



# THE MONARCH

## OUR NEW PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT—THE FACES OF THE FUTURE

Greetings, Salemites!

My name is Christy Hensler-Davis and I am your Church Council President this year. I am 27 years old and have been attending Salem for twelve years. I'm currently pursuing a degree in Secondary Education with a focus in Romance Languages and a hope to teach Middle School in the near future. My parents, Norma and Guy, are also members of Salem and have been incredibly supportive during my journey of faith and leadership.

It is such an honor to be President and I have high hopes for what we can accomplish as a congregation. My goal this year is for our council members to become true examples of service. It is very important for our members to see that Council is willing to get involved in the community and even church committees with which we may not be familiar.

I cannot wait to work with Philip Isaiah who has many new ideas and goals himself. Hopefully we can bring more young and diverse people to Salem and give future councils a picture of what younger generations will look for in worship services.

This year, I hope to meet everyone's expectations and really start to reflect the community, with the changes it brings to Salem. I appreciate your support and look forward to doing whatever I can for our wonderful church family.

Christy Hensler-Davis



### Inside This Issue:

Council Highlights	1-2
Reformation travel	3-4
Celebrate Reformation 500	5
Refugee Update	6
Children's Ministry	10
Marketplace	11
Book Group	12
Salem Players News	13
Youth News	15
LWR Quilts	16
Thank You!	20-21
Mark Your Calendars!	23

*Article continues on page 2*

Hello Salem! My name is Philip Isaiah. I am twenty years old and a junior at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, studying Cultural Anthropology and Political Science. I have lived in Catonsville all my life and have attended Salem for two years. I was first attracted to Salem for its people. The genuine cordiality with which I was immediately accepted definitely demonstrates one of this church's mottos, in the words of Hebrews 13:2, "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it." While I am most certainly not an angel by any stretch of the imagination, I view this as a witness to this congregation's commitment to demonstrating the love of Christ in the world. That is why, in my capacity as Vice President of the Church Council, I am hopeful to take advantage of this major asset by reaffirming our gifts and many talents as we progress as a congregation in the next year. I also am looking forward to hearing new ideas from you all that could further enhance our mission as a church of Christ. Thank you very much for your support of this year's council and for conceding me the honor to serve as vice president.

In Christ,  
Philip Isaiah



## MEET THIS YEARS CHURCH COUNCIL

Thad Shepherd, Eileen Merriman, Michael Birkmeyer, David Fries, Pam Wilsey, Vicar Jay, Vicki Whetstone, Philip Isaiah, Christy Hensler-Davis, Karen Amy and Pastor Dave.

Not pictured— Tyler Glander, Mary Carroll-Mason, Marge Zerbe Diss

## CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

- Voted to provide \$1,000 gifts from the Mission Fund to United Lutheran Seminary to help their tuition-free program for full-time students, Breath of God Lutheran Church in Highlandtown and St Luke's in Hampden which are doing promising work in redeveloping their congregations.
- Appointed Guy Davis to head the Profile Committee and Lisa Yerkey to head the Call Committee for the Associate Pastor.
- Will direct the annual Thanksgiving-Christmas offering to Catonsville Emergency Assistance (CEA), the Maryland Food Bank, ELCA World Hunger Appeal and Lutheran World Relief (LWR).
- Began work on the budget for 2018.



**Italy and Germany group at the Castle Door in Wittenberg Germany**

## **REFORMATION TRAVELS BY PASTOR DAVE**

Salem's trip to Italy and Germany was a wonderful adventure. There were 21 Salem members along with 27 other folks, most from nearby Lutheran congregations, who journeyed together on our Luther Land Tour in September and October. It may have seemed odd that we began in Italy, spending a day in Rome, a day in Florence and then a day in Venice. But recalling Martin Luther's personal history, his visit to Rome in 1505 was a pivotal moment in his growing awareness of the corruption of the Church. With his own eyes he witnessed the priests' opulent living and their blatant disregard for the sacraments and spiritual life. So how fitting that like Luther, we too, left Italy by crossing the Alps into southern Germany.

Our first stop in Germany was Munich which was in the throes of Oktoberfest. Nancy and Liz Rickel insisted that Pastor Gerry and I visit the Hofbrau Beer House and we went along reluctantly. I mean who wants to enjoy a plate of sauerbraten and a large stein of German beer for lunch. :0) We had a lovely time meeting Italians at our table and then an Austrian mom and son who came to celebrate the young man passing tests to enter the military. The mom put a decorated gingerbread heart around Nancy's neck and gave it to the four of us as a gift. But she insisted we must eat it there. Beer and a big gingerbread cookie – does it get any better than this?

One of the questions that I have been asked so many times, is what was the most special moment during my trip. As you would imagine that's a very difficult question. Certainly the splendor of the Sistine Chapel, St Peter's Basilica and Michelangelo's magnificent sculpture of David all stand out. Taking a gondola ride in the canals of Venice is not something you do every day. Or sitting in the pew of the New Church in Berlin built next to the destroyed ruins of



the Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church was a poignant moment to reflect on the folly of war and the horrific destruction of World War II. The New Church, housing an active Lutheran congregation, has walls made of a concrete honeycomb containing over 20,000 stained glass inlays. The colors of glass were inspired by the glass in the Chartre Cathedral in France. The predominant color is blue, with small patches of ruby red, emerald green and yellow. Stunning and spiritually uplifting.

But, for me, the most moving moment was being on a parapet of the Wartburg Castle overlooking the Thüringen forest. You may recall that Luther was “kidnapped” by his protector Frederick the Wise and hidden for his own safety in the castle after the Edict of Worms when Luther boldly asserted to the papal authorities, “Here I stand!” The Wartburg Castle is near the town of Eisenach and nestled on a ridge in the Thüringen forest. The surrounding countryside looks nearly the same as when Luther spent a year in exile, using the time to translate the Bible into German. Standing there, looking out over the rolling wooded hills, the floating mists and the soaring birds, I felt as Luther could have been standing by my side. So I’ll end this truncated travelogue with the beginning of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow’s poem “Eisenach Luther in the Wartburg”



Safe in this Wartburg tower I stand  
 Where God hath led me by the hand,  
 And look down, with a heart at ease,  
 Over the pleasant neighborhoods,  
 Over the vast Thuringian Woods,  
 With flash of river, and gloom of trees,  
 With castles crowning the dizzy heights,  
 And farms and pastoral delights,  
 And the morning pouring everywhere  
 Its golden glory on the air.

More trip pictures on page 19



1617 Medal, Nuremberg

## REFORMATION SHOWCASE DISPLAY

In the display case in the narthex is an exhibition of Martin Luther memorabilia dating from 1530 to 2017. The display holds medals and coins, needlework, stereoviews, books, prints, postcards, magic lantern slides and various other commemorative items. These items are from Pastor Whetstone’s collection.

## MAR LU RIDGE SEMINAR—MOUNTAIN TOPICS SERIES – TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH

Rev. Dr. Mark Vitalis Hoffman will be leading a seminar entitled “Sola Scriptura: A History of the Bible, Translation, and the Word of God.” Cost is \$25/person, which includes lunch. Please RSVP at <http://www.mar-lu-ridge.org/wp-content/uploads/Mtntopics-Nov-2017.pdf>





## 500<sup>TH</sup> JUBELFEST OF THE REFORMATION

Now we have celebrated the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the posting of the 95 Theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg. As it is widely claimed, this was an event that changed the world.

I thought this month, as a final article in this anniversary year, I would leave you with some of my favorite quotes from Luther. You may see a few you'd like to note and remember.

*This life therefore is not righteousness, but growth in righteousness, not health, but healing, not being but becoming, not rest but exercise. We are not yet what we shall be, but we are growing toward it, the process is not yet finished, but it is going on, this is not the end, but it is the road. All does not yet gleam in glory, but all is being purified.*

*God writes the gospel not in the Bible alone, but in trees and flowers and clouds and stars.*

*The Christian shoemaker does his duty not by putting little crosses on the shoes, but by making good shoes, because God is interested in good craftsmanship.*

*God does not need your good works, but your neighbor does.*

*Pray like it all depends on God; then when you have finished praying, work like it all depends on you.*

*A person who...does not regard music as a marvelous creation of God, must be a clodhopper indeed and does not deserve to be called a human being; he should be permitted to hear nothing but the braying of asses and the grunting of hogs.*

*Prayer is not overcoming God's reluctance. It is laying hold of His willingness.*

*My heart, which is so full to overflowing, has often been solaced and refreshed by music when sick and weary.*

*Be a sinner and sin boldly, but believe and rejoice in Christ even more boldly.*

*I have held many things in my hands, and I have lost them all; but whatever I have placed in God's hands, that I still possess.*

*A religion that gives nothing, costs nothing, and suffers nothing, is worth nothing.*

*Hope lives in all things. Everything that is accomplished in this world is accomplished by hope.*

Pastor Whetstone



**Syrian Refugee Camp**

## **PREPARING FOR A NEW REFUGEE FAMILY**

Last month, with the congregation's good and generous help, the Refugee Sponsorship Task Force furnished an apartment for a refugee-sponsored Afghani family in Riverdale, MD. We worked through Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area, which is handling sponsorships in this area for Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services.

The members of the task force did a terrific job gathering the items, cleaning things, transporting them and setting up the apartment. Several hundred dollars of the Refugee Fund were spent on foodstuffs and for a truck to move the furniture. (The Refugee Fund now totals \$10,753.)

Now we're ready to gather things all over again as we still hope to be able to sponsor our own refugee family. So we will again welcome the congregation's assistance.

To offer donations of furniture, contact Carl Kreps (410-869-1403 or [thekreps@verizon.net](mailto:thekreps@verizon.net)). To offer household goods, for the present, please contact me at 410-788-5475 or [edward-victoria@verizon.net](mailto:edward-victoria@verizon.net). Bethann Ritter will be coordinating the foodstuffs, toiletries and cleaning supplies.

Below is a basic list of the things needed. When we are offered a specific family, we may need to amend this list, and of course will then be seeking foodstuffs.

Please keep the millions and millions of refugees and displaced persons in your prayers.

Pastor Whetstone, chair

### **Furniture**

One Full Bed Frame- **Received**  
 Two Twin Bed Frames- **One Promised**  
 One Full Mattress and Box Spring - **Received**  
 Two Twin Box Springs and Mattresses  
 One Couch  
 One Upholstered Chair- **Received**  
 Coffee Table  
 End Table- **Two Received**  
 Two Chests of Drawers- **Received**  
 Kitchen Table and Four Chairs- **Received**

### **Household Goods**

Tableware - **Received**  
 Set of Dishes- **Received**  
 Four Pillows  
 Pots and pans (sauce pan, frying pan, baking dish)  
 Mixing/Serving Bowls  
 Four Lamps- **Received**  
 One Set of Various Kitchen Utensils  
 Can Opener  
 One Set of Full Sheets- **Received**  
 Two Sets of Twin Sheets  
 Four Sets of Towels  
 Three Blankets  
 Alarm Clock, Two Wastebaskets  
 Paper, Pens and/or Pencils

**NOVEMBER 4,5th IS FAIR TRADE WEEKEND**  
**VISIT US AT THE MARKETPLACE**  
**for**  
**HANDCRAFTS, TEA, COFFEE AND CHOCOLATE!**  
*And*  
**IN THE NARTHEX AFTER WORSHIP SERVICES!**

Give thanks to the Lord of the Harvest with a purchase of fair trade crafts, teas, coffees and chocolate! It is not charity to provide artisans and small scale farmers in the developing world with a fair wage for their labors. By shaping our shopping to such principles of fairness, we not only have the satisfaction of providing a just earning and receiving an excellent product, we bring to the Lord a meaningful thanksgiving offering! Look for the Fair Trade Table and Cart at the Marketplace and in the narthex!

Here's a great chance for some early Christmas shopping! These will also be available for purchase in the narthex most Sundays till Christmas.



## **ADULT FORUM**

We will continue our study of Lauren Winner's book, "Wearing God, Clothing, Laughter, Fire, and Other Overlooked Ways of Meeting God." On November 5th and 12th, we will focus on images of God in laughter and flame, respectively, with a concluding session on November 26th. (Note, people are welcome to attend individual sessions, as the sessions are independent of one another; additionally, reading the chapter in advance is recommended, but not required.) On November 19th, the Reverend Doctor Eric Campbell will lead a session entitled "The 38 Theses."

See you on Sundays in November in the Katie Luther Room at 9:45am.



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## **AROUND THE PARISH**

- Scott Graham is very excited to share that he has been elected to a board attempted to set up psychiatric rehabilitation services in Pakistan. Scott will be traveling to Pakistan next year to do a GAP analysis for accreditation purposes and to conduct a strategic planning session.
- Salem's Reformation Concert raised \$2,406 for Lutheran Disaster Response. Thank you for your generosity
- Vince Happel, who moved to Florida with his family this summer, has found a church home at St. Mark by the Sea in Palm Coast, Florida.

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## **CONFIRMATION TASK FORCE FORMING**

Pastor Asendorf and Vicar Eckman will be putting an ad hoc task force together to evaluate Salem's Confirmation program. We have not had a hard look at our program since 1979. If you are interested in serving on this task force please see Pastor Dave or Vicar Jay.

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## **SALEM LEGACY CIRCLE**

The Salem Legacy Circle are members of Salem who have remembered Salem in their estate planning. Such gifts have provided needed funds for major capital projects over the years. Projects like providing a new roof and repointing our stone masonry. Our newest members who remembered Salem in their wills are:

Steve and Sally Kopp

We give thanks for their foresight and their generosity. If you have remembered Salem in your estate planning and would like to be recognized as an encouragement to us all please notify Pastor Asendorf.

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## **DISCIPLES IN DIAPERS – SUNDAY NURSERY SESSIONS!**

Please join your fellow Salem families with children under age 3 in the nursery during Sunday School (9:30-10:30 am). Please note that this is not a drop off Sunday School class.

Salem's Disciples in Diapers is open to Salem families with children ages newborn to 3 years old (i.e. those still in diapers, but the newly potty trained are welcome too!). Among other things, we hope to provide fellowship, babysitting sharing, and general parental/family support to Salem families with young children. If this describes your family, we hope you'll join us on Sunday mornings so our children can play while we chat and occasionally enjoy some juice and baked goods. This group can be whatever we want it to be – so please join us and help shape Salem's youngest disciples! Questions? Please reach out to us via the Salem Facebook page and we'll add you to our private group.

On October 26, 2017 the Maryland Senior Citizens Hall of Famer, Inc. honored 50 Maryland seniors for their lifelong volunteering. The organization's purpose is to publicly recognize persons over 65 who have volunteered their time and energy. One of the awards was presented to Valerie Ponsini of Salem.

She was honored for her lifelong work for her church serving on the Council and committees, teaching SCS and confirmation, educating the public on life in the 18<sup>th</sup> C, and working at Charlestown on the Elder Hostel Life Long Learning program, and knitting baby caps for preemies.

## A TRADITION OF SCHOLARSHIP(S)

The 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation reminds us that it all began with Luther's diligent scholarship, carefully examining Biblical texts to discern the gospel message and sharing the good news with others through his translation of the Bible into the German language so that it became accessible to everyone.

A quarter century ago, two Salem members, themselves life-long educators, felt so strongly that the church should do what it could to support our young people in their pursuit of learning that they left the substantial bequest that became the original financial basis for the Salem Scholarship Awards Program. Since then, others have pitched in with financial contributions to assure that the scholarship fund can be self-sustaining.

Salem Scholarships can fund only a small portion of students' college expenses, as the cost of higher education continues to climb and place increasing financial burdens on families. Not only do they make a monetary difference to pinched budgets, but, equally important, they represent an affirmation to our young members from Salem's congregation as they enter into this important stage of their lives. This fall recent scholarship recipients Lea Marshall and Will Kreps headed off to college, Lea to Roanoke College and Will to the University of Dayton. Entering their sophomore year were Abigail Timmel (Northeastern University), Ben Massey (Roanoke College), and Duncan McNair (Salisbury University). Katherine Kempton began her junior year at St. Mary's College of Maryland, while Jenna Kerr is a senior at Towson University.

This year's high school seniors will receive letters early in the new year inviting them to consider applying for a Salem Scholarship as they make plans for continuing their education. The traditional deadline for applications is April 15.

Contributions from Salem members help to sustain the scholarship program, and contributions are most welcome. We invite you to help keep the Lutheran tradition of scholarship alive at Salem, especially as we celebrate the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation and the holiday season.

--Bethann Snyder and Ed Orser, for the Salem Scholarship Committee.



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

SUNDAY SCHOOL students, aside from their lessons, are learning the Ten Commandments this year! We're on number three: Honor God's day with rest and Worship. Ask yourself, how well do you model the Commandments for our children?

127 LWR School Kits were delivered to New Windsor for shipping. THANK YOU ALL for your generous donations. Our 121 Personal Care Kits are on the way to Bosnia. Thank you again.

The Sunday School students will be filling a "giving" box at home each day during Advent as they read their devotions. These non-perishable foods will be distributed after Epiphany to Amazing Grace Food Pantry.



The Congregation is invited to the **ADVENT WREATH EVENT ( NOTE DATE CHANGE)** SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26th, 9:30a.m. during the Sunday School Hour.

If you have your form from last year, bring it please. Ring forms will be available for \$5.00 EACH. Extra donations for greens are appreciated. Bring your "extras" to attach and wire cutters. Pine cones will be available. *There will also be special, "easier" Advent crafts for younger children.*

**The annual Catonsville Children's Home tree will be up in the Narthex on Saturday, November 25th.** Choose a tag and purchase a gift for a child living at the children's home. These gifts need to be returned by December 10<sup>th</sup> for delivery (or you must take them to the Children's Home yourself.)



The Children's Christmas Program will be Sunday, December 24th at 5 PM. Actors should arrive between 4:30 and 4:50 pm.

### WATCH THESE DATES:

There **WILL BE NO SUNDAY SCHOOL,**  
SUNDAY DECEMBER 24TH OR  
SUNDAY DECEMBER 31.

Classes resume January 7th when we will celebrate Epiphany.





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## SATURDAY NOVEMBER 18TH IS PARENT'S DAY OUT.

Parents of toddlers and young ones.  
Need a small break on a Saturday before the Holidays??  
Salem's Youth group will be offering babysitting at church on  
Saturday the 18th from 11:00 am -2:00 pm.  
There will be a movie, crafting, game playing and lunch.  
\$5 an hour per child. (no diapers please).

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## COME START YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING AT SALEM MARKETPLACE ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4!!

The Marketplace is from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. All of the proceeds will be given to this year's charities: **Patapsco Heritage Greenway, Lutheran Mission Society and Doctors without Borders.** Bring your friends and family – the more we sell the more we can donate to these causes!

We are still in **need of a volunteer** to coordinate Marketplace +1 on Sunday, November 5th. We also **need volunteers to help with set up on Friday, and cleanup at 2 PM on Saturday** and after the late service on Sunday. Look for the volunteer sign-up sheet on the kiosk.

Our big **White Elephant Sale in Reformation Hall** this year will feature collections of teapots and birdhouses!! Come check out all the treasures.

Make sure you check out all the **great items and baskets at the Silent Auction!**

You will have the opportunity to enjoy a **great lunch prepared by our Salem cooks.** There will be used books and jewelry. We hope to see some of **Pastor Whetstone's wonderful stone Santa Claus figurines.** You won't want to miss beautiful **handmade items from our Salem Stitchcrafters.** There will be **Fair Trade chocolates, coffee and gifts for sale** from around the world. This year we will also be featuring handmade jewelry and crafts from Gilchrist Hospice Care's sister hospice in Tanzania. Oh, and don't forget to get there early to buy some of the **delicious baked good items.** Or buy **raffle tickets for the Guardians of Eden's 50/50 raffle.** There will be other crafts for purchase, too. Please come and bring your friends and neighbors for a great day of fellowship and to help support some very worthy charities.

Julia Graham, Marketplace Chair (jig58@verizon.net)

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## NEW PHOTO DIRECTORIES EXPECTED IN DECEMBER

We're now in the final proof stage and have learned that our new directories will arrive before Christmas. There will be one for each household which had their picture taken for the directory. Thanks to all those who've supported this project! When we have further notice of an arrival date, we will post it in the bulletin and newsletter.

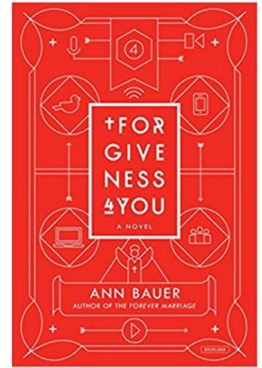
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## SALEM'S BOOK GROUP

Salem's Book Group has completed its 2016-17 season and is pleased to announce the first three books for the 2017+18 season.

*Forgiveness 4 You: A Novel*, November 13

At once a brilliant satire set in the world of advertising and a serious reckoning with religion, the remarkable new novel by the author of *The Forever Marriage*, *Forgiveness 4 You*, is a startlingly contemporary novel about faith and religion in an America addicted to quick fixes and instant gratification.

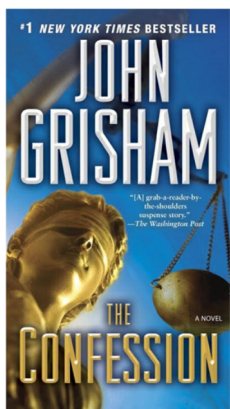


Gabriel McKenna is an ex-Catholic priest, and with his quiet job at a quiet bookstore, he is—slowly—rebuilding his life. But even at the bookstore, people from all walks of life find their way to him and feel compelled to share their stories and reveal to him their deepest, guiltiest secrets.

One of these people is Madeline Murray, a high-powered advertising executive, who, hours after her weepy confession, has a revelation: If she felt so comforted by this stranger, perhaps there's something remunerative to his consoling abilities. Madeline has a vision: a business that will offer a secular form of confession and forgiveness—the comforts of religion, without the religion. Without knowing exactly how it happened (and whether any of it is morally sound) Gabriel is transformed by Madeline and her colleagues into the centerpiece of the forgiveness brand. And so a therapeutic revolution unleashes itself on America—or is about to, until a terrible secret threatens to torpedo the business and the man at the middle of it. Which would all be bad enough, were it not for temptation—in the form of Madeline herself.

In *Forgiveness 4 You*, Ann Bauer combines her gift for characterization with a broad American canvas to dazzling effect. Written with verve and confidence, *Forgiveness 4 You* is an unusually ambitious novel that blends cutting-edge satire with a serious meditation on faith in the twenty-first century.

*The Confession* by John Grisham, January 8<sup>th</sup>



For every innocent man sent to prison, there is a guilty one left on the outside. He doesn't understand how the police and prosecutors got the wrong man, and he certainly doesn't care. He just can't believe his good luck. Time passes and he realizes that the mistake will not be corrected: the authorities believe in their case and are determined to get a conviction. He may even watch the trial of the person wrongly accused of his crime. He is relieved when the verdict is guilty. He laughs when the police and prosecutors congratulate themselves. He is content to allow an innocent person to go to prison, to serve hard time, even to be executed.

Travis Boyette is such a man. In 1998, in the small East Texas city of Sloan, he abducted, raped, and strangled a popular high school cheerleader. He buried her body so that it would never be found, then watched in amazement as police and prosecutors arrested and convicted Donté Drumm, a local football star, and marched him off to death row.

Now nine years have passed. Travis has just been paroled in Kansas for a different crime; Donté is four days away from his execution. Travis suffers from an inoperable brain tumor. For the first time in his miserable life, he decides to do what's right and confess. But how can a guilty man convince lawyers, judges, and politicians that they're about to execute an innocent man?

ANNOUNCING  
**SOUPER SUNDAYS**

Salem Youth Group will be selling homemade soups and breads  
between services on the following Sundays:

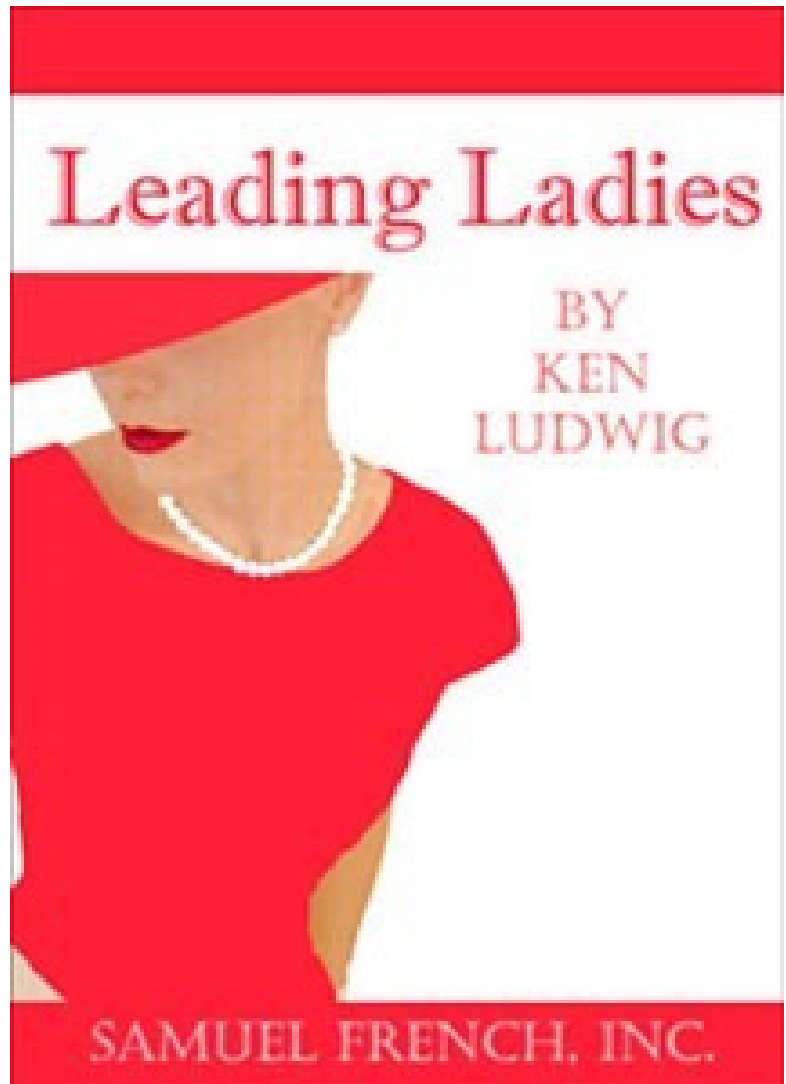
November 5th and 19th  
December 10th and 17th

**Salem Players Presents**

**“Leading Ladies”  
a comedy by Ken Ludwig**

November 10, 11, 17 & 18<sup>th</sup> at 8 PM and  
November 12 and 19<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM.

Tickets are \$12 for children and seniors  
and \$15 for adults.



**SALEM PLAYERS BOARD OF DIRECTORS NEWS**

Salem Players is recruiting new members for it's Board of Directors. Anyone who has participated in a play at Salem is welcome. We are looking for people with new ideas and an enthusiasm for community theater. If interested, please contact Lisa Yerkey at [lcyerkey@gmail.com](mailto:lcyerkey@gmail.com)



## LESSON TWO FROM VICAR JAY - THE HOLY WORK OF BUDGET



*“When it was already late, his disciples came to him and said, “This is an isolated place and it is already very late. <sup>36</sup> Send them away so that they can go into the surrounding countryside and villages and buy something for themselves to eat.”*

*<sup>37</sup> But he answered them, “You give them something to eat.” And they said, “Should we go and buy bread for two hundred silver coins and give it to them to eat?” <sup>38</sup> He said to them, “How many loaves do you have? Go and see.” When they found out, they said, “Five—and two fish.” <sup>39</sup> Then he directed them all to sit down in groups on the green grass. <sup>40</sup> So they reclined in groups of hundreds and fifties. <sup>41</sup> He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. He gave them to his disciples to serve the people, and he divided the two fish among them all. <sup>42</sup> They all ate and were satisfied,” –Mark 6:35-42*

I have learned that October is the time where Salem is knee-deep in the budget process. Committees and staff meticulously review their budgets making last-minute alterations trying to make the dollars work. This work has made me think not only about our church budget but also my conceptions of personal budgeting. Now I know this should be holy work, work that captures our highest hopes and dreams for who we want to be, where we want to take our ministries. But, if I was honest, at times it feels anything but holy or sacred. It feels secular, calculated, and sterile. To focus on numbers and metrics, on ratios and line items seems far from the care that defines us, removed from the needs we strive to meet daily, and detached from the faces of those we serve in the name of our loving God. How could this be?

The parable of the loaves and fishes is a two-part story. In it, Christ took basic resources and distributed them among the hungry. Though we commonly say he “multiplied” the loaves and fishes, this word is not found in any of the Gospel accounts. Perhaps over time and across cultures and languages, we’ve added the concept that Christ multiplied the limited food so that we could wrap our brains around the event. Somehow we filled in that detail because it made sense to us, for, after all, you can’t feed a multitude on a few loaves and fishes. . . Or can you?

The other part of the story is equally important: “They all ate and were satisfied” (Mark 6:42 NET). Nowhere does the Scripture tell us that everyone ate until they were full. It says simply that Jesus blessed the limited food, distributed it among the people, they ate and were satisfied. And there were leftovers to share on another day. All were satisfied, not only by the loaves and fishes but also by the Word and the community they shared on that distant hillside.

Perhaps we can take the story of the loaves and fishes with us as we approach our finances and the management of our ministries, especially in times that can be financially trying. After all, our budgets (both personally and communally) are about our highest hopes and dreams, and our commitment to advance God’s mission. Through my own financial experiences, I have learned that budgets and management are about growth and new ideas, and in other times they are about satisfying the basics with a few loaves, fishes, and a community that shares. When we remember this and look at the abundance of resources we actually have before us, it is amazing how far those resources stretch, especially when we remember, as Christ did, to bless them as we distribute them across the multitude.

Grace and Peace, Vicar Jay



## November Youth News

**Drop In night Friday November 3**

**7-10pm**

### FREE RIDE 2017

The weekend of October 20<sup>th</sup>, six Salem Youth Leaders and four Salem Youth members attended the annual ELCA Youth retreat called "FreeRide." Along with Adult Leaders and chaperones, the youth spent the weekend engaged in workshops, service projects and faith-filled discussions in small groups and spirited worship services.

The LYO Youth Leaders included Victoria Shepherd, Olivia Shepherd, David Paton, Dawson Shepard, Awel Mabil, and Marleigh Toscano. They were all active in planning for the retreat and led the activities during the retreat. Salem Youth members who attended include Hallie Shepard, Lizzie Fitch, Ammai Mabil and Preston Shepherd. Thad Shepherd and Anita Lane were the Adult Leaders and Sara Toscano and David Paton Sr. were the adult volunteers for the retreat. Youth member Ammai Mabil said, "My favorite part was the ropes course but I like the small groups too. I also liked the song time because I learned a lot of new songs. And the food was really good! I'm going to be in LYO next year."

The theme for Free Ride this year was "Reform School." What does this mean?

Two thousand years ago, an edgy rabbi from Galilee gathered a group of losers and started traveling from town to town, stirring up trouble in synagogues, hanging out with social outcasts, healing the sick, casting out demons, and getting into fights with the powers that be. Five hundred years ago, a snarky and faithful German monk named Martin Luther started causing trouble in the name of Jesus in Germany and throughout Europe.



Here's the thing — the Holy Spirit is always up to something. Always challenging our assumptions. Always troubling people in power. Always working toward justice. Always calling us to repentance. Always raising us to new life. Always reforming ... reforming us, reforming our church, reforming our society. Together we'll draw from God's Word and our confessional foundations to dive deep into this ongoing work of Reformation.

## DEDICATION OF QUILTS FOR LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

**Saturday, November 11 and Sunday November 12**

Look forward to being surrounded by cozy quilts covering the pews on Saturday, November 11 and Sunday November 12. Once a year, quilts are dedicated at Salem church services prior to taking them to the Lutheran World Relief Warehouse in New Windsor, MD. From there, quilts are sent all over the world where recipients use their LWR Quilts to shield against the cold and rain, and for warm bedding. They are also used as simple tents, floor coverings, or a wrap to hold a baby on a mother's back.

Last year, 110 quilts were dedicated; and this year we have surpassed our goal of making 130 quilts! Our team has grown to include Mary Miller, Judy LeGath, Deb Brohawn, Trish Kilduff, Rene Stiebing, Jane Stolte, Barb Myers, Caryn Freiberg and Julie Nau. We also include Dave Trump as an honorary member because he brings us so many sheets and blankets from the Charlestown sales.

Each quilt has three layers – a top which has fabric squares sewn together in a 60 x 80” rectangle, a filler for warmth and stability, and a backing large enough to fold and sew over the top and filler to hold the quilt together. Imagine the quantities of supplies needed: fabric for tops, batting and blankets for filler, sheets or fabric for backings, thread, and embroidery floss for tying the quilts. This year as well as last year, Thrivent awarded grants of \$250 so that we are able to purchase supplies through a Thrivent Action Team project. We are also grateful that Salem has included this ministry in its budget.

How can you help?

- Join us Wednesdays from 1 to 3 PM in the Katie Luther room. We usually have three sewing machines working to sew tops as well as stations to assemble quilt layers, tie finished layers with knotted embroidery floss, and cut fabric to assemble “kits” for the tops. You don't need to know how to sew!
- Donate fabric, sheets and blankets in the box located in the Narthex. Think of us as you do your Fall housecleaning or shop at yard sales.
- After the 11 AM Service on November 12, please help us bag the quilts and load them into our vans for transport to the LWR Warehouse.

If you have any questions about this ministry, please contact one of the team members listed above.





## HISTORICAL OLD SALEM NEWS

**Everyone on the October 18th Fall Foliage Bus Trip to Cumberland for the Western Maryland Steam Ride** had a wonderful day. We enjoyed a beautiful scenic ride to Cumberland where we boarded the train trip up the mountain to Frostburg. Delicious deli lunches were served on our ride up and cheesecake dessert was served on our way back down the mountain. We made two stops: on the way to Cumberland we had a rest stop at Sideling Hill enjoying a gorgeous overlook and one the way home a stop at the Blue Goose Market in Hancock. Pies, apples, lovely gifts, jellies and jams were among our travelers' purchases there.

The Board of Directors invite you to attend our Annual All Saints' Service on Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. at Old Salem. Worship service is led by Pastor Dave and Vicar Jay with Louise Rau accompanying our hymn singing on the 1860 organ. Come join us.

In January some of the directors will be planning out our 2018 calendar of events. If you have any suggestions for trips and/or events, please contact Sharon Stanton, 410-744-8724 or leave a note in the Old Salem mailbox located across the hall from the Nurses' Office.

## GREETERS AND SHOWCASE PROVIDERS

Many thanks to all of you who are willing to serve as Greeters at our Sunday worship services. It's a wonderful way to welcome visitors, newer members as well as members who have attended Salem for many years. Of course, I am always seeking more members who are willing to serve about once every three {3} months. If you are interested in meeting and greeting at either service, please drop a note in my Old Salem mailbox across the 1<sup>st</sup> floor hall from the Nurses' office. Would especially like volunteers for the 8:15 service, but would love to have more 11 o'clock members too!

Showcase thanks go out to Mary Krebs for her Angels in September/October. Mary and her daughter, Kathleen Leisher shared their beautiful collection of "everything" Angels. Ed Whetstone has done the Reformation Showcase now "showing". What a wonderful collection he has. Thank you Ed. Watch for Church Council's showcase coming up later in November.

## COMING SOON TO THE AGAPE GALLERY

Please come to the opening of our November-January show: "Nicaragua: Beauty Revealed" on November 12 immediately after the late service. The brightly colored work of Nicaraguan artists who are connected to the Nicaraguan Cultural Alliance in Baltimore will grace our gallery walls until January 7, 2018.

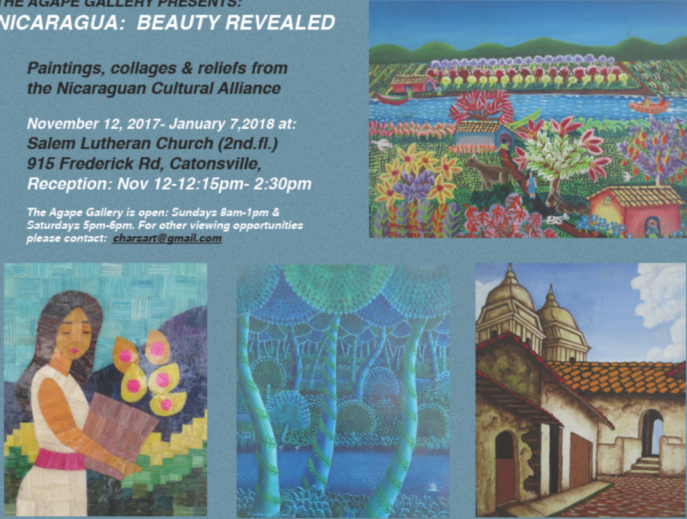
The Agape Gallery can be found on the 2nd floor of the education building. Refreshments will be served and the opening will also feature guitar music of Nicaragua. Enjoy a colorful glimpse into a nearby culture in Central America!

**THE AGAPE GALLERY PRESENTS:**  
**NICARAGUA: BEAUTY REVEALED**

Paintings, collages & reliefs from  
the Nicaraguan Cultural Alliance

November 12, 2017- January 7, 2018 at:  
Salem Lutheran Church (2nd fl.)  
915 Frederick Rd, Catonsville,  
Reception: Nov 12-12:15pm- 2:30pm

The Agape Gallery is open: Sundays 8am-1pm &  
Saturdays 5pm-6pm. For other viewing opportunities  
please contact: [chearart@gmail.com](mailto:chearart@gmail.com)







## SEMINARIAN REPORT

Dear Salem,

I have just completed my first month of internship here in rural Wabasso, Minnesota. The past few weeks have been filled with many joys and challenges as I adjust to different ways of living and worshipping that are unique to Redwood Central Lutheran Parish. Because this parish has four different points, each Sunday my supervisor and I share responsibilities by each preaching and presiding at two of the churches. On Sunday, October 1st, I led two services solo for the first time: preaching, presiding, and delivering children's sermons at each. Since I am not yet ordained, I am not able to preside over communion just yet. Soon I will get to try my hand at chanting the liturgy! I have also gotten my feet wet teaching confirmation classes each Wednesday evening; attending council meetings, youth group meetings, and WELCA meetings; leading nursing home services; and visiting those who are home-bound. At last week's Fall Theological Conference, I was able to meet other rostered leaders from the Southwest Minnesota synod. Together, we worshiped, prayed, and heard presentations on biblical preaching, stewardship, and media and communications for congregations. What a holy whirlwind it's been!

I am learning a lot about life in rural Minnesota. I've even been invited to ride on a harvest combine by a few different farmers in the congregation! I am living in an apartment above the Wabasso neighborhood bar, making Martin and Katie Luther proud, I'm sure.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers this year as I lean into the arts of ministry. The Salem community is a treasure in my life!

God's Peace,  
Vicar(!) Amy Asendorf

### **Salem Supper Club**

**December 2, 2017 at 6:30 PM**

**Enjoy an evening of delicious food, good fellowship and a special evening of entertainment by the Salem Players as they celebrate their 40th anniversary.**

More Pictures from the Italy-Germany Trip



Martin Luther Statute at Erfurt



Dinner at the hotel at Garmisch-Partenkirchen



Painting on a house at Garmisch-Partenkirchen



Chapel Monastery where Martin Luther lived as a monk in Erfurt.

# THANK YOU



Dear Salem Stitch  
 Crafters,  
 Thank you so much  
 for your generous  
 donation! All of us at  
 the Cancer center  
 appreciate your caring  
 and loving thoughts.

At <sup>the</sup> St. Agnes Cancer Center,  
 our patients are comforted  
 knowing that people in  
 the surrounding  
 community care about  
 their wellbeing. The  
 chemo caps were such a  
 lovely gift and we cannot  
 express our gratitude  
 enough! Best wishes,  
 Becca Nolder SW Intern



Thank  
You

With God, everything is possible.

MATTHEW 19:26

Dear Salem Family,  
During my recent hospitalization, my doctors told me that they couldn't medically explain the miraculous change in my condition from one day to the next. But, I can explain -- all the prayers of my Salem Family and others were being answered. Thank you, Salem! I feel so blessed! Your prayers, visits and cards played such a huge part in my healing. I'm home now and feeling stronger everyday. I hope to join you at church soon.

Love and God's Peace,

Gina Giviani  
(and my parents too!)



## SALEM ACTIVITY CALENDAR

### November 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>October 29</b> Worship-8:15/11 am Sunday School 9:30am Luther The Reformer 2pm	<b>October 30</b> 4pm Yoga 7pm Salem Players	<b>October 31</b> 5pm Chair Yoga 6pm Salem Ringers	<b>November 1</b> 7am Men's Prayer Breakfast 1pm LWR Quilting	<b>2</b> 10am Stitchcrafters 5pm Salem Players 6pm St David's Choir 7:30p Salem Choir	<b>3</b> Youth Drop In 7pm	<b>4</b> Fair Trade Weekend 10am Market place 5pm Worship
<b>FALL ART SHOW—Last chance!</b>						
<b>5 ALL SAINTS</b> Fair Trade Weekend <b>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS</b> <b>TIME ENDS</b> <b>SOUPER SUNDAY</b> Worship-8:15/11 am Sunday School 9:30am Salem Players 7pm	<b>6</b> 4pm Yoga 6:30pm Guardians of Eden 7pm Prayer Shawl Group 7pm Salem Players	<b>7</b> 5pm Chair Yoga 7pm Bells 7pm Salem Players	<b>8 CHARLESTOWN</b> 7am Men's Prayer Breakfast 1pm LWR Quilting 7pm Salem Players	<b>9</b> 10am Stitchcrafters 6pm St David's Choir 7pm Salem Choir 7pm Salem Players	<b>10</b> 8pm Leading Ladies	<b>11</b> 5pm Worship 8pm Leading Ladies
<b>12 Land and Seasons</b> LWR QUILT Dedication Worship-8:15/11 am Sunday School 9:30am Leading Ladies 2p	<b>13</b> 4pm Yoga 7pm Lazarus Caucus	<b>14</b> 5pm Chair Yoga 6pm Technology 7pm Bells	<b>15</b> 7am Men's Prayer Breakfast 1pm LWR Quilting	<b>16</b> 10am Stitchcrafters 6pm St David's Choir 7pm Salem Choir	<b>17</b> 8pm Leading Ladies	<b>18</b> 11-2 Parents Day Out 5pm Worship 8pm Leading Ladies
<b>FALL ART SHOW 2</b>						
<b>19 SOUPER SUNDAY</b> Worship-8:15/11:00 am 9:30 Sunday School 5pm Confirmation Class Leading Ladies 2p	<b>20</b> 4pm Yoga 7pm Communications 7pm Arts Committee	<b>21</b> 5pm Chair Yoga 7pm Bell Choir 7pm Council	<b>22</b> 7am Men's Prayer Breakfast 1pm LWR Quilting 7:30pm Thanksgiving Eve	<b>23 OFFICE CLOSED</b> Thanksgiving Day	<b>24</b> Office Closed	<b>25</b> 5pm Worship
<b>FALL ART SHOW</b>						
<b>26</b> Worship-8:15/11:00 am 9:30 ADVENT Family Event	<b>27</b> 1pm Fourth Monday Bible Study 4pm Yoga 7pm Fourth Monday Bible Study	<b>28</b> 5pm Chair Yoga 6pm Synod Youth 7pm Bell Choir 7pm Intern Committee	<b>29</b> 7am Men's Prayer Breakfast 1pm LWR Quilting	<b>30</b> 10am Stitchcrafters 6pm St David's Choir 7pm Salem Choir	<b>1 Dec</b> Youth Drop In	<b>2 December</b> 5pm Worship
<b>FALL ART SHOW</b>						

We have a number of community support groups and scout troops who use our church facilities. In order to accommodate all groups, please contact the church office at (410) 747-0720, **before** planning

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE****November 2017**

- Nov 4 Saturday evening Worship  
5p.m., Holy Communion
- Nov 5 All Saints Sunday  
8:15 am and 11a.m, Holy Communion  
9:35 Sunday School
- Nov 11 Saturday evening Worship  
5p.m., Holy Communion
- Nov 12 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after the Pentecost  
Fall Land and Seasons Liturgy  
8:15 am and 11:00am, Holy Communion  
9:35 Sunday School
- Nov 18 Saturday evening Worship  
5p.m., Holy Communion
- Nov 19 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Pentecost  
8:15 a.m. and 11:00a.m, Holy Communion  
9:35 Sunday School
- Nov 22 Thanksgiving Eve Worship 7:30pm
- Nov 25 Saturday evening Worship  
5p.m., Holy Communion
- Nov 26 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Pentecost  
8:15 a.m. and 11:00a.m, Holy Communion  
9:35 Sunday School

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!****UPCOMING DATES****Thanksgiving Eve**

Wednesday, November 22, 7:30pm

**Advent Events**

Wednesday, December 6 7:30pm

**Sunday, December 10 7:30pm****Advent Vespers**

Wednesday, December 13 7:30pm

Wednesday, December 20 7:30pm

**Looking ahead!****CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE****December 24**

**10am!** Sunday Worship—Advent 4  
5pm Christmas Eve Worship—Children's pageant  
7:30pm Christmas Eve Worship  
10pm Christmas Eve Worship

**December 25**

10am Christmas Day Worship  
Lessons and Carols

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE - CHARLESTOWN COMMUNITY - 2017/2018****November 8 Monthly Worship—Brookside Classroom**

11:30 a.m., Holy Communion Vicar Jay Eckman

**December 13 Monthly Worship—Brookside Classroom**

11:30 a.m., Holy Communion Pastor David Asendorf

**January 10 Monthly Worship—Brookside Classroom**

11:30 a.m., Holy Communion Gail Wilson, OSSD

### ATTENDANCE REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2017

	Saturday Evening	Sunday Service		Other	Specify	Weekly Total
		First	Second			
<b>Week of</b> Sept 30/Oct1	14	67	99	21	Italy/Germany Trip	<b>201</b>
<b>Week of</b> Oct 7/8	17	89	137			<b>243</b>
<b>Week of</b> Oct 14/15	25	82	108			<b>215</b>
<b>Week of</b> Oct 21/22	28	78	133	14	Free Ride	<b>253</b>
<b>October Sub-total</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>477</b>	<b>35</b>		<b>912</b>

\*Week reflects Saturday through Friday

### TREASURER REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2017

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	
Budget to Date	\$377,019.00
Beginning Balance	\$22,705.41
Expenses to Date	(324,188.20)
<u>Receipts to Date</u>	\$386,211.31
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$84,728.52</b>
<b>R.S.V.P.</b>	
Beginning Balance	\$86,481.30
Receipts to Date	31,065.25
<u>Disbursements to Date</u>	(\$58,757.34)
<b>Balance in Fund</b>	<b>\$58,789.21)</b>

**SMART PHONE QR CODE AVAILABLE FOR GIVING**



Salem allows offerings via your smart phone. Image Salem's QR code and you will be taken to the mobile-friendly version of Salem's giving page where you can make your gift via your bank account or credit card.

### WIFI AT SALEM

The Technology Committee has installed WiFi access throughout the church. This free internet access is available to members and guests. Users may access either of our two networks connections:



SalemBethanyHall  
SalemReformationHall

The password for both connections is **SalemChurch**.

If you have any questions about our network please contact Technology Committee Chairperson, Amy Pflug at [amy.pflug@verizon.net](mailto:amy.pflug@verizon.net).

## PRAYERS

“Most gracious God, according to your wisdom the deep waters are opened up and clouds drop gentle moisture. We praise you for the return of the planting and harvest seasons, for the fertility of the soil, for the harvesting of the crops, and for all other blessings that you in your generosity pour out on all people. Give us a full understanding of your mercy, that our lives may show respect and care for your creation; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen

God of abundance, you have poured out a large measure of earthly blessings: our table is richly furnished, our cup overflows, and we live in safety and security. Teach us to set our hearts on you and not these material blessings. Keep us from becoming captivated by prosperity, and grant us in wisdom to use your blessings to your glory and the service of humankind; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

Draw your church together, O God, into one great company of disciples, together following our teacher Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving in Christ’s mission in the world, and together witnessing to your love wherever you will send us; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

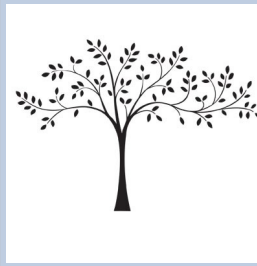
## OFFICIAL ACTS



### AT THE FONT

*“We pray you...keep our children in the covenant of their baptism and enable their parents to rear them in a life of faith and godliness.”*

Isla Maureen Matthews      October 8, 2017



## SALEM PRAYER TREE

“Intercessory prayer can penetrate the hearts of those we cannot open and shield those we cannot guard and

teach where we cannot speak and comfort where our hearts have no power to soothe. Prayer with its unseen hand, can enter where we may not.” If you would like to join the Salem Prayer Tree, please contact Sue O’Connor via telephone at (410) 869-0242, or via email at [ssusie770@verizon.net](mailto:ssusie770@verizon.net).

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Jane Anderson

Morrinah Kwedeh

Dan D’Avella

Emily Pukima

Emily D’Avella

Annamae Stuples

Pastor Ann Dentry

Mel Trimble

Pastor Amsalu Gelata

Dee Trimble

Marsha Foss

Bob Hahn

Edie Hahn

Bill Harmon

Carol Harmon

Carl Horst

Martin Krenzke

Virginia Krenzke

T. Morris Kwedeh

Esther Kwedeh

Morris Kwedeh, II

Morietta Kwedeh

Morlyne Kwedeh





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## PARISH LEADERS

Archive Committee: Judy LeGath

Arts Committee: Charlotte Brooks

Book Group

Guy Davis

Linda Wayland

Child Protection Committee: Linda Fleischer

Children's Ministry Committee: Sharon Stanton

Christian Fellowship Committee:

Darla Sando

Pam Wilsey

Communications Committee: Guy Davis

Evangelism Committee:

Finance Committee: Paul Timmel

Guardians of Eden: Norma Hensler-Davis

Health Resources:

Beth Rodgers

Lynda Bell

Historical Old Salem: Sharon Stanton

Memorial and Bequests: Paul W. Krabitz

Mutual Ministry (Pastor Asendorf): Julie Kempton

Nursery Committee: Lois Grempler

Personnel Committee: Scott Graham

Property: David Rau

Salem Players: Lisa Yerkey

Scholarship: Ed Orser

Social Ministry: Mary Kay Willing

Stewardship Committee: Irene Amoros

Technology Support Committee:

Amy Pflug

Lisa Yerkey

Youth Ministry Committee: Sara Toscano

Worship Life: Jane Stolte

Altar Guild: Mary Krebs

Prayer Tree Coordinator: Sue O'Connor

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church Office  
Telephone: (410) 747-0720

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Vicar Jay Eckman  
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Pastor Emeritus: G. Edward Whetstone  
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Sexton: Lirije Alaj, Letty Monahan

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Financial Secretary: Beth Masse  
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Treasurer: Sally Kopp  
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Congregation Connector: Guy Davis  
[guyddavis@verizon.net](mailto:guyddavis@verizon.net)

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Karen Amy	Michael Birkmeyer
Mary Carroll-Mason	Philip Isiah
David Fries	Marge Zerbe Diss
Christy Hensler-Davis	Eileen Merriman
Tyler Glander	Pam Wilsey
Thad Shepherd	Vicki Whetstone

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Guy Davis

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Grace Hall-Ramsey

**Proofreading**  
Lois Grempler  
Sue O’Connor

**NEXT MONARCH PUBLICATION**

**December 1, 2017**  
(Article submission deadline is  
Monday, November 27, 2017)

If you are interested in participating on the Communications Committee, or contributing as a ad-hoc writer or photographer, please contact either of our committee chair-persons.



*Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church strives to be a Christ-centered, caring community experiencing God's grace and sharing God's goodness with all people.*

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[office@salem-catonsville.org](mailto:office@salem-catonsville.org)

We are on the Web!  
[www.salem-catonsville.org](http://www.salem-catonsville.org)



[www.facebook.com/salemlutheranchurch.catonsville](http://www.facebook.com/salemlutheranchurch.catonsville)



Evangelical Lutheran Church In America  
[www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)



Delaware-Maryland Synod  
<http://demdsynod.org/>

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SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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905 Frederick Rd.  
Catonsville, MD 21228-4517

Change Service Requested  
**TIME VALUE**