

SALEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

March 2013 Newsletter



To the Salem UM Church Family-

This March we will be living into Lent and celebrating our journey on the last Sunday of the month with the Resurrection of our Lord. As was mentioned in February's newsletter this Lent we are exploring Forgiveness: forgiving others and experiencing forgiveness in our lives.

The concept of forgiveness is central to biblical teaching and our faith. The Bible states that each of us is created in the image of God. To me this means that God intended for each of us to resemble God in the world, that is, to show the world God's love and goodness. However, we consistently smudge that image by harming others and ourselves. And we smudge that image when we are not faithful to God. All this is categorized as sin. Our sin separates us from God and each other. We are fractured and broken by our sin. Thus we live in a world of conflict, unrest, pain, resentment, and hate. This kind of world is not what God wants for us. God offers us an alternative to fix the brokenness, to make amends, to reconcile, to become whole, and that is the gift of forgiveness.

Jesus is that gift. He came to live among us to show us that we can be reconciled to God and with each other. He verbally forgave people of their sins. His ultimate act of forgiveness was given while he was dying on the cross when he said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing" (Luke 23: 34). (NRSV) Thus the cross becomes a symbol of forgiveness of our sins. God in the form of Jesus came to reconcile us to God - to recover and heal that image of God in us even in his death on the cross. His resurrection shows us that there can be complete healing of the image of God in us, a new beginning,

today, and for all eternity. This is why we shout, "Alleluia!" during Easter! We are a forgiven people who have been given a new beginning!

As we journey to the cross this Lent through the spiritual practice of forgiveness, we can ask ourselves these questions:

- † From what sin do I need God's forgiveness?
- † Who do I need to forgive and why?
- † Who do I need to ask for forgiveness and why?
- † What struggles do I have with forgiveness?
- † Can I recall a time when I received God's forgiveness?
- † Can I recall a time when I received the forgiveness of another?

James Oglethorpe, who established the colony of Georgia is said to have said to John Wesley, "I never forgive and I never forget." To which John Wesley is said to have responded, "Then Sir, I hope you never sin." The purpose of the season of Lent is to draw us closer to God by looking at what separates us from God, and admitting it. Through this process then, Christ's Crucifixion and Resurrection will take on new meaning for us. This is what living into Lent means: asking for, receiving, and offering forgiveness so we can be renewed and recreated in the image of God.

With the hope of Christ's forgiveness,

Rev. Sue

MARCH'S WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Continued Sermon Series: "A New Year of Healing and Hope"

March 3 "Getting Forgiveness" Matthew 5: 21-26

March 10 "Giving Forgiveness"

One Great Hour of Sharing Matthew 18: 15-22
 March 17 "Receiving Forgiveness"
 Luke 15: 1-3, 11b-32
 March 24 Palm/Passion Sunday "Forgiving Judas"
 Matthew 26: 14-25, 47-56; Matthew 27: 1-10
 March 31 Resurrection Sunday
 "The Ultimate Act of Forgiveness"
 Acts 10: 34-43; Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24; John 20: 1-18

Combined Lenten Worship Services:
 Holy Thursday Worship: March 28, 7:30 pm at Salem UMC
 Good Friday Worship: March 29, 7:30 pm St. Paul UMC, Laytonville

Easter Sunday Schedule:

7:00 am Sunrise service in the cemetery
 7:30 am Breakfast in the Community Hall
 8:15 am Service in the sanctuary
 9:30 am Community Easter Egg hunt with fellowship time
 10: am Service in the sanctuary

MINISTERING TO OUR CHILDREN



Since the Adult messages are centered on Lent and the topics are about Forgiveness, Forgiving and being Forgiven, Pastor Janet explained to the children about forgiving. The children were very attentive and participated in their church service. It's always a pleasure to see the children so eager to learn more of God's word and ways.

SALEM UMC ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

March

Mar. 3: Jacob Weinberger
 Mar. 10: Lexi Groves
 Mar. 17: Melody McWilliams

Mar. 24: Amy Roberts
 Mar. 31: (Easter) Andrew Sterling

THE GATHERING

On Sunday, February 17th, after a wonderful pot-luck dinner, the attendees gathered for a time of worship lead by Pastor Sue.



Everyone then gathered around tables to play games of their choice; among the choices were "Killer Bunnies", "Rubikub", and on the floor was "Twister." Everyone had a great time.

Shrove Tuesday, or Fat Tuesday, the Day before Ash Wednesday.

The beginning of Lent. Why, you might ask do we celebrate these days, why are they special.

From a February "broadcast" on the internet from Rev. Sue: "Lent begins this week, which is the forty-day journey that leads to Christ's Crucifixion and Resurrection. We will begin this journey with a Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner in our Community Room, Tuesday, February 12, from 5 pm- 6:30 pm. Menu: pancakes, sausage, and chipped beef gravy. Donations will be accepted." (Pastor Sue forgot to mention that they had great apple sauce also.) Before the evening was over, Debbie Savage brought half a King Cake for those lucky enough to grab a slice before it disappeared.

So why pancakes and what does Shrove Tuesday mean? Shrove comes from the old word, "shrive," which means to confess. In the Middle Ages, on the day before it began, people would confess their sins. Since one of the practices of Lent was fasting, people

would indulge themselves on the day before Lent with rich, fatty foods. Back then, pancakes was considered a "fatty" food! So no need cook tomorrow evening (this was written on Monday, February 11th). Just come, eat breakfast for dinner, and relax after a long day.

So, on Tuesday, February 12th, the community hall began to fill up at 5 pm as members of Salem UMC , friends and neighbors began to wander in. Buck Bartley was there to greet them while Bill Lavelly supervised the buffet. I don't know who was in back, but Fred Ambrose, Chet Babylon, and Doug McKeever kept a steady flowing, refilling the trays as the pancakes and sausage disappeared. In the meantime, Debbie McKeever and Lois Erisman kept the tables refreshed as people came and went.

If anyone ever tells you that "men can't cook," tell them they don't know the men from Salem UMC as they are GREAT cooks. We thank them, one and all, those we saw and those in the kitchen that didn't see the light of day until it was all over. All in all, it was a wonderful "breakfast for dinner" and we all had a great time. THANK YOU!



Not sure how many of our men participated in the Pancake supper but seated with our Pastor Rev. Sue are Bob Brown, Fred Ambrose, Chet Babylon, Pastor Sue, and Buck Bartley.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Salem Tech Team Needs Your Help!

We are looking for a few additional people to help with recording the weekly church service, and to help with a/v presentations during service. **No experience necessary.** Just basic computer Windows knowledge is all you need to get started. We will provide the training. Our recording ministry makes the weekly

Salem worship experience available to those who are unable to attend. For more information contact Bob Brown at rmia@gmail.com or 301-774-1080 or Joyce Dean at jdean58@gmail.com or 301-943-1718.

Marquee Volunteers Needed: Volunteers are needed to keep the church marquee updated on a weekly basis. If you can help please contact Nancy Morel at 301-774-2504 or bladennj17@aol.com or Mary Kay Abramson at MAbramson@CWTSatoTravel.com.

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

Pennies for Scholarship Collection

Mark Janney is collecting pennies to donate to the scholarship fund in memory of an officer, Bruce Prothero, who was killed in the line of duty 13 years ago, leaving a family of 5 children. Please help to fill the jar on the table in the sanctuary!

SHARING OUR FAITH

One of the most dramatic moments of the 20th century, or of any century, was when the image of Earth, taken from space, was first broadcast to the world by Apollo astronauts. For the first time in history the whole of humanity was put into stunning context – everyone, every single person, every living thing, encompassed in a blue dot in an endless black void. Those images are worth contemplating forty years later. You might look at them today, they are easy to find on the internet. Look at them and ask yourself: What's wrong about these pictures? A blue disk in an endless black void ... Something is *missing*.

Stars. There are no *stars*! Don't believe me? Go to the NASA website and study all those pictures taken from the moon by the Apollo astronauts. You will not see any stars.

As a young boy who avidly followed every detail of the Apollo missions this revelation was at least as surprising and perplexing as that first image of the Earth from space. It was completely at odds with my expectations. I lived in the high desert of the American southwest, and would often climb down to the bottom of a nearby ravine at night, and then look up at the cloudless sky and see millions of stars. The milky way so dense and bright that it was a streak from

horizon to horizon. And I wondered, if I could see so much from the bottom of a ravine away from any city lights, how much more will the astronauts see from the moon? As it turned out, they saw nothing. Just an ink-like black.

How is that? The truth is, we usually do not see light. We think we do. But what we actually see are the objects illuminated by light – not the light itself. When we look up at the night sky we see our atmosphere scattering the light from stars, but we do not see the light from the stars. Take away the atmosphere, and we see nothing at all. Turn on the light in your living room, and the walls and furniture illuminated by the light become visible. You might even see dust motes floating gently in the air. You might look at the lamp and see the glass of the bulb scattering the light. But, do you see the light itself?

For all we have learned about Nature, from subatomic particles through molecules and organisms to galaxies and beyond, the nature of light remains elusive. We can measure certain aspects of light – that is, if we think of light as a wave we can make predictions about how it will behave in certain circumstances. In other circumstances we have to forget about light being a wave and think of it as a particle instead, then its behavior once again becomes measureable and predictable. So which is it? Wave or particle? A physicist might answer “Both and neither.” They are aspects of light that we can perceive, but neither is light itself. Every scientist learns this in elementary physics class, and then conveniently forgets it any time they want to badger a Christian about the Trinity.

After nearly thirty years as a scientist I’ve come to appreciate more and more how much of our universe is not only unknown, but essentially unknowable. Not directly, not with the means at our disposal. Light may still elude our understanding, but I know that light exists, because it is reflected in our world around us.

I have never had an epiphany moment. I sometimes wish I had that kind of faith. It would be a great comfort. But rather, I take comfort in seeing the light reflected in those who believe. To me, there is no more convincing evidence for the existence of the Light than the fact that people continue to orient

themselves towards it. Despite hardship, despite adversity and disappointment, despite persecution, there are always those who reflect the Light. Nothing in any science textbook can explain that. Our science books teach us that they should not exist. The whole discipline of evolutionary biology agonizes over the perverse fact that some people will do good though it does not benefit themselves directly in any way that can be measured. And yet so much good is done in the world at great personal cost. There is Light in our world. I see it reflected in the Church.

My long journey into Faith has been a gradual one. I’ve travelled from vehement and vocal atheist to a member of the body of Christ. It happened one step at a time, walking with people who always seemed to see something better in life, who always seemed to have hope and a sustaining power. When my life was at its darkest, they shone brightest. Eventually it dawned on me that the friends I was drawn to didn’t just happen to be Christians – I was drawn to them *because* they were Christians. And I’ve been trying to follow the light they see ever since.

By Rob Morell

MINISTER OF MUSIC

News from the Music Corner

I want to take this opportunity to say how much I have enjoyed having Dean Preville play along with me during the services when the choir sings. He is an artist with the drum set and creatively adds music that complements the variety of styles found in the anthems and hymns for the service. After sharing his talent at Salem on Sunday mornings he drives to Westminster every Sunday to play along with a full praise band in the Church of the Ascension Episcopal Church at their afternoon service “Ascend.” He plays along with George Sterling, Chuck and Reverend Sue’s son. Dean also plays with a rock band that can be found performing at various places in Montgomery County on the weekends.

The Church Choir’s goal this year has been to lead the congregation in learning new songs from the green hymnal, “Worship & Song.” We use a special choral edition that has four parts (soprano, alto, tenor, bass) for most of the songs found in the hymnal. If you have wondered why we were adding more music than

Salem News, March 2013

you see in your green pew book it is because of this supplemental choral edition.

During Lent the choir will be leading the congregation in the Lenten theme song: "You Are My King" #3102. We hope you will learn to enjoy this song during the month of March. Take a minute and listen to it being performed on YouTube by the composer, Chris Tomlin, to get a better idea of what the composer had in mind as he sings with a band. There are quiet, contemplative versions as well as louder, group sing-along recordings. But most importantly think about the words as you listen and sing:

"You Are My King"

I'm forgiven because you were forsaken
I'm accepted, You were condemned
I'm alive and well
Your spirit is within me
Because you died and rose again

Amazing love, how can it be?
That you, my king, would die for me
Amazing love, I know it's true
Its joy to honor you
Amazing love how can it be?
That my king would die for me
Amazing love I know it's true
Its joy to honor you
In all I do
I honor you

The Handbell Choir has been hard at work learning 4 songs to ring at the Handbell Musicians of America, Area III Spring Festival, held in the Convention Center at Ocean City, MD on March 8 & 9, 2013. We went last year and had a lot of fun ringing with other handbell choirs from Maryland, Virginia and Delaware and hearing over 400 ringers perform at once. We will tell you all about it in the next newsletter and you will hear the music at Salem on Easter.

Fundamentals of Music for Christians: Monday evenings at 7:30pm a small group has been gathering in the choir room to learn more about the intricacies of reading and analyzing music. We are currently studying scales and chords, learning how to write them and recognize them in our hymns. We also sing hymns and read from the songbook in the Bible, the Psalms. It is interesting to grow in an understanding of the

music we take for granted in our various hymnals. Anyone is welcome to join us to dig deeper into the music we use to praise God.

Rose Eide-Altman, Salem organist/pianist/choir director

FROM THE CONGREGATION



**"Sharing my thoughts with you..."
From Charlyne Lewis**

Easter and the Resurrection!! What a glorious time of year. Look around you...everywhere 'new life' appears before us...the awaking butterflies, the beautiful flowers popping out of the ground, birds everywhere 'nesting' with their young...ah, Spring!

And then, we march toward the warm days of summer, which for a lot of us means trips, vacations, enjoying our families and friends together. But we still need to keep in mind the One who gave us all of this richness to enjoy. Jesus! He is our best friend in everything we undertake daily. He will always be there for us when all else fails. Look to Him first, then every other need in your lives will be met with "abundance," as He declares.

Enjoy your 'God-given' days ahead, folks, and always put Jesus at the top of your list of 'invited guests' at your next backyard cookout, trip, vacation, or whatever you plan to undertake.

God Bless!!

Charlyne

Hymn #420
Ephesians 4:25-5:2



Stay in Touch:

Please note Marie Lyon's new address.
Marie Lyon
8935-J Early April Way
Columbia, MD 21046

The prayer of the righteous is power and affective.
James 5:16 (NRSV)

YOUTH GROUP

All meeting times are 6:30-8:00 pm
(unless otherwise noted)

- March 3, Making our Easter video and band practice. Bring your instruments!
- March 10, More Easter video and band practice. Bring your instruments!
- March 17, 5:00-6:00 pm: Come early to work on our Easter video! Stay for the Gathering from 6-8 pm
- March 24, Band practice (bring your instrument) and finishing our Easter video.
- March 31: EASTER. No youth group meeting, but we can use some help with the Easter egg hunt and the band will play in the morning.
- April 7: Regular youth group meeting. Baking cookies for the troops!
- April 14, Regular youth group meeting. Game night
- April 21, 6 pm potluck, 6:30-8:00 pm: The Gathering.
- April 28, Regular youth group meeting.
- May 5, Cinco de Mayo nachos party. What is God doing in Mexico today?
- May 12: MOTHER'S DAY. No youth group meeting. Stay home and do something nice for your mom.
- May 19, 6 pm potluck, 6:30-8:00 pm: The Gathering.
- May 26: MEMORIAL DAY weekend. No youth group meeting.
- June 2, Regular youth group meeting.
- June 9, End of year party

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Special Notice:

I wish to Thank Amy Roberts for taking on the assignment as Youth Correspondent. She will be covering all the Young People's activities and reporting on them.

Velma Durant  
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Souper Bowl of Caring



Amy and Blake Roberts The final food collection

A big thanks to everyone who donated money on the 3rd of February for the Souper Bowl of Caring. We raised a total of \$310.15! We used the money at Shoppers to buy non-perishable food items for Olney Help and The United Methodist Food Pantry at Millian Memorial United Methodist Church in Wheaton. Between the food brought to church Sunday and the money we collected, we were able to provide 253 food items for these organizations. It was definitely a success, and we got much more money than last year. We couldn't have done it without our wonderful congregation who gave extremely generous donations! We really appreciate it and I'm sure the kids receiving the food will as well.

By Amy Roberts

30-Hour Famine

See Amy's story and Jacob's pictures in April's edition of the Salem Newletter.

A Special Thank You

Thank you to all who helped make the 30 Hour Famine a success! Youth participants Amy Roberts, Donovan Thompson, Jacob Weinberger, Sarah Huber, Joey Brantley, Kenny Wahl, Amber Schell, Wyatt Thompson and Blake Roberts fasted, prayed, studied, role-played and served for the 30 hours of the Famine. Special thanks to Pastor Sue, Gene Beye, Steve and Darlene Currier, Don Moore, Sue Daly and Carole Roberts who chaperoned, helped with games, drove us to the Lord's Table, made dinner for us after the Famine was over, and fueled Sunday morning's worship service with a donut run. And a big thank you to everyone who donated to World Vision. We raised \$1676, enough to feed and care for about five children for a full year. Well done, church!

Thanks!

Janet

Salem SNAP Challenge for Lent 2013

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as the Food Stamp Program, supports those whose wages are too low to lift them out of poverty by helping them to put food on the table.

The SNAP/Food Stamp Challenge gives participants a view of what life can be like for millions of low-income Americans. Most participants take the Challenge for one week, living on a little over \$4 per

Salem News, March 2013

day worth of food – the average food stamp benefit. Challenge participants are forced to make food shopping choices on a limited budget, and often realize how difficult it is to avoid hunger, afford nutritious foods, and stay healthy with too few resources.

While living on a food stamp budget for just a week cannot come close to the struggles encountered by low-income families week after week and month after month, it does provide those who take the Challenge with a new perspective and greater understanding.

We at Salem have been supporting low-income families in Montgomery County stretch their food dollars through Olney Help, the United Methodist food pantry in Wheaton, the Lord’s Table, and food baskets at Christmas and Thanksgiving. By taking the SNAP Challenge, we can become more aware of the challenges facing our neighbors, and perhaps think of some additional ways to address problems of hunger in our community.

Challenge Guidelines

1. Pick at least five consecutive days for the Challenge between now and Easter.
2. Spend **no more than \$4.29 per person per day for all food and beverage** during the Challenge. \$4.29 per day is the Maryland SNAP level for 2012.
3. All food purchased and eaten during the Challenge week, including fast food and dining out, must be included in the total spending.
4. During the Challenge, eat only food that you purchase for the project. Do not eat food that you already own. Coffee counts! Do not drink coffee, tea, or other beverages unless you include them in your SNAP food budget.
5. Avoid accepting free food from friends, family, or at work.
6. Keep track of receipts on food spending and take note of your experiences throughout the week. If you like, post your experiences on the Salem Facebook page. Think about your overall nutrition and health; if you ate these foods and only these foods for a year, could you stay healthy?
7. Remember that those who are on SNAP also have limited income for gasoline and may rely on public transportation. Try to limit your shopping to the one store nearest your house or near a bus route.
8. Invite others to join you.
9. Join us on Sunday, April 7 after church for a discussion of our SNAP Challenge experiences. Perhaps God will use this Challenge to spark some fresh ideas for serving our neighbors in need.

HAPPENINGS



R.O.M.E.O. Meets every Monday, except holidays, at 8 am in Dempsey's Restaurant in Ashton. All men are welcome.

Addresses Needed: Our Membership Chairman still needs the following addresses, if you have any information, or know someone who might please contact Carole Roberts (see contact information below): Megan Achstetter, Donna Benoit, Ronald Benson, Joyce & Scott Burton, Brendan & Karen Byrne, Adriana Cecil, Kevin Crabtree, Janet & Kelly Ensor, Russell Flemming, Jeff Friedrich, Ronald Friedrich, Larry Ganbin Jr., Pamela Grant, Abby, Emily & Rebecca Hammer, Erin Innes, Ashleigh Jackson, Bonnie Jackson, Vernon Monday, Jeremy Patten, Megan Patten, Stanley Sutton, Todd Twigg, Caraline, Doug & Heda Waldrep, Mary Beth Wheless. Address can be emailed to Carole Roberts at mom2aba@comcast.net, mailed to the church, or put in the Membership mailbox.

If you have any information on any of these listed above please contact Carole.

Salem Hosting Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings:

Salem is hosting two different AA meetings. A larger group meeting will be held each Wednesday evening from 8:00 to 9:30 pm in Salem Community Hall. A smaller meeting will be held every Thursday evening from 8:00 to 9:00 pm in the Choir Room. Since this is an anonymous meeting we ask that everyone respect these spaces during their meetings. If you know of anyone who would like to participate in Salem News, March 2013

this recovery program, please share this information with them.

UPCOMING EVENTS

VBS Renamed

**Christian Day Camp is coming to Salem!
Register Today!**



Calling all kids! Salem Christian Day Camp is the place for music, arts and crafts, science experiments, Bible stories, games, food and fun from around the world!

Everywhere Fun Fair takes children to a global celebration with the look and feel of a world's fair. Children will make friends with neighbors around the world and discover that God's love can be found everywhere, including their own neighborhoods. Children will be introduced to special places from all over the world and discover that we are all neighbors and all children of God.

WHO: kids ages 3-12.

WHEN: July 8-12, 9:00-11:30 a.m.

WHERE: Salem United Methodist Church, 12 High Street, Brookeville

HOW MUCH: \$15 per child, \$30 max per family.

TO PRE-REGISTER: Pick up a registration form at the church, fill out the form in this newsletter, or go to www.salemunitedmethodist.org. Register early – space is limited!

FOR MORE INFO: Call Rev. Janet at 301-774-7772. Confidential scholarships are available to cover the registration fee if needed.

Family Movie Night

Saturday, March 9

6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

at the

Salem UMC Community Center

Admission is FREE

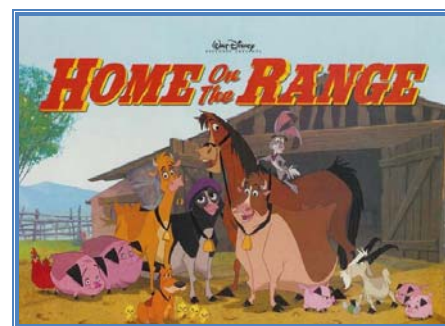
Featuring Disney's animated adventure,

Home on the Range

Join three zany cows and a spirited, karate-kicking horse as they attempt to capture a cattle rustler and save their "Patch of Heaven" dairy farm from foreclosure. A family-fun movie full of laughter, high jinx and a yodeling outlaw --- featuring the voices of Roseanne Barr, Judi Dench, Jennifer Tilly, Cuba Gooding Jr. and Randy Quaid.

Rated PG.

Popcorn and snacks provided.



United Methodist Men: Saturday, March 16, 7:30 am Salem Community Hall.

I put all my hope in the Lord. He leaned down to me; he listened to my cry for help. –Psalm 40:1(CEB)

Photo contest: Where do you see the light of God?

The Baltimore-Washington Conference is sponsoring a photo contest –Be Light – which illuminates how God is present among us. Prize awarded for the best photos in nature, people and miscellaneous categories. A special \$100 prize will be given to the best photo by a photographer 18 or younger (please note age with entry). Send electronic copies as attachments to connection@bwcumc.org. Deadline March 15. Limit five submissions per person. Include name, contact information and church name.

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**Book Group Discussion:** Meet at 7:30 pm  
Upstairs Classroom in Community Hall

**Tuesday, March 12 The Last Report of the Miracles at Little No Horse**  
**by Louise Erdrich - Fiction**

Spanning nearly a century, Erdrich weaves the strange and compelling story of Father Damien Modeste, a beloved reservation priest who has hidden his true identity as a woman beneath his cassock.

**Tuesday, April 9 The Faith Club** by Priscilla Warner, Suzanne Oliver and Ranya Idliby –  
**Non-Fiction**

Three mothers from three faiths—Islam, Christianity, and Judaism—got together to write a picture book for their children that would highlight the connections between their religions. After just a few meetings, however, it became clear that the women themselves needed an honest and open environment where they could admit—and discuss—their concerns, stereotypes, and misunderstandings about one another. After hours of soul-searching about the issues that divided them, Ranya, Suzanne, and Priscilla grew close enough to discover and explore what united them.

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New Adult Study Series Begins March 7:

Seeing Gray in a World of Black and White: Thoughts on Religion, Morality and Politics

Everyone agrees that America is polarized, with ever-hardening positions held by people less and less willing to listen to one another. Even small communities such as Salem are experiencing polarization. No one agrees on what to do about it.

One solution that hasn't yet been tried, says Adam Hamilton, is for thinking people of faith to model for the rest of the country a richer, more thoughtful conversation on the political, moral, and religious issues that divide us.

In this five-week video and discussion series, we will seek a faithful, compassionate and mutually respectful way forward. The goal is for all of us to listen, learn, and see truth as multi-sided; to make our voices heard; and to love those with whom we disagree.

Each week will feature video teaching by Rev. Adam Hamilton, senior pastor of the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas, one of the fastest growing, most highly visible churches in the country. Rev. Janet Craswell from Salem will facilitate the discussion.

March 7: **Where Faith and Politics Meet**

March 14: **Christ, Christians and Culture Wars**

March 21: **How Should We Live? The Ethics of Jesus**

(No class March 28 because of Maundy Thursday services)

April 4: **Spiritual Maturity and Seeing Gray**

April 11: **What Would Jesus Say to America?**

Classes will meet upstairs in the Salem Community Hall, 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Participant study guides and further information are available from Rev. Janet at youth@salemunitedmethodist.org or 240-472-0763.

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Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.  
Psalm 84:10 (NIV)

## THE GATHERING

### “St. Patrick’s Day”

Sunday, March 17; 6:00 pm

Let’s begin the evening with a pot-luck supper (bring Irish food)

6:30 to 8 pm worship “Love of God and Luck of the Irish.”

### “Fun, Faith, Friends”-UMC Summer Camp

Camp is for anyone entering second grade through adults. There is family camping as well as grandparent camps. The Camps are Manidokan, West River, and Camp Joy. Brochures are on the table in the church or visit at [www.funfriendsfaith.com](http://www.funfriendsfaith.com)

## ASP

On Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, after the 10 o’clock service the ASP will be serving breakfast. This is one of their major fund raisers, and is also a freewill offering.

Looking forward to:

ASP YARD SALE

Saturday, April 20. Please do not place items for sale in the church garage until April 13. Thank you.

## COFFEE HOUR HOSTESSES

Hostesses for the March Sundays are:

- 3/3 Carole R.
- 3/10 Miller family
- 3/17 Debbie A.
- 3/24 Brandon & Debbie S.
- 3/31 EASTER

## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

If your name isn’t on one of these lists, please add it to the list on the bulletin board. We don’t want to leave you out. Thank you.

Our March Birthdays are:

- |                      |       |
|----------------------|-------|
| Groves, Briana       | 03/11 |
| Groves, Nicholas     | 03/12 |
| Buswell, Beth (Geib) | 03/16 |
| VanHorn, Zach        | 03/20 |
| Sterling, Becky      | 03/26 |
| Beye, David          | 03/29 |
| Ochsenreiter, Lauren | 03/31 |

Our March Anniversaries:

Page 10

Howes, Warren and Janet

03/29

## HEALTH NEWS FROM THE PARISH NURSE

### Hypertension or High Blood Pressure – What is it?

As blood moves through your body it places a certain force on the walls of the blood vessels. That force is called blood pressure. Blood pressure readings are made up of the systolic (sis-TOL-ik) or the highest pressure in your artery when the heart is pumping blood and the diastolic (di-a-STOL-ik) or lowest pressure in your artery. Blood pressure is written as 120/80 with the systolic reading being listed first.

Hypertension or high blood pressure occurs when your blood pressure is higher than normal – that is, greater than 140/90 for a long period of time. If you have a blood pressure reading of between 120/80 and 139/89 you would be considered prehypertensive. Normal blood pressure is **less than** 120/80.

High blood pressure is a lifelong disease. If not controlled, **it can lead to heart or kidney disease, stroke or damage to the eyes (retinopathy).**

### Blood Pressure Checks:

Due to equipment malfunction, BP checks will begin soon. Sorry for the delay!

## IN OUR COMMUNITY

### Sandy Spring Lions Club:

Monday, March 26; 7:00 pm; Community Hall

### Eyeglass Collection:

Salem will continue to collect used eyeglasses, cell phones and hearing aids to donate to Lions Club. Please leave them in the Community Hall.

Manna Food Center: [www.mannafood.org/](http://www.mannafood.org/)

9311 Gaither Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20877  
To volunteer call 301-424-1130.

Olney Help: P.O. Box 430, Olney, MD 20832

To volunteer call 301-774-6829.

Needs: dried peas/beans (small bags), sloppy Joe sauce, crackers, cookies, granola bars, canned chili, pancake syrup, pasta side dishes, frosting, and canned meats. Please place items in the box in church hallway. No glass jars.

**Our Sympathy to:  
The Ponds Family**



**A Witness to the Life of Betty Ponds**

Whenever anyone would talk with Betty, she would always have a smile on her face and laughter seemed to erupt during the conversation. Betty lived her faith through her service to her community. Only God knows how many hours she spent at the hospital Women’s Board thrift store! Betty loved serving at the thrift store. She loved the serendipity nature of shopping for bargains at them, but she knew that the money went to a good cause, too. And Betty recognized the stewardship in reusing items that still had good wear left in them. Often the jewelry she wore, she had found at the thrift store!

Betty also loved her home, Prospect Hill. There she was at peace with God and God’s created world. She connected with God through the sunsets, the deer, the foxes, the birds, and even the turkey vultures. She saw all of nature as interconnected and all of it connected to its Creator. Observing nature brought peace to Betty’s soul. In a world that can be chaotic and discordant, watching a sunset or sunrise, taking time to watch how animals live, meditating in God’s created world, connected Betty with the Creator.

On February 16, Betty sat in her favorite chair, folded her hands, and followed her Lord through the fields and across the river into God’s new creation-eternal life where she is still smiling and laughing at this beautiful gift given to her by our Creator God.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry:**

Know anyone who needs a prayer and God’s warm embrace? Give them a Prayer Shawl. See Carole Roberts or Rev. Sue for a shawl.

**SPECIAL THANK YOU**

Central Union Mission

Hi Salem United Methodist Church

I just wanted to take this time out to say thank you so very much for all acts of kindness and generosity that you have shown us (Camp Bennet and Central Union Mission) throughout the year. But a big double thank you for the coats you’ve given us this year. I know that the recipients will be very warm this year because of your love of the Lord and hurting people in need.

Thanks for partnering with us.

Chaplin Surles

**Central Union Mission**

To all the people who care enough to give,

My name is James. After I left the army I had a hard time finding consistent work. I couldn’t pay my bills and ended up on and off the streets for 11 years. But your gifts saved me. I was so tired and I just couldn’t spend one more winter not knowing where I would sleep or where my next meal would come from. I knew I wouldn’t survive it.

Your gifts gave me hot food and a warm bed. They also gave me time to heal and get to know God. I always tell the other guys now, if you want to stop being homeless, you got to start with God.

So I need to thank you. We all need a little help. No one wants to be homeless. People want to feel useful and like they have something to contribute to society. You’ve helped me make that possible.

Everytime you give, you give someone hope and a chance to work out a new life.

Many blessings,

James

**CHECK IT OUT!**

**AND THE ANSWER IS –**



**Do you know him?**

**No one offered any suggestions to who our Mystery guest could be, so here's the answer**



**Robert Brown**

**Bob writes:** I was born and raised near Pittsburgh PA (go Steelers). In the early 70's I attended Penn State University where I met Maryellen. In 1976 we relocated to the DC area when Maryellen, then an Army Nurse, was assigned to Walter Reed Hospital. In 1986 we moved to the Brookeville area with our 2 year old son Ian, and we soon found our church family at Salem. Adrienne was born in 1988 and we are still here. I have been employed in the reprographic industry since 1977 and I am currently a general manager for ARC Document Solutions.

**OUR NEXT CHALLENGE IS:**

**DO YOU KNOW WHO THIS IS?**



I hope you are enjoying these flashes from our past. Remember, if you know who this is, e-mail me at [velma\\_durant@yahoo.com](mailto:velma_durant@yahoo.com) or stop me in Church and let me know.



# Christian Day Camp

At Salem United Methodist  
Church, 12 High Street,  
Brookeville MD  
July 8-12, 2013  
9:00-11:30 a.m.

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade in school (as of Sept 2013): \_\_\_\_\_

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Responsible adult \_\_\_\_\_ relationship to child \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies? (please list) \_\_\_\_\_

(If allergies might require emergency treatment, please give details on the back of this form.)

If your family has a church you attend regularly, please

list: \_\_\_\_\_

The following people may pick up my child from Day Camp:

Name

Phone number

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**Please return this form with registration fee of \$15 per child (\$30 max per family) to:  
Day Camp, Salem United Methodist Church, 12 High Street, Brookeville MD 20833.**

**Please make checks payable to "Salem UMC."**

**Questions? Please call Rev. Janet at 301-774-7772.** Confidential scholarships are available to cover the registration fee if needed.

# Salem United Methodist Church

March 2013

| Sunday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Monday                                                                                          | Tuesday                                                                                | Wednesday                                                                                                                                                 | <i>Thursday</i>                                                                                       | Friday                                        | Saturday                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                 |                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                       | 1<br>10:00am Knitting Group, Joanne Keister's | 2                                         |
| 3<br><br><b>Third Sunday in Lent</b><br><br><b>"Getting Forgiveness"</b><br><br>8:15am Worship<br>9:15am Adult Sunday School<br>10:00am Worship<br>10:30 Youth Sunday Sch.<br>11:15am ASP Breakfast, Community Hall<br>6:30-8:00pm Youth Group | 4<br>9:00am ROMEOS at Dempsey's in Ashton<br>7:30pm Music Fundamental for Christians, Choir Rm. | 5<br>10:00am Prayer Partners at Joanne Keister's<br>7:30pm Music rehearsal, Choir Room | 6<br>9:00am Upper Room Bible Discussion (Choir Room)<br>7:00pm Disciple 1-Hall, upstairs<br>7:00pm Disciple 4-Hall, upstairs<br>8:00pm AA-Hall, main room | 7<br>6:30pm – Cub Scouts, Hall<br>7:30-9:00pm. Adult Study, Seeing Gray, Hall<br>8:00pm AA-Choir room | 8<br>10:00am Knitting Group, Joanne Keister's | 9<br>6:30-8:00pm Family Movie Night, Hall |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                               |                                                 |                                                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <b>11</b>                                                                                                                          | <b>12</b>                                                                                                                         | <b>13</b>                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>14</b>                                                                                                     | <b>15</b>                                       | <b>16</b>                                          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <p>9:00am ROMEOS at Dempsey's in Ashton</p> <p>7:30pm Music Fundamental for Christians, Choir Rm.</p>                              | <p>10:00am Prayer Partners at Joanne Keister's</p> <p>7:00pm Tiger Den meeting</p> <p>7:30pm Book Discussion, Hall (upstairs)</p> | <p>9:00am Upper Room Bible Discussion (Choir Room)</p> <p>7:00pm Disciple 1-Hall, upstairs</p> <p>7:00pm Disciple 4-Hall, upstairs</p> <p>8:00pm AA-Hall, main room</p>             | <p>7:00pm Cub Scouts, Hall</p> <p>7:30-9:00pm. Adult Study, Seeing Gray, Hall</p> <p>8:00pm AA-Choir room</p> | <p>10:00am Knitting Group, Joanne Keister's</p> | <p>8:00am United Methodist Men at Panera Bread</p> |
| <b>17</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <b>18</b>                                                                                                                          | <b>19</b>                                                                                                                         | <b>20</b>                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>21</b>                                                                                                     | <b>22</b>                                       | <b>23</b>                                          |
| <p><b>Fifth Sunday in Lent "Receiving Forgiveness"</b></p> <p>8:15am Worship</p> <p>9:15am Adult Sunday School</p> <p>10:00am Worship</p> <p>10:30 Youth Sunday Sch.</p> <p>11:15am Coffee Social</p> <p>5:00-6:00pm Youth Group</p> <p>6:00 pm The Gathering</p> | <p>9:00am ROMEOS at Dempsey's in Ashton</p> <p>7:30pm Music Fundamental for Christians, Choir Rm.</p> <p>7:00pm Trustees, Hall</p> | <p>10:00am Prayer Partners at Joanne Keister's</p>                                                                                | <p>9:00am Upper Room Bible Discussion (Choir Room)</p> <p>7:00pm Disciple 1-Hall, upstairs</p> <p>7:00pm Disciple 4-Hall, upstairs</p> <p>8:00pm AA-Hall, main room</p> <hr/> <hr/> | <p>7:30-9:00pm. Adult Study, Seeing Gray, Hall</p> <p>8:00pm AA-Choir room</p>                                | <p>10:00am Knitting Group, Joanne Keister's</p> | <p>1:00-5:00pm Lord's Table at St. Martin's</p>    |



|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                |                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                               |                                                 |           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>24</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <b>25</b>                                                                                                                                      | <b>26</b>                                          | <b>27</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <b>28</b>                                                     | <b>29</b>                                       | <b>30</b> |
| <p><b>Palm/Passion Sunday</b><br/> <b>Sunday "Forgiving Judas"</b><br/> 8:15am Worship<br/> 9:15am Adult Sunday School<br/> 10:00am Worship<br/> 10:30 Youth Sunday Sch.<br/> 11:15am Coffee Social<br/> 6:30-8:00 pm Youth Group</p>                        | <p>9:00am ROMEOS at Dempsey's in Ashton<br/> 7:00pm Sandy Spring Lion's Club, Hall<br/> 7:30pm Music Fundamental for Christians, Choir Rm.</p> | <p>10:00am Prayer Partners at Joanne Keister's</p> | <p>9:00am Upper Room Bible Discussion (Choir Room)<br/> 10:00 Pre-School Story Time, Hall<br/> 7:00pm Disciple 1- Hall, upstairs<br/> 7:00pm Disciple 4- Hall, upstairs<br/> 8:00pm AA-Hall, main room</p> | <p>7:30pm Holy Thursday Worship<br/> 8:00pm AA-Choir room</p> | <p>10:00am Knitting Group, Joanne Keister's</p> |           |
| <b>31</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                |                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                               |                                                 |           |
| <p><b>EASTER</b><br/> <b>Resurrection Sunday</b><br/> "The Ultimate Act of Forgiveness"<br/> 7:00am Sunrise service<br/> 7:30am Community Breakfast, Hall<br/> 8:15am Worship Service<br/> 9:30am Community Easter Egg Hunt<br/> 10:00am Worship Service</p> |                                                                                                                                                |                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                               |                                                 |           |