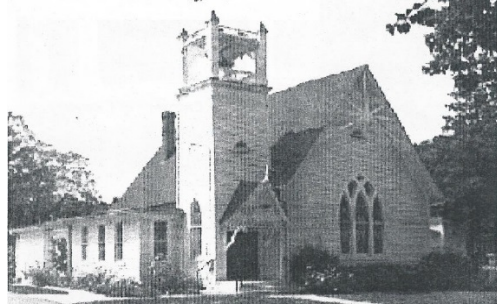


Salem United Methodist Church

“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.

May, June, July, and August 2021 Newsletter

TO THE SALEM UM CHURCH COMMUNITY



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

Alright, my friends, it's that time of year! It's time to get into the gym, back to the diet, start running because it's time to get our bodies into shape for the beach! Right?

Or, at least that's what the advertisements start to tell us around this time. Bathing suits are back in stores. Pool memberships are available or will be available soon. People are setting their vacation plans if they haven't already. Soon our visual field will be filled with models in suits, big hats, and umbrellas

over their shoulders as they stroll down to the beach.

These pictures always have the same message, right? If you rent this condo, your happy family will happily stroll down the beach together just like this one! Your hair will always go the right way in the wind. Your children won't pull each other's ponytails.

Nothing can possibly go wrong!

However, ads aren't there to show us reality, just dreams. It's a dream we already have, or one they're trying to convince us to buy.

And, so, it's time for them to convince us to get our beach bodies ready.

... what does that mean for the church?

What does it mean if we are the Body of Christ?

Christ's Body in the world is made up of you and me. Are we, together, in shape?

We start this conversation with 1 Corinthians 12: 12-27, about the Body of Christ. My favorite example of figuring out how to be the Body comes from my time as a camp counselor.

At camp, we have a set of activities called the “Corinthian Trail.” Each activity requires a different kind of teamwork for the group to accomplish the task.

One of my favorite activities looks like a giant see-saw with a huge platform you stand on, rather than seats for sitting. It’s big enough for groups of 15-20 to stand on it. If the group can work together, they can balance it so that no parts touch the ground.

I love leading groups through this and letting them solve it. The early attempts are often wild with the board swinging back and forth. If everyone tries to solve the puzzle independently, they’ll never finish. It’s only when they work together that it works.

They only succeed if their Body of Christ is functioning. They need to communicate well, come up with new ideas, and find their strengths and weaknesses.

The Body of Christ isn’t born “beach ready” with perfect communication. Joining the church, becoming a Christian, getting involved in missions, getting to know people, these are steps, but it’s not going to be an overnight transition. Sometimes it feels like a rush! There’s a honeymoon period-especially if you’ve just become a Christian. It feels like nothing could ever go wrong: that you’ll always be in love with God. And yet, without maintenance, and when life comes in, it gets harder to be consistent.

Church, let’s be the Body. Let’s put in the practice to follow God. God is with us. Amen.



The sermon series for the month of May:

- May 02 Beach Body of Christ:
We Are The Body, Luke 22: 14-30
Jesus’ Body breaks the systems
- May 09 Beach Body of Christ:
Why Be Beach Ready?
Matthew 28: 16-20
- May 16 Beach Body of Christ:
“Ripped” in Spirit
No scripture chosen yet.
- May 23 Pentecost
Beginning of new series

PLEASE NOTE

Velma will be taking a 3-month break from publishing your Salem News. Lord willing, I’ll see you the first Sunday in September. I am planning to spend this time catching up on my personal writing, and would love to begin the fall and winter sharing how you, my readers, spent your summer. I would love to share your story, biking, hiking, taking in the rays at the beach, tending your garden? We all have a story and I’m ready for an in-box full of good stories; with pictures, of what happened to you this summer even if it’s just cook-outs in the back yard and how God blessed you and yours. My plan is to print one or more each month to bring back our memories during the long cold winter; wouldn’t that be fun?

**AS LONG AS WE HAVE MEMORIES,
YESTERDAY REMAINS;
AS LONG AS WE HAVE HOPE,
TOMORROW WAITS;**

**AS LONG AS WE HAVE LOVE.
TODAY IS BEAUTIFUL.
AS LONG AS YOU HAVE GOD ANYTHING
AND EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE.**

FROM THE CONGREGATION



**“Sharing my thoughts with you...”
from Charlyne Lewis**

Look around you, folks!! Here she is in all her brilliant splendor, coming once again to our area, homes, and yards...yes, I'm talking about 'good ole Mother Nature'. And golly, gosh, just stop and look at all she is bringing with her. In my own "little corner of the earth" we have already witnessed the spring births of some of our furry friends... our resident Ground Hogs have come topside for a quick peek out at their world, (and to see what I have served up for their dinner in our compost pile)...then there are the precious ground squirrels (chip monks to some). We have given all of our yard 'friends' names...and they have given us many hours of enjoyment. Isn't God smart to have created such beautiful creature; and to each new season take up His paint brush and pallet in hand, to cover His creation Earth with so many beautiful wonders so pleasing to the eye?

The great thing about all of this is that it doesn't cost us anything except the time we wish to enjoy what the great Master Artist has, and still is daily, created for His earthly humans. To use the senses, He gave us ... our sight, sound, smell, to truly 'indulge ourselves' of all the wonders of nature around us!

I, for one, really come alive again in the spring...the anticipation of 'all things made new again.' I hope you will take the precious commodity of 'time' to just sit back 'and smell the roses!'

God Bless!!

Charlyne

Hymn #301

John 19: 16-42



**IN-PERSON WORSHIP
RESUMES MAY 2!**

We are excited to be returning to in-person worship.

Worship will be held outdoors, weather permitting.

In the event of inclement weather, the service will be held indoors and that decision will be made no later than the preceding Saturday evening and communicated through email. Indoor capacity is 29 family units.

Outdoor Services:

- Bring your own chair.
- Socially distance.
- Masks required.
- Singing allowed with masks.
- Hymnals, bulletins and prayer request forms will be available on a cart.
- Attendees must complete Contact Tracing information.
- Help clean-up after the service as needed [no assistance needed with sound/video production]

Indoor Services:

- Socially distanced seating indicated by scarves.
- Masks required.
- No singing.
- Hymnals, bulletins and prayer request forms will be available on the front table.
- Attendees must complete Contact Tracing information.
- JUST A NOTE: On May 2nd there will be coffee hour with Reopening committee approved snacks. Come join us!

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 May, June and July Birthdays are:

May

Sterling, Chuck	05/14
Thorp, Marsha	05/27
Lavelly, Bill	05/28

June

Savage, Debbie	06/07
Bittner, Cloyd	06.09
Craswell, Janet	06/09
Morell, Mary	06/12
Ercolani, Judy	06/16
Savage, Brandon	06/18
Van Horn, Danielle	06/23
Beye, Gene	06/24

July

McKeever, Doug	07/01
Ennes, Ellen	07/02
Durant, Velma	07/05
Lange, Robert	07/06
Poe-Yamagata, Ian	07/06
Smith, Virginia	07/06
Weinberger, Jacob	07/14

Roberts, Amy	07/15
Weinberger, Ginny	07/20
Ennes, Mark	07/30

August

Day, Ginny	08/07
Shear, Kim	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

There are May's Anniversaries.

Beye, David and Megan	05/19
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June

Beye-Craswell, Gene and Janet	06/03
Whaler, Doug and Barbara	06/09
Bittner, Cloyd and Betty	06/10
Roberts, John and Carole	06/22

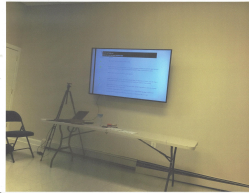
July

Sterling, Charles and Shorb-Sterling, Sue	07/03
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

SPECIAL CLASS DEALING WITH YOUR DEVICE



On April 15th, 6 members of Salem’s congregation gathered in the Community Hall joining Rev. Emily as she endeavors to teach us all the iSecrets we never knew how to use. With viewgraphs and handouts, we were able to confuse ourselves just a little bit more; until “Super Pastor” Emily stopped by with a little one-on-one. We were not able to complete the whole schedule planned but, we did leave the class with much more knowledge than when we arrived, And, (cap A for emphasis) iSecrets that were no longer secret. Starting at the back, observing the 6-feet apart (everyone on the same side for picture) and mask regulations, Nancy Cox, Carole Roberts. Joanne Ranshaw, Virginia Smith, Buck Bartley, and yours truly Velma Durant (taking picture). Thank you Rev. Emily for helping us understand the iWorld just a little bit better.



OUR COMMUNITY

Eye-glass Collection: Salem continues to collect used eyeglasses, cell phones and hearing aids to donate to Lions Club. Please leave them in Salem Community Hall.

Lord’s Table: The Lord’s Table soup kitchen has been relocated but is now on a Friday. Contact Libby Wright for location if you would like to help out (202) 285-3219.

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. This non-profit gives the needed support for at-risk families so they can achieve a stable home life.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prayer Partners:

Every Tuesday, 10:00-11:30 A.M.

Covenant Group:

Every Wednesday, 8:30–10:00 A.M.
(unless notified otherwise)

Combined Bible Study and Joys and

Concerns Time—Joys and Concerns Sharing,
Every Wednesday, 6:30-7:00 P.M.

Immersion Bible Study—**Mark**

by Emerson B. Powery, Wednesdays,

Communications Team Meetings:

Thursday, May 06, 13, and 20 @ 10:00 A.M.
and Thursday, May 27 @ 1:00 P.M.

“FOR I WAS HUNGRY...”

Manna Food Center: 9311 Gaither Road,
Gaithersburg, MD 20877, (301) 424-1130
or online at www.mannafood.org

Olney Help: P.O. Box 430, Olney, MD 20830
With the “lock-down” mostly in place, Olney
Help request checks or Grocery Gift Cards.
They can be mailed to the address above.

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) Cell phone (240) 328-4810

One Day

On Thursday, April 22, I woke up, not quite ready to get up, I picked up my iPad to see who responded to my postings. One response caught my eye, and I had to respond. There was a post thanking the truckers for their faithfulness. I had replied: I was thanking God because HE provided the things the Truckers were transporting. The reply to that was, "If you believe that you are sadly disillusioned."

I couldn't let that stand, my fingers went to work, "Then I am disillusioned because I believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the maker of all things, and he has never let me down." I put my iPad down, immediately went back to sleep. When I woke up, refreshed and ready to face the day, two lines from a poem kept running through my head; I could not remember all of it, so I googled it, discovered it was very long, so I am only adding three verses.

ONLY ONE DAY

By: C. T. Stud

Two little lines I heard one day,
Traveling along life's busy way;
Bringing conviction to my heart,
And from my mind would not depart;
Only one life, 'twill soon be past,
Only what's done for Christ will last.

Only one life, yes only one,
Soon will its fleeting hours done;
Then, in 'that day' my Lord to meet,
And stand before His Judgment seat;
Only one life, 'twill soon be past,
Only what's done for Christ will last.
Only one life, the still small voice,

Gently pleads for a better choice
Bidding me selfish aims to leave,
And to God's holy will to cleave,
Only one life, 'twill soon be past,
Only what's done for Christ will last.

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

