

## Salem United Methodist Church

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

Find us on the web at [salemunited.org](http://salemunited.org)  
and follow us on Facebook &  
Instagram @salemunitedupperfalls

March  
2024



*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](http://salemunited.org/livestream)
- Summer worship: 2<sup>nd</sup>  
service is at 10:00 a.m. in  
person & online from  
Father's Day to Labor Day

Wednesday Evening Outdoor  
Vespers

- 6:30 p.m., weather  
permitting

## What is Lent and why does it last 40 days? >>>

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent comes from the Anglo Saxon word *lencten*, meaning "lengthen" and refers to the lengthening days of spring. The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry.

Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. In the early church, Lent began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by new converts and then became a time of penance by all Christians. Today, Christians focus on relationship with God, growing as disciples and extending ourselves, often choosing to give up something or to volunteer and give of ourselves for others.

Sundays in Lent are not counted in the forty days because each Sunday represents a "mini-Easter." This is why you will see the designation "Sunday in Lent" rather than "Sunday of Lent" in the naming of these Sundays. On each Lord's Day in Lent, while Lenten fasts continue, the reverent spirit of Lent is tempered with joyful anticipation of the Resurrection.

Source: Ask The UMC: <https://www.umc.org/en/content/ask-the-umc-what-is-lent-and-why-does-it-last-forty-days>



## A Note from Pastor Stacey >>>

Thank you. Two simple words that convey a depth of meaning. I would like to thank everyone for your incredible outpouring of support and love during this time of healing after my surgery. I can feel your prayers. God is blessing me in countless ways, and providing everything I need for recovery.

I wish I could write a note for each and every act of kindness. I would like to express my appreciation for your goodness to me:

- our children for making me cards
- our youth for writing me cards
- United Women in Faith for the gift of the Valentine's bag
- Book Club for your gifts
- Aerobics class for the planter
- those who made me prayer shawls
- those who have shared favorite scriptures and special written prayers with me
- every individual who is praying for me
- every text message of support, and every card – they all brighten my days and lift my spirits.

Most of all, thank you to the congregation for the signed quilt. I wrap myself up in it when I am resting in my recliner. It is the next best thing to being with you all in person!

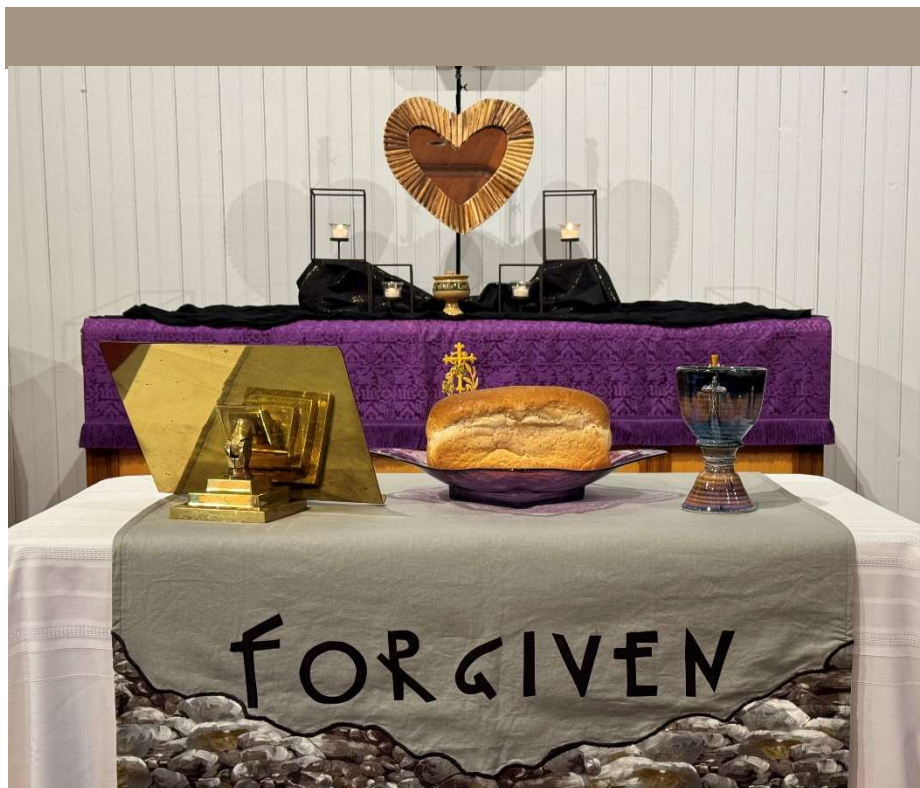
I would also like to thank those of you who have checked in on Rick.

My healing is coming along well, thanks be to God! I am working to stay focused on my jaw stretching exercises and resting. Regaining my strength as well as my jaw function is a slow process, but I am progressing well.

I am keeping you all in my prayers. A big thanks to Rev. Melissa for all she is doing for Salem.

Blessings,

Stacey



SATURDAY  
MAR  
2  
8-10:30AM



### PANCAKE BREAKFAST & APPLE DUMPLINGS

Join us for Salem's pancake breakfast fundraiser - this month, with apple dumplings!

- Pancakes (Plain & flavor of the day)
  - Sausage
  - Scrambled Eggs
  - Hash Browns
  - Coffee/Juice/Milk
  - Surprise Menu Item!
- Preorder your apple dumplings!
- \$4.00 per dumpling
  - Paid preorders due Feb 26 (see salemunited.org for details)
  - Limited supply available for purchase onsite

Adults: \$9.00  
Kids 6 & Under: \$5.00

## A Note from Rev. Melissa >>>

I came across this in my Lent file a few days ago, and thought, gee, this might be good to share. Then, Tara just asked me if I wanted to put something in your Salem newsletter! So, here it is:

Joan Chittister  
A Choice of Directions

*Lent gives us an opportunity to look again at who we are, at where we're going in life, at how we're getting to where we say we want to go. The Chinese say, "If you don't know where you're going, any road will take you there." But the aimlessness, the confusion, the anomie that goes with it, wears us down, wears us out.*

*Everybody needs to know that they have lived for something. Everyone has a responsibility to leave this world better than when they found it. Everyone needs to carry a light into the darkness of the world around them so that others, too, may follow and find the way.*

*To go through life with no thought of responsibility for anything other than the self is to live like a leech off the riches of the world around us. To ask the question, What is my life goal? What am I contributing to this world? And to hear no answer in the echo of the soul, is to be living a hollow life indeed.*

*Lent does not permit us the luxury of such banality. Lent ends in the shadow of the empty cross and in the sunrise of an empty tomb. There are great things to be done by us and each of them takes great effort, requires great struggle, will face great resistance. But the way to the empty tomb goes through the mount of the cross.*

*Lent is our time to prepare to carry the crosses of the world ourselves. The people around us are hungry; it is up to us to see that they are fed, whatever the cost to ourselves. Children around us are in danger on the streets; it is up to us to see that they are safe... It is up to us to soften the hearts of our own government so that the rest of the world can live a life of dignity and pride.*

*We must "set our faces like flint," let nothing deter the Jesus life in us, knowing that however our efforts end, the resurrection is surely on its way.*

*Lent puts options before us. We can choose to be open or heardhearted, attuned to God or closed to everything but the self, full of faith or drowned in despair, stagnant or full of life. Lent is a choice of directions.*

One more thing: thank you for welcoming Tom and me, and our grandsons. It is a joy to serve your church for these weeks as Stacey recovers!

Blessings,  
Melissa



Rev. Melissa's Lenten series, "Journey to the Cross" is based on the Passion story as found in the Gospel of Mark. She invites you to read the story in Mark 14:1 through 15:47 as often as you can during this holy season.



# THANK YOU!

Salem United Methodist Church Youth Group's 2024 Collection


raised:

**\$455 and 93 food items**

Thanks to your efforts this year, more dollars have been raised, more lives have been changed, and the nation has seen the impact of people working together to help those in need. Thank you for working to transform the time around the Super Bowl into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.



February 11, 2024

  
Alison Reese  
Executive Director  
Tackle Hunger: Home of the  
Souper Bowl of Caring

We can't thank our Salem family enough for your support of the Youth's Souper Bowl of Caring collection in February! The food items collected have been placed in the free pantry located at the Boys and Girls Club in Edgewood. The funds raised were donated to the 755 Alliance to help reduce student lunch debt in Harford County schools and other ways to assist families dealing with food insecurity.



United  
Women  
in Faith

The UWF recently met on February 25<sup>th</sup> to discuss fundraising and future projects. A summary of the meeting was emailed on February 26<sup>th</sup>. If you have not received a copy of the summary, or if you are having any trouble opening the document, please contact Amy Krebs.

Thank you to all who met in our new sewing room on February 24<sup>th</sup>! Supplies were re-organized and fidget mats were made. Ten mats will be delivered to Inspirations Bayside assisted Living and Memory Care (Middle River) later in March. Our next sewing date will be March 16<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to noon. The plan is to work on any works in progress, such as lap quilts that have already been started. Projects such as these may need borders and/or backing and some type of finishing. There will be projects for non-sewers, too, such as ripping seams, making netting flowers for the mats, pressing, etc. We look forward to seeing you!

Come one, come all! On May 3, 2024 the UWF will host a night of family fun, pizza, snacks, trivia and other fun leader led games, complete with prizes! Bring your friends! Proceeds will support various funds such as the 2024 Youth Mission Trip. More details will be available soon. Also, keep an eye out for RADA information cards – they are on the way!

The next UWF meeting will be April 7<sup>th</sup> after the 10:45 am service. Any changes to the day or time will be in the bulletin and/or April newsletter.

## Holy Week at Salem

March 24th, both services: Palm/Passion Sunday Worship

March 28th, 7pm: Holy Thursday Worship  
with Holy Communion (Sanctuary & online)

March 29th, 1pm: Community Good Friday  
Cross Walk

## **Helping Hands Food Pantry Update >>>**

Wow! What a joy filled meeting! On January 22, 2024, the board of the pantry, all dedicated volunteers (kindred spirits), met to plan ways to expand our ministry of Helping Hands to the needy.

After opening in prayer, everyone began listing the bounty of blessings our Lord has bestowed upon our pantry operation.

Through the generous supplies of food and monetary contributions of local churches, friends, and supporters, we are able to continue our daily operation of helping 614 families in need (composed of 1560 adults and 621 children) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. Also, we recently spent more than \$6000 supplying housing, necessities, and future hope to a group of homeless persons who had no other resources or places to turn.

It soon became clear to all of us that the more anyone gives to the hungry, thirsty, widows, widowers, orphans, those in prison, sick, etc., the Lord just reigns down His bounty, overwhelming us with His gifts of love. **We know it's a fact, our God can supply all of our needs.**

Because of large monetary contributions from individuals and organizations with a similar vision as the pantry, our shelves are well stocked. We have a good inventory, so we decided to share our good fortune with others.

After discussion, the board of directors made a decision to send contributions to 13 organizations who supply and help the less fortunate among us. Included are soup kitchens, prison ministries, battered women and children shelters, the homeless found among the blind, 2 overseas organizations that supply food, clothing, medication and place of refuge for displaced persons because of wars and famine, and a couple of fledgling churches who provide food and pantry items on a limited basis.

We wish you could be there and participate in these efforts with us. We thought it would be best to inform you of this good news and say thank you, thank you!

As an old saying goes, we washed a lot of feet by serving Christ and others.

Serving Christ together,  
The Board of Directors of the Helping Hands Food Pantry

## **March Soup Sale**

**BROCCOLI CHEDDAR**

**\$12 PER QUART**

**PREPAID ORDERS  
DUE MARCH 11;  
FORMS IN  
NARTHEX & ONLINE**



**Volunteers**

**Needed >>>**

Volunteers are needed to assist with Scripture readings during the March 29<sup>th</sup> Community Good Friday Cross Walk. Please contact Tara at [salemunitupperfalls@gmail.com](mailto:salemunitupperfalls@gmail.com) if interested



## ***Young Adult Group >>>***

Salem is thrilled to announce the formation of a new small group! The Young Adult Group, facilitated by John Sivey, met for the first time in February and enjoyed fellowship over dinner, a discussion on peace, shared scripture, and prayer. This group is for all young adults ages 18 to 39. Currently, the group plans to begin meeting during the Sunday School hour on the third Sunday of the month beginning in March. Meetings will be in the Sunday School classroom directly across from the Salem Room. We're very excited to see what the future brings for this special ministry!

# **Community Good Friday** **Cross Walk**

**March 29, 2024 1:00 P.M.**

**Walk begins at Franklinville  
Presbyterian Church proceeds  
along Franklinville Road to  
Bradshaw Road and concludes at  
St. Stephen Catholic Church.**



Parking with shuttle is available at St. Stephen - please arrive by 12:45 p.m.

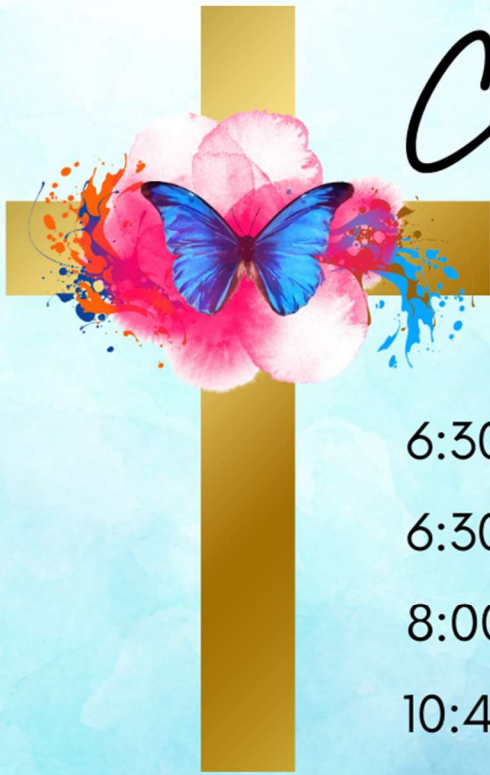
For more information, contact the office.

## ***A note from the Trustees >>>***

A contract has been signed with a company to repair the sun-damaged fabric pews in the sanctuary. Currently, we are waiting on the replacement fabric to arrive. It is our hope the repairs will be completed by Easter!

## ***Lenten Offering >>>***

During Lent, which began February 14, 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 had volunteers go to serve breakfast as well as provide financial support four times a year. The cost for one breakfast is \$500. Manna House provides more than 70,000 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 ([salemunited.org](http://salemunited.org)) and use the dropdown menu to find "Lenten Offering."



# Celebrate Easter

with Salem

March 31, 2024

- 6:30 am Sunrise Worship at the Cemetery
- 6:30 - 10:00 am Breakfast in the Hall
- 8:00 am Worship in the Chapel
- 10:45 am Worship in the Sanctuary & online

## Youth News >>>

The Youth are happy to report their "Souper Bowl Sunday" collection was very successful with 93 items and \$455 collected to support the free food pantry and 755 Alliance, both located in Edgewood. Additional children's books and hygiene products were delivered as well! Thank you to our church family for making this possible.

During Lent, the elementary and middle/high Sunday School classes are giving up some of their allowance to provide a flock (or two!) of chickens for Heifer International. You can check out their website, [heifer.org](http://heifer.org), to see exactly what Heifer International does. If you have extra coins (or bills) you would like to go to this mission, you can drop them in the chicken bank in the middle/high Sunday School classroom.

Sight & Sound Theater in Lancaster, PA is premiering "Daniel" this spring. The Sight & Sound website describes this production in this way: "From the fiery furnace to the infamous den of lions, Daniel is a spectacular theatrical experience for the whole family. Witness some of the Bible's most hope-filled stories as it comes to life in this brand-new original stage production..."

If you're interested in seeing "Daniel," please let Judy Jones know. She is organizing a group to see the production in June 2024.



Image courtesy of Sight & Sound Theaters



## In Memoriam >>>



On February 13, 2024, Hank Danker went home to be with our Lord. Please keep his daughter, Vicky Alluisi, and all of Hank's family and friends, in your prayers. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at Salem. Visitation will be from 10:00-11:00 a.m. The memorial service, with military honors, will begin at 11:00 a.m., followed by a lunch in the fellowship hall.

Image: <https://mccomasfuneralhome.com/obituaries/henry-danker>



## PAINT NIGHT

\$30.00 per person  
Friday, April 12, 6:30pm  
Fellowship Hall

*Personalize your piece with a choice of inspirational phrases!*



Signup in the Narthex or call the office.  
Questions? Contact Su DeLeo

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 – 8810 Walther Blvd, Garden Terrace #308, Baltimore, MD 21234

Myrna Martin – 8100 Rossville Blvd, Brightview Room 207, Baltimore, MD 21236

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

Ann & Rowlan Stumpf – Forest Hill Heights, 1 Colgate Drive Room 415, Forest Hill, MD 21050

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

## Contact Us!

**OFFICE HOURS:**  
Monday, Wednesday,  
and 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





**SALEM**

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# March

## 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
8:00am & 10:45 am services are in-person. 10:45 am service live stream: <a href="https://salemunited.org/livestream">salemunited.org/livestream</a>					9am Aerobics (Hall)	8-10:30am Pancake Breakfast & Apple Dumpling Pickup (Hall)
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>8&amp;10:45am Services</b> 9:30am Sunday School (all ages) 10am Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	9am Aerobics (Hall) 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (Parlor)		9am Aerobics (Hall) 10am Morning Bible Study (Parlor) 6:30pm Vespers		9am Aerobics (Hall)	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<b>8&amp;10:45am Services</b> 9:30am Sunday School (all ages) <b>Daylight Savings Time Begins</b>	7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (Parlor) Prepaid soup orders due		9am Aerobics (Hall) 10am Morning Bible Study (Parlor)		9am Aerobics (Hall) 11:30am Women Moving On Lunch (call office)	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<b>8&amp;10:45 am Services</b> 9:30am Sunday School (all ages) 9:30 am Young Adult Group Soup order pickup 15 minutes after each service	7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (Parlor)	7pm Church Council Meeting (Parlor)	9am Aerobics (Hall) 10am Morning Bible Study (Parlor) 1pm Book Club (call office) 6:30pm Vespers		9am Aerobics (Hall)	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<b>Palm Sunday</b> <b>8&amp;10:45 am Services</b> 9:30am Sunday School (all ages) 10am Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (Parlor)		10am Morning Bible Study (Parlor) 6:30pm Vespers	<b>7pm Holy Thursday Worship (Sanctuary &amp; online)</b>	1pm Community Good Friday Cross Walk (meet at Franklinville Presbyterian)	
31						
<b>Easter Sunday</b> <b>6:30 am Worship at the Cemetery</b> <b>8&amp;10:45 am Worship</b>  6:30-10am Breakfast (Hall) No Sunday School – join us for breakfast 10am Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)						

# March Soup Sale

BROCCOLI  
CHEDDAR



March is your last chance to stock up on some delicious soup! This month's sale features Broccoli Cheddar Soup. This soup, full of flavor that will leave you wanting more, is the perfect soup to round out your winter meal planning. Please be aware this soup is not freezable.

Please note all orders must be prepaid by March 11th. Orders may be placed in the collection plate at Salem, mailed to the office, or emailed to the office at [salemunitedupperfalls@gmail.com](mailto: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, March 17th 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](mailto:salemunitedupperfalls@gmail.com) to place an order.*

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## MARCH SOUP SALE ORDER FORM

**All orders must be pre-paid and are due March 11<sup>th</sup>.**

**Pickup will be picked up Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup> in the kitchen for 15 minutes after each service at Salem UMC.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

# of Quarts	Soup Type	Cost	Total
	Broccoli Cheddar	\$12.00 each	

Counters: Date \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Cash / Check # \_\_\_\_\_