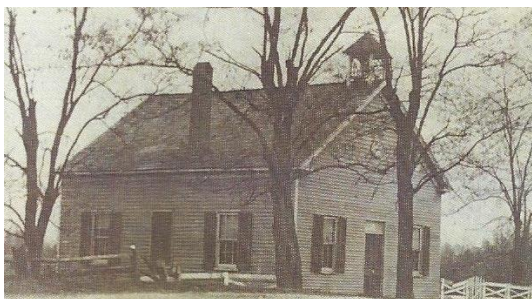


Salem United Methodist Church

October 2017 Newsletter

«184 Years and Still Loving, Serving and Celebrating»



SALEM Methodist Protestant Church 1833



SALEM United Methodist Church 2017

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,

The season of autumn is upon us. School has started and the football season is in full swing. In autumn United Methodist congregations prepare for Charge Conferences. These are annual meetings of the local churches with the District Superintendent. Local churches present reports that reflect on the ministries of the past year as well as look into the ministries of the coming year. The reports presented are the Pastor's report, the Finance report which includes next year's budget, the Trustee report, the Membership report, and the Lay Leadership report. Also, the Staff Parish Relations presents the Pastor's salary package. A vote is taken to approve the Membership Report, the Lay Leadership report, the Pastor's salary

package and on the Lay Servants. This year Salem will be voting to affirm two Lay Servants: Deb Ambrose as an Advanced Lay Servant; and Bill Lavelly as Basic Lay Servant.

As part of our visioning process this year, the leadership agreed to streamline our committees into one governing body. We will be presenting this new format as part of the Lay Leadership report to the congregation before the Conference.

Those who can vote at a Charge Conference are the members of the Church Council. However, this year Bishop LaTrelle Easterling of the Baltimore-Washington Conference has requested that we change the Charge Conference to a Church Conference. According to *The United Methodist Book of Discipline* at a Church Conference, **all church members can vote** on these reports, not just the leadership.

***Members of Salem UM Church,
you are invited to attend and vote at:***

***Church Conference
Saturday, October 28
9:00 AM-11:00 PM
Oakdale Church***

Yours in Christ,
Rev. Sue

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, Oct 1 "The Body of Christ"
Jo Schoenwolf, seminary intern, preaching

Stewardship Sermon Series: Therefore....One

Many have stated that Salem UM Church is a unique place. And it is. We are all followers of Jesus the Christ, yet each one of us is different. We come from different places. We have different levels of education. We have different political perspectives. But we are each uniquely created to be the One Body of Christ.

Our Stewardship Sermon Series will celebrate our oneness in Christ here at Salem. We come together as one people to love, to forgive, to offer grace and encouragement. We come together as one people to worship God, to grow in our faith, and to offer God's love to everyone. Today so many are divided over so many issues, but in Christ there are no divisions. In Christ, we are One. How do you see Salem as One with Christ? One with each other? And One in ministry to all the world?

Oct 8 We Are One- Ephesians 4:1-6
Oct 15 From Many...One- Ephesians 4:7-16
Oct 22 A New One- Ephesians 4:17-24
Oct 29 Life as One- Ephesians 4:25-32
Pledge Sunday

YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group Meets Every Sunday Evening

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

Bell Choir: 6:30-7:00 pm
Youth Group: 7:00-8:00 pm

Youth Car Wash: Sunday, October 15 After 10:00 Worship



Each year the Youth Group has fundraisers to help them support their Compassion Child, Felix. Funds raised from the car wash

will go to support him. The cost of supporting Felix is \$40 a month.

Youth Schedule

10/1: What is the Bible? Why read the Bible?
10/8: The Old Testament
10/15: The New Testament
10/22: Horror Stories of the Bible
10/29- Halloween Party; No Youth Bell Choir



The Youth invite the Salem and Brookeville Communities to a Halloween Party on Sunday, October 29 from 6:30 PM-8:00 PM. Dress in Halloween costumes (or not) and bring a snack food item to share.

GROWING IN OUR CHRISTIAN FAITH

NEW DISCUSSION GROUP

Last spring Salem's Book Club read Timothy Keller's *The Reason for God: Belief in the Age of Skepticism* and decided they wanted to learn more. The book offers a DVD and guide for more in depth discussion. Keller addresses questions many are asking about God and faith with this apologetic. These discussions will help us know how to respond when people ask us similar questions.

The Discussion Group will meet on Tuesdays beginning Oct. 3 at 7:15 pm in the old choir room.

Here are the discussion topics:

October 3 "Isn't the Bible a Myth?"
October 10 "What About Other Religions?"
October 17 "Why Are There So Many Rules?"
October 24 "Why Is There Evil and Suffering?"
October 31 "Why Are Christians Such Hypocrites?"
Nov. 7 "Is God Both Full of Love and Wrath?"

FAITH ON TAP NOW ON SATURDAYS

Faith on Tap has moved to Saturdays. Our next gathering is Saturday, Oct. 14 at 4:00 P.M. at Waredaca Brewing Company, 4017 Damascus Road, Laytonsville, MD. Bring your own food and lawn chair. Discussion Topic: "Can We Be One?" Based on our Stewardship Sermon Series

SHARING GOD'S LOVE TO ALL

CLEANING BUCKETS FOR HURRICANE VICTIMS



The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) requested churches put together cleaning buckets for flood victims. Thank you, Salem, for putting together fourteen (14) flood buckets! They were delivered to one of the three sites in our Conference area. Hundreds have been collected in Conference alone.

Another way to help hurricane victims is to donate money to UMCOR's Domestic Disaster Advance #901670. This can be done online (<http://www.umcor.org/>) or by check in the offering plate. Make check out to Salem and mark it Flood Relief. **100% of donations to UMCOR goes directly to relief efforts.**

TOWN OF BROOKEVILLE PICNIC



Enjoying the Bouncy House

Thank you to all who came to the Town of Brookeville Picnic on Sunday, September 17. Salem set up a Bouncy House for the children in our front yard. Thank you to Tom Luke for lending us his family's Bouncy House, for Buck Bartley for setting it up, and for Bill Lavelly who served as a crossing guard so children could cross High Street safely.

APPALACHIAN SERVICE PROJECT

ASP 2017

A Thank You Note from ASP

We cannot thank you folks enough for the out pouring of love that you have so generously showed our families this summer!

We are better, Wyoming County is better, and ASP is better because of your love of and commitment to this ministry.

Don't be strangers! We'd love to stay in touch!

From the Guyan Valley Staff:

Caroline, Hayden, Mattison, and Meredith

ASP Sunday, September 17



Some of the participants of the ASP teams shared their experience in worship.

From left to right: Hisashi Yamagata, David Ranshaw, Donovan Thompson, Joey Brantley, Amy Roberts, Jacob Weinberger, Aiden Thompson, and Barbara Achstetter



Two of our Appalachia Service Project youth gave the Children's Sermon on September 17. Joey Brantley and Jacob Weinberger told the children what they did in Appalachia and showed them how to hammer a nail into a piece of wood.

**SALEM'S FASCINATING
SPEAKER SERIES**

Salem's first speaker in Salem's new Speaker Series: "In Search of Ghosts, Montgomery County, Maryland" by Karen Lottes of MC Historical Society Speakers Bureau, Friday, October 20 at 7:30 pm in our Community Room. The purpose of these events is to connect with our community. Invite anyone who might love a good story.

This story-telling lecture explores haunted places of Montgomery County and its surrounding area through ghostly tales. Learn about the many ghosts, apparitions, and supernatural occurrences that can't be explained logically, including: The Headless Horseman that continues to terrorize visitors to the old railroad bridge; the Tommyknocker at the Maryland Mine; and the farmer who keeps searching for his buried treasure. This will be a haunted journey back in time! This program is based on the authors' 2012 book of Montgomery County historically-based ghost stories which may be offered for sale and signing.

Thanks to Kim Shear for organizing this event. A poster for this event is found on the last page of the newsletter. Feel free to use it as an invitation.

OLNEY HELP NEEDS HELP

Olney Help, our local food pantry, shelves are in need of restocking. They specifically need these items: boxed spaghetti, juice boxes, shelf-stable bottled juice, canned pasta (Chef Boyardee, etc.), instant potatoes, canned chili, boxed pasta sides (Knorr/Ronie, etc.), peanut butter, and jelly.

Please place items in the box marked for Olney Help in the church hallway.

THE LORD'S TABLE

Salem UMC is committed to serve a meal at the Lord's Table to those on the margins in our community on the fourth Saturday of the month.

Thank you to all who came out in September to serve. Next date is October 28 from 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm at St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church, 201 S. Frederick Avenue, Gaithersburg, MD 20877. Please come and help us serve.

September 28, 2017

Debbie Ambrose opened the meeting with devotion and prayer. The devotion was based on Luke 10:1-8 reminding us that Jesus did not wait for people to come to him, but rather sent his disciples out to the people. Salem's outreach to the community is not only important, but is in keeping with the scripture.

Rev. Sue updated us on concerns. We remembered Rick Myers (helping on St John's Island), Bill Herndon (at home with physical therapy), and Charles Fisher (a recent visitor to Salem, home from a hospital and rehab stay.)

Recent attendance figures include: August average - 49, September average - 55, and year-to-date average - 50.

Updates were shared from:

1. Education - An activity page based on the lectionary scripture will be given to elementary age children following the Children's Sermon. Nursery care is still available for babies and young children.

2. Membership - In preparation for our annual Church Conference (formerly Charge Conference), Carole Roberts will be sending letters to inactive members, checking on their membership status.

3. Missions - Libby Wright shared our success in assembling cleaning buckets for hurricane victims. (We sent 14 buckets). We will also be putting together Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets this year for those in need in our community. Many hands were at St Martins on Saturday Sept, 23 to help with the first Lord's Table.

4. Finance: Apportionments have been paid through October. Our Operating Account is in good shape.

Our Stewardship Campaign will be held during October. Pledge Sunday is October 29.

5. Legacy Fund: Buck Bartley reported that the fund has ~ \$20,000 in the investment fund and \$23,000 in the checking account. A campaign to rebuild this fund will take place in the spring.

6. Trustees: Fred Ambrose summarized the major improvements completed throughout the

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS CONT'D

church over the last 5-7 years. We have spent an average of \$40,000 per year for replacement of furnaces, air conditioners, updating the kitchen, tree removal, carpentry and painting, and many other small improvements. The large oak tree behind the parsonage will be removed soon. The next major project will be the replacement of the church building roofs.

7. SPRC: Hisashi Yamagat reported that he is working on salaries for the 2018 budget. The Pastor's evaluation will be done in November.

Reports were shared about the 3 initiatives developed in response to our February 2017 Congregational Survey and our visioning process.

1. A simplified organizational plan for Church Council was shared. The Lay Leadership Committee will begin recruiting members of the congregation for leadership positions for next year. Please prayerfully consider if you are asked.

2. Spiritual Development and Discipleship – The Wednesday Covenant Disciple Group continues to meet. Please see Rev. Sue if you are interested in participating

3. Reaching into our Community. –

- Children's activities at the annual Brookeville Town Picnic (Sept. 17) were successful.
- Our first "Speaker Series" program will be on Oct. 20 with a program of Local Ghost Stories.
- Libby presented an idea for Welcome Packets for people who are moving into our community. She is looking for people to assist her in both putting these together as well as delivering them.
- Faith on Tap Discussions will now be held on Saturdays at 4:00. The next one is October 14 at Waradaca.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Rev Sue.

Upcoming meetings:

Church Conference- Saturday, October 28,
9:00-11:00 AM at Oakdale Church

Church Council Meeting-Thursday, Nov. 30
All are welcome to both!!

Debbie Ambrose, Church Council Chair

OUR SEMINARY INTERN

Updates from Samantha Larson 2016-2017 Intern

Dear Salem UMC,

I wanted to update you on our last couple months. We moved in and settled into our apartment very quickly. The money we received from Salem was such an incredible blessing for us and helped us to purchase a sofa for our living room, something we definitely needed!

Alex started his job at Fresenius Kidney Care two weeks after we arrived and he has been loving it ever since. He enjoys the work atmosphere and the people he interacts with on a daily basis. He feels that the work will be a challenge but also a joy in its fulfillment.

I started my first week of chaplaincy the last week in August and am enjoying it so much. A few weeks before I started, I also found out that I will be working as the hospice resident, something that changed from before we left. They thought I would be better for that position because I could navigate the nuances and complexities of the position more so than another person they were considering. I think my nursing background really helps out with that as well.

Minneapolis summer has been an amazing reprieve from the heat and humidity of the DC area. We stay between the mid-70s to upper 80s on the hottest days. Also, there are so many lakes and places to go swimming and to relax by that there is never a day where we cannot enjoy the outdoors, unless it is raining, which it did quite a lot in August.

I hope all of you at Salem are doing well.

With love, Sam

BOOK CLUB

For the month of October the Book Club will be participating in the discussion of *The Reason for God* discussion on Tuesday evenings. See p. 2 of this newsletter for more details.

SALEM UM MEN

The Salem UM Men meet the second Saturday of the month at 8:00 am for a breakfast meeting. All men are welcome to attend on Oct 14.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

The planning for 2017 Christmas Bazaar has begun. Anyone interested in helping or have ideas to make this year's Christmas Bazaar spectacular, contact Deb McKeever.

SIGN-UP FOR ALTAR FLOWERS

If you would like to provide flowers during the 2017 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. Sue before you head out so she can open the church for you. Contact Suzanne Friis with questions.

MEMORY GARDEN

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

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 October Birthdays are:

Shear, Kim	10/01
Lowe, Eric	10/03
Lowe, Ruthie	10/03
Frazier, Nick	10/06
Brown, Robert	10/07
Meisner, Joe	10/09
O'Brien, Cecelia	10/20
Weinberger, Emily	10/24
Ambrose, Fred	10/25
Kaisler, Chryl	10/25
Ambrose, Debbie	10/29

October Anniversaries

Rider, Don and Joanne	10/10
Preville, Dean and Doreen	10/20

COFFEE HOUR

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 please go to <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090949a9aa2aa1fc1-coffee> or contact Joyce Howes.

OUR COMMUNITY

Sandy Spring Lions Club: The next dinner will be on Monday, October 23rd at 7:00 pm. This will be a combined meeting of both the Sandy Spring and Olney Lions Club. More help will be needed than usual to prepare the dinner, set up, serve and clean up. If you can help, 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 the designated box in Salem Community Hall.

Spirit Club: A fitness group for those with disabilities meets Wednesdays in the Community Hall from 6:00-7:00 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 entire program. For more information contact the leader, Mary-Jo Cosgrove, at mjcosgrove58@gmail.com.

Alcoholic Anonymous Groups: Meet in the Community Hall on Wednesdays and Thursdays, 8:30-9:30 PM.

PRAYER SHAWLS



Know someone who could use some spiritual comfort. Give them a prayer shawl.

Historic Local Ghost Stories
Friday, October 20 – 7:30 pm
It's Free!

Presented by
Salem Church's Fascinating Speaker Series

Speaker: Karen Lottes – MC Historical Society Speakers' Bureau

Author of: In Search of Maryland Ghosts: Montgomery County

These stories explore some of the “haunted” places of Montgomery County and the surrounding area through ghostly tales. Learn about the many ghosts, apparitions, and supernatural occurrences that can't be explained logically, including:

- The Headless Horseman that terrorizes visitors to the old railroad bridge
 - The Tommyknocker at the Maryland Mine
 - The Farmer who keeps searching for his buried treasure.
 - And Many More Stories!

Salem United Methodist Church
12 High St (Route 97)
Brookeville MD 20833

The Fascinating Speaker Series is Free.
All are Welcome – Refreshments to Follow

www.salemunitedmethodist.org Phone: 301-774-7772

Questions contact: Kim Shear 301-774-5756