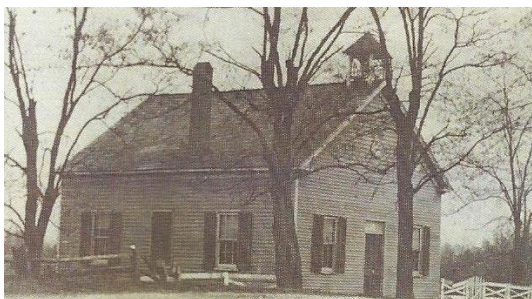


Salem United Methodist Church

April 2016 Newsletter

“183 Years and Still Loving, Serving and Celebrating”



SALEM United Methodist Church 2016



SALEM Methodist Protestant Church 1833

12 High Street, Brookeville, Maryland 20833

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

TO THE SALEM UM CHURCH COMMUNITY



Rev. Dr. Sue Shorb-Sterling.

To the Salem UM Church Community,

We have celebrated again the Resurrection of Jesus this past Easter Sunday. What a celebration of hope and renewal! When our world seems to be on a collision course of doom, we are reminded yet again that there is One Power greater than all human power. The power of God's love can overcome all of our hate, violence, animosity, greed, and even death. We have been witnesses how the first century religious and political forces could not curb God's enthusiasm for his creation, the human race. These forces may have executed Jesus, but God's power breathed new life into him and he rose from the dead. By God's grace through Christ's Crucifixion and Resurrection, we are forgiven for our abuse of power and made new.

We are given new opportunities in this life to serve a Risen Lord, and have the hope of eternal life.

There is so much that can divide us in this world, if we allow it. Jesus began a revolution to put the world back on track, to help us focus on what is really important. This revolution is about three marks of grace: faith, hope, and love. By faith, we are confident of the mercy given to us by Jesus. When we turn away from God's love, when we realize that we have sinned against God and harmed another, Jesus welcomes us back. We live by faith that God is always there guiding us into a more whole version of ourselves.

The second mark of grace is hope. We have confidence that Jesus is with us through our trials and temptations. We can face whatever comes tomorrow with courage and know we are not alone. We have hope that we are not alone.

The third mark of grace is love. This is not sentimental love, but a deep love that urges us to follow the command of Jesus to love God and neighbor. Out of the three marks of grace, this one is the one that is most evident in our lives. We witness our love for God in how we treat our enemies, our families, our co-workers, and people

we do not even know. The Apostle Paul wrote that love is the greatest of these three.

As we walk through this Easter Season in our worship, we will be looking at the Resurrection appearances of Jesus and how with the marks of grace, lives were changed and still are being changed today.

Marked by Grace,
Rev. Sue

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Prayer and Share Worship

Wednesdays 7:00-7:30 pm

Sunday, April 3 The Celebration Continues:

Holy Humor Sunday

Erin Wheeler, preaching

Easter Sermon Series:

New Birth: Faith, Hope, Love

Sunday, April 10: "Faith" Acts 9:1-20

Sunday, April 17: "Hope" Luke 24:13-35

Sunday, April 24 Compassion Sunday: Libby Wright, preaching

Sunday, May 1: "Love" John 21:1-19

YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group Meets Every Sunday Evening

All middle and high-school students are welcome.
You do not need to attend Salem.

Youth Bell Choir: 6:30-7:00 pm

Youth Group: 7:00-8:00 pm

We will be engaging in Bible study and discussion based on Mike Slaughter's Renegade Gospel youth study book.

April 3: Liar, Lunatic, or Lord?

April 10: Seeing Jesus Today

April 17: Priorities

SALEM BOARD OF TRUSTEES

by Connie Somerville

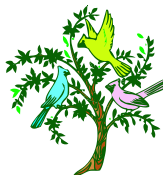
The Salem UMC Board of Trustees met on Monday, March 14, 2016. This was our first meeting of 2016. We discussed the 2016 projects we plan to complete and assignments were tasked in order to accomplish our goals. This includes overall updating to all buildings interior and exterior, church grounds, mechanical and electrical, the purchase and installation of kitchen

equipment. Our mission is to convey the message of "Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here."

FROM THE CONGREGATION

"Sharing my thoughts with you..."

From Charlyne Lewis



Easter and the Resurrection!!

What a glorious time of year. Look around you...everywhere 'new life' appears before us...the awaking butterflies, the beautiful flowers popping out of the ground, birds everywhere 'nesting' with their young...ah, Spring!

And then, we soon march toward the warm days of summer, which for a lot of us means trips, vacations, enjoying our families and friends together. But we still need to keep in mind the One who gave us all of this richness to enjoy. Jesus! He is our best friend in everything we undertake daily. He will always be there for us when all else fails. Look to Him first, then every other need in your lives will be met with "abundance," as He declares.

Enjoy your 'God-given' days ahead, folks, and always put Jesus at the top of your list of 'invited guests' at your next backyard cookout, trip, vacation, or whatever you plan to undertake.

God Bless!!

Charlyne

Hymn #420

Ephesians 4:25-5:2



THE BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, April 5, 7:30 pm at Suzanne Friis' home.

Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption

by Bryan Stephenson (non-fiction). This author will be speaking at the Weinberg Center in Frederick on Thursday, April 21.

A powerful true story about the potential for mercy to redeem us, and a clarion call to fix our broken system of justice. Bryan Stephenson was a young lawyer when he founded the Equal Justice Initiative, a legal practice dedicated to defending those most desperate and in need: the

poor, the wrongly condemned, and women and children trapped in the farthest reaches of our criminal justice system. One of his first cases was that of Walter McMillian, a young man who was sentenced to die for a notorious murder he insisted he didn't commit. The case drew Bryan into a tangle of conspiracy, political machination, and legal brinkmanship—and transformed his understanding of mercy and justice forever. *Just Mercy* is at once an unforgettable account of an idealistic, gifted young lawyer's coming of age, a moving window into the lives of those he has defended, and an inspiring argument for compassion in the pursuit of true justice.

Tuesday, May 3 at 7:30 pm. Location TBD.

Jesus Feminist by Sarah Bessey (non-fiction).

Gender roles have been debated for centuries, and now Sarah Bessey offers a clarion freedom call for all who want to realize their giftedness and potential in the kingdom of God. Through a thoughtful review of biblical teaching and church practices, Bessey shares how following Jesus made a feminist out of her.

PLEASE NOTE:

Halsey Smith is recovering from hip surgery at Brooke Grove.

Cards can be sent to him at:
Brooke Grove Rehabilitation Center
18131 Slade School Rd
Sandy Spring, MD 20860

Debbie Savage is now being monitored at Shady Grove Hospital

Words and scriptures of encouragement can be mailed to her at:

Shady Grove Hospital
9901 Medical Center Dr.
Rockville, MD 20850

Email or text her (see our directory for contact information).

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

ASH WEDNESDAY

Ashton UMC was the location of this Special Service. We honored our Lord in Song, Prayer and Communion. Rev. Emily Berkowitz presented the message "Joy from the Ashes"; after the sermon we received the ashes – "On Ash

Wednesday, we recognize our human mortality. As the ashes are placed on your head, you will hear 'Remember, you are dust, and to dust you will return.' It is a reminder that we will all die. However, the ashes are in the shape of the cross, reminding us that Christ has transformed and overcome death. In Christ. Life transcends death."

Maundy Thursday

"Why is it called Maundy? The term comes from the Latin 'mandatum' which means commandment. Maundy refers to the commandment Jesus gave his disciples at the Last Supper: to love with humility by serving one another and to remember his sacrifice."

Salem UMC Community Hall filled early, the tables were set and quickly filled with worshipers. Pastor, Rev. Sue Shorb-Sterling, opened the service, indicating each table would be responsible for its own devotions as presented in the bulletin.



Thanks to Salem's own Betty Bittner a delicious homemade vegetable soup was served, with many going back for seconds (or thirds). Each table picked 5 readers to read the story of the Passover Supper. A skit was presented entitled "Denied Betrayed" by Angela Joyce: Peter, Judas and two Maidens reflecting on the night Jesus was arrested.



Tom Luke as Judas and Rob Morell as Peter; the Maidens were Suzanne Friis and Jeanette Kennedy.

The Choir, consisting of members from Ashton, Mt. Carmen, Salem, and St Paul UMC lead by Rev. Jim Pugh, pastor of St. Paul/Mt Carmel, sang "At The Table of the Lord." After the prayer of confession, each table read "Great Thanksgiving" and the Pastors prepared us for communion. Each table was set with a pretzel, made by our own JoAnn Keister (made the dough) and Rev. Sue (made the pretzels) and a glass of grape juice to represent the wine. There is a special meaning regarding the use of the pretzel: *"The pretzel has a deep spiritual meaning for Lent. In fact, it was the ancient Christian Lenten bread as far back as the fourth century. In the old Roman Empire, the faithful kept a very strict fast all through Lent: no milk, no butter, no cheese, no eggs, no cream and no meat. They made small breads of water, flour and salt, to remind themselves that Lent was a time of prayer. They shaped these breads in the form of crossed arms, for in those days they crossed their arms over the breast while praying. Therefore they called the breads little arms (bracellae). From this Latin word, the Germanic people later coined the term "pretzel." From: www.catholicculture.org.*

GOOD FRIDAY

The Good Friday service was held at St. Paul UMC, Rev. Jim Pugh, Pastor, opened the service. A very sedate atmosphere prevailed throughout the service as the day called for.

The three pastors, Revs. Jim Pugh, Sue Shorb-Sterling and Emily Berkowitz took turns reading the Passion Story between hymns. The lights were extinguished, the Pastors left the sanctuary: the organist, Allen Federline, sang "Via Dolorosa" once through, blew out the single candle, leaving the sanctuary in darkness in memory of when there was total darkness at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. The lights were partially turned on to indicate the end of service and everyone left in silence.

EASTER SUNRISE

Salem Cemetery was shrouded in darkness with hints of first light as people began to gather for the 7 o'clock service, declaring "Jesus is not dead, He has risen!"



We are very pleased to have our young people participating in the service, music along with our Music Director, Rose Eide-Altman, and readings by Sandy Harischandra, Amy Roberts and Jacob Weinberger.

Rev. Sue spoke on "New Life, New Hope."

Immediately following the service, we gathered in Salem's Community Hall where Barbara Achstetter had a wonderful breakfast waiting.



Barbara Achstetter, Melody McWilliams and Trish Luke



EASTER EGG HUNT

After breakfast, the 8:15 service was held. About 8:45 the children began arriving, the excitement was overflowing and they could hardly contain themselves. We were finally able to get them together for a group picture, which was quite an accomplishment.



When the door was opened at 9 o'clock sharp the children went flying out the door and the hunt was on!



ERIN WHEELER

Erin Wheeler has been our seminary intern since September. She has blessed us with her presence, her calm manner, her leadership, and her awesome children's sermons. Since the internship was to only be for one school year, Erin's last Sunday with us will be May 1. Stay tuned as to how we will celebrate our farewell to her,

ASP 2016

ASP Encore Singers Concert: Sunday, March 6, We gathered at Salem for a great (as always) night of beautiful music by both the Encore Singers and the Mighty Kelltones.



Ralph Lillie, Kathie Lillie and Chapin Vasilake

The Mighty Kelltones entertained us with the following selections:

Lord Mayo/The Battle of Aughrim/Celtic Medley/Dubuque

Wayfaring Stranger

Theme from the Thornbirds/Red is the Rose

As always, a fantastic performance.



Members of The Encore singers: Debbie Ambrose, Bill Bates, Ruth Digel, David Eide-Altman, Rose Eide-Altman, (director), Kathryn Esmay, Margaret Flanagan, Kathie Lillie, Margo Maier, Jeb Rechen, Maryellen Rechen, Laurie Ryffel, Rev. Sue Shorb-Sterling, Ivey Wallace, Bruce Wilson

Their selections were:

Seeds Grow to Plants

There Is No Rose

A Red, Red Rose

Ride the Chariot

Ain't a That Good News

Plenty Good Room

My Lord, What a Mornin'

It was a wonderful night of great music and a great fund raiser for ASP.

Oyster Dinner: Saturday, March 12. There was a very good turnout from the community, and ASP has another \$900.00 to add to the amount needed for their West Virginia trip. Thanks to all who participated with a special thanks to Mary Ellen Eaton and her crew for all their hard work.

The Green Turtle: On Thursday, April 7th, the Green Turtle Sports and Grill, located in the Town

Center Shopping Center, will donate 20% of the sale to Salem's ASP team. Coupons are available: see the back page of this newsletter for a copy if you missed them at church.

Yard sale:

Saturday, April 16, 8:00 am – 1:00 pm
All proceeds support the ASP crews' home-building trip June 19-25 in West Virginia.

To donate items, contact Buck Bartley or Libby Wright.

A TIME FOR CHILDREN



On March 6th Erin was feeling very backwards after hearing Jesus tell his disciples that they needed to become servants if they wanted to be great in the Kingdom of God. We read Shel Silverstein's poem "Backwards Bill" to understand how confusing Jesus' words seemed to the disciples. We decided to challenge ourselves to think backwards by putting other people before ourselves so that we can be more like Jesus.

Submitted by: Erin Wheeler

As so often happens, the story for "A Time For Children" is so overwhelming it's hard to pick just the right one to share; this month will include two.

Easter Sunday the presentation of the Resurrection was so very overwhelming it cannot be left out.



Before you, you see a simple box with a red ball on top. Erin asked the children to think of it as the tomb and the red ball as the large rock that blocked the entrance to the tomb.

Erin continued the story of the women as they entered the garden, wondering who would roll the heavy stone away for them.

Erin lifted the stone (ball) from the tomb (box) and low and behold - Christ arose in the form of a helium balloon!



Jesus was not there for He had risen!

The whole congregation was in awe! What a unique way to explain the Resurrection!!

THE LORD'S TABLE

March 26th found many members of Salem and others who just wanted to help gathered at St. Martin's Catholic Church to prepare a meal for the less fortunate. We served about 40 people. They were surprised and pleased that a little more effort was given to make the Easter season a little brighter for them. Decorated eggs were on the tables for their enjoyment and as they left they were invited to take a bag (in lieu of a basket) of goodies,



THE SALEM UMC WOMEN'S GROUP

The Salem UMC Women's Group met on Saturday, March 19, 2016. We discussed our 2016 upcoming events that included:

April 30: "Spring Fried Chicken Picnic"

3:00-6:00 pm

Fried chicken, potato salad, coleslaw, green beans, stewed tomatoes, rolls and dessert. Tea, coffee, water and lemonade will be served. Cost will be \$20.00 per person/\$10.00 for 12 and under. For reservations call JoAnn Keister: her number is in the church directory or email number of adults and children to: reservationsatsalem@gmail.com Deadline is April 25th. Carry-out available.

September - "September Back to School Spaghetti Supper" with fixings. Stay tuned!

November 25 - "Decorate Salem UMC for the Christmas Holidays."

December 4 - "Celebrate Christmas with Salem UMC."

December 10 - "Salem UMC Christmas Bazaar."

OTHER ITEMS:

2016 Cleanup Day(s).

"Salem UMC Secret Sister."

Reviving a trip to "Manidokan Camp & Retreat." Stay tuned for details.

Mary Ellen Eaton and Fred Ambrose plan to visit the showroom in Baltimore this spring to see the dish sanitizer and ice maker that have been selected for the kitchen.

The next meeting is April 9, 2016 at 10:00 am in the Community Hall.

SALEM UNITED METHODIST MEN

There will be a special Men's Group Breakfast Saturday April 2nd in the Community Hall, at 9:00 am. Men from neighboring UM Churches are being invited. Our speaker for the morning is Rev. Tim Warner who serves Emory Grove UMC in Gaithersburg. Rev. Jim Pugh who serves St. Paul in Laytonsville and Mt. Carmel in Sunshine will be leading the men in singing. Salem men, invite a friend. Coffee and donuts will be served.

MEMORY GARDEN

If you are interested in placing an order for a brick to honor/remember someone please see Joyce Howes for more information.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Next Church Council Meeting

April 28, 2016

SIGN-UP FOR:

ALTAR FLOWERS:

If you would like to provide flowers during the 2016 worship year, please sign up on the list posted on the bulletin board in the Hallway.

When signing up, please indicate if the flowers are a tribute (for example: from the Jones 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 by Saturday afternoon. Call Rev. Dr. Sue before you head out so she can open the church for you.

Contact Suzanne Friis with questions.

Coffee Hour Hostesses/Hosts

Have you signed up to provide snacks for coffee hour? Please volunteer to provide a coffee hour or two this year. You may sign up on the list posted on the bulletin board in the Hall or go to: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4fa8aa2ba3f85-coffee2>

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 April Birthdays are:

Keister, JoAnn	04/03
Roberts, Carole	04/04
Rhinehart, Patti	04/10
Wedler, Joyce	04/11
Summerville, Connie	04/14
Weinberger, Phillip	04/14
Benson, Kenny	04/17
Rider, Don	04/17
Ennis, Anne	04/18
Van Druff, Helen	04/22
Boyd, Dale	04/28
Currier, Katelyn	04/29

April Anniversaries are:

Shear, Myron and Kim	04/04
Ercolani, Al and Judy	04/13
Lovely, Bill and Bobbi	04/16
Odbert, Fred and Carol	04/19

OUR COMMUNITY

Sandy Spring Lions Club: Monday, April 25th at 7:00 pm, in Salem Community Hall. **There is a standing request for help in preparing the dinner and setting up the room for the meeting. If you can help Mondays please contact Mary Ellen Eaton.**

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; we will see that Our House gets them.

HAPPENINGS

Spirit Club: Spirit Club, a fitness group for those with disabilities, meets Wednesdays in the Community Hall from 6-7 pm. Our own Philip Weinberger is an avid participant.

Seniors on the Move – Exercise Class: Fridays, 9:00-10:00 am in the Community Hall. Drop in – registration not required! Participate and pay by the session or for the full fall program. For more information contact the leader, Mary-Jo Cosgrove, at mjcosgrove58@gmail.com

Church Summer Camp: The Baltimore-Washington Conference offers summer camp for children and youth from Grades 3-12 both at Manidokan located across the Potomac River from Harpers Ferry, WV and West River south of Annapolis. Brochures with the summer schedule are on the table by the side entrance of the church.

Lord’s Table Needs Volunteers: Salem will once again serve dinner to the homeless at the Lord’s Table at St. Martin’s in Gaithersburg on the 4th Saturday of each month, September through June. Help is needed for set-up, food preparation and particularly for serving between 3:30-4:40 pm. If you can help in any way, please sign up on the bulletin board. The next Lord’s Table is Saturday, April 23rd.

Kairos Prison Ministry: Ron Sterling will be leading a team of 35 Christian men who will minister the Love of Christ to 42 residents at the Western Correctional Institution (W.C.I.) in Cumberland MD Thurs. April 21-Sun. April 24. We are invited to support this ministry these ways:

Prayer: The entire 72 hours is covered with prayer. We can register to pray at www.3dayol.org, click on prayer vigils, and look for Western Cumberland.

Write Letters: During this time, the prison residents receive letters of spiritual encouragement. We are invited to write these types of letters. The letters can be addressed: “Dear Brother in Christ” and brought to the church.

Decorate a Place Mat: At each meal, the residents will receive placements decorated with images and words that reflect God’s love. Bring completed to church.

Purchase a Bible: Each resident will receive a Bible. The cost of the Bible is \$25. Checks can be made out to Maryland Kairos and given to Rev. Sue.



JUST A REMINDER

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

“FOR I WAS HUNGRY...”

Manna Food Center: 9311 Gaither Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20877, or online at 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.

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.

PRAYER SHAWLS

Prayer Shawls are available in Salem entry hall on top of the coat rack. There is no cost; if you know anyone you want to share a prayer with all the time, please help yourself to 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!

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**Thank you ladies for all the Prayer Shawls; it is a vital ministry of our church, a blessing to those who receive them and the**

**person who gives them, knowing they helped in bringing HOPE to those sick, and burdened with other issues.**

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



# YARD SALE

**SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 2016**

**8:00 am – 1:00 pm**

*All proceeds support the ASP crews' house-building trip  
June 19-25 in West Virginia.*

**SALEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**12 HIGH STREET  
BROOKEVILLE, MD**



**Join us for treasures longed for, furniture, and other  
interesting items.**

# ASP FUNDRAISER



## FUNDS for FRIENDS

Come out for food, fun and fundraising!  
Present this flyer on the date below and  
The Greene Turtle will donate 20% of the sale.

**Salem United Methodist Church**

ORGANIZATION

**Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup>**

DATE OF EVENT

18101 Town Center Drive | Olney, MD 20832  
301-570-0343 | thegreenturtle.com



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