



SALEM
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2021



*For he will put his Angels in
charge of you, to guard you in
all your ways.*

Psalm 91:11

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

SUNDAY WORSHIP
10:00 AM ZOOM only
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/72121826008>
1826008

By Phone: 1-301-715-8592
Meeting ID #72121826008

OFFICE PHONE: (410) 592-2543

PASTOR:
Rev. Dr. Stacey Nickerson
pastor@salemunited.org
Cell: (410) 627-1944

**FAMILY MINISTRIES
COORDINATOR:**
Judy Jones
judyjones149@gmail.com

**ORGANIST/MUSIC
DIRECTOR:**
Dr. Alyson Moore
alysonshirk@gmail.com

CHURCH WEBSITE:
www.salemunited.org

FACEBOOK PAGE:
Salem United Methodist Church,
Upper Falls, Maryland

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:
Susan Walker
susanwalker0604@comcast.net



From Our Pastor...

Happy New Year! Many (if not most or all) of us are looking forward to 2020 being behind us and moving forward into a new year. As we begin 2021 together let us place our faith not in new things but in the One who makes all things new. I invite you to read the vision recorded in Revelation, chapter 21 of a new heaven and a new earth. God is the one who is making all things new. In this new year, as in all years past, we are in God's perfect care. In Isaiah 43: 19 we are reminded to look for what God is bringing about in our world and in our lives: "I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" Together let us encourage one another to look for and give thanks for the blessings of God taking shape all around us and within us.



As I plan for the month of January, I want to give an update on where we are and to share some new opportunities. I look forward to *seeing* some of you (socially distanced with masks on, please) on Sunday, January 3 for our Star Sunday Celebration in the parking lot at noon. We are working together to share the light of Christ in our community by decorating the outside with stars. Also, we are collecting winter items (hats, gloves and socks) for Manna House and Magnolia Elementary School. Let us share the light and love of Jesus Christ with our neighbors as well as one another.

We have enjoyed our outdoor Vespers and I am suspending these gatherings until mid-February. We look forward to getting together again beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 17. Our plans may change so watch for updates in my weekly emails, our worship bulletin and on the website.

We will resume our Monday Evening Bible Study on January 11. We plan to study the Book of Romans together beginning in February. Until then, we will study together some of the background of the Jewish Law as recorded in the Torah (especially passages in Exodus, Leviticus and Deuteronomy). Specific scripture readings will be in the bulletin. You are welcome to join us Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom. The link is on our website.

For the current time, we continue to worship through Zoom on Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. I am preparing to Zoom from the sanctuary as well as from home (I need the flexibility of both options). I am grateful for our worship tech team and for your faithful participation. Thanks to Bryan Niles we have a recording of each worship to post through our YouTube channel. You are welcome to worship at your convenience from your home. Please feel free to share an invitation to Zoom and/or our recordings with your friends and family. We welcome all!

Please continue to contact me directly with your prayer concerns. Communication is the key to our fruitful and faithful relationship in ministry together. Please do not hesitate to share your joys and concerns with me so that I can pray with you and for you and those most dear to you.

Thank you for your generous Christmas gift! I want to share the sentiment from the beautiful Christmas card: "The gift of God's presence in our lives makes Christmastime a blessed time. From the hymns that honor the miracle of His birth to the warmth and closeness we share with the special people in our lives, we can feel God's blessings all around us. May your Christmas be filled with His love and grace." In addition to the congregational gift and card, I appreciate all the cards, calls, text messages, gifts, goodies and chocolate you shared with me during the holidays. May God bless us as we follow Christ faithfully in 2021!

With Christ's love,
Pastor Stacey

Thursday Trivia Time

As the new year begins you might want to add something to your calendar. Trivia Time! Join in on Zoom and discover just how much fun you can have as you discover how much (or how little) you know about geography, music, TV, history, food and much more. We meet every Thursday at 11:30 am. The zoom meeting number is 83522269034 or you can join in by phone at 1-301-715-8592. Any questions, contact Judy Jones.

Youth Sunday School

Our youth, 6th to 12th grades, continue to meet together every other Sunday at 11:30 on Zoom with Mr. Bob and Ms. Judy. Following the Christmas break we'll start back up on Sunday, January 10. Virtual meetings are a little challenging, but the kids have been faithful and we are so proud of them.

Member Notes

Magnolia Christmas Families

Thank you to you, our church family, who so generously donated so that we could provide a merry Christmas to 5 families whose children attend Magnolia Elementary school. Things were a little different this year, but we did it! The gifts were delivered to the school on December 15 and were received by a VERY grateful staff. Because of your generosity we were able to not only provide the gifts that were on the families wish lists but also several gift cards which the staff will distribute as needed throughout the winter months. God has blessed us here at Salem so that we are able to bless others. And thank you to Cindy Carter who graciously purchased, wrapped and delivered the gifts. You're the best, Cindy!



Our deepest sympathy to Rocky Ails and his family on the passing of his daughter Kathy. May God grant you joy in your memories and comfort in your sorrow.

Please remember our members who are unable to join us, with a phone call or card.

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

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

Hank Danker – 506 Haverhill Road, Joppa, MD 21085

Bettie Heacock – 1802 Sandee Ct, Edgewood, MD 21040

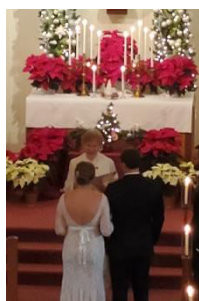
Bob & Bernadette Jones – 311 Tufton Circle, Fallston, MD 21047

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

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

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

Betty Zengel – 1617 Searles Rd, Baltimore, MD 21222



CONGRATULATIONS to Matthew Dusek, son of Pastor Stacey Nickerson and her husband, Rick Dusek, and Sara Ashman, who were married on December 27, 2020 in Salem's sanctuary

Financial Notes:

2020 Tax Statements

Tax statements will be emailed (or mailed for those without email) the first week of January 2021. Please contact Karen Sersen as soon as possible if you do not receive your statement by January 7th, have a discrepancy or with questions.

Offering Envelopes

The annual cost of printing and mailing the weekly contribution envelope packers is \$5.50, so please consider a donation to cover this expense.

Weekly Giving

In a addition to mailing your weekly giving to the church office, you may also make your donation online at www.salemunity.org and click on the "Donate" tab. Thank your for your faithfulness.

Karen Sersen, Financial Secretary
443-402-1924 / kqsersen@hotmail.com

News from the United Methodist Women

BABY BEANIES

The Baby Beanies project continues and we've added baby Blankets! Blanket sizes: 18" X 18", 19" X 21", 21" X 23.5", no larger than 24" X 24". A suggested pattern can be found at <https://ravel.me/preemie-blanket> This is a lightly textured pattern, holes kept to a minimum to avoid problems with little fingers and toes getting caught and causing circulation problems. Please make arrangements to get your beanies and blankets to Amy Krebs. Pastor Stacey will be blessing the items that are ready on Sunday, February 14th.

SALEM SAMARITANS

We continue to work on lap quilts and fidget mats from the comfort of our homes! Sure do miss my sewing ladies! If you have quilt/mats completed, please let me know and I can arrange for pickup. Susan – 410-459-2750 / susanwalker0604@comcast.net

PRAYER SHAWLS

The UMW continue working from home on prayer shawls. Size should be 18"-24" X 60". If you need yarn, please call Amy Krebs @ 410-456-8471. If you have shawls that are ready, please contact Lauren Simpson.

RADA CUTLERY - NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE!

Rada Cutlery has been a United Methodist Women Salem Fundraiser for many years and now you can order these great products online while still supporting the group and its missions! AND it is easy!

Go to www.radafundraising.com

Type in Salem Church, Upper Falls MD - Search

Click on Salem Church (Upper Falls, MD) and start shopping!

Choose your items, check out and they will be delivered directly to your home! Please note, that ordering this way supports Salem UMW and the prices are less than ordering through the Rada Kitchen website! Thank you for your continued support! Questions? Please email 2salemshares@gmail.com or call Sally Wagner.

The Season after Epiphany

Our Calendar of Events

January 2021

All meetings/events will be held via the ZOOM platform, unless otherwise noted. Each event has a link. Recurring meetings/events use the same link each time.

Weekly:

- Sunday 10:00 AM Worship is via Zoom only; Weekly Bulletins are posted on the website and sent in weekly email from Pastor Stacey
Zoom link - <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/72121826008>
By Phone – 1-301-715-8592 / ID 721 2182 6008
- Monday 7:00 PM Bible Study with Pastor Stacey will begin a new study on January 11.
Zoom link - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86945193408>
- Thursday 11:30 AM Trivia Time with Judy Jones (410-615-9426)
Zoom link - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83522269034>
By Phone – 1-301-715-8592 / ID 835 2226 9034

Please Note: Wednesday evening Vesper services have been suspended until February.

Other Activities:

- Tuesday 7:00 PM January 19 – Finance Committee Meeting on Zoom
- Tuesday 7:30 PM January 19 – Church Council Meeting on Zoom
- Every other Sunday January 10 & 24 - Youth Sunday School Class on Zoom at 11:15 a.m. for youth grades 6-12
- Every Mon/Wed/Fri Aerobics classes on Zoom at 9:00 AM

