

Salem United Methodist Church

7901 Bradshaw Road
PO Box 192
Upper Falls, MD 21156
(410) 592-2543
salemunitedupperfalls@gmail.com

Find us on the web at salemunited.org
and follow us on Facebook &
Instagram @salemunitedupperfalls

December
2025



We are called to be active in God's blessing of the world!

The Spirit



Join us >>>

Sunday Services

8:00 a.m. in the Chapel

10:45 a.m. in the Sanctuary

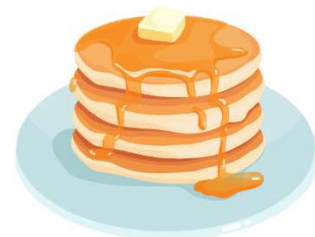
- 10:45 a.m. service is
livestreamed at
salemunited.org/livestream

Vespers

- On break for winter



SAT
DEC 6
8-10:15 AM



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

- ADULTS \$10, KIDS 6 & UNDER \$5
- ALL YOU CAN EAT BREAKFAST WITH A WIDE VARIETY OF FOODS
- PICTURES WITH SANTA & GAMES FOR THE KIDS
- GET A JUMP ON HOLIDAY BAKING WITH OUR CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE



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



I am sending my
messenger who will
prepare the way
before me.

Malachi 3:1, NRSV

Pastor's Message >>>

Friends, our celebration of Christmas is less than one month away! I am grateful for Advent. The Season of Advent is a time set aside for preparation. For what are we preparing? How are we preparing? Our Advent sermon series will help us answer these questions. The theme is “**Get Ready for Jesus.**” Here is the series Key Verse: “Change your hearts and lives! Here comes the kingdom of heaven.” Matthew 3:1, CEB

Join us in worship this holy season. Here is the worship schedule for the Sundays of Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, and Baptism of the Lord.

- Advent 1: November 30 “*Have Hope*”
 - Scripture: Luke 1:5-13 CEB
 - Key Verse: “I am sending my messenger who will prepare the way before me.” Malachi 3: 1 NRSV
- Advent 2: December 7 “*Practice Peace*”
 - Scripture: Luke 1:57-64, 67, 76-79 CEB
 - Key Verse: “The dawn from heaven will break upon us ... to guide us on the path of peace.” Luke 1:79 CEB (Communion Sunday)
- Advent 3: December 14 “*Experience Joy*”
 - Scripture: Luke 1:46-55 CEB
 - Key Verse: “Mary said, ‘I am the Lord’s servant. Let it be with me just as you have said.’” Luke 1:38 CEB
- Advent 4: December 21 “*Share Love*”
 - Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25 NRSV
 - Key Verse: “Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another.” First John 4:11 NRSV
 - College Student Sunday
- Christmas Eve Worship (see service details later in newsletter)
 - Scripture: Luke 2:1-20
- December 28 First Sunday after Christmas; Bob Kimball speaking
 - Scripture: Ephesians 1:15-19
- January 4, 2026 Star Sunday – Celebration of Epiphany; Service of Holy Communion
 - Scripture: Matthew 2:1-12
- January 11, 2026 Baptism of the Lord
 - Matthew 3:13-17

I pray for all of us the blessings of Advent waiting and preparation as well as the joy of Christmas! This is our prayer and our heart’s desire: “Come, Lord Jesus, come into our lives and our world. We prepare to welcome you with love.”

May the hope, peace, joy, and love of Christ be our gifts to receive and to share –

Stacey



Celebrate Christmas Eve at Salem

6:45 pm Handbell Choir Prelude

7 pm Worship

11 pm Candlelight Worship with Holy Communion

Both services are in-person and live at saalemunited.org

Youth News >>>

From Judy Jones – During this season of giving, our youth are doing exactly that. The fall began with a trip to the Jarrettsville Sunflower Fields to volunteer. The Sunflower fields are “an outreach of churches and other organizations in the Northern Harford County area that provides a 20+ acre field of sunflowers for public viewing. All proceeds are used to help families and individuals in our area in crisis – with living expenses, transportation needs, funerals, house fires, medical needs, and more (sunflowersinjarrettsville.com).” On Laity Sunday in October, we were all inspired by our youth as they shared their faith journeys. In November, they went on an outreach visit to the laundromat in Edgewood. In addition to paying for laundry services there, they took a generous donation from their mission fund to share with the 755 Alliance in Edgewood. The donation is being used to stock the free pantries in that community. In December, the youth will become elves during Breakfast with Santa. Also, our “elves” will wrap gifts for our Christmas Families. In addition, they’ve spent time writing cards of encouragement for people – you may have received one they wrote in Sunday School. On January 18th, the youth are inviting the congregation to join them after 10:45 am worship to assemble health kits for UMCOR. We have a trip to the laundromat planned for the day after, which is Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.



Harvest Sunday Thank You >>>

With a heart full of gratitude for the support of Salem, we delivered two carloads of food and a check for \$2,075 to Magnolia Elementary School in Joppa during the last week of November. These items and money are specifically designated to help Magnolia Elementary families who are experiencing food insecurity. It is our honor to share God’s blessings with them! Be on the lookout for more ways to help the students and families of Magnolia Elementary in the near future!

Special Church Conference >>>

After Breakfast with Santa on December 6th, we'll be welcoming our District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Eliezer Valentin-Castanon, to Salem as we formally vote on our new Unified Leadership Board structure as discussed during our October 12th Congregational Information Session. We hope you can join us!



Christmas Caroling >>>

Join us on Sunday, December 21st from 1-3 pm as we travel to sing Christmas Carols to those who are currently homebound. A light lunch will be served following the 10:45 am service. Bring your sleigh bells and love of the old familiar carols and enjoy an afternoon of bring happiness to others. Carpooling is available if you don't want to drive. If you would like more information or have questions, please contact Susan Walker.

Star Sunday Mission Moment >>>

Each year, we tie a mission opportunity in with our celebration of Epiphany/Star Sunday. This year, our mission will extend for the month of January. We invite you to donate winter hats, gloves, and socks for those in need in our community. You may bring them on Star Sunday or throughout the month.

Luca's Café Restaurant Night >>>

Let's help a Perry Hall community business bring in new customers, while raising funds for Salem! Join us for a restaurant night at Luca's Café, 9637 Belair Road, Perry Hall on Tuesday, January 13, 2026, from 11am to 8pm. Salem will receive 10% of all sales. The flyer at the end of the newsletter must be presented for Salem to receive credit. The flyer may also be found at salemunited.org.



United
Women
in Faith

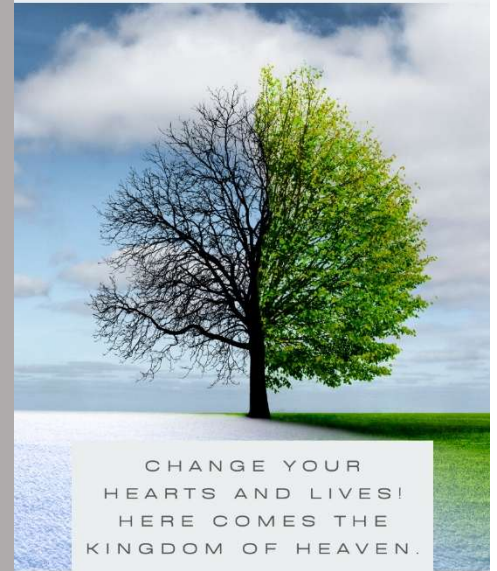
Eight lap quilts were delivered to the Stella Maris, Joyous Living, and Brightview facilities during the last week of November. In total, 24 lap quilts were blessed during worship on Sunday, November 23rd. Interested in joining us to make lap quilts? Sewing times will be listed in the newsletter and bulletin – usually 9:30 a.m. on Tuesdays. Please contact Amy Krebs to confirm you are attending. That way, you can be contacted if plans change.

Thank you to those who have purchased our beautiful notecards! Please consider sharing the cards with family and friends! New ones devoted to Christmas are now available. They are located on the cart in the narthex and are \$4 each or 3 for \$10. The entire card selection, along with gift card holders, bottle bags, and trivets/hot pads will be available for purchase during Breakfast with Santa on December 6th. They're great gifts for friends and family – or maybe yourself! The proceeds are used for local outreach in purchasing the flannel used in the lap quilts and for missions throughout our Reservoir District. We have been blessed with most of the fabric and thread used so far.

We're pleased to report we have donated 8.25 pounds of aluminum tabs to the Ronald McDonald House in 2025! Please keep saving those tabs. Also – don't forget about our RADA knives and the "What A Crock" meals available year-round to make life a little easier!



From Judy Jones: It is with a grateful heart that I want to thank you, my Salem Church family, for your support through the 24 years that I have served as Family Ministries coordinator. As I am now retired, my plan is to continue to serve, just in a little different way. I especially want to thank Pastor Stacey and the SPRC committee for your encouragement and especially the idea for a youth scholarship. God has truly blessed me and my family, and I pray He continues to bless all of our Salem family.



Contact Us!

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday & Wednesday
10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

*All other hours by
appointment only*

PASTOR:

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

COMMUNICATIONS & SOCIAL MEDIA

MANAGER:

Tara Kully
salemunitedupperfalls@
gmail.com

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:

Katy Stevens
katysmusicstudio@
gmail.com

Christmas Families



Help Salem provide Christmas gifts for
Magnolia Elementary students!

Please consider making a donation.
(mark your donation "Christmas Gifts.")

Donations may also be made at
salemunited.org

QUESTIONS? CONTACT CINDY CARTER.

Members Corner >>>

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

Rocky Ails – Lake Wylie Assisted Living, 4877 Charlotte Hwy,
Apartment 334, Lake Wylie, SC 29710

Betty Knight – 8830 Walther Blvd, Garden Terrace #308,
Baltimore, MD 21234

Myrna Martin – 8100 Rossville Blvd, Baltimore, MD 21236

Alice Stewart c/o Paul Stewart – 217 Garnett Rd, Joppa, MD
21085

Betty Zengel – 8100 Rossville Blvd., Brightview Room 308,
Baltimore, MD 21236

Please continue to hold Joey Nuetzel in prayer and send cards: 5730
Allender Road, White Marsh, MD 21162

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 9am Aerobics (Hall)	2 9:30am Sewing Samaritans (Sewing Room)	3 9am Aerobics (Hall) 10am Bible Study (Salem House)	4	5 9am Aerobics (Hall)	6 8-10:15am Breakfast with Santa (Hall) 10:30am – Special Church Conference Meeting (Sanctuary)
7 Holy Communion 8&10:45am Services 9:30am Sunday School	8 Prepaid Soup Orders Due 9am Aerobics (Hall) 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (Parlor)	9 9:30am Sewing Samaritans (Sewing Room)	10 9am Aerobics (Hall) 10am Bible Study (Salem House)	11	12 9am Aerobics (Hall)	13
14 Prepaid Soup Order Pickup (15 minutes after each service) 8&10:45am Services 9:30am Sunday School 9:45am Choir	15 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (Parlor)	16	17 10am Bible Study (Salem House) 1pm Book Club (call office for details) 7pm Finance Committee (tentative; Salem Room)	18	19 11:30am Women Moving On luncheon (call office for details)	20
21 College Student Sunday 8&10:45 am Services 9:30am Sunday School 9:45am Choir 1-3pm Caroling (see Susan Walker for details)	22 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (Parlor)	23	24 Christmas Eve No Office Hours 6:45pm Handbell Choir Prelude 7pm Worship 11pm Candlelight Worship with Holy Communion	25 Christmas Day	26 Office Closed	27
28 8&10:45 am Services	29 No Office Hours 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (Parlor)	30	31 No Office Hours	8:00am & 10:45 am services are in-person. 10:45 am live stream service: salemunited.org/livestream		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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4 Holy Communion 8&10:45am Services 9:30am Sunday School 9:45am Choir	5 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (Parlor)	6 9:30am Sewing Samaritans (Sewing Room)	7 10am Bible Study (Salem House)	8	9	10
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18 8&10:45 am Services 9:30am Sunday School 9:45am Choir 11:30am UMCOR kit assembly (Fellowship Hall)	19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day No Aerobics Youth trip to Wash 'n Fold (time TBD) 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (Parlor)	20 9:30am Sewing Samaritans (Sewing Room)	21 9am Aerobics (Hall) 10am Bible Study (Salem House) 1pm Book Club (call office for details)	22	23 9am Aerobics (Hall) 11:30am Women Moving On luncheon (call office for details)	24
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December Soup Sale

Chicken, Shrimp, & Sausage Jambalaya

\$12 per quart

Prepaid orders due December 8th

Pickup December 14th

This jambalaya, a rice dish with shrimp and chicken, is the perfect hearty meal to cozy up with on a brisk day! Orders may be placed in the collection plate at Salem or mailed to the office. Mail checks to:
Salem United Methodist Church, PO Box 192, Upper Falls, MD 21156.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

of Quarts: _____ @ \$12.00 per quart = _____



SALEM UMC DAY AT



Luca's
= PIZZA CAFÉ =

Enjoy The Excellence of Italian Cuisine!

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13
9637 BELAIR RD
PERRY HALL, MD

SALEM RECEIVES 10% OF SALES ALL DAY!

11 AM
THROUGH
8 PM

FLYER MUST BE PRESENTED FOR CREDIT.