

The  Newsletter of the
Salem United Methodist Church – Wolfsville

The Mountain Shepherd

Volume 31

September 2013

Number 9



Salem United Methodist Church—Wolfsville

INSIDE



The pheasant, embroidered by the late Anna Kate Draper, is included on this year's Lord's Acre featured quilt. Kate had seen a pheasant in her yard and added color to match.

Missions	2
Lord's Acre Festival	3
Attendance & Offerings	4
CROP Hunger Walk	4
Memorials/Endowments	4
Calendar of Events	5
Bee-lievers	5
Women of Faith	5
Who's Doing What, When? ..	6
It's Your Day!	6
Inspirational Reading	7
Recipe	7
Death Announcements	7
From Our Pastor	8
Balloons Found & Returned ..	9
Heavenly Humor	10
Today's Prayer	10

54th ANNUAL  **FREE ADMISSION
FREE PARKING
RAIN OR SHINE**

LORD'S ACRE Festival



**Saturday
Sept. 14
at 4:00 p.m.**

Wolfsville Ruritan Community Park

12708 BRANDENBURG HOLLOW ROAD

Schedule

4:00 p.m. All items go on sale

- **FOOD**
Homemade soups, sandwiches, french fries, baked goods, hand-dipped ice cream, soft drinks, coffee, iced tea, and water
- **PRODUCE**
Fresh produce donated by members and friends
- **CRAFTS & FANCY NEEDLEWORK**
Craft items & handmade fancy needlework
- **CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES**
Grab bags, cake walk
- **FLEA TABLES & PLANTS**
Used household items, books, plants, more
- **SILENT AUCTION 4:00-7:00 p.m.**
Unique & useful items
- **LIVE AUCTION 8:00 p.m.**
Featured quilt & numerous other items
Bob Grable, Auctioneer



The **FEATURED QUILT**, to be sold at the 8 p.m. auction, was designed by Judith Harne. The quilt has 9 squares of wildlife, hand-embroidered by Salem members. The quilting was done by the Zion Quilters of the Zion Lutheran Church in Middletown.

The Mountain Shepherd

Published monthly by Salem United Methodist Church – Wolfsville.
Our mailing address is 12477-79
Wolfsville Road, Myersville, MD 21773-9303

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: William G. Burrier
P. O. Box 94
Myersville, MD 21773-0094
E-Mail: BillBurrier@verizon.net

PASTOR

Robert E. Snyder
12477 Wolfsville Road
Myersville, MD 21773-9303
Parsonage Phone: 301-293-1616
Cell Phone: 240-994-0825
Email: revbsnyder@comcast.net

SALEM KEY CONTACTS

Lay Leader: *Sue Ellen Stottlemeyer*
Chair, Admin. Council: *Vernon Stottlemeyer*
Outreach: *Barbara Stottlemeyer*
Worship: *Mary Alice Shankle*
Sun. School Superintendent: *Bobby Fogle*
Church Treasurer: *William Burrier*
Sunday School Treasurer: *Mary Fogle*
Chair, Staff-Parish Relations: *Robin Haupt*

SALEM MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Current Membership: 234
Sunday School Enrollment: 92
2013 New Members: 5

SALEM PHYSICAL FACILITIES

Church built 1847
Educational Building built 1967
Parsonage built 1974-75

SALEM WEB SITE

www.SalemChurchWolfsville.org

SALEM MISSION STATEMENT



At Salem, with God's help, we pledge to INVITE others to Christ, HELP each other grow in faith, and SERVE those in need in our congregation, the community, and the world.

COLOPHON

Produced using QuarkXPress 8.12 and Mac OS 10.6.8, on an Apple 20" iMac computer, along with an H.P. LaserJet P3015 postscript laser printer, Epson Perfection 4490 photo scanner, and Ricoh MP-3351 digital laser copier.

OUR PURPOSE

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide a means of communicating with our members, their families, and our many friends of the Wolfsville community and surrounding areas. We pray that this newsletter will inspire you, our readers, to regularly attend worship services, Sunday School, and all other activities of the church. For those who are unable to attend, this newsletter is a means of bringing part of the church to you.

Go  Into ALL the world		2013 MISSION PROJECTS			
		Monthly Minimum	Paid Jan-July	2013 Goal	% of Goal
1	Frank & Nancy Stottlemeyer Retired Senegal Missionaries	\$204	\$1,428.00	\$2,448	58%
2	Operation Christmas Child Postage for Shoe Boxes - Samaritan's Purse - November	—	0	\$350	0%
3	Salem Mission & Outreach Supports needs as determined by Salem	—	\$2,686.04	\$1,180	228%
4	Salem Food Pantry Open every Tuesday 6:00-7:00 p.m.	—	\$1,303.73	\$1,180	110%
5	Mary E. - Africa Inland Mission Working in Tanzania, Africa	\$85	\$750.00	\$1,020	74%
6	United Methodist Board of Child Care Care of Homeless or Abused Children	—	\$200.00	\$1,360	15%
7	Gideons International Frederick County/West Camp - Distributing Bibles	\$110	\$770.00	\$1,320	58%
8	Potato Project Society of St. Andrew, Big Island, Virginia	\$60	\$420.00	\$720	58%
9	Middletown High School Fellowship of Christian Athletes	\$47	\$235.00	\$564	42%
10	Mission Trip Destination to be determined	—	0	\$2,000	0%
11	Ronnie & Angi Hopkins The Mission Society - Mission Work in Nicaragua	\$64	\$459.00	\$768	60%
12	Care Net Pregnancy Center 707 N. Market Street, Frederick, MD	\$64	\$516.00	\$768	67%
13	Compassion International Sponsored child in India	\$38	\$395.00	\$762	52%
14	Local Mission Projects Supporting local repair or renovation needs	—	0	\$1,250	0%
15	Hero's Club After School Ministry (Pre-K through grade 5) at Salem	—	\$2,528.16	\$300	843%
16	World Vision Sponsored child in Colombia 	\$35	\$35.00	\$210	17%

Total 2012 Mission Goal: \$16,200

Here's how you can give...

- 1 Make checks payable to Salem United Methodist Church, or place cash contributions in an envelope marked "Missions."
- 2 Tell us which mission project(s) you wish to support by making a note on your check or envelope.

- 3 Place your contributions in the offering plate at Sunday worship. If you do not designate a specific project, your contribution will be distributed to the project or projects needing funds to meet the monthly minimum payout goals listed above.



Yurley Paola
Age 10, Colombia

Sponsored Children

Compassion International and World Vision
Salem Mission Projects No. 13 & 16

Salem has recently added a new mission project (No. 16) to support a new child, a 10-year-old girl, through World Vision. The child's name is Yurley Paola. Yurley lives with her grandmother, 2 brothers, and 1 sister. Her grandmother struggles to provide for the family. Yurley is growing up in a poor community in Colombia. She is in primary school and she enjoys mathematics. She is in satisfactory health.

Salem also continues to support a boy, Santanu Sing, who lives in East India. His support goes through Compassion International (mission project No. 13).

[Salem sends \$38 each month to Compassion International to support a child in East India, and \$35 each month to World Vision to support a child in Colombia.]



ALWAYS THE SECOND SATURDAY IN SEPTEMBER

LORD'S ACRE FESTIVAL September 14th

Finalizing Details for Salem's Annual Community Event



Randy Sowers • Southern Gospel
4:30 p.m.



LORD'S ACRE MUSIC

"Works In Progress" Community Praise Band < 5:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
(l-r) Jim Laky (synth/vocals), Michael Burrier (drums/vocals), Dawn Nelson (vocals), Lori Williamson (vocals/band leader), Susie Stottlemeyer (piano/vocals), Donna Snyder (guitar/vocals), and Jessie Leatherman (guitar/piano/vocals).

Lord's Acre Silent Auction

Brenda Freysz will be in charge of the Lord's Acre silent auction again this year. If you have items to donate, please contact Brenda prior to Lord's Acre day.

Flea Tables & Garden Corner

Donations of used household items (in good condition), books (with no bad language), and all types of plants are welcome. Please price your items in advance.

Live Auction at 8:00 p.m.

Bob Grable will be the auctioneer at this year's auction. Bob has donated his time and auctioneer services to the Lord's Acre for many years.

What is a Lord's Acre Festival?

In 1930, the Lord's Acre idea began in western North Carolina as a means of raising funds for small country churches. A portion or "acre" of a church member's land was set aside to raise crops to be sold to benefit the church. Even livestock was dedicated. Those without land could set aside a portion of their needlework, craft items, or any other saleable talent they possessed. The Lord's Acre Festival is a sale of those donations.

Salem's Lord's Acre Festival, which began in 1960, was first held in the old Wolfsville School where Salem's parsonage now stands. In 1970, the festival was moved to the Wolfsville Ruritan Park where it has grown to what it is today. This year will be our 54th Lord's Acre.



Look for these signs at intersections around the Wolfsville/Myersville area.

Lord's Acre profits go to Salem's Building and Improvement Fund.

Since its debut in 1960, the profits from Salem's Lord's Acre Festival have made possible many major building projects, such as the educational building (1967), parsonage (1974-75), and parking lot.

The Lord's Acre is an important fund-raiser for the church. In recent years, profits have enabled numerous improvements and maintenance projects:

2010 - All windows were replaced in the educational building and parsonage. Also, some exterior aluminum fascia was added to the parsonage as well as new spouting and downspouts.

2011 - Stucco was replaced on the north and east sides of the exterior church

Would you help us advertise the Lord's Acre?

Someone once said the best advertising is "word of mouth." A personal invitation to a friend or neighbor is best. This eliminates the chance that they might not see our ads and articles in the newspapers; or hear our public service announcements on the radio; or see our posters in store-front windows; or see our postings on Salem's website and Facebook page; or see our road signs at local intersections.

Posters are available at church. You may wish to place a poster on the bulletin board where you work.

Due to rigorous postal service bulk mail procedures, we are not mailing post cards again this year.

Some of our faithful patrons will likely remember that the Lord's Acre is always on the second Saturday in September, which is September 14th this year. But in case they forget, be their reminder.

walls. Painted window frames on the exterior of church buildings and other exterior wood surfaces, painted utility buildings, and replaced the wooden cross on the front of the main building.

2012 - Shelving was installed in parsonage basement; tankless water heater installed in educational building; replaced kitchen sink and faucet in church kitchen; and replaced two window air conditioners.

2013 - Central air and insulation was installed in parsonage; repaired parsonage drainage; and restriped the parking lots.



Attendance & Offerings

JULY 2013

		Worship*		Sunday School	
July	7	72	\$1,685.00	50	\$262.50
July	14	73	1,304.67	49	127.05
July	21	79	1,944.00	44	167.00
July	28	70	1,307.00	55	109.00

*Worship attendance & offerings include both worship services.

- **Missions:** \$1,138.52
- **Building & Imp. Fund:** \$226.67
- **Pavilion Fund:** \$125.00
- **Cemetery Endowment:** \$50.00

(Missions, Building Fund offerings, etc. are not included in Worship & Sunday School offerings above.)

	Average Attendance	
	Worship	Sunday School
July	74	50
June	86	61
May	87	58
Apr	90	62
Mar	101	62
Feb	92	61

Average Attendance Jan-July 2013
 Sunday Worship: 89
 Sunday School: 59

CROP Hunger Walk set for September 22

■ **By Fonda Gormer, Coordinator**
Wolfsville/Myersville CROP Walk

The Wolfsville/Myersville CROP Hunger Walk is scheduled for Sunday, September 22 at 1:30 p.m., beginning at Salem United Methodist Church in Wolfsville. Registration for the 5-mile walk along country roads begins at 1:00 p.m.

What is a CROP Hunger Walk? It is a team of people coming together to raise funds to stop hunger and poverty here in our community and in more than 80 other countries around the world through Church World Service (CWS).

CROP means Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty. Twenty-five percent of the walk proceeds will be given locally to the Middletown Food Bank, Salem UMC Food Pantry and the Frederick County Religious Coalition for Emergency Human Needs.

What do CROP walkers do? Each walker obtains sponsors for the miles walked and collects these funds either before or after the walk. By walking with others in more than 2000 towns and cities in the U.S., they help villages throughout the world have safe, clean wells near their homes.

They help more than 3,200 local food pantries, food banks and meal sites in the U.S. to provide food to neighbors in need. They help share tools of hope in the wake of natural disasters around the globe. They help provide seeds, tools, blankets, chicks, tents, school supplies, education, job training and health for-

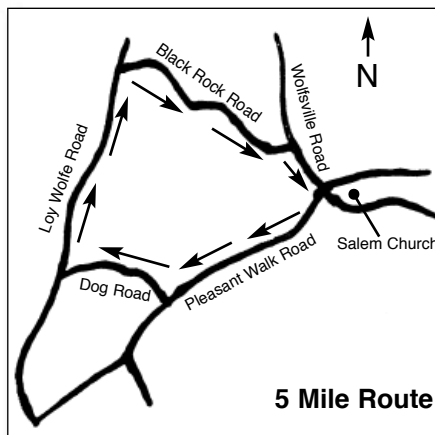
Photo from last year's CROP Walk



Last year, 60 walkers from 5 different churches raised \$4,707.

mulas to developing nations, refugees and disaster victims where needed.

Last year, 60 walkers from 5 different churches raised \$4,707 in the Wolfsville/Myersville CROP Walk for Hunger. Of this amount, Salem's Food Pantry received \$392.09 from CWS/CROP.



Remember our Memorial and Endowment Programs

Outright Gifts: Financial gifts may be given to Salem at any time in memory or honor of a loved one.

Planned (Deferred) Gifts:

As you do your estate planning, you may consider including your church in your plans?

Many of us have deep roots in our community and feel a deep sense of dedication toward our church and its ministry in the Wolfsville area.

As we think of the future, beyond our lifetime, it is comforting to imagine our church continuing to be a robust ministry, active in leading people to Christ, changing lives, and reaching out and supporting the local community.

One way to assure a fruitful future is to continue your financial support of your church after your death, through a memorial or endowment. It also gives you an opportunity to leave a permanent legacy at Salem Church.

All gifts are tax deductible. Names of those memorialized will be displayed on a plaque in the church building.

For more information contact:
 Pastor Bob Snyder or Bill Burrier,
 Chair, Finance Committee



Sept

Calendar of Events

- Thu 5 UMW Bee-lievers meeting** - 7:00 p.m. at Salem
- Board of Trustees meeting** - 7:00 p.m. at Salem
- Mon 9 Hero's Club begins fall semester** - 3:30-6:00 p.m. at Salem
- Sat 14 Lord's Acre Festival** - 4:00 p.m. at Wolfsville Ruritan Park
- Thu 19 Administrative Council** - 7:00 p.m. at Salem
- Sun 22 CROP Hunger Walk** - 1:00 p.m. registration, 1:30 p.m. walk begins

NOTES: Faith Builders Youth Group meets every Thursday evening at Salem at 6:30 p.m.
 Food Pantry is open every Tuesday 6:00-7:00 p.m. at Salem
 Praise Band practices every Wednesday evening at Salem at 7:00 p.m.



Newsletter Distribution

- 1. E-Mail** — We are currently sending this newsletter to 187 of our readers via e-mail. Our desire is to obtain as many e-mail addresses as possible.
- 2. Pick Up Paper Copy at Church** — We are printing 85 copies for members who do not have e-mail and can pick up their copies at church.
- 3. First Class Mail** — We are mailing about 30 copies, using the 46 cents First Class postage rate.

Bee-lievers to meet Sept. 5th

■ **By Fonda Gormer**
CRAFT ITEMS TO BE PRICED FOR LORD'S ACRE FESTIVAL

The Bee-lievers will meet on Thursday, September 5, at 7 p.m. in the church social area. They will be pricing craft items for the Lord's Acre Festival to facilitate displaying items the evening of the event. If you have craft items to be priced, please bring them to this meeting. It is okay to price your own items.

Also at this meeting, final plans will be made for the festival regarding food preparation. The women will be meeting at the Wolfsville Ruritan Park at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 12, to make soups and cook turkeys. All help will be appreciated. All donated items for the soups should be to the church by 8 a.m. or to the park by 8:30 a.m.

All women are invited to attend the Bee-lievers meetings.

Did you know that when you carry the Bible, Satan has a headache; when you open it, he collapses; when he sees you reading it, he loses his strength; and when you stand on the Word of God, Satan can't hurt you?



Salem attended Women of Faith • August 16-17

■ **By Donna Snyder**

Women of Faith 2013, at the Verizon Center, Washington, DC, was a blessing for all 32 women! God was definitely in the house and spoke to each of us in His own special way!



It all began with the arrival of our bus at Salem in Wolfsville.



Then it was off to Poolesville UMC to pick up our lady friends there.



... and away we go!



The convention made our ladies laugh, cry, dance and just relax in God's presence and feel his unconditional love for all of us. The band Third Day and Sheila Walsh were there to bless us.



We had a blast! Thanks to all of our families who "watched the home front" so we could have this experience together. Until next year, God bless and remember . . . Believe that God can do anything!

Who's Doing What, When?

SEPTEMBER

9:00 A.M. TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

Lay Reader

1 - Brenda Freysz
8 - Donald Stottlemeyer
15 - Mary Alice Shankle
22 - Gary Barkdoll
29 - Patrick Boyton

Ushers

1 - Dick Kline & Steve Leatherman
8 - Vernon Stottlemeyer & Robin Haupt
15 - Donald Stottlemeyer & Meredith Harshman
22 - Philip Koons & Brandon Leatherman
29 - Robin Haupt & Donald Stottlemeyer

Organist

1 - Susan Koons
8 - Susan Koons
15 - Joann Leatherman
22 - Susan Koons
29 - Susan Koons

Greeters

1 - Andrea Palmer
8 - Robin & Theresa Haupt
15 - George, Barbie & Matt Stottlemeyer
22 - Randy & Brenda Freysz
29 - Gary & Wanda Barkdoll & Family

Acolytes

1 - Paul McCormick
8 - Jadie Buhrman
15 - Kenslie Buhrman
22 - Joshua Koons
29 - Paul McCormick

11:15 A.M. CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

An informal **FAMILY FRIENDLY** service with contemporary Christian music, pastor's sermon, children's time, sharing of joys and concerns, prayer, and multimedia to enhance the worship experience.

It's Your Day!

September Anniversaries

6 - Howard & Betty Brandenburg
8 - David & Sharon Harshman
10 - Jiron & Beth Snead
11 - H. Ronald & Judy Ellis
16 - Charles & Yvonne Reeder
17 - Steven & Joann Leatherman
20 - Mark & Hallie Burrier
26 - Bill & Caroline Buhrman
29 - Meredith & Joan Harshman
30 - Adam & Vicki Robinson

September Birthdays

2 - Dawn Brown
3 - Delores Myers
6 - Marilyn Leatherman
7 - Sarah Burrier
8 - David Harshman
8 - James Ellis
8 - Kim Bullock
9 - David Brandenburg
14 - Meredith Harshman
14 - Mary Cline
19 - Wanda Barkdoll
22 - Karyn Snyder
26 - Bobby Fogle
27 - Terri Buhrman

NOTE: To have your anniversary or birthday added, contact Bill Burrier.



CHILDREN are welcome to stay with their parents during the worship services. Children activity bags are available in the hallway just outside the sanctuary. The small tote bags contain Bible story books, small games, activity books, crayons, activity cards, etc. Please return it to its place at the end of the service.

My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth. —1 John 3:18

DID YOU KNOW . . .

Maryland has a hotline to obtain emergency health and human services? Dial 211 and be connected to local resources. www.211md.org



Read the **OUR DAILY BREAD**
Daily Devotional
at www.SalemChurchWolfsville.org

Holy Communion

September 1, 2013

9:00 a.m. & 11:15 a.m. Worship



Photo from last year's Lord's Acre Festival



September 8, 2012

BULLETIN BOARD
with a message

PRAYER ...
THE WORLD'S GREATEST
WIRELESS CONNECTION

Submitted by Marilyn Leatherman





**INSPIRATIONAL
Reading**

September

By Minnie D. Klemme

Oh, to know the end of summer
With the corn husks getting dry,
Goldenrods in roadside splendor,
Autumn hazes in the sky.



Looking back upon the summer,
Looking forward to the fall,
With the middle of September
Is the nicest time of all.

A Morning Prayer

By Nancy W. Tant

Today, Lord, give me courage,
If indeed it is Your will,
To stand for all things righteous,
All Your desires fulfill.

In my weakness I may falter,
Extend Your hand, I pray.
I cannot walk alone, dear Lord,
Please guide my path today.

May I portray Your goodness,
So those I meet may see
The wonder of Your power
As Your love shines through me.

And at the ending of this day,
I will thankfully behold
How You and I together, Lord,
Achieved a worthy goal.

Gratitude

By Rev. Thomas Foy

I thank You, Lord, for all the gifts
You've given me today.
For all the friends that smile at me
And the kindly things they say.

I thank You for the helping hand
My friends have given me.
I thank You for the kind pretense
That my faults they did not see.

I thank You for the blessings
That You give our happy land;
I know that all that comes our way
Is brought here by Your hand.

Let your light so shine before men, that they
may see your good works and glorify your
Father in heaven. —Matthew 5:16



RECIPE



CHUCKWAGON SANDWICHES

Pork and beans and beef — an all-in-one filling!

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 1/2 pound ground beef | 1 1/2 to 3 teaspoons chili powder |
| 1/4 cup chopped onion | 1 1/2 teaspoons yellow mustard |
| 1/4 cup chopped green sweet pepper | Several dashes bottled hot pepper sauce |
| 1 15-oz. can pork and beans in tomato sauce | 8 to 10 hamburger buns or kaiser rolls |
| 1 14 1/2-oz. can tomatoes, cut up | |
| 2 tablespoons catsup | |

In a large skillet, cook beef, onion, and sweet pepper until meat is brown. Drain off fat. Stir in pork and beans, tomatoes, catsup, chili powder, mustard, and hot pepper sauce. Bring to boiling; reduce heat. Simmer, uncovered, for 20 to 25 minutes or until thickened. To serve, spoon about 1/3 cup of the beef mixture onto each hamburger bun or kaiser roll. Makes 8 to 10 servings.

Prep: 20 minutes Cooking: 20 minutes



Learn to Wait

By Mildred Friend Roger Thomas

When my person starts to wonder
If my Lord up there on high
Has the time to help — I ponder
On my troubles and I sigh.

And my spirit is discouraged
With the burdens of the day,
And with each and every moment,
Feels more discouraged and dismayed.

Then I feel a gentle urging
To read His word anew,
For He's always there to listen
To my burdens and adieus.

It's my Savior, my Lord Jesus,
Who will listen to my woes,
And His word gives new assurance
That He cares for us below.

For He ne'er permits a burden
That He hasn't vowed to share.
It is we with such impatience
Who want immediate answers
to our prayers.

Our Christian Sympathy to...

Stacy Lewis & Family, upon the death of Stacy's father, **Stanley L. Hull**, 78, of Hancock, on August 13, 2013.

Autumn Reflections

By Carice Williams

Autumn is a time to be
With good friends that we know
While sharing friendship
and good food
Before the firelight's glow.

Autumn is a time to see
The changes nature brings
The radiant flaming colors shown
In all God's lovely things.

Autumn is a time to pray
In thankfulness to God
For blessings of the harvesttime
For richness of the sod.

Days that are past are gone forever,
and those that are to come may not
come to you, therefore, enjoy the
present without regretting the loss of
what has past, or depending too
much on that which is not yet here.
This instant is yours, the next still
belongs to futurity, and you do not
know what it may bring forth.

Dandemis — 3rd Century, B.C.

From the Pastor



By PASTOR ROBERT E. SNYDER

Pastor's Notes... and Worship in September

Late August-early September always feels to me more like the start of the new calendar year than does January 1. I realize this may not be true for everyone, but I believe there are many who share this feeling. During this time of year there is a major shift for many: our tasks increase in number, our pace of life increases, and our priorities change. Just at the church, these are some of the things that are happening:

- Both children and adults have returned back to school, extracurricular activities are starting, and schedules are changing.
- On Sept. 8, we're beginning an eight-week sermon series, "The Power of Prayer."
- We're reorganizing Hero's Club and searching for a person to fill the part-time, paid Hero's Club Leader staff position.
- The Middle and High School Faith Builders Youth Group has started its weekly Thursday night gatherings again for another school year.
- The Nominating and Leadership Development Committee will begin to meet August 27 to nominate church leaders for 2014.
- The Staff Parish Relations Committee will be meeting soon to review the pastor's salary and conduct performance reviews for church staff.
- Lord's Acre is around the corner on September 14th; with CROP Walk right behind it on September 22nd.
- Charge Conference forms are being completed, a major administrative undertaking each year at this time.
- Efforts are underway to move the church website to a new hosting site by September 30.
- And there are the ongoing work tasks of the church to be performed along with tasks and events in our personal lives, both planned and unplanned.

You have your own list of things that are happening this time of year. It's easy for you and me to get swept away with all of this, reacting to the next task or event and allowing our priorities to get made for us hoping to just "keep our heads above water." I encourage us (myself included!) to avoid that temptation to be

swept along. How? - By taking the time to stay very close to God. You might say, "Take the time, that's nuts. Having no time is already the problem and you want us to somehow find more time?" Yes, that's exactly what I'm encouraging because it's God who can best help us keep our priorities straight and help us get done the things that really need to get accomplished and maybe even let go of some things. All else falls into its proper place when we keep God our first priority and when we stay close to God throughout the day.

How do we do that? I believe we can do it through prayer. Over the next few weeks let's really focus on prayer. Let's study it and practice it. Let's share with one another how it's going - what seems to be working and what's not. Let's work with God and support one another in our prayer lives. To help, a sermon series called, "The Power of Prayer" is being offered beginning Sep. 8. Here are some highlights. God Bless each of you! —Pastor Bob

September 1 – Holy Communion Luke 14:1, 7-14

"Jesus at a Pharisee's House"

The end of verse 1, referring to Jesus, says "...he was being carefully watched." The religious leaders, feeling threatened by Jesus, were watching him closely trying to catch him at doing something wrong so they could bring him up on charges, or at least discredit him. Jesus knew they were watching closely. They wished to catch him but he beat them at their own game. He did so by merely speaking the truth in love.

The Pharisees wanted others to see how religious they were in order to bring praise upon themselves. But Jesus taught: strive to do the right thing as God sees right and in doing so seek not to be noticed by others. The Pharisees sought out each other's company and praise. But Jesus taught: serve those in need and you'll receive God's praise. Jesus seeks to point us to God and the ways of God because that is ultimately what gives meaning to our lives here on earth.

September 8 The Power of Prayer - "The State of Our Prayer Life"

How is it with our prayer? What

could be more important than staying close to God? Prayer is the key. We have our "to do" lists. We keep them in our heads and we put them on paper or keep them electronically. Those lists record all that is important to us during the day - tasks to be accomplished, errands to run, people to contact. We maintain calendars with all our upcoming meetings and events. Does prayer appear anywhere on our "to do" lists or calendars? For many the state of our prayer lives, if not simply broken, is at least in need of repair. God created us, God saved us, and God will come again to judge us. What is more important than spending time with God in prayer?

September 15 The Power of Prayer - "Why Pray?"

Why pray? - Because it works. God wants to enter into our lives to transform us. God has chosen to not force himself into our lives. It is up to us to let him in - God gives us the choice. If someone had an awesome plan for your life, a plan that when carried out would result in you experiencing a wonderful life, wouldn't you want that for yourself and your family? If you allow God into your life that transformation will take place - it starts with prayer. Caution - If you don't want to be transformed, please avoid praying.

September 22 The Power of Prayer - "To Whom Do We Pray? (You May Be Surprised)"

To whom should we pray? We should pray to both El-Shaddai (God Almighty) and Abba (daddy). The greatest power in the entire universe, the One who could crush us with the mere blink of his eye - this is God and God has chosen to be our loving dad. When we pray we do so with respect and with child-like love. When we pray we engage with all of the greatness and wonder and helpfulness of God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

September 29 The Power of Prayer - "For What Should We Pray?"

For what should we pray? Anything, and be specific, and if you're angry at God tell him so. God can take it - he's God. How would you approach a loving earthly father? If he was truly loving, you could go to him with anything. You might be embarrassed, you might be afraid that he will be disappointed, but you could take anything to a truly loving father knowing he would be there to love you and help you. How much more so will God your heavenly Father love you and help you. God adores you as his very best creation - because that's what you are.



July 21st Balloon Launch

BALLOONS FOUND AND RETURNED

200 Balloons Launched at Salem's Ice Cream Social



**From Wolfsville to Amagansett, New York
354 miles**

SEVEN YELLOW BALLOON CARDS HAVE COME BACK

Of the seven balloon cards returned to Salem so far, the one traveling the farthest distance was launched by Karen DeLauter and a friend Alyssa. It was found in Amagansett, New York, about 354 miles from Wolfsville.

Pam Wood, pictured at right, who lives in Stamford, Connecticut, found the balloon on the beach in front of their family home in Amagansett, New York.

It is interesting to note that the balloon was still partially inflated with the string and card still attached. When we opened the envelope that Pam had mailed to us, some sand from the beach was still sticking to the laminated card.

Don, who found Nellie's balloon in Street, MD, wrote "I was walking down the driveway to my mailbox on Monday the 22nd and spotted your balloon and tag in the grass. Your balloon made quite a flight and landed softly onto my yard. Thank you for sending this balloon on its journey. I was surprised when I found it."



Pam Wood found our balloon on the beach in Amagansett, New York.

Balloon cards returned so far:

Name on Card	Where Found	Miles Traveled
Jennifer Burrier	Taneytown, MD	29
Diana Laky	Manchester, MD	49
Sophie Wagaman	Freeland, MD	60
Laura Snyder	White Hall, MD	72
Nellie Stup	Street, MD	75
Lacy Hill	Rising Sun, MD	118
Karen DeLauter & Alyssa	Amagansett, NY	354

Sarah De Santis found Sophie's balloon on her farm in Freeland, MD. She told us they share their home with chickens, dogs, two horses, and a mini-donkey. She sent the photo, at right, of their horse Snow, and their mini-donkey Gino.



Heavenly Humor



"Powerful sermons, Pastor. Thoughtful, well researched. I can always see myself in them. And I want you to knock it off."

Today's Prayer . . .

What happened yesterday belongs to history; Tomorrow may come but it's not a guarantee. I cannot see the future, nor change the past And only what I do for You today will last. Time is but a moment that will pass away, Destined to become part of yesterday. Today, I pray You make my life complete And inspire me to help others to their feet. Turn my failures into adversities to be won. Forgive me, Lord, for the unkind things I have done. Help me today to use this moment to pray And thank You, God, for another day.



—Roy A. Borges

—Submitted by Marilyn Leatherman

Some thoughts to ponder . . .

Blessed is the person who finds out which way God is moving and then goes in that direction.

Write your plans in pencil and remember that God has the eraser.

True peace is not the absence of war; it is the presence of God.

You need not be afraid of where you're going when you know God's going with you.

The Mountain Shepherd

Salem United Methodist Church
12477-79 Wolfsville Road
Myersville, MD 21773-9303

www.SalemChurchWolfsville.org

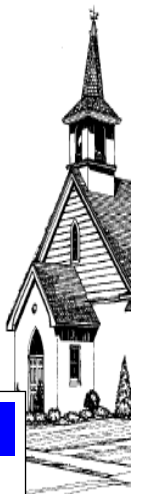
Address Services Requested



September

TWO WORSHIP SERVICES
— Every Sunday —
9:00 a.m. Traditional
10:15 a.m. Sunday School
11:15 a.m. Contemporary

Place
Stamp
Here



COME GROW WITH US

Invite • Help • Serve