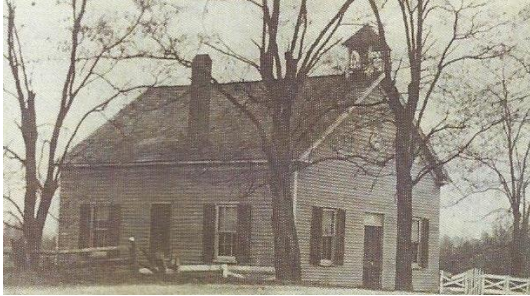


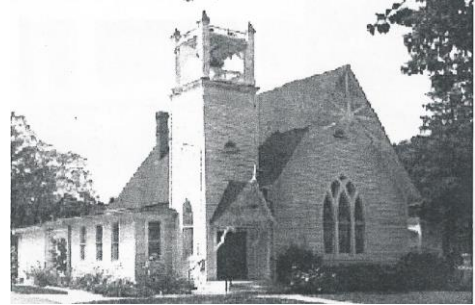
Salem United Methodist Church

February 2015 Newsletter

“181 Years and Still Loving, Serving and Celebrating”



SALEM Methodist Protestant Church 1833



SALEM United Methodist Church 2013

12 High Street, Brookeville, Maryland 20833

Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

Sunday Services 8:15 am and 10:00 am

TO THE SALEM UM CHURCH COMMUNITY



Rev. Sue Shorb-Sterling.

Dear Salem UM Church Community,

Winter is almost over because Lent begins on Wednesday, Feb 18. At the end of Lent, we will celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus and the spring flowers will be blooming. So what is Lent? Each year we celebrate it for six weeks before Easter. Lent is a time to reflect on our lives as disciples of Christ and what Jesus did for us in his death and resurrection.

In today's world, we can easily get caught up in the drama of life that occurs in our

relationships, our family, our work, and our political world. We get tired of running in circles, and not living a life with direction, purpose, or passion. We can so easily get distracted from living a life that honors Christ. When we feel empty we fill ourselves with mindless chatter, social media, stimulants, alcohol, too many activities, and other irrelevant stuff. With our busy-ness we turn away from God.

Lent is a time for repentance -a forty day trial-run time to return to God, change our lifestyles and let God change our hearts. We can do this by practicing one of these spiritual practices:

- † *Fasting:* One can fast from food for a meal or a day each week, or fast from something that clutters your life. This could be discarding material possessions or fasting from shopping. One might choose to fast from screen time that is not required for work. Simplify one's calendar and life by fasting from whatever you need to let go of to focus on God.

† *Giving*: If you choose to fast, take the money you save from your fast whether it is eating, shopping, or whatever you are discarding. Seek at least one place that serves those in need to give the money you saved. Salem is offering two opportunities in Lent for us to give. First, support our youth who are doing World Vision's 30 Hour Famine (Feb 27-March 1). Second, the fourth Sunday of Lent is One Great Hour of Sharing which is a special offering which supports the UM Committee on Relief.

† *Serving*: As we fast from something that takes us away from God, serving is one way to take something on *for* Christ. Serving others is one way we serve God. Here are some ideas. Strive to buy an extra bag of groceries each time you go to the store and put them in our food pantry boxes. Commit to helping a stranger, a co-worker, or a friend every day. Serve at the Lord's Table on Saturday, Feb 28 and March 28.

† *Praying*: The time one uses at fasting from something that pulls us away from God, we can use for prayer. Take a walk, create music, or art as a prayer to God, or just sit quietly and listen. All these can be ways to tune in to God.

The sermon series during Lent and a special Lent study series will help guide us through these forty days. See below for more info on these.

Lent is journey, if we wish to take it, which can reveal a hidden future and offer opportunity to discover the truth of God's deep love for us through the cross and the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Journeying Together, Rev. Sue

~~~~~

**BREAKING NEWS**

We have a new Nursery Teacher for our Sunday School. Please look for information in the March issue of the Salem Newsletter.

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

February 2015

*Epiphany Sermon Series:*

*The Doubt vs. Faith Wrestling Match*

Sunday, Feb 1 "But I Thought I Knew?"

(Souper Bowl of Caring)

Sunday, Feb 8 Disciple Bible Study Class

Sunday, Feb 15 "Am I Being Ignored?"

Wednesday, Feb 18 Ash Wednesday

at Salem 7:30 pm This is a joint worship with St. Paul/Mt. Carmel and Ashton UMCs

*Lent Sermon Series: From wRecked to Restored*

Sunday, Feb 22, First Sunday in Lent:

*From Useless to Useful*

Sunday, March 1, Second Sunday in Lent:

*From Pennies to Provision (30 Hour Famine)*

Sunday, March 8, Third Sunday in Lent:

*From Clutter to Clever*

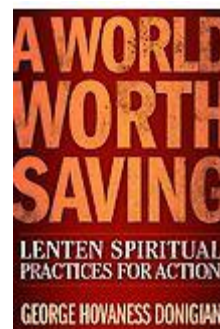
Sunday, March 15, Fourth Sunday in Lent:

*From Hurting to Healing*

Sunday, March 22, Fifth Sunday in Lent:

*From Forfeit to Fruitful*

**Lenten Study**



God thinks the world is worth saving and invites Christians to join in the movement of redemption. During Lent this study can challenge us to grow in prayer by praying about daily news reports, discovering the needs around us, and responding with love and compassion. Each chapter of this study includes well-known hymn texts for inspiration, exercises for spiritual growth, and questions for reflection.

Classes offered:

Tuesday evenings, 7:15 pm, March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Wednesday mornings, 10:00 am, March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1

**A GREAT BIG THANK YOU**

After the morning worship on December 28, 2014, Rev Sue started her week of vacation and two week approved Reading Days, in which she

completed her theses as the last part of her Doctorate program. During her absence she had invited two very distinguished ministers to fill the pulpit for her



Rev. Mark Derby, retired pastor

On January 4<sup>th</sup>, Rev. Mark Derby spoke to us on “Finding Your Place at God’s Banquet Table” *Luke 15:11-32*.

Yes, it was the Prodigal Son sermon but with another look – the Father! How many times have we looked at this story and saw ourselves as that Prodigal Son? We, at some time, have turned our backs on God and His will, knelt before God and asked forgiveness, “I am unworthy – please help me to be worthy once again!”

Now picture God with His hands outreached welcoming us back into His Grace. Just as the Father of the Prodigal Son.

On January 11<sup>th</sup>, we were honored to welcome Rev. J.W. Park, our District Superintendent of the Central Maryland, Baltimore – Washington Conference as our Guest Speaker.



Rev. J. W. Park

Rev. Park Explained to us that Korean is his Native language and English is his second language. He spoke of how he became a Christian and how God called him to the ministry.

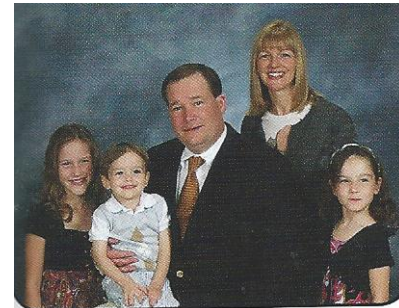
The heart-warming story reminded us of when we gave our hearts over to God and His will. Reminded us of the day we were baptized and felt the newness of God in our lives and hearts.

Rev. Park led us through the communion and Baptismal service and invited us to renew our commitment to God once again. As each member came around, he dipped his finger in the baptismal water and made a cross on our forehead. We, the congregation, dedicated our lives once again to our Lord and Savior.

Thank you Rev. Derby and Rev. Park for taking time out of your busy schedules to minister to us at Salem.



### INMEMORY OF MATT GROVES



Matt & Churchill Groves  
Lexi, Brianna & Nicholas

This picture is from the 2011 Salem Directory.

With deepest sympathy we will miss Matthew (Matt) Groves who died tragically on January 25<sup>th</sup>. We extend our prayers for Churchill, the children and the rest of his family.

He and his wife, Churchill, were married at Salem October 8, 1995 and they joined the church on March 10, 1996. They have three wonderful children, Lexington, Brianna, and Nicholas.

We are saddened by his sudden death. Please remember the family in your prayers.

### YOUTH GROUP

Sundays: 6:30-8:00 pm

Community Hall

**Feb 1** Souper Bowl of Caring: Collect money in church to purchase food for our food pantries. No Youth in the evening. Enjoy the Super Bowl with family and friends.

**Feb 6-8** ROCK in Ocean City No youth group Sunday eve.

Please keep us in prayers as we travel to and from OC.

**Youth Attending:** Amy and Blake Roberts, Joey Brandt, Kenny Wahl and friend, Wyatt, Donovan, and Aidan Thompson, Jacob Weinberger, Karmen Martin and Carlos Barinas

**Adults Attending:** Joe Meisner, Tom Luke, Mary Ellen Eaton, and Rev. Sue

**Feb 15** Purchase groceries from Souper Bowl of Caring money.

**Feb 22** Regular Youth Group

**Feb 27-March 1** Thirty Hour Famine. No youth group Sunday eve.

**Thirty Hour Famine sponsored by World Vision** (30hourfamine.org)

Purpose: To Raise money for World Hunger through World Vision and learn about world hunger

Youth fast for 30 hours beginning at noon on Friday, Feb 27 through Saturday at 6 pm. We break the fast with a high carb dinner. Each youth receives a Student Guide to raise money for the Famine. They are to ask family, friends, neighbors to sponsor them on the Famine. This is how we raise the money. All the money collected is sent to World Vision through the Church.

Youth will arrive at the church Friday at 6:00 pm and spend the night. On Friday and Saturday we will learn about hunger in South Sudan and play games that accentuate our learning. On Saturday afternoon, we will take the youth to the Lord's Table at St. Martin of Tours in Gaithersburg to prepare and serve food to the homeless and underemployed. This will occur at the height of their hunger. Youth can go home after dinner, but are expected to be leading Salem's worship service at 8:15 and 10:00 am on Sunday, March 1. We will prepare for the worship on Friday evening.

Please let Rev. Sue know if you will be participating in the 30 Hour Famine.  
[pastor@salemunitiedmethodist.org](mailto:pastor@salemunitiedmethodist.org) or 301-774-7772

**ASP 2015**



January 3<sup>rd</sup> was a busy day at Salem's Community Hall, the night of the annual ASP

fund raiser, the Epiphany Auction and Chili Cook-off.

The tables were full of hot chili just waiting to be devoured with cheese, sour cream and corn bread and the puzzled look of 'which to try first' on the face of those just waiting for the word to "dig in." Some had systems to make sure they tried all of them, while others picked only those that looked good to them. Votes were a dollar each and the vote was in the form of a chip. You could vote as many times as you pleased! Votes were cast and the Epiphany Auction began.



Steve Currier was Auctioneer and Barbara Achstetter was his helper. Lots of fun was had while the items presented were put up for bids. After the Auction ended, the winners of the chili cook-off were announced.



Third place winner (center) Debbie Ambrose, second place winner (right) Kathryn Ennes and first place winner (left) Joe Schaap, the father of our own Carole Roberts. Congratulations to each one.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

**Future fund- raisers are:**

**February 15<sup>th</sup> – 11:15 am** Valentines Breakfast

**March 8<sup>th</sup> – 11:15 am** ASP Breakfast

**April 18<sup>th</sup>** – Yard Sale (start picking out the items you would like to donate, but do not bring them to church until you are asked).

**ALL THESE EVENTS WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE COMMUNITY HALL!**

Salem News February 2015

## A TIME FOR CHILDREN

As publisher I picked January 4<sup>th</sup> as the Sunday for "A Time for Children."



In the absence of Rev. Sue, Debbie Ambrose presided over "A Time for Children." She spoke to them about receiving gifts, especially since Christmas had just passed, and the way we thank the giver. She explained that God gave us a gift when He gave us Jesus. She told of how Jesus would grow up and die on the cross for our sins and, after he was buried, would rise from the dead to provide us eternal life.

She suggested that together they write a letter to God thanking Him for His great gift. With the children's help she wrote the letter and the children placed it on the altar.



The letter of thanks on the Altar.

## AN EXTRA FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Many of you know of Ken and Anita Hoch; Ken is Randy Kennedy's grandson. They are missionaries in African Burkina Fasso. Below are excerpts from a recent newsletter.

### "Why Spiritual Teaching Matters

I had just finished telling the story of the binding of Isaac. Despite it being a central story in Muslim faith (and a seed for talking about Jesus to Muslims), my Muslim friends from the village of Mpara admitted that they had never heard the story before. We are building a foundation for the kingdom in people's lives. This is critical--- because we don't speak into a vacuum.

### Why health teaching matters

A small cluster of men sat around as one of their wives brought a bowl of water. My host washed his hands in the bowl (with no soap). He then washed my spoon in the bowl (with no soap), and invited me to take the spoon (and not wash my hands). My other friends then washed their hands in the same communal bowl. I had been having stomach issues all morning. My friend turned to me and said, "This will help because new rice helps with the runs!"

Hygiene, nutrition, and general health issues rob people of energy and opportunity to address their own problems. Most health problems in the developing world could be prevented (with proper education and practice). Instead these problems grow in areas that are medically underserved. Often people do not have the means to use what medical resources are available."

## FROM THE PARISH NURSE

### Cold and flu season tips

The flu season has arrived earlier and is more severe than last year, and influenza activity in the Baltimore–Washington area is widespread.

We'd like to remind you that during the respiratory illness season, we are all at an increased risk for catching respiratory viruses or colds from co-workers, friends and family members.

As you may have heard, one of this year's flu vaccine strains does not "match" the major virus that is circulating in the community. When a vaccine strain is not well matched to circulating strains, vaccine effectiveness can be reduced. It's important to point out, however, that even with the mismatch between the vaccine and circulating viruses, a vaccine can still offer some protection against other flu strains and reduce the severity of influenza.

Here are some simple actions everyone can take to stop the spread of this virus.

To help prevent the spread of these viruses:

- Get your flu vaccination if you have not already done so. It's not too late to get protection.

- Stay home if you have a fever, and encourage your colleagues to stay home if they are ill.
- Encourage respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette. Cover your cough.
- Practice good hand hygiene.
- If you need medical care, see your personal physician.

~Maryellen Brown

### SALEM UNITED METHODIST MEN

Men of Salem come out on the first Saturday of each month in the Community Hall at 8:00 am and enjoy breakfast along with your meeting.

### FROM THE CONGREGATION



**“Sharing My Thoughts With You”**  
from Charlyne Lewis

(a favorite repeat from years past)

### LOVE

February, as we all are aware, is the “LOVE” month. We can express and show our LOVE in numerous ways during this fun month! Valentines, special gifts to that ‘special someone’ in our lives, all kinds of neat things to be happy about. (Do you remember as a child – ‘way back when’ – giving and receiving those cute penny Valentines? – and what about those little heart-shaped candies with cute ‘sayings’ on each one, which are still around today. I always LOVED that period in my life as a child, didn’t you folks?

Well, our Heavenly Father has also given to each of us His abiding LOVE which is mentioned often in His Holy Word. We are so blessed to know that we can go to Him *anytime* and receive from Him an abundance of LOVE overflowing to us every day, and not just at ‘special’ times of the year.

God Bless!!

*Charlyne*

**1 Corinthians 1-13**  
**(the LOVE chapter)**



### CONGRATULATIONS

To Rev. Sue and Chuck on the birth of their fourth granddaughter, Ashley Ellen Sterling, a beautiful little girl to their son and daughter-in-law.



Grandpa Chuck and Ashley Sterling

### CONDOLENCES

Our condolences to Bob and Maryellen Brown on the death of his Uncle, James L. Brown on Friday, January 16.

### REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS:

Rev. Jeanne Klauda, Anna Unglesbee, Bob and Helen Van Druff, Reta McKeever, Janet and Rob Howes, Eddie Gregg and Tony Hopkins. Their addresses are posted on the bulletin board in the hallway, or call Rev. Sue.

### CHURCH COUNCIL

Church Council Meeting Highlight  
January 22, 2015

Our first meeting of 2015 was well attended. Thank you to all Council members who were there! It really makes a difference in our discussions when we have many voices in the mix.

Velma Durant opened the meeting with a devotion based on the story of Eli and Samuel. Thank you Velma.

Rev. Sue reported on concerns about members of our congregation. Please keep Eddie Gregg, Jean Karl, Helen Van Druff, Doug Whalen, Joanne Keister and Yvette Thurston in your prayers.

The BWC Central Maryland Leadership Day is scheduled for March 14 at Blake HS. So far we

have 5 members registered to attend! Registration is still open to all members of the congregation. If you are interested in attending, please contact Rev. Sue or Debbie Ambrose.

Rev. Sue reported attendance numbers from the past 4 years which led to a discussion about our declining attendance. Church Council will be addressing this during the coming months.

The Worship Development Team is focused on messages and services and activities for Lent. We will once again be joining with Ashton and St Paul's churches for services on Ash Wednesday, Holy Thursday and Good Friday.

George Robinson joined us as the new leader of the Men's Group. He reported on plans for the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper.

Joyce Howes reported on the Memorials Fund. Connie Somerville was welcomed as the new Chairperson of the Trustees. They have held their first meeting and assigned roles and responsibilities for the coming year.

Buck Bartley reported on the Legacy Fund. The New Year begins with a balance of \$73,393. Over \$13,000 of this will be needed in the new year to replace the second furnace beneath the sanctuary. (One was already replaced last fall.) Youth from Our House will be employed to prepare the floor for placement of a new furnace.

Kulley Bancroft reported on our finances. We are entering the new year with all apportionments paid for 2014 !!!!! And we have a positive balance of approximately \$17,000 in our Operating Fund. Statements of giving for 2014 will be going out to everyone on or about January 31.

Rev. Sue discussed the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. She explained the different kinds of help that this fund provides both to members of Salem and to members of the community who come seeking assistance. The Council approved allowing Rev. Sue to use her discretion and periodically donate a portion of the Fund to Interfaith Works. This is a county organization that brings faith communities together to address mercy and justice issues in meeting the needs of the poor in our county. Rev. Sue frequently refers callers to Interfaith Works for help.

Rev. Sue closed our meeting with prayer. The next meeting is February 26. All are welcome!

## COFFEE HOUR HOSTESSES

Please plan to volunteer as Hostess for Coffee Hour this New Year!

Volunteers can go to Sign Up Genius.com and use my email address [Cucinotta1@Verizon.net](mailto:Cucinotta1@Verizon.net) to get to "Salem Coffee 2015" to sign up. I have all the new 2015 dates in there

Thanks for volunteering and thanks! Joyce

|           |                |
|-----------|----------------|
| 2/1/2015  | Carole Roberts |
| 2/8/2015  | Debbie Ambrose |
| 2/15/2015 | OPEN           |
| 2/22/2015 | OPEN           |

## SIGN-UP FOR:

### ALTAR FLOWERS:



Wouldn't it be lovely if our altar were enhanced with flowers each Sunday?

If you would like to provide flowers you may either place your name on the list on the church bulletin board or go to Sign-Up Genius at: [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0948AAAD2AA5F94-altar](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0948AAAD2AA5F94-altar)

When signing up, please indicate if the flowers are a tribute (for example: from the Smith family in honor of John's 10th birthday). Tributes will be listed in the Sunday announcements.

Purchase your flowers at the vendor of your choice and bring or have them sent to Salem by Saturday afternoon.

Contact Suzanne Friis with questions.

## HAPPENINGS

### Lord's Table

February 28<sup>th</sup>, The Lord's Table is a soup kitchen located at St. Martin of Tours, 201 S. Frederick Ave., Gaithersburg. We begin cooking

at 1 pm and serve at 3:30 pm. We welcome everyone to come and help serve.

**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Tuesday February 17<sup>th</sup>, From 5:00pm to 7:00pm**

Come one, come all to our scrumptious Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper to enjoy our pancakes, plain and blueberry, sausage, country ham, chipped beef, applesauce, all kinds of juices, iced tea, and coffee; all lovingly prepared by your Methodist men and women. You can eat in, or take out. So please join us. We look forward to seeing you.

Peace and blessings to all, Buck Bartley

~~~~~

JUST A REMINDER

To order your Café Justo Coffee please contact Kathryn Ennes at church or via e-mail at k_ennes@yahoo.com.

**BOOK DISCUSSION SELECTIONS
FALL 2014-SPRING 2015**

All meetings are held on Thursdays and are at 7:30 pm

February 5: **The Silence Of Bonaventure Arrow**
by Rita Leganski

A magical debut novel from Rita Leganski, *The Silence of Bonaventure Arrow* is the tale of a mute boy whose gift of wondrous hearing reveals family secrets and forgotten voodoo lore, and exposes a murder that threatens the souls of those who love him. Bonaventure Arrow didn't make a peep when he was born, and the doctor nearly took him for dead. But he was listening, placing sound inside quiet and gaining his bearings. By the time he turns five, he can hear flowers grow, a thousand shades of blue, and the miniature tempests that rage inside raindrops. He also hears the voice of his dead father, William Arrow, mysteriously murdered by a man known only as the Wanderer. Exploring family relics, he opens doors to the past and finds the key to a web of secrets that both hold his family together, and threaten to tear them apart. Set against the backdrop of 1950s New Orleans, *The Silence of Bonaventure Arrow* is a magical story about the lost art of listening and a wondrous little boy who brings healing to the souls of all who love him.

March 5: **Girl Meets God** by Lauren Winner
May 7: **Someone** by Alice McDermott
June 5: **Same Kind of Different As Me: A Modern-Day Slave, an International Art Dealer, and the Unlikely Woman Who Bound Them Together** by Ron Hall Denver Moore and Lynn Vincent

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

If your name should be on one of these lists, please contact velma_durant@yahoo.com. We don't want to leave you out. Thank you.

Our February Birthdays are:

- Gregg, Eddie 02/02
- Friedrich, Jeff 02/07
- Whaley, Janet 02/07
- Roberts, John 02/08
- Wahl, Jerry 02/08
- Sterling, Sarah 02/12
- Roberts, Austin 02/15
- Lyon, Anna 02/17
- Blaine, Ed 02/23
- Rinehart, Roger 02/24
- Pustis, Amanda 02/25

There are no Anniversaries listed for February.

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**THANKS FROM ST. PETERS**

Dear Libby -

Last week I attended our last Holiday Giving Project meeting and I am happy to report that Montgomery County served over 9,000 families and 19,500 children in December.

Thank you so much for all your help this past December. With your help St. Peter's was able to provide food baskets for 230 families and gifts to over 450 children. We truly appreciate all your help and look forward to working with you in 2015! May this year bring you many joyful moments. Thank you again!

Blessings,  
Maria Hauge  
St. Peters Catholic Church

**IN OUR COMMUNITY**

**Sandy Spring Lions Club:** Monday, February 23 at 7:00 pm, in Salem Community Hall.



**Eyeglass Collection:** Salem continues to collect used eyeglasses, cell phones and hearing aids to donate to Lions Club. Please leave them in Salem Community Hall.

**Our House:** Needs Egg Cartons. Please save your empty egg cartons, place them on the coat rack in the hallway; someone will get them to Our House.

**“FOR I WAS HUNGRY...”**

**Manna Food Center:** 9311 Gaither Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20877, or online at [www.mannafood.org](http://www.mannafood.org); to volunteer call 301-424-1130.

**Olney Help:** P.O. Box 430, Olney, MD 20830; to volunteer call 301-774-6829. They still are in desperate need of rice sides (Rice-a-Roni/ Knorr sides), peanut butter, jelly, canned chicken, fruit juice, snacks such as granola bars/crackers, cake mix/frosting, canned pasta. Please place items in the box marked for Olney Help in the church hallway. No glass jars.

**Millian UMC Food Pantry:** Millian UMC, 13016 Parkland Dr., Rockville opens its food pantry on the second Saturday of the month. The Millian UMC box for food items is in the church hallway.

**Got Clothing?** The Glenmont United Methodist Church has a thrift store and has asked for donations of children’s and youth clothing plus household items such as pots and pans, other

cooking utensils, etc. If you have anything you can contribute, please bring them to Salem and place them in the collection box in the side entryway. We will see they get delivered.

**Disaster Victim Assistance:** Monetary donations will be sent to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). Make checks payable to Salem UMC and mark “disaster relief” in the memo line. Or donate online at [www/umcor.org](http://www.umcor.org).

**SHAWLS**

Prayer Shawls are available in Salem Community Hall. There is no cost; if you know anyone you want to share a prayer with all the time, see Carole Roberts or Rev. Sue for a shawl. The comfort they give is well worth the effort of delivering one to your friends, family or co-workers. They will thank you!



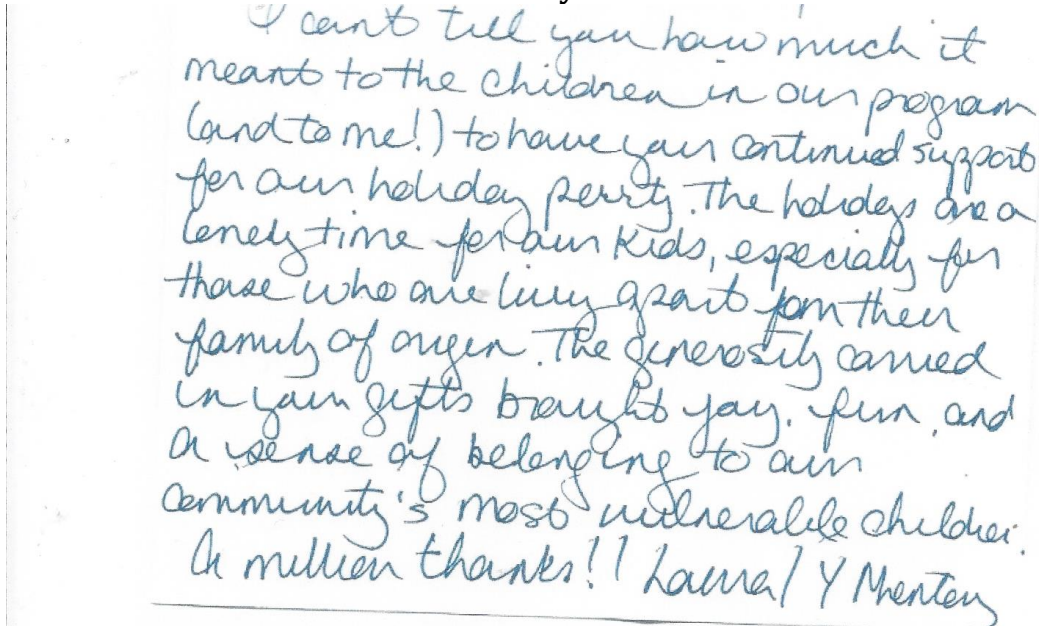
**OUR NEXT CHALLENGE ...**

**DO YOU KNOW WHO THIS IS?**

**We are unable to publish a mystery guest this month. Due to circumstances beyond our control we were unable to contact our chosen person to obtain the information.**

**THANK YOU!**

**The YMCA Says Thank You to Salem**



**AND THE ANSWER IS –**



If you guessed Rev. Sue Shorb-Sterling you were correct.



I was born and grew up in Hanover, PA-the snack capital of the world. One can smell Utz's potato chips frying or Snyder's pretzels baking any time of the day. When I was a child we lived just a few blocks from the Snyder's factory. Before there was air conditioning, the windows and doors of the factory would be open in the summer time. The children of the neighborhood would gather outside one of the doors hoping to get a taste of some fresh baked broken pretzels. Now the new factory doesn't even have windows!

I graduated from South Western High School and Hood College with a degree in Home Economics and a teaching certificate in Early Childhood Education. After graduation I worked for Head Start before I met and married my husband, Chuck Sterling. I followed him to his army assignment in Germany. When we moved back to the States, we brought with us a daughter. Later we had two sons. I was a stay at home mother until all of them were in school. Then I worked at the Carroll County Public Library as a storyteller and bookmobile driver that went to licensed day care homes. I was an active member at Westminster UMC where I received my call to the ministry. In 2008 I answered the call and served as a Student Pastor at Pleasant Grove UMC in Baltimore County. For four years I was a student for half a week at Wesley Theological Seminary and a pastor the other half of the week. In 2002, I was ordained a deacon (Pre-1996 Discipline) and was appointed to Olivet UMC in Lusby, Md. In 2005, I was ordained an elder. I served Olivet until 2008 when I was appointed to Salem UMC. We are entering our seventh year together! In May, I hope to receive my Doctor in Ministry degree from Wesley Theological Seminary. In addition to all this, Chuck and I have four beautiful granddaughters. One of them looked just like this cute girl in the picture when she was this age.

The Salem Newsletter is assembled and published by Velma Durant,  
and edited by Curtis Smith and Rev. Sue Shorb-Sterling.

## **Salem's Ministry Leadership 2015**

*The mission of Salem United Methodist Church is to grow in Christian faith and express God's love to all.*

### **Church Council**

Chair – Debbie Ambrose (Class of 2016)  
Recording Secretary – Mary Abramson  
Treasurer – Mary Abramson  
Membership Secretary – Carole Roberts  
Financial Secretary – Sharon Craddock  
Lay Leaders – Bob Brown (Class of 2015)  
and Ginny Weinberger (Class of 2016)  
Lay Member to Annual Conference – Buck  
Bartley  
Education Ministry Area Leader-  
Mission Ministry Area Leader-Libby Wright  
Faith Sharing Ministry Area Leaders-Rob  
Morrell and Buck Bartley  
Finance Chair-Kulley Bancroft  
Stewardship Chair- Brandon Savage  
Trustee Chair- *Connie Somerville*  
Cemetery-  
SPRC Chair-Hisashi Yamagata  
Safe Sanctuaries-Maryellen Brown  
Legacy Fund-Buck Bartley  
Memorials-Joyce Howes  
Lay Leadership-Rev. Sue Shorb-  
Sterling/Bob Brown/Ginny Weinberger  
Salem Women-  
Salem Men- *George Robinson*  
*Names in italics are new to these positions  
this year*

### **Ministry Areas**

**Basic Lay Servant:** Debbie Ambrose

#### **Worship Ministry Area**

Altar Cloths: Charlene Lewis  
Communion: Betty Bittner and  
Yvette Thurston  
Head Usher: Joyce Howes  
Acolytes: Nancy Morell  
Bulletin: Suzanne Friis  
Flowers: Suzanne Friis  
Candles: John Howes  
Audio-Visuals: Bob Brown and  
Joyce Dean

Music Director: Rose Eide-Altman  
Advent/Christmas Preparations:  
Doreen Preville, Joyce Howes,  
Betty Bittner, CJ Bittner

#### **Worship Development Area**

Rev. Sue Shorb-Sterling, Chair  
Anne Ennes  
Sharon Lyon  
Barbara Achstetter  
Ginny Weinberger  
Bob Brown

#### **Education Ministry Area**

Ministry Leader-

#### **Missions Ministry Area**

Ministry Leader-Libby Wright  
Appalachia Service Project-Bob Brown

#### **Faith Sharing Ministry Area**

Ministry Leader(s)- Rob Morell  
Newsletter-Velma Durant  
Webmaster-Suzanne Friis  
Church and Community Liaison-  
Suzanne Friis

#### **Congregational Care Ministry Area**

Parish Nurse-Maryellen Brown, CRNP  
Salem Prayer Partners: Velma Durant,  
Joanne Keister, Patti Rinehart  
Hospitality: Anne Ennes/Joyce Howes

#### **Women's and Men's Ministry Areas**

Salem Women:  
Salem Men: *George Robinson*

#### **Resource Ministry Committees**

##### **Staff/Parish Relations Committee**

Lay Leaders: Bob Brown/Ginny Weinberger  
Lay Member: Buck Bartley  
Chair: Hisashi Yamagata  
2015: Joyce Howes  
Ginny Weinberger  
Ginny Wahl

2016: George Robinson  
Joe Meisner  
Connie Somerville  
2017: Maryellen Brown  
Don Rider  
*Chet Babylon*

**Safe Sanctuaries Task Force:**

Maryellen Brown, Chair  
Don Rider

**Trustees:** *Connie Somerville*

2015: Doug McKeever  
*George Robinson*  
Buck Bartley

2016: Bob Brown  
Sue Daley  
Rick Myers

2017: Fred Ambrose  
*Connie Sommerville*  
*Ed Blaine*  
*David Ranshaw*

**Cemetery:**

Chair:

2015: Steve Currier

2016: George Robinson  
Bill Lavelly  
Chet Babylon

2017: John Howes  
*Wayne Harding*  
*Nancy Cox*

Wayne Gregg, Caretaker

**Finance:**

Kulley Bancroft, Chair  
Mary Abramson, Treasurer  
Sharon Craddock, Financial secretary  
Hisashi Yamagata, SPRC  
Debbie Ambrose, Church Council Chair  
*Connie Somerville*, Trustees  
Bob Brown/Ginny Weinberger, Lay Leaders  
Chet Babylon, Cemetery/Men's Ministry Area Treasurer  
Mary Ellen Eaton, Women's Ministry Area  
Treasurer  
Bill Lavelly, Legacy Fund Treasurer  
Connie Blaine, Endowment Fund Treasurer  
Brandon Savage, Stewardship Chair

**Stewardship:**

Brandon Savage, Chair  
Buck Bartley, Debbie Savage,  
Randy Kennedy, Bill Lavelly, John Howes

**Endowment:**

Connie Blaine, Chair  
Libby Wright  
*Maryellen Brown*  
*Suzanne Friis*  
*John Howes*

**Legacy Fund:**

2015: Fred Ambrose  
John Howes  
2016: Buck Bartley, Chair  
Maryellen Brown  
2017: Bill Lavelly, Treasurer  
*Suzanne Friis*

**Memorials:**

Joyce Howes, Chair  
Anna Unglesbee  
Anne Ennes  
Betty Bittner

**Lay Leadership:**

Rev. Sue Shorb-Sterling, Chair  
Bob Brown/Ginny Weinberger, Vice-Chair  
2015: Ginny Weinberger  
Steve Currier  
2016: Anne Ennes  
Doreen Preville  
Debbie Ambrose  
2017: *John Howes*  
*Sharon Lyon*  
*Nancy Morell*