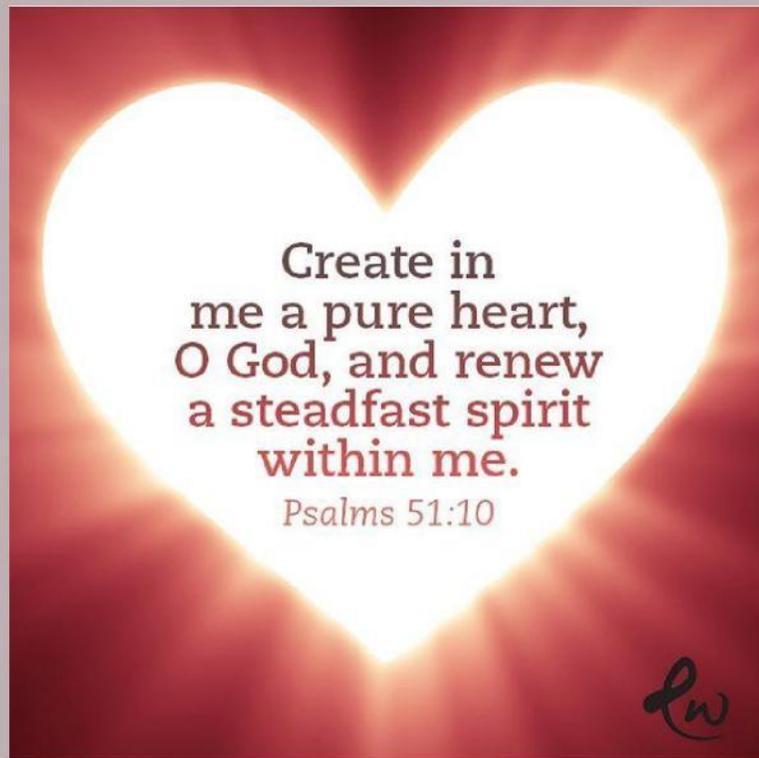


THE SPIRIT

Salem United Methodist Church

“Where You Matter”

March 2020



Salem United Methodist Church
7901 Bradshaw Road
Upper Falls, MD 21156
Phone: (410) 592-2543

WORSHIP:

8:00 AM in Chapel
9:30 AM Sunday School
10:45 AM in Sanctuary
OFFICE PHONE: (410) 592-2543
Office Hours: Monday-Friday
9 AM-1 PM

CHURCH WEBSITE:

www.salemunity.org

PASTOR:

Rev. Dr. Stacey Nickerson
pastor@salemunity.org
(410) 627-1944

**FAMILY MINISTRIES
COORDINATOR:**

Judy Jones
familyministries@salemunity.org

**ORGANIST/MUSIC
DIRECTOR:**

Dr. Alyson Moore
alysonshirk@gmail.com

FACEBOOK PAGE:

Salem United Methodist Church,
Upper Falls, Maryland

Pastor's Message

The Season of Lent is a time of preparation for the Celebration of Our Lord's Resurrection on Easter Sunday. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday. This year we will gather on Wednesday, February 26 at 6:00 p.m. for a simple soup dinner followed by worship at 7:00 p.m. Our time of worship will allow us to start our Lenten journey together. We will have the opportunity to receive ashes as a sign of our repentance and our commitment to renew our relationship with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. We will also share at the Lord's Table in Holy Communion.



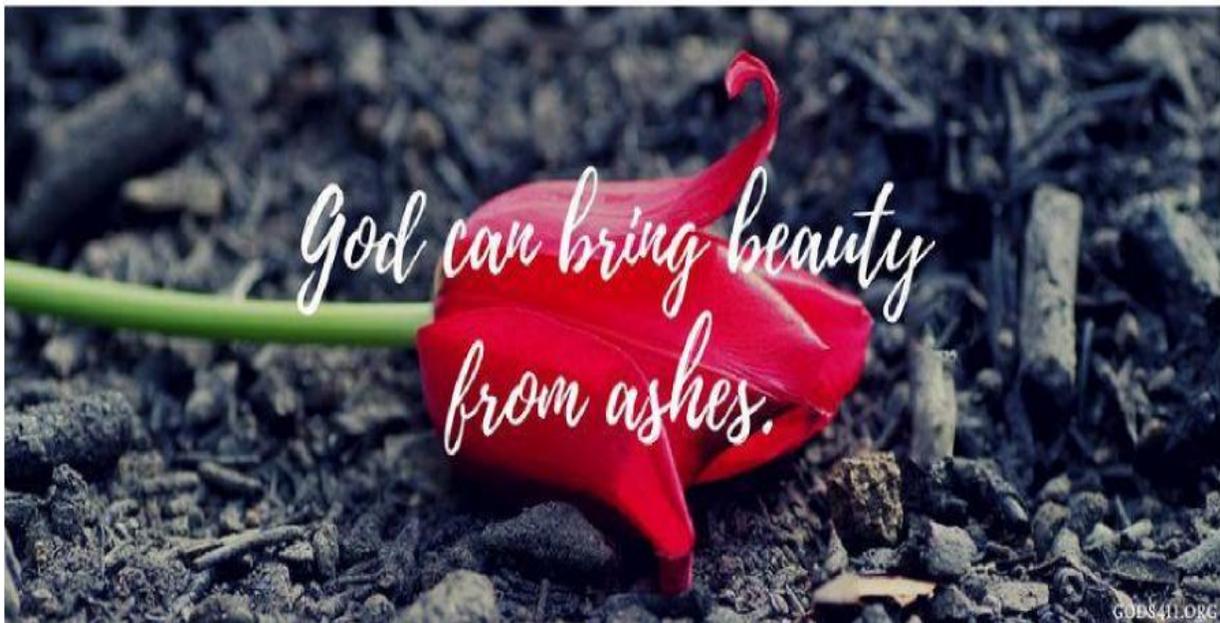
I will be leading a Lenten study by Pastor Adam Hamilton called, "The Way." We will be exploring spiritual practices that are modeled after Jesus' own walk with God. Join us each Tuesday evening in the month of March (March 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31) at 6:00 p.m. for a simple soup supper; our study will begin each Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

Books are available from me in the office and the cost is \$14.00 each. Please let me know if you would like to participate.

I would invite you to consider prayerfully what you would like to do during the 40 days of Lent in order to grow spiritually in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Another opportunity to express gratitude to God is through Lenten offering. Envelopes will be available each Sunday for you giving. The offering will be divided equally between the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) and Salem's budget expenses. May God bless us as we enter this holy season.

God's grace and peace to each of you,

Pastor Stacey



News from our Youth

A group of 8 youth and 4 adults attended ROCK from Salem. We participated in worship in the Ocean City Convention Center with about 3,500 people led by Aaron Shust and his band. We were dazzled by the Morgan State Dance Praise Team and inspired by our featured speaker, B. Haley, the former drummer for TobyMac.

Take heart! I have overcome the world. (John 16:33) was our theme.

Here is what some of our participants would like to share about our experience:

“I had a great time at ROCK! I really loved the worship music and being a part of the mass choir was a very rewarding experience. I can’t wait to go back next year!” *Ava*

“I thought that ROCK was really cool, and I would love to go back next year! I think the breakout sessions and worship was really fun.” *Luke*

“It was really cool being around so many people our age that were also Christian. It can be hard being a teenager and being Christian because people are really judgmental but being with others with the same beliefs was very refreshing.” *Emily*

Ms. Robin shared this from B. Haley’s message: “Hear me out – I’m gonna tell you something radical – Jesus loves you no matter what ... really NO MATTER WHAT! Now let’s clap it up for Jesus!”



Visit Salem’s website for more news and ongoing opportunities

www.salemunity.org

This & That

Graduate Recognition

We will be recognizing our graduates on Sunday, May 31. In order for all to be recognized and no one overlooked, I depend on you to let me know if you or a family is graduating from high school, college, technical or trade school this spring or maybe graduated this past winter. Call or email the church office (office@salemunited.org) or let me know. Thanks!

Judy Jones



An Update!

We are in the process of converting the antique software we have used to track your faithful giving and mailing out quarterly/annual statements. The new software will allow your statements to be e-mailed, saving me a lot of time and saving Salem the cost of paper, ink, envelopes and postage. PLEASE let me know if the e-mail address in Salem's current directory is not correct (or the best one for receiving giving statements) so that I can make sure the date is correct in the new software. If you still must have statements sent via U.S. Postal Service, please let me know that as well (and make me aware of any address change). kqsersen@hotmail.com or TEXT 410-458-9063 or a legible detailed change on paper placed in the offering plate.

UNW News!

- We are collecting snacks for the Board of Child Care. Hot chocolate packets, marshmallows, fruit snacks, pudding cups, cookies, or other snacks can be left on top of the cabinet in the room off the Narthex.
- Sewing Samaritans will be meeting March 14 at 9 am and March 16 at 6 pm. All skill levels are welcome as we continue to make lap quilts and fidget mats.
- Crochet and knitted prayer shawls for Franklin Square Hospital are an ongoing project.

Salem's Homebound Members

Marion Becker – Lorien Bel Air #330A, 1909 Emmorton Rd, Bel Air, MD 21015

Kay Butler – 8810 Walther Blvd, #1318. Baltimore, MD 21234

Verna Cooper – 9600 C Haven Farm Rd, Perry Hall, MD 21128

David Kauffman – 405 Mountain Rd, Fallston, MD 21047

Betty Knight – 8810 Walther Blvd, #1626, Baltimore, MD 21234

Betty Zengel – 1617 Searles Rd, Baltimore, MD 21222

Bob Heacock – 1802 Sandee Ct, Edgewood, MD 21040

Pat O'Hara – 5625 Allender Rd, White Marsh, MD 21162

Judye Miller – P.O. Box 238, Upper Falls, MD 21156

Alice Stewart c/o Paul Stewart – 217 Garnett Rd, Joppa, MD 21085

Never believe that a few caring people
can't change the world.
For, indeed, that's all who ever have.

Margaret Mead

HAM AND OYSTER DINNER
Saturday, March 7, 2020
1 PM until 6 PM

Menu: Fried Oysters, Ham, German Potato Salad, Green Beans, Cole Slaw, Rolls, Applesauce, Desserts and Beverages

Cost: \$25 Adult - \$5 ages 6-12 (eat in or carry-out) Tickets only available at door

Do you have a couple of hours to help in the dining room or kitchen? A sign-up board is in the Narthex. Or perhaps you could bake something for our very popular bake table. Any homemade goodies are needed – cakes, cookies, pies, brownies....our customers love them all!

A Note from Pastor Stacey

I am grateful to be serving as your pastor. I want to assure you that I am available to you for pastoral support. Please call me when you are in need of pastoral care (for example, a hospital visit). You are welcome to call me directly on my cell (410-627-1944) or call the church office (410-592-2543) and ask for me. My home number is 410-472-4315 and you may try me there as well (although my cell is best). Please feel free to call me (or text me) to share your prayer concerns and joys. You are welcome to make an appointment or call ahead if you are coming to the office to see me. My schedule does vary but I am usually in the office Monday through Thursday. I care about you and our community. It is my desire to be faithful in my call to be your pastor. Thanks be to God for the opportunity to be in ministry together!

Easter Flower Order Form

All orders are due by March 22

This year we are offering both Calla Lilies and Hydrangea Plants

- ❖ Plants may be picked up following the 10:45 am service on Easter Sunday, April 12
- ❖ Please include your payment with order. Make checks payable to Salem UMC
- ❖ Please indicate how many of what plants you want and a preference in color (the florist may have to substitute color)

Calla Lilies (6" pot) - \$7 each

Yellow _____ White _____

Pink _____ Red _____

Purple _____

Hydrangeas (3-4 blooms) - \$9 each

Pink _____ Blue _____

White _____

In Honor of _____

Given by _____

In Memory of _____

Given by _____

Safety & Security Update

A special note of thanks for all who were able to participate in our early and/or late service security talk. Great feedback was received, and questions asked that brought forth new ideas that will help strengthen the measures Salem already has in place. The interactive dialogue was awesome! The main goal is to ensure our staff, families and children, and those who visit our facilities are as protected as they can be. Safety and Security go hand in hand and our goals are constantly evolving and ongoing. As members of Salem, it's our duty to always be "shepherds" of the flock to be alert for any type of issue that may arise while we worship each week. One of the greatest gifts we all have is the gift of fellowship, friendship, and smiles! Always take the opportunity to note any new faces that come into our building and take the initiative (as many of you do) to meet and greet those unfamiliar to our church. This is one of the things we do best as Salemites! Use that gift to our advantage and you'll quickly gauge the sincerity or "red flags" if it were ever someone coming with alternative motives. Hopefully, none of us will ever experience this scenario! Lastly, two of the main take-aways from our overview: 1. Know that there are those within our church who are constantly vigilant and seeking new ways to improve the safety of our church and offices; and, 2. Our Security and Usher Teams are NOT exclusive groups to anyone. Both groups welcome anyone who would like to get involved in these important operations within our church. Please reach out to Tim Fisher, Chair of our Usher Team, if you would like to participate in that mission. If you have any specific questions on security, reach out to any member of that team to include Mark Carter, Bob Frisch, Bruce List, or Jerry Sersen. All work hand in hand with each other. In the near future more information will be forthcoming on training that will be available for certification in Adult/Infant CPR and First Aid. You never know when that may be needed at Salem one day too! Be prepared! Our CPR/First Aid project is in the developmental stages and the training will be held in our Fellowship Hall. Stay-tuned, stay engaged, be purposeful in all you do, and continue to be vigilant as shepherds who care for our Salem Flock!



Our class met on February 16. We studied some of the earliest statements of faith (creeds) in the Christian Church, including the Apostles' Creed. As part of the Confirmation experience, each student will be asking an adult in the congregation to be their mentor – a friend in the faith. This person will provide support and encouragement through the Confirmation process. Please say "yes" if you are asked!

Our class will have four learning experiences in the coming weeks: visit on February 29 to the UMCOR Hub at Bentley Springs UMC (in Parkton); trip to Lovely Lane United Methodist Church in Baltimore, the mother church of American Methodism; attend a Mass at St. Stephen's Catholic Church; and visit a Jewish synagogue in the area. Check the bulletin for details if you would like to join us! Our next class for students is March 8 at 6:00 p.m.

Pastor Stacey