



SALEM BROOKEVILLE

A UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

NEWSLETTER February 2023

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A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Happy February!

Have you ever wondered how I choose the scriptures to preach on for Sunday mornings (and why I pick ones I don't like so often)?

Sometimes I choose them thematically, but more often I follow something called a "Lectionary." There are two popular lectionary resources. One is called the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL), and the other is called the Narrative Lectionary (NL). Lectionary committees want to choose enough scripture that if you never read the Bible on your own you would still hear all the high points within a few years in church. The RCL has a 3-year cycle and four readings each week and the NL has a 4-year cycle with one reading each week.

For the New Year, we are following the Narrative Lectionary. In the fall, it follows the big stories in the Old Testament. Around Christmas it switches to reading through a Gospel. I like the narrative lectionary a lot because, as the name suggests, it follows the narrative of God's story with us.

Year One of the Narrative Lectionary is all about the book of Matthew, so you'll hear a lot of that on Sunday mornings!

Some pastors choose to find their own scriptures and themes, rather than following a lectionary. I do that occasionally. However, I know that I have favorite parts of scripture

and if it were only up to me, that's all we would read. You would be fed a diet of Rev. Emily's Top 5 and we would inevitably miss something important. And, actually, I love to wrestle with scriptures I don't like. I love reading something, feeling unsettled, and then digging into it and seeing what God has done. In the past few years my best sermons have been about scriptures I didn't like.

So, I'll keep using lectionary resources. I'll keep letting God speak through these guided readings. I'll keep wondering why God is doing what God is doing. And I'll keep sharing it with all of you.

Blessings,

Rev. Emily

P.S. If you want to read more about the lectionary scriptures we'll be reading each week go to <https://www.workingpreacher.org/home-narrative-lectionary> and click on the square with the closest date on it. You can also go do <https://www.pulpitfiction.com/narrative> to listen to a podcast about the upcoming scriptures each week. Happy New Year!

How did 2022 go for you? I know for many of you, 2022 was a year of health challenges and loss. For others, it was a time of grandbabies and great joy! What are you hoping for in 2023?

Rev. Emily

WELCOMING SERIES

Have you ever wondered how we welcome guests to our church? In January, as part of a new Grace in Action Welcoming Series, Mollie Haines presented information about

opportunities churches have to welcome guests to services and community outreach projects. This led to a great discussion on various views and how we feel about what WE can do.

Look for the next Welcoming discussion in February. Date to be announced.

FEBRUARY SERMON SERIES



Feb 5	Judging	Matthew 7: 1-14, 24-29
Feb 12	Parables of Growing Things	Matthew 13: 24-43
Feb 19		Matthew 16: 24- 17:8
Feb 26		Matthew 18: 1-9

WINTER BIBLE STUDY

Join us Wednesday evenings on Zoom for our next Bible study:

Immersion 1 and 2 Corinthians
6:30-7:00 P.M. gather
7:00-8:00 study

Love is patient, love is kind... Do you want to read these words in their original context? Join us for our next Bible study! We read the book of Acts and saw Paul writing letters in prison. Join us now to read some of those letters. If you've never read a letter from Paul then you'll be perfect for this class! If you've read them a thousand times before, you'll love going even deeper. It will be six

classes, starting Wednesday February 1 and will meet the first three Wednesdays in February and March. The book is available on Amazon or through Cokesbury.com.

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 from 1-5 P.M. at Epworth United Methodist Church, 9008 Rosemont Drive, Gaithersburg, MD. Additional volunteers are always needed.

Olney HELP Food Needs

Updated 12/14/22. 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. Food items needed most at this time: Canned meats, such as tuna, chicken, turkey, corned beef, spam, salmon, Vienna sausage, etc.; Hamburger Helper, sloppy joe sauce, condensed soups - tomato, chicken noodle, vegetable, cream of mushroom, cream of chicken; canned chili, canned pasta, plain spaghetti sauce, boxed spaghetti and pasta, 1 lb. bags of rice and rice sides (Knorr/Roni), pancake mix/syrup, dessert mixes - cake, cookie, brownie. Cold cereal, baked beans, canned green beans, corn, peas (low/no salt), Canned fruit in juice, Jelly - all sizes, all flavors, condiments - BBQ sauce, ketchup, mustard, salad dressing; peanut butter (smooth) - 16-18 oz. jars, instant mashed potatoes - pouches and boxes, juice boxes - 100% juice, shelf stable bottled juice. 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 who is ill or needs comfort. Feel free to pick one up near the coat rack.

A LETTER FROM OLNEY HELP

January 26, 2023

Dear Reverend Hart:

On behalf of Olney HELP and all the people in the community we serve, please accept our heartfelt gratitude to you for your donations and contributions in December 2022. There's a reason why we've been able to do this work and support our neighbors since 1969—and that reason is *you* and other donors like you!

Olney HELP continues to deliver food and provide financial assistance to those in need. Did you know that, in 2022, we saw a **20% increase** in food assistance? Your contributions and donations definitely made a direct difference, and there is most definitely a real need for this support in our immediate community.

Happy New Year and Thank You—from everyone at Olney HELP! Your kindness matters.

Sincerely,
Kathleen Halverson
on behalf of
Ruth Filbert
Director, Food Services, Olney HELP

BROOKEVILLE SING AND S'MORE

Brookeville Sing and S'more will be on the second and fourth Thursdays in February, at 7 P.M. Rather than in the Sanctuary, it will take place in Rev. Emily's and Chris' home (parsonage, 8 High Street). The music will be led by Nancy Joie Wilkie. Additionally, their fireplace will be roaring, and we'll continue making s'mores. Our goal is to build community and rest together.

WEBSITE ADMINISTRATOR NEEDED

Nancy Joie Wilkie is stepping down as website administrator. If you are detail-oriented and willing to help with this vital ministry at Salem, talk with Nancy or email her at mindsights@mindspring.com. All training will be provided.

PRAYER CLASS

Would you like to deepen your prayer life? Do you ever feel like you just don't know how to get started? Join us the last Wednesday of every month on zoom (same link as Wednesday Bible study).

6:30-7:00 P.M. Gather
7:00-8:00 P.M. Class

There will be a total of five classes. Email Barbara Teague to sign up for the class!

Barbara1.teague@outlook.com

NEW MEMBERS CLASS

A new members class called Connections started on Thursday, Jan. 5 and will go for six weeks. It's at 11:30 in the Community Hall, but you can also attend on Zoom. Contact Rev. Emily with interest or if you have questions.

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.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED TO SEND EMAILS

A volunteer is needed to send email announcements. This would include sending the weekly "What's Happening at Salem" email and some others from time to time. This is approximately a two hour a week commitment – about one hour composing the emails and attending the communications meeting via Zoom each Wednesday from 11:00 A.M – 12:00 P.M. If interested, please contact Rev. Emily.

READING ROOM

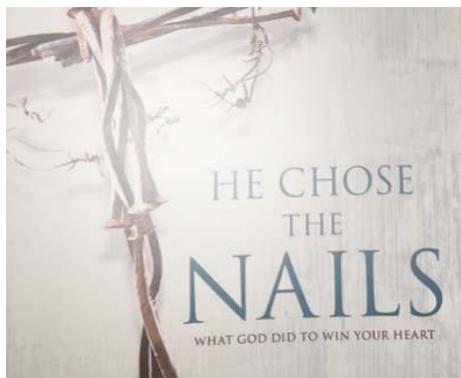
Welcome to the Reading Room upstairs in the Community Hall where you'll be able to read or borrow books, study guides, and

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. Thanks to everyone who has donated books so far.

Some books we have:

- 1) *Courageous Gentleness – Following Christ’s Example of Restrained Strength* by Mary Ann Froehlich (gentleness is a fruit of the Holy Spirit)
- 2) *Bonhoeffer – Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy* by Eric Metaxas
- 3) *Prayers and Meditations of Susanna Wesley*
- 4) *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis

UPCOMING LENTEN STUDY



During Lent there will be another Bible study starting March 2. The time will probably be Thursdays at 1 P.M. in the Community Hall. Vern Schinski has selected the book *He Chose the Nails* by Max Lucado. The study book can be purchased at Cokesbury or on Amazon, but it won't be needed for the class.

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>

BIRTHDAYS



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

February Birthdays

Eddie Gregg	02/02
Janet Whaley	02/07
Anna Lyon	02/17
Vern Schinski	02/20
Ed Blaine	02/23
Roger Rhinehart	02/24
Nancy Joie Wilkie	02/27

VELMA'S FAVORITE HYMN

#593

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry,
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will
save.

I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright,
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

[I love it, too. Brings a tear to my eye. Joan]
Words: Dan Schutte (Is. 6:8)
Music: Dan Schutte

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
