

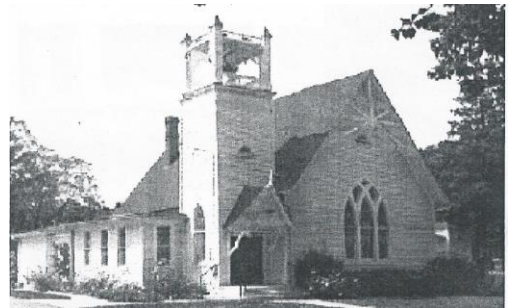
Salem United Methodist Church

January 2019 Newsletter

«184 Years and Still Loving, Serving and Celebrating»



SALEM Methodist Protestant Church 1833



SALEM United Methodist Church 2019

12 High Street, Brookeville, Maryland 20833

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

**TO THE SALEM UM CHURCH
COMMUNITY**



Rev. Dr. Sue Shorb-Sterling.

To the Salem UM Church Community-

Happy New Year! A New Year brings hope of good things to come. It's a clean slate, a new beginning. What kind of things are you hoping for? What needs to be discarded so there is room for new, fresher things? One of the things I hope for each year is for God's grace to remake me back into the image of God that was placed in me. That image of God is sometimes referred to as our soul. Rev. Keith Byron Jones wrote in his book, *Soul Talk*, "Your soul is the part of you God held last just before releasing your free flight into the world." Our soul is a gift from God. It is the place where we connect with God and the place where God connects with us. But just as we may neglect caring for our bodies, we can also neglect caring for our souls. Neglecting our health we know can

cause health problems. Neglecting our soul can also cause needless anxiety and even burn out.

Each New Year, advertisements for various weight loss and fitness programs entice us to care for our bodies through healthy eating and exercise. What advertisements are there to remind us to take time to practice listening to that inner voice that comes from the Holy, to care for that place that connects with God, to practice soul talk? Here is one.

We are inviting you to attend worship during the Season of Epiphany to learn some new, or refresh the not-so-new exercises to care for our souls. These exercises are based on Rev. Jones book. The Covenant Discipleship class that meets on Wednesday mornings at 8:30-9:30 A.M. will be reading his book and practicing *Soul Talk*. If you would like to delve deeper into these soul exercises, you are invited to attend, or order the book and work through these at your own pace.

The Soul Talk exercises are simple, yet challenging to engage. They are:

1. Be Still
2. Lay Burdens Down
3. Listen Deeply
4. Don't Run Away
5. Be Honest
6. Be Gentle

7. Welcome New Truth

Rev. Jones wrote, "Your Soul is our hidden reservoir of limitless wisdom, peace, and joy." In this world where there is little wisdom, where there is fear, anxiety, pain, and sadness, we need to be reminded again how to tap into these hidden reservoirs and drink from our souls.

Yours in Christ, Rev. Sue

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, Jan 6 Epiphany Sunday,
Sermon Title: Hope Revealed
Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1-12;
Ephesians 3:1-12

Epiphany Sermon Series:

Holy Connections- Soul Talk

Sunday, Jan 13 Baptism of the Lord Sunday
Sermon Title: Claimed!
Isaiah 43:1-7; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22;
Acts 8:14-17

Sunday, Jan 20
Sermon Title: The Marriage or Be Still
Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 36:5-10;
John 2:1-11

Sunday, Jan 27
Sermon Title: Letting Go or Lay
Burdens Down
Psalm 19; Luke 4:14-21

The Epiphany Sermon Series: Holy
Connections-Soul Talk will continue in February

YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group Meets Every Sunday Evening

All middle and high-school students are welcome.
You do not need to attend Salem.

6:30-7:00 pm Youth Bell Choir

7:00-8:00 pm Time Together

Jan 6: What Gift Can We Bring?

Jan 13: John Who? Why John?

Jan 20: What & Who are Disciples?

Jan 27: Saul or Paul?

ROCK: Fri., Feb. 8-10 in Ocean City, MD

This is a conference wide youth event at OC
Convention Center with Christian bands and
speakers.

Watch for how to Adopt-a-Rocker in January.
Adoption helps us fund this weekend.

FROM THE CONGREGATION

With Charlyne's permission we are rerunning her article from January 2013, only the year has been changed.



*Sharing My
Thoughts*

From Charlyne Lewis

This brand new year of 2018 brings with it all kinds of unexpected "surprises" for all of us...we only have to be open in our minds and hearts to receive them when they come our way!!

The Epiphany is truly a wondrous thing, isn't it? Wouldn't it be neat if we could be 'little mice' and be at a stable when Magi arrived on that eventful day, and saw the Babe for the very first time? What a picture that must have been...they were truly in awe of Him! We are so blessed each year to celebrate His birth and a 'new beginning' ahead for each of us.

My all of you, dear ones be loved and blessed in this New Year.

Charlyne

Matthew 2:7-12

APPALACHIA SERVICE PROJECT (ASP) 2019

On Saturday, January 5, the ASP teams held a Chili-Cook Off and the Epiphany Auction. Results from both will be published in February's newsletter.

Other upcoming ASP fundraisers are:

Sunday, February 3, Breakfast after the 10:00 A.M. worship service in the Community Hall

Sunday, April 14, Breakfast after the 10:00 A.M. worship service in the Community Hall.

Saturday, April 27, Yard Sale, inside and out at the Community Hall starting at 8 A.M.

SALEM BOOK CLUB

Wednesday, January 23 at 7:30 P.M. will be held at the home of Suzanne Friis. We will be reading "Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End" by Atul Gawande.

SOMETHING HAPPENING AT SALEM

As we continue to connect with those in our community, Salem has scheduled monthly events of interest. Here is a listing of upcoming events.

The Network:

The Story of the Underground Railroad

Monday, January 21 at 7:00 P.M.

Natalie Williams, an educator and a member of the Board of Directors for The Sandy Spring Slave Museum and African Art Gallery, will share information about the function of the Underground Railroad, stories of enslaved African Americans from Maryland and Montgomery County and share her own family connection to the Railroad.

Parent's Date Night Out with Girl Scouts

Saturday, Feb 9, 6:30-9:00 P.M.

An evening of games and activities for ages pre-school-10. Snacks included, dinner not provided. Free. Registration required at www.salemunitedmethodist.org.

Birds in the Backyard

Tuesday, March 26, 7:00 P.M.

Learn how to make your backyard a paradise for birds. Susie Creamer, Director of Urban Education and Conservation, Patterson Park Audubon Center will present a program on attracting birds to the backyard.

Birdwatching in the Backyard and Beyond

Tuesday, May 7 at 7:00 P.M.

Presented by Jim Nelson, past President of the Montgomery Bird Club and Compiler for the annual Christmas Bird Count will talk about everything from tracking to identification.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt Program

Saturday, May 18, 7:00 P.M.

Delmas Wood will present his well-known impersonation of FDR. In 1995 he created the FDR Living Museum on his property on Dr. Bird Rd. in Sandy Spring. The museum includes photographs, books, and videos about FDR, a 1936 Ford Phaeton, the kind of car FDR drove, and a life-sized figure of America's lone four-term president.

FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

Thank you to everyone who made sure that Salem was financially viable in 2018. Because of your generosity, we will be able to continue with all our current staff and all of our ministries. The 2019 budget is attached for your information.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR 2018

Salem's Annual Christmas Bazaar was another success. Thanks to all who baked, cooked, donated items for gift baskets and Christmas Treasures Room. And a special thank you to Barbara Achstetter who once again created a children's craft area. Children came down the stairs with their handmade crafts hidden in brown paper bags to be given as Christmas gifts to family members.

We connected with many people. One woman confessed that she attends every year because she can afford to make Christmas happen for her family because of what she is able to purchase at the Bazaar!

In addition to creating Christmas for others, the women earned nearly \$5000 in only four hours. Well done, good and faithful Salem servants!



Faithful Bazaar Workers

1st Row: Rev. Sue Shorb-Sterling, Karen Smith, JoAnne Keister, Judy Ercolani

2nd Row: Libby Wright, Joyce Howes, Debbie McKeever, Kulley Bancoft, Carole Roberts, Sharon Lyons, Santa Claus (Bill Lavelly), Nancy Cox, Suzanne Friis, Betty Bittner, Maryellen Eaton, Nancy Morell, Joanne Ranshaw and Yvette Thurston.

BLUE CHRISTMAS OR THE LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

Christmas isn't a joyful time for everyone. Many feel blue for a variety of reasons. On Sunday, December 23, members of the congregation met to remember. Remembering our loved ones who were celebrating this joyous season around the dinner table of our King and singing "Happy Birthday" to Him. Remembering the "time" that is so quickly slipping away from all of us.

Please take time to read the enclosed message by our Intern Jo Schonewolf she presented at the special worship service.



As we placed a flower in the wreath for each of our loved ones gone before us, we knew our loved ones were safe in the care of the One who made us all. We lit the candle of light to show us His light is guiding us through each moment of our lives and God is still on the Throne.

Thank you to Nancy Wilkie and Rose Eide-Altman for providing meditative music.

THE FAMILY CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE

Christmas Eve 2018, the children and their parents along with others gathered to worship with for the 5:00 P.M. Christmas Eve worship.

After the Call to Worship, the Christ candle in the Advent Wreath was lit. It is the center candle in the picture.



Jo Schonewolf read a story, The Three Trees. One of them wanted its wood to be used for a great purpose and it was. Its wood was used to make the manger that held the Christ Child.



Pieces of a manger scene were hidden in small paper boxes throughout the sanctuary. The children had to find them and bring them forward to create the manger scene as Jo told the story of the birth of the Christ Child. During the offertory, the children brought up the pieces to the Nativity Scene on the altar, too.



The Apola sisters, Carlan, Cogen, and Rose Eide-Altman provided Christmas music. Chuck Sterling and Rob Morrel provided special music, "O the Holly She Bears a Berry."

We remembered that Jesus is the Light of the World as we dimmed the lights, as the light of Christ was passed from one person to another as we lit our candles as we sang, "Silent Night, Holy Night."

After this time of worship, the children were invited to make ornaments for their Christmas tree and given a book about the birth of Jesus.



CHRISTMAS EVE TRADITIONAL CANDLE LIGHT WORSHIP SERVICE

The Sanctuary had been decorated for Christmas during the Advent season, the time leading up to this special night when we, as a family, gather to worship and celebrate the birth of our Lord and King, Jesus Christ.



As the Christmas Eve worship service began, the congregation stood to read the Call to Worship:

L: The people who once lived in darkness have been given a great light!

P: God has brought us a light of Hope and Peace.

L: Tonight the Light of God's Love is given to us!

P: And we shall see that light and let it shine through our lives.



Kyle and Emily (Weinberger) Johns lit the Christ Candle



Our music director, Rose Eide-Altman, arranged the special music with Drusilla, Gabriella and Jane Apola on the violins.



Special Music: "O the Holly She Bears a Berry"
Rob Morell and Joe Meisner, singers; Joanne Rider, bodhrán; Chuck Sterling, penny whistle



Special Music: “That Night in Bethlehem”

Don Rider, reader; Chuck Sterling, soloist;
Joanne Rider, bodhrán; Jo Schonewolf, flute.

Other beautiful Christmas music was offered by Carlan Cogen as he played on the piano and Rose played the organ.

Rev. Sue presented wonderful words of wisdom in her message: “The Best Gifts: Hope and Love”

After Holy Communion, the lights were dimmed as the candles were lit as the congregation sang “Silent Night, Holy Night.”

Our Christmas Eve Worship Service ended with a Christmas Prayer which we prayed in unison.

We thank you, God of Love and Light, for Jesus who is our light, our hope, and our life. As we have received strength and spiritual nourishment from the bread and cup, and as we have received the Light that overcame darkness, transforms us to be bearers of your everlasting light, messengers of your eternal hope, and witnesses to our new life in you. Amen.

After the singing of “Joy to the World” Rev. Sue gave “A Christmas Blessing” and the congregation responded with the refrain to “Go, Tell It on the Mountain.”
May the Christ Light guide you in the New Year.

A WORD ABOUT MISSIONS

HOLIDAY GIFT BASKETS

Once again our congregation stepped up and provided four food baskets so others, less fortunate, could celebrate the birth of the Christ Child.



Salem’s Four Boxes of Christmas Food Items

Here is a thank you email we received from the coordinator from St. Peter’s Catholic Church.

As the Montgomery County Coalition wraps up this year's Holiday Basket Project I would like to thank you personally for your invaluable help and support. This year Montgomery County served over 10,800 families at Thanksgiving and over 12,500 families in December. The county could not assist so many families without the collaboration of Salem United Methodist Church.

With your congregation's support, we were able to organize and provide food baskets for over 265 families at Thanksgiving and in December together we served over 280 families and gave gifts to over 570 children [in the Olney area]. We truly appreciate all your support over the years and especially this past holiday season. We look forward to partnering with you again in 2019. May this year be peaceful and joyous! Thank you!

In Christ,
Maria Hauge
St. Peter’s Catholic Church

YMCA MENTORING PROGRAM



These gifts were for the 22 names in the YMCA’s ”Snowman” effort to make sure underprivileged children are not forgotten at Christmas. The children received their gifts at the YMCA’s Christmas party.

COFFEE HOUR

Have you signed up to provide snacks for coffee hour? Please volunteer to provide a coffee hour or two this year. You may sign up on the list posted on the bulletin board in the Community Hall.

MEMORY GARDEN

If you are interested in placing an order for a brick to honor/remember someone please see Joyce Howes for more information.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

If your name should be on one of these lists, please contact velma_durant@yahoo.com. We don't want to leave you out. Thank you.

Our January Birthdays are:

Van Horn, Deb	01/02
Bartley, Rachel	01/03
Lange, Marilyn	01/06
Stanley-Brown, Maryellen	01/18
Ranshaw, David	01/20
York, Marcia	01/20
Ennes, Kathryn	01/22
Poe-Yamagata, Emma	01/27
Harischandra, Wathsala	01/29
Myer, Rick	01/30

January Anniversaries:

Ennes, Mark and Anne	1/25
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OUR COMMUNITY

Sandy Spring Lions Club: The next dinner will be on Monday, January 22nd at 7:00 pm. **There is a standing request for help in preparing the dinner, setting up, serving and cleaning up. If you can help, please contact Mary Ellen Eaton.**

Eyeglass Collection: Salem continues to collect used eyeglasses, cell phones and hearing aids to donate to Lions Club. Please leave them in Salem Community Hall.

Spirit Club: Spirit Club, a fitness group for those with disabilities, meets Wednesdays in the Community Hall from 6-7 pm. Our own Philip Weinberger is an avid participant.

Seniors on the Move – Exercise Class: Fridays, 9:00-10:00 am in the Community Hall. Drop in – registration not required! Participate and pay by the session or for the full program. For more

information contact the leader, Mary-Jo Cosgrove, at mjcosgrove58@gmail.com.

“FOR I WAS HUNGRY...”

Manna Food Center: 9311 Gaither Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20877

To volunteer call 301-424-1130 or online at www.mannafood.org.

Olney Help: P.O. Box 430, Olney, MD 20830
To volunteer call 301-774-6829. They still are in desperate need of rice sides (Rice-a-Roni/ Knorr sides), peanut butter, jelly, canned chicken, fruit juice, snacks such as granola bars/crackers, cake mix/frosting, canned pasta. Please place items in the box marked for Olney Help in the church hallway. **No glass jars.**

PRAYER SHAWLS



Prayer Shawls are available in the Salem entry hall on top of the coat rack. There is no cost. If you know anyone you want to share a prayer with all the time, please help yourself to a shawl. The comfort they give is well worth the effort of delivering one to your friends, family, or co-workers. They do help. Just knowing someone cares is sometimes just the right medicine. They will thank you!

Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

A Blessed New Year to You and Your Family!

**The Salem Newsletter is assembled and published by
Velma Durant, and edited by Curtis Smith and
Rev. Dr. Sue Shorb-Sterling or Suzanne Friis**

