Newsletter of the Salem United Methodist Church — Wolfsville

Mountain Shepherd

Volume 34

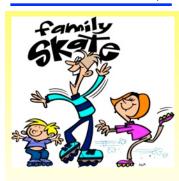
The

February 2016

Number 2



Salem United Methodist Church — Wolfsville



Family Skate Night • Feb 14 Details on page 9

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Salem to attend ROCK Youth Retreat in Ocean City, February 5 through 7

Ocean City Convention Center

ROCK is a powerful and fun-filled weekend in Ocean City, Maryland, sponsored by the Baltimore-Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church.

The event allows youth and adults to take a step back from their busy lives and learn about the amazing love of Jesus Christ.

It is an awesome experience for folks to more fully connect with God and their friends while listening to great bands and speakers. You will leave ROCK renewed and ready to spread the word about God's great love for us.

ROCK is designed as a retreat with a focus on presenting the Gospel message in an exciting, culturally appropriate way for young people (and now adults, too) to be exposed to and have an opportunity to respond to an invitation to a life-changing relationship with Jesus Christ.

ROCK 2016: Schedule February 5-7, 2016 FRIDAY NIGHT 7:00 – Registration Opens 7:45 – Doors Open for Event Seating 8:30-10:30 – Friday Night Session SATURDAY MORNING 8:30 – Registration Opens 9:00 – Doors Open for Event Seating 9:30-11:00 – Saturday Morning Session 11:30-12:30 – Breakout Session A

SATURDAY NIGHT

6:00 – Doors Open for Breakouts 6:30-7:30 – Breakout Session B (includes Mass Choir rehearsal in Main Hall) 7:45 – Doors Open for Event Seating 8:30-10:30 – Session

SUNDAY MORNING

9:00 – Doors Open 9:30-11:30 – Sunday Morning Session

ROCK 2016: ON STAGE

Main Speaker: BRENDA SALTER MCNEIL

Dr. Brenda Salter McNeil is an Associate Professor of Reconciliation Studies in the School of Theology at Seattle Pacific University, where she also directs the Reconciliation Studies Minor program. Brenda is also an author, speaker and thought leader with over 25 years of ministry experience in the field of racial, ethnic and gender reconciliation. Her mission is to inspire and equip young Christian leaders to practice reconciliation around the world and to build communities that partner with God to bring relational healing and social wholeness. www.saltermcneil.com



MORE ABOUT ROCK 2016 ON PAGE 3

The **Mountain Shepherd**

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Salem Key Contacts:

Lay Leader: Sue Ellen Stottlemyer Chair, Church Council: Vernon Stottlemyer Outreach: Barbara Stottlemyer Worship: Mary Alice Shankle Sun. School Leaders: Bobby Fogle & Kathy Laky Chair, Board of Trustees: Donald Stottlemyer Church Treasurer: William Burrier Sunday School Treasurer: Mary Fogle Chair, Staff-Parish Relations: Dennis Draper Food Pantry: Dawn Nelson

Salem Membership Statistics: Current Membership: 241 2016 New Members: 0

Salem Physical Facilities: Church built 1847

Educational Building built 1967 Parsonage built 1974–75

Salem Website: www.SalemChurchWolfsville.org

Colophon:

Produced using iWork Pages 4.0 and Mac OS 10.9.5 on an **É** iMac computer, H.P. LaserJet P3015 postscript laser printer, and Ricoh MP-3351 digital copier

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

	FINAL REPORT for 2015	MONTHLY MINIMUM	PAID Jan-Dec		
1	Frank & Nancy Stottlemyer (Retired New Tribes Mission)	\$204	\$2,448.00		
2	Operation Christmas Child (Postage paid in November)		\$49.00		
3	Salem Mission & Outreach (Local needs)		\$1,723.01		
4	Salem Food Pantry (Open Tuesdays 6:30-7:30 p.m.)		\$1,589.81		
5	Mary E. (Africa Inland Mission)	\$85	\$1,460.00		
6	United Methodist Board of Child Care (Auxiliary & Direct Support)		\$1,332.25		
1	Gideons (Frederick West Camp - Distributing Bibles)	\$110	\$1,320.00		
8	Potato Project (Society of St. Andrew, Big Island, VA)	\$60	\$720.00		
9	Middletown High School (Fellowship of Christian Athletes)	\$47	\$570.00		
10	Mission Trip (Destination to be determined)		\$0.00		
11	Ronnie & Angi Hopkins (Nicaragua)	\$64	\$768.00		
12	Care Net Pregnancy Center (Frederick, MD)	\$64	\$1,032.00		
13	Compassion International (Sponsored child in India)	\$38	\$456.00		
14	Local Mission Projects (Local repair or renovation needs)		\$0.00		
15	Hero's Club After School Ministry (Pre-K through Grade 5)		\$4,152.64		
16	World Vision (Sponsored child in Colombia)	\$35	\$428.00		
17	Imagine No Malaria in Africa (Pay December 2015) \$1,089.00				
2015 Goal: \$17,076 • Total Mission Offering for 2015: \$18,426.06 • % of Goal: 108%					

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.

GOAL

SALEM MISSION PROJECTS for 2016

1.	Frank & Nancy Stottlemyer, Retired, New Tribes Mission \$2,460	
2.	Operation Christmas Child (shoe boxes)	
3.	Salem Mission & Outreach 1,180	
4.	Food Pantry at Salem 1,180	
5.	Africa Inland Mission (Mary E.) 1,020	
6.	United Methodist Board of Child Care 1,360	
7.	Gideons (Frederick County, West)	
8.	Potato Project (Society of St. Andrew)	
9.	Middletown High School Fellowship of Christian Athletes	
10.	Ronnie & Angie Hopkins (Nicaragua)780	
11.	Care Net Pregnancy Center of Frederick	
12.	Compassion International (Sponsored Child) 456	
13.	Hero's Club after school ministry 4,500	
14.	World Vision (Sponsored Child) 420	
	TOTAL GOAL for 2016 \$16,286	

More about the . . .

ROCK Youth Retreat in Ocean City

Youth Ministries of the Baltimore-Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church

ROCK 2016: ON STAGE

Music and Worship

7EVENTH TIME DOWN

Mariah Secrest said "It only takes about two seconds to like the band members from 7eventh Time Down. These Kentucky boys will welcome you at once with their good-natured banter and laid-back persona. But don't let them fool you. On stage, they mean business.

They are straight up rock 'n rollers. They blend classic rock tactics to make their sound aggressive with enough melodic hooks to lodge their choruses into the mind, long after the show is over.

They pull from the best of timeless bands such as Led Zeppelin, The Who, The Doors, AC/DC and even Johnny Cash, infusing a raucous yet care-fullycrafted musical landscape with lyrics that shoot straight-from-the-hip." www.seventhtimedown.com

URBAN STREET LEVEL

Urban Street Level (USL) is a high energy, up tempo contemporary music group whose objective is to engage audiences wherever they perform. USL was started in 1991, with a vision of Elwood Jones, to reach teens all over the United States and in foreign countries.

The purpose for doing this type of ministry became clear from observing teens in urban communities that are disconnected from God. Simply put, Elwood found youth bored with the things of God.

It was that frustration that formed a group with the vision and purpose to evangelize the youth of America with Hip-Hop, R&B and a Jazzy sound filled with lyrics of praise. <u>www.urbanstreetlevel.com</u>

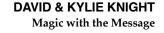
Magic with a Message

KNIGHTS ILLUSIONS

David & Kylie Knight present magic with a message. They will inspire, delight and amaze with the message that we are all created in God's image and yet are all unique. <u>www.knightillusions.com</u>









Attendance Offerings

	Worship*	Sunday School
Dec 6 - Dec 13 - Dec 20 - Dec 27 -	84 \$1,901.75 99 1,814.00 98 2,634.47 87 2,256.50	53 \$243.25 57 123.00 66 142.00 53 175.00

*Worship attendance & offerings include both worship services.

• Building Fund: \$377.00

- Missions: \$3,011.00
- Pavilion Fund: \$80.00 Cemetery Endowment: \$0
- Christmas Eve Offering for Board of Child Care: \$644.25
- (Missions, Building Fund offerings, etc. are not included in Worship & Sunday School offerings above.)

BOARD OF CHILD CARE of The United Methodist Church, Inc. Salem Mission Project No. 6

By Dawn Nelson

Salem Board of Child Care Representative

Christmas Eve Offering

Thank you to all who gave to the Board of Child Care at our Christmas Eve service! We collected \$644.25, which included 6 Christmas coin stockings totaling \$30.00.

Our church is one of the top three congregations in the Cumberland-Hagerstown District that gives generously to the Board of Child Care.

Board of Child Care Auxiliary

We also support the auxiliary of the Board of Child Care. This organization of volunteers and supporters from across the Baltimore-Washington Conference share the love of Christ with the children and families served by the Board of Child Care. Last year, we had 38 Salem members join the auxiliary, which helps to support the Board of Child care by providing the following:

- Easter baskets for the children
- Graduation gifts for high school students

- Thanksgiving Food Baskets for the Board of Child Care foster families
- Christmas Gift Shop for the children to shop for their loved ones at bargain prices
- Birthday cards and monetary gifts
- Region sponsored field trips
- Participation in Box Tops for Education
- Furnishings for chapels on both
- campuses, as well as other major purchases for the Board of Child Care over the years.

It's that time of year again to renew your membership or join the Board of Child Care Auxiliary. Membership fee is only \$2 per year and is open to everyone. You will find membership envelopes in your Sunday worship bulletins or in the hallway just outside the Salem sanctuary.

Please join me in once again supporting this worthwhile ministry that enriches communities, one family at a time. For more information, contact me at (301)-293-9988.

Endowment for Ministry — Salem's new Endowment for Ministry fund has grown to \$12,169.77. Contributions have been made in memory of Joan Harshman, Linda M. Kline, and Joseph and Dorotha Nusbaum. Their names have been engraved on the Endowment for Ministry Memorial plaque. Interest from these funds will be used to sustain a vibrant ministry at Salem.

December 2015

	Average Attendance		
	Worship	Sunday School	
Dec	92	57	
Nov	89	60	
Oct	83	56	
Sept Aug	87	55	
Aug 84		51	

Average Attendance Jan-Dec 2015

Sunday Worship: 88

Sunday School: 55

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

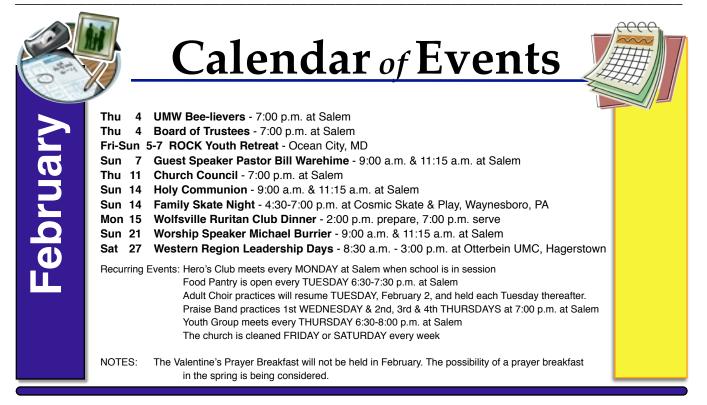
Give by cash or check during any of our worship services. If you give cash and would like it to be reflected on your year-end giving statement, please use an offering envelope.

♦ 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.



Newsletter Distribution

1. E-Mail — We are currently sending this newsletter to 186 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.

Salem Adult Choir Notes

By Sandy Lewis

Choir practice will start up again on Tuesday, February 2, 2016, at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.



We will be preparing songs for worship, as well as Holy Week and Easter services. Easter comes early this year, (March 27), so it will be good to start preparing now.

Please join us each Tuesday evening for a good time of singing and fellowship.

"How good it is to sing praises to our God, how pleasant and fitting to praise Him!" (Psalm 147:1)

Salem Participates in Country Churches Christmas Tour

By Fonda Gormer

On Saturday, December 26, 2015, Salem opened its doors to visitors as part of the Country Churches Christmas Tour, sponsored by the Myersville-Wolfsville Area Historical Society.

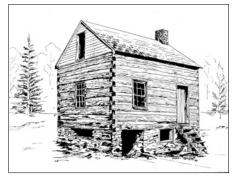
Nine churches from Harmony to Foxville participated, sharing their history and Christmas decorations.

Visitors could choose to visit all or some of the sites, so the number of guests varied. Salem had 138 visitors, with others reporting as high as 150.

The consensus of the congregations is to plan a tour again in 2016, so if you missed out, plan to take part next Christmas season.

To view pictures of the various church sanctuaries, check out the historical society's web page at: <u>http://myersville-</u> wolfsville.weebly.com/historic-countrychurch-tour.html

HERO'S CLUB began the new year finishing up the "Armor of God" unit. Hero's Club Leader, Heather O'Connor, reports she is excited about the next unit called "Fruit of the Spirit." The children will spend about nine weeks going through the fruit of the spirit passage in Galatians 5. This is often a popular passage for children's ministry because of the immediate life application.



The above sketch of the original Hoover House in Wolfsville is displayed on the cover of the brochure for the Myersville-Wolfsville Area Historical Society. The sketch was done by I. E. Diller in 1982.

The original Hoover House, which was not preserved and only exists in pictures, stood directly across the road from Salem's parsonage.

The current Hoover House and Barn, located at the corner of Wolfsville and Harp Hill Roads, is the birthplace of Salem Church in 1819, and are being restored.



Who's Doing What, When?

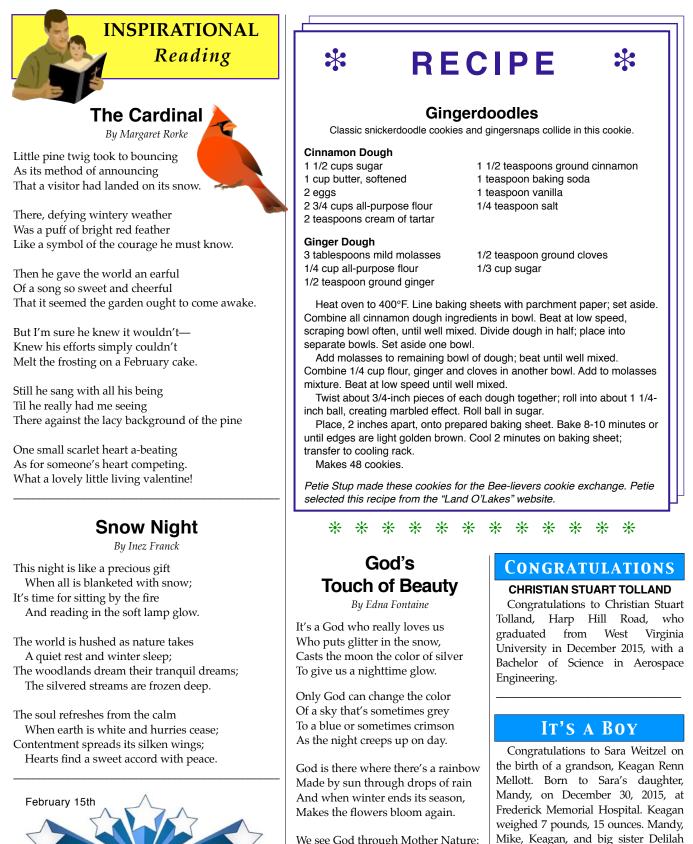
who s Doing	v v I LUL LJ	<i>v v I L C I L i</i>	
9:00 A.M. TRADITIONAL W	/ORSHIP		FEBRUARY
Lay Readers 7 - Bill Burrier 14 - Youth Sunday 21 - Mary Cline 28 - Wanda Barkdoll	7- Bill Burrier7- Dick Kline & Steve Leatherman14- Youth Sunday14- Vernon Stottlemyer & Robin Haupt21- Mary Cline21- Donald Stottlemyer & Meredith Haupt		
Greeters 7 - Fonda Gormer 14 - Phyllis Beall 21 - George, Barbie, and Matthe 28 - Donald & Susie Stottlemye		Acolytes 7 - Paul McCormicl 14 - Jadie Buhrman 21 - Kenslie Buhrma 28 - Joshua Koons	
11:15 A.M. CONTEMPORA	RY WORSHIP		
An informal FAMILY FRIENDLY pastor's message, children's time,			Music Feb 28 - Works in Progress Praise Band
It S Iour Duy:(Middle ScFebruary Anniversaries(Middle Sc16 - Olvey & Delores Myers22 - Roy & Holly Rippeon28 - Curtis & Dawn NelsonSalem.February BirthdaysCalend1 - Maria BarkdollSole3 - Michael BurrierFeb 14 - Youth Sc3 - Ruth DraperFeb 14 - Roller6 - David Woods Jr.Feb 14 - Roller9 - Robin HauptApr 16 or 23 - H9 - Robert Keller Jr.Jun 18 - End-of- (Muel9 - Jim BullockJune 29-July 2		r Skating Party ors' Appreciation Luncheon Hershey Park Trip hetti Dinner/Fundraiser rogressive Dinner & Lock-In of-Year Pool Party eller's) 2 - Creation Music Festival	 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
 Linda Hessong Trista Wright Emma Waite Polly Miller Samuel Sowers 		iream Social bil (301-416-0882) (240-440-4884)	Think about this You can see God's signature everywhere around you once you learn to recognize his handwriting.
21 - Dianna Poling21 - Landon Lafferty			
 23 - Rev. H. Ronald Ellis 24 - Scott Wisner 24 - Grace Adams 24 - Gary Barkdoll 26 - Wesley Beall 	Wednesday	LENT 40-day period from Ash to Easter. It was first the fourth century, and	WHAT IS DONE IN LOVE

26 - Wesley Beall

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

observed in the fourth century, and its focus was on self-examination and self-denial in preparation for Easter. Lent is often a time when Christians give up something pleasurable.





We see God through Mother Nature; He puts beauty everywhere. We must answer to His goodness With a heart that's filled with prayer.

are doing well.

VALENTINE'S

HAPPY

Submitted by Marilyn Leatherman

7



Message from the Pastor and Worship in February

By PASTOR ROBERT E. SNYDER

Privilege than to answer Christ's call to "go and make disciples" (Mattthew 28:19). We have at least three opportunities during February to bring along guests to events at Salem: ROCK Youth Retreat (the last I heard there are still two tickets available), Family Skate Night (admission and skates are free), and worship every Sunday.

This year Lent begins with our Ash Wednesday service on February 10. During February, at worship, we'll be studying Jesus' teaching and healing ministry, and the mission of Jesus as recorded in Luke, Chapters 5-13.

Please take some time to check out all the articles in this month's *Mountain Shepherd*, and also go to Salem's website at <u>www.salemchurchwolfsville.org</u>. Much useful information is provided in

both of these resources.

Peace and Joy. —Pastor Bob

February 7 – Transfiguration Sunday Luke 9:28-36

Guest Speaker: Rev. Bill Warehime

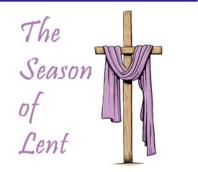
At Jesus' baptism, God announced "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.

Now, at Jesus' transfiguration, God uses similar words, "This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him."

In the first announcement, God addresses Jesus. In the second, God is addressing Peter, James, and John. Eight days earlier (9:28), Jesus had asked the twelve, "Who do you say that I am?" (9:20).

If there was any remaining doubt, God seems to be setting things straight, "This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him."

The twelve had witnessed Jesus' teaching, healings, and other miracles. Now God was confirming, "He's the One." God continues to confirm to us, in the Bible's eye witness accounts and in our daily lives,



... begins February 10th

"Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior."

Please welcome to the pulpit today Reverend Bill Warehime, substituting for me while I am with the youth at ROCK.

February 10 – Ash Wednesday Service Beginning of Lent 7:00 p.m. at Salem

February 14 – Holy Communion Youth Sunday — First Sunday in Lent Valentine's Day "Let's Get Ready to humble" Luke 4:1-13, Philippians 2:3

Our middle and high school youth will be leading worship this morning, just having returned from the ROCK Youth Retreat in Ocean City, MD.

The theme for this year's retreat is "Let's Get Ready to humble" (rather than "rumble").

The anticipated scripture verse for the retreat is "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves" (Philippians 2:3). The reading goes along well with Luke 4:1-13 in our ongoing study of the life of Jesus.

When Jesus was tempted by Satan, he humbled himself before God. Submitting to God's power empowered Jesus to defeat Satan. Being humble before God and others allows us to be empowered by God.



Pastor Bill Warehime Guest Speaker on Sunday, February 7th

February 21 "It's a Choice" Luke 13:31-35

In this passage, Jesus seems to be once again putting the choice before us, telling us what he plans to do and challenging us to have the same willingness to be the people of God.

He tells the Pharisees that "he must keep going today and tomorrow and the next day..." (3:33). Then he calls out the church of his day, "but you were not willing!" (13:34).

Following Christ is a way of life, something we choose to do today, tomorrow, and every day. When we follow, we accept God's love and care. But when we're unwilling to follow, life doesn't end up going so well. It's a choice!

Please welcome Mike Burrier to the pulpit on this day, substituting for me while I accompany Donna on the trip she was awarded at work this year.

February 28 "MercyMe" Luke 13:1-9

"MercyMe" (no space between the two words) is the name of a popular Christian singing group. Bart Millard is the lead singer for the group.

Wikipedia reports that the idea for the name of the group "originated during Bart's time as a youth ministry intern in Florida. Concerned that her grandson was home whenever she called, Bart's grandmother would exclaim, "Well mercy me, why don't you get a real job?"

Before I looked up the origin, I wondered if the name of the group came from the truth that everyone needs mercy. "Me, I need mercy" becomes "MercyMe."

What would we do without God's mercy? What would we do had Christ not died for us and risen again? We sin, we stumble, we fall and still there is God's mercy— Mercy me!

Sunday, February 14 Family Roller Skating Party *in* Waynesboro



Photo from last year's skating party



Sunday, February 14, 2016 • 4:30 - 7:00 p.m. Cosmic Skate & Play • 11870 Buchanan Trail East • Waynesboro, PA 717-762-7177

Free Admission • Free Skates • Invite your friends

For more information contact: Joe Hawkins · 240-818-0006 · jch1973@comcast.net

Growing Good Corn

Author Unknown

There once was a farmer who grew award-winning corn. Each year he entered his corn in the state fair where it won a blue ribbon.

One year a newspaper reporter interviewed him and learned something interesting about how he grew it. The reporter discovered that the farmer shared his seed corn with his neighbors.

"How can you afford to share your best seed corn with your neighbors when they are entering corn in competition with yours each year?" the reporter asked.

"Why sir," said the farmer, "didn't you know? The wind picks up pollen from the ripening corn and swirls it from field to field. If my neighbors grow inferior corn, cross-pollination will steadily degrade the quality of my corn. If I am to grow good corn, I must help my neighbors grow good corn."

He is very much aware of the connectedness of life. His corn cannot improve unless his neighbor's corn also improves.

So it is with our lives. Those who choose to live in peace must help their neighbors to live in peace. Those who choose to live well must help others to live



well, for the value of a life is measured by the lives it touches. And those who choose to be happy must help others to find happiness, for the welfare of each is bound up with the welfare of all.

The lesson for each of us is this: if we are to grow good corn, we must help our neighbors grow good corn.

It is possible to give away and become richer! It is also possible to hold on too tightly and lose everything.

Proverbs 11:24-25 (NLT)

24 Give freely and become more wealthy; be stingy and lose everything.

25 The generous will prosper;

those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.

Submitted by Marilyn Leatherman

Don't Give Up

By Tom Kolb

Don't give up on God And the things that He can do, And remember all those valleys He has led you through.

Don't give up your praying Or those little talks with God, And the comfort of His presence As along the way you trod.

Don't give up the joy And that more abundant life, And that freedom that He gives you From the burdens and the strife.

Don't give up His promise Of those things He has in store, And the glory of each Easter That you'll live forevermore.

Submitted by Olive Kline

Dear God, help me to remember that even though this world does not measure up to Your original design, there is much to enjoy and much to do for You and others. Thank you for the promise of life with You in a perfect setting.

9

Outreach and Missions

Salem Mission Project No. 4

Myersville Church of the Brethren supports Food Pantry

By Dawn Nelson

We are so blessed to have another church in our community to partner with our Food Pantry. The Myersville Church of the Brethren is collecting food on a regular basis for our pantry. Also they blessed our families with \$20 gift cards that were given out at Christmas. So we are so grateful to Robert Wilson for being instrumental in developing this partnership!

In our last quarterly report to the Maryland Food Bank, we reported that we had helped feed 153 people in the last quarter of 2015. That was an increase of 38 people from the previous quarter. In 2015, we purchased 6,844 pounds of food from the Maryland Food Bank.



Robert Wilson and Dawn Nelson in front of Myersville Church of the Brethren

Salem Mission Project No. 12

LETTER FROM OUR SPONSORED CHILD

Dear Salem:

Praise the Lord. How are you and your household? Me and my family members are fine. I study attentively. Please pray that I will get success. I attend church regularly. I learn Bible verses. It inspires me. Which is your



favorite verse? In this month I will attend autumn camp. Please pray for this camp. Me and my household are grateful to you for your love. We are always praying for you. Please also keep praying for us. God bless you. — *Santanu Sing, East India*

Salem Mission Project No. 5

Mary takes another step toward her new ministry in Africa ____

January 3, 2016

I am so excited to be writing this from Albertville, France. I arrived on Thursday and began the New Year in my new home. I currently have a studio room instead of a small single room, and will find out tomorrow if I will move later this semester or stay put. Either way, I am living near all the other singles in the same building as our classrooms. I've already had my first shopping excursion (with help), bought my first pastry by myself, and have twice gone out with a new friend to walk around town. The most important places are all within walking distance, and the weather and view are both amazing. I will remember the snowy peaks and cool mountain air when I'm in Chad!

This morning I went to a local church. My high school French classes and my time in francophone Africa in 2013 helped me to understand a handful of words and phrases in church today. I still listened to a sermon in English when I got home, though. On my walk around town this afternoon, I was amazed at how much has come back to me. Immersion is the ideal way to learn a language (and a whole lot of God's grace!).

Tomorrow morning we will be given a tour of the school and take a placement



Mary with new friend Jin Sook

test. Classes officially start on Thursday. We have class four days a week, from 8:40-4:15, with a 2½-hour lunch break. Yes, you read that right – 2 ½ hours for lunch. This is a French practice, and one I'm very thankful for! I've heard our classes are very intense and we'll need a break in our lessons to rest and process what we've learned before starting the second half of the day.

Tomorrow I should find out who my language friend will be. Yes, I'm being assigned a friend. Every student has one, and many of these friends aren't believers. These are people each student is connected to in order to spend time together once a week. Please pray that God will direct the school director to the right language friend for me; that she will have a soft heart towards spiritual things and that we would build a strong friendship. Please pray for me in this language learning process: that I wouldn't put my confidence in myself, my abilities, or the bits of French that I remember, but that I would rely wholly on the Lord.

I'm very thankful for the believers He has surrounded me with here at school. I really like the students that I've met so far - we've already gone on some long walks and had encouraging conversations (as well as shared ice cream and laughs), but please pray for strong friendships to be forged. Pray that we would encourage each other, especially since language learning can so quickly turn into a competition or matter of pride if we don't actively guard against it. Above all, please pray that I would grow more into the likeness of Christ, and that I would have opportunities to tell others of His love here in Albertville.

Thank you so much for you prayers and support. Many thanks to all of you who have given – financially, prayerfully, and of your time to help me. I am so excited to delve into this next adventure God has called me to. May He be glorified! Blessings and great joy in Jesus. -Mary Salem United Methodist Church in Wolfsville, Maryland



Salem in the Snow — An intense January snowstorm (named Winter Storm Jonas by The Weather Channel), caused Sunday services to be cancelled on January 24, 2016. More than 30 inches of wind-driven snow fell during a 30-hour period beginning Friday afternoon and ending Saturday night. Pastor Bob, communicating via e-mail, encouraged everyone to stay in and stay safe; have church at home with devotional materials he provided, including his Sunday worship sermon.

Salem Recognized for Apportionment Giving

The connectional system and apportionments are two of the defining traits of United Methodism. They allow local churches to reach beyond their walls and be in ministry in significant ways. A note from our District Superintendent follows:

Dear Salem UMC: You were one of the 82 (out of 85) churches that paid 100% of the 2015 apportionment ministry of our Cumberland – Hagerstown District. Additionally, I am pleased to tell you that all 85 churches in our district paid something towards their apportionments.

Together we lead the Baltimore-Washington Conference with 98.4% of apportioned monies was paid by the faithfulness of your church and our district. Well done good and faithful servants.

Our district contributed a little over one million dollars to the ministry of our conference to make disciples for the transformation of the world. Together our money allows us to challenge and change the world on all levels, be they local, national, or international.

We are now in the new year of 2016. Your commitment to your local church and the ministry you perform in the name of Christ will allow the Word of God to be continued for years to come.

e-Washington Conference of The United Methodist Church DARE TO BELIEVE Thank You Salem UMC, Myersville

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Continue to be a blessing. In ministry with you, I am *Rev. Conrad O. Link, D. Min. Cumberland-Hagerstown District Superintendent*

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: Kathy Laky, Melissa Thornton, Patrick Boyton*

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

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)



Don't Let Me Be Late

A little girl, dressed in her Sunday best, was running as fast as she could, trying not to be late for Bible class. As she ran she prayed, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late! Dear Lord, please don't let me be late!"

While she was running and praying, she tripped on a curb and fell, getting her clothes dirty and tearing her dress. She got up, brushed herself off, and started running again! As she ran she once again began to pray, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late, but please don't shove me either!"

A Poem, a Song, and a Sermon

Three boys are in the schoolyard bragging about their fathers. The first boy says, "My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a poem, they give him \$50." The second boy says, "That's nothing. My Dad scribbles a few words on piece of paper, he calls it a song, they give him \$100." The third boy says, "I got you both beat. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a sermon, and it takes eight people to collect all the money!"

Submitted by Dennis Draper

Some thoughts to ponder . . .

I've learned that the best way to cheer up yourself is to cheer up someone else! Feed your faith and your doubts will starve to death.

SUNDAY SO

The only preparation for tomorrow is the right use of today. Opportunity may knock once, but temptation bangs on the front door forever.

Submitted by Marilyn Leatherman

Place Stamp Here

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

February 2016