

Salem Spirit

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

MAY 2007

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Men of Faith update on topics to be covered
- Don't miss out on the Reading Phillies Faith Night
- Let's spruce up the church after the grime of winter
- There are opportunities to serve at Salem

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From the Pastor's Desk

Greetings in the Precious Name of Jesus!

Thank God for 70 and 80 degree temperatures. I don't know about you, but I was getting tired of the 30's and 40's. What a joy it is to experience this change in the weather.

Change can be good. Some change is essential. To become what God wants us to be, you and I must change. God loves us just the way we are, but what he really wants is for us to change and become more like Jesus. God wants this for us because

he knows that the more we become like Jesus the more joyful we will be.

If we have the desire to change and become more like Jesus, the Holy Spirit, who lives within all followers of Jesus, will empower us to change and the Bible, the inspired Word of God, will direct our change. Direction plus power equals change

There's no such thing as instant godliness. I wish we could take a pill and just like that we'd be like Jesus. But it doesn't work that way. Unfortunately,

there is no Jesus pill. You don't become like Jesus instantly or overnight. The transformation process is a life-long venture. It takes lots of time and effort. But if you stick with it, you will be blessed in this life and in the life to come. Stick with it, and make the change.

Pastor Gary

Building Fund Update

12/31/06 Building Fund Balance

\$120,174.81

2007 Building Fund Income as of 4/22/07	\$22,754.25
Transfers from General Fund (15% of income)	8,404.10
Windsor Township Build. Permit—2/26/07	(7,054.00)
John W. Hoffert surveying	(8,095.55)
Hurst Excavating—10% deposit	(12,760.00)
	3,248.80

Building Fund Balance as of 4/22/07

\$123,423.61

Reading Phillies Faith Night

Join us for a night at the Reading Phillies for Faith Night on Thursday, June 21st. Game time is 7:05pm and the gates open at 6:00pm. The cost is \$7.00 per person. There will be fireworks following the game. Religious groups meet with players for a pre-game discussion about faith. Sign up in the lobby so we can order advance tickets. Your payment can be placed in the of-

fice or given to Dorinda. Please make checks payable to Salem E.C. Church. Any questions, see John Biehl. Deadline to sign up is May 13th. If there is enough interest we will carpool.



Someone is needed to fill in for Dorinda when she is on vacation June 23rd to June 30th. The duties would include answering the phone, typing the bulletin, and other miscellaneous things. If you would be able to help out, please see Dorinda.

Spring Clean up

The Youth are having their Week of Service April 30th to May 4th. To follow in the footsteps of our youth and end the week with service we are having our Annual Church Spring Clean up on Saturday, May 5th from 8:30am to 12:30pm. There is a sign up sheet in the lobby to sign up for various cleaning projects. Let's make this year a success and clean up the dirt

from the winter together while having some fellowship too. There are things to do both inside and outside to spruce up the church.



VBS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

This year Vacation Bible School will be held from August 5th to 9th with the closing program during the Sunday school hour on August 12th. Much help is needed so please make plans around this important ministry and consider volunteering your time and talents. There are many areas to choose

from teaching, to making props, helping to register, crafts, snacks, clean up, being part of skits, planning and organizing, the list is endless. Watch for sign up sheets later on!

Graduation is fast approaching.

We would like to recognize all our graduates in June. If you will be graduating this year, please drop a note in the office. Thanks



Men of Faith

Men of Faith will meet Tuesday, May 1, 15, and 29 at 7:00 pm. We are covering the “7 Questions of A Promise Keeper”. On Tuesday, May 1st we will cover question 5 - “Is the Danger of Isolation Addressed Through My Involvement in Promise Keepers? (Lack of Accountability is Dangerous to our Spiritual Wellbeing)”, on May 15th we will cover question 6—“How Can I Progress from Survival to Significance?”, on May 29th we will cover question 7—“Why is it so crucial for Promise Keepers Men to

develop an Eternal Perspective?”



Promise Keepers Conference will be held at the Giant Center in Hershey, PA on Friday, September 21st and Saturday, September 22nd.

The last Men of Faith and Women of Faith meetings will be Tuesday, June 12th. This will be our annual joint picnic at a place TBD. Watch the bulletin for more information.



The Next Salem E. C. Church Ministry Council Meeting is Sunday, June 3rd at 7:00 pm.

Agenda items are due to Jbn Kuhns no later than Sunday, May 27th. Also, please review your action items

Battle Cry

Battle Cry is fast approaching.

All youth that are signed up to go will be receiving a packet of information either during Sunday school or in the mail. PLEASE make sure you get

your packet by May 6th so that you know all the details. Also there will be a permission slip included in the packet that MUST be signed and handed in before the trip. Any questions, contact Rich

Peachey at 484-332-0955.

This N That

Opportunities to Serve at Salem

1. **Food Bank Coordinator**—Someone is needed to keep track of Food Bank inventory, help to distribute items when needed, coordinate food bank do-

nation Sundays. Please contact Dorinda or Pastor Gary if you would like to serve this ministry.
2. **Jr. Church Leader**—Volunteers are needed to lead Jr. Church during the Contemporary Service. All that is required is a love of

teaching kids about the Lord. There are easy to follow lesson plans available in the office. Volunteers are on a rotating schedule leading Jr. Church one or less Sundays a month. Please see Dorinda or put a note in the office if you would like to serve in this ministry.



Salem E.C. Church

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**A Contemporary Church That Doesn't
Compromise the Truth**



Isn't It Strange?

1. Isn't it strange how a 20 dollar bill seems like such a large amount when you donate it to church, but such a small amount when you go shopping?
2. Isn't it strange how 2 hours seem so long when you're at church, and how short they seem when you're watching a good movie?
3. Isn't it strange that you can't find a word to say when you're praying, but you have no trouble thinking what to talk about with a friend?
4. Isn't it strange how difficult and boring it is to read one chapter of the Bible, but how easy it is to read 100 pages of a popular novel?
5. Isn't it strange how everyone wants front row tickets to concerts or games, but they do whatever is possible to sit in the last row in church?
6. Isn't it strange how we need to know about an event for church 2-3 weeks before the day so we can include it in our agenda, but we can adjust it for other events at the last minute?
7. Isn't it strange how difficult it is to learn a fact about God and to share it with others, but how easy it is to learn, understand, extend, and repeat gossip?
8. Isn't it strange how we believe everything that magazines and newspapers say, but we question the words in the Bible?
9. Isn't it strange how everyone wants a place in heaven, but they don't want to believe, do, or say anything to get there?
10. Isn't it strange how we send jokes in e-mails and they are forwarded right away, but when we are going to send messages about God, we think about it twice before we share it with others?

Now that you've read this message, share it with anybody that you consider a friend, family member, or foe (enemy). If you don't share it, not only will you deprive yourself from being blessed, but you will also deprive others who may need God in their life.