

Salem United Methodist Church July–August 2018 Newsletter

“184 Years and Still Loving, Serving and Celebrating”



SALEM Methodist Protestant Church 1833



SALEM United Methodist Church 2018

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,
“Bless you!” is a familiar phrase that just about everyone says after someone sneezes. The origin of this tradition is unknown. One theory is that when a person sneezes, they were sneezing out evil spirits. Saying “God Bless You” became a way to invoke God’s Spirit upon the sneezer as the evil spirit left. Today we say these words to be polite after someone sneezes.

The words *bless*, *blessed*, and *blessing* are not frequently used in casual

conversation. However, they appear over 8000 times in the Bible. The Hebrew origin of the word, bless, is b-r-k and refers to kneeling down or paying homage as in worshipping. To bless another is to humble oneself as a means of honoring the other. In the Hebrew Scriptures God blessed the male and female after they were created. God blessed the Sabbath and also blessed Noah and Abraham. God, who is above everything, stopped to recognize, honor, pay homage to, and humble God’s self to all of these. Wow! This speaks volumes to the character of our Creator God. The Psalms instruct us to bless God for the love, kindness, and forgiveness God offers to us. We are to b-r-k or kneel, pay homage to, and worship God as a way of thanking God for all God does for us. God gives to us as a means of honoring us and we are to honor God with our thanks and praise, our blessings. God blesses us and we are to bless God. “Bless the Lord, O my soul...” (Psalm 103:1).

In the New Testament which was originally written in Greek and later translated into Latin, the word for *bless* is eulogein (Greek) and benedicere (Latin). Both mean to praise or to speak well of. The word, benediction, comes from this Latin word. Jesus begins his first major sermon, known as The Sermon on the Mount, with the words, “Blessed are...” In this context, blessed can also mean to cause to prosper, to make happy, or to be favored. Jesus listed eight groups of people that God would favor. We call these eight blessings, “The Beatitudes.” Each speak to a human condition with a surprising result. Jesus takes a familiar circumstance and gives it a new twist which focuses on acceptance, love, humility, mercy, compassion, and justice. These eight blessings become the foundation for the rest of the sermon and the entirety of Jesus’ mission and ministry.

For eight Sundays in July and August, our worship will center around one of these Beatitudes. I will invite you at the beginning of the week to ponder on the Beatitude for the coming Sunday. What scripture comes to mind? What prayer or song might reflect that Beatitude? What experience from your life or another’s life relates to the week’s Beatitude? I am always blessed when these are shared with me.

My prayer is that we will have a deeper appreciation for the words: *bless, blessing, and blessed* by the end of the summer so that we cannot only use them in our language as a way to show honor, respect, and favor to others, but also live so we can be a blessing to God and God’s people. With God’s Blessings,
Rev. Sue

The Beatitudes

Matthew 5:3-10, King James Version

3 Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

5 Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

7 Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

8 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

9 Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

10 Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

Blessed Are...

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Rev. Sue will be on vacation July 13-26

The Beatitudes' Worship Series:

"Blessed are..." (Matthew 5:1-12)

July 8 "The Poor"

July 15 "Those Who Mourn" –

Jo Schonewolf

July 22 "The Meek" – Jo Schonewolf

July 29 "The Hungry and Thirsty"

Aug 5 "The Merciful"

Aug 12 "The Pure in Heart"

Aug 19 "The Peacemakers"

Aug 26 "The Persecuted"

YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group Meets Every Sunday Evening

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

Youth Group is taking a summer break, Stay tuned for the fall schedule!

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Faith on Tap Fridays

After a long week, join us on Friday nights at Waredaca Brewing Company, 4107 Damascus Rd., Laytonsville, MD 20882 for a cold drink and conversation around topics that challenge our faith. Dates: July 27, Aug 10, and Aug 24 Time: 6:00 P.M.

APPALACHIAN SERVICE PROJECT (ASP) 2018

Our ASP Team left Salem UMC on the morning of June 17 for Louisa, KY where they spent a week making life a little easier for those in Appalachia. Their home

for the week was class rooms in a church-run primary school.



"We are here!"

Those participants were:

ADULTS:

Bob Brown, Libby Wright, Jesse Myers, Lori Dove and Hisashi Yamagata

YOUNG ADULTS:

Wyatt Thompson, Joe Brantley

YOUTH:

Aiden Thompson, Alexa Nguyen, Amy Roberts, Dominique Dinh, Donovan Thompson, Sandy Chandradasa, Sara Dove, Tricia Thompson

Bob Brown was able to attend this year, thank God!



Bob Brown with his team



One team was building a handicapped ramp.



Jessie Myers with his team

The second team was responsible for starting the project of insulating and adding a “skirt” to the trailer.



It’s finished!



The team following Salem will continue the enclosure.

Our ASP Teams will be leading us in worship and sharing their experiences on Sunday, September 16.



Ms. Lucille was most happy; she commented “Now, I can pick up my mail!”

A TIME FOR CHILDREN



The story was about Jesus sleeping in a boat through a mighty storm on the sea (Rev. Sue is holding a boat). The disciples were afraid and woke Jesus. Jesus stood up and commanded the storm be still. The disciples were amazed at His authority. Jesus stressed to them that with faith all things were possible. Mary Morell and Matthew Savage seemed to really enjoy the story as did the whole congregation.

THE LORD'S TABLE

The Lord's Table will resume on September 22—the fourth Saturday of each month, September through May at St. Martin's in Gaithersburg. To volunteer, sign up on the bulletin board or just come. **Thank you Libby Wright and Barbara Achsetter for chairing this ministry and thank you to all who participated.**

CONGRATULATIONS

Baptism:

Lyla Rae Berwanger received the sacrament of baptism on Sunday, June 10. Her parents are Richard and Christine Berwanger. Richard is the nephew of Doug McKeever. The baptismal gown that Lyla wore was worn by five generations in Lyla's family.



New Middle Schoolers:



Evie Meisner

Evie will enroll at Sykesville Middle school in September. She really enjoys art, reading & writing. She is interested in taking some acting classes and hopes to move to California someday. Evie is the daughter of Joe Meisner.



Mary Morell

Mary, shown here with the Ladies “Hat Day,” served as a crossing guard in her final year in Elementary school. She is active in Girl Scouting, horses, and other activities. Mary is the daughter of Rob and Nancy Morell.

New Grandson:

To Doug and Debbie McKeever on the birth of their grandson, Jack Livingston McKeever, born June 28, 2018.

OUR SYMPATHY

On the night of June 16, our beloved custodian, Tony Hopkins, entered into eternal life. Tony had been fighting multiple myeloma for several years. He had a deep faith. Even though he didn't want to leave his family, he was assured of his future with Christ. Please pray for the family as they grieve for their husband, father, brother, and grandfather.

Something Happening at Salem

Salem’s Leadership Team is striving to find new ways to connect with our community by offering programs of interest as we strive to express God’s love to all. We envision being a guidepost of God’s grace through at least one monthly activity in our Community Hall that will attract a variety of people. Here are some ideas:

- Movie Night
- Game Night
- Pumpkin Carving (Kulley Bancroft and Rob Morell, coordinators)
- Date Night for Parents
- Speaker series—Suggested topics:
 - New tax law
 - Faith and Science
(Rob Morell, coordinator)
 - Parents’ Guide to Social Media
 - Health/Wellness Night

- Consumer Health Information
- Mont. County Sex Ed. Curriculum
- Police Outreach
(Update on community happenings)

To fulfill this vision of connecting people to our welcoming community, we need many people to assist us with this mission. We need volunteers to:

- Help with Publicity
- Coordinate Refreshments
- Coordinate for an event:
- Find topical speakers
- Find people to assist with the event
- Help with Community Hall
(Set up/clean up—Nancy Cox will help)

Please pray as to which one of these you would like to assist. We at Salem are a church that serves together to share God’s love to all. If you are guided to help with one of these events, contact Rev. Sue.

BOOK CLUB

Salem Book Club will resume in the fall.

SIGN-UP FOR ALTAR FLOWERS

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.

If you would like to provide flowers during the 2018 worship year, please

signup on the list posted on the bulletin board in the Hallway in the church. Contact Suzanne Friis with questions.

COFFEE HOUR

HELP WANTED: People to sign up to serve for Coffee Hour for July and August as well as the rest of the year.

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 contact Joyce Howes.

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, contact velma_durant@yahoo.com. We don’t want to leave you out. Thanks!

Our July–August Birthdays are:

<u>July</u>	
McKeever, Doug	07/01
Ennes, Ellen	07/02
Durant, Velma	07/05
Odbert, Carol	07/05
Lange, Robert	07/06
Smith, Virginia	07/06
Poe-Yamagata, Ian	07/06
Wheeler, Erin	07/06
Gundersen, Kristian	07/07
Weinberger, Jacob	07/14

Roberts, Amy	07/15
Weinberger, Ginny	07/20
Gundersen, Sue	07/21
Benson, Rebecca	07/28
Ennes, Mark	07/30

August

Wahl, Ginny	08/07
Shear, Myron	08/08
Meisner, Bridey	08/09
Roberts, Blake	08/14
Smith, Halsey	08/16
Thurston, Yvette	08/18
Lewis, Charlyne	08/19
Bittner, Cloyd Jr.	08/29
Weinberger, Cooper	08/29
Lyon, Marie	08/30

Our July–August Anniversaries are:

July

Sterling/Shorb-Sterling, Charles and Sue	07/03
Van, Druff, Robert and Helen	07/03
Smith-Durant, Curtis and Velma	07/07
Howes, John and Joyce	07/15
Ranshaw, Dick and Joann	07/17

August

Savage, Brandon and Debbie	08/07
Eide-Altman, David and Rose	08/10
Rhinehart, Roger and Patti	08/22
Brown, Bob and Maryellen	08/27
Friis, Mark and Suzanna	08/27

OUR COMMUNITY

Salem Men’s Meeting: The Salem UMC Men meet the second Saturday of the month at 8:00 A.M. for a breakfast meeting. All men are welcome to attend.

Sandy Spring Lions Club: The next dinners will be on Monday July 23rd and August 27 at 7:00 P.M. **There is a standing request for help in preparing the dinner, setting up, serving and cleaning 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 them in Salem Community Hall.

Wednesday Covenant Discipleship Group: The Wednesday Covenant meet on Wednesday mornings 8:30–9:30 A.M.

“FOR I WAS HUNGRY...”

Olney Help: P.O. Box 430, Olney, MD 20830
To volunteer call, (301) 774–6829.

Olney Help Food Needs: At this time Olney Help **MOST NEEDS:** Boost or Ensure, jelly (28-32 oz.), canned fruit, canned chicken, beef stew, canned meats, cold cereal, juice, pancake mix, pancake syrup. In low supply: rice & pasta side dishes and evaporated milk. They currently have enough boxed pasta, boxed spaghetti, canned beans. No glass jars. Gift cards appreciated.

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!

PASTOR INFORMATION

Reverend Sue takes a Sabbath Day on Mondays for rest and renewal. Please contact her on that day only in an emergency.

Contact Information:

Church telephone (301) 774-7772

Reverend Sue's e-mail

pastor@salemunitedmethodist.org

**The Salem Newsletter is assembled and
published by Velma Durant
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