

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

NEWSLETTER November 2022

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A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Salem Family and Friends,

As we reflect back on 2022 and look forward with joy and hope to 2023 we would like to thank you for your generous giving to the life and work of Salem United Methodist Church in 2022. Who in the world would ever have guessed we'd have a year like the one we've just been through? Who in the world would have guessed that Salem would have come through it so beautifully, and with such creativity?

So much is different now than it has been, so many changes and challenges. A global pandemic, a world full of rancor, plenty of fear and struggle and uncertainty to go around. Despite these challenges, Salem has welcomed new faces to our congregation, we have been blessed with Rev. Emily's talents, skills, and passion, and, with Alan's amazing talents and guidance, we now have a new and exciting music ministry that has enriched us and brought enthusiasm to our worship time together.

Now that the world is opening back up again, it's safe to say that we may never appreciate the gift of in-person church more than we do now: the beauty of worship, the power of music, the sweetness of sacraments, the dignity of service – always Together for Joy in community with God, whose love covers every distance and heals every heart.

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We hope you will join us in embracing the theme of our giving Campaign for 2023 – Together for Joy. Enclosed with this letter from Rev. Emily and the Leadership Team is a pledge card and a prayer. We hope you

will pray the prayer below regularly as you discern your giving for the coming year. It is through our giving to the work and ministries of Salem that we will move together joyfully into 2023.

Grace and Peace,

Rev. Emily Hart Salem Leadership Team

Debbie Ambrose, Mary Kay Abramson, Halsey Smith, Velma Durant

Prayer for Giving

Great One, for you the floods clap, for you the hills sing. You know my situation better than anyone. Take my credits and debits, ins and outs, pluses and minuses, surpluses and lacks, and show me how to use them to join the great chorus of Creation. Amen

Rev. Emily Hart Salem UMC, Brookeville

00	Name	
Yê	Address	
	City	
	State	Zip Code
A Comment		
	I/We plan to give \$	each week month
M	for an annual total of \$	towards our mission and ministry.
TOGETHER FOR JOY	I/We understand that this pledge can be changed at any time.	
PLEDGE CARD	Signature	Date

November 20 is giving Sunday.

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LEADERSHIP TEAM UPDATE

From the Leadership Team... Notes from our meeting 10/9/22 and Grace in Action 10/16/22

Our annual Church Conference (formerly referred to as "Charge Conference") will be held on October 29 at 11:00. All church members are welcome to attend in person or online and hear the annual report of our work in 2022. A lot of time and energy went into writing the different components of this report. We hope some of you will attend to hear how we report to the Baltimore Washington Conference about what's happening at Salem.

- We have been revising our Vision and Mission statements. We have completed the Vision Statement and shared it during our last Grace in Action Meeting (10/16/22). It was approved by those attending and will now be the Statement we will use to determine our direction and actions over the next several years. Please look for it in the Bulletin and consider how it defines us as a church.
- We set our Goals for 2023.

#1. By 2023 we will continue to apply and implement accountable, simplified leadership principles as found in the book *Mission Possible*. To support our efforts, we participated in a Training Day on 10/22. We watched and discussed a series of videos highlighting the key concepts in *Mission Possible*. We also developed a Leadership Covenant to guide our work in the coming year.

#2. We will work on ways to operationalize our Vision and Mission.

 We have begun discussing our Budget for 2023. Please be watching for Stewardship materials in the mail. (We are running a bit behind getting them out.) We hope to have them to you by the beginning of November. We would appreciate having all pledge cards returned by November 20 (or 27) so we can begin to finalize our budget for 2023. We will report to the congregation on our finances in early December.

- We discussed forming a Work Group to look at our Membership Roles and reach out to those members we do not see often to ask how we can involve them more intentionally in our Salem Community. This will be a short term God Job (4-6 months). Please reach out to Pastor Emily or Debbie Ambrose if you would be interested in participating.
- Christmas is coming! Our Christmas season will include:

Thanksgiving and Holiday Baskets, YMCA gifts, Advent Family Kits and (maybe) a Winter Coat Drive for Camp Bennett. We will be decorating our Sanctuary in the morning on Saturday, November 26. Anyone interested in doing God's work on any of these projects, contact Pastor Emily or Debbie Ambrose. There are lots of God Jobs to go around!

NOVEMBER SERMON SERIES

Stewardship – Together for Joy

Sing a New Song November 6 Psalm 98: 1-3

Shout Triumphantly November 13 Psalm 98: 4-6

Establish Justice November 20 Psalm 98: 7-9

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BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS



We were blessed with the presence of eight well-behaved dogs who received prayers, Rev. Emily's blessings and treats. Plus, people brought photos of their beloved pets who have passed on. We even met a couple visitors who brought their Burmese mountain dogs and a stylish French Bull dog dressed in his tuxedo. Sixteen well-behaved owners also attended. It was beautiful sunny day. Many thanks to Mollie Haines for coordinating and advertising this community event. (See additional photos on Facebook)

MISSIONS

The Lord's Table

The Lord's Table serves hot meals to those in need. All members of Salem UMC are invited to help them on the first Friday of every month at Epworth United Methodist Church, 9008 Rosemont Drive, Gaithersburg, MD. Additional volunteers are always needed.

Olney HELP Food Donations

(Updated 10/5/22)—THE PANTRY IS CRITICALLY LOW! You may leave non-

perishable food donations in the box in the Meeting Room behind the Sanctuary or in the marked box in the Community Hall.

Nancy Cox will deliver them to Olney HELP. Most needed items: boxed spaghetti and pasta, sloppy joe sauce, baked beans, pancake mix/ syrup, jelly, canned pasta, spaghetti sauce (plain kinds), canned meats – chicken, tuna, spam, corned beef hash, dessert mixes – cake/frosting, cookie, brownie. They currently have enough hearty soups and other beans (kidney, black, lentil, etc.) All other non-perishable items are very welcome. They just ask that they have current dates on them.

If you are interested in volunteering or know of someone in need, please call their Helpline at (301) 774-4334.

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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 who is ill or needs comfort. Feel free to pick one up near the coat rack.

BAPTISMS ON 11/20/22

The Lyon and Brown families will be celebrating the baptisms of their newest family members during the service on Sunday, 11/20: Rosalie Jean Kropkowski (daughter of Adrienne Brown & Rob Kropkowski), and Logan Elijah Thomas (son of Marie Lyon & Brett Thomas). Please join us in the hall after the service for refreshments.

NEEDED!

Salem UMC is looking for a detail-oriented person to become our next **website administrator**. Knowledge of HTML is desired, but not necessary. All training will be provided. If this is something you might be interested in, contact Nancy Joie Wilkie for more information at mindsights@mindspring.com

FALL WORK DAY

Fall Work Day – October 2, 2022

Thanks to the following people who joined for a morning of fun and running up and down

stairs as we undertook our Fall Maintenance tasks:

Mark and Joan Aebig, MaryKay Abramson, Fred and Debbie Ambrose, Chet Babylon, Nancy and Greg Cox, Nancy Nullmeyer, Gene and Mollie Haines, Halsey Smith, and Hisashi Yamagata

This faithful crew completed the following tasks:

four filters changed (kitchen, upstairs and downstairs furnace rooms, church basement),

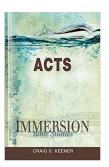
condensation pump cleaned (hall furnace room),

grease trap cleaned (kitchen) (a special award goes to these folks), oil and propane tanks checked, broken lock on the door to the social hall replaced.

19 assorted batteries replaced throughout the church and hall, and water filter to the ice maker replaced.

WOW!!! Thanks to all!!!!!
Please watch for an announcement about our next work day and join in the fun!

FALL / WINTER BIBLE STUDY



We've done Matthew, Mark, Luke, John... it's time to move on to Acts! Whether or not you've joined us before, you are welcome to dive in now! All you'll need is a copy of the book "Immersion Bible Study: Acts" and a Bible! The class

is eight weeks and begins October 19 on Zoom. We'll take a break during Advent and pick up again in January. Fellowship time at 6:30 PM, with study from 7:00 -8:00.

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BROOKEVILLE SING AND S'MORE

The congregation enjoys hymn sings led by Alan on the second and fourth Thursdays each month followed by campfires and making s'mores behind Rev. Emily's house. Remember to bring a non-perishable food item for the Olney HELP food bin.

APPRECIATION

Many thanks to Pastor Laura Kigweba James who conducted the October 2 service while Rev. Emily was away. Pastor Laura passionately preached on the legacy of faith. "For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands." 2 Timothy 1:6. Pastor Laura asked us to remember the legacy of our faith. How will our gifts of faith be passed on?

READING ROOM

Welcome to the Reading Room upstairs in the Community Hall where you'll be able to read or borrow books, study guides, and other Christian-focused material. Rev. Emily made a video tour. Check it out on Facebook. The Reading Room is open on Sundays from 8:30 A.M. to noon.

Did you know some Best Selling Authors reside in the Reading Room? They include:

E. Stanley Jones (*Ghandi*) Max Lucado (*3:16*) Adam Hamilton (*When Christians Get It* Wrong)
Steven Furtick (Greater)
William Lane Craig (Hard Questions, Real
Answers)

C. S. Lewis (*Mere Christianity*)
M. Scott Peck (*People of the Lie*) and Lee Strobel (*The Case for Christ*) amongst many others.

MUSICAL INSTRUCTION

Alan Naylor, Minister of Music at Salem UMC and Helen Hayes Award Winner will continue offering free musical instruction. See the email or website http://www.salemunitedmethodist.org for further details. Contact Alan at: music@salemunitedmethodist.org to schedule a consultation.

SCRIPTURE READERS NEEDED

We would like to expand the number of people who will read scripture during the worship service. If you would like to participate, please contact Rev. Emily.

APPALACHIA SERVICE PROJECT

Thanks to Fred Ambrose for his faith-filled piece on ASP last month.

Part II. I'd like to add a little history and some current events. By Joan Aebig

ASP was founded in 1969 by Reverend Glenn "Tex" Evans, a United Methodist minister. He saw the needs of the residents in Appalachia (rhymes with apple-at-cha)

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and organized the untapped energy of teens to provide home repair. He said, "We accept people right where they are, just the way they are."

ASP is a non-profit Christian ministry and helps thousands of volunteers from around the country make a difference in the lives of hundreds of families every year. ASP completes repairs in 20-25 communities each summer.

Mark and I led ASP at another church for many years. One of our teams repaired severe water damage in a wall and floor in a simple house. The lady of the house had been an Olney resident; her older children having gone to Olney Elementary School. Following a tragic accident that killed her husband, she moved to Appalachia to live with her mother. This shows that with changes in our circumstances, we, too, might be in the position of needing assistance and God's grace.

A former Associate Pastor wrote a letter to Mark saying that what we are doing through ASP changes lives in ways we may never know or understand: A ripple effect of positive change that spreads from the center of the families we serve outwards to the community.

Those of us who go to Appalachia love the lush mountains, the hollers, the houses nestled in the hills, and the creeks running through town. Some homeowners don't quite know what to say to us. But one homeowner said, "You know before them people worked on my house, I didn't think there was anyone in the world who would help me, but now I believe there are good people in this world."

Our son, Doug Aebig, is cutting PVC pipe under a house, Knox County, Kentucky, July 2006.

Sixteen years later, in July 2022, six to seven inches of rain fell in Knox Co. The deluge throughout Kentucky and southwestern



Virginia destroyed hundreds of homes and, tragically, killed over three dozen people. Hundreds were left homeless and lost everything. Scientific American reported that a warming climate, unique topography, and the legacy of coal mining increased the odds of extreme flooding.

When we watched the reports of flooding on the news, we knew the names because we'd been there: Knox Co., Buchanan Co., Perry Co., Knott Co., etc.

Now, those people who need home repair must go through the process again: fill out an ASP application and then wait.

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.

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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

BIRTHDAYS



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

November

Bancroft, Kulley	11/04
Blaine, Connie	11/09
Bittner, Betty	11/17
Howes, Joyce	11/24

COVID

COVID POLICY: Confused? Our policy is currently that masks are strongly recommended.

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 Carole Roberts Mollie Haines Nancy Joie Wilkie

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