

# Salem United Methodist Church

July 20, 2025

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 145)

"God is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds. The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. We will bless God's holy name forever and ever." We offer our worship with thanksgiving to our gracious God.

OPENING PRAYER (in unison): **Most holy God, we give you praise for inviting us to live in relationship with you through the grace of our Savior, Jesus Christ. We thank you for the privilege of prayer. You listen to us and offer your care at all times. Focus our minds and hearts on you. Help us to be still and listen for your guidance. Transform us by the power of your Holy Spirit. May we embrace your will for us and respond in faith. In the spirit and name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.**

\*OPENING MUSIC "Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart" #500

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison): **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us, not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON John 14:13-14; 15:1, 7-12 (NRSV)  
Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

MESSAGE

"Never Fails"

\*DOXOLOGY

#95

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND COMMITMENT (in unison):  
**Gracious God, we trust that you always provide for us by your great mercy. We are dependent on your grace for all things. In response to your goodness, we place ourselves and our gifts in your hands. Bless this offering for the work of sharing the good news of your kingdom. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

\*CLOSING MUSIC

"Move Me" #471

\*BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Irish Blessing

**May the road rise to meet you. May the wind always be at your back. May the sun shine warm on your face. The rain fall soft on your fields. And until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand.**

\*POSTLUDE

## **SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST IN THE WORLD**

Live stream notice: We are blessed to be able to live stream and record our 10:45 a.m. worship service. Anyone in the sanctuary during that time may appear on camera as part of the service and consents to filming. Our camera is directed at the front of the sanctuary. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Stacey.

Welcome to Salem United Methodist Church! Thank you for joining us today in worship.

**Our Worship Leaders Today:**

Judy Jones, Liturgist                      Bryan Niles, Tech Team Director  
Katy Stevens, Director of Music        Mark Carter, Tech Team Producer  
Rev. Dr. Stacey Nickerson, Pastor (pastor@salemunited.org)

**Junior Church** (for children ages 5 -10) begins after the Children's Message.

**This Week** (see our website for details: salemunited.org)

Monday, 7/21 7:00 p.m. – Pastor's Summer Bible Study on the Gospel of Mark (Zoom only: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86945193408>). (Mark, chapter 8)

Monday, 7/21 7:30 p.m. – Alcoholics Anonymous (Parlor)

Wednesday, 7/23 6:30 p.m. – Vespers (we will meet in the narthex in the event of inclement weather)

**Upcoming** (see our website for details: salemunited.org)

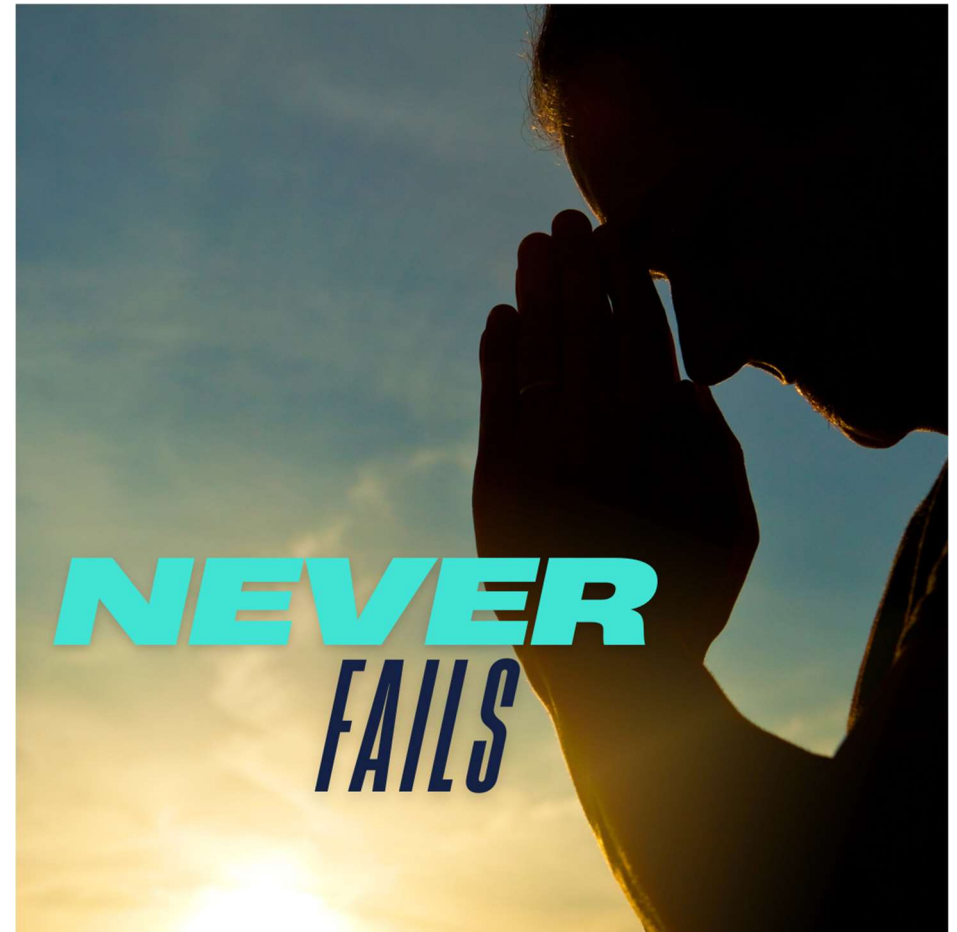
Wednesday, 7/30 7:00 p.m. – Church Council Meeting (Salem Room)

Saturday, 8/23 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. – Low Country Shrimp Boil (*prepaid rsvp due 8/18*; forms available in narthex or reserve and pay online at salemunited.org)

**Mission Opportunity:** Throughout the month of July, we will be collecting donations to help the New Hope Shelter continue their life-transforming work in their new building. We are seeking donations of *new or like new*: kitchen cooking utensils, large bowls, crock pots, a microwave oven, plastic pitchers, paper products, plastic ware, trash cans & bags, brooms/mops/dustpans, cleaning & laundry products, children's books & toys, wall pictures, and personal hygiene supplies. Donations may be left in the kitchen. Monetary donations can be made by noting "New Hope mission" on your donation.

**Low Country Shrimp Boil:** It's back! Prepare your taste buds for an amazing meal courtesy of the Salem Kitchen. The Low Country Shrimp Boil will be held Saturday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. At \$30 per person, your meal will include ½ pound of steamed shrimp, beef sausage, baby potatoes, corn on the cob, hush puppies, and a dessert. Meals are available for eat-in or carry-out. Prepaid rsmps with your meal time are due August 18<sup>th</sup>. Forms are available in the chapel or narthex – or make your reservation and pay online at salemunited.org/shrimpboil.

Salem United Methodist Church  
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**SALEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**UPPER FALLS, MD**

**SUNDAY, JULY 20, 2025**