



SALEM

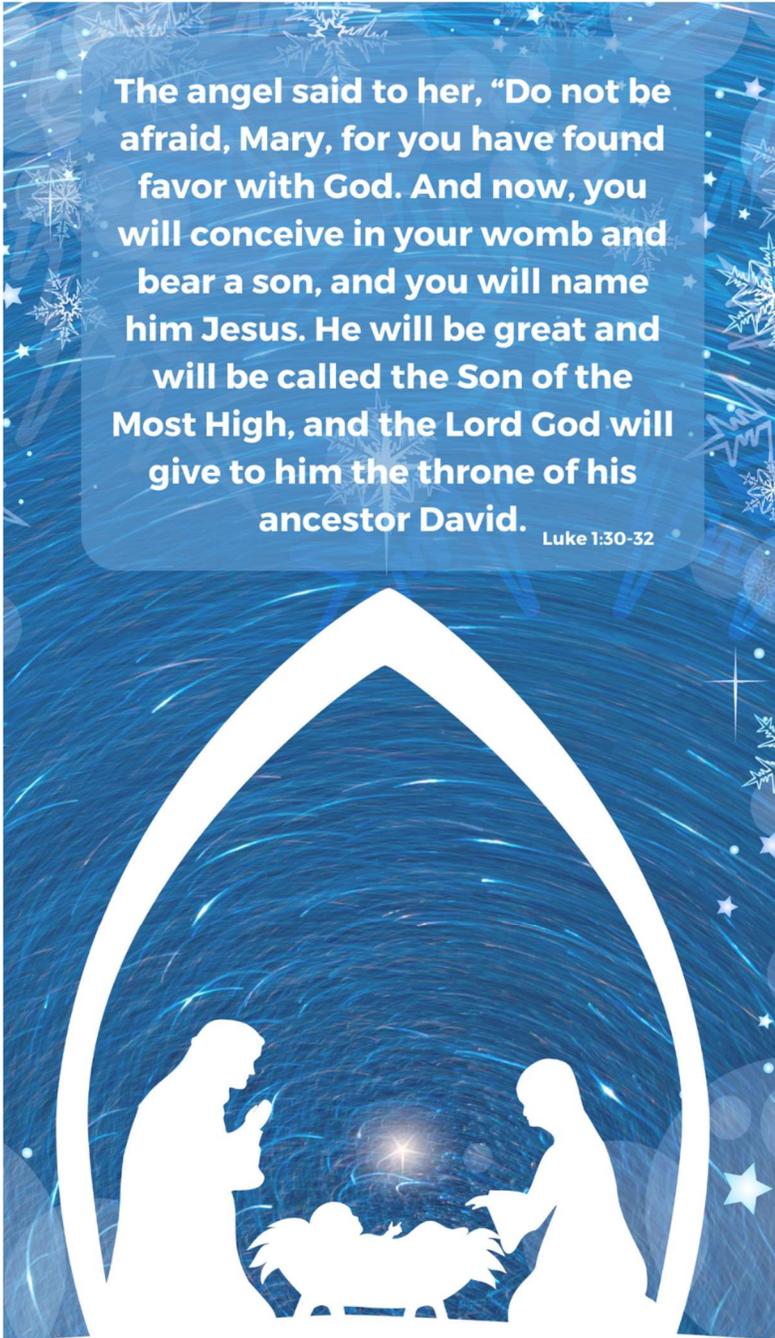
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# NEWSLETTER

December 2022

The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David.

Luke 1:30-32



**Salem United Methodist Church**  
PO Box 192, 7901 Bradshaw Rd  
Upper Falls, MD 21156  
Phone: (410) 592-2543

**SUNDAY WORSHIP**

8:00 am in Chapel  
10:45 am in person and ZOOM  
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/72121826008>

By Phone: 1-301-715-8592  
Meeting ID #72121826008

**OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday, Wednesday, & Friday:  
9am – Noon  
Other hours by appointment

**PASTOR:**

Rev. Dr. Stacey Nickerson  
[pastor@salemunited.org](mailto:pastor@salemunited.org)  
Cell: (410) 627-1944

**FAMILY MINISTRIES**

**COORDINATOR:**

Judy Jones  
[judyjones149@gmail.com](mailto:judyjones149@gmail.com)

**COMMUNICATIONS & SOCIAL**

**MEDIA MANAGER :**

Tara Kully  
[salemunitedupperfalls@gmail.com](mailto:salemunitedupperfalls@gmail.com)

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:**

Katy Stevens  
[katysmusicstudio@gmail.com](mailto:katysmusicstudio@gmail.com)

**CHURCH WEBSITE:**

[www.salemunited.org](http://www.salemunited.org)

**FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM:**

@salemunitedupperfalls

## *Pastor's Message*

*"Do not be afraid."* This is the message the angel brings from God to Mary with the news that she would bear a child who would be the Son of God. This is also the message the angel brings from God to the shepherds to tell of the birth of that child, the Savior. I believe this is God's message for us today as well.

During Advent, we will reflect on God's message, "Do not be afraid." How do we release our fear, and embrace the hope, peace, love, and joy Jesus Christ offers to us? Join us in worship, and in our home activities (through our Advent packets) as we prepare to make room for Christ to work in our lives, in our congregation, and in our world.

On Christmas Eve, we will offer two services:

7:00 p.m. Family Service (also available online through Zoom). In addition, we will have pre-service music from our handbells – be sure and come early (6:40 pm) to hear them ring!

11:00 p.m. Candlelight Service

Special vocal music will be provided at both services under the direction of Katy Stevens, our Director of Music. We can look forward to beautiful music from Katy, our choir members, and guest musicians.

Christmas Day falls on Sunday this year. In consultation with the Church Council, we have planned a special Christmas Celebration. We will not meet in person on Sunday, December 25 so that everyone can spend time at home with their loved ones. We will offer a pre-recorded, brief Christmas message from me as well as recordings of music for you to worship with at home according to your schedule. The recordings will be available on the church website: [salemunited.org](http://salemunited.org) beginning on Christmas morning. Our handbells will be recording special seasonal music as well as our choir. You will be able to sing along to some of your favorite Christmas carols, and enjoy listening to the inspiring music. Invite your family to join with you in the music and the message as we celebrate the gift of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

It has become Salem's tradition to have a quiet service during Advent. This service is particularly designed to offer a place for those who are struggling with grief or loss of some kind, or who wish to support others in a time of stress, or who are feeling the suffering in our world, to share with one another and look to God for healing and hope. I invite you to join in our Service of Healing and Hope on Wednesday, December 14 at 7:00 p.m. in our chapel.

I would like to mention another worship experience that has become very meaningful for us at Salem: Vespers on Wednesday evenings. It is my intention to continue this opportunity to gather mid-week for prayer, meditation, and fellowship as long as the weather permits. I will be checking in with our attendees each week, and we will decide about when to take a break until spring. Please watch for updates – on the website, our church Facebook page, and the bulletin. Feel free to contact me if you have a question on Vespers.

In the midst of this busy season, I especially encourage all of us to set aside time for God, the Giver of the Greatest Gift. Bask in the holy presence of the One who loves us so much as to come to earth and live among us – born in human flesh and into a human family. Praise God for the gift of our Savior, Jesus Christ!

May we share in a Blessed Advent together and a Merry Christmas to one and all –

*Stacey*

## *A Special Note about a Special Person*

We wanted to share with our church family that Chris DeMent is preparing to move to North Carolina later in December. Chris is and always will be a beloved and cherished member of our Salem Family. She has done so much to bless us, and we continue to be blessed by all she shares with us. We would like to have the opportunity to send her off with our love and God's blessing. On Sunday, December 11 during the 10:45 a.m. worship service, we will have a prayer of blessing for Chris and Jeff. There will be a time of light refreshments and fellowship in the hall following the service so that you will have a chance to speak with them. Please mark your calendars and plan to participate so that we can surround Chris and Jeff with our love and prayers as they move. If you cannot be present in the sanctuary, you are welcome to send a note or card to the church and I will make sure she receives it. We give thanks to God for Chris and for her faithful witness. We love you, Chris. Go with God!

## *Youth News*

As the holidays are upon us, the youth are looking forward to upcoming activities. On December 3, we will have a table at the Pancake Breakfast & Holiday Shop where kids (and adults!) can create stars to be hung outside on "Star Sunday" (January 8). Also, Santa will be hanging out around our table, and available for pictures. On December 11, the Middle/High Sunday School class will be visiting the Wash 'n Fold laundromat in Edgewood to treat the clients to free laundry services. We've done this very special mission before and are excited to be able to provide this service to the community again. We would like to thank Mr. Bruce List for speaking to our Sunday School class, along with several adults, about his experience in the military. Mr. Bruce is a Purple Heart recipient, and we thank him for his service and for sharing with us. Please keep our youth in your prayers!

## *Service of Healing and Hope*

On Wednesday, December 14 at 7pm we will hold a Service of Healing and Hope in our chapel. This will be a time of quiet prayer and shared reflection. All who wish to experience healing and a renewed sense of hope in God are invited.

## *Advent Packets*

Our Advent take-home activity packets are now available. These packets are designed to complement our sermon series, "Do Not Be Afraid." The packets are fun to share with your family and friends, too! If you need a packet, please contact Tara at [salemunitedupperfalls@gmail.com](mailto:salemunitedupperfalls@gmail.com).

## *Paint Night*

A wonderful time was had by all at our November 11<sup>th</sup> Paint Night, which raised over \$1000 for the Salem general fund. People of all ages gathered to paint a festive tree and enjoy fellowship. Special thanks to Lauren Simpson, Su DeLeo, Sue Yurek, and Cindy Carter for organizing this special night. Another paint night is being planned for January 2023 – be on the lookout for details!



## *With Thanks*

From Manna House: Thank you for being a member of our Breakfast Club. The Club is unique because instead of serving its members, the members empower the Club to serve the poorest among us. Club members support at least one day's breakfast per year. A hot breakfast is served to about

two hundred hungry people 365 days a year. Providing this critical humanitarian service costs \$500 a day. You have joined over 280 Club members comprising individuals, families, groups, churches, synagogues, businesses, and other institutions. The Club seeks to have all 365 days sponsored by a member to make the daily breakfast self-sustaining. Best regards, Antonio Coffield, Executive Director

From Harford Family House: Thank you for your gift of \$200. Your generosity means the world to us. Your donation will be used to support adults who are experiencing homelessness by providing them the emergency shelter, support and resources needed to get back on their feet. We are overwhelmed by the support of our community. Please know that your generosity has made a difference in the lives of those experiencing homelessness here in Harford County. You are a part of our extended family and for that we are thankful! Your donation will enable us to provide emergency shelter, resources and support to allow our neighbors to move from homelessness to more stable temporary or permanent housing. Together, we are building the start-to-finish solution to end homelessness in Harford County. Thank you for being a part of our shared vision! Sincerely, Robin Tomechko, CEO

## *Christmas Families*

It's that time of year! Salem is sponsoring 23 children from Magnolia Elementary School with Christmas gifts this year. Would you please consider making a monetary donation toward the purchase of these gifts? Thanks to your generosity, we've almost reached our goal! Any contribution you can make is greatly appreciated. Please contact Cindy Carter with any questions.

## *Wednesday Morning Bible Study*

The Wednesday morning Bible Study group will begin a new study on December 7<sup>th</sup> at 10am in the Parlor. The study, "Mysteries of the Messiah," tells us how the Old Testament is connected to Jesus, how He relates to us and what He is doing today in the world. This is a six session video series by Rabbi Jasom Sobel, a Jewish follower of Jesus. We will meet December 7 and 14 before taking a break for Christmas and resuming on January 11. Hope you can join us!

## *Missions Corner*

Volunteering in the community: Please let Amy Krebs or Irene Mattheu know if you are volunteering for other organizations in our community. For example--at Riverside Elementary – as we would like to add these missions to our spreadsheet. Thanks so much!

Food Drive: Thank you to everyone who helped make our November food drive to support the food pantry at Perry Hall United Methodist Church a success! Your generosity enabled us to donate over 200 assorted food and hygiene items to help families in need. A special thank you to our aerobics class for participating in this drive, too!



## *Nut & Candy Sale*

Wouldn't it be great to have nuts and homemade chocolates ready for gift giving at the holidays without having to do all the work to have them ready? Well, you still have a chance to make it happen! Salem's Nut & Candy Sale is still taking orders! Orders can be placed through December 4 for pickup December 10 and 11. See the order form at the end of the newsletter for more details!

## *A Special Gift*

Instead of purchasing Christmas cards and stamps this year, Jerry and I have decided to make a special gift in honor of our Salem family to Salem's General Fund to assist in paying operating expenses. Christmas should be in our hearts all year long, so we attempt to show our love to all of our Salem family throughout the year. Praying that God continues to bless our entire Salem family. Merry Christmas! Karen & Jerry Sersen

## *United Women in Faith News*



United  
Women  
in Faith

Thank you to all who supported the UMCOR project for the Hygiene Kits. The check will be sent after the Pancake Breakfast. We will have a table at the breakfast with ornaments available, so feel free to spread the word!

Who can be a member of United Women in Faith? Any woman or young lady attending Salem. "United Women in Faith is a faith-based membership organization of laywomen within The United Methodist Church. We are organized for mission and our members are committed to growing as disciples of Jesus Christ in community with other women and building the lives of women, children, and youth (copied from the UWF website)." There have been many names for the United Women of Faith over the years. Attendance had been high when most women were homemakers. The group provided time to be with other women. There had been "Circles" within the main group to address specific activities—Bible studies, crafts, etc. As women entered the workforce, the attendance of the groups started to change. At Salem, we had been holding meetings quarterly until attendance waned. Then, there was the pandemic. We have attempted to continue activities and communication through emails, the newsletter and church bulletins.

So now...SAVE the DATE: Jan. 29, 2023! We will have a potluck planning meeting after the 10:45 service (in the Parlor and Salem Room). Please bring a dish to share and any ideas for projects, topics to learn about and/or planning for 2023. All ideas are heard! (This is a link to all the projects and officers for the Baltimore-Washington conference. These may be something that we want to assist with in 2023. <https://www.bwcumc.org/ministries/united-women-in-faith/>) You don't have to have ideas to come - just come! If you're not able to attend, please contact Susan Yurek, Sharon Marquette or Amy Krebs with any thoughts regarding UWF. All contact information can be found in the Directory.

UWF Reading Program: The United Women in Faith 2023 Reading Program includes books for adults, children, and youth in the following categories:

- Spiritual Growth;
- Leadership Development;
- Education for Mission;
- Social Action;
- Nurturing for Community

The 2023 Reading Program book list is now available at [uwfaith.org/read](http://uwfaith.org/read).

## *Members Corner*

Please remember our members who are unable to join us, with a phone call or card.

William Erich Boin – 8021 Bradshaw Rd, Upper Falls, MD 21156

Kay Butler – 8810 Walther Blvd, #1318. Baltimore, MD 21234

Hank Danker – 506 Haverhill Road, Joppa, MD 21085

Betty Knight – 8810 Walther Blvd, #1626, Baltimore, MD 21234

Bill Packer – c/o Dr. Debbie Packer, 4172 Knollcrest Circle N., Augusta, GA 30907  
Alice Stewart c/o Paul Stewart – 217 Garnett Rd, Joppa, MD 21085  
Betty Zengel – 8100 Rossville Blvd., Brightview Room 308, Baltimore, MD 21236

## All Saints Sunday

On Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, Salem gave thanks for the lives of those in the congregation who have gone on to eternal life in Christ since November 1, 2021. We honored the following:

Verna M. Cooper

Gregory S. Henn

David L. Kauffman

Ralph M. Quinn, Jr.

Charlotte A. Scott

## Helping Hands Thanksgiving Bags

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped to have food ready for distribution for Thanksgiving from Helping Hands Food Pantry. The distribution, which took place the morning of Monday, November 21, provided assistance to 53 families as well as an additional 31 families through 4 elementary schools. The food distribution for Christmas meals will take place Monday, December 19 from 10am – Noon.



## Student Sunday

On November 20, we celebrated a group of our college students with gifts of blankets made by our youth in their school colors. We thank our middle/high school youth for making these special gifts! Please continue to keep our students of all ages and all educators in your prayers. The students recognized this year are:

- Ashley Bradshaw, Emerson College
- Freddie Kauffman, UMBC
- Lewis Kauffman, UMBC
- Adrienne Kully, West Virginia University
- Lacey Oxendine, Baltimore County Police Academy
- Tabitha Tamulevich, University of Maryland, College Park
- Ava Wehr, James Madison University



## Year-end Giving Considerations

From our Financial Secretary: You are able to give online to a variety of ministries including the Christmas Families. This can be done through the church website by selecting donate and then the appropriate item from the drop-down menu. At this time of year, we also take a special offering in celebration of Christmas. Special envelopes are included in your personalized, pre-printed giving envelope mailing. If you do not have any envelopes and feel led to give to the Christmas offering, please mark your check "Christmas Offering" on the memo line. Please contact Karen Sersen if you have any questions.



# December

2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8:00am & 10:45 am services are in-person. 10:45 is also on Zoom at <b><a href="https://us04web.zoom.us/j/72121826008">https://us04web.zoom.us/j/72121826008</a></b> Pastor's Study Zoom link: <b><a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86945193408">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86945193408</a></b>				1	2	3
					9am Aerobics (Hall)	8-10:30am Pancake Breakfast & Holiday Shop (Hall)
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8&10:45 am Services 9:30am Sunday School (all ages) Nut & Candy orders due	9am Aerobics (Hall) 7pm Pastor's Bible Study (Salem House)	7pm Finance Committee (Salem Room)	9am Aerobics (Hall) 10-11:30am Morning Bible Study (Parlor) 6:30 Vespers		9am Aerobics (Hall) 7pm Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)	9-11am Nut & Candy order pickup (Hall)
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
8&10:45 am Services 9:30am Sunday School (all ages) ½ hr after each service: Nut & Candy order pickup (Hall)	7pm Pastor's Bible Study (Salem House)		10-11:30am Morning Bible Study (Parlor) 7pm Service of Healing & Hope (Chapel)	7pm Book Club (contact office)	11:30am Women Moving On Lunch (contact office)	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8&10:45 am Services 9:30am Sunday School (all ages)						Christmas Eve 6:40pm Handbell Music 7pm Family Service 11pm Candlelight Service
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Message and music available at <a href="http://salemunited.org">salemunited.org</a> after 8am.						



**SAT  
DEC 3**

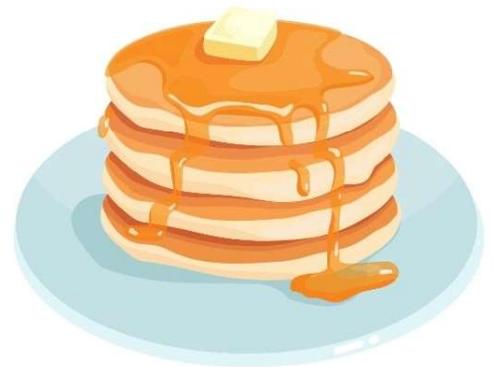
**8-10:30 AM**



**PANCAKE BREAKFAST  
&  
HOLIDAY SHOP**

**GET YOUR CAMERAS READY!  
SANTA WILL BE VISITING!**

- ADULTS: \$9
- KIDS 6 & UNDER: \$5
- ALL YOU CAN EAT BREAKFAST!
- HOLIDAY SHOPPING WITH OUR VENDORS!



**SALEM**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**7901 BRADSHAW ROAD  
UPPER FALLS, MD 21156  
(410) 592-2543  
SALEMUNITED.ORG**

# Christmas

at Salem United Methodist Church

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## Christmas Eve

- 7pm Family Service
- 11pm Candlelight Service

## Christmas Day

Join us for a special celebration via our website at [salemunited.org](http://salemunited.org) that will be available after 8am.



Salem UMC  
7901 Bradshaw Road Upper Falls, MD 21156  
[salemunited.org](http://salemunited.org)

# Salem's Nut & Candy Sale!

Salem will be selling one pound bags of assorted nuts for your holiday gift giving and baking needs. The sale will run from October 23 through December 4. Orders for the first pick-up on November 19 & 20, are due by November 13<sup>th</sup>. All other nut & candy orders will be available at the final pickup, on December 10 & 11. Contact the church office with questions.

November 19<sup>th</sup> – 9-11 am in Fellowship Hall  
 December 10<sup>th</sup> – 9-11 am in Fellowship Hall

November 20<sup>th</sup> – for ½ hour after each service  
 December 11<sup>th</sup> – for ½ hour after each service

**All items must be pre-ordered and pre-paid. Mail form & payment to Salem at address below.**

Description	# of lbs	Price per Pound	Total Cost	PickUp Nov	PickUp Dec
English Walnut halves & pieces		\$4.50			
Deluxe Salted Mixed Nuts, no peanuts		\$10.50			
Natural Salted Pistachios, in shell		\$11.00			
Whole Almonds		\$8.00			
Extra Large Cocktail Peanuts, salted		\$5.00			
Super Large Cashews		\$9.75			
Pecan Halves		\$13.75			
Pecan, Small Pieces		\$12.50			
Totals		-			

## Homemade Chocolate Candy for pick up December 10 & 11<sup>th</sup>

Description	Sold	Chocolate (Circle choice)	Qty	Cost	Total Cost
Peanut Clusters	1 lb	Dark/Milk		\$10.00	
Raisin Clusters	1 lb	Dark/Milk		\$10.00	
White Chocolate Peppermint Bark	½ lb	White		\$8.50	
Almond Bark	½ lb	Dark/Milk		\$9.50	
Peanut Butter Cups	1 lb	Milk		\$12.00	
Nonpareils	½ lb	Dark/Milk		\$7.50	
Chocolate Covered Oreos	2 pk	D / M / W		\$3.50	
Pretzel Rods	2 pk	D / M / W		\$2.50	
Pretzel Rods - assorted	6 pk	assorted		\$6.50	
Totals		-			

### Church Use Only:

	Cost	Amt Paid	Ck/Ca	Date Rec'd
Total Nut Order – November Pick-up				
Total Nut Order – December Pick-up				
Total Candy Order – December Pick-up				

Salem United Methodist Church ● 7901 Bradshaw Rd ● Upper Falls, MD 21156 ● 410-592-2543  
[salemunited.org](http://salemunited.org)



## **Kingsville Community Tree Lighting** **~Featuring St. John's Choir~**

In the midst of the busyness of baking, shopping, and decorating for our family celebrations, you are invited to pause and join St. John's for an interactive evening of music, lights, and fellowship.

The evening will begin in the stone church, after which we will venture outside for the tree lighting. Due to safety concerns, we will not be crossing the street, as in years past. Rather, we will walk along the sidewalk, to the St. John's field, where we will watch the Kingsville Christmas Tree being lit across the road. After our program, you are invited for some refreshments in the St. John's Parish Hall.

Come, and let the true meaning of Advent and Christmas stir in your heart.

**WHEN:** Sunday December 4<sup>th</sup>

**WHERE:** St. John's Episcopal Church  
11901 Belair Rd, Kingsville, MD

**TIME:** 7:00pm

For further information, you can contact the St. John's church office at 410-592-8570 or [office@stjohnskingsville.org](mailto:office@stjohnskingsville.org)

CHRIST  
IS BORN

