

Jan  
2025

## Salem United Methodist Church

7901 Bradshaw Road  
PO Box 192  
Upper Falls, MD 21156  
(410) 592-2543  
salemunitedupperfalls@gmail.com

Find us on the web at [salemunited.org](http://salemunited.org)  
and follow us on Facebook &  
Instagram @salemunitedupperfalls



*We are called to be active in God's blessing of the world!*

# The Spirit



Join us >>>

### Sunday Services

8:00 a.m. in the Chapel

10:45 a.m. in the Sanctuary

- 10:45 a.m. service is livestreamed at [salemunited.org/livestream](http://salemunited.org/livestream)
- Summer worship: 2<sup>nd</sup> service is at 10:00 a.m. in person & online from Father's Day to Labor Day

Wednesday Evening Outdoor Vespers

- Will not meet in January 2025



## Star Sunday Mission Moment

# Winter Hats, Socks, & Gloves

(Adult sizes, please)

Collection runs  
through  
January 12th



## **Pastor's Message >>>**

Blessings in this new year!

I'd like to share a prayer with you from the book A Morning and Evening Prayerbook edited by Jeanie and David Gushee. This book is a compilation of prayers that can be used each morning and evening of every day in the year. The following is a prayer for the evening of January 1.

*Grant, O Lord,  
that as the years change,  
I may find rest in Your eternal changelessness.  
May I meet this new year bravely,  
secure in the faith that,  
while we come and go,  
and life changes around us,  
You are always the same,  
guiding us with Your wisdom,  
and protecting us with Your love.  
Amen.*

-William Temple (1881-1944)

By God's grace we continue with our ministry and mission together. We give thanks for our church family and the work God calls us to do in the name and spirit of Jesus our Savior.

Our celebration of Christmas concludes this Sunday – January 5 – when we celebrate **Epiphany**. We will recall the magi and their journey in following the Light of the star. Our scripture lesson is Matthew 2:1-12.

On Sunday, January 12 we will celebrate **Baptism Of Our Lord Sunday**. Our scripture is Luke 3:15-17, 21-22.

We will begin a new sermon series on January 19 that will continue through March 2. The focus will be **"Following the Light."** Through our scripture lessons, we will see how the light of Jesus Christ is revealed to show us the way. Here are the scriptures for each week:

January 19 John 2:1-11

January 26 Luke 4:14-21

February 2 Luke 4:21-30

February 9 Luke 5:1-11

February 16 Luke 6:17-26

February 23 Luke 6:27-38

March 2 Luke 9:28-56

I give you these scriptures so you can read them in advance of worship if you would like to do so.

I will be teaching an eight week Bible study on the Book of Proverbs on Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m. beginning on January 6. The class will be held on Zoom. Everyone is welcome. The Zoom link can be found on our church website: salemunited.org.

I want to thank you all for your very generous Christmas gift from the congregation. I appreciate your kindness and thoughtfulness. In addition, I am grateful for your individual cards, gifts, and prayers. I like to put the picture cards on the bulletin board in my church office!

I pray that each of you have experienced God's gifts of hope, peace, joy, and love in the holiday season. We continue to hold one another in prayer along with the whole of God's creation.

**Blessings, Stacey**

## Youth News >>>

From Judy Jones: The youth will be meeting at church on Monday, January 20<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm to put together hygiene kits for UMCOR. This is a much needed mission project. These kits are distributed to areas throughout the country where disaster has hit. If you would like to contribute to the purchase of supplies for these kits, you can donate with the designation of "youth missions." Our youth appreciate all the support from our church family as they continue to reach out doing God's work. The next project for our youth will be another visit to the laundromat in February.

## From Magnolia Elementary >>>

From Keesha Mack, Community School Specialist: I hope this message finds you well and filled with holiday cheer! I wanted to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude for your generous donation of Christmas gifts for our students. Your kindness and thoughtfulness have made a meaningful difference this season, and I am truly grateful for your support. Your contribution will bring joy to many and has helped me make this holiday season brighter for students who may otherwise not have had the opportunity to celebrate in such a special way. Your generosity is a reminder of the true spirit of the holidays – love, compassion, and giving.

## Bible Study Opportunity >>>

You are invited to join Rev. Dr. Marcelena (Lena) Holmes Ministries for our monthly online Bible study on Zoom! The January study will be Saturday, January 18<sup>th</sup> from noon to 1:00 p.m. and our study will focus on the ministry of the Holy Spirit. Please feel free to share the link with others! You can register for the study at <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYkfu-vpjgoG9GBsLlfcqsRjAUtE4xKAQjI> We hope to see you there!

## SPRC Committee Note >>>

From Mike Brown, SPRC Chair: The Staff/Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) would like to wish all the members of Salem a healthy and happy New Year. If anyone has any questions, comments, or concerns for the committee, please feel free to reach out to us. As Bob Frisch concludes his term as SPRC Chair, please join us in thanking him for his many years of service to the committee and Salem.

## Confirmation Class Reminders >>>

From Pastor Stacey: The Confirmation Class will be meeting two times in January. On Sunday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, we will meet during Sunday School (beginning at 9:30 a.m.) to talk about Epiphany and the next season of the Church year. Please bring your Bibles and the handouts I gave you during our last class.

We will meet on Monday, January 20<sup>th</sup> for a class and a mission activity at the church. Please plan to be at church from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. (lunch will be served). Please let me know if you have any questions

In this season of Gratitude,

- your friends at Manna House would like to thank
- you for your continued support. We look forward
- + to working with you in the year to come.

This holiday season, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your generous support. Because of you, countless individuals and families have experienced warmth, dignity, and hope during difficult times.

As we reflect on the year, we are reminded that it is the compassion and generosity of people like you that allow us to continue offering a safe haven and vital resources to those in need.

Wishing you a joyful holiday season filled with peace, love, and the knowledge that your contribution has brought light to many lives.

With deepest appreciation,  
Tony, Patty, Raheem, Keri, Matt, and Alex

Manna House,  
435 E. 25th Street  
Baltimore, MD 21218  
410.889.3001

Donate online: [www.mannahouseinc.org/donate-now/](http://www.mannahouseinc.org/donate-now/)





United  
Women  
in Faith

Thank you to all who donated or purchased tree ornaments or garlands for our winter fundraiser! Your support allows us to send \$292.00 to UMCOR for hurricane relief.

The annual planning meeting for 2025 will be at noon on January 26<sup>th</sup> in the parlor. The meeting will plan any activities, speakers, and fundraisers for 2025. Please bring any thoughts, and information pertaining to them, to the meeting. Feel free to send

ideas ahead of time to Susan Yurek, Amy Krebs, or Sharon Marquette.

We have collected over ten pounds of aluminum tabs which when recycled benefit the Ronald McDonald House. This provides funds for gas for their shuttle bus. Please continue to collect tabs – they can be from soda cans, cat or dog food, energy drinks, etc. This is another way we can love our neighbors! There is a container at the back of the sanctuary below the collection plate. There is also a container in the office by the mailboxes.

## ***Sewing Samaritans >>>***

The Sewing Samaritans will meet on January 18<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to Noon to work on fidget mats. Non-sewing help will be needed to plan out some mats and cut fabric. All supplies will be provided, but please bring any item you really like (scissors, cutters, etc). Come for whatever length of time works for you. Please RSVP to Susan Walker.

## ***Giving Statements >>>***

From Karen Sersen, Financial Secretary: 2024 giving statements will be emailed on January 15, 2025. Please be on the lookout for this important email. If you do not see one, please be sure to check your junk/spam folders. If you do not receive an email, please contact me. Thank you for supporting Salem UMC!



# **JANUARY SOUP SALE**

## **Potato Cheddar**

**\$12 per quart**

**Prepaid orders due  
Jan 20. Forms in  
Narthex & on our  
website**

## Update From Church Council >>>

From Mark Carter, Council Chair: We are pleased to announce the 2025 Church Council. If you have questions on any of the committees or positions, please contact me or the person listed.

- Council Chair: Mark Carter
- Recording Secretary: Robin Wasmer
- Lay Leader: Lauren Simpson
- Lay Member of Annual Conference: Susan Walker
- Finance Committee Chair: Bob Kimball
- Church Treasurer: Jean Mattheu
- Financial Secretary: Karen Sersen
- Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) Chair: Mike Brown
- Trustee Chair: Jerry Sersen
- United Women of Faith (UWF) Representatives: Amy Krebs and Sue Yurek
- Missions Committee Co-Chairs: Amy Krebs and Lauren Simpson
- Worship Committee Chair: Susan Walker
- Youth Member: TBD
- Member-at-Large: Mary List
- Communications & Social Media Manager: Tara Kully
- Family Ministries Coordinator: Judy Jones
- Pastor: Rev. Dr. Stacey Nickerson



## Contact Us!

**OFFICE HOURS:**  
*Monday, Wednesday,  
and Friday  
9am – Noon  
Other hours by  
appointment*

### **PASTOR:**

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

### **FAMILY MINISTRIES COORDINATOR:**

Judy Jones  
Judyjones149@gmail.com

### **COMMUNICATIONS & SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER:**

Tara Kully  
salemunitedupperfalls@  
gmail.com

### **DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:**

Katy Stevens  
katysmusicstudio@  
gmail.com

## Members Corner >>>

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

Rocky Ails – Lake Wylie Assisted Living, 4877 Charlotte Hwy,  
Apartment 334, Lake Wylie, SC 29710

Betty Knight – 8830 Walther Blvd, Garden Terrace #308,  
Baltimore, MD 21234

Myrna Martin – 8100 Rossville Blvd, Brightview Room 207,  
Baltimore, MD 21236

Bill Packer – c/o Dr. Debbie Packer, 4172 Knollcrest Circle N.,  
Augusta, GA 30907

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

Rowlan Stumpf – Forest Hill Heights, 1 Colgate Drive Room 415,  
Forest Hill, MD 21050

Betty Zengel – 8100 Rossville Blvd., Brightview Room 308,  
Baltimore, MD 21236

Please continue to hold Joey Nuetzel in prayer as he recovers from his car accident. You may send him cards to 5730 Allender Road, White Marsh, MD 21162

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
8:00am & 10:45 am services are in-person. 10:45 am live stream service: <a href="https://salemunited.org/livestream">salemunited.org/livestream</a> Pastor's Bible Study Zoom link: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86945193408">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86945193408</a>			<b>New Year's Day</b>			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8&10:45am Services 9:30am Sunday School (all ages) 9:30am Confirmation Class (mid/high Sunday School rm) 9:45am Choir (Sanctuary)	9am Aerobics (Hall)  7pm Pastor's Bible Study (Zoom) 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (Parlor)		9am Aerobics (Hall)		9am Aerobics (Hall)	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
8&10:45am Services 9:30am Sunday School (all ages) 9:45am Choir (Sanctuary)	9am Aerobics (Hall)  7pm Pastor's Bible Study (Zoom) 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (Parlor)	7pm SPRC	9am Aerobics (Hall) 10am Morning Bible Study (Parlor) 1pm Book Club (call office for details)		9am Aerobics (Hall) 11:30am Women Moving On luncheon (call office for details)	9am-noon Sewing Samaritans (Sewing Room)
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
8&10:45 am Services 9:30am Sunday School (all ages) 9:45am Choir (Sanctuary)	<b>Soup Sale prepaid orders due</b> 10am – 1pm Confirmation Class  7pm Pastor's Bible Study (Zoom) 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (Parlor)		9am Aerobics (Hall) 10am Morning Bible Study (Parlor)		9am Aerobics (Hall)	
26	27	28	29	30	31	
8&10:45 am Services  <b>Soup Sale order pickup (15 min after each service; kitchen)</b> 12pm – UWF planning (Parlor)	9am Aerobics (Hall)  7pm Pastor's Bible Study (Zoom) 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (Parlor)	7pm Church Council (Salem Room)	9am Aerobics (Hall) 10am Morning Bible Study (Parlor)		9am Aerobics (Hall)	



# Soup Sale

The cold days of January are perfect for a bowl of soup to help you stay warm and cozy! January's soup will be Potato Cheddar and can be ordered by the quart. With the complimentary flavors of potato, cheddar cheese, bacon, and onion, you'll have a delicious meal ready and waiting for you in the refrigerator! Please note this soup does not freeze well.

Please note all orders must be prepaid by January 20<sup>th</sup>. Orders may be placed in the collection plate at Salem, mailed to the office, or emailed to the office at salemunitedupperfalls@gmail.com with payment mailed or dropped off to the office. Mail checks to: Salem United Methodist Church, PO Box 192, Upper Falls, MD 21156.

All orders will be picked up on Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup> in the kitchen for 15 minutes after each service at Salem UMC.

Questions? Contact Lauren Simpson.

*PLEASE NOTE: If you are unable to print an order form, please call the Salem UMC office at 410-529-2543 or email salemunitedupperfalls@gmail.com to place an order.*



## JANUARY SOUP SALE ORDER FORM

**All orders must be pre-paid and are due January 20<sup>th</sup>.**

**Pickup will be on Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup> in the kitchen for 15 minutes after each service at Salem UMC.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

# of Quarts	Soup Type	Cost	Total
	Potato Cheddar	\$12.00 each	

Counters: Date \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Cash / Check # \_\_\_\_\_