

The Salem United Methodist Church News

November 2020

«187 Years and Still Loving, Serving and Celebrating»



SALEM Protestant Methodist 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.

OUR CONDOLANCE

ANNA UNGLESBEE

NOVEMBER 6, 1920 – OCTOBER 24, 2020



The only recent picture available to me was taken by Yvette Thurston on Anna's 99th birthday.

1st row: Mary Ellen Eaton. Anna, Joyce Howe, Rev. Sue Shorb-Sterling

2nd row: Maria Khadiss (owner of JK House of Grace), Carole Janney, and Jean Karl.

Anna Marie Linton Unglesbee was born in Brookeville, MD, on November 6, 1920. She shared the family home with two brothers and one sister. She spent her high school years at Sherwood High School in Sandy Spring, MD. This is where she met the love of her life, Clyde Unglesbee. Anna and Clyde were married on October 25, 1941. Clyde entered the Army in May 1942 and served in World War II, returning to his beloved wife in January 1946. Clyde started a business, Olney Electric, which grew into a successful electrical contracting operation, with

Anna working by his side every day. As they nurtured their growing business, they were able to travel from time to time in the United States. One of their favorite trips was to Hawaii. As family was close by, nieces and nephews alike, have fond memories of dropping in on Aunt Anna and Uncle Clyde at their "store". What fun to just drop in and see both sitting at their desks working away, then their faces filled with delight upon seeing their young visitors. Anna was Clyde's right hand and he her left hand. They sold the business and retired in 1997. Anna and Clyde were life-long active members at Salem United Methodist Church. Anna was a Sunday School teacher for many years, a member of the choir and the substitute organist. She held many positions on the church board, was a member of the United Methodist Women, the Salem Cemetery Committee and was a fixture in the kitchen for the annual Oyster & Ham dinners and later the Lions Club dinners. Anna was able to attend services on many Sunday mornings being chauffeured by her Salem friends. As Anna and Clyde were unable to have children, their loving nieces and nephews helped to fill that void. They built a lovely home in Brookeville, MD, where they shared many happy years until Clyde's sudden passing in 2009, after 67 years of marriage. Anna's life has been blessed with countless loving friends and family. All have been touched by her quiet demeanor and constant love.

The obituary was taken from Roy W. Barber Funeral Home Web site.

TO THE SALEM UM CHURCH COMMUNITY



Rev. Emily and Chris Hart, along with their 4-legged babies, Teddy and Misha

Putting God First in Living and Giving

Do we worship idols? The answer may surprise you.

During November, our church will hear about God's generosity and our response as we experience our stewardship program, *first: putting GOD first in living and giving*, developed by author and pastor Mike Slaughter of Ginghamburg Church.

There will be opportunities in worship, Bible study, and devotions that can be used at church or at home.

We are made in God's image and are meant to be creators of life and hope, not the consumers of our culture's shiny gods. We can change the world and create a legacy that will live forever in generations' lives to follow. That legacy starts when each of us takes the hard steps of financial discipline and fulfilling the call to generosity that God has placed in all of us.

This stewardship program's goal is not to make you feel guilty, nor is it to say that you have to be exactly like this or that person. The goal is for all of us to ask ourselves questions and be open to the possibility that God will lead us in new directions in our lives.

During the four-week program, we'll be challenged in a number of different ways. We'll be asked to look for the idols in our own lives (Hint: Most of them aren't animals made of gold) and name the ways

these idols enslave us, holding us back from living in the true freedom that God desires for us.

We'll be challenged to consider the place that money, work, and debt have in our own lives. What are our common understandings of these, and might the witness of Scripture lead us to some different understandings?

We'll be challenged to ask ourselves what it means for us to be faithful, save, and give. How do we balance all the competing interests in our lives? What priorities does God want us to have?

Finally, we'll be challenged to give with our hearts, not out of obligation or a sense of duty and not just when we think the recipient deserves our gift. Instead, we'll be challenged to give the way God gives—freely, fully, with no favorites or expectations of repayment.

It is our prayer that, at the end of these four weeks, we will have begun to grow into the individuals and the church that God knows we can be. Please join us in *first: putting GOD first in living and giving*.

Worship in November

This month, we will be studying shiny gods in Bible Study, so that will inform our worship, as well. Suppose you want to read along without coming to the class. In that case, you are welcome to purchase the book, "shiny gods: finding freedom from things that distract us" or the accompanying devotion book, "first - Devotional: putting GOD first in living and giving." Both are available on Amazon. Our scriptures for worship will be drawn from the class and may change based on discussions. Tentatively, our worship schedule is as follows:

November 1st

Naming our Idols
Exodus 20: 22-24
Exodus 32: 2-4

November 8th

Guest preacher: Rev. Dr. Sandi Johnson (accompanied by Kelly Cooper, a Deaf soloist, and Sydney Palmer, ASL interpreter)

November 15th

Be Faithful, Save, and Give
2 Corinthians 9: 6-12
Mark 6: 34-43

November 22nd

Heart Giving
Leviticus 19:9-10
Matthew 7:7-12

November 29th

Worship ONLINE ONLY. Stay tuned for the link.

Combined Bible Study and Joys and Concerns Time

Beginning Wednesday, November 04 from 6:30–8:00 P.M.

- **Joys and Concerns Check-in:** every Wednesday, 6:30–7:00 pm (right before Bible Study-on the same Zoom link). All are welcome-no requirement to stay for the study.
- **Bible Study:** 7:00–8:00 P.M. on Wednesdays, November 04–25, "shiny gods: finding freedom from things that distract us" by Mike Slaughter. What do we worship that keeps us from God?

Upcoming Webinars from the Conference

Every Tuesday the conference offers a virtual "training Tuesday." All are welcome to these free training events. To register, go to this site:

<https://www.bwcumc.org/events/training-tuesdays/>

These are not only for people in "official" leadership. The more we know, the more we can do. If something piques your interest, check it out and share what you learn!

November 10th Church Finances During the Pandemic: Tools for a Challenging Time

After many months of shuttered churches, how should a church finance team approach the budget cycle for 2021 as the pandemic continues to impact its ministries? This webinar identifies the common financial issues that BWC churches are experiencing at this time and explores several financial decision-making tools that can be used to address these issues.

November 17th Simplified, Accountable Structure with Rev. Kay Kotan, a coach and expert on church growth

November 24th Janice Harmon on Nominations

December 1st To be determined

December 8th District Administrators and Statistical Report Training

December 15th Revs. Twanda Prioleau and Nick Bufano on Clergy Care

Reopening Salem

You may have noticed that we've started regathering in the Sanctuary rather than in the parking lot. We are doing this with enthusiasm, caution, and a whole mix of feelings. Sunday October 25th was our first time back in the sanctuary. It was lovely, and it was structured to keep us all as safe as possible. We had some major changes-

even to how we did our outdoor worship services.

1. Everyone entered by way of the ramp off the parking lot. This is to make sure everyone comes in just one direction and we can reduce traffic in the hall. We had one designated exit as well. However, if you need the ramp just let the COVID ushers know and we will make sure you can exit without stairs!
2. Everyone signed in at the contact tracing table. We added an extra layer in that all volunteers and staff did a COVID screening and signed off to say we are symptom free.
3. All wear masks at all times. Rev. Emily now wears "ClearMasks" (check out their website if you're curious!) to keep sermons accessible. Harry wears a mask except when singing and the piano has been moved to face away from the congregation. We also reduced the sung songs from 3 to 1 and will continue learning sign language.
4. We opened the doors to outside once the service started to increase airflow
5. The pews are marked with blue scarves crocheted by our own Prayer Shawl group. The blue scarf indicates an available pew!
6. We have at least two "COVID Ushers" signed up to help every week. They are trained in our policies and have a checklist of tasks for each week. All are welcome to volunteer
7. We calculated our capacity based on the square footage of the sanctuary

divided by 50. Based on this (from Montgomery County) we can accommodate 29 people for in person worship.

We also spent time as a committee figuring out what will cause us to return to online worship.

1. Our primary indicator will be the Maryland and Montgomery county directives. If they say to close the building, we will comply.
2. If someone who attended services tests positive, we will close for at least two weeks to allow for testing, contact tracing, and self-quarantine.
3. Lastly, if the Montgomery county website's data goes into the "high risk of transmission" marker in too many categories, we will close until the numbers improve.

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/covid19/data/>

Because this is so new, our policies are evolving as we learn. Rev. Emily will send the updated policies to Nancy Wilkie with each update to be on the website. "Too many categories" and "until the numbers improve" are not definite indicators, we know. Please be patient with us as we work on making concrete policies without being rigid.

Regardless, we will be worshipping at <https://SalemUMC.live> online. You probably noticed that our internet stream is not totally reliable right now. Now that we are inside, we will have a lot more control over our Livestream because it will be set up when we arrive. At this point, <https://SalemUMC.live> will be the most reliable place to watch the stream (even

though it will still work on YouTube and Facebook!).

If you are struggling with the technology: we are considering a way to watch together on Zoom. Be on the lookout for that information in the coming weeks!

Most importantly, remember that God shows up wherever we are. Whether we are in the church building or at home in our PJs, God is with us. So, wash your hands, wear your mask, and attend worship in the safest way for you and your family. We know that everyone has different needs. We have tried to develop policies that will be simple to implement. However, if you have something your family needs, please don't hesitate to contact Rev. Emily. We will be as flexible as we can.

Blessings to you!

-Reopening Well Team

FINANCE UPDATE

We have certainly had our share of challenges in 2020, but our congregation has stepped up to the plate, and our pledges/giving has remained strong. Thank you for mailing in your donations; it is greatly appreciated. When COVID hit, we were concerned about our financial future, and applied for the Paycheck Protection Program, PPP, and were approved through Sandy Spring Bank. This funding covered our payroll costs for two months, ensuring we would not need to furlough anyone. I am pleased to report we are up to date on our apportionments and bills. The Leadership team continues to closely monitor our financial situation; thank you for your continued support.

God Bless, Mary Kay Abramson and the Leadership Team

I'M SORRY!

I'm am sorry I forgot to give Nancy Cox credit for the wonderful article about the Yard Sale posted last month. I also wish to express my thanks to all of you for overlooking (or for not calling my attention to) the boo-boos I've made. Hopefully, Velma is back on the job, and hopefully, your News will get to you in a timely manner. Remember, I can be reached by phone- see church directory, text message, or email velma_durant@yahoo.com.

INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

In regard to the Greater Olney Interfaith Ministerium's annual Thanksgiving service Rev. Emily has received no information. Should she receive any news it will be announced via email.

CONGRATULATIONS!



Austin and Natalie Roberts with The, Left to right Blake, John, Carol and Amy Roberts Family

COVID couldn't stop the marriage of Austin Roberts to Natalie Todd on Friday, September 4, 2020. They exchanged vows in a beautiful outdoor ceremony in Orlando Florida where they recently purchased a lovely home.

SHARING GOD'S LOVE TO ALL

"The King will reply 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'" Matthew 25:40 (NIV)

This scripture reminds us that most of the time we must put "me" aside and help those in need. We see every time we go out, people standing with signs asking for help. During the 'Great Depression,' people sold apples on the streets for a nickel each just to feed their families. Now it's the signs we see. Ask yourself, "who have I helped today."

Here I am, Father; I have a roof over my head and food in the pantry. And I thank You so very much because You gave it to me; I know I help Olney Help and other Food ministries to help those in need. Please guide me to be a little more concerned for my brother's and sister's and help where I know help is needed. In the name of your precious Son, we pray. Amen

THE LORD'S TABLE

CAN ANYONE CONFIRM THIS MINISTRY IS STILL OPERATING?

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. Please consider serving.

SOMETHING HAPPENING AT SALEM

The Blessing of the Animals

October 12, 2020

By Debbie Ambrose

Big dogs, little dogs,
White dogs, black dogs,
Fluffy dogs, smooth dogs,

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Noisy dogs, quiet dogs
And ... a pony!



On Sunday afternoon, October 17, our Salem family and Brookeville neighbors gathered on our back field for a Blessing of the Animals. There were bags and pockets filled with treats, and obedient pups, anxious to make their families proud with “sits,” “stays,” and hello sniffs with new friends.



Rev. Emily, accompanied by her faithful pup, Teddy, led us in remembering God’s amazing creation in the words of Genesis 1. Each “parent” then shared a blessing, and some ear rubs with their animals, thanking them for their constant love and reminders of the many wonders of God’s creation. We also remembered pets we’ve known who shared their devotion with us and then crossed the Rainbow Bridge. The blessing of each animal was sealed with a medallion of St. Francis, the Patron Saint of Animals and

the Environment. We thank you God for the many blessings of this world! Our wonderful Hero Dog, Norman, was sitting in just the right place.

FROM THE CONGREGATION



“Sharing my thoughts with you...”

from Charlyne Lewis

Greetings once again to all of the dear Salem Church Community!!

This month several things of importance to all of us take place: Veteran’s Day, and Thanksgiving! Let us first pause on the 11th to pray for Veterans of ALL wars, both living and dead, then a special prayer for our Troops who are fighting to keep us a free Nation.

On the 2nd, we will all give our thanks to our Master for once again, providing us with so much bounty...tables overflowing with delicious food, family, and friends to share it with, special customs being observed.

He is the One who is our special Guest at our tables. Let us praise Him and be thankful!!

God Bless!!

Charlyne

Psalm 50-14 Hymn #97

SIGN-UP FOR ALTAR FLOWERS

Now that we can once again worship in our Church; If you would like to provide flowers during the 2021 worship year, please contact Carole Roberts.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Recently, there has been some question about including deceased family members' names in our monthly birthday/Anniversary list. I have left them on the list so their loved ones will know that we have not forgotten them. They have been loved by their families and the Church. We cannot forget them. So, we can still remember and love – we have decided to add a new heading to this section: We miss You! If you do not want your loved one's name on this list, please let me know. I do not want to hurt or cause pain to anyone, so PLEASE communicate with me. If I do not hear from you, their names will be listed in this new column.

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 NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS ARE:

Bancroft, Kulley	11/04
Meisner, Thomas	11/21

BIRTHDAYS: WE MISS YOU!

Ungelsbee, Anna	11/06- 10/20
Smith, Curtis	11/17-5/2020

And those moved away:

Brown, Adrienne	11/21
Eide-Altman, Rose	11/23
Howes, Joyce	11/24

THERE ARE NO NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

OUR COMMUNITY

Eyeglass Collection: Salem continues to collect used eyeglasses, cell phones and hearing aids to donate to Lions Club. Please leave 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

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

Church Phone No.:

(301) 774-7772

Reverend Emily's e-mail:

pastor@salemunitedmethodist.org

Reverend Emily's cell phone:

(443) 846-5110

Church Website:

www.salemunitedmethodist.org

Church Livestream:

<https://SalemUMC.live>

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