

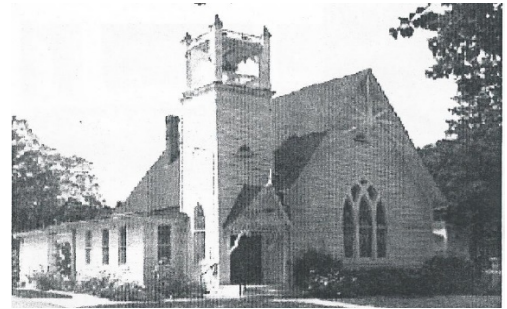
Salem United Methodist Church

September 2021 Newsletter

"188 Years and Still Loving, Serving and Celebrating"



SALEM Methodist Protestant Church 1833



SALEM United Methodist Church 2021

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

From Rev. Emily

Welcome back to a new edition of our newsletter! I know you all missed it over the summer, as I did. Thank you to Mrs. Velma Durant for her careful and intentional work

with this newsletter. Her blood, sweat, and tears go into each edition and I know I am grateful for her work. Please join me in thanking her!

As I'm writing this, I have been your pastor for 13 months and 17 days. By this point, perhaps most of you know me (at least from my articles or seeing me on Sunday). However, you have me at a disadvantage because I still feel like I don't know all of you! If you are someone who has been watching from afar, either online or through The Salem News, please reach out so we can sit down and get to know each other.

In the interest of getting to know each other, there are a few things you can look forward to this month. September 12 will be a big day. We'll start our new monthly town hall-style gathering, Grace in Action, and our fall worship series, PIVOT.

Grace in Action will be once a month opportunity for us to gather as a church community to, well, put grace into action!

This is your chance to hear about what the church is doing, voice your opinion, and jump in (or maybe jump *out* in service). You may even have the chance to pick up a God Job! Depending on COVID we will meet after church during fellowship hour (around 11:00 A.M.), or over Zoom at 11:30 A.M. (watch your email for possible time changes).

Over this last year, I've noticed that the Salem Family loves to serve each other. You love to care for the garden (thank you Joanne, Carolyn, Mary Kay, Suzanne, Nancy, and more!). You love to pray for each other. You love to help out with different tasks (setting up for the yard sale, painting the hall, decorating for Christmas). You love to serve in God Jobs on Sunday morning. I've been watching. I can see your joy in working together for God's glory.

I've also noticed that you don't always know what help is needed until the opportunity is past. Let's change that. Let's make sure you know what's happening in plenty of time to come help. Let's make sure you have a say in which opportunities we sign up for. Let's make sure that we are moving together as the body of Christ. As Paul says in Ephesians 4:1-3:

"...I want you to get out there and walk—better yet, run! —on the road God called you to travel. I don't want any of you sitting around on your hands. I don't want anyone strolling off, down some path that goes nowhere. And mark that you do this with humility and discipline—not in fits and starts, but steadily, pouring yourselves out for each other in acts of love, alert at noticing differences and quick at mending fences."

PIVOT will give us a chance to see how people in scripture and in our own congregation have followed God's call on their lives. It doesn't always go smoothly, and it often calls for a mid-story PIVOT. This series will also kick off a year of stories from the Bible. We'll use a new (to us) resource called the Narrative Lectionary that will take us from Genesis through the many major figures in scripture leading up to the Gospels. This is an awesome opportunity to renew your faith through our old stories that never wear out.

I hope you'll join us virtually or in person as we join together to worship God and shine grace to our community.

"Look! I'm doing a new thing; now it sprouts up; don't you recognize it? I'm making a way in the desert, paths in the wilderness." Isaiah 43:19



PIVOT Sermon Series

When God speaks, everything pivots. Have you ever experienced that? Sometimes it feels easy while other times it requires more sacrifice than you expected. Either way, from then on, everything is different. Join us from September 12 to October 3 to see pivot points in the Bible. [Hint: make sure to join us to hear about pivot points from our special guests from the pews!]

September 12

Genesis 1:1- 2:4

Pivot: Made in a New Way

September 19

Genesis 21: 1-3; 22:1-14

Pivot: When God's Promises are Fulfilled

September 26

Genesis 27: 1-4; 15-23; 28:10-17

Pivot: Blessings Stolen and Granted

October 03

Exodus 2:23-25; 3:1-15; 4:10-17

Pivot: Choosing the Unlikely Hero

FROM THE CONGREGATION

Sharing My Thoughts With You

By Charlyne Lewis

After many months of being confined to my “digs” because of the Covid going around, I am finally able to ‘creep out’ and begin to start ‘seeing my world’ once again. Right now, I can get outside and attend to my wonderful garden area (that my dear Nephew Rusty has helped to establish for my pleasure!) And now I am able once again to ‘dig in the soil’, etc., plus being able to ‘talk to’ all of my beautiful plants, all of which truly gives me so much joy!

I really miss going to Salem for the Worship Services, and seeing all your wonderful faces, and getting ‘elbow hugs’! My health has been good, and I haven’t had any serious illnesses to keep me down...I venture out for my various Doctor visits; [and groceries, which (if I don’t feel

like driving), then my Rusty takes me].

Also, as for many years now, all of our (resident wild animals) keep us happy and contented (also all feeders filled up), so we can just sit down outside and ENJOY!

Well, dear ones, keep yourselves healthy and safe...and God Bless You All!

Charlyne

Hymn #301

John 19:16-42

REMEMBER WHEN?

Not too long ago this was our mode of worship where we could be together.

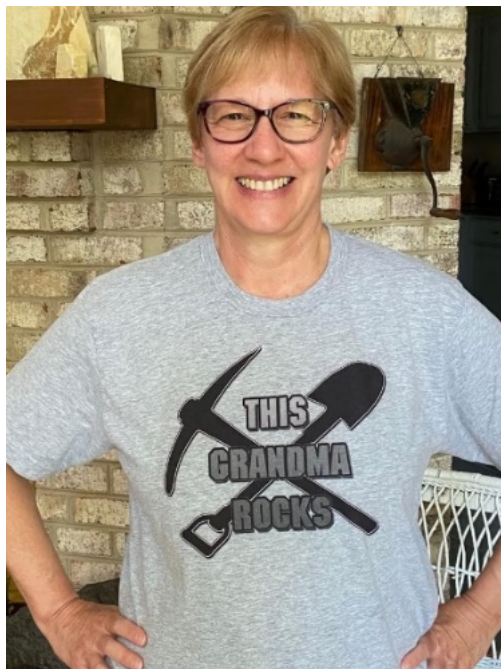


HOPEFULLY NO!

But let us remember to pray for those affected by this “runaway Virus. Also, for the many workers who everyday put their life on the line to care for those affected.

WE MUST ALLOW THE WORD OF GOD TO CORRECT US IN THE SAME WAY WE ALLOW IT TO ENCOURAGE UA.

CONGRATULATIONS



Sharon Lyons writes, “I’m a Grandma! Introducing Logan Elinu Thomas born, August 12th to Marie and Brett. We can’t wait to meet him!”

BAPTISM

Daughters of Katie and Bobby Walter’s daughters—Olivia Grace; Abigail Kathryn
Godparents: Josh Martin; James Walter
Christina McConnell; Sarah Sterling
May 16 found Walter, Sterling, Currier and families, many others gathering in Salem UMC’s Memorial Garden for the Baptism of their twin daughters. Olivia Grace and Abigale Kathryn, Rev. Emily Hart officiating. Older sister, Amelia, was standing by for encouragement.



And final Pictures



To the left you will find the Godfathers!



Grandmother Darhlene Currier

Another:

August 1 we were blessed to attend another Baptism of a little one. Born January 9, 2021, Duke Joseph Johns was dedicated to God in the form of Baptism. Rev. Emily Hart Officiating,



Duke will have fun looking at this picture and trying to remember who is who in this double family photo.

“Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee.

...

“For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.” (2 Tim. 1:6-7)

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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 September Birthdays are:

Lyon, Robert	09/01
Whalen, Doug	09/04
Howes, John	09/06
Whalen, Barbara	09/06
Paulk, Sammy	09/06
Langley, Ron	09/08
Miller, Tim	09/11
Langley, Alexandra	09/14
Meisner, Evelyn	09/20

There are no September Anniversaries.



Velma said “I have a bright idea for a series for the newsletters to help us stay warm all winter! Why don't we invite the congregation to send us pictures and a short story about the picture of their vacation, and

through fall/winter months I can print them thus feeling the warmth of the Summer!” So dear friends, here are the first three, feel free to share other moments you enjoyed!”

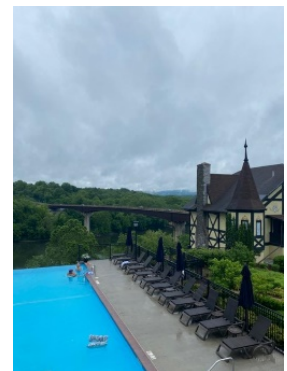
VERN TOOK HIS FAMILY TO THE BEACH.



A VISIT TO BARBARA BY JOANN KEISTER

Early spring/summer I was invited to see my daughter's (Barbara Achsteter) new retirement home in the Thurmont area of Maryland. She has lots of work to do on it, such as painting and a new roof. She has a very nice living room with a wonderful view of the mountains. This was my favorite.

CAROLE AND JOHN ROBERTS ANNIVERSARY



John and Carole took an early 30th Anniversary trip to the Bavarian Inn in Shepardstown, WV. They had originally

hoped for an Alaskan cruise, but COVID put those plans on hold for another time. They enjoyed great food and A lot of quiet time away from the hustle and bustle of their normal lives.

WEEKENDS AT LAKE ANNA – DEB MCKEEVER



We spend most weekends at lake Anna! This picture is a photo from a few weeks ago. We said thank you to our local rescue squad! They came last year to help our friend Eric. He had a bad water ski accident. Hopefully you can share this with the church.



And celebrated many birthdays
Granddad built the kids a house





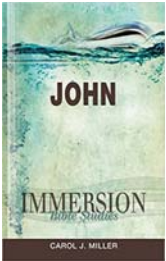
Inside view

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!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

After Church Fellowship: We will not have fellowship hour until the mask mandate is lifted.

Next Bible Study starts September 08:



Fall 2021 Immersion

Bible Study

Wednesdays

September 08—October 27

7:30 P.M. on Zoom

It's time to get back in the Gospel of John! Last year some church folks jumped in with Rev. Emily to study the Gospel of Matthew. We had such a blast that we kept going through.

Luke and Mark. These discussions never cease to surprise us as we find new things in old texts. Each study we've a few new folks show up in. The Gospel of John is the most unique of the Gospels. It has many stories that don't show up in any other Gospel. If you haven't already read ahead, you'll be very surprised by the Christmas narrative! If you're curious and want a chance to really ask your questions, join us on Wednesday evenings. We'll gather on Zoom from 6:30–7:00 P.M. for fellowship and discussion from 7:00–8:00 P.M. The book title "John

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

Immersion Bible Studies by Carol J. Miller is available on Amazon.

After Church Fellowship: We will not have fellowship hour until the mask mandate is lifted.

DISASTER RELIEF— ASSISTANCE TO HAITI

The United Methodist Church provides disaster relief to countries around the world through UMCOR, the United Methodist Committee on Relief. Haiti was recently hit by a 7.2 magnitude earthquake. Haitian officials estimate there are 600,000 people in need of emergency assistance. The delivery of aid has been further hampered by heavy rains brought this week by Tropical Storm Grace.

To donate to UMCOR to help provide assistance, Please contact the church office or if you receive the church emails, there is a link to contribute.

THY WILL
be done



Ephesians Booklet

Paul, one of the very first missionaries, wrote many letters to churches he had visited to explain, clarify, support, or correct them after he left. And, in some cases, he wrote to church communities he had never met! His letters are important for how we understand God's will for our communities. From August 15- September 5, we'll use his letter to the Ephesians to dive deeper. What does it mean for us to live God's will in our lives?

Rev. Emily has composed a booklet to guide us as we study Ephesians these next few weeks. Copies of the booklet, in both large and regular print, will be available in the Sanctuary.

Prayer Request Forms: If you have a prayer request, please fill out one of green forms, found on the sign-in table, Hymnals, or pews. Salem's Prayer Partners would be pleased to pray for your request.

Olney Help: Is once again accepting donations. Most needed items: canned peas, baked beans (28 oz cans), jelly (all sizes, all flavors), instant potatoes, canned pasta (adult type), canned chicken, canned tuna, baby food, size 5 diapers (only size 5 please). Donations may be taken to Remax Realty in the Buffington Building, Gold Gym, Club Pilates, Oakdale Church – all locations in Olney and Ross Boddy Rec. Center in Sandy Spring.

**Salem UMC Church Conference
Thursday, October 28; 4:00–5:30 P.M.
On Zoom**



**CHURCH
CONFERENCE**
Save the Date!

All are encouraged to attend as we meet with our new District Superintendent, Dawn Hand, to discuss the state of our church and our path for the future.

A link to participate on Zoom will be emailed the week of the Conference. If you have questions, please contact Rev. Emily.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Rev. Emily is available from 9:00 A.M.–
9:00 P.M. Sunday through Thursday,
excepting emergencies, of course. She takes
Sabbath on Monday and takes Saturday off
when possible.

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**The Salem Newsletter is assembled and
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