

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

September
2026



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

The Spirit



Join us >>>

Sunday Worship Services

8:00 a.m. in the Chapel

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:45 a.m. in the Sanctuary

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

Vespers: Wednesdays at 6:30pm;
outdoors/weather permitting

IT'S TIME FOR THE SALEM UMC

BREAKFAST BASH!

SATURDAY, SEPT 12

8:00 - 10:15 AM

ALL YOU
CAN EAT!

DELICIOUS MENU!

- PLAIN & BLUEBERRY PANCAKES
- SAUSAGE GRAVY & BISCUITS
- TATER TOTS
- EGG SOUFFLE MUFFINS
- FRUIT PLATTER
- BEVERAGES AND MORE!

ADULTS: \$10

KIDS 6 & UNDER: \$5

Love Boldly
Serve Joyfully
Lead Courageously

ResourceUMC.org/Vision

#LoveServeLeadUMC

SALEM
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

7901 BRADSHAW RD
UPPER FALLS MD 21156
SALEMUNITED.ORG

Pastor's Message >>>

Educators as well as students and their families are gearing up for the start of the school year! Please keep everyone involved in schools/education in your prayers. We pray God's blessings for all teachers/educators and students, especially for our college students going away to campus for the first time (and their families – I remember those days both as a parent and as a campus minister).

Our Sunday School team has decided to get the new Sunday School year started a little earlier this year. The first day of Sunday School is August 30. We welcome June Dahlstrom as our Sunday School Coordinator. Thank you, June, for volunteering! And thank you to all of our teachers and helpers for Sunday School as well as Junior Church. Please remember that if you need nursery care for infants, toddlers, and/or preschool age children during Sunday School or 10:45 a.m. worship, please let us know in advance.

August 30 is also the Sunday we celebrate our annual "**Blessing of the Backpacks**" during our worship services (8 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.). Teachers and students of all ages/levels are invited to bring their backpack or tote bag or briefcase, etc. to worship. I will offer a prayer of blessing. We will have back pack tags for people to make at church or take home and finish. We have a variety of designs. If you can help make back pack tags for others, we would appreciate it so that we can send them to some of our teachers and college students in our church family.

Please remember our back to school drive to benefit the families of Magnolia Elementary School students. A list of items that are needed can be found later in this newsletter (also available online). Monetary donations are welcome as well as specific items. We are hoping to have representatives from Magnolia's staff with us in worship on the 30th. We will be able to present them with our donations. Thank you for your prayerful and generous support!

This is the time when we are preparing in the church for our annual church conference. We will be meeting for worship with our hub at Bel Air UMC, 21 Linwood Avenue, on Saturday, October 24 at 9:00 a.m. Following worship together, we will have our voting session for our congregation. Everyone is welcome to attend. Our Unified Leadership Board and its supporting work teams are working to complete our paperwork by the deadline of October 1. We remain focused on working together to fulfill our mission: "*To be active in God's blessing of our world through our commitment to welcoming one another, growing in grace, serving our neighbors, and caring for all God's people.*"

In worship, we continue with our current series, "***Our Faith We Sing***." Our worship schedule for the next few weeks is as follows:

August 30: Here I Am, Lord

- Isaiah 6:1-8 NRSV, Message: "*Here I Am*"
- Back to School Blessing Sunday

September 6: Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

- 1 Samuel 7:3-17 NRSV, Message: "*Tune My Heart*"
- Service of Holy Communion

September 13: Lord of the Dance

- Acts 2: 22-24,32-36 NRSV, Message: "*I Am the Life*"
- Key Verse: "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live."
John 11:25
- Blessing of lap quilts/fidget mats at 10:45 a.m. worship service

September 20: Have Thine Own Way, Lord

- Jeremiah 18:1-6 NRSV, Message: "*Mold Me and Make Me*"

September 27: Just a Closer Walk with Thee

- James 4:1-12 NRSV, Message: "*A Closer Walk*"

A reminder of our key scripture verse for our series: "***With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.***" (Colossians 3:16c NRSV)

Singing God's praise,
Stacey

Pastor's Summer Bible Study >>>

There's still time to join a few more sessions of Pastor Stacey's summer Bible study! The study is based on the Book of Acts. Meetings are Monday evenings from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. on Zoom. You may find the link to the Zoom meeting on our website at salemunited.org/bible-study

Our scheduled readings are as follows:

- August 24: Acts 22:30-23:11
- August 31: Acts 28:1-10
- September 7: No class
- September 14: Acts 28:17-31

Final Report – Congregational Challenge to Help Us Raise the Roof!

With grateful hearts, we extend our deepest appreciation to the members of our church family who were able to support our Kitchen Roof Replacement project. Many of you were able to respond to this cause and to our \$10,000 Matching Gift Challenge.

Because of your incredible generosity and faithfulness, we were able to raise just shy of \$15,000. We also were able to lower our costs for this project from the initial quote of \$20,000 to our final cost of \$18,350. What a wonderful demonstration of God's provision through His people! Your ability and willingness to give reflects our continued love for Salem and your commitment to preserving this place of worship for God's service to future generations.

Every gift — whatever the size — played an important role in making this campaign a success. The completion of this matching challenge is a testament to what can be accomplished when God's people come together with a shared purpose and generous hearts.

Thank you for your prayers, your support, and your faithful stewardship. Your generosity will help provide a safe and secure roof over our kitchen for many years to come. May the Lord richly bless each of you for your kindness, faithfulness, and unwavering commitment to His work. We celebrate this milestone with joy and give all the glory to God for His abundant provision.

With heartfelt gratitude,
Your Church's Unified Leadership Team and Pastor Stacey



SUNDAY SCHOOL STARTS AUGUST 30TH!

- Children Pre-K through 5th grade meet in one room
- Middle/High School students meet in the Youth Room
- Adults meet in the Library

**Nursery care is available in a separate room. Please contact us if you would like care for infants or toddlers. Our congregation follows a Safe Sanctuary policy in order to provide the safest environment possible for everyone.*





Blessing of the Backpacks

Sunday, August 30, 2026
8:00 or 10:45 am Worship Service

Bring your backpacks, briefcases, carry-alls etc. for a back-to-school blessing! You'll receive a special backpack tag you can color at church or take home to complete.

Back-to-School Support for Magnolia Elementary Families >>>

We invite you to donate to our Back-to-School drive providing support for families at Magnolia Elementary School (MES). Ms. Mack, Community School Specialist at MES, reached out to thank Salem for our willingness to support MES families. She has asked, in lieu of any school supplies or food, that the following are a particular need:

- Laundry detergent
- Paper towels
- Toilet paper
- Soap (bar or liquid)
- Dish detergent
- Cleaning supplies
- Trash bags
- Hand soap
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Sanitary napkins
- Deodorant

You may contribute financially if you prefer (you may give online as well). Our collection drive runs through Sunday, August 30. Please contact Pastor Stacey with any questions.

With Sympathy >>>

We offer our prayers of sympathy and support to the family of Betty J. Zengel (January 24, 1927 – August 6, 2026). Her funeral service was held on August 12th at Duda-Ruck Funeral Home of Dundalk.

We continue to keep in our prayers Shirley Fischer and her family on the passing of her daughter, Judy Neifeld (August 14, 1958 – June 7, 2026). A memorial service was held at Salem on August 15.

We pray the blessing of God's comfort and strength for all who mourn. We give thanks for God's promise of eternal life through the grace of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

BLESSING of the ANIMALS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2026

9:15-10:00AM OR 12:15-12:45PM

Bring your pets to Salem for a special blessing! Please be sure to have them leashed or in a carrier. If you can't bring your pet with you, you're welcome to bring a picture of them!



Hill and Stream Garden Club >>>

The Hill and Stream Garden Club has moved to Salem! The club began 73 years ago and is still going strong. All are invited to join or attend a meeting. We have a great year planned with lots of demonstrations and garden visits. If you enjoy plants, flowers, conservation, birds, bees, butterflies, wildlife, and learning new things about nature, Hill and Stream is for you. We meet every second Thursday of the month at 11 am in the Parlor unless otherwise noted. Meetings usually last two hours and include snacks and drinks. We would love to have you join us. The 2026-27 meeting schedule is:

- September 10: Business meeting – Kombucha Demonstration
- October 8: Tashiding Gardens visit
- November 12: Bonsai Demonstration
- December 10: Christmas Luncheon
- January 14: Fun with Gourds
- February 11: Friendship Luncheon
- March 11: Flower Pounding
- April 8: Bus trip to Hillwood
- May 13: Gardening in the Golden Years
- June 10: End of Year Meeting at Carson's Creek

If you have any questions about the club, please contact Karen Amy at (410) 236-3745.

Breakfast Bash is back! >>>

Mark your calendars for September 12th from 8:00 – 10:15 am, because you will not want to miss our Breakfast Bash! There's a delicious menu in store – plain or blueberry pancakes, sausage gravy and biscuits, tater tots, egg souffle muffins, fruit, apple tarts, and beverages – and don't forget it's all you care to eat! The cost is \$10/adult and \$5 for kids 6 and under. Hope to see you there!

Thank you >>>



From Jerry and Karen Sersen: Jerry and Karen want to thank their loving Salem family for all of your support during his back surgery, the long hospital stay, and recovery! The prayers, texts & phone calls, cards and meals certainly help in the healing process. And now we ask for diligent prayers as Karen begins her chemo treatments for non-Hodgkins' lymphoma. She will be comfy and warm under a beautiful hand-made teal quilt blessed by the Salem book club ladies!

A special missions gift: Thank you for your generous gift of \$250.00 to The Endowment for Theological Education – Africa – Europe – Philippines, received on August 5, 2026. Because of your commitment to this ministry, a new generation of pastors and church leaders is being raised up across Africa, Europe, and the Philippines. Through your visionary support of this endowment, future leaders are being equipped to proclaim the Gospel, make disciples, strengthen local congregations, and bring Christ's healing presence into their communities for generations to come. Your generosity is making a deeply meaningful and lasting difference. Alongside other faithful partners, you are planting seeds that will bear eternal fruit. The impact of your gift will extend far beyond the classroom, touching countless lives through the ministries of those called and trained to serve.



United
Women
in Faith

We have been busy creating! We will have 8 fidget mats and about 15 quilts to be blessed at the 10:45 service on September 13th. These will be shared between Glen Meadows and Citizen's Care (Havre de Grace). We have been delighted to have Molly Kauffman and Brie Oxendine join us to sew! They have each taken their first quilt home and plan on continuing to join with us as time allows. All are welcome since there are non-sew things to do.

We have collected a total of 3.9 pounds of aluminum tabs since the end of Nov 2025. Remember that there are tabs on soup, soda, pet food, canned vegetables, etc. These tabs end up assisting the Ronald McDonald House to provide gas for the shuttle to the hospital. This is just a small way we can love our neighbor.

The gift giving season will soon be here! The new RADA catalogs are in the book rack just inside the door under the canopy. MY favorite knife is the tomato knife!! It's used ALL summer with Maryland tomatoes---- Every friend and family member would enjoy one--I'll bet!!

Note cards remain by the steps to the tech room. There are envelopes for the money and can be put in an offering plate. The United Women in Faith appreciate ALL the support from our Church family and friends in these endeavors. The money is used both within Salem and for various UMCOR efforts.



RESTAURANT DAY AT DESANTIS' PIZZA GRILL & BAR

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2026

**ALL DAY, ALL PURCHASES! NO FLYER NECESSARY.
SALEM RECEIVES 10% OF ALL PURCHASES.**

NORTHVIEW SHOPPING CTR. - 9638 BELAIR ROAD

Hats for NICU Babies

Crocheted hats for premature babies will be collected (box in Narthex) through September and delivered in October.

Need a pattern? See Angela Spinner.





LOW COUNTRY SHRIMP BOIL

Good Food. Great Fellowship. Unforgettable Flavor!

A MOUTHWATERING
FEAST INCLUDING:
½ LB SHRIMP
BEEF SAUSAGE
CORN ON THE COB
BABY POTATOES
ONIONS

- Saturday,
August 29, 2026
- 4:00 – 6:00pm
- \$30 per person
- Fellowship Hall at
Salem UMC

*prepaid rsvp due Aug 24
*dine-in or carry-out!

Register at salemunited.org/shrimpboil

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SALEMUNITEDUPPERFALLS@GMAIL.COM

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

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

Please continue to hold Joey Nuetzel in prayer (5730 Allender Road,
White Marsh, MD 21162).

With gratitude in your
hearts sing psalms,
hymns, and spiritual
songs to God.
Colossians 3:16c, NRSV

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](mailto:salemunitedupperfalls@gmail.com)

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 6:30pm Vespers (outdoors, weather permitting)	3	4	5
6 Holy Communion 8&10:45am Services 9:30am Sunday School 9:45am Choir	7 Office Closed 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (Parlor)	8 9:30am Sewing Samaritans (Sewing Room)	9 9am Aerobics (Hall) 6:30pm Vespers (outdoors, weather permitting)	10 11am Hill & Stream Garden Club (Parlor)	11 9am Aerobics (Hall)	12 8-10:15am Breakfast Bash (Hall)
13 Blessing of Lap Quilts 8&10:45am Services 9:30am Sunday School 9:45am Choir	14 9am Aerobics (Hall) 7pm Pastor's Bible Study (Zoom only) 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (Parlor)	15 9:30am Sewing Samaritans (Sewing Room)	16 9am Aerobics (Hall) 10am Morning Bible Study (Office) 1pm Book Club (call office for details) 6:30pm Vespers (outdoors, weather permitting)	17	18 9am Aerobics (Hall) 11:30am Women Moving On luncheon (call office for details)	19
20 8&10:45am Services 9:30am Sunday School No Choir rehearsal	21 9am Aerobics (Hall) 7pm Unified Leadership Board Meeting (Salem House) 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (Parlor)	22 9:30am Sewing Samaritans (Sewing Room)	23 9am Aerobics (Hall) 10am Morning Bible Study (Office) 6:30pm Vespers (outdoors, weather permitting)	24	25 9am Aerobics (Hall)	26
27 8&10:45am Services 9:30am Sunday School 9:45am Choir	28 9am Aerobics (Hall) 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (Parlor)	29 9:30am Sewing Samaritans (Sewing Room)	30 9am Aerobics (Hall) 10am Morning Bible Study (Office) 6:30pm Vespers (outdoors, weather permitting)	8:00am & 10:45 am services are in-person. 10:45 am live stream service: salemunited.org/livestream Pastor's Bible Study Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86945193408		

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KIDS 6 & UNDER: \$5**



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