

The  Newsletter of the
Salem United Methodist Church — Wolfsville

The Mountain Shepherd

Volume 35 March 2017 Number 3



Salem United Methodist Church — Wolfsville



Photos from Youth Sunday
February 12th
page 9

ROCK Retreat impacts Salem's Youth

Photo submitted by Wanda Barkdoll



Ocean City Convention Center, February 3-5, 2017 — From left, Jake Ward, Alison Keely, Liz Waite, Becky Leatherman, Emily Burrier, Joe Hawkins, Lily Mueller, Denny Leatherman, Madison Elsbach, Sue Ellen Stottlemeyer, Sarah Burrier, Stephen Lebowitz, Laura Snyder, Camilo Barkdoll, Marc Lebowitz, Cathie Elsbach, Pastor Bob Snyder, Paul McCormick, Joshua Koons, Susie Stottlemeyer, Riley Mellot, Noah Taveras, and Wanda Barkdoll.

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Youth Retreat leads hundreds to Christ

■ By Wanda Barkdoll

At 9:00 a.m., on Friday morning, February 3, Salem's "Faith Builders" middle and high school youth and their advisors left Wolfsville destined for Ocean City, Maryland, to participate in the 3-day ROCK Youth Retreat. Salem's 13 youth, 3 young adults, and 7 adults joined more than 4,500 others from churches within the Baltimore-Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church.

The group reserved lodging at the Carousel Hotel where they enjoyed, during free time, swimming, ice skating, and even, a few, took the polar plunge in the 40-degree ocean water.

At the Convention Center, on Saturday morning, Salem lined up in two rows, to greet those coming to the morning session, screaming "welcome" and giving high fives. Salem also assisted with serving Holy Communion on Sunday morning.

The band "Sidewalk Prophets" was great and the music was excellent.

At the heart of ROCK was the Biblical message that God can change your life. Bringing that message this year was Preston Centuolo, who used the ROCK scripture verse, Psalm 62:2, "Truly God is my rock and my salvation, God is my fortress, I will never be shaken." (NIV)

Using music, drama and personal stories, Preston, who spoke four separate times, instantly connected with the youth.

During the Saturday morning session, he spoke about forgiveness. Saturday night, leading up to an altar call where hundreds of youth came forward, he spoke about how one's salvation isn't something "that you can borrow; you have to get your own."

In inviting the youth to make a personal commitment to Jesus Christ, Preston stressed that God loves them "just the way He made you," and that God loves them "just the way you are. Tonight is your time for everything to turn around."

—More about ROCK on page 3



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

Salem Membership Statistics:
Current Membership: 243
2017 New Members: 0

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

Salem Website:
www.SalemChurchWolfsville.org

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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 		2017 MISSION PROJECTS	
		MONTHLY MINIMUM	PAID Jan
1	Frank & Nancy Stottlemeyer (Retired New Tribes Mission)	\$205	\$205.00
2	Operation Christmas Child (Postage paid in November)	-----	\$0.00
3a	Salem Mission & Outreach (Local needs)	-----	\$258.00
3b	Wolfsville School PTA (All Pro Families Breakfast) Pay Jan & Sept	-----	\$450.00
4	Salem Food Pantry (Open Tuesdays 6:30-7:30 p.m.)	-----	\$449.37
5	Mary E. (Africa Inland Mission)	\$85	\$125.00
6	United Methodist Board of Child Care (Auxiliary & Direct Support)	-----	\$0.00
7	Gideons (Frederick West Camp - Distributing Bibles)	\$50	\$50.00
8	Potato Project (Society of St. Andrew, Big Island, VA)	\$50	\$50.00
9	Middletown High School (Fellowship of Christian Athletes)	\$50	\$50.00
10	Ronnie & Angi Hopkins (Nicaragua)	\$65	\$65.00
11	Care Net Pregnancy Center (Frederick, MD)	\$65	\$65.00
12	Compassion International (Sponsored child in India)	\$38	\$38.00
13	Hero's Club After School Ministry (Pre-K through Grade 5)	-----	\$357.13
14	World Vision (Sponsored child in Colombia)	\$35	\$35.00

2017 Goal: **\$17,186** • Total Mission Offering for 2017: **\$1,988.00** • % of Goal: **12%**

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 Project No. 11

Care Net Pregnancy Center, Frederick, MD

Proverbs 16:3 says, "Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established." At Care Net we frequently discuss the fact that we are His vessels to minister to those that He sends here. We are committed to serving our clients as Jesus would serve them; with truth, compassion, and love. As we commit our work to Him, we know that He establishes our plans. Thank you for allowing God to use you to establish our plans through your finances and your prayers. —Linda King, Executive Director



OFFICE HOURS for PASTOR BOB

Sunday
7am - 1 pm Prep, worship, Sunday School (at church)
6 - 7 pm Bible Study (at church)

Monday (day off)
6-7 am Devotions (at home)
9-11 am Planning Time (at home)
5-6 pm Hero's Club (at church)

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
6-7 am Devotions (at home)
9 am - Noon Parsonage Office
Noon - 1 pm Lunch
1-5 pm Visitation, meetings, or parsonage office

Saturday
7-9 am Final touches on Sunday's sermon (at home)

Also, Pastor Bob will be at church or in homes to attend meetings or check-in on evening activities at the church. He will make hospital visits and other visits as situations arrive. He will be working at home in Myersville, at the parsonage office, or elsewhere, as needed.

More about the . . .

ROCK Youth Retreat in Ocean City



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

FEBRUARY 3-5, 2017

“An Awesome Weekend”

We had an awesome weekend. Thank you to everyone who made this possible; and for the assistance of the Salem Church members, and the adults who attended to make sure this was a successful retreat.

We are looking forward to next year’s ROCK, to be held during the weekend of January 26-28, 2018.

—Wanda Barkdoll, Youth Leader

Photos by Bill Burrier



Paul, Alison, Becky, & Noah chat while waiting to leave for ROCK in Ocean City.



Wanda and Camilo work to load luggage in carrier on the roof of Wanda’s vehicle.

Photo submitted by Wanda Barkdoll




February 3, 2017 — On a cold morning in Wolfsville, Pastor Bob leads the group in prayer, a group photo is taken, and everyone boards their vehicles for the trip to the ROCK Youth Retreat in Ocean City.

Photo submitted by Wanda Barkdoll



February 4, 2017 — The group gets a photo with ROCK’s guest speaker, Preston Centuolo (back row, center). Preston spoke four separate times at ROCK and instantly connected with the youth.



Attendance Offerings

January 2017

		Worship*		Sunday School		Average Attendance	
		Worship	Offerings	Sunday School	Offerings	Worship	Sunday School
Jan	1	64	\$1,996.00	38	\$254.50	Jan	86
Jan	8	112	2,223.00	64	205.00	Dec	88
Jan	15	65	3,548.10	51	108.25	Nov	90
Jan	22	100	2,493.50	52	139.75	Oct	94
Jan	29	90	2,503.00	56	127.00	Sept	92

*Worship attendance & offerings include both worship services.

- Missions: \$1,988.00
- Cemetery Endowment: \$200.00

- Building Fund: \$300.00
- Chen Family Offering: \$358.00

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

Average Attendance Jan 2017
 Sunday Worship: 86
 Sunday School: 52

Lenten Devotional available at Salem

The Sanctuary for Lent 2017 • By Donald K. McKim

This year's Lenten devotional (pictured at right) contains brief readings for each day from Ash Wednesday (March 1) through Easter Day (April 16). It includes a suggested scripture passage, a short devotional, and a closing prayer.

In keeping with the 500th anniversary of the beginning of the Protestant Reformation, each day's devotion includes a quotation from one of the reformers.

What is Lent?

Lent is a period of fasting, moderation, and self-denial traditionally observed by Catholics and some Protestant denominations. It begins with Ash Wednesday and ends with Easter Sunday. The length of the Lenten fast was established in the 4th century as 46 days (40 days, not counting Sundays).

During Lent, participants eat sparingly or give up a particular food or habit. It's not uncommon for people to give up smoking during Lent, or to swear off watching television or eating candy or telling lies. It's six weeks of self-discipline.

If a Christian wishes to observe Lent, he is free to do so. The key is to focus on repenting of sin and consecrating oneself to God. Lent should not be a time of boasting of one's sacrifice or trying to earn God's favor or increasing His love. God's love for us could not be any greater than it already is.



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, P. O. Box 94, 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.

Pastor Appointments underway in Baltimore-Washington Conference

As of February 20, 2017, the following appointment changes, of local interest, have been announced; and will be effective July 1, 2017.

- **Pastor Kathleen "Katie" O'Hern**, to John Wesley UMC in Hagerstown
- **Rev. Ken Fizer**, to Ebenezer/William Watters Co-operative Parish in Fallston, from Shiloh UMC in Hagerstown



March

Calendar of Events



- Wed 1 Ash Wednesday Service** - 7:00 p.m. at Salem
- Thu 2 Board of Trustees Meeting** - 7:00 p.m. at Salem
- Thu 2 UMW "Bee-lievers"** - 7:00 p.m. at Salem
- Thu 9 Church Council** - 7:00 p.m. at Salem
- Fri 10 Game & Puzzle Fun Night** - 7:00 p.m. at Salem

Recurring Events: Hero's Club After School Ministry is held every MONDAY when school is in session
 Adult Choir every TUESDAY 7:30 p.m. (beginning Tues Feb 7)
 Food Pantry is open every TUESDAY 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Salem
 Praise Band practices 1st WEDNESDAY & 2nd, 3rd & 4th THURSDAYS at 7:00 p.m. at Salem
 Youth Group meets every THURSDAY at 6:30 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 197 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.

Family & Friends "Game & Puzzle Night" * * * *

Friday, March 10, 2017 - 7:00 p.m.

■ By Sue Ellen Stottlemeyer

Is board games your favorite spare time activity? How about card games? Maybe jigsaw puzzles?

You and your family and friends are invited to an evening of fun with board games, card games and jigsaw puzzles.

Bring your favorite game and show us how it is played. Or bring a favorite

puzzle and see how quickly it can be put together. Come and join us for an evening of fun and fellowship. All ages are invited from the youngest of youth to adults...

Plan to meet in the church social hall around 7:00 p.m. Drinks will be provided for the evening. Please bring a snack or dessert to share. Hope to see you there!

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

2017

- Apr 9 - Seniors' Appreciation Luncheon
- Apr 22 - Hershey Park Trip
- Jun 16 - End-of-Year Pool Party (Mueller's)
- June 27-July 2 - Creation Music Festival

Co-Leaders:

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

REMINDER

PICK UP YOUR
SOUP & SANDWICH ORDER

Saturday, March 4
4 to 6 p.m. at Salem

Sunday, March 5
After morning services at Salem

Payment Due at Pick Up

Photo by Jim Laky



Children Enjoy Puppets in Worship — On February 5, 2017, Bill Burrier conducted Salem's worship services while Pastor Bob attended the ROCK Youth Retreat in Ocean City. The theme for the day was the nine Fruits of the Spirit, specifically Joy.

For the children's message, Bill brought along two puppets, Barney and Stella, to help tell a story about "joy". The children were excited to work the puppets while the story was being told. In the above photo, taken by Jim Laky at the 11:15 a.m. contemporary service, Katie and Dianna are handling the puppets. (At the 9:00 a.m. traditional service, puppet handlers were Delilah and Nevaeh.)

In the story, Barney has trouble understanding why Stella is happy all the time. Stella tries to explain that "joy" is much more than just being happy. She tells Barney, "If you have Jesus in your heart, the Holy Spirit will help you to have 'joy' in the good times and also the bad times." The very thought of feeling joy in that way gave Stella goose bumps, or better yet, "joy bumps." Stella had circle stickers on her arms, signifying "joy bumps."

At the end of the message, Bill gave each of the children some "joy bumps" (stickers) to put on their arms, like Stella. The script of the puppet play was also given to each child.

Who's Doing What, When?

9:00 A.M. TRADITIONAL WORSHIP		MARCH
Lay Readers 5 - Patrick Boyton 12 - Phil Koons 19 - Randy Freysz 26 - Sue Ellen Stottlemeyer	Ushers 5 - Dick Kline & Steve Leatherman 12 - Vernon Stottlemeyer & Robin Haupt 19 - Donald Stottlemeyer & Meredith Harshman 26 - Philip Koons & Brandon Leatherman	Music 5 - Sara Weitzel 12 - Praise Band 19 - Susan Koons 26 - Susan Koons
Greeters 5 - Brandon & Jessie Leatherman & Family 12 - Meredith Harshman 19 - George, Barbie, & Matt Stottlemeyer 26 - Fonda Gormer	Acolytes 5 - Paul McCormick 12 - Noah Taveras 19 - Kenslie Buhrman 26 - Joshua Koons	
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 12 - Works in Progress Praise Band Mar 26 - 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
- 13 - Joshua Gormer
- 14 - Donna Snyder
- 15 - Vicki Robinson
- 16 - Ken Poling
- 17 - Audrey Tolland
- 19 - Bobby Doyle
- 24 - Allison Adams
- 24 - Pastor Bob Snyder
- 28 - Shelby Leatherman

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

Homemade Apple Butter available from Bee-lievers

- By Fonda Gormer

Randy and Brenda Freysz, as part of their annual apple butter making, offered to make an extra kettle for a Bee-lievers' fund-raiser.

We are now offering homemade apple butter for \$3 per pint or \$6 per quart. Contact me at 301-293-2436 or email at fonda.gormer@comcast.net.

Children's Choir

- By Sara Weitzel

The Children's Choir will be rehearsing for the Easter Sunday Service (April 16th), beginning Sunday, March 5th, and continuing every Sunday through April 9th.

All children who are available that morning and interested in participating in the Choir are invited to meet for practices in the social hall, by the piano, during the LAST 10 minutes of Sunday School (approximately 10:50-11:00 a.m.). We are hoping that this rehearsal time will provide an opportunity for the children who normally attend the second service to be able to participate in the choir as well. If you have any questions, please contact me via email: srweitzel@hotmail.com; or cell phone: 240-409-1241.



Holy Communion

Sunday, March 5
9:00 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.



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 240-818-0126. Orders can be placed at any time and can be picked up after services on Sunday.

Three things in human life are important:
the first is to be kind; the second is to be kind;
and the third is to be kind.

—Henry James

BULLETIN BOARD
with a message

WHEN WE START
KNEELING DOWN, THINGS
START LOOKING UP

Submitted by Marilyn Leatherman



INSPIRATIONAL
Reading

The Promises of Spring

By Patricia Rose Mongeau

I see the promises of spring
Softly come and go . . .
One day the skies are blue and fair,
The next day there is snow.

Spring cannot be far away
Though snow is all around . . .
The beauty of a springtime day
Is hidden neath the ground.

Tiny blades of emerald green
Are waiting patiently
To spread their velvet carpets out
For all the world to see.

Hidden underneath the snow
Are golden daffodils
To gladden hearts of people and
To brighten windowsills.

The roses and the tulips
And the violets so fair
Are waiting for the day when they
Can blossom everywhere.

The robins will come home again
To sit up in the trees
And serenade us every day
With happy melodies.

The hillsides and the meadows
Where the rippling waters flow
Are radiant in springtime
With the melting of the snow.

Spring cannot be far away,
Though I see snowflakes start . . .
It can't be far away, because
It's springtime in my heart.



Irish Blessing

May you always be blessed
With a roof for the rain,
A warm cup of tea by the fire,
Laughter to cheer you,
Those you love near you,
And all that your heart might desire.



Faithfulness to God is true success.



RECIPE



Hershey's Triple Chocolate Cookies

Ingredients

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 48 Hershey's Kisses Milk | 1 tablespoon milk |
| Chocolates or Hershey's Kisses | 2 1/4 cups all-purpose flour |
| Milk Chocolates with Almonds | 1/3 cup Hershey's Cocoa |
| 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter or | 1 teaspoon baking soda |
| margarine, softened | 1/2 teaspoon salt |
| 3/4 cup granulated sugar | 1 cup Hershey's Special Dark |
| 3/4 cup packed light brown sugar | Chocolate Chips or Hershey's |
| 1 teaspoon vanilla extract | Semi-Sweet Chocolate Chips |
| 2 eggs | |

Directions

1. Remove wrappers from chocolates. Heat oven to 350 degrees.
 2. Beat butter, granulated sugar, brown sugar and vanilla with electric mixer on medium speed in large bowl until well blended. Add eggs and milk; beat well.
 3. Stir together flour, cocoa, baking soda and salt; gradually beat into butter mixture, beating until well blended. Stir in chocolate chips. Shape dough into 1-inch balls. Place on ungreased cookie sheet.
 4. Bake 10 to 11 minutes or until set. Gently press a chocolate into center of each cookie. Remove to wire rack and cool completely. Makes about 4 dozen cookies.
- Variation: For vanilla cookies, omit cocoa and add an additional 1/3 cup all-purpose flour.

Petie Stup made these cookies for the Bee-lievers cookie exchange.



God's Touch of Beauty

By Edna Fontaine

It's a God who really loves us
Who puts glitter in the snow,
Casts the moon the color silver
To give us a nighttime glow.

Only God can change the color
Of a sky that's sometimes grey
To a blue or sometimes crimson
As the night creeps up on day.

God is there where there's a rainbow
Made by sun through drops of rain
And when winter ends its season,
Makes the flowers bloom again.

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

Submitted by Marilyn Leatherman

You fixed all the limits of the earth;
summer and winter You made.

—Psalm 74:17

All the Way

By Tom Kolb

God wants us all to be
Completely His and His alone,
And if His wish we cannot see,
Our life will be so out of tone.

God wants us to be a part
Of these wonders of the soul,
So His peace can fill our heart
To keep us happy, well and whole.

God wants His words to
fill our mind,
To keep us always on the track
And show His children how to find
His love to be a living fact.

God wants our life to be divine
So our light can show the way,
That through the darkness
it will shine
For some life that's gone astray.

Submitted by Olive Kline

God's comfort soothes us perfectly.



Message from the Pastor and Worship in March

■ By PASTOR ROBERT E. SNYDER

I think it's neat that the Season of Lent begins this year at the very beginning of a new month, March 1st. When we begin March, we begin lent! The forty days of lent, between March 1st and April 15th this year, are a special, life-giving, opportunity provided by God for the self-examination and renewal we need. It's on Ash Wednesday each year that we begin these very special forty days.

This past Wednesday the clergy of our Baltimore-Washington Conference joined together in our annual "Lenten Bishop's Day Apart" to prepare ourselves for our Lenten journey.

Won't you please join your church family on Ash Wednesday to begin your Lenten journey together as one people.

When we come together, we work with God to bring new life to ourselves and our whole church family.

God created us to make our journey of faith together, in community, with one another. It is through community that we are best able to experience the love and care God offers us.

I hope to see you at the Ash Wednesday Service, and I'm looking forward to journeying alongside of you through the Season of Lent this year!

God Bless, —Pastor Bob

March 1 – Ash Wednesday Service
7 p.m. at Salem

March 5 – First Sunday in Lent
"52" Sermon Series

Week 15 – "We Are Made in God's Image"

"God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them" (Genesis 1:27).

Sometimes we ask that real basic of questions, "Who am I?" In Genesis 1:27,



God provides an answer: "You are created in the image of God."

The potential for love and goodness, as experienced by God, exists in each of us. A good question to ask ourselves at the start of Lent is, "How am I doing in my relationship with God?" As we ask, "How am I doing?" it's good for us to be reminded of the potential God gave us, "Created in God's image." We don't have to remain where we are, we can realize the potential that God gives us.

March 12 – Second Sunday in Lent
"52" Sermon Series

Week 16 – "We Are Sinful"

"Put Uriah in the front line where the fighting is fiercest. Then withdraw from him so he will be struck down and die" (2 Samuel 11:15).

David is listed among God's great saints (Hebrews 11:32). David was also a great sinner. He wanted Bathsheba, who was already married, to be his wife. So, as king, he ordered the death of Uriah, Bathsheba's husband and a soldier in David's army.

These sins had consequences. There was the terrible cost to Bathsheba and Uriah. David's sin destroyed their life together. There was the personal cost to David: he had to live with a tortured spirit. There was also a limit placed on his effectiveness in the public sphere – God would not allow David to build the temple even though he really wanted to, and easily had all the resources at his disposal to do so.

For David, for all of us, sin damages those we harm and it damages us.

March 19 – Third Sunday in Lent
"52" Sermon Series

Week 17 – "The Value of Confessing"

"God have mercy on me, a sinner" (Luke 18:13b).

Perhaps there is no more effective a prayer of confession than this one. It does two things for us: the prayer allows us to admit that we are a sinner and it acknowledges that God's mercy is required for true forgiveness to take place. When we confess and repent, not only do we admit our sin and name it, we also ask for God to help us turn from that sin and do it no longer.

A compelling image of this is the person who turns their back on the sin they have been attracted to and turns 180 degrees to face God and say to God, "Help me follow it no longer."

And afterwards, when we've confessed and asked for forgiveness to those we've harmed, isn't there a great weight lifted from our shoulders?

Lack of confessing keeps us stuck where we are. Confessing allows us to be unstuck and to journey on with Christ by our side.

March 26 – Fourth Sunday in Lent
"52" Sermon Series

Week 14 – "God Is Merciful"

"The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love" (Psalm 103:8).

God is merciful. God forgives our sins and restores us.

For some, that's hard to believe. For some, life is reduced to just a competition where the strongest and most clever person wins and where it's solely up to us what kind of life we have. But as we know, that's not true. It's not just up to us.

The quality of our lives is about how we work with God to become the person God created us to be and how we work with others for their good.

We're tempted many times to fall back into "I'm in control of my life."

But God is merciful and continues to reach out to us and to work with us and to forgive us as God molds us year after year into his beautiful creation.

And there's really only one way we can stop God from doing that – by saying "No, I reject your help. I reject you."

Let's open ourselves up to receive God's mercy today and every day.

Scenes from . . .

“Youth Sunday” at Salem

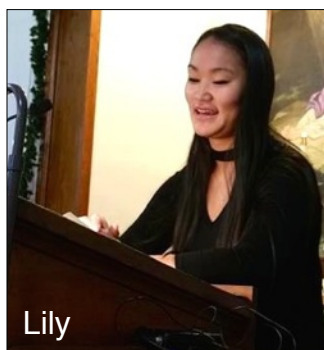
February 12, 2017

Salem’s youth talk about their experiences at the ROCK Youth Retreat.

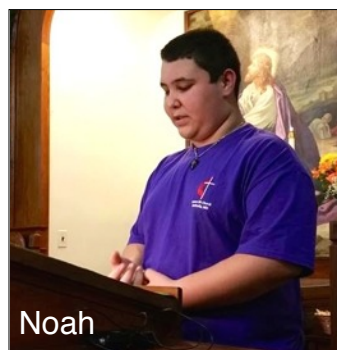
Photos by Wanda Barkdoll & Bill Burrier



From left, Katie, Camilo, Maria, Paul, Sarah, Jake, Lily, Madison, Josh, Noah, Emily, & Valentina



Lily



Noah



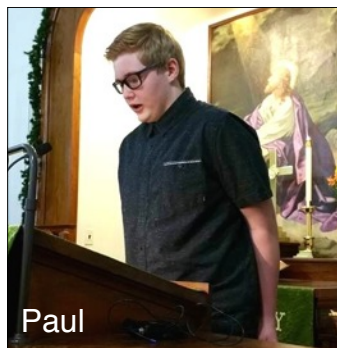
Sarah



Madison



Emily



Paul



Josh



Becky, Camilo & Noah



Josh at Children's Time



Maria & Paul

Missions is the Mission of the Church



Salem's Mission Projects

Salem Mission Project No. 10

Ronnie & Angi Hopkins minister in Nicaragua



January 29, 2017

Dear Folks at
Salem United Methodist Church:

We want to thank you for the faithful way you continue to support us in Nicaragua.

We are going into our 11th year here... hard to believe! We love what we do and we know none of it would be possible without the generous support of individuals and churches like you all back home.

My (Angi) mom came down a year ago to live with us. Peanut, our Nicaraguan daughter, will be 9 next month and continues to give us great joy!

Most of our work is on the river. Ronnie goes to the river monthly. My ministries are closer to home as I am not able to get away for long periods of time at the moment.

We feel blessed.

Many thanks again,
Ronnie and Angi Hopkins



Youth Leadership Team 2016 — We were able to complete 11 months of classes for 35 students. 31 students completed all requirements to obtain a one-year certificate. 10 students received a five-year certificate. A survey of 25 youth showed they had a part of bringing 46 people into a relationship with Jesus Christ. In April, 19 youth will travel to the Rio Bocay, a very remote area only accessible by boat, to work in schools and hold youth revivals.



At far left, five sewing machines were delivered, two to Kayaska, one to Pueblo Nuevo and two for training in Kayaskita.

At left, Ronnie met with the leaders of the new leadership program in Kayaskita. We also had meetings with the directive boards of Kayaskita and Siviwás communities to discuss the water projects.

Salem Mission Project No. 6

Board of Child Care Auxiliary "Annual Membership Drive"



■ By Dawn Nelson

The Auxiliary of the Board of Child Care is an organization of volunteers from churches in the Baltimore Washington Conference, who share the love of Christ with the children and families served by the Board of Child Care.

The Auxiliary supports the following projects for the children at the Martinsburg Board of Child Care facility.

- Easter baskets for the children
- Graduation gifts (money and afghans) for high school graduates

- Thanksgiving Food Baskets for the Board of Child Care Foster families
- Christmas Gift Shop for children to shop for their loves ones
- Birthday cards and monetary gifts
- District sponsored field trips for the children
- Participation in "Box Tops for Education" and other programs
- Furnishings for chapels on both campuses as well as other major purchases

Please join!

Membership in the Auxiliary is \$2 per year and is open to everyone regardless of gender or church denomination. Your level of support beyond the \$2 membership fee is completely voluntary.

You will see in our worship bulletin an envelope where you can fill out your information and place your membership dues inside. Additional envelopes will be in our foyer.

For more information, you may contact me at nelsondawn@comcast.net or call 301-606-1389.

Scenes from . . .



Family Skate Night at Starland

February 12, 2017

Photos submitted by Wanda Barkdoll & Kathy Laky



February 12, 2017 — Fifty of Salem's members and friends attended the annual Family Skate Night at Starland Roller Rink, Hagerstown. The event was sponsored by Salem's Youth and Family Activities ministry.



Sunday School Classes

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



Children, Infant to 4 years

Teacher: *Caroline Buhrman*

Children, Grades K to 2

Teachers: *Michael & Jennifer Burrier*

Children, Grades 3 to 5

Teachers: *Kathy Laky, Melissa Thornton, Patrick Boyton*

Youth, Grades 6 to 12

Teacher: *Fonda Gormer*

Young Adult Class

Teacher: *Denny Leatherman*

Adult Discussion Group - Couples & Singles

Teacher: *Bill Burrier*

Men's Class

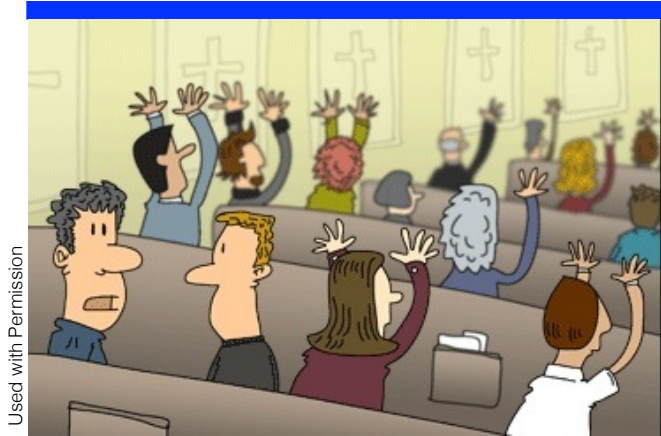
Teachers: *George Harne, Bobby Fogle, Meredith Harshman*

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)

Heavenly Humor



I think the hand-raising is kinda like rabbit ears . . . better reception.

Some thoughts to ponder . . .

The greatest thing about an attitude is that it's yours and you can change it.

Almost everything will work again if you unplug it for a few minutes . . . including you.

Our bodies would cry out if we only fed them once a day. How can we do any less for our souls?

Submitted by Marilyn Leatherman

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

March 2017