



Salem United Methodist Church — Wolfsville



Fun at the Ocean City ROCK Youth Retreat included the Polar Plunge
Photos on pages 3 & 11

INSIDE

Missions 2
 ROCK Youth Retreat 3
 Attendance & Offerings 4
 Worship through Giving 4
 Recent Repairs & Maintenance .. 4
 Memorials & Endowments 4
 Calendar of Events 5
 Adult Choir Notes 5
 Leadership Days 5
 Who's Doing What, When ? 6
 It's Your Day 6
 Youth Group Schedule 6
 Inspirational Reading 7
 Recipe 7
 In Sympathy 7
 From our Pastor 8
 Skating Party 9
 Food Pantry's New Location 10
 M.H.S. FCA 10
 ROCK Youth Retreat 11
 Sunday School Classes 12
 Heavenly Humor 12

Readiness 360: Salem receives results of survey taken by Salem members

By Pastor Bob Snyder

Background

The Readiness 360 Survey helps congregations see and carry out God's vision. Salem participated in the survey November 29 to December 20, 2014. With an average weekly worship attendance of 92, we set a goal of having at least 25 survey participants. We were very pleased that 53 people took the online survey. Thanks again to all who participated!

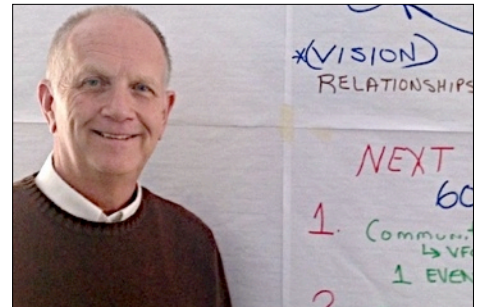
Rev. Bill Warehime led us through the survey process. He initially met with Salem's Administrative Council to brief us on the benefits of taking the survey and to explain the steps in the survey process. All were invited to join the Administrative Council to review the results of the survey at a retreat held on Saturday morning, January 31. Rev. Warehime was the retreat facilitator.

Survey Results

The survey measured four areas: Spiritual Intensity, Missional Alignment, Cultural Openness, and Dynamic Relationships. Here are the summary statements from the Readiness 360 Report for each of these areas. Greater detail is provided in the complete Executive Summary Report. Copies are available for you to review on the information table at church.

❖ **Spiritual Intensity (84%)** – "All great Christian movements are intense spiritually, marked by deep love for God and a surrendering to what God is seeking to do through human beings. It is critical that a spiritual fire burns within the hearts and souls of those leading and participating in the life of the church. Without personal passion for Christ we lack an adequate source of spiritual energy for vital and multiplying ministry. In many respects, Salem is on fire in its love for God, but there is also some

Photo by Bill Burrier



JANUARY 31, 2015— Rev. Bill Warehime led us through the survey process and explained the benefits and results of the survey.

hesitation to go the full mile. It is well worth exploring what is limiting you in the area of Spiritual Intensity. You are so close to having the fuel necessary to multiply ministry."

❖ **Missional Alignment (80%)** – "Highly fruitful churches consistently prioritize the investment of their resources (time, talent, treasure) according to their Biblical vision and mission. Plans and major initiatives must stem clearly from Biblical mandates and a quest for fruitfulness. There is a willingness to let go of strategies that aren't bearing much fruit. The more churches do this the better they are aligned. Many folks at your church have a good sense of where God is calling you to go, but others are not aligned with this point of view. There is seldom enough personnel or financial resources to run in many directions at once. Now is a time for serious conversation about Salem's priorities."

❖ **Cultural Openness (73.5%)** – Since the first century, effective churches have been reaching across cultural boundaries to share the Christian good news with diverse people, who begin with different experiences, perspectives, and stories. Churches that

—continued on page 3



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Chair, Board of Trustees: Donald Stottlemeyer
Church Treasurer: William Burrier
Sunday School Treasurer: Mary Fogle
Chair, Staff-Parish Relations: Dennis Draper
Food Pantry: Dawn Nelson

Salem Membership Statistics:
Current Membership: 240
2015 New Members: 0

Salem Physical Facilities:
Church built 1847
Educational Building built 1967
Parsonage built 1974-75

Salem Website:
www.SalemChurchWolfsville.org

Colophon:
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Purpose of Newsletter:
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.

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.

Salem Vision Statement:
We will direct our efforts out into the community to serve people's needs and bring them to Christ.

Go  **2015 MISSION PROJECTS**

		MONTHLY MINIMUM	PAID Jan
1	Frank & Nancy Stottlemeyer (Retired New Tribes Mission)	\$204	\$204.00
2	Operation Christmas Child (Postage paid in November)	-----	\$0.00
3	Salem Mission & Outreach (Local needs)	-----	\$160.00
4	Salem Food Pantry (Open Tuesdays 6:00-7:00 p.m.)	-----	\$248.58
5	Mary E. (Africa Inland Mission)	\$85	\$100.00
6	United Methodist Board of Child Care (Auxiliary & Direct Support)	-----	\$88.00
7	Gideons (Frederick West Camp - Distributing Bibles)	\$110	\$110.00
8	Potato Project (Society of St. Andrew, Big Island, VA)	\$60	\$60.00
9	Middletown High School (Fellowship of Christian Athletes)	\$47	\$47.00
10	Mission Trip (Destination to be determined)	-----	\$0.00
11	Ronnie & Angi Hopkins (Nicaragua)	\$64	\$64.00
12	Care Net Pregnancy Center (Frederick, MD)	\$64	\$64.00
13	Compassion International (Sponsored child in India)	\$38	\$38.00
14	Local Mission Projects (Local repair or renovation needs)	-----	\$0.00
15	Hero's Club After School Ministry (Pre-K through Grade 5)	-----	\$450.86
16	World Vision (Sponsored child in Colombia)	\$35	\$35.00
17	Imagine No Malaria in Africa (Pay December 2015)	-----	\$0.00

2015 Goal: **\$17,076** • Total Mission Offering to date: **\$1,731.00** • % of Goal: **10%**

Here's how you can give . . .

1. Make checks payable to Salem United Methodist Church, or place cash 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 or mail to Salem.
If you do not designate a project, your contribution will be distributed to the project or projects needing funds to meet the monthly minimum payout goals.

SALEM MISSION PROJECTS FOR 2015	GOAL
1. Frank & Nancy Stottlemeyer, Retired, New Tribes Mission	\$2,448
2. Operation Christmas Child	350
3. Salem Mission & Outreach	1,180
4. Food Pantry	1,180
5. Africa Inland Mission (Mary E.)	1,020
6. Board of Child Care	1,360
7. Gideons (Frederick County, West)	1,320
8. Potato Project (Society of St. Andrew)	720
9. Middletown High School Fellowship of Christian Athletes	564
10. Mission Trip (To be determined)	2,000
11. Ronnie & Angie Hopkins (Nicaragua)	768
12. Care Net Pregnancy Center of Frederick	768
13. Compassion International (Sponsored Child)	456
14. Local Mission Project	1,250
15. Hero's Club after school ministry	300
16. World Vision	420
17. Imagine No Malaria	972

Scenes from the . . .

ROCK Youth Retreat in Ocean City

youth retreat
ROCK

■ By Wanda Barkdoll

This year ROCK was one of the most emotional and uplifting events I have attended. The theme for this year was KFC, and no, it does not stand for Kentucky Fried Chicken.

I can tell you that Donna, Pastor Bob, Sue Ellen and some of the adults thought the same thing, so why spend money on a t-shirt with KFC letters on it? We now know it meant something else.

KFC stands for Kindness, Forgiveness, and Compassion. Ephesians 4:32 says "Show kindness, forgiveness and compassion just as God has shown you through Jesus Christ."

The message by Reggie Dabbs was very powerful. And like Pastor Bob said in an e-mail that he sent out to the youth, we all hope that what they experienced during ROCK brings them and all of us closer to God and deepens our relationship with Him.

Remember that God gave his only Son for our sin and he lived the life as a human to feel like we feel and to suffer like we do. Don't let his sacrifice be in vein. Remember the message from Reggie and KFC.

The food was good, the hotel was

February 6-8, 2015

Photos by Wanda Barkdoll



great, and the youth had a great time at the Polar Plunge, including Susie Stottlemeyer (brave woman), and we also enjoyed the warm pool at the hotel.

God bless you all. We are ready for next year— ROCK 2016.

More ROCK photos on page 11

Readiness 360 Survey

—continued from page 1

exhibit fortress behaviors or who spend excessive time mourning social change often have difficulty sharing life with new kinds of people. On one hand, many in the church want to reach diverse people, but many in the church still have great apprehension about what this might mean in terms of changing the face of Salem. There may be some limitations in terms of how far the church is able to reach toward different kinds of people in the next few years. Open communication will be critical.

❖ **Dynamic Relationships (79.97%)** – Disciple making depends in large part on our relational skills; our relationship with God and with others. A church's people must develop good habits for leading others into a transformative relationship with God through Christ. In some respects, your church has seen some amazing relationships and friendships

across the years. However, the DNA of these relationships is not currently indicative of the church as a whole. You have some work to do in terms of cultivating trust within the church and relating effectively with folks who are different than the majority of the members."

Next Steps

Seeking to see and carry out God's vision for our church, retreat participants agreed to the following next steps to be completed over the next 30-90 days:

• Community Outreach

Plan an event, possibly held at Salem's pavilion, to honor and thank community service organizations (School, Volunteer Fire Department, Ruritan, etc.)

• Invite New People

Bring 10 visitors to worship

• Spiritual Gifts and Talents

Offer a study on Spiritual Gifts

Communicating Your Ideas

Retreat participants also listed these items as possibilities to explore further: going on a mission trip again, continuing to explore additional ways to use social media to reach new people, and reviewing the way we welcome and practice hospitality to visitors.

If you have thoughts on any of the above items or additional ideas, please communicate them.

All worshippers are welcome to attend Administrative Council meetings held the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. If you can't attend a meeting, please communicate your ideas to any one of the council members.

Thanks again for taking the survey!

—Pastor Bob Snyder

Attendance Offerings

January 2015

		Worship*		Sunday School	
Jan	4	86	\$2,152.25	54	\$249.75
Jan	11	96	2,517.00	59	122.75
Jan	18	87	2,435.00	56	172.50
Jan	25	88	2,035.42	56	145.75

*Worship attendance & offerings include both worship services.

- Missions: \$1,731.00
 - Building Fund: \$185.00
 - Pavilion Fund: \$80.00
 - Cemetery Endowment Fund: \$15.00
- (Missions, Building Fund offerings, etc. are not included in Worship & Sunday School offerings above.)*

Average Attendance		
	Worship	Sunday School
Jan	89	56
Dec	94	56
Nov	87	53
Oct	87	52
Sept	94	52

Average Attendance Jan 2015
 Sunday Worship: 89
 Sunday School: 56

Recent Repairs and Maintenance

Salem's Board of Trustees has been busy with small maintenance and repair projects. Robin Haupt replaced the power cord on one of the vacuum cleaners.

Brandon Leatherman replaced a portion of the baseboard trim in the hallway on the lower level of the educational building.

Additional storage containers were purchased to store the church's Christmas decorations.

Ellsworth Electric checked the sanctuary ceiling lights and replaced bulbs as needed. G & M Heating and A/C Inc. repaired one of the parsonage heat pumps.

Donald Stottlemeyer installed bulletin boards and pictures which had been removed to paint the social room walls. One additional 4 x 6 bulletin board was purchased and installed in the social room for use by the Hero's Club after school ministry.

Customers Come First Fire Protection LLC replaced eight of the church's fire extinguishers during the annual inspection. The batteries in the alarm panel were also tested.

Salem's Administrative Council recently approved the purchase of up to three additional shelving units for Salem's Food Pantry, which has moved into a new larger space on the lower level of the educational building.

Salem's United Methodist Women "Bee-lievers" are planning to replace the existing drapes in the social room with new window treatments.

Worship Through Giving – Tithes & Offerings

■ By Bill Burrier, Church Treasurer

The scriptures tell us we will be blessed by our giving ministry and God will be pleased (Deuteronomy 15:10).

Giving tithes and offerings is a part of our spiritual worship. We don't give in order to get. We give to make an impact; we give to make a difference in people's lives; we give to further the ministry of Christ (2 Corinthians 9:7).

.....WAYS TO GIVE.....

◆ Worship Services Plate Offering

Give by cash or check during any of our worship services. If you give cash and would like it to be reflected on your year-end giving statement, please use an offering envelope.

◆ By Mail

You may mail your tithes and offerings to Church Treasurer, Salem United Methodist Church, 12477 Wolfsville Road, Myersville, MD 21773. Make checks payable to Salem United Methodist Church.

◆ Electronically Online (Safe & Secure)

Salem is now offering the convenience of online giving. Go to our church website and select GIVE. Sign into your account on the secure server at Vanco Payment Solutions, a United Methodist endorsed service. You may set up recurring giving, e.g., weekly, monthly, or give one time. Funds will be automatically withdrawn from your checking or savings account. No more checks to write and you may change your giving amount at any time. This is a personal choice. Salem members who have already signed up for electronic giving are pleased with the service.



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:
 Bill Burrier, Chair, Finance Committee
 or Pastor Bob Snyder*



March

Calendar of Events



- Sun 1 Food Sale pick up** (After Sunday Services)
- Thu 5 UMW Bee-lievers** - 7:00 p.m. at Salem
- Thu 5 Board of Trustees** - 7:00 p.m. at Salem
- Sun 8 Daylight Saving Time begins**
- Thu 12 Administrative Council meeting** - 7:00 p.m. at Salem
- Sun 15 Seniors' Appreciation Luncheon** - Served by the youth at 1:00 p.m. at Salem
- Sun 29 Palm Sunday Community Hymn Sing** - 7:00 p.m. at Garfield UMC

Recurring Events: Hero's Club meets every Monday when school is open 3:30-6:00 p.m. at Salem

Food Pantry is open every Tuesday 6:00-7:00 p.m. at Salem

Adult Choir practices every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at Salem

Praise Band practices every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. at Salem

Youth Group meets every Thursday 6:30-8:00 p.m. at Salem

The church is cleaned Friday or Saturday every week

Newsletter Distribution

1. **E-Mail** — We are currently sending this newsletter to 185 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 49 cents First Class postage rate.



www.facebook.com/SalemChurchWolfsville

Board of Child Care Update

- By Dawn Nelson

Since 1953, the men and women of the Board of Child Care Auxiliary have enhanced the lives of the children served by the Board of Child Care (BCC), and helped educate the church community and others about BCC's services.

We want to thank the 40 new auxiliary members from Salem United Methodist for joining this ministry. Please keep these children in your prayers! It's still not too late to join.

You may contact me at 301-293-9988 for more information.

Palm Sunday Hymn Sing

Sunday, March 29, 2015 - 7:00 p.m.
at Garfield United Methodist Church
Everyone is welcome.

Adult Choir Notes

- By Sandy Lewis
Adult Choir Director

Salem Choir is back to practicing each Tuesday evening at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. We are preparing for Holy Week and Easter, along with songs for morning worship services.

Anyone who would like to sing is



welcome to join us. If Tuesday evening is not a good time for you, please let me or another member of the choir know. We may be able to work out some alternate practice times that would be more convenient.

"Sing a new song to the Lord! Let the whole earth sing to the Lord!"

—Psalm 96:1 (NLT)

Western Region Leadership Days 2015

- By Pastor Bob Snyder

During January, the Western Region of the Baltimore Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church conducts "Leadership Days," a training event open to anyone in our conference. This year's event, held at Otterbein UMC in Hagerstown from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m., began with check-in and refreshments, then went right into the training classes.

There were three breakout sessions during the day. Participants could choose from one of seven different classes offered in each session.

This year Dennis Draper (Chair of our Staff Parish Relations Committee - SPRC), Laura Snyder (Co-Leader of our "Faith Builders" youth group), and I attended the event. We thought the training event provided practical information we can use in our ministries right away. Here are the classes we attended and an item or two we learned from each class:

- ❖ Session 1 (9:00-10:30 a.m.)

Shepherding and Supporting: The Work of the SPRC in the Local Church

(Dennis) - "There is more to the SPRC than just doing staff evaluations. We are there for anyone who has a problem with another person."

Moving Ahead with Your Youth Ministry (Laura) - "Youth need a place to call their own in the church, a room they can decorate and feel relaxed in. The theory is, this allows the youth to be themselves in a comfortable and safe space."

Re-thinking the Way We Do Church for Younger Generations (Bob) -

"Younger generations want to make an immediate difference. They are drawn to hands-on local mission projects."

- ❖ Session 2 (11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.)

Church Board of Trustees Orientation (Dennis) - "It is God's church but the trustees are responsible for the building. Trustees are responsible to maintain a safe and inviting place to worship."

Supporting Families and Individuals Living with Mental Illness (Laura) - "I

—continued on page 11

Who's Doing What, When?

9:00 A.M. TRADITIONAL WORSHIP		MARCH
Lay Readers 1 - Fonda Gormer 8 - Wanda Barkdoll 15 - Brenda Freysz 22 - Mary Cline 29 - Dennis Leatherman	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	Music 1 - Sara Weitzel 8 - Works in Progress 15 - Susan Koons 22 - Susan Koons 29 - Sara Weitzel
Greeters 1 - Meredith Harshman 8 - Bill & Darlene Burrier 15 - George, Barbie, & Matthew Stottlemeyer 22 - Bill, Caroline, Jadie & Kenslie Buhrman 29 - Donald & Susie Stottlemeyer	Acolytes 1 - Paul McCormick 8 - Jadie Buhrman 15 - Kenslie Buhrman 22 - Joshua Koons 29 - Jared Lenhart	
11:15 A.M. CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP		
An informal FAMILY FRIENDLY service with contemporary Christian music, pastor's message, children's time, sharing of joys and concerns, and prayer.		Music Mar 8 - Works in Progress Praise Band Mar 22 - Works in Progress Praise Band

It's Your Day!

March Anniversaries

- 8 - Monty & Phyllis Beall
- 17 - Jerry & Cindy Draper
- 18 - Sam & Jane Zimmerman

March Birthdays

- 5 - Sarah Haddock
- 5 - Richard Harshman
- 6 - Jane Zimmerman
- 7 - Joshua Koons
- 8 - Madison Elsbach
- 11 - Dawn Nelson
- 12 - Jennifer Harne
- 12 - Kenna Raynor
- 13 - Joshua Gormer
- 14 - Donna Snyder
- 15 - Vicki Robinson
- 16 - Ken Poling
- 17 - Audrey Tolland
- 17 - Pat Wisner
- 19 - Bobby Doyle
- 23 - Owen Raynor
- 24 - Allison Adams
- 24 - Pastor Bob Snyder
- 28 - Shelby Leatherman

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

Faith Builders Youth Group

(Middle School & High School)

Weekly get-togethers during the school year: Every Thursday, 6:30-8:00 p.m. at Salem.

Calendar of Activities

- 2015**
 Mar 15 - Seniors' Appreciation Luncheon
 Mar 29-Apr 5 - Holy Week and Easter Dramatic Presentations
 Apr 17 - Spaghetti Dinner 5-9 p.m. Fundraiser for Creation
 Apr 25 - Hershey Park Trip
 May 29-30 - Progressive Dinner & Lock-In
 Jun 6 - End-of-Year Pool Party (Mueller's)
 Jun 11 - End of Thursday weekly meetings
 June 23-28 - Creation Music Festival
 July 19 - Ice Cream Social & Balloon Launch

Co-Leaders:
 Wanda Barkdoll (301-416-0882)
 Laura Snyder (240-440-4884)

Spaghetti Dinner

Friday, April 17
 5 to 9 p.m.
 Salem Social Room
 Spaghetti
 Salad - Garlic Bread - Drink
 Cost: Your Donation

Youth Group Fundraiser for Creation

Holy Communion

will not be observed in March



Sticky Buns & Apple Pies For Sale

As a fundraiser for Salem's United Methodist Women "Bee-lievers", Anita Harshman is making Pecan Cinnamon Sticky Buns and Apple Pies.

- Pecan Cinnamon Sticky Buns: \$12 a dozen
- Apple Pie (9-inch): \$10 each

You may purchase these items directly from Anita. To place an order, call Anita at 301-293-2080. Orders can be placed at any time and can be picked up after services on Sunday.





I Shall Pause

By Gladys Billings Bratton

I shall pause for a moment
Each and every day;
I shall pause for a quiet moment
To bow my head and pray.

Through the hurried hours
Of this busy road we trod,
I shall pause for a moment
And give thanks unto my God.

For the promise of each sunrise,
For the sunset's splendor, too,
For the blessing of a gentle rain
Or a sky of cloudless blue.

I shall pause and I shall listen
To the bird's sweet melodies,
To the music of the whispering winds
Echoing through the trees.

I shall pause for a moment,
I shall take the time to see
All the wonders of His handiwork
That with love He made for me.

I shall pause for a moment,
Count the blessings each day brings . . .
I shall pause for a quiet moment
And give thanks for all these things.

Spring Portents

By Virginia Blanck Moore

Snow may linger in the corners
Of a sheltered nook;
Ice may fringe the shaded places
On the banks of pond and brook.

Cold may be the wind that's blowing,
Pale the sunshine, gray the sky,
But winter-weary mankind's certain
Spring is drawing very nigh.

For someone found a willow branch
Trimmed with furry gray;
Someone saw green sprouts thrust upward
Where snow lay yesterday

Someone saw a robin redbreast,
Someone heard him sing . . .
Welcome signs and certain portents
When the winter turns to spring.



RECIPE



St. Patrick's Day Scones

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 4 cups all-purpose flour | 1-1/2 cups dark raisins |
| 1 cup sugar | 2 sticks (1 cup) margarine |
| 1/2 teaspoon salt | 2 eggs |
| 4 teaspoons baking powder | 1 cup milk |

Egg wash: 1 egg and 1 tablespoon milk

1. Heat oven to 350 degrees.
2. Whisk together flour, sugar, salt and baking powder in a bowl. Gradually mix in raisins so they are evenly distributed. Add margarine in small cubes and mix in with fingers or pastry blender until evenly blended.
3. Whisk together eggs and milk in small bowl. Gradually stir into flour mixture until dough forms; work dough with hands if necessary, but do not overwork.
4. Drop scant 1/2 cup amounts of dough onto 2 ungreased baking sheets.
5. For egg wash, beat together egg and milk in small bowl. Lightly brush each scone with wash.
6. In two batches, bake scones in 350-degree oven for 20 to 23 minutes or until lightly golden.

Makes: 18 to 20 scones



Palm Sunday

By Alice Kennelly Roberts

His path led to Jerusalem
Upon that sunlit day,
Hosannas ringing in the air,
Palms strewn along the way.

His path led to the city
Where mobs would shout and cry,
And then as quickly turn on Him,
And cast Him out to die.

He wore no kingly raiment,
No jewel-encrusted crown,
And chose a little borrowed colt
To take Him through the town.

The longest week in history
Was crowding to be born . . .
The shadow of a cross was there,
And finally, Easter Morn!

IN SYMPATHY

Maynard E. Gaver

The Salem congregation wishes to express its deepest sympathy to the family of Maynard Gaver, 83, who passed away Wednesday, February 11, 2015, at Meritus in Hagerstown.

Maynard's wife, Betty, a Salem member, passed away one year ago. Although Maynard was a member at Grossnickle Church of the Brethren, he attended worship at Salem with Betty when they were able.

A celebration of Maynard's life will be held at the Grossnickle Church of the Brethren in March at a date to be announced.





Pastor's Notes... and Worship in March

■ By PASTOR ROBERT E. SNYDER

LENT BEGAN on Ash Wednesday, February 18 and will continue for 40 days until Easter, April 5. Lent is a time each year to reflect on ourselves and our lives, confess our sins and ask for God's forgiveness, and make changes to live more fully in God's love and to love each other more fully.

These aren't just words – these are real possibilities that God offers us during the season of Lent. How is God calling me? You? Let's pray for God's help and help one another seek and respond to the ways God is calling us into deeper relationship, and the ways God is calling us to grow in faith and service.

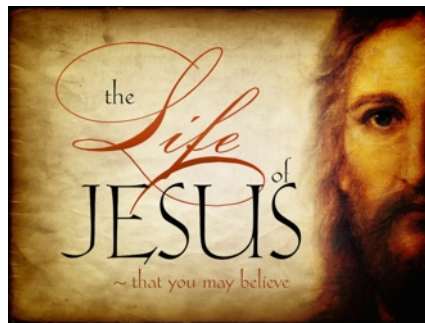
During March, we'll continue our sermon series, "Jesus the Messiah." Summaries of weekly worship topics are provided below. Invite a guest to come with you to worship services on the Sundays during Lent; it might be just what they need at this time in their life. May we experience Christ in a meaningful way this Lent.

God Bless, *Pastor Bob*

March 1 "Jesus' Miracles" Matthew 8:1-10:42

These verses recount many miracles performed by Jesus: healing a man with leprosy, causing the centurion's servant to walk again, curing Peter's mother-in-law and healing many into the evening, restoring two men that were violent, healing a paralytic, bringing a dead girl back to life, curing a woman who had been bleeding for twelve years, giving two men their sight back and a third man his ability to speak.

Jesus performed miracles "so that you may know the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins" (Matthew 9:6). What miracle has Jesus done for you and me? His death has restored our lives. That's a miracle!



March 8 "Opposition to Jesus" Matthew 13:53-16:12

Jesus faced opposition from the people of his hometown. "They took offense to him" (13:57). John the Baptist, his colleague in ministry, was beheaded and Jesus "withdrew to a solitary place" (14:13). After he fed five thousand people with five loaves of bread and two fish, Jesus "went up on a mountain by himself to pray" (14:23). Those closest to him lacked faith and doubted (14:31).

The religious leaders would not see how far they had strayed in their faith and continually opposed Jesus' attempts to restore true faith (15-16:12). Jesus persevered in his ministry by going to God in prayer. God sustains us in our ministry when we frequently go to him in prayer.

March 15 "Jesus, the Son of God" Matthew 16:13-18:35

At Caesarea Philippi, Jesus came right out and asked his disciples "But what about you? Who do you say I am?" (16:15). Then Jesus predicted his death and resurrection and stopped Satan's efforts to tempt him not to die on the cross (16:21-23). Jesus took Peter, James, and John along with him up on a mountain where Jesus became dazzling white; white as the sun (17:2). God appeared on the mountain and repeated

the same thing God said when Jesus was baptized, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." But then God added something. God commanded Peter, James, and John, "Listen to him!" (17:5). God was at work showing people that Jesus is the Son of God. How do we see God at work in our lives today to strengthen our faith and trust?

March 22 "Jesus Turns toward Jerusalem" Matthew 19:1-20:34

The turn from his ministry in Galilee to travel to Jerusalem was a defining moment in Jesus' life. He knew traveling to Jerusalem meant his own torture and death nailed to a cross. He has decided not to turn. I'm sure there was a part of him, probably a very big part that kept saying "don't do this." But he knew that he must do it to fulfill God's salvation plan for humankind. So he made the turn and went to Jerusalem and died for us and rose again, freeing us from sin and giving us life. Jesus modeled "the turn" for us. I believe we all have to make "the turn," the turn from the things that we haven't yet surrendered to God. Things that separate us from God's love, forgiveness, and sustaining power. Jesus can help us make "the turn" because of the day he turned toward Jerusalem.

Jesus wants us to turn completely to him to fully receive his gifts of forgiveness and life.

March 29 – Palm/Passion Sunday "The Final Week" Matthew 21:1-25:46

On two back-to-back Sundays Jesus would take us from misunderstanding him, to completely understanding who he was and why he came. In seven-plus-one days Jesus would go from warrior-king (Sunday) to despicable criminal (Friday) to King of the universe (Sunday).

Palm Sunday started that final week. It was a day that showed how deeply people longed for a savior. They threw their outer garments in front of him, they waved palm branches high into the air above their heads, and they shouted "Hosanna!" because they desperately yearned for someone who would save them from their difficult lives.

We know now what they didn't yet know on that first Palm Sunday. Jesus is the Savior. Christ does get us through the difficult times of our lives. We can follow our Lord and Savior with confidence!

Scenes from the . . .

Family Roller Skating Party *in* Waynesboro



Photos by Joe Hawkins



WAYNESBORO, PA — More than 100 people braved the frigid temperatures to enjoy an evening of roller skating and fellowship at Salem’s Annual Family Skate night on February 15th. Fun was had by all ages. Susie Stottlemeyer won the numbers game. A special “shout-out” to Richard Harshman, who was our most senior skater. This event seems to bring out smiles from everyone. I am happy to announce that we have reserved Cosmic Skate and Play for next year, and the date happens to coincide with Valentine’s Day— so on February 14, 2016, prepare to bring your “sweetie” to skate. —By Joe Hawkins



Salem Mission Projects

Missions is the Mission of the Church



Salem Mission Project No. 9

Middletown High School “Fellowship of Christian Athletes”

Photos by Tim Leber



■ By Tim Leber, MHS Teacher & FCA Leader

The mission of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) is to present to coaches and athletes, and all whom they influence, the challenge and adventure of receiving Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, serving Him in their relationships and in the fellowship of the church. We have had an FCA student group at Middletown High School for 21 years, and our student leaders do a super job of witnessing for the Lord on a daily basis!

Our FCA group meets before school on Tuesday mornings and also once a month on Club Day during the school day. Student leaders plan activities and lessons that help all students grow in their faith in God.

We are so grateful to God for the financial support provided by Salem United Methodist Church! Throughout the years, our FCA group has been able to use those funds to: provide Christmas

gifts to needy families in our community during the “Adopt-A-Family” program; provide bag lunches with notes of encouragement for homeless people in Frederick; sponsor student leaders at local FCA sports and leadership camps; provide food and supplies for Staff Appreciation breakfasts at Middletown High; and purchase Bibles and other study materials for leaders.

Without the financial support of Salem United Methodist Church, our FCA group would have a difficult time generating funds to continue those various ministries. We greatly appreciate your support and count it as a huge blessing to have your church as our partner in Christian ministry!

Wishing everyone at Salem United Methodist Church all of God’s blessings!

Salem Mission Project No. 4

Food Pantry moved to new location at Salem

■ By Dawn Nelson

The Food Pantry has a new home! We have moved the Food Pantry from the social hall to downstairs in a room that was being used for storage. The Bee-lievers are now able to utilize the old area to store items of need for the kitchen. Expanding our Food Pantry will allow us to go through the process of applying for government food that would be free for our pantry.

I want to thank all who helped in this process: Tara Birriel, Dennis Draper, Caroline Buhrman, Anita and Richard Harshman, Barbie Stottlemeyer, Nancy and Bill Ferguson and Fonda Gormer.

We would like to send out a friendly reminder about expired food. Due to health department regulations we are able to keep expired food up to 6 months after expiration. We have been receiving donated food that is years out-dated, so please double check the expiration dates. We do appreciate all the donations!

Food Pantry
OPEN
TUESDAYS
6:00-7:00 pm

Photo by Jim Laky



CHILDREN'S TIME at our FAMILY FRIENDLY contemporary service held every Sunday at 11:15 a.m. During the service there is a time of sharing, a message with application to our daily lives, and contemporary music, including the “Works in Progress” Community Praise Band which leads the music on the second and fourth Sunday of each month. Come as you are and be ready to encounter God! Jim Laky snapped the above photo on February 8th when there was a “full house” for Children’s Time.

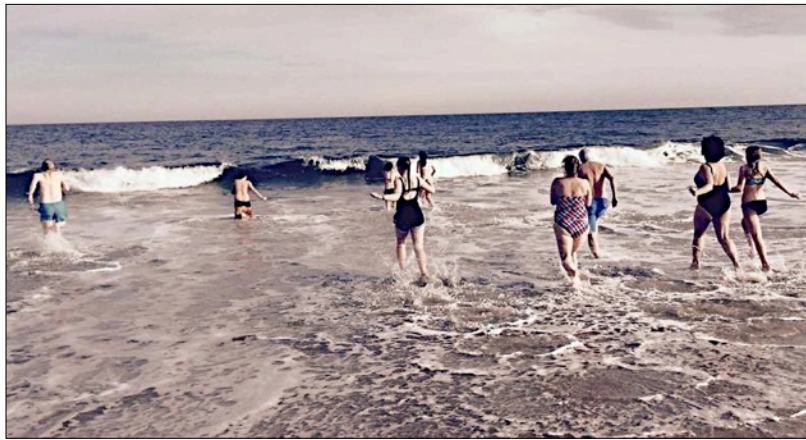
Scenes from the . . .

ROCK Youth Retreat in Ocean City

youth retreat
ROCK

February 6-8, 2015

Photos by Wanda Barkdoll



Leadership Days 2015

—continued from page 5

learned about NAMI, an organization that supports, advocates, and educates families dealing with these issues and lets them know they are not alone."

How to Develop and Update a Safe Sanctuaries Policy (Bob) –

"This policy helps protect both children and adults. In many churches the Staff Parish Relations Committee maintains this policy because they are used to handling confidential matters."

❖ Lunch Break (12:30-1:30 p.m.) –

Great box lunches with a variety of selections were provided by "Panera Bread."

❖ Session 3 (1:30-3:00 p.m.)

Church Meetings: A Valuable Part of Your Mission and Ministry (Dennis) –

"Should always start on time, stick to the subject, and be no longer than necessary."

Young Adult Ministry (Laura) –

"We talked about getting the young adults involved with church. With this

age group, we really need to think outside the box. It is important for the rising adults to still feel they have a place in their church home."

Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts (Bob) – "Knowing the Biblical background of spiritual gifts, taking a spiritual gifts survey, and knowing how to link spiritual gifts to needs in the congregation and community, helps us share our spiritual gifts with others. We can pray to God to give us a spiritual gift we desire. For example, we can pray to God to give us the gift of being a more compassionate person."

Next Steps

Several of the classes at "Leadership Days" will help move forward tasks already underway at Salem or items we should begin to undertake, including:

- We have gathered contact information and are ready to reach out to individuals to see if there is an interest in forming a

Young Adult Group at Salem.

- A "Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts" Bible study will be offered during Lent this year.

- Administrative Council has set the goal for the length of our meetings to an hour and fifteen minutes; an hour and a half at most. Council met our goal in our February meeting.

- Our Safe Sanctuary Policy needs to be updated.

"Leadership Days," along with the recent Readiness 360 Survey and the Bob Farr seminar back in the fall, provided useful information on inviting and welcoming new people into congregations.

If you have suggestions or ideas, please share them at an upcoming Administrative Council meeting, or share them with any council member. Administrative Council meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m.

—Pastor Bob Snyder

Sunday School Classes

Every Sunday 10:15 - 11:00 a.m.



Children, Infant to 4 years

Teacher: Caroline Buhrman

Children, Grades K to 3

Teachers: Michael & Jennifer Burrier

Children, Grades 4 to 6

Teachers: Joy Young, Melissa Thornton, Patrick Boyton, Kathy Laky

Youth, Grades 7 to 12

Teacher: Fonda Gormer

Adult Discussion Group - Couples & Singles

Teacher: Bill Burrier

Men's Class

Teachers: George Harne, Bobby Fogle, Meredith Harshman, and Dennis Leatherman

Women's Class

Teachers: Mary Cline & Darlene Burrier

Jesus said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. —Mark 16:15 New International Version (NIV)



Local, True Story

It was 1967. A Bible salesman stopped by at a Wolfsville home. The lady went on about her housework, ignoring his sales pitch.

Finally the young man turned to her five-year-old granddaughter.

"Little girl, do you know who Mary was in the Bible?"

"Sure, she was Jesus' Mother."

"That's right! Who was Samson?"

"Samson??? Why, he's our old rooster! How did you know about Samson?"

The guy grabbed his hat and left.

[The lady was Rae Leatherman and her granddaughter was Joyce Kuhn Erwin.]

-Submitted by Leah Spade

Some thoughts to ponder . . .

In prayer, God hears more than your words— He listens to your heart.

God loves us not because of who we are, but because of who He is.

A heart that is focused on others will not be consumed with self.

The closer to the Shepherd, the farther from the wolf.

The Mountain Shepherd

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

www.SalemChurchWolfsville.org

Address Services Requested

TWO WORSHIP SERVICES

— Every Sunday —

9:00 a.m. Traditional

10:15 a.m. Sunday School

11:15 a.m. Contemporary

Place Stamp Here