

9:00 am Worship Service

Prelude		
Welcome and Announcements		
*Call to Worship		
*Hymn	<i>Hark! The Herald Angels Sing</i>	#240
Prayers for the People & Lord’s Prayer		Lisa Palmquist
Hymn of Preparation	<i>Love Came Down at Christmas</i>	#242
Impact of Your Generosity		
Offering Prayer		
*Doxology		#95
*Hymn	The Blessing	
Scripture	Ecclesiastes 3:1-13	Lisa Palmquist
Sermon	Time Well Spent	
Special Music	<i>I am the Bread of Life</i>	Fern Habecker
Holy Communion		
*Apostle’s Creed		
*Hymn	<i>Take My Life, and Let It Be</i>	#399
Postlude		
Blessing		
<i>*Please stand if you are able.</i>		

Our Salem Church Family Prayer List

Samantha Enck	Natalie Abram	John Weaver
Tammy Buffington	Virginia Moore	Mary Lane
Renee Troutman	Riley Arment	Audrina Lutchkus
Mark Blankenship	Ed Lull	Gerri Messman
Family & Friends of Shannon Gornik		Marlin Ruhl
Family & Friends of Jim Yoder	Sue Shaw	Benedict Phelps

An assisted listening system is available from a smartphone application to help people to hear the service better. Download the WaveCAST Audio Receiver app and log in to the SalemGuest Wi-Fi – the password is MINISTRY. If you need assistance, please go to the sound booth.

Welcome!

We hope our time together is a source of hope and peace.

Nursery Care is provided during worship for infants to age 4.

Prayer Requests can be written on the cards located in the lobby. Place your request in the prayer quilt near the sanctuary entrance.

Friendship Pads are in the pews. Please take the time to fill them out and pass them down the row. The information you provide helps us with attendance and to follow up with guests.

Sunday School at 10:15 am

Children (K – 4th grades) – Room 204
Youth (5th - 12th grades) – Room 403
Wrestling with Grace (Adult Class) – Room 406
(Join us to go deeper reflecting on the sermon.)
Ages and Stages (Adult Class) – Room 404

Children’s Chapel - The 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month, Pre-K through 4th Grade children can attend Children’s Chapel after the Children’s Time during the morning service.

Coffee Time – Join us after the service in Fellowship Hall.

Offering Collection Boxes – If you would like to make a gift to support the mission and ministry of Salem, please place your gift in one of the offering boxes on the back walls of the Sanctuary. Offering envelopes are available in the pews for your convenience.

E-Giving Use the QR code to make a one-time gift or to set up recurring giving. Salem’s e-giving provider is Nucleus Giving. If you want to support with a special offering, just make a note on the memo line.



Building Community One Question at a Time

A good conversation comes down to being a good listener. Listen carefully and ask follow-up questions: Try asking:

What’s your earliest travel memory?

Share the question. Have fun while getting to know others a little better.

Electronic Newsletter Sign Up!

Each Friday we distribute an electronic newsletter called *Friday Friendly*. Please use this QR code to sign up or notify the Office Manager to be included.



Our Heartfelt Thank You!

Thank you for your generous gifts and kind expressions of support. As church employees, we are truly grateful for your thoughtfulness, encouragement and gifts—it means more to us than words can express.
~Salem UMC Employees



Many Thanks to the Congregation!

“Thanks to the congregation for their kind and generous Christmas Gift! The Peace and blessing of Jesus be with you all!”
~ Lamar & Pat Myers

Our Sincere Thanks to You All!

“I just wanted to say we hugely appreciate your donation of children’s clothes to the Manheim Central School District. Your servant’s heart is truly appreciated as we know you understand the many needs we face and try to meet. God Bless and wishing you a Merry Christmas!”
~ Manheim Central SD Nursing Department

Join the Order of Andrew ~ Invite Someone to Experience Grace

One of the most beautiful examples of discipleship in Scripture is the story of Andrew. After encountering Jesus, the very first thing Andrew did was go and find his brother Simon and brought him to meet the Lord. Andrew reminds us that faith is meant to be shared – not through pressure, but through genuine invitation. Many people are longing for connection, hope and a place where they feel welcomed. Your invitation could be the beginning of a new chapter in their spiritual journey.

January Special Envelope ~ Appalachia Service Project (ASP)



Making homes warm, safe and dry is the mission of ASP. Salem UMC sends a team each summer to volunteer. Our team serves together. The mission trip is for all ages and skill levels. We expect a very large group to serve this summer. We need to raise money to support our team’s mission of providing a warm, safe and dry environment for all.

Nativity Scene Creations Pickup



It’s time to collect your beautiful nativity scene creations. Please take your creations today. If you are unable to take it home today please let Gina know to hold it for you.

A Wonderful Time was had at the Youth Christmas Celebration
Thank you to Alysa and Dakota for throwing a fun Christmas Celebration. We did a fun Left/Right game, ate pizza and played many Christmas games. It was a fun time! Come join us for our weekly Sunday School and meet new friends.



Save the Date!
(Check out the Friday Friendly for details.)
February 6 – Youth First Friday Hangout (6:30pm-8:30pm)
February 28 – Sweetheart TO-GO Banquet (11:00am-12:30pm)

This Week at Salem

Today, January 4
9:00 am – Worship service
10:15 am – Sunday School

Wednesday, January 7
6:15 pm – Bell Choir Practice
7:00 pm – Choir Practice

Our entire worship service, including the Children's Message, is live-streamed and recorded. By entering the sanctuary or allowing your child to participate, you consent to being filmed. Those wishing to avoid the camera may sit in back half of the Sanctuary. Salem United Methodist Church of Manheim is not responsible for any unauthorized use of recordings by outside parties.

Church Contact Information
John Laughlin, ext 3 pastorjohn@salemmanheim.org
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Keith Mitchell, ext 4.....businessmanager@salemmanheim.org
Ext 8 Financial Assistance
Ext. 7.....Salem Handyman Service
Natalie Abram children@salemmanheim.org
Alysa Merkey.....youth@salemmanheim.org

Going Deeper in “Time Well Spent”
Read the following a few times:
Ecc 3:1-13; Ps 90:12; James 4:14-15; Eph 5:15-16; Ecc 11:6

Reflect on the following:

1. There is “a season for everything.” Which season do you feel like you’re in right now—and why?
2. Which pairings in verses 2–8 stand out to you most at this stage of life (planting/harvesting, searching/losing, tearing down/building)? What makes them feel relevant?
3. Why do you think Ecclesiastes holds opposite experiences together instead of choosing one over the other?
4. How does our culture pressure young adults to rush certain seasons or skip others?
5. Verse 11 says God “has planted eternity in the human heart.” What do you think that means for people who feel restless or dissatisfied?
6. Where do you see the tension between wanting life to move faster—and wanting it to slow down?
7. According to verse 11, why can’t we fully understand God’s timing? How does that make you feel—relieved, frustrated, or both?
8. Verse 12 says the best response is to “be happy and enjoy ourselves as long as we can.” Why is enjoyment sometimes hard to accept as a spiritual practice?
9. Verse 13 connects enjoyment with work and provision from God. How might gratitude change the way you view your daily schedule?
10. What would it look like for you to trust God with your timing—especially around unanswered prayers or unfinished goals?

Spiritual Challenges:

1. **Name Your Season** - This week, write down the season you believe you’re in (planting, waiting, healing, building, letting go).
2. **Practice Presence** - Choose one ordinary moment each day—mealtime, commute, workout, or conversation—and give it your full attention. No multitasking. No phone. Call it time well spent.
3. **Redeem One Hour** - Take one hour this week that you would normally waste or rush through and intentionally offer it to God—through rest, service, prayer, or connection.

Salem
*Helping People to
Live their Best Lives*

January 4, 2026

Rev. Dr. John A. Laughlin, Sr., Pastor

Time Well Spent

Frank Rittenhouse, Organist
Terri Briskie, Accompanist
Doug Winters, Bell Director

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Office Hours:
Tuesday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Wednesday 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Thursday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm