

*Rev. Dr. Selwyn Q. Bachus* Senior Pastor

Monday, April 1, 2024

April Theme: Celebration & Reflection

2024, The Year of Replenishing

"But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; 10 who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy."

- 1 Peter 2:9-10 Scripture for the Month; NKJV

As we traverse the hallowed time of this sacred month, our hearts and minds are ever fixed on our journey of revival. This year, we embrace "The Year of Replenishing," a theme that beckons us back to our foundational truths, beautifully encapsulated in 1 Peter 2:9-10. We are indeed called forth to sing the praises of our Lord who has ushered us into His wondrous light.

In the warmth of our church's anniversary and this season of spiritual rejuvenation, we are invited to delve into the transformative power of prayer, guided by the inspiring saga of King Hezekiah. His story serves as a beacon of the Power and Mystery of Prayer in overcoming life's adversities, showcasing the enigmatic yet sovereign ways of God in responding to our supplications. Confronted with the shadow of death, Hezekiah sought refuge in the Lord through prayer, not merely pleading for extended years of life but immersing himself in a spiritual journey that honed his faith and character. In a miraculous turn, God bestowed upon him 15 additional years, a testament to the unforeseen nature of Divine will, teaching us that although God's answers may veer from our petitions, they are unfailingly aligned with our greater good.

Prayer, therefore, transcends the bounds of a mere plea for alteration in our external circumstances; it is a transformative odyssey that molds our inner being, offering us in moments of despair the gifts of divine grace, fortitude, and wisdom. It reshapes our outlook, gradually aligning our desires with those of the Almighty.

This month, let us wholeheartedly engage in prayer as an essential discipline, placing our trust in God irrespective of the outcomes. Our faith must remain steadfast, not swayed by the nature of God's responses but anchored in the assurance that He discerns what is supremely beneficial for us. In our quest for a profound communion with our Maker, may

3131 Lake Street • Omaha, NE 68111 • Phone: 402-455-1000 • Fax: 402-455-0237 • www.salembc.org

we also discover comfort in the mystery and might of prayer, steering through the ebbs and flows of life with dignity and endurance.

# Important Updates – April 2024/May 2024

DID YOU KNOW? You can start the year with spiritual growth using "60 Days of Strength: A 60-Day Devotional Journal." Released Dec. 1, 2023, the journal is available on Amazon. It offers scriptural insights, reflection, and direction for a deeper spiritual walk. Join us on this journey to renewed faith and strength. Learn more here: https://bit.lv/3NKAa1L.

Looking to access the church newsletter on our website? Our latest and archived church newsletters can be found on our website. They feature our latest updates and upcoming events. Find them at:

https://salembc.org/resources/monthly-newsletter/salem-newsletters-archives/. Be sure to bookmark the site for future reference.

The Life Development Ministry invites Salem Baptist Church members back to join us at Sunday School from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. – Adult and Children classes.

Nursery A

Classroom 12

- The assignments schedule is as follows:
  - Preschool (ages 3 to 5) • Primary (ages 6 to 8)
  - - (also virtually via Zoom, Meeting Number 821 9381 5354, Passcode cr10!)
  - Classroom 4 • Men's Bible Study
  - Traditional Bible Study Conference Room (also virtually via Zoom, Meeting Number 898 9223 0976, Passcode 670061)

Contemporary Bible Study takes place on Sundays at 6:30 pm via Zoom. Meeting Number 873 4993 4923. The passcode is VICTORY2.

Communion Elements Distributed from the church office during the week The Deacons will prepare communion elements for pickup from the church office during the week. This approach replaces the previous practice of distributing the elements on the Saturday before Communion. Please arrange to collect your Communion elements during business hours at the church office.

# Corporate Prayer - Wednesday, April 24 and May 22

Join us virtually to experience the power of collective prayer Wednesday, April 24 and May 22. Please join us as we ask the Lord for His blessings, guidance, and wisdom. We will email the webinar link via Constant Contact no later than the Monday before each prayer session.

Safe Sanctuary and Children's Church Training for Volunteers - Saturday, April 6 Please mark your calendars for the second session of our Safe Sanctuary and Children's Church Training workshop on Saturday, April 6, starting at 10 a.m. The training, lasting 2 hours (1 hour each for Safe Sanctuary and Children's Church volunteers), is a mandatory

3131 Lake Street • Omaha, NE 68111 • Phone: 402-455-1000 • Fax: 402-455-0237 • www.salembc.org

• Junior (ages 9 to 12) Classroom 11 Classrooms 14-16 • Teen (ages 13-18) • Adult Bible Study Classroom 10

session for <u>all volunteers</u> participating in Children and Youth Ministries. Join us as we delve into the essential topics of child safety and training for Children's Church.

#### Church Anniversary - Sunday, April 28

We warmly invite you to celebrate our 102nd Church Anniversary. Prepare for a worship experience filled with uplifting messages and a community united in faith. Let's come together to renew our spirits and commemorate another year of blessings and growth.

#### National Day of Prayer - Thursday, May 2

Let us come together as the Salem Baptist Church family to lift our hearts and voices in prayer for our nation, its leaders, and its people. This is a sacred opportunity to unify in faith, seeking guidance, wisdom, and protection from above. May our collective prayers on this day serve as a testament to the power of our faith in God's enduring love and grace.

## Join Us for the Bridge Builders New Member Appreciation Luncheon: Celebrating Our Newest Salem Members - Saturday, May 4

The Bridge Builders New Member Ministry will sponsor a New Member Appreciation Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall at 11:30 a.m. The luncheon is being held for new membership who have joined Salem since 2020. Please come out to enjoy fellowship, fun and food. Sign up tables will be available in the foyer before and after services during the month of April.

## Mother's Day - Sunday, May 12

We extend our deepest gratitude and love to all the mothers of Salem Baptist Church. Your strength, wisdom, and unconditional love are the pillars upon which our community stands and grows. May this day be filled with the joy and recognition you so richly deserve, as we celebrate the irreplaceable role you play in our lives and hearts.

## Spring Revival - Wednesday, May 15

We are thrilled to announce the Spring Revival at Salem Baptist Church, set to ignite our spirits on Wednesday, May 15. Guest preacher Rev. Dr. Maurice Watson of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Baptist Church of Little Rock, Arkansas will lead us in worship. Dr. Watson has made significant impacts through his pastoral leadership, marked by transformative growth in congregations across the United States, including expanding Salem. A revered preacher and teacher, his ministry is recognized globally, culminating in honors such as induction into the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Board of Preachers of Morehouse College. This gathering is a wonderful opportunity for renewal, spiritual growth, and fellowship within our beloved community. Mark your calendars and prepare your hearts to be rejuvenated through worship, prayer, and the word.

#### Jeans and Jerseys Sunday - Sunday, May 19

The time has come to dig through your closet for that cherished jersey – yes, the very same one you sported to church last year! Jeans and jerseys Sunday is quickly approaching. It's the perfect chance to flaunt your team spirit or simply embrace a comfy, casual vibe. Embracing a laid-back dress code for the day aims to foster a relaxed, enjoyable environment, strengthening our sense of community. So, gear up in your coziest jeans and beloved jersey, and let's gather with joy and camaraderie for a day of

3131 Lake Street • Omaha, NE 68111 • Phone: 402-455-1000 • Fax: 402-455-0237 • www.salembc.org

worship and fellowship that promises to be both uplifting and memorable. We encourage you to extend a hand of fellowship by inviting your friends, relatives, acquaintances, and neighbors to join us in our community of faith.

Offices closed in observance of Memorial Day - Sunday, May 27

In honor of Memorial Day, the Salem Baptist Church offices will be closed on Sunday, May 27th. We encourage our church family to take this time to reflect on the bravery and sacrifices of our fallen heroes. Regular office operations will resume Tuesday, May 28 at 9 a.m.

Ways to Worship with Us

Please continue to join us in online worship Sundays at 9:55 a.m./10 a.m. via <u>salembc.org</u>, Facebook at <u>Facebook.com/salembcomaha</u>, <u>www.boxcast.com</u>, and on YouTube at <u>https://rb.gv/njzsy9</u>. On Sunday mornings, join us for our "Word for Your Walk" broadcast, which airs on KMTV-3 at 6 a.m. We also upload sermons from Sunday worship each week as a podcast on Apple podcasts:

https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/salem-baptist-church-omaha/id1493073489.

Tithes and Offerings

"Lord, we not only want to position ourselves for your provision, but for your abundant blessing."

As stewards of the resources The Lord provides, each member of our church family is invited to trust The Lord with the tithe (ten percent of the resources The Lord has placed under your stewardship).

PayPal – visit our website or send tithes and offerings to <u>salemadmin@salembc.org</u> Venmo – Salem Baptist Church Omaha Cashapp – \$salemchurchomaha Givelify – Salem Baptist Church Text "Give" to (402) 543-3316 Questions? Call the church office at: (402) 455-1000

You may also mail a check to: Salem Baptist Church 3131 Lake Street Omaha, Nebraska 68111

Peace and blessings,

lung Q. Bach

Pastor Selwyn Q. Bachus

3131 Lake Street • Omaha, NE 68111 • Phone: 402-455-1000 • Fax: 402-455-0237 • www.salembc.org