



# SALEM BROOKEVILLE

A UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

## NEWSLETTER November 2024

### A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR



I hate talking about money. Especially in the church. Mostly because I'm afraid of what you're thinking. I'm afraid as soon as I mention money that you'll shut down and tune me out. Then it won't matter how beautifully I explicate scripture. So I don't like talking about money.

However. I love talking about how God can work a transformation beyond our wildest expectations. My friends, we are called to be world changers who have been changed. It makes me think of Nicodemus. What a poor sad soul!

In John chapter 3 he shows up for the first time at the dead of night. A Pharisee. Yet a seeker. In John, the amount of light tells us about how much someone is aligned with the light of the world. So poor Nicky showing up at midnight doesn't bode well for his chances. (Can I get an "oh no"!)

To make matters worse, Jesus barely even talks to him and doesn't even begin to answer his questions (especially in comparison to the

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Samaritan woman who greets him at high noon in the next chapter and gets more dialogue with Jesus than anyone else has thus far!). All his money and education and social standing can't do anything to help him understand the life changing light in front of him.

Cut to his next appearance in John 7. Folks are mad at Jesus, and dear Nicky quietly stands up for him. His transformation has begun. For this one we don't have a time of day. But he's shifting.

His final appearance? John 19:38. He works with Joseph of Arimathea to prepare Jesus' body for burial. And guess what? It was in the full light of day. Nicodemus has been brought into the light and can finally be open with his faith and he can finally, for the first time, be generous. He shows up with a huge amount of myrrh and aloe to anoint Jesus' body. This is a significant investment in a dead man who he didn't even openly support until this moment. His life has been transformed and generosity is the outpouring.

You've heard me say it before. I don't want you to give to keep the lights on, although I enjoy a well-lit room. I want you to give because you have been transformed by the Light and that love pours out in a generosity that transforms the world.

So, yeah, I hate talking about money. Because money alone doesn't tell me anything about your walk in the light. But I love talking about transformation when generosity is a side effect. My friends, where are you in the light?

I pray the light of Christ within you will shine out into the world. Perhaps they will (and

already do!) know we are Christians by our generosity.

Blessings,

Rev. Emily

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## LEADERSHIP TEAM UPDATE

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Much happened during the month of October at Salem.

Salem members successfully met and concluded this year's Charge Conference with the Baltimore-Washington Conference. We unanimously approved nominations for new Leadership Team members, 2025 pastor's compensation package and 2024 membership list modifications. Many thanks to those members who attended in person and virtually.

**Salem now has two part-time employees.** Kyle Mauzy is the newly designated Facilities Manager working directly for the church. His email is [building@salemunitedmethodist.org](mailto:building@salemunitedmethodist.org). Michael is the Administrative Specialist and is a contractor. He can be reached at [admin@salemunitedmethodist.org](mailto:admin@salemunitedmethodist.org). Both will be working between 5 and 10 hours a week either at Salem or remotely as the job dictates.

The Leadership Team also welcomes church members Janice Vieira and David Heinbuch to the team starting January 2025. This will bring new thinking to the group, and we are thrilled to have them aboard. Thanks to both for answering the call.

We had two meetings with the Braver Angels to discuss divisiveness and techniques to discuss differences civilly and without the intention of "changing" someone's beliefs

specifically regarding political views. They were well attended and brought about a lot of discussion. Thanks to Reverend Emily and Churchill Groves for bringing this very interesting dialogue process to Salem.

Finally, Reverend Emily's evaluation is due to the BWC by December 1, 2024. If you have anything you would like the Leadership Team to consider, please forward to Mark Aebig ([aebigm@gmail.com](mailto:aebigm@gmail.com)).

Mark Aebig, chair

Members: Mary Kay Abramson, Quinn Anderson, Chet Babylon, Buck Bartley, Churchill Groves, Carole Roberts, Hisashi Yamagata

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## NOVEMBER SERMON SERIES

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Our world seems to be consumed with division—often typified in the colors red and blue. Rather than stay in our monochromatic silos, the Golden Rule in scripture challenges us to engage in conversation and seek to create whatever common good we can with our relatives, friends, and neighbors who we might consider to be on the “other side” politically and ideologically. As we attempt to come together, the idea is not that we are obliterating either one or trying to change each other, but rather we discover the beauty that can be created when we work together to

make the world a better place. The “purple space” is where we cultivate kindness, compassion, humility, respect, and love for one another and for the good of all the world, no matter what.

24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> Sundays after Pentecost:

Nov. 3 Living Together on Uncommon Ground: Respect  
*1 Corinthians 12: 1-26*

Nov. 10 Malice Toward None: Love  
*Matthew 22: 34-40*



26<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost:

Nov. 17 Testimony from Buck  
*Matthew 6: 19-34*

Christ the King Sunday:

Nov. 24 Thanks & Giving  
*Luke 12: 13-34*

## SPECIAL MULTI-CHURCH SERVICE

Thanksgiving Eve, **Wednesday, Nov. 27**, 7:00 P.M. **at Salem.**

You can join the joint church choir by contacting Rev. Vikki Clayton at [rector@saintbartholomews.org](mailto:rector@saintbartholomews.org). Choir rehearsals will be on Thurs. nights at 6:30 P.M. at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 21611 Laytonsville Rd., Laytonsville, MD 20882.

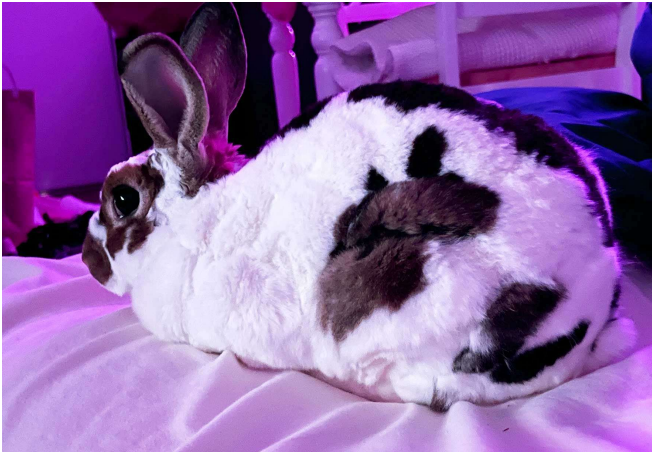
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**MEET OUR NEW ADMINISTRATIVE  
SPECIALIST - MICHAEL**

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Michael loves computers and helping other people with their computer related projects and woes. He has been in the IT industry since 2016, during a college internship. He was raised Methodist and started a long break from Christianity since high school but has recently returned and is happy to be back! In his spare time he likes reading, listening to music, and taking care of the most adorable rabbit in the world, Clarabelle.

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**MISSIONS**

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**The Lord's Table**

The next Salem volunteer day at The Lord's Table is November 1. The location is Epworth United Methodist Church, 9008 Rosemont Drive, Gaithersburg, MD. Our Administrative Specialist, Michael, is the new coordinator. To sign up or for more info, email Michael at [admin@salemunitedmethodist.org](mailto:admin@salemunitedmethodist.org).

**Olney HELP Food Needs**

You may leave non-perishable food donations in the box under the table in the sanctuary or in the marked box in the Community Hall. Most needed items: canned or pouches of tuna (a main source of protein), canned pasta for kids and adults, snacks for the kids (cookies, granola bars, crackers, popcorn, raisins, Goldfish, animal crackers, etc.) cake, cookie, brownie mix, frosting, small boxes of Cheerios and juice boxes. Also, shelf stable bottled juice, canned chili, canned chicken, sloppy joe sauce, canned tomatoes (prefer low salt), spaghetti sauce – plain kind, canned meats, such as, chicken, turkey, corned beef, spam, salmon, Vienna sausage, etc.; 1 lb. bags of rice and rice sides (Knorr/ Roni), pasta sides (Knorr/Roni), baked beans, canned green beans, canned fruit in juice, jelly - all sizes, all flavors, condiments - BBQ sauce, ketchup, mustard, salad dressing; instant mashed potatoes - pouches and boxes, juice boxes for the kids (100% juice please). You can also drop off Giant gift cards at the Giant Customer Service desk, and they will hold them for Olney Help. If you are interested in volunteering or know someone in need, please call their Helpline at 301-774-4334. If you wish to make a financial donation, see their webpage at [olneyhelp.org](http://olneyhelp.org).

**Prayer Shawls**

Prayer shawls are available free for anyone to give to someone who is ill or needs comfort. Feel free to pick one up near the coat rack.

**Greeting cards**

In the sanctuary, on the front, right pew, there's a basket full of greeting cards as well as a directory of addresses. Feel free to find the perfect card to bless someone.

## STANDING ON THE SHOULDERS OF GIANTS

Carole Roberts and her husband John began attending Salem UMC in 1994 when their son Austin was about 7 months old. John was working full-time and Carole was on leave from teaching in the Montgomery County Public Schools system. It was during this busy time in their lives that John volunteered to create Salem's original website and took over the newsletter. He continued updating the website and writing the newsletter until Carole took over as newsletter editor a couple of years later. As their family grew with the births of Blake and Amy, Carole also volunteered in the church nursery and as a Sunday School teacher.



Carole and Hero Dogs Sue

She taught preschool Vacation Bible School for three years and served as the money manager for the church's Youth Group. The group held car washes, pancake & sausage breakfasts and dinners (she shopped for most of the food) to raise the \$32 a month needed

to sponsor a young boy through Compassion International, an organization working to end child poverty by connecting vulnerable children with local churches.

Carole made craft items and baskets for annual bazaars and worked at bake sale tables. She raised money for Salem's Appalachia Service Project volunteers by co-organizing fundraising breakfasts, and helping with the Epiphany Auctions (Steve Currier was the auctioneer) and annual Chili Cook Offs. She also helped prepare meals for Lion's Club and other organization's dinners served by Salem volunteers in the Community Hall.

In 2007, Carole accepted the volunteer position of church Membership Secretary. Now, 17 years later, she's still maintaining and updating the membership directory and electronic/paper files, keeping track of attendance and completing forms required by the Church Conference.



Carole (center) with crochet group

Thirteen years ago, Carole began crocheting Prayer Shawls once a week with volunteers JoAnn Keister and Yvette Thurston; they still meet and crochet weekly. Carole estimates that she's crocheted at least a couple hundred shawls that are available free to anyone in need of comfort and prayers. And then in 2016, Carole answered Salem's call

for a volunteer to serve as Bulletin and Copier Manager. For the past eight years, she's been composing the bulletin and printing/folding Sunday church bulletins and inserts every week as well as overseeing copier maintenance/repair and coordinating altar flower donations.

Carole's volunteerism extends beyond Salem: she's volunteered for six years as a trainer for Hero Dogs, a Brookeville-based nonprofit that places service dogs with veterans and first responders with disabilities. Carole and her yellow lab canine trainees, Tito, Norm, Sue and Travis, have attended our Sunday services as dogs in training and are a delightful addition to our weekly worship.



Sue sporting her Hero Dogs vest

Carole has retired from MCPS, and their children are grown and living on their own now. Carole's sons, mother, sister, uncle, and aunt are living in Florida, and Carole and John have decided to join them in "The Sunshine State." They're having a home built and will move after the first of the new year.

Carole says that, "Volunteering has been a great way to get to know people better, to establish relationships." And she adds, "Church for me is family and that will be the

hardest thing about moving. Leaving this family."

Carole, we 'stand on your shoulders' benefitting today from your years of generous and committed volunteer service to our youth, to keeping our records, to keeping us informed, and to raising funds for our mission work. You're a much-loved part of this Salem family. We'll certainly miss you when you leave.

Please contact Rev. Emily about current God Jobs openings - you're probably the perfect person to fill one of them.

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### WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

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#### DO UNTO OTHERS

This fall let's Cultivate Kindness. As we work on depolarizing, the most important thing we can do is practice kindness in all its forms. One way you can go deeper into these topics is by joining us for our Wednesday night Zoom Bible Study. We'll take four weeks to explore the scriptural call to bless others and wrestle with what this looks like in our day-to-day lives. Specifically, we'll look at why we struggle so much with loving our neighbors, and how the complexity of the world can challenge our most basic assumptions. All the while, we'll explore how to engage with people both inside the congregation and outside our church on a journey toward practicing the Bible's great love ethic: "Do unto others as you would have them do to you." (Matthew 7:12). I suggest reading each scripture before class so you are ready to bring questions for discussion. However, we will also have time to read in class. Come as you are and be ready to think with your heart.

Date	Lesson	Homework (due on class day)
Nov 6	Gospel: Jesus teaches us how to love others within and beyond our walls	Acts 1: 7-8 and discussion questions
Nov 13	Church: Intentionality in the life of the Church	John 4: 4-42 and discussion questions

No study the last two weeks of November.

Click on this link to access the study booklet:

<https://tinyurl.com/DoUntoOthers2024>

Click on link below to access meeting on Zoom on Wednesdays. Fellowship at 6:30 P.M. and study from 7 to 8 P.M.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/94812192432?pwd=T256VnlzQ1VwVk83eGljeGRLL3pNQOT09#success>

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## DEPOLARIZING WORKSHOP #2

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On October 20, we held our second depolarizing workshop with Braver Angels. This workshop was entitled Skills for Disagreeing Better. While the first workshop focused on understanding why we believe what we believe, this workshop focused on understanding where others are coming from. We practiced skills from the LAPP method. LAPP was the last name of the man who developed the strategy, but it is also an acronym for Listen, Acknowledge, Pivot, Perspective.

The first question we discussed was ‘What is difficult about listening to others?’ For example, I realized that I sometimes think I know what someone is going to say so instead of listening, I am thinking about my response. It is important to realize that you may not know someone else’s reason for forming the opinions that they hold, or why they prioritize things the way they do. That is why it is crucial to actually listen.

The next question was, ‘How might understanding others values and concerns from the other side help you understand, listen, and communicate issues that are important to you?’ Without hearing from others, we can only view things through our own life experiences. Looking at a situation from a new viewpoint, helps us to have empathy. Acknowledge that you have heard what the other person has said. People are more open to listening to someone that they feel has an understanding of where they are coming from. Be sure to clarify buzz words, such as Global Warming or Censorship. We tend to use these words assuming that everyone must fully agree or fully disagree with us. Praise God, nuance does exist...try to find it ☺.

So far we have covered the Listen & Acknowledge steps of LAPP. The Pivot can be a little tricky, and may not present itself in every conversation. You need to analyze the tone and body language of the other person to evaluate if they seem open to hearing your perspective. However, if they do seem up to hearing a different perspective, avoid using negative labels or grouping everyone in a political party as the same. Try framing your thoughts in a non-confrontational way such as: This is how I see it; I am basing my view on such and such information/ statistics; I completely agree that X is a problem and I feel that the approach I support will help bring that about.

The next scheduled workshop will be Saturday, January 25 from 9:30 A.M. to 3 P.M. It is a Red-Blue workshop where a small, balanced group of Reds and Blues engage in exercises to help clarify disagreements, reduce stereotyped thinking and discover common values. Hopefully this will help prepare us for Inauguration Day. I hope you can join us.

Churchill Groves

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### THE AMERICAN LEGION AT SALEM

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This is a continuation of the article from the October newsletter which described the history of the American Legion starting with events in 1918.

Part II

During our 104 years, Post 68 has been participating in many community projects, including the March of Dimes, American Red Cross, Legion Child Welfare, Maryland youth camps, the USO, sponsoring Boy Scout Troop 264 (which commenced in 1927), Memorial Day ceremonies (which includes placing flags in cemeteries), Veterans Day ceremonies, and Flag Retirement ceremonies. Also, since 1925, the Post has been sponsoring 11<sup>th</sup> grade students from Sherwood High School to attend Boys State, a week-long camp at McDaniel College. Its' purpose is to teach young men about our Constitution and form of government.

Our original Charter is located in the Sandy Spring Museum as is our "Post Everlasting Stand" listing many members who have passed away over the years. Many of the names have a long history with the Sandy Spring area such as Beebe, Cashell, Nash,

Farquhar, Brigham, Kruhm, Gilpin, Snowden, Musgrove, Bonifant, and many more. Our longest serving member was Dave Yinger – over 70 years of service!

Currently we have over 100 members and meet the first Monday of each month at Salem UMC at 2 P.M. Rick Justus has recently been elected as our Commander.

Halsey Smith

To the members of The American Legion and all veterans:

*Happy Veterans Day!!!*

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### STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

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Back in 2016, starting in the January newsletter, Rose Eide-Altman, Salem's music director, wrote a series of articles on the stained glass windows in our sanctuary. We thought reprinting some of this information here might be of interest.

The following window is located to the left of the altar.

**"In Memory of Geo. W. Parsly Jr."**

George W. Parsly, Jr. (1853-May 16, 1895) was the son of George and Susan Parsly, Sr. (their window is in the back of the sanctuary) and he was married to Annie Kate Jones (Oct. 4, 1857-Dec. 17, 1944). George was a



shoemaker like his father, died at 42 years old, and he and Annie, who lived 87 years, are buried in the Salem cemetery where their names are spelled “Parsley”, again unlike the windows. His son was Charles Elgar Parsley (1888-1955) who is also buried in the Salem cemetery, along with his wife Addie Parsley (1881-1954).

The church was built in 1910. It is interesting to note that all 4 of these individuals (the Parsly family whose windows are described in Sept, Oct, Nov 2024 newsletters) died within 15 years prior to that time, leading me to believe that the windows were installed at the time of it being built rather than at a later time. A likely person to donate and memorialize the windows would have been Annie Kate Jones, George Parsly, Jr.’s wife.

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### CEMETERY NEWS

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The prices of our Cemetery lots have increased to \$2,000.00 a lot starting September 1, 2024. We have a limited number of lots for cremains only for \$1,000.00 a lot starting September 1, 2024. See Quinn Anderson or Chet Babylon.

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### LUNCH FOR SIX

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Would you like to chat with others outside of church while enjoying lunch out? This is the perfect opportunity to socialize during the week. Groups have gone to Grill Marx, Mama Lucia, Silo Falls, Olney Grille, Dempsey’s and many more. There is a sign-up sheet for the next group on the bulletin board down the hall from the sanctuary. Consider putting your name on the first space, then you can select the date you’d like to go and the restaurant!

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### SOCIAL HOUR

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Please remember to sign up to bring snacks to the Community Hall so Social Hour can continue. This is another great way to encourage fellowship following the Worship service. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board down the hall from the sanctuary. Instead of weekly, we’ll try once a month—the third Sunday of the month. Nothing fancy. Just a dozen donuts cut in half is perfect.

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### BIRTHDAYS

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If your name should be on the list, please contact the church. We don’t want to leave you out. Thank you!

#### Birthdays

Kulley Bancroft	11/04
Connie Blaine	11/09
Betty Bittner	11/17
Joyce Howes	11/24

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## SUNDAY CHILDCARE REMINDER

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Childcare during the Sunday worship service is offered the third Sunday of the month. If you would like to be reminded by text message when this will occur, please contact Rev. Emily.

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## READING ROOM

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The Reading Room shelves are full! We cannot accept any more books. The good news is there are well over 400 books and DVDs. It's located upstairs in the Community Hall. The Reading Room is open on Sundays from 8:30 A.M. to noon.

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## GIVING

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Offerings can be sent to:  
Salem United Methodist Church  
12 High Street, Brookeville, MD 20833

If you would like to give by app, you can download the "Vanco Mobile" app and search for Salem United Methodist Church or by its invite code R8A63K.

If you haven't been able to access Vanco and would like to give electronically, we now have a PayPal option. You can use this link:  
<https://paypal.me/SalemBrookeville>

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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Reverend Emily Hart takes Sabbath days on Saturdays and Mondays for rest and renewal. She also honors time with her husband and dogs in the evening. Please contact her on these days (or after 8:30 P.M. on other days) only in an emergency or a scheduled meeting.

Church Address:  
Salem UMC  
12 High Street  
Brookeville, MD 20833

Church Telephone: (301) 774-7772

Church Website:  
[www.salemunitedmethodist.org](http://www.salemunitedmethodist.org)

Rev. Emily's cell phone: (443) 846-5110

Rev. Emily's e-mail:  
[pastor@salemunitedmethodist.org](mailto:pastor@salemunitedmethodist.org)

Michael, Administrative Specialist:  
[admin@salemunitedmethodist.org](mailto:admin@salemunitedmethodist.org)

Music Director:  
[music@salemunitedmethodist.org](mailto:music@salemunitedmethodist.org)

Building Use:  
[building@salemunitedmethodist.org](mailto:building@salemunitedmethodist.org)

Salem Cemetery:  
[salem12cemetery@yahoo.com](http://salem12cemetery@yahoo.com)

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The newsletter is prepared by the Salem United Methodist Church Communications Team. Contact any team member with questions or comments. Thanks!

Rev. Emily Hart  
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Nancy Joie Wilkie  
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