



SALEM BROOKEVILLE

A UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

NEWSLETTER April 2024

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR



Are you scared?

If you are, you're in good company.

Look, the world is ending! War! Famine!
TikTok taking over our children!

Not to mention everything else that I know
you carry on your heart.

How can we celebrate a resurrection in the
midst of... all this?

How can we proclaim that death itself is dead
when we see people suffering? How can we
declare victory when we see so much loss?

That's the paradox of the Christian story. We
believe in an impossible resurrection that
changes everything—even in the things we
can't see.

Continued on page 2

CONTENTS:

A Word from our Pastor	Page 1
News from Kyle Mauzy, Intern	Page 2
Leadership Team Update	Page 3
Easter Sermon Series	Page 4
Bible Study	Page 4
Missions	Page 4
Standing on the Shoulders of Giants	Page 5
ASP Fundraising Plea	Page 6
Cemetery News	Page 6
Social Hour	Page 7
Lunch for Six	Page 7
Reading Room	Page 7
Birthdays and Anniversaries	Page 7
Giving	Page 7
Contact Information	Page 8

In Matthew 28, we see two women go seek out Jesus' tomb. Unlike the other gospels, they don't go with tasks. No spices to anoint his body. They only bring themselves.

When they arrive, the ground shakes and an angel appears like lightening before them. The big strong guards? They make like they're dead and freeze.

They're all scared.

But maybe they were already scared. The women had lost their spiritual leader, and their world was looking scarier every day. They lived amidst political and religious tensions that had them on the edge of their seats. Additionally, they had no independent power to protect or provide for themselves financially. If they had been following Jesus, what security they must have given up to be there! And now he's dead.

I can't imagine NOT being scared.

And yet, they show up with no good excuse. Perhaps they show up because in the midst of their fear, they have a glimmer of hope. Perhaps they remember that Jesus SAID he would rise in three days, and they're here on the third day to find out what that means. Perhaps they are willing to do it scared (as Elyse Myers likes to say).

And because of this, they encounter a resurrection beyond their wildest dreams.

Their political, social, economic world hasn't changed. But somehow everything is new. Possibilities exist. Things can change!

So, if you're scared, proclaim the truth: "He is RISEN!" Proclaim it loudly, no matter your fear or hesitations. Proclaim a truth we wish to see, and then see the way God makes it a reality.

When the women leave the tomb, they are both excited AND scared. Then, Jesus meets them on the road, and they worship him. Their fear couldn't keep Jesus away. Neither can yours.

He is risen, indeed!

Blessings,

Rev. Emily

NEWS FROM KYLE MAUZY, INTERN

A piece of scripture that I have enjoyed is in the book of John in Chapter 8 when it says, "Then Jesus spoke to them again saying, I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness but have the light of life." (New King James Version).

This follows the story of the woman who committed adultery and how the Pharisees wanted to stone her. When I had originally read the scripture, I was very troubled by many things I had to do in life. When I had read it though it gave me a sense of Peace and comfort. This scripture speaks to me by showing me that even though we might think that we are walking in darkness we are never too far from God's reach. That he does have a plan for us so that we might succeed.

This scripture even comforts me today. It is one I often think about even when I think that I am walking in darkness. I know that I will eventually walk in the light again.

LEADERSHIP TEAM UPDATE

Hello to all Salem congregants. Welcome back to team member Quinn Anderson after his return from winter travels in the southlands.

The Leadership Team met in March with much on the agenda to discuss and move forward on as we were not able to meet the month before.

First was approving a revised fee schedule for burial and cremains lots. A separate notice appears elsewhere in the Newsletter listing the new fees and implementation date.

Recent leakage incidents in the Community Hall water and sewer lines have brought maintenance issues into stark focus. Salem needs to establish an emergency cash reserve to address unforeseen events and a new assessment of the current status of Salem's infrastructure. We want a triage-type list that identifies immediate repairs, repairs that can wait 6 months, and work that can be deferred for a longer interval. And a budget for getting it all accomplished within the list schedule and Salem's resources. (Many thanks to those who took quick action in the Community Hall recently.)

Fred Ambrose with great prescience prepared a white paper on this matter in 2015. Thanks to you Fred, it is still relevant. Hisashi is taking the original paper and comparing against what Salem's situation is now and we go from there.

Salem has applied to the MHAA for a grant to construct a new metal roof. We have a responsive and responsible bid from Hardin Construction LLC for 156,000. Salem will be notified later in the year by the MHAA on the

grant status. Meantime Buck and Mark will pursue approvals from Brookeville council and the HPC on the project.

McCarty Commercial Construction has provided Salem with a preliminary sketch of a new sanctuary layout. We are looking into interior design and lighting consultants for ideas on finishes inside.

In other matters, we are still working out having child sitter available for the 9:30 service.

Reverend Emily and Churchill are contacting Brookeville and Better Angels for common use ideas and lecture series nearing election time respectively.

Mary Kay and Churchill are integrating QuickBooks software into a new computer to streamline budget reporting.

We discussed landscaping and mowing service contracting for this year.

Quinn is looking into a disposal company to remove parts of the playground equipment.

The March P and L statement shows Salem has over \$2,400 in profit so far. Always welcome news to report.

Mark Aebig, chair
Members: Mary Kay Abramson, Quinn Anderson, Chet Babylon, Buck Bartley, Churchill Groves, Hisashi Yamagata

EASTER SERMON SERIES



It's *on the loose!*

That's not normally a phrase we're happy to hear. We don't want wild animals or captured things released and running wild. And yet, that's exactly what the Holy Spirit does.

On the day of crucifixion, the temple curtain is ripped in two.

Now, suddenly, the Holy Spirit will go wherever it wants. It's on the loose.

In the Hebrew scriptures God decided to live within the temple to be close to the people. This was a magnificent gift from our nomadic God. However, by the time Jesus is ready for crucifixion, God is ready for a change. The Spirit is not willing to only be as close to the people as the temple. Now the Spirit wants to live within the people themselves.

So, the curtain rips, and from then on we see the Spirit take the people through a wild ride that changes everything. New people are invited into the family, the Spirit gets close enough to interrupt sermons, and the disciples learn new depth of forgiveness.

This loosed Spirit is here to change the world. Will you join us?

April 7—On the Loose: Spirit
Acts 4:32-35 John 20:19-2

April 14—On the Loose: Revolution
Luke 24: 36b-48

April 21—On the Loose: Inspiration
Acts 4:5-12

April 28—On the Loose: Questions
Acts 8: 26-40

BIBLE STUDY

The Wednesday night Bible study, *Introducing the Old Testament*, continues through April 24th.

6:30–7:00 P.M. gather
7:00–8:00 P.M. study

The zoom link for all the Wednesday night studies is

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/94812192432?pwd=T256VnlzQ1VwVWk83eGljeGRLL3pNQQT09#success>

MISSIONS

The Lord's Table

The Salem volunteer days at The Lord's Table are held the first Friday of each month at 1 P.M. The next one is April 5. The location is Epworth United Methodist Church, 9008 Rosemont Drive, Gaithersburg, MD. Contact Churchill Groves for information.

Olney HELP Food Needs

You may leave non-perishable food donations in the box under the table in the sanctuary or in the marked box in the Community Hall. Most needed items (updated 3/14/24) include non-perishable snacks for kids, canned fruit (in juice), peanut butter (16 oz, smooth), cold cereal (kids and adult), canned pasta, snacks for kids, pancake mix and pancake syrup. Also, canned fruit (in juice please), canned pasta, shelf stable bottled juice, frosting for all our cake mixes (we provide cake mix, frosting, candles, cupcake holders and sprinkles for the kids birthdays), pancake mix, canned chili, canned chicken, sloppy joe sauce, canned tomatoes (prefer low salt), adult cereal, spaghetti sauce – plain kind, canned meats, such as tuna, chicken, turkey, corned beef, spam, salmon, Vienna sausage, etc.;, 1 lb. bags of rice and rice sides (Knorr/Roni), pasta sides (Knorr/Roni), baked beans, canned green beans, corn, peas (low/no salt), Jelly - all sizes, all flavors, condiments - BBQ sauce, ketchup, mustard, salad dressing; instant mashed potatoes - pouches and boxes, juice boxes for the kids (100% juice please). You can also drop off Giant gift cards at the Customer Service Desk and they will hold them for Olney Help. Currently, they do not need any rice, boxed pasta, or canned beans.

You can also drop off Giant gift cards at the Giant Customer Service Desk and they will hold them for Olney Help.

For those who find it easier to order online, they have a new Amazon wish list with many useful items on it.

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/B9R4BSW2TAS5?ref=wl_share

If you are interested in volunteering or know someone in need, please call their Helpline at 301-774-4334. If you wish to make a financial donation, you may do so at:

www.olneyhelp.org.

Prayer Shawls

Prayer shawls are available free for anyone to give to someone who is ill or needs comfort. Feel free to pick one up near the coat rack.

STANDING ON THE SHOULDERS OF GIANTS



*The phrase, standing on the shoulders of giants, is about giving credit to those who've come before us and whose achievements benefit us. Since Salem United Methodist church was founded in 1819, we've depended on our volunteers performing 'God Jobs' for our church. In this and future newsletters, **Standing on the Shoulders of Giants** will share some of the jobs that our volunteers have done and are doing now. Because it really does take a village to keep our church serving as a signpost of God's grace to the world.*

JoAnn Keister started attending Salem when she moved to Brookeville in 1964 and, through the years, raised seven children while volunteering at Salem including:

- teaching Sunday school classes ***
- running the church nursery
- teaching Vacation Bible School and taking children on field trips
- preparing and serving ham & oyster dinners
- cooking Lion's Club dinners
- preparing food for funeral receptions
- creating items for Craft Nights & Christmas Bazaars

*** JoAnn often took her Sunday School classes across to Salem Cemetery so they could make tombstone rubbings and learn church and local history.

JoAnn is still actively volunteering. Once a week she, Carole Roberts, Yvette Thurston and Joan Abeig gather at JoAnn's house to crochet Prayer Shawls for those in need of comfort and solace or in celebration and joy. JoAnn has been crocheting church prayer shawls for 17 years. Also, every Tuesday, JoAnn and other Prayer Partners (Velma, Patti R and Emily) hold a conference call to pray, by name, for church members, families, friends, neighbors, colleagues, and anyone in need of hope and/or comfort.

JoAnn, we 'stand on your shoulders,' benefiting today from all that you've done and continue to do for Salem United Methodist church. Thank you!

Please contact Rev. Emily if you're interested in making Prayer Shawls with the group once a week or in your own at home or if you'd like to donate yarn or money to buy yarn for the shawls. Rev. Emily can also tell you more about joining our Prayer Partners volunteers as well.



Please let us know about the God Jobs you or others have done or are doing. We'll share the good news and maybe others will volunteer also. Email molliebethhaines@gmail.com.

ASP

Although we don't have our own team this year, there is another local group of college freshman fund-raising for a trip this summer. This is the fifth time most of them have gone on this mission. If you would like to help, see the flyer at the end of this newsletter for information.

CEMETERY NEWS

We are increasing the prices of our Cemetery lots, from \$1,400.00 a lot to \$2,000.00 a lot starting September 1, 2024. We have a limited number of lots for cremains only from \$600.00 to \$1,000.00 a lot starting September 1, 2024. See Quinn Anderson or Chet Babylon.

SOCIAL HOUR

Please remember to sign up to bring snacks to the Community Hall so Social Hour can continue. This is another great way to encourage fellowship following the Worship service. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board down the hall from the sanctuary. Instead of weekly, we'll try once a month—maybe the third Sunday of the month Nothing fancy. Just a dozen donuts cut in half is perfect.

LUNCH FOR SIX

Would you like to chat with others outside of church while enjoying lunch out? This is the perfect opportunity to socialize during the week. Groups have gone to GrillMarx, Mama Lucia, Panera Bread, Olney Grille, Dempsey's and more. There is a sign-up sheet for the next group on the bulletin board down the hall from the sanctuary.

READING ROOM

The Reading Room shelves are full! We cannot accept any more books. The good news is there are well over 400 books and DVDs. Take the time to wander up there, browse, and take advantage of this wonderful resource. It's located upstairs in the Community Hall. Thanks to everyone who has donated books.

The Reading Room is open on Sundays from 8:30 A.M. to noon.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



If your name should be on the list, please contact the church. We don't want to leave you out. Thank you!

April Birthdays

JoAnn Keister	04/03
Carole Roberts	04/04
Phillip Weinberger	04/14
Don Rider	04/17
Anne Ennes	04/18
Katelyn Currier	04/29

April Anniversaries

Myron and Kim Shear	04/04
Al and Judy Ercolani	04/13
Bill and Bobbie Lavelly	04/16

GIVING

Offerings can be sent to:
Salem United Methodist Church
12 High Street, Brookeville, MD 20833

If you would like to give by app, you can download the "Vanco Mobile" app and search for Salem United Methodist Church or by its invite code R8A63K.

If you haven't been able to access Vanco and would like to give electronically, we now have a PayPal option. You can use this link:

<https://paypal.me/SalemBrookeville>

CONTACT INFORMATION

Reverend Emily Hart takes Sabbath days on Saturdays and Mondays for rest and renewal. She also honors time with her husband and dogs in the evening. Please contact her on these days (or after 8:30 P.M. on other days) only in an emergency or a scheduled meeting.

Church Address:
Salem UMC
12 High Street
Brookeville, MD 20833

Church Telephone: (301) 774-7772

Church Website:
www.salemunitedmethodist.org

Rev. Emily's cell phone: (443) 846-5110

Rev. Emily's e-mail:
pastor@salemunitedmethodist.org

Music Director:
music@salemunitedmethodist.org

Building Use:
building@salemunitedmethodist.org

Salem Cemetery:
salem12cemetery@yahoo.com

The newsletter is prepared by the Salem United Methodist Church Communications Team. Contact any team member with questions or comments. Thanks!

Rev. Emily Hart
Joan Aebig
Mollie Haines
Carole Roberts
Nancy Joie Wilkie
Hisashi Yamagata
Kyle Mauzy, Intern



ASP
Appalachia
SERVICE PROJECT®



Chris Chanto

Years Attended: 3



Nicholas Tedesco

Years Attended:4



Bryce Heinbuch

Years Attended:4



Timmy Zalewski

Years Attended:4



Bradley Skinker

Years Attended:4



Caleb Bauman

To donate Venmo or contact:
Bradley Skinker -
Skinkerba@gmail.com

We are going to be attending Appalachia Service Project this summer on June 16-22. This trip will mark the fifth trip to ASP for most of us going. Most of us are currently college freshman who have attended this trip since 8th grade. We would all be extremely appreciative of any financial support generous church members can provide.



If you have an
questions please
contact
Bradley Skinker-
Skinkerba@gmail.com

