

SALEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MARCH 2020 NEWSLETTER

“187 Years and Still Loving, Serving and Celebrating”



SALEM Methodist Protestant Church 1833



SALEM United Methodist Church 2020

12 High Street, Brookeville, Maryland 20833

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

WELCOME TO OUR NEW PASTOR



Rev. Emily and Chris Hart and their dogs Teddy and Misha.

We all know that Rev. Sue Shorb-Sterling has announced her retirement. Since then, the Leadership Team and the Baltimore-Washington Conference have been working to find our new Pastor. On Thursday, February 13, the Leadership Team met with Rev. JW Park, Central Maryland District Superintendent, and Rev. Emily Smiley Hart. By Saturday night it was official and starting July 1, Rev. Hart will join us at Salem.

Rev. Hart is the daughter of a UMC pastor, the Rev. Mark Smiley. She felt called to ministry her entire life. At a young age, she became interested in American Sign Language after attending Manidokan's Sign Language Camp. That led her to a path in ministry and eventually an appointment in Deaf Ministry. She has preached weekly sermons at Magothy Deaf Church and, as requested, at Christ Deaf Church.

She is a Provisional Elder in the church. The provisional period is a time to gain experience in ministry. Provisional ministers will serve under the appointment by the bishop and are appointed to congregations, attend school, or serve in other areas.

She married Chris Hart in 2018 and both are excited about moving to the Brookeville area. They have two dogs, Teddy and Misha. Rev. Hart looks forward to new challenges and new opportunities at our church.

TO THE BELOVED COMMUNITY AT SALEM UM CHURCH



Rev. Dr. Sue Shorb-Sterling
Pastor

This winter has been more like a perpetual spring. We never really had severe cold days or a good snow. The geese and robins returned in February. And the spring flowers have begun to bloom. The word, Lent, comes from an old English word which means springtime. When winter was been long and cold, I am sure the old English folk welcomed the renewal of the earth in the springtime. They soon connected this earthly renewal with the spiritual renewal that Christ's resurrection does for us.

That is our theme for this Lent: Christ Acts For Us. The Incarnation (God becomes flesh) which we celebrate at Christmas to the Crucifixion and Resurrection, as well as all that comes between, are intentional acts that Christ does for us. God is born in human form for

us, so that we could see and touch the face and hands of God. Jesus as fully human and fully divine, taught and performed miracles for us so that we can learn how to live from his teachings and trust in his divine healing powers. Jesus submitted to a Roman execution on a cross for us. There is no greater love than to lay one's life down for another. And Jesus rose again to become the Christ for us, to prove that divine power is greater than our earthly deaths and that our life beyond our limited earthly lives.

As we watch spring renew the face of the earth early this year, I invite us to watch for signs of spiritual renewal in our lives and community. This is one of the many ways in which Christ continues to act for us.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Sue

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Lenten Worship Series

Christ Acts For Us

First Sunday in Lent- March 1

Sermon Title: Why?

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7; Psalm 32;

Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

Second Sunday in Lent- March 8

Sermon Title: Beginning the Journey

Genesis 12:1-4; Psalm 121;
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17

Third Sunday in Lent- March 15

Sermon Title:

When the Going Gets Tough

Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95;

Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

Fourth Sunday in Lent- March 22

Sermon Title: In the Midst

I Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23;

Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

Fifth Sunday in Lent- March 29

Sermon Title:

A Glimpse of the Future

Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130;

Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45

Sixth Sunday in Lent – April 5

Sermon Title:

In Life and In Death

Matthew 21:1-11; Psalm 118:1-2,

19-29; Matthew 26:14-27:11-54

Easter Sunday, April 12

Sermon Title:

The Most Important Act

Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2,

4-24; Colossians 3:1-4;

John 20:1-18; Matthew 28:1-10

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

Holy Thursday, April 9, 7:30 P.M.

at St. Paul UMC in Laytonsville

Good Friday, April 10, 7:30 P.M.

at Salem UMC with St. Paul UMC

Easter Sunrise, April 12, 7:00 A.M.

at Salem UMC Cemetery

PRACTICING THE LENTEN DISCIPLINE OF GIVING

Caring for the less fortunate is to happen all year long and not just on special occasions only. However, our Lenten Discipline of Giving reminds us of what

Christ does for everyone. No exceptions! We are offering three ways in which we can practice the spiritual discipline of giving.

1. Bring in food items for **Olney Help**. To see most needed items, visit www.olneyhelp.org.
2. Donate money for the special offering on the fourth Sunday of Lent, March 22, **UMCOR Sunday**. UMCOR is the United Methodist Committee on Relief. This organization reaches out through various worldwide ministries to offer relief to those in crisis by providing food, shelter, and medical assistance. For more information: <http://www.umcsgiving.org/ministry-articles/one-great-hour-of-sharing>
3. Bring in gift cards for **Stepping Stones Family Shelter** which helps to transition homeless families into permanent housing through a continuum of services, such as emergency shelter to post-shelter support. This non-profit gives the needed support to at-risk families so they can achieve a stable home life. They are in need of gift cards for Uber/Lyft, Smart Trip Cards, Giant, Safeway, Food Lion, Target, and CVS. For more information: <http://steppingstonesshelter.org>

Salem Clean-Up Day: On Saturday, April

4 beginning at 9:00 A.M., we are cleaning up the grounds of the church to make it look nice for Easter. We invite you to come to help with this clean-up.



Contact Joe Meisner if you can volunteer at 410-340-2211 (text or voicemail). Joe will be serving breakfast!



Each year Salem has an Easter Egg hunt for the community. We are in need of one or several people to organize this event. Time and Date to be determined. Contact Rev. Sue if you are interested.



Salem would like to have a yard sale on Saturday, April 25. However, we need volunteers to help with set-up on Friday evening, during the yard sale on Saturday, and packing up at the end of the sale. If you can assist in leading this or can volunteer to help, see Libby Wright, 202-285-3219 (text or voicemail).

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER



On Shrove Tuesday, February 25, the men and a few of the women worked very hard to prepare the pancake supper. The workers were: Buck Bartley, George Robinson, Fred Ambrose, Halsey Smith, Chuck Sterling, Doug McKeever, Mary Ellen Eaton and Libby Wright. There were 2 kinds of pancakes: plain and blueberry. Sausage and chipped beef also served. No one went away hungry.

ASH WEDNESDAY



Rev. Dr. Sue Shorb-Sterling & Rev. Jean Lee

On February 26, members of Salem and St. Paul's UMC joined together to celebrate Ash Wednesday,

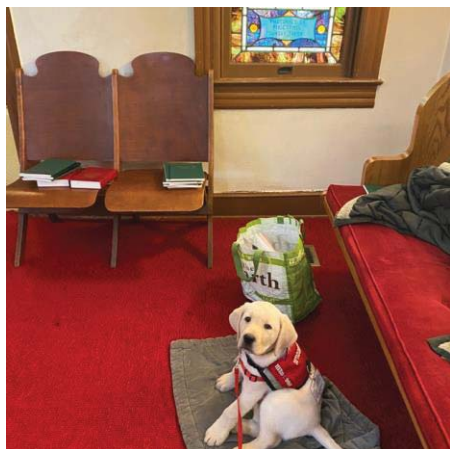
Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting and repentance. We are reminded with the placing of ashes on the forehead that we "came from dust and to dust we shall return." Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the forty days of Lent which precedes the Crucifixion and Resurrection of Jesus. It is the time to practice spiritual disciplines and journey to Jerusalem.

MEET NORM THE NEW HERO DOG IN TRAINING

By: Raiser Carole Roberts

Hi, I am Hero Dog Norman Loftus Ream, but you can call me Norm. I will be living with the Roberts' family for the next 16 months or so, working hard to learn the skills needed to become a service dog for a veteran or first responder. One of the most important parts of my training is going to lots of places and meeting lots of people so I will be prepared for any situation my hero might need to take me into. I am also learning lots of skills like how to properly greet people (hint- I am supposed to sit, not jump or rough house), how to stay quietly in one place quietly (church is really helping me learn that), and how to ignore

distractions like food on the floor (that's a tough one). As a young puppy I need lots of socialization, so petting with permission is okay; however, we will be working on staying and sitting when someone approaches. If I get up you need to walk away, then try again in a minute or two. I will learn pretty quickly that if I follow the rules, I will get lots of nice attention.



Hero Dogs, Inc. [501(c)3] non-profit corporation, improves quality of life for our nation's heroes by raising, training, and placing service dogs and other highly skilled canines, free of charge with lifetime support of the partnerships. You are welcome to visit the Hero Dogs website to learn more <http://www.hero-dogs.org/> Also if you want to see more of my day to day activities, I have my own Face Book page (search Hero Dogs Norm) and Instagram – herodogsnorm

SALEM BOOK CLUB

**Monday, March 9, 7:30 P.M.
at the home of Suzanne Friis.**

We will be reading "The World According to Mr. Rogers: Important Things to Remember" by Fred Rogers. An inspiring collection of stories, anecdotes,

and insights--with sections devoted to love, friendship, respect, individuality, and honesty, *The World According to Mister Rogers* reminds us that there is much more in life that unites us than divides us.

SOMETHING HAPPENING AT SALEM



On Tuesday, February 25, Sandra Heiler, gave "The Story of Brookeville and the Burning of Washington: A Tale of Two Capitals," Sandra is the current resident of the Madison House. She shared how the Town of Brookeville began and its importance to the community. Then she told the story of the evacuation of Washington when the British invaded, how President Madison fled Washington and watched the city burn from the shores of the Potomac River in Virginia. After sleeping two nights in the woods, President Madison fled to Brookeville for safety before returning to Washington after the British left. During his short stay in Brookeville, the town became "The Capital For A Day."

The Seven Sides of Self

By Nancy Joie Wilkie

Tuesday, March 10, 7:30 P.M.

Salem Community Hall

Come and meet Author, Artist, and Musician Nancy Joie Wilkie from our congregation. She will discuss her newly

published book of short stories, “The Seven Sides of Self.” Nancy will enlighten us about the writing and publishing process, as well as discuss the messages she conveys through her writings, her art and her music.

Nancy will be available to sign books and CDs of her original music after the program. Nancy’s art, music, and writing can be found at <http://www.mindsights.net>

CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to Kevin and Michelle Huffman on the baptism on their son, Emmett Cole on Sunday, February 15.

OUR SYMPATHIES TO:

Our condolence to the Beebe Family on the death of Eric. He was husband to Ellen and father to Joshua and Ilyssa.

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 March Birthdays are:

Groves, Briana	03/11
Groves, Nicholas	03/12
Robinson, George	03/29

March Anniversaries are:

Ambrose, Fred and Debbie 03/22

OUR COMMUNITY

American Legion: The next luncheon will be March 2 at 1:00 P.M.

Salem Men’s Meeting: Saturday, March 14 at 8:00 A.M. in the Community Hall.

The Lord’s Table: The Lord’s Table is now at Epworth UMC, 9008 Rosemont Dr., Gaithersburg. Volunteers from Salem serve the first Friday of the month from 1:00-5:00 P.M.

A POEM FOR LENT

“A LISTENING”

By Ann Weems

Going through Lent
is a listening.

When we listen

to the word,

we hear

where we are so

blatantly unliving.

If we listen to the word,

and hallow it

into our lives,

we hear

how we can so

abundantly

live again.

From: *Kneeling in Jerusalem*

By: Ann Weems

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