

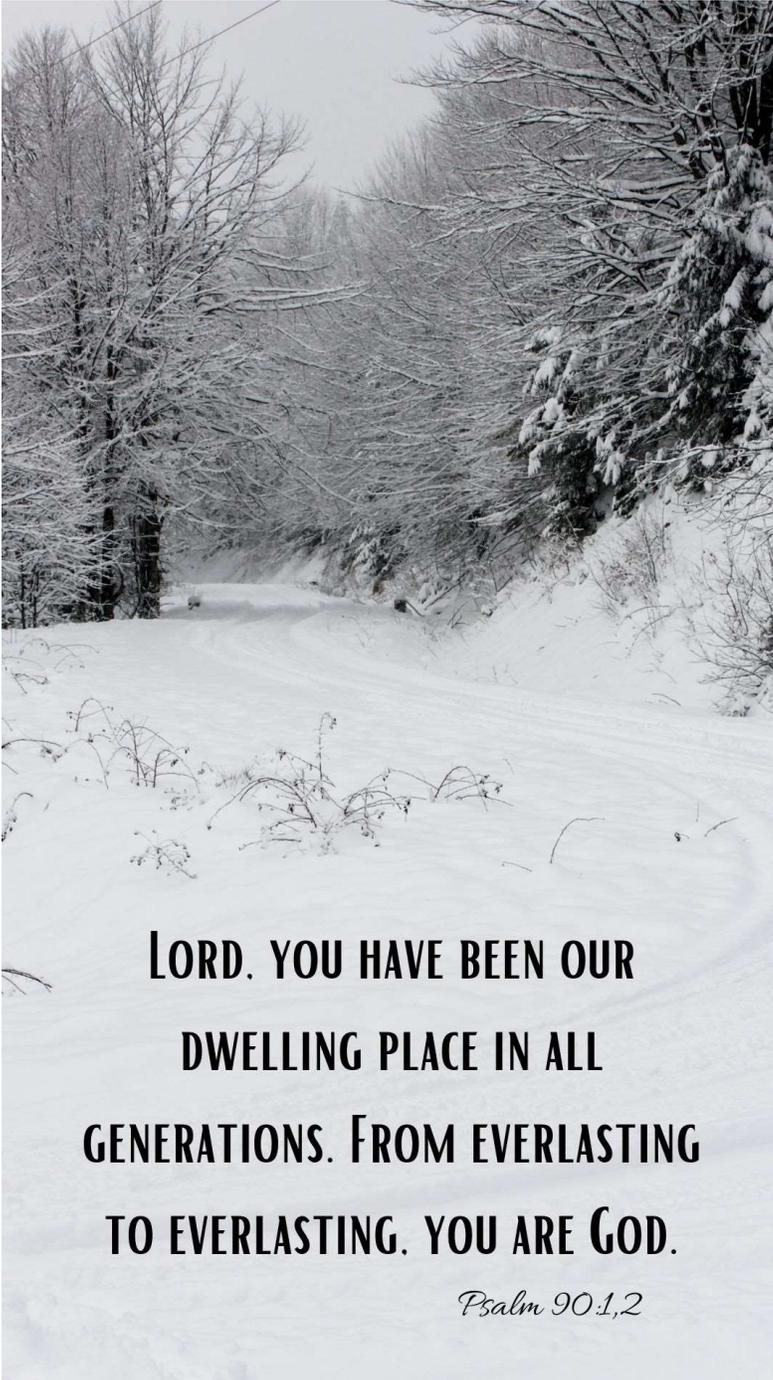


SALEM

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

January 2022



**LORD, YOU HAVE BEEN OUR
DWELLING PLACE IN ALL
GENERATIONS. FROM EVERLASTING
TO EVERLASTING. YOU ARE GOD.**

Psalm 90:1,2

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

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:00 AM in Chapel
10:45AM 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
Cell: (410) 627-1944

**FAMILY MINISTRIES
COORDINATOR:**

Judy Jones
judyjones149@gmail.com

**ORGANIST/MUSIC
DIRECTOR:**

Matthew Bunn
MatthewBunnMusic@gmail.com

**COMMUNICATIONS & SOCIAL
MEDIA MANAGER:**

Tara Kully
salemunitedupperfalls@gmail.com

CHURCH WEBSITE:

www.salemunited.org

FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM:

@salemunitedupperfalls

Pastor's Message

Happy New Year! We need to enter this new year of 2022 with much prayer for our world, our community, our congregation, and our families. Please pray that God will guide us as we continue to adapt and pivot due to the worsening numbers in the global pandemic. Here is a prayer from our United Methodist Book of Worship for the new year written by Maren C. Tirabassi:

Creative God, you make all things new in heaven and on earth.

*We come to you in a new year with new desires and old fears,
new decisions and old controversies,
new dreams and old weaknesses.*

*Because you are a God of hope,
we know that you create all the possibilities of the future.*

*Because you are a God of love,
we know that you accept all the mistakes of the past.*

*Because you are the God of our faith,
we enter your gates with thanksgiving and praise,
we come into your presence with gladness and a joyful noise,
and we serve and bless you. Amen.*

With gratitude, we depend on our faithful God who shows us how to be creative in all situations. You will read in this newsletter examples of how we are moving forward in January. Please note our updated practices in regards to the current COVID situation.

I will be leading a Bible study/book discussion online on Monday evenings beginning on January 10 at 7:00 p.m. To participate, please use the Zoom link we used previously; now it has my name "Pastor Stacey". Here is the link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/86945193408>

We will be studying passages from the Bible related to loving our neighbor. In addition to Biblical passages, we will be discussing the book I Shall Not Hate: A Gaza Doctor's Journey On the Road to Peace and Human Dignity by Izzeldin Abuelaish. This book was recommended by Pastor Adam Hamilton in a workshop I attended in September. I read the book soon after hearing about it and was impressed with his message of forgiveness and reconciliation. I am looking forward to discussing it in the context of scripture study. I will be selecting scriptures for us to study that will guide our discussion (watch for details in the bulletin and weekly updates). Please let me know if you have any questions about the study or if you would like information on ordering the book.

Here is a brief description from the book's cover: "Stricken by the tragic deaths of his daughters at the hands of Israeli soldiers, Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish didn't seek revenge or sink into hatred, but rather called for the people of the region to start talking to each other. His deepest hope is that his daughters will be 'the last sacrifice on the road to peace between Palestinians and Israelis.'" I believe that this book will help us grow in our understanding of how Jesus calls us to love our neighbors, even our enemies.

God's peace, *Pastor Stacey*

Star Sunday - Celebrating Epiphany

We hope everyone was able to pick up a star after services on Christmas Eve or December 26th to participate in our second Star Sunday event! If not, no worries! Feel free to make your own or use the templates at the end of the newsletter! Decorate your star however you feel led. Bring your star to services with you on Sunday, January 2nd. We will hang them under the awning after both services. What a wonderful way to share our celebration of Epiphany with the community!

Our invitation to mission for the month of January is to donate winter hats, gloves, and socks for those in need in our community. You may bring them on Star Sunday and throughout the month.

Facility Update

The Board of Trustees has asked for all group and/or committee meetings to take place in the Salem Room or Parlor. This will help to regulate heat use during the winter months as well as streamline cleaning needs. Additionally, the carpet in the sanctuary will be replaced between January 2nd (following worship services) and 7th. For your safety during this time, the church cannot be accessed via the front or awning doors. Please contact the office or Jerry Sersen with any questions.

As a reminder, our current policy and practice is to wear masks, regardless of vaccination status when indoors on church property. Before entering the sanctuary for worship, please follow the directions of our ushers so that we can maintain as much physical distance between household groups as possible. If you should test positive for COVID-19 and have been in the church buildings, please contact Pastor Stacey so we can provide for the safety of everyone. Additional sanitizing is necessary and we may need to activate our contact tracing. The name(s) of those testing positive will be held in confidence by the Pastor.

Missions Corner



On the first Sunday of February, the football fans among us look forward to watching the Super Bowl. Who will play this year? It's too early to tell. But it's not too early to get ready for the SOUPER Bowl of Caring! More details will be coming, but our Confirmation Class and our Youth will be organizing and working on this mission project to "tackle hunger in our community." Stay tuned!

Our Condolences

Salem extends our condolences to the family of Charlotte Scott. Charlotte went home to be with our Lord on December 11, 2021. Please continue to keep her husband, Clark, and all the family in your prayers.

In Memoriam

On December 24, 2021, Ralph Melvin Quinn Jr. passed away. He was the beloved husband of Margaret M. Quinn (nee Meise); devoted father of Karen Q. Sersen and her husband Jerry, Ralph Raymond Quinn and his wife Patricia, Warren Arthur Quinn and his wife Lizanne, Anita Q. Ashley and her late husband Ralph, and Laurie Q. Lewis and her husband Greg; dear brother of Patricia Pritchett and Gary Quinn; loving grandfather of 10 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren. Please watch the Salem website for more information on a planned Celebration of Life for March/April.



Youth Event - WAVE

WAVE (formerly ROCK) is being held virtually this year on Zoom on Friday, January 7th and Saturday, January 8th. All our youth are invited to participate virtually! The theme for the event is "Find Your Piece," and is based on 1 Peter 5:7 (NIV) – "Cast all your anxiety on God because God cares for you." The schedule includes speakers (Heather Flies), entertainment (ventriloquist and the band Urban Street Level), breakout sessions and a webinar with the Bishop. A full agenda may be found on the event website at <https://waveoc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Virtual-WAVE-2022-Details.pdf> If you would like to attend, please contact Mrs. Judy for the link!

Notes of Thanks

From Ralph Quinn: To the wonderful congregation of Salem United Methodist Church – Your sharing care for me through all the medical problems I'm having has been a comfort and a blessing as doctors treat me. The get well cards were each a comfort. Each with an uplifting message.

From the Quinn Family: The Quinn family thanks all of the Salem family for their ongoing prayers as Ralph's health declined and then as our Lord took him to Heaven on Christmas Eve to sing the most glorious version of O Holy Night. We are planning a memorial service for spring when the tulips that Dad had planted at Glen Meadows are in full bloom.

From Henry Danker: Thanks for the Christmas gift and thank all for the calls and cards. Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

From Manna House: Please accept the grateful thanks of all at Manna House Inc. for your generous gift. The mission of Manna House is to offer assistance and support to the homeless, poor and needy of Baltimore with services contributing toward their independence. One of the many services Manna House offers is a hot breakfast 365 days a year. At a cost of \$2.50 per breakfast, your gift will provide many hot meals to the poor and homeless men, women and children that come to us looking for food. Your help will go a long way in assisting us to continue the work that we do for the poorest

among us. If you are ever in the area, I invite you to drop in to see your generosity at work. Best regards, Antonio Coffield, Executive Director

From Welcome One Emergency Shelter: Thank you so much for the donation to feed our residents. We could not provide services for the homeless without you. You are feeding their body & soul! Merry Christmas, Liz Tutino, Executive Director

Members Corner

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

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 – 1617 Searles Rd, Baltimore, MD 21222

2022 Church Council

With the start of a new year comes thank you to those who have agreed to serve in leadership and committee positions in the congregation. Salem is richly blessed with a caring and responsive congregation! For 2022, the church council will be comprised of the following members:

- Chairperson: Mark Carter
- Recording Secretary: Robin Wasmer
- Lay leader: Lauren Simpson
- Lay Member of Annual Conference: Cindy Carter
- Treasurer: Carla Frisch
- Finance Chairperson: To be nominated
- Financial Secretary: Karen Sersen
- SPRC Chairperson: Bob Frisch
- Trustee Chairperson: Jerry Sersen
- Youth Ministry Chairperson: Robin Iannucci
- UMW Co-Chairs: Amy Krebs & Sue Yurek
- Missions Committee Co-Chairs: Amy Krebs & Irene Mattheu
- Worship Committee Chairperson: Susan Walker
- Youth representative: To be nominated
- Members-at-Large: Bob Kimball & Mary List
- Communications & Social Media Manager: Tara Kully
- Family Ministries Coordinator: Judy Jones
- Pastor: Rev. Dr. Stacey Nickerson

The 2022 Church Council to discuss goals and planning for the upcoming year originally scheduled for January 8th will be rescheduled (date TBD).

With Gratitude

During December, Salem and the Helping Hands Food Pantry were very blessed by the generosity of Wilmot Modular Structures, Inc. In early December, Wilmot arrived with a truck full of clothing donations in support of our Turnkey Used Clothing Fundraiser. Just before Christmas, Wilmot arrived again with food donations and a generous check in support of the Helping Hands Food Pantry. We are thankful to Wilmot for their generosity and support!



UMW Gift Bags



In December, the UMW created gift bags filled with fruits and sweets for those on our care list. We thank those who took the time to deliver these gifts on behalf of the Salem United Methodist Women and our church family. We pray that these visits brought some of our joy and love in Christ from Salem to others.

Wednesday Bible Study

The Wednesday morning Bible study with Judy will be postponed for January. A new date will be announced when it is available.

Making Sense of the Bible - Adult Sunday School

The world's bestselling, most-read, and most-loved book is also one of the most confusing. In *Making Sense of the Bible*, Adam Hamilton, one of the country's leading pastors and Christian authors, addresses the hot-button issues that plague the church and cultural debate, and answers many of the questions frequently asked by Christians and non-Christians alike.

Beginning January 9th, the Adult Sunday School Class will be exploring Hamilton's book through six video lessons. If you are interested in developing a better understanding of the foundations of Christianity, join us in the Parlor Sunday mornings at 9:30 to share and learn. If you have questions call Mike Opdyke at 443-831-6296.

Here are the six topics that we'll cover:

1. Making Sense of the Old Testament
2. Making Sense of the New Testament
3. Questions About the Nature of Scripture
4. The Bible and Science
5. Violence, Suffering and Other Troubling Issues
6. Wrestling with Issues of Sexuality and Relationships

January 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Happy New Year!
2 8:00 & 10:45am Service Star Sunday – bring your stars to worship!	3	4 7pm SPRC Meeting (Salem Room)	5	6	7	8
9 8:00 & 10:45am Service	10 7pm Pastor’s Bible Study (Zoom)	11	12	13	14	15
16 8:00 & 10:45am Service	17 7pm Pastor’s Bible Study (Zoom)	18	19	20	21	22
23 8:00 & 10:45am Service	24 7pm Pastor’s Bible Study (Zoom)	25	26	27	28	29

8:00am Service is in-person in the Chapel. 10:00 or 10:45am Service is in-person in the Sanctuary and on Zoom. Zoom:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/72121826008>

