

Salem United Methodist Church

February 2019 Newsletter

«184 Years and Still Loving, Serving and Celebrating»



SALEM Methodist Protestant Church 1833



SALEM United Methodist Church 2019

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
Pastor

To the Salem UM Church Community,

I love snow days when I don't have to be traveling in the weather and can stay inside where it is warm. There are two things that I love about snow days. First, I love looking out the window, seeing the beauty of the snow as it clings to the trees and bushes, and savoring God's created world. Second, snow days provide opportunities for a slower day in which one can relax. Snow days are great days to take care for one's soul.

Our Epiphany season worship has been focused on the process of making holy connections through our soul. This process is based on the seven steps outlined in a book written by Rev. Kirk Bryon Jones, *Soul Talk*. These steps are: 1) Be Still, 2) Lay Burdens Down, 3) Listen Deeply, 4) Don't Run Away, 5) Be Honest, 6) Be Gentle, 7) Welcome New Truth. Each Sunday we are focusing on one or two of these steps in the order listed. Here are some of the things we have learned about Soul Talk so far.

Jones mentions that our soul is always waiting to talk with us, but won't compete with all the noise around us. We have to silence our minds and set aside or unburden ourselves of things we must do or concerns we have. This helps us to stop thinking. Then our non-thinking will be ready to receive new thoughts from that holy space within, our soul, where God is waiting for us to listen. Rev. Jones also speaks about the soul being a "hidden

reservoir of limitless wisdom, peace, and joy.” Yet, we tend to steer away from dipping into this reservoir and satiating our thirst for the Holy. Instead, we satiate this thirst with busy-ness. Jones also mentions that the voice of our soul is a soft voice because a “whisper encourages more concentrated effort to pay attention. Your soul may speak low so you can listen high.”

If you want to learn more about this process of holy connections, you can purchase Jones’ book online. Or simply try these steps to see what the Spirit in your souls has for you. Connecting with the Holy through Soul Talk is not only a process, but also takes practice. I invite you to quiet all your electronic devices, find a place and time where you can be quiet, and allow yourself to get in touch with your soul, that connection point with God’s Spirit. What might you discover or uncover there? God is waiting for you!

Grace and Peace,

Rev. Sue

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Epiphany Sermon Series:

Holy Connections through Soul Talk

Feb 3-Listen Deeply, Jo Schonewolf,
preaching

Feb 10-Don’t Run Away, Covenant
Discipleship Group, leading worship

Feb 17-Be Honest and Be Gentle,
Rev. Sue, preaching

Feb 24- 30 Hour Famine Sunday, youth
presenting

March 3-Welcome New Truth,
Jo Schonewolf, preaching

YOUTH GROUP

Thank you for supporting Salem's Youth Group

In February our youth will be serving in several ways and participating in awesome worship at ROCK in Ocean City. Here is how you can continue to support the youth group's efforts:

Sun. Feb. 3:

1) The Discretionary Fund will go to **Souper Bowl of Caring**. The youth will take these funds on Sunday evening to purchase food for Olney Help. Souper Bowl of Caring is nationwide effort to feed the hungry while millions of dollars are spent on the Super Bowl.

2) Eat breakfast and donate funds at the **ASP Breakfast** following the 10:00 Worship Service. Funds raised will support the Appalachia Service Project Mission trip in June.

Sun. Feb 8-10: ROCK in OC

The youth group will be at **ROCK** in Ocean City. Thank you to all who are sponsoring us. This money helps us with our weekend expenses. Also, pray for us as we travel and spend time in worship and learning.

Sun. Feb. 17: Game Night for Everyone

One way that we want to thank you for supporting our Youth Group is by inviting you to an evening of fun. Bring a game and a snack to share. Time: 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Sun. Feb. 22-23: 30 Hour Famine

Again, we need your financial support as we fast for 30 hours, learn about another culture, and serve those in our community. These funds will help to provide



food for undernourished communities through World Vision. We will be sharing our experiences in worship on Feb 24.

Thank you for all your support as the youth strive to be like Christ in ministry to the world.

SOMETHING HAPPENING AT SALEM

As we continue to connect with those in our community, Salem has scheduled monthly events of interest. Here is a listing of upcoming events:

Parents' Date Night Out with Girl Scouts

Saturday, Feb 9, 6:30-9:00 P.M.

An evening of games and activities for ages pre-school-10. Snacks included, dinner not provided. Free. Registration required at

www.salemunitedmethodist.org.

South Africa Presentation

Friday, February 15 at 7:00 P.M.

We are walkers. We are thinkers. We are fighters. We are gazers. We are storytellers. These five statements, found on the walk into the Apartheid Museum in Johannesburg, South Africa, reveal much about us as humans and how we interact with each other. South Africa, too, has much to reveal to us here in the United States. It's where we find some of our oldest human ancestors, where we can see clearly the impact that slavery and organized systems of oppression have on a country, and where we learn the courage and endurance required to fight for what's right and build a place where all of us walkers, thinkers, fighters, gazers, and storytellers can live life abundant together.

Come hear reflections on the legacy of apartheid and what South Africa is like

today, twenty-five years after the fall of apartheid as Salem UMC's seminary intern, Jo Schonewolf, unpacks her recent trip to South Africa. The presentation promises penguins, giraffes, and some heartfelt thoughts about what we can take away from South Africa's story.

Birds in the Backyard

Tuesday, March 26, 7:00 P.M.

Learn how to make your backyard a paradise for birds. Susie Creamer, Director of Urban Education and Conservation, Patterson Park Audubon Center will present a program on attracting birds to the backyard.

Birdwatching in the Backyard and Beyond

Tuesday, May 7 at 7:00 P.M.

Presented by Jim Nelson, past President of the Montgomery Bird Club and Compiler for the annual Christmas Bird Count will talk about everything from tracking to identification.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt Program

Saturday, May 18, 7:00 P.M.

Delmas Wood will present his well-known impersonation of FDR. In 1995 he created the FDR Living Museum on his property on Dr. Bird Rd. in Sandy Spring. The museum includes photographs, books, and videos about FDR, a 1936 Ford Phaeton, the kind of car FDR drove, and a life-sized figure of America's lone four-term president.

The Network: The Story of the Underground Railroad

On Monday, January 21 members of our congregation and many from our community met in Salem's Community

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Hall for a very informative talk presented by Ms. Natalie Williams, an educator and a member of the Board of Directors for The Sandy Spring Slave Museum and African Art Gallery, who shared with us history and other information about the function of the Underground Railroad, stories of enslaved African Americans from Maryland and Montgomery County, and shared her own family connection to the Railroad.



Stories of slaves hiding during the day and traveling at night, sometimes not knowing if they will find friendly help along the way. Most informative and heart breaking.

Mr. Reginal Smith brought a quilt that was used as a directional signal helping the escapees along their journey to freedom. It was a reminder to many of Israel's escape from Egypt.



The Museum is located at 18524 Brooke Road, Sandy Spring, MD. You can

call 301-774-4066 for more information, on tours of the Underground Railroad.

Thank you Ms. Williams and Mr. Smith for a very enjoyable visit and presentation.

FROM THE CONGREGATION



“Sharing My Thoughts
With You”

By Charlyne Lewis

(a favorite repeat from years past)

February, as we all are aware, is the “LOVE” month. We can express and show our LOVE in numerous ways during this fun month! Valentines, special gifts to that ‘special someone’ in our lives, all kinds of neat things to be happy about. Do you remember as a child – ‘way back when’ – giving and receiving those cute penny Valentines? – and what about those little heart-shaped candies with cute ‘sayings’ on each one (which are still around today) - I always LOVED that period in my life as a child, didn’t you folks?

Well, our Heavenly Father has also given to each of us His abiding LOVE which is mentioned often in His Holy Word. We are so blessed to know that we can go to Him anytime and receive from Him an abundance of LOVE overflowing to us every day, and not just at ‘special’ times of the year.

God Bless!!

1 Corinthians 1-13 (*the LOVE chapter*)



SALEM BOOK CLUB

"Accidental Saints: Finding God in all the Wrong People" by Nadia Bolz-Weber
Wednesday, February 27 at 7:30 P.M. at the home of Joanne Rider.

MOVIE NIGHT

Love Free or Die
Tuesday, February 19, 7:00 P.M.
Community Room

This documentary depicts the journey of the Episcopal Church in 2009 when they voted to accept openly gay clergy and same sex marriage. An appropriate movie for us watch and help us understand the challenges that our denominational leaders will face at the Special Called General Conference on Feb 23-26. Pray for our leaders as they vote on these same two issues and the future of the United Methodist Church.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Tuesday, February 12
Salem's Community Room
1:00 - 6:00 P.M.

Sponsor: Sandy Spring Lions Club

If you are interested in becoming a blood donor, see Joyce Howes or register at <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html>

ASP 2018

Annual Chili Cook-Off And Epiphany Auction

Written By: Hisashi Yamagata

A quick thank-you for those who helped make ASP Chili Cook-Off and Epiphany Auction a big success.

Our ASP Teams set up the hall and sold the chips used for voting,



Donavan Thompson and Jacob Weinberger

With a rather short announcement/reminder, we were not quite sure how many chili entries we would get but had the most entries that we have had (12-14?). We almost ran out of the table space (the two front tables were packed with slow cookers). All entries were delicious, including corn breads, side dishes, and desserts.



Steve Currier did a great job as an auction master/auctioneer. In total, we raised \$818.50 from both events, and we're at about 40% (a little over \$3,000) of our fund-raising goal.



The winners of the Cook-off were:



Andrew Sterling, , Buck Bartley

Also acknowledged were the winners of the cookie bake-off held earlier, during the Christmas cookie baking season. The awards were not ready so the three winners were honored at the Chili Cook-off.



Aiden Thompson, Velma Durant, Jesse, Lucy and Henry Myers

The future ASP fundraisers are:

- Sun. Feb 11:** Breakfast
After the 10 A.M. worship
- Sat. April 28:** Yard Sale

Stay tuned for these fundraiser dates for
Green Turtle
And The Encore Singers Concert

SIGN-UP FOR ALTAR FLOWERS

If you would like to provide flowers during the 2019 worship year, please sign

up on the list posted on the bulletin board in the Hallway or contact Carole Roberts.

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.

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 Community Hall.

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 February Birthdays are:

Gregg, Eddie	02/02
Whaley, Janet	02/07
Roberts, John	02/08
Wahl, Jerry	02/08
Roberts, Austin	02/15
Lyon, Anna	02/17
Blaine, Ed	02/23
Rhinehart, Roger	02/24

There are no Anniversaries in February.

OUR COMMUNITY

Salem Men's Meeting: Saturday, February 10th at 8:00 A.M. in the Community Hall.

Sandy Spring Lions Club: The next dinner will be on Monday February 25 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.

Spirit Club: A fitness group for those with disabilities meets Wednesdays in the Community Hall from 6-7 P.M. Our own Philip Weinberger is an avid participant.

Seniors on the Move – Exercise Class: Fridays, 9:00-10:00 A.M. in the Community Hall. Drop in – registration not required! Participate and pay by the session or for the full fall program. For more information contact the leader, Mary-Jo Cosgrove, at mjcosgrove58@gmail.com.

“FOR I WAS HUNGRY...”

Manna Food Center: 9311 Gaither Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20877

To volunteer call 301-424-1130 or online at www.mannafood.org.

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

To volunteer call 301-774-6829. They still are in desperate need of rice sides (Rice-a-Roni/ Knorr sides), peanut butter, jelly, canned chicken, fruit juice, snacks such as granola bars/crackers, cake mix/frosting, canned pasta. Please place items in the box marked for Olney Help in the church hallway. No glass jars.

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 Sue Shorb-Sterling takes a Sabbath day on Mondays for rest and renewal! Please contact her on that day only in an emergency.

Church telephone 301-774-7772

Reverend Sue's e-mail

pastor@salemunitedmethodist.org

Salem Newsletter

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The Salem Newsletter is assembled and published by
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