

Salem United Methodist Church

April 2021 Newsletter

"187 Years and Still Loving, Serving and Celebrating"



SALEM Methodist Protestant Church 1833



SALEM United Methodist Church 2021

12 High Street, Brookeville, MD 20833

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

JOYFUL NEWS—WE HAVE A NEW MUSIC DIRECTOR!



Alan Naylor is a classically trained musician who has worked throughout the DMV area and the United States as an actor and musician. From national tours to world premieres, and off-Broadway to the Olney theatre, he has moved audiences with his sensitive musicianship and artistry. Locally you may have seen him at Signature Theater, Studio Theater, Olney, Rep Stage, The Kennedy Center, and more.

A graduate from St. Olaf College, he traveled the country with the world-renowned St. Olaf Choir and can be heard as a soloist on multiple of their recordings. While pursuing his B.M. and M.M. in Vocal Performance he also had the privilege to study Organ under John Ferguson

and James Litton. Since the coming of the pandemic, Alan has had to refocus his artistic endeavors and produce in new ways. His work can be seen weekly on the cabaret-livestream "Night at Newcastle" on YouTube or Facebook (the links will be on Salem's Web site!).

Likewise, you can hear a few samples of his work on SoundCloud (again, link on the website!) Coming up in May he will also be premiering his collaboration on the song-cycle "Dichterliebe" with pianist Barbara Wilkinson via live broadcast.

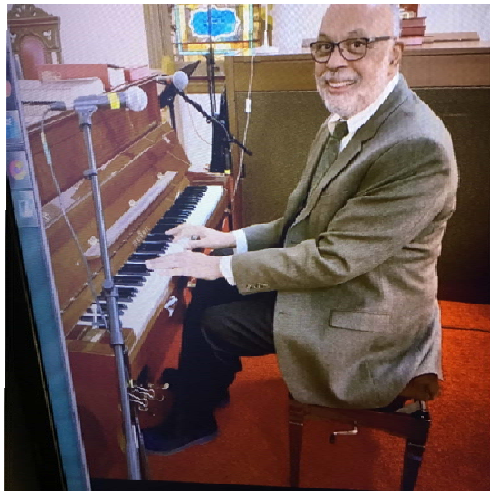
In addition to his work as a performer, Alan also works as a piano rebuilder/technician for many of the top theaters in the DMV including those listed above. If you have any questions or needs about the health and care of your instrument feel free to reach out!

Alan is excited and thankful to be joining Salem and to share in its musical ministries.

THANK YOU, GLENN

Thank You, GLENN PEARSON

Salem wishes to thank Glenn for filling in as our Music Director during the Lent season and Easter Sunday. When Harry and Kay moved away, we had not been able to find a replacement. Glenn stepped up to help us celebrate the second of our favorite worship days. Thank you so very much. We really enjoyed your playing the piano and singing.



Glenn Pearson, Pianist, Organist, Music Director & Bandleader, leads Floating **Opera** and the Glenn Pearson Swing Band, and is the Pianist for the Cameron Strings Chamber Orchestra. Equally comfortable in classical jazz, pop, rock, and rhythm and blues, he has performed at the White House, Kennedy Center, Warner Theater, Library of Congress, and other public venues and private homes in the United States and Abroad. Glenn is also Pianist and Music Director for the annual Helen Hayes Award Shows.

His company, **Glenn Pearson Productions**, is a music and entertainment contracting business involving more than 200 musicians and other entertainers. In addition to donating his time and talent to music and entertainment productions, he gives the same to a wide array of charitable and civic groups, including Martha's Table, Children's Hospital, National Kidney Foundation, National Parkinson's Foundation, and more. Glenn studied piano in the undergraduate and graduate divisions of Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore.

Glenn is currently Principal Organist at North Chevy Chase Christian Church in Chevy Chase, MD.

**TO THE SALEM UM CHURCH
COMMUNITY**



Rev. Emily and Chris Hart, along with their four-legged babies, Teddy and Misha

**Happy Easter!
He is risen!
He is risen, indeed!**

Can you believe it? Lent is over, Christ died, Christ rose, and Christ has promised to come again!

And now we need to figure out how to live in the “in-between.”

“Before Christ” is over. “Christ’s Final Return” has not yet come.

What does the middle look like?

This Easter, we’ll talk about being “Easter People.” What does it mean to be a people who live like Easter is real? What does it mean to be a people who believe in a resurrection from death? What does that mean when you’re in the grocery store, on a walk, talking to your family?

Our Easter scripture is from John 20:1–18. In this scripture, we see Mary arrive at the tomb looking for Jesus’ dead body. She is expecting to see him lying there, dead.

How often do we go looking for death? Visiting someone’s grave is pretty normal and is not often surprising, right? Yet here,

Mary receives a shock! His body is not there. She races back to town to tell the other disciples, believing the body has been stolen. She can’t know that there’s been a miracle, not a theft. Nothing like this has ever happened quite like this before.

Read the scripture for yourself to see the full story! It’s beautiful and surprising. In the end, Mary sees that death wasn’t there. Jesus is there, and he is very alive.

What might happen if Easter People looked for life instead of death?

What might change if we expected resurrections in our lives? If we prepared for resurrections instead of tombs?

We are living in the in-between, so we do experience deaths. Our loved ones die, and our prayers don’t bring resurrections like Jesus’. Even though we don’t experience bodily resurrections, we do experience people coming back to life. People who experience God’s touch for the first time or who get clean and sober, that’s a resurrection. People who mend a torn relationship, that’s a resurrection. People who learn to trust after years of hurt, that’s a resurrection.

Let’s look for life.

Let’s be Easter People



Holy Week Services:

Rev. Emily will be participating with Rev. Will Newton at St. Paul's UMC in Laytonsville in streaming Maundy Thursday and Holy Friday worship services.

Good Friday Communion and Stations of the Cross at Salem UMC,

3:00–4:00 P.M. (in-person in Sanctuary)

Masks are required except when taking Communion. The church will be open from 3:00–4:00 P.M. on Friday for people to receive communion and walk our modified Stations of the Cross. Enter from the RED (front) door, sign our contact tracing form, walk up to the rail to take communion, and then walk through the church, down the ramp, and into the hall. The church hallway, ramp, and Community Hall will have Stations of the Cross set up. After the experience, you are welcome to remain socially distanced in the Memorial Garden for prayer. If you would like to volunteer to usher, please reach out to Rev. Emily at (443) 846–5110.

Holy Friday

Zoom—

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86326852923>

YouTube—

<https://youtu.be/MqIBBbu1Zd4>

Easter Sunrise Service in the Salem Cemetery at 7:00 A.M.—socially distanced

Easter Sunday Worship Service

9:15 A.M. (Online only) Pre/post Service
Zoom Fellowship with Worship—

<https://zoom.us/j/93461431149?pwd=eWk4VmorU1pvYW5nTXFkcG9ZUDNWUT09>

9:30 A.M.—<https://SalemUMC.live>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sermon Series/Study After Easter:

Immersion Bible Study: MARK by Emerson B. Powery. Wednesdays, April 07–June 02, 7:00–8:00 P.M. Click here or contact Suzanne Friis to purchase the book:
<https://www.amazon.com/Immersion-Bible-Studies-Emerson-Powery/dp/1426709161>

FROM THE REOPENING TEAM

The Reopening Well team has resumed regular meetings (via Zoom, of course!) over the past month as we begin to prepare for resuming indoor and/or outdoor services in May. More details will follow over the next few weeks. We had a robust response to our survey (thanks to all of you who took the time to reply!), and that is helping to guide our decisions. In addition to checking with all of you about what feels comfortable and safe, we continue following the reports and recommendations (including case counts, number of hospitalizations, vaccination percentages, etc.) from the county and state very closely so that we are up to date on the latest statistics and advisories.

Much like the brief reopening that we had last fall, current plans for in-person attendance at church will include following the current guidelines related to number of attendees, social distancing, mask-wearing, and good hand hygiene.

If you have any questions or concerns about the process, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for your support and your prayers!

Submitted by Maryellen Brown

FROM THE CONGREGATION



“Sharing my thoughts with you.” (from a previous year)

From Charlyne Lewis

“We are now going through Easter and the Resurrection!! What a glorious time of year. Look around you ... the awaking butterflies, the beautiful flowers popping out of the ground, birds everywhere ‘nesting’ with their young ... ah, Spring!

And then, we 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



CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Joanne Ranshaw has two new great-Grandchildren bringing the total to six!

Mathias James Varga was born March 16 and Ava Ranshaw arrived March 23.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

If your name should be on one of these lists, click here

<https://forms.gle/yTrpUjiCu3ESjvSH8> to be added to the list or contact Velma at velma_durant@yahoo.com. We don’t want to leave you out!

Our April Birthdays are:

Keister, JoAnn	04/03
Roberts, Carole	04/04
Rhinehart, Patti	04/10
Weinberger, Phillip	04/14
Rider, Don	04/17
Ennes, Anne	04/18
Currier, Katelyn	04/29

April Anniversaries:

Shear, Myron and Kim	04/04
Ercolani, Al and Judy	04/13
Lavelly, Bill and Bobbie	04/16

A WORD FROM HARRY

Forwarded via Mary Kay Abramson



Dear Mary Kay:

I was just practicing the piano and thinking about all of the dear folks at Salem. Thank you so much! I know that the very generous donation will be warmly received at Joshes Ride. I am also sending pictures from our farm at sunrise and sunset. We are really enjoying the deep, deep quiet here on the farm and we are gently settling in.



UMCOR SUNDAY



UMCOR Sunday was on March 15 and it is a day that Methodist churches around the country think about this special ministry and its good deeds, provide monetary donations, or make relief supply kits. Thank you to everyone who helped make Flood Buckets (Cleaning Kits), and Hygiene Kits for the United Methodist Committee on Relief, better known as UMCOR. Mary Kay Abramson delivered 10 Hygiene Kits and 6 buckets to BWC in Fulton the following day. If you would like to give a monetary gift for relief kits, go to: <https://advance.umcmmission.org/p-616-material-resources.aspx>.



Relief kits help provide care for the most vulnerable people during times of crisis. UMCOR collects hygiene and cleaning kits for distribution within the United States. Kits help sustain everyday life for people who lack ready access to essential supplies when a disaster strikes, such as a flood or severe storm. You should know that UMCOR receives a four-star rating from Charity Navigator, one of the top charity evaluators in the U.S.

It can be time consuming and complex to make these special provisions for UMCOR's relief efforts, especially the buckets. Whenever I get frustrated trying to shop for the items these kits call for, I start to think about the person that will receive the relief kit, think about the hardship they are going through and how something as simple as a clean towel or a bucket of cleaning supplies may be a true blessing for them.

By: Libby Wright

**THE ONLY ONE
WHO CAN SATISFY
THE HUMAN HEART
IS THE ONE
WHO MADE IT.**

'TIS FINISHED



The Community Hall has been Refreshed!

During the closure of the Community Hall due to Covid-19, "Team Sparkle" refreshed the Hall with a new coat of paint and made minor repairs. Thanks to Nancy Cox's sewing skills, new curtains have been made for the smaller windows and the restrooms and an "information center" set up.



This month, an up-to-date TV monitor will be installed and new artwork hung. We hope to see everyone using the space soon.



"Team Sparkle" pictured left to right:

Suzanne Friis
Mary Lou Williamson
Nancy Cox
Greg Cox

*Thanks to Fred Ambrose for his assistance as well.

By: Suzanne Friis

HELPING THOSE IN NEED

Stepping Stones Family Shelter:

Stepping Stones Family Shelter helps to transition homeless families into permanent housing through a continuum of services, such as emergency shelter to post-shelter support. They are always in need of items for the families.

Manna Food Center: (301) 424-1130
9311 Gaithersburg, MD 20877

Olney Help: P.O. Box 430, Olney, MD 20830

To volunteer call (301) 774-6829. They are very much in need of financial contributions and grocery store gift cards.

PRAYER SHAWLS



Prayer Shawls are available in the 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 do help. Just knowing someone cares is sometimes just the right medicine. They will thank you!

CONTACT INFORMATION

Reverend Emily Hart takes a Sabbath day on Friday for rest and renewal! She also honors time with her husband and dogs in the evening. Please contact her on Friday and after 8:30 P.M. only in an emergency (or a scheduled meeting!).

Church telephone: **(301) 774-7772**

Reverend Emily's e-mail:

pastor@salemunitedmethodist.org

Reverend Emily's cell phone:

(443) 846-5110

Church Website:

www.salemunitedmethodist.org

Newsletter—

velma_durant@yahoo.com (There is an underscore between my first and last name)
my cell phone **(240) 328-4810**.

Psalm 81

- ¹ Sing aloud unto God our strength: make a joyful noise unto the God of Jacob.
- ² Take a psalm, and bring hither the timbrel, the pleasant harp with the psaltery.
- ³ Blow up the trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed, on our solemn feast day.
- ⁴ For this was a statute for Israel, and a law of the God of Jacob.
- ⁵ This he ordained in Joseph for a testimony, when he went out through the land of Egypt: where I heard a language that I understood not.
- ⁶ I removed his shoulder from the burden: his hands were delivered from the pots.
- ⁷ Thou calledst in trouble, and I delivered thee; I answered thee in the secret place of thunder: I proved thee at the waters of Meribah. Selah.
- ⁸ Hear, O my people, and I will testify unto thee: O Israel, if thou wilt hearken unto me;
- ⁹ There shall no strange god be in thee; neither shalt thou worship any strange god.
- ¹⁰ I am the LORD thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt: open thy mouth wide, and I will fill it.
- ¹¹ But my people would not hearken to my voice; and Israel would none of me.
- ¹² So I gave them up unto their own hearts' lust: and they walked in their own counsels.
- ¹³ Oh that my people had hearkened unto me, and Israel had walked in my ways!
- ¹⁴ I should soon have subdued their enemies, and turned my hand against their adversaries.
- ¹⁵ The haters of the LORD should have submitted themselves unto him: but their time should have endured for ever.
- ¹⁶ He should have fed them also with the finest of the wheat: and with honey out of the rock should I have satisfied thee.

**The Salem UMC Newsletter is published by
Velma Durant, and edited by Suzanne Friis**