

## 9:00 am Worship Service

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

\*Call to Worship

\*Hymn *They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love*

Prayers for the People & Lord's Prayer Trevor Enck

Special Music To God Be the Glory Luana Baltozer & Katie Yoder

Impact of Your Generosity

Offering Prayer

\*Doxology #95

\*Praise Song *Way Maker*

Scripture 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 Gina Monteleone

Sermon *Ego Problem*

Hymn of Preparation *Beneath the Cross of Jesus (v.1,3)* #297

\*Holy Communion

\*Hymn *Breathe on Me, Breath of God* #420

Blessing

Postlude

\*Please stand if you are able.

### Our Salem Church Family Prayer List

Samantha Enck	Jeannie	Mary Lane
Renee Troutman	Sue Shaub	Benedict Phelps
Mark Blankenship	Gerri Messman	Marlin Ruhl
Toy Miller	Dot Furhman Family & Friends	
Jack & Linda Piper	Virginia Moore	Gloria Wolf
Cervenansky Family & Friends		

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 – 4<sup>th</sup> grades) – Room 204

Youth (5<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month, Pre-K through 4<sup>th</sup> Grade children can attend Children's Chapel after 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 a monthly 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:

*If you could live in any city in the world, which one would you choose and why?*

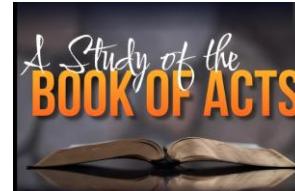
Share the question. Have fun while getting to know others a little better.

### 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.

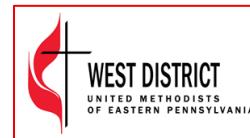


### 8-Week Bible Study ~ Starting January 29<sup>th</sup>



Join Pastor John for an 8-week Bible study on the Book of Acts, beginning Thursday, January 29 at 6:30 p.m., as we explore how the Holy Spirit still empowers the church today. Sign up at the Welcome Center or call the church office.

### Tools for Ministry ~ Saturday, Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>



Hosted at Salem UMC from 8:00am-12:00pm. There will be 20 different workshops offering practical advice, thought-provoking inspiration, and district/region-wide relationship building. We will need volunteers that day as well.



I want to thank everyone for the many get-well cards, prayers, and well-wishes I received following my recent knee replacement surgery. Your kindness and encouragement truly brightened my recovery. I feel so blessed to be part of such a caring family here at Salem! I look forward to see you all soon. ~ Natalie Abram



We would like to thank everyone involved in helping with the planning and preparation for my mom's (Dawn Eisenberger) funeral service. Thanks to so many Salem friends for all the prayers and cards we've received.

God Bless, Sheri and Garry Swope



### Be a Sweetheart ~ Salem Family Ministries Happy Valentine's Day Bags

There isn't a better time than the middle of winter to brighten up someone's day, especially our homebound members! Decorated bags with names can be found at the Welcome Center. Members are asked to select a bag and fill it with some goodies to celebrate Valentine's Day and then drop off the Valentine's Bag to the homebound member during the month of February. Contact Lisa Palmquist with questions.



### The United Women in Faith ~ February Collection

We are collecting new underwear & sweatpants for the Clay Street Shelter. A collection box is in the hallway for your donations. Contact Barb Yoder with questions.

## 2025 Giving Statements

Giving statements for 2025 have been emailed to all church members who have an email address on file. If you have not received your statement, please check your spam or junk email folder. For those without email, a printed copy has been placed in your church mailbox or will be mailed to you. Contact Keith Mitchell if you have any questions.

Thank you for your faithful generosity and continued support of the ministry of Salem United Methodist Church.

### Save the Date!

(Check out the Friday Friendly for details.)

**February 6 – Youth First Friday Hangout** (6:30pm-8:30pm)

**February 15 – Love Thy Neighbor Brunch** (10:00am)

**February 28 – Tools for Ministry** (8:00am-12:00pm)

**February 28 – Sweetheart TO-GO Banquet** (11:00am-12:30pm)

### This Week at Salem

#### **Today, February 1**

9:00 am – Worship service

10:15 am – Sunday School

#### **Tuesday, February 3**

6:30 pm – Church Council

#### **Wednesday, February 4**

6:15 pm – Bell Choir Practice

7:00 pm – Choir Practice

#### **Thursday, February 5**

6:30 pm – Book of Acts Bible Study

#### **Friday, February 6**

6:30 pm – Youth Hangout

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](mailto:pastorjohn@salemmanheim.org)

Church Secretary, ext 2 ... [officemanager@salemmanheim.org](mailto:officemanager@salemmanheim.org)

Keith Mitchell, ext 4....[businessmanager@salemmanheim.org](mailto:businessmanager@salemmanheim.org)

Ext 8 ..... Financial Assistance

Ext. 7.....Salem Handyman Service

Natalie Abram .....[children@salemmanheim.org](mailto:children@salemmanheim.org)

Alysa Merkey.....[youth@salemmanheim.org](mailto:youth@salemmanheim.org)

## Going Deeper in “Ego Problems”

### Read the following a few times:

1 Co 1:18-31; Prov 16:18; Jer 9:23-24; James 4:6

### Reflect on the following:

1. How does our culture usually define “winning” or being successful (grades, popularity, money, followers, athletic ability)? How is that different from what Paul describes as God’s wisdom?
2. The message of the cross is “foolish” to some. Why do you think surrender, self-denial, and grace offend human ego so deeply?
3. What kinds of “boasting” are most socially acceptable in our culture (education, politics, ministry success, morality, productivity)? Which ones do you personally feel tempted toward?
4. Paul points out that God did not choose many who were wise, powerful, or wealthy by worldly standards (vv. 26–27). How does this challenge assumptions we may carry into church leadership, ministry, or discipleship?
5. In what ways can religious faith itself become an ego project—a way to feel superior, correct, or “on the right side” rather than dependent on grace?
6. Paul emphasizes that salvation is entirely God’s doing (v. 30). Why is it so hard for humans to accept a faith where we don’t get credit for our own righteousness?
7. Where does comparison show up most strongly for you right now? How does comparison feed ego or shame?

### Spiritual Challenges:

1. The Identity Audit - This week, take 10 quiet minutes and finish this sentence honestly: “I feel most valuable when I am \_\_\_\_\_.” Then pray: “Jesus, help me root my worth in You, not this.”
2. The Quiet Faith Practice - Do one Christ-shaped act this week with no visibility or payoff—no posting, no credit, no explanation.
3. The Grace-First Conversation - In one conversation this week (about work, politics, faith, or culture), resist the urge to prove you’re right or impressive. Practice listening first. Ask a genuine question. Stay curious.



**February 1, 2026**

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



Frank Rittenhouse, Organist

Terri Briskie, Accompanist

Doug Winters, Bell Director

Doug Winters, Interim Choir Director

140 N. Penn St., Manheim, PA 17545

[salemmanheim.org](http://salemmanheim.org)

717-665-2331

Office Hours:

Tuesday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Wednesday 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Thursday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm