

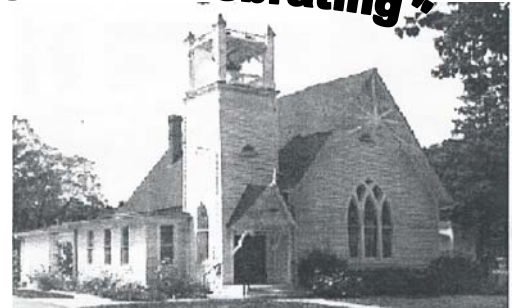
Salem United Methodist Church

October 2021 Newsletter

“188 Years and Still Loving, Serving and Celebrating”



SALEM United Methodist Church 1833



SALEM Methodist Protestant Church 2021

12 High Street, Brookeville, Maryland 20833

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



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

From the Pastor's Desk



Salem, I still cannot believe the blessing it is to be your pastor. I have been so enjoying your curiosity in classes, your willingness to try new things in worship, and mostly, your heart for God and each other in all we do. It has been such a joy to dream with the Leadership Team and

individuals who love Salem and want to serve God.

Our dream? **Grace in Action**. This is your chance to be part of the mission. Coming to **Grace in Action** means you'll be feet-on-the-ground and ready to join the mission. For the next year the Leadership Team will meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 1 P.M., and then the whole church is invited to **Grace in Action** the following Sunday at 11:15 A.M. Our goal is for the Leadership Team to think and plan ahead with the church's mission and vision in mind and then to have concrete action steps that **Grace in Action** can immediately join the discussion on. Our first **Grace in Action** followed a slightly different format. Because so many things have happened over the last year, I took the opportunity to give an overview of Salem's work over the past year. Video versions of the different parts of the presentation are available on all our social media.

This month, we'll have another gathering for **Grace in Action**. We want to hear from you. What do you want to do to

serve God? How do you see Salem making a difference in the world? What would you like to see us do? What do you no longer have the energy to do? Where can we trim to give us more room to grow?

One of the major things we'll do at each **Grace in Action** is share **God Jobs** that are needed around the building. Currently, our building is our primary mission field. Did you realize that? Our building is home to more than just us on Sunday morning. On Tuesday night, an AA meeting uses the hall. On Wednesday night, another AA meeting uses the hall. On Thursday night, yet another AA meeting uses the hall. On Thursday and Friday, Cristen Cooper cooks soup for her business, Coop's Soups, which funds her Dinner Church ministry. On Saturdays, starting in October, we will welcome Mongol Erdem, the Mongolian culture school back. On the first Tuesday of the month, the American Legion meets. Soon, we are adding a new group, the Olney Art Association for monthly events as well. Beyond our regular meetings, we also partner with the Town of Brookeville to share our parking lot for Academy events. Lastly, the community children and teens use our property to relax, create innovative games, and generally stay out of trouble by hanging out in a safe, welcoming space.

These events are diverse. Some are life-giving, life-saving, culture building, community growing, or just fun! This is exactly what a church building should be used for. By maintaining the building you are not just doing household chores, you are making mission possible. Without clean air filters, our space would not be giving clean air to people seeking life. Without working bathrooms, our space would be

inhospitable and, really, unrentable. Without meeting fire and safety regulations, these groups would need to find a different building altogether.

Our newest AA group is the Tuesday night women's meeting. They shared that they have been bounced from church to church for years. Each space was too small or not appropriate for their needs. After attending other meetings in our hall, they asked to meet here as well. They are thrilled and grateful to finally have a home.

This is mission.

At **Grace in Action**, we'll be able to share about upcoming inspections, needed workdays, and other opportunities to make sure that Salem is a space that gives life. To those who have already signed up for our **God Job Workday** on October 3rd, thank you. We only need 8 people and have some slots left. Men and women are both invited and you can do any of these jobs in your church clothes.

To me? This sounds like being a signpost of grace to the community. Our mission and vision are printed in our bulletin each week and will now be part of every Leadership Team meeting. Our Mission is to grow in Christian faith and express God's love through serving others. Our Vision is to be a signpost of God's grace to the world.

I hope to see you all at **Grace in Action** and around the church. God bless you!

Blessings,

Rev. Emily Hart



October 10–24 Sermon Series

“Help me, God!” “God, do you care?”
Have you ever said these things to God?
Or, perhaps you’ve just wondered them.
This month we see three stories from the Bible where people ask exactly that. God, following you seems to have made things worse, not better. God, where are you when the food runs out? In each case, God responds with what we might call a partial solution. God doesn’t eradicate hunger; God sends daily food like dew for while they’re in the desert. God doesn’t stop a famine; God keeps the flour jar full for just long enough. God doesn’t rescue Elijah; God sends Elijah to make changes with a partner.

Join us as we wonder at God’s peculiar solutions. It may look like God is only partially solving problems. However, more likely, God is choosing to give people what they need to solve their own problems. God empowers people, rather than rescuing them. See you Sundays at 9:30 A.M. in the church, and 7:00 P.M. online.

October 10

Empowered: Be Part of the Story
Exodus 16:1-18

October 17

Empowered: Just Enough
1 Kings 17: 1-16[17-24]

October 24

Empowered: Real Solutions
1 Kings 19:1-18

ALL SAINTS DAY



October 31

Mark 12:28-34

All Saints Day is one of those moments where we celebrate and remember those who have made the journey or who have taken the next step. We remember them because they are still a part of us, shaping us, mentoring us – maybe not in a direct way, but in a real way. Join us in church (9:30 A.M.) or online (7:00 P.M.) to remember those who have gone before.

We Have New Leaders!

After a restful summer the Leadership Team convened with some new members (Debbie Ambrose and Velma Durant) after saying “thank you” to members who rolled off (Nancy Cox and Libby Wright). Debbie Ambrose has agreed to be the new Leadership Chairperson. Thank you to the whole team!

Updates from Rev. Emily

I love spending time with you all in calls, visits, and over emails or texts. Please don’t hesitate to reach out if you’d like to talk about things large or small. Texting me or calling are the fastest ways to reach me.

To clear up some confusion: my days off are Monday and Saturday. I experimented with Friday when I first got here but am now trying Monday and Saturday. Chris and I also try to spend dinner time and evenings together, unless I have a planned meeting or appointment with someone.

Now that fall has started, Chris is back at UMBC for his final semester. Our dogs are still working on their training. Misha, our Pit Bull, is learning that barking doesn't translate to "Hi! Come pet me!" and is working on sitting with soulful puppy-dog-eyes instead (it's a work in progress!). Teddy, our Beagle, is working on adding drama to his "play dead" command and would like to be cast as an overacting ninja in any play that would promise to pay him in treats

PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit last spring, and everything was shut down, businesses were allowed to apply for the Paycheck Protection Program, PPP. This allowed businesses to keep their workforce employed during the COVID-19 crisis. With guidance from the Baltimore Washington Conference, we applied for the loan with Sandy Spring Bank. We completed the application, providing the required information on salaries, and expenses. One major requirement for loan approval was that at least 75% of funds must be spent on payroll expenses, and given our payroll at the time, we qualified.

We were excited when we found out we received the PPP for \$19,300.00. That money was used to pay the salaries of all four of our employees at the time for three months: pastor, organist, custodian, and nursery attendant. Once we exhausted the PPP funds, and it was obvious church would not be opening anytime soon, we had no choice but to furlough our nursery attendant, and custodian. Once we were able to resume inside church services, we hired a cleaning service certified in

infection control protocols (GBAC certification), so we are assured all touch points in the hall and church are cleaned weekly.

We had heard that any loan amounts under \$50,000 would not need to be repaid, but that a PPP Forgiveness application would need to be completed. We finally received the email from Sandy Spring Bank with the Forgiveness application the second week in August. We completed the form; and found out last week that our loan had been forgiven, and no repayment was required! What a blessing!

Through your continued donations during the pandemic, and the PPP, we have been able to pay our bills, apportionments, and cover maintenance and repairs as needed. Our current Profit & Loss statement from Jan-Aug shows us in the black \$4,418.11. This is an amazing accomplishment to be in the black at the end of the summer, when giving usually decreases due to members on vacation. Thank you for your generous donations, and if you have any finance questions, please let me know.

Mary Kay Abramson
Treasurer

WHATS HAPPENING AT SALEM

No Yard Sale This Fall

Due to various circumstances, there will not be a Yard Sale or Trash and Treasures Sale this year. Therefore, please do not bring items to the church now or until further notice.

Team Sparkle will be donating "yard sale" items collected in the past several years to organizations that support those in need in our community.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

An indoor mask policy has been reinstated in Montgomery County. Until further notice, all attendees are required to wear a mask when participating in any indoor meeting or worship service held at Salem UMC. Contact Rev. Emily with questions or concerns

(emily@salemunitedmethodist.org).

Check Out the Salem United Methodist Church YouTube Channel!

Every week we record our morning worship, edit and process it, then post the service online for you to experience Sunday evenings at 7:00 P.M. Click [here](#) to visit the Salem United Methodist Church **YouTube Channel**. Hyperlinks to our Sunday Services and other church videos are posted there.

HAPPENINGS IN THE HALL

Prayer Partners Tuesdays at 10:00 A.M. at JoAnn Keister's home

AA Meeting/Women Tuesdays at 7:30 P.M. in the Community Hall

Covenant Discipleship Wednesdays at 8:30 A.M. on Buck Bartley's porch

AA Meeting/Open Meeting/Co-ed Wednesdays at 8:30 P.M. in the Community Hall

AA Meeting/Co-ed Thursdays at 7:30 P.M. in the Community Hall

Crochet Group Fridays at 12:00 P.M. at JoAnn Keister's home.

Mongol-Erdom Culture School Saturdays from 9:00 A.M.–4:00 P.M. in the Meeting Room (behind the Sanctuary).

Adult Bible Study Sundays at 8:30 A.M. in the Community Hall. Contact George Robinson for study materials. All are welcome. Come as you can!



Don Rider writes:

“On August 26, 4-wheeling with Susab Klukas during a family event in Dubois, PA.”

Joanne Ramshaw shared the following:

The bottom picture is my trip to meet two of my great-grandsons for the first time. Ethan is the toddler and Mattias is the baby. I also got to see my beautiful Ohio grandkids and their families. The top picture is a family get-together when the Ohio kids were on their way to the ocean. My second great-granddaughter (David's granddaughter) is in this picture. I love my family!



OLNEY HELP NEEDS HELP

During this unsettling time, you can best assist Olney Help by donating food gift cards. If you wish to make a financial donation, it can be done online at www.olneyhelp.org.

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, Myron	10/01
Fekete, Pati	10/01
Meisner, Joe	10/09
Chandradasa, Sandy	10/16
Johns, Emily (Weinberger)	10/24
Ambrose, Fred	10/25
Ambrose, Debbie	10/29

OUR COMMUNITY

The Lord's Table: The Lord's Table has moved to Epworth UMC, 9008 Rosemont Dr., Gaithersburg. They are currently providing bagged lunches. If you would

like to volunteer with lunch preparation, more information is available at:

<https://www.gpchurch.org/the-lords-table>

Eyeglass Collection: Salem still collects used eyeglasses, cell phones, and hearing aids to donate to Lions Club. Please leave your donation in the designated box in Salem Community Hall.

PRAYER SHAWLS

Know someone who could use some spiritual comfort? Give them a prayer shawl. Prayer shawls are located above the coat rack in the church hallway.



CONTACT INFORMATION

Rev. Emily is available 9:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M. She takes her Sabbath Days on Mondays and Saturdays and a vacation day on Federal holidays. In the event of an emergency on those days, call the church telephone.

Church telephone: (301) 774-7772

Reverend Emily's e-mail:

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Salem Newsletter:

velma_durant@yahoo.com

Church Website:

www.salemunitedmethodist.org

Follow us on Facebook:

"Salem UMC Brookeville."

Follow us on Twitter:

Salem UMC (@SalemBrookeville)

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

12 HIGH STREET BROOKEVILLE, MD

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

OCT 24, 2021 | 1:00 PM | SALEM UMC

BRING

- Your animal or a picture for the memorial board (all animals should be safely leashed and/or contained)
- Treats (if desired!)
- Poop scooping supplies
- Outdoor chair
- Mask

EXPECT

- A short, outdoor animal friendly worship service
- A blessing for your animal
- A time of memorial for animals who have died
- Children playing on the playground
- Friendly people to greet you
- Smart COVID precautions



Rain date: October 31, 2021, at 1:00 P.M.

Rain decision will be made by October 23, 2021, at 6 P.M. and will be announced on our website, Facebook, and email.

