



SALEM

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

March 2023

YES, MY SOUL,
FIND REST IN
GOD; MY HOPE
COMES FROM
HIM.



PSALM 62:5 (NIV)

Salem United Methodist Church
PO Box 192, 7901 Bradshaw Rd
Upper Falls, MD 21156
Phone: (410) 592-2543
salemunitedupperfalls@gmail.com

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:00 am in Chapel
10:45 am in person and on web
salemunited.org/livestream

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

COMMUNICATIONS & SOCIAL

MEDIA MANAGER :

Tara Kully
salemunitedupperfalls@gmail.com

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:

Katy Stevens
katysmusicstudio@gmail.com

CHURCH WEBSITE:

www.salemunited.org

FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM:

@salemunitedupperfalls

Pastor's Message

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matthew 6:21

Our theme for Lent is "Reflections On The Heart." In our worship together, our at-home activities, our Bible study class, our service to others, and our personal devotion, we are invited to look honestly and sincerely into our own hearts. What do you see reflected there? What does your heart treasure? What is your heart saying about your faith?

This Lent, take the time and effort to assess what is reflected in your heart. Remember that your spiritual journey is grounded in the grace of our Savior, Jesus Christ. God's love will hold you secure. The Holy Spirit will guide you in all wisdom and righteousness.

As a congregation, we consider the reflections of our collective heart. What is our spiritual foundation as we move forward in following God's call to increase the impact of our ministry and mission together? How can we use all that God gives us to do *all the good* that we can do as a congregation?

In February we participated in a congregational survey for Salem. Thank you to everyone who completed the survey. Please continue to pray for God's direction as we discern the future ministry of Salem. I want to share a brief update on where we are with our discipleship pathway and our next step. Our plans and timeline have been adjusted to account for my anticipated surgery later this year (approximately 4-6 months from now) and my necessary recovery time.

We would like to set aside time for an informational session to update you on two items: future plans for Salem's ministry and mission in regard to the discipleship pathway program, and answer questions you may have about what is happening with The United Methodist Church. Perhaps you have heard of what other United Methodist churches are doing, and you may be wondering where we are in relationship to the denomination. We will meet together on Sunday, March 26 for a brief time following each of the worship services. (Please note this is a soup order pick-up day and we will make allowance for time to get your soup.) Our Church Council discussed both of these critical updates at our annual planning meeting and we would like to share with the congregation. Please plan to attend if you are interested. Livestreaming will be continue at the conclusion of the 10:45 a.m. service.

During Lent we invite you to give to our special offering. One half goes to support Manna House in providing a daily breakfast- 365 days a year- for those who are in need in Baltimore. In the past, we have participated with volunteers and donations to be a Breakfast Club Sponsor. Our volunteers served breakfast four times a year. We would like to remain a Breakfast Club Sponsor and provide ongoing financial support. Manna House provides more than 68,000 meals per year. We appreciate your support of this vital mission. The other half of our Lenten Offering supports the General Fund. To donate, please mark your check "Lenten Offering." You may use a Lenten Offering envelope located at the back of the sanctuary or donate through our website (saalemunited.org) and use the dropdown menu to find "Lenten Offering."

It's not too late to join the Bible study I am leading during Lent on Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the Salem House; also available online through Zoom (use the Bible Study link found on the website under the Community tab or directly at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86945193408>). We are studying Jesus' Sermon on the Mount as recorded in Matthew 5 – 7. This biblical passage contains some of Jesus' most profound and memorable teachings. The guiding book for the study is Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine. You may be interested in reading the book on your own even if you cannot attend the study. Contact me with questions.

May we grow as disciples of Jesus Christ and work together to store up treasures in heaven.

With gratitude to God always, *Stacey*

Safety & Security - Help Wanted

Would anyone be willing to step-up and help with our security during Sunday morning 10:45 service? We are in need of help during our second service with security in our Narthex area. Our security team has a few tasks that are done at the beginning and end of our service, and during the service, we need people who would be willing to sit in the Narthex area just for overall observation. Would you be willing to do that, even if it's just one Sunday a month? If interested, please reach out to any member of our *Security Team*- Jerry Sersen, Mike Brown, Bob Frisch, Paul Krebs, Mark Carter, or Bruce List. Thank you!

Turnkey Shed Donations

Thank you for supporting the Turnkey Enterprises shed for used clothing donations! The shed has been a welcome service not only for our congregation, but our community. In 2022, Turnkey collected approximately 116 tons of clothing/textiles from our shed, which raised \$2607 for Salem. Share the word about the Turnkey shed – a copy of the flyer for what can be donated at the shed is attached at the end of the newsletter.

Worship Live Streaming is here!

We hope you are enjoying the new livestream for online worship through our website! We are very excited to be able to offer this upgraded worship experience. Please be patient with us as we navigate this new technology to bring you an opportunity to worship from wherever you feel most comfortable! For those who are in the sanctuary during 10:45 am service – we want you to be aware that during different portions of the service, there is the possibility you may be on camera.

There are currently two ways to access the live stream. One is to go directly there by typing salemunited.org/livestream into the address bar on in your web browser. You can also go to the home page of our website (salemunited.org). On a desktop, look at the top of the webpage. Where you see the word “worship”, place your cursor over the word so the drop-down menu shows up. When that shows, select live stream, and you will be taken directly to that page. If you have any questions, or need help finding the live stream, contact Tara at salemunitedupperfalls@gmail.com.

Helping Hands Food Pantry

The Helping Hands Food Pantry marked 30 years of service to the community in 2022! Staffed by volunteers from Fork United Methodist, Grace Community, Franklinville Presbyterian, St. Stephen Roman Catholic, St. Paul's Lutheran, and Salem United Methodist, we are honored to be able to house this valuable resource for our community. For the fiscal year that ended on June 30, 2022, the food pantry was able to provide food to 577 families (1503 adults and 627 children). This was done over approximately 900 volunteer hours! The pantry is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10 am -12 pm. Interested in volunteering with the pantry? Contact Sally Wagner or Carla Frisch!

United Women in Faith News

The United Women in Faith met January 29 to brainstorm plans for the coming year. Following is a summary of the meeting. Please reach out to Amy Krebs or Sue Yurek if you are interested in any of the projects!



United
Women
in Faith

- Blessing bags and cards are sent to our homebound congregation members on alternating months. Contact Sharon Marquette to assist with bags or cards. We look forward to the youth class and Junior Church helping with cards and coloring pictures to send.

- UWF honorees were discussed. Two ladies will be chosen for 2023 and the date will be scheduled with Pastor Stacey. Honoring others posthumously was discussed.
- Fundraising ideas were discussed: candy Easter eggs, fabric shopping bags/totes, additional Christmas ornaments. The dates for these will be coordinated with the Finance Committee and announced in the bulletin and monthly newsletter.
- New RADA knife catalogs are available in the rack inside the door under the awning. This is one way to support the UWF at Salem. Please use the Salem contact information on the sticker of the catalog and contact Sally Wagner with questions.
- If you have any fundraising ideas or Mission donation ideas, please contact Susan Yurek, Sharon Marquette or Amy Krebs!
- Mission donations were discussed. UMCOR and/or the missions through the UWF Conference will be considered. Donations will be within Salem UMC, in the community and international concerns.
- **United Women in Faith - Five Channels of Mission Giving:** Mission Giving helps United Women in Faith continue to be a strong organization, advocating for and serving the needs of women, children, and youth. A link to a listing of programs funded by UWF: <https://uwfaith.org/what-we-do/what-we-fund/> To support this mission, funds are allocated in the yearly donation in five areas of giving to attain the Five Star Giving certification. Salem UWF sends a yearly donation amount (\$300) to the conference with allocations in each of the five channels.
 1. **Pledge to Mission:** - Salem UWF contributes yearly as funds allow. The Pledge to Mission is the portion of the group's budget that it sets as a goal to send through district and conference treasurers to the national office. This money is spent each year for ongoing programs of the United Women in Faith National Office and for U.S. and international mission projects.
 2. **Special Mission Recognition** - An individual or local unit or district can honor a special person. A certificate and a gold lapel pin are provided for the honoree. Salem UWF honors two members each year for this recognition.
 3. **Gift to Mission:** A gift for mission is sent in honor of any person. Salem UWF honors the two recipients identified for the Special Mission Recognition.
 4. **Gift in Memory:** When a Gift in Memory is made, the donor gives to the local or district group's treasurer along with the tear-off portion of the card and sends the card to the family of the deceased. A \$25 memorial donation is given to Salem UMC upon the passing of a church member.
 5. **World Thank Offering:** Spontaneous, additional gifts are given out of gratitude for God's abundance and in celebration of the joys of life.

Mission Moment

Salem is blessed to support many different missions through your generous giving. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of God's people! Recently, we have given to the following:

- Donated \$500 to Manna House, who provides a daily breakfast and support to the homeless and poor of Baltimore.
- Supported the 6 special offerings for UMC ministries (World Communion, Peace with Justice, UMCOR Sunday, Native American Ministries, Human Relations Day, and United Methodist Student Day).
- Donated \$15 to the Christmas Offering for the Board of Child Care.
- Donated \$375 to UMCOR's general fund for use where most needed.
- Our highlighted mission in January was the shelter program – formerly the Emergency Rotating Shelter. We donated meals for all the guests one day and also gave \$742 to support the program. We received this thank you letter from the Harford County Hope for the Homeless Alliance:

Dear Pastor and Congregation of Salem UMC,

The Harford County Hope for the Homeless Alliance thanks you so sincerely for the wonderful donation to the homeless guests we are housing this year. We operate on a grant to help pay the hotel bill and the wonderful generosity of our area churches! Our current shelter situation is 22 adults with 8 children (only the second year that we have been able to assist families in the shelter because of the hotel partnership). You join in this partnering with almost 100 churches and organizations in the County to offer our homeless neighbors not only shelter from winter storms but from the storms of life. This is all accomplished with volunteers and financial support such as yours. This is a serious response to Peter's exhortation (in 1 Peter 4:10): "Be quick to give a meal to the hungry, a bed to the homeless – cheerfully. Be generous with the different things God gave you, passing them around so all get in on it. If words, let it be God's words; if help, let it be God's hearty help. That way, God's bright presence will be evident in everything through Jesus, and he'll get the credit."

Together we can ... and we thank God for you all.

Thankfully,

Howard Magness, Volunteer Chair

Graduate Recognition

We will be recognizing all those who graduated in December 2022 or will be graduating this spring on Sunday, May 21st during both services. Please contact the church office if you or a family member have graduated or will be graduating from high school, college, graduate, or trade school so no one will be missed.

Youth News

On Monday, February 20, nine of our youth and three adults delivered over 260 toiletries and \$505 to the Wash 'n Fold Laundromat in Edgewood. This was possible thanks to the generosity of our Salem Church family! The toiletries will be stocked in the free community pantries of the Edgewood area by the 755 Alliance. These pantries are a place where anyone in the neighborhood can receive necessary hygiene and food supplies. The donated money was used to pay for laundry services. This has become a mission our youth look forward to and is much appreciated by those who visit the laundromat. We look forward to our next visit. We want to do all we can to "be the hands and feet of Jesus" in loving action.



A Special Thanks

On Sunday, February 12, we were honored to have Mrs. Bang Tam Miller, co-owner of the Wash-N-Fold laundromat in Edgewood, speak during the Sunday School hour about her journey to America as a youth and the importance she places on giving back to the community that welcomed her. Bang Tam and her family are actively doing "all the good" they can for the Edgewood Community through their business as well as the 755 Alliance, the non-profit founded by her family. She and the 755 Alliance now consider Salem as one of their community partners in the incredible work they do for those in need in the Edgewood community and beyond!

From Our Financial Secretary

Don't forget you can donate to Salem, our missions, and special offerings on our website! Our Lenten Offering is now available as a designation online. There are two ways to access our online giving:

- You can go directly to salemunited.org/donate. Once there, scroll down to the "Give Online" section and click the button marked "Donate Now." That will take you to a new page where you can select how to designate your gift, the frequency of the gift (one time or recurring) and if you will pay by credit card or bank transfer. Please note this is a secure website.
- On the church's homepage (salemunited.org), scroll toward the bottom of the page until you reach the donate section. Click on "Donate Now." Just as above, a new page where you can select how to designate your gift, the frequency of the gift (one time or recurring) and if you will pay by credit card or bank transfer. Again, please note this is a secure website.

If you have any questions about online giving, please contact Karen Sersen.

Members Corner

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

William Erich Boin – 3900 Loch Raven Boulevard, 1st Floor Hospice, William Boin, Baltimore, MD 21218

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

Summer Camp Brochures Available

Are you interested in summer camp offerings for your child? The Manidokan and West River Summer Camps of the Baltimore-Washington Conference offer summer camping programs for children and youth (grades 3 -12). Brochures are available in the church office, or you can view more information on the BWC Retreat & Camping Ministries page at <https://www.bwccampsandretreats.com/>

Soup Sale!

Many thanks to everyone for supporting the January and February soup sales. You have one more chance to have a delicious soup ready for you in March! March's soup will be Shrimp Corn Chowder and can again be ordered by the quart. Forms will be available in the Narthex or on our website. Please note all orders must be prepaid (\$12 per quart) by Monday, March 20th. All orders can be picked up Sunday, March 26th in the kitchen for 15 minutes after each service at Salem UMC.





SALEM
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

March

2023

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|---|---|-----------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 8:00am & 10:45 am services are in-person. 10:45 am service live stream: salemunited.org/livestream Pastor's Study Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86945193408 | | | 9am Aerobics (Hall) 10-11:30am Morning Bible Study (Parlor) 6:30pm Vespers | | 9am Aerobics (Hall) | 8-10:30am – Pancake Breakfast (Hall) |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 8&10:45 am Services 9:30am Sunday School (all ages) | 9am Aerobics (Hall) 7pm Pastor's Bible Study (Office & Zoom) | | 9am Aerobics (Hall) 10-11:30am Morning Bible Study (Parlor) 6:30pm Vespers | | 9am Aerobics (Hall) | |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| Daylight Savings Begins 8&10:45 am Services 9:30am Sunday School (all ages) | 9am Aerobics (Hall) 7pm Pastor's Bible Study (Office & Zoom) | | 9am Aerobics (Hall) 10-11:30am Morning Bible Study (Parlor) 6:30 pm Vespers | 7pm Book Club (call office) | 9am Aerobics (Hall) 11:30am Women Moving On Lunch (call office) | |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 8&10:45 am Services 9:30am Sunday School (all ages) | Prepaid soup orders due 9am Aerobics (Hall) 7pm Pastor's Bible Study (Office & Zoom) | | 9am Aerobics (Hall) 10-11:30am Morning Bible Study (Parlor) 6:30 pm Vespers | | 9am Aerobics (Hall) | |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |
| 8&10:45 am Services 9:30am Sunday School (all ages) Soup orders distributed 15 min after each service (kitchen) | 9am Aerobics (Hall) 7pm Pastor's Bible Study (Office & Zoom) | 7pm Church Council Meeting (Salem Room) | 9am Aerobics (Hall) 10-11:30am Morning Bible Study (Parlor) 6:30 pm Vespers | | 9am Aerobics (Hall) | |



March Soup Sale

The soup sale is back this month and another delicious soup is on the menu! March features Shrimp Corn Chowder soup. The classic flavor of a chowder, supplemented with corn and shrimp, are sure to make your taste buds happy! Please note that since this soup has potatoes, it should not be frozen.

Please note all orders (\$12 per quart) must be prepaid by March 20th. Orders may be placed in the collection plate at Salem, mailed to the office, or emailed to the office at salemunitedupperfalls@gmail.com with payment mailed or dropped off to the office. Mail checks to: Salem United Methodist Church, PO Box 192, Upper Falls, MD 21156.

All orders may be picked up Sunday, March 26th in the kitchen for 15 minutes after each service at Salem UMC.

Questions? Contact Lauren Simpson.

PLEASE NOTE: If you are unable to print an order form, please call the Salem UMC office at 410-529-2543 or email salemunitedupperfalls@gmail.com to place an order.

MARCH SOUP SALE ORDER FORM

All orders must be pre-paid and are due March 20th.

Orders may be picked up Sunday, March 26th in the kitchen for 15 minutes after each service at Salem UMC.

Name _____ Phone _____

Email _____

| # of Quarts | Soup Type | Cost | Total |
|-------------|---------------------|--------------|-------|
| | Shrimp Corn Chowder | \$12.00 each | |

Counters: Date _____ Amount: _____ Cash / Check # _____

Easter Egg Fundraiser



Salem's United Women in Faith will be holding a homemade Easter Egg Sale! Perfect for Easter candy giving, delicious ¼ pound Vanilla & Chocolate Buttercream, Coconut, and Peanut Butter eggs will be offered. Eggs will be \$4.00 each.

Please note all orders must be prepaid by March 26th. Orders may be placed in the collection plate at Salem, mailed to the office, or emailed to the office at salemunitedupperfalls@gmail.com with payment mailed or dropped off to the office. Mail checks to: Salem United Methodist Church, PO Box 192, Upper Falls, MD 21156.

All orders will be picked up Sunday, April 2nd for a half hour after each service at Salem UMC. *If you are unable to print an order form, please call the Salem UMC office at 410-529-2543 or email salemunitedupperfalls@gmail.com to place an order.*



SALEM UWF CHOCOLATE EASTER EGG ORDER FORM

All orders must be pre-paid and are due March 26th.
Pickup will be picked up Sunday, April 2nd in the kitchen for a half hour after each service at Salem UMC.

Name _____ Phone _____

| Flavor | Cost per Egg | Quantity | Total |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|----------|-------|
| Dark Chocolate/Vanilla Buttercream | \$4.00 | | |
| Dark Chocolate/Chocolate Buttercream | \$4.00 | | |
| Dark Chocolate/Coconut | \$4.00 | | |
| Milk Chocolate/Peanut Butter | \$4.00 | | |

Counters: Date _____ Amount: _____ Cash / Check # _____



USED CLOTHING FUNDRAISER



ITEMS ACCEPTED:

- ALL CLOTHING
- SHOES
- SNEAKERS
- BELTS
- PURSES
- BLANKETS
- SHEETS
- PILLOWCASES
- DRAPES
- STUFFED TOYS

PLEASE, DO NOT DONATE:

- RAGS
- FABRIC SCRAPS
- TOYS
- HOUSEHOLD GOODS

PLEASE UNDERSTAND THE
ABOVE MENTIONED
ITEMS ARE A HARDSHIP
AND EXPENSE TO
DISPOSE OF.

HELP US KEEP YOUR DONATION CLEAN AND DRY -
PLEASE PUT YOUR DONATIONS IN PLASTIC BAGS.

7901 BRADSHAW ROAD, UPPER FALLS, MD 21156



store up
for yourselves
treasures
in heaven

Matthew 6:20 NIV