

10:00 A.M. Nurses Honor Guard
 7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

Sunday, March 15

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. Genesis Bible Study
 4:00 P.M. Kid's Quest
 5:00 P.M. Youth

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>

Follow us on Instagram (salemumcofirmo) 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.



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