

+ Online Worship at 10am

THE MONARCH



See the weekly
'Worship
Announcements'
email for the link
to RSVP.

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LENTEN ZOOM

No soup suppers. No in-person fellowship. All the same, the Salem congregation marked this season of Lent with midweek services that were both contemplative and meaningful.

With the theme "Questions to Jesus," members of Salem, as well as Faith Lutheran in Cockeysville, considered such topics as the meaning of truth, what it takes to inherit eternal life, and just who is our neighbor. The responses, Pastor Sarah said, resulted in deeply personal insights, from accepting personal identity to struggling with forgiveness.

"We don't think of Lutherans as evangelical, publicly telling our stories of faith," Pastor Sarah said, even though the word "evangelical" is in our name. That Salem has embraced this format for years is remarkable. "We're grateful that this is a safe space for sharing our stories of faith."

This year, that space was safe physically as well as spiritually, as the five services were conducted on Zoom. The format worked very well, she added. "It felt surprisingly familiar." Because of Zoom's "chat" option, members of the congregation were able to respond in real time to the speakers, and they did so unfailingly, reaching out with messages of empathy and support, she added.

Lasting 40 minutes to an hour, depending on the speakers, each service began with a prelude and included prayers and hymns. For Pastor Sarah, one of the most meaningful moments was when she could see (but not hear, with participants on "mute") members of the congregation united in song, even though they were in their own homes.

An average of 60 to 70 participants from both congregations worshiped together each week. Pastor Sarah declared this to be "just phenomenal." For many, she thinks, the at-home option worked well, taking into consideration family schedules. But in the end, she said, "We would all prefer to be in the same space together."

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

- Received reports from the Refugee Committee, the Art Committee and the Social Ministry Committee.
- Director of Youth Ministry, Anita Lane, made a presentation regarding the Salem Drama Camp for 2021.
- The Conscious Equity Training, will be held as a Zoom meeting on Saturday, April 24 from 10am to 12 noon.

AROUND THE PARISH

- We rejoice with Peggy and Ryan Fredriksson on the birth of their daughter Emilia Jane on March 11, 2021.
- We rejoice with Amy and Mathew Berger on the birth of their son Simon Kane Berger on March 16, 2021. Simon is the grandson of Pastor Dave and Nancy Asendorf.
- We rejoice with Meghan McNichol-Tress and Michael Tress on the birth of their daughter Marni Catherine on March 21, 2021.
- Rusty Mitchell is the new Executive Director of The Village at Augsburg.
- We have passed our year anniversary of having prerecorded online worship services!

RSVP FOR WORSHIP

Just a reminder that in-person worship is by RSVP only. You must RSVP every week using the Sign-up Genius link that you received in the prior weekend's email "Worship and Announcements" or by calling the Salem Office before 11:45 a.m. on Friday. The limit is 40 persons; we would be upset if you came and we didn't have room for you!

SPREADING THE LOVE OF JESUS WEAR A MASK AND SAVE LIVES

PLEASE RSVP!

A SEASON OF HOPE WITH LWR



We invite you to join us in a Lenten project of sacrifice and hope by helping to make Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief to be provided where they are needed most.

These lifesaving kits, full of items we toss aside without thinking or use with too little gratitude, provide more than good hygiene for our neighbors around the world. They also provide dignity, comfort, and hope amid scarcity, violence, or chaos.

Personal Care Kits are consistently among the most requested kits from our partners around the world. Hygiene is more critical than ever during this global

pandemic, especially in communities living in close quarters such as refugee camps.

The list below reflects the contents of one Personal Care Kit. Starting **February 20**, we're asking that you bring any of these items to church and place them in the Personal Care Kits box in the foyer. Or feel free to order items online and have them shipped to the church office, attention "LWR". The kits will be assembled and delivered to the LWR warehouse shortly after Easter.

- One light-weight bath-size towel (20" x 40" to 27" x 52"), dark color recommended (TIP: please no plush towels as they take longer to dry. Walmart has excellent light-weight, inexpensive towels.)
- 2-3 bath-size bars of soap totaling 8-9 ounces (no mini-hotel size bars, please), in original packaging
- One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging (TIP: toothbrushes purchased in multi-packs should be placed individually in a business-size envelope and sealed; no plastic bags or wrap.)
- One sturdy comb (no picks or fine-toothed combs)
- One metal nail clippers (attached file optional)

Please only provide items from the list above. If you're wondering why toothbrushes are listed but no toothpaste, that's because LWR procures the toothpaste and includes it in the distribution.

In this season when we feel so uncommonly separated from one another in our Salem community, we have this happy, hopeful opportunity to make Personal Care Kits together. More than that, we have this chance to place in the hands of vulnerable and marginalized persons in the developing world this welcome aid, serving as sign and substance of Christ's sacrificial love. Thank you so very much for your participation! Blessings,

Vicky Whetstone

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

We continue with our "Takeout Sunday School" lessons and craft bags, prepared each month by Eileen Merriman with the help of her daughter, Veronica, "testing" out the crafts included for each child. The children have learned about how Jesus was in the desert tempted by the Devil and are now learning throughout March about The Ten Commandments, Jesus as the Light of the World and how they can serve and follow Jesus in so many different ways. April will have stories about Jesus' ride into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday and the events that took place in his life leading up to and including Easter Sunday. Each "bag" has stories and activities that follow our lectionary each Sunday.

I give a "HUGE THANK YOU" to Eileen as she has now had to return to in-person school teaching, and with all that preparation needed to be completed, she is still able to organize approximately 30 take home bags for our Sunday school families. Also, many thanks to the volunteers who are delivering the bags to our families at their homes each month. Usually on the last Sunday of the month at 9:30 a.m., Eileen hosts a 30 minute zoom that families can join to discuss the lessons from the month, share some of the crafts and activities that they completed, or just meet for fellowship. Watch for the link on a mid-week email or directly from Eileen to join in the fun with the group.

We are encouraging anyone with craft activities/ideas to contact Eileen at esavage109@yahoo.com.

SAVE THE DATE FOR CONSCIOUS EQUITY TRAINING

Pastor Dave and Pastor Sarah, along with the Anti-Racism Team, are delighted to invite you to attend a virtual Conscious Equity training on **Saturday, April 24** from **10 a.m. – noon**.

Conscious equity is, at its core, a roadmap for all of us as we navigate relationships and situations in every corner of our lives – at home, at church, at work, at school, and simply out in the world. Led by expert facilitators at Kusi Global, this training will be fun and interactive as well as providing a non-judgmental and anonymous space (a gift of virtual!) for processing our personal experiences. One thing the team at Kusi Global has emphasized is that they have a firm policy of no shame or blame in discussions about racial and cultural differences, and that it's critical that there be space at the table for everyone. We will gain insight into how we perceive the world, both consciously and unconsciously, and learn tools and common language that will aid us in navigating the journey of faith and life that we travel together.

More information will be forthcoming in future issues of the Monarch. We hope you'll hold this time on your calendars, and look forward to seeing you there!

HISTORIC OLD SALEM NEWS

Unfortunately, we were not able to host our Annual Craft Fair/Flea Market the beginning of March as we have done for at least the past 25 years. We miss doing this very much and would hope that COVID disappears soon and we could make plans to again have this event. It is one of our major fundraisers with proceeds going directly to the preservation and maintenance of the Old Salem Church and surrounding cemetery located at 701 Ingleside Avenue. We are hoping to have our quarterly Board meeting on Wednesday evening, May 19th at 7 p.m. but cancelled our February meeting based on the current circumstances. Time and the "virus" will determine if we can again hold a Board meeting in May in person.

This request was sent by Ellen Draper, a member of St. Mark's Roman Catholic Parish, Catonsville. This article and the 'My Brother's Keeper" article on page 12 are related.

MEAT MADNESS

Dear Friends,

Our Meat Madness campaign is off to a great start! Donations have been pouring in and will be accepted at Chef Paolino's until April 15th. (You can view the flyer on the "Worship Announcements" emails.

In addition, in light of the recent sale of Dimitri's Restaurant, \$2,955 that were donated to our last casserole campaign with Dimitri's will be transferred to Chef Paolino's to be used for the purchase of trays of sliced meat and cheese.

I would like to send out a big "Thank You" to Loriann Hughes and her team of volunteers at Catonsville United Methodist Church who have volunteered to slice the meat for our Meat Madness project.

We are in need of a few volunteer drivers:

We need at least 2 volunteers to go to Chef Paolino's on Wednesday afternoons between 3:30 and 3:45 p.m., pick up the meat and cheese, and deliver it to Loriann Hughes at Catonsville United Methodist Church, 6 Melvin Avenue.

We need of a couple of volunteers to drive or serve as back-up drivers. These volunteers will pick up the trays of sliced meat and cheese from Catonsville United Methodist Church on Thursdays at Noon and deliver them to the Westside Men's Homeless Shelter, 5 Redwood Circle (on the grounds of Spring Grove Hospital Center) and/or My Brother's Keeper, 4207 Frederick Avenue.

Please email me if you can help out - ellengdraper@hotmail.com

Last, but not least, we are still collecting non-perishable food at Chef Paolino's and State Fare restaurants. If you are a pastor or outreach coordinator, please email me and let me know if you think we should start up a Saturday morning drive up, drop off food collection in April or if you think there won't be a need because your church will be resuming regular food collections or for some other reason. I would appreciate any thoughts, ideas, and suggestions anyone would like to share.

Many thanks, Ellen

LIVE STREAMING UPDATE

After several delays due to COVID shutdown and winter storm disruptions, the desk needed for the live streaming equipment has shipped and will arrive at Salem before Easter. The equipment will be installed probably the week after Easter and the Salem team, head by Joey Morgan, will be trained. At first, we will use the new cameras to record the pre-recorded worship service. Ultimately, the 11:00 a.m. service will be live-streamed for anyone who cannot come to in-person worship.

SALEM'S ANNUAL REPORT

We regret that the Communications Committee and Guardians of Eden reports were inadvertently omitted from early printings of Salem's Annual Report. These reports follow this paragraph. Printed copies of the Annual Report are available at Salem during office hours and on the weekends at worship.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Committee/Group Purpose

The Communications Committee's purpose is to work with the pastors, church committees and activities, and Synod to facilitate communications within Salem, to and from the Synod, and to the outside community. The committee is responsible for the *Monarch* and Salem's website (www.salem-catonsville.org) content, church photography and videography (including online worship services), and social media, including Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, Linked-in, and FaithStreet.

Membership

Guy Davis and Karen Amy are the committee's chairs. Other participants include Barbara Beem, Cheryl Balassone, Tom Brzezinski, Peggy Dell, Mary Carroll Mason, Elizabeth Fitch, Joey Morgan, Bethann Snyder, Sharon Stanton, Pastor Ed Whetstone, Ken Wolfram, Steve Kopp, and the pastoral staff. Membership is open to all.

Highlights of Work

The Committee published 8 issues of the Monarch as the stay-at-home order and twice weekly emails reduced the need for monthly issues and maintained Salem's website and social media, including adding an Instagram presence. The primary effort of 2020 was to record, produce, and post on YouTube, Facebook, and Salem's website weekly joint worship services with Salem and Faith Lutheran in Cockeysville (Pr. Micah Krey's church). These were recorded with a rotation of pastors at their home church. The services evolved during the year to include multiple cameras, virtual choirs, and improved sound. Additionally, the committee produces Pr. Dave's monthly Bible Study and posts it on online.

In conjunction with the Technology Committee, Communications also identified the requirements for live streaming of services, solicited and evaluated bids, selected Armbruster AV, and obtained Church Council and Congregational approval for installation of equipment for live streaming.

Issues

The only significant challenge for 2020 has been producing and uploading the weekly worship services for premiering on Sunday morning.

Goals for the Coming Year

The goals for 2021 is to oversee the installation of live-streaming equipment in the Nave and to begin live streaming of Sunday 11:00 services. The Committee will continue to publish the *Monarch*, provide photography and videography services, and maintain an active website and social media presence.

SALEM'S ANNUAL REPORTS (CONT'D)

Final Comments

The primary purpose of the Communications Committee is to facilitate written and electronic communications within Salem and to the outside community. The committee is here to help other committees and activities accomplish their goals.

Respectfully submitted, Guy Davis and Karen Amy

GUARDIANS OF EDEN ANNUAL REPORT

This year the GOE participated with Faith Lutheran Church to present two temple talks during the Season of Creation. It also encouraged committee members to view the film "The Story of Plastic", We have also purchased ground cover called liriope and some flowers for the property. These plants and bulbs will arrive in the spring. Finally, we made a donation to the Patapsco Heritage Greenway.

ADULT FORUM

Starting on Sunday, 11 April, Adult Forum will be using Robert Williamson, Jr.'s book, "The Forgotten Books of the Bible: Recovering the Five Scrolls for Today." The Five Scrolls or The Five Megillot are parts of the Ketuvim ("Writings"), the third major section of the Tanakh (Hebrew Bible). The Five Scrolls are the Song of Songs, the Book of Ruth, the Book of Lamentations, Ecclesiastes and the Book of Esther. These five relatively short biblical books are grouped together in Jewish tradition.

In the Jewish tradition, these five books perform a central liturgical function as the texts associated with each of the major holidays. The Song of Songs is read during Passover, Ruth during Shavuot, Lamentations on Tisha B'av, Ecclesiastes during Sukkot, and Esther during the celebration of Purim. Together with the five books of the Torah, these texts orient Jewish life and provide the language of the faith.

In the Christian tradition, by contrast, these books have largely been forgotten. Many churchgoers cannot even find them in their pew Bibles. They are rarely preached, come up only occasionally in the lectionary (Ruth twice in the 3-year cycle; the other books appear once in the 3-year cycle), and are not the subject of Bible studies. Thus, their influence on the lives and theology of many Christians is entirely negligible. But they deserve much more attention.

With the help of Mr. Williamson's book, Jim Kempton and Nick Mason will provide background on these scrolls and read passages from them. Additionally, we will use the texts to address contemporary themes of human sexuality, grief, immigration, suffering and protest, ethnic nationalism, and existential dread. Readers will also be encouraged to read the five scrolls on their own.

Please join us for Adult Forum at 9:30 am on Sunday via Zoom (see the biweekly Salem email for the conference number). Copies of the book are available from the church office or Jim Kempton. The book is also available from Amazon in Kindle format for those who wish to purchase this option. See you in Adult Forum!

SALEM STITCHCRAFTERS

No, it's not the opening credits of "The Brady Bunch." It's the Salem Stitchcrafters, Zooming and staying safe and connected during the pandemic. Here's the Top Ten countdown:

- 10. We still meet most every Thursday from 10 a.m. to noon. Some people stay the entire time, but "cameo appearances" are fine, too.
- 9. Our charitable projects continue to flourish, particularly with extra time on our hands. Among the items being knitted or crocheted these days are hat-and-scarf sets for the Seafarers' "Christmas at Sea" project, newborn hats for St. Agnes Hospital's NICU (our "Baby Grace" project), chemo hats for patients of St. Agnes' Cancer Institute, baby sweaters for Lutheran World Relief layette kits, and prayer shawls for those who need a warm hug.
- 8. We've gone international! Several years ago, an Iranian citizen visiting her daughter in Catonsville joined us; now staying with her son in Toronto, she chats with us every week. Another Stitchcrafter riding out the pandemic in Costa Rica connects with us. And because friends of friends are always welcome, Norma Davis' French "amie," now living in England, enjoys our company (and we enjoy hers) during her "tea time."
- 7. We miss catching up with Robin every week, but one Thursday, working from home on a snow day, she surprised us with a visit.
- 6. It's fun to check out everyone's home, listen to their clocks chime, and make friends with a variety of cats and dogs that, before this year, we knew only by reputation.
- 5. Because we meet every Thursday, we always know what day it is -- at least one day of the week.
- 4. "Show and tell" is a favorite time, and it serves as an incentive for us to complete our projects.
- 3. Pandemic hair can be challenging, to say the least, but some of us are sporting chic new looks.
- 2. Anyone who has ever been near the Wittenberg Room on a Thursday morning in the Before Times can attest to the fact that we seldom have nothing to say. And we continue in that spirit of sisterhood, sharing both our triumphs and anxieties, recommending books and movies, and sometimes, just enjoying the soothing sound of clicking needles and hooks at work.

And the Number 1 thing to know about Zooming with the Stitchcrafters: Everyone is invited to join us. To receive a Wednesday reminder with the Zoom link, send an email to barbarambeem@gmail.com (please note middle initial "m").

FLOWER STEWARDS

Volunteers continue to deliver Altar Flowers each week to someone at home following the Sunday 11 a.m. worship service. Altar Guild members prepare the flowers for delivery. If our assigned Flower Steward is not able to get the flowers on Sunday, they contact Robin who is just about always in the church office on Mondays from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and Stewards can call her to verify that they can pick up flowers on Monday. I thank everyone who has agreed to continue delivering the flowers and please remember to follow the guidelines for a safe delivery as we have indicated previously. Should anyone else wish to help with this ministry and serve as a substitute, please contact me at councilpresident@salem-catonsville.org or call me at home on 410-744-8724.

Thank you, Sharon Stanton

YARD SIGNS NOW AVAILABLE

Salem's Anti-Racism team is participating in this Synod wide activity. Please consider buying and displaying one of these signs to support this important work. These signs are available for \$20 at the church office.



A yard sign is a bold statement but can also be the beginning of a healing conversation with your neighbors...

A portion of the cost will support the production of educational and devotional videos to be released by the team in 2021. The cost per sign is \$20.

Salem has ordered 50 of these signs. They have arrived and are available thru the Salem Office.

A GRATEFUL THANK YOU TO EVERYONE FROM THE CHURCH COUNCIL PRESIDENT, SHARON STANTON

It's truly been a difficult year in many, many ways. Yes, a whole year has passed since the pandemic hit and took over our lives with wearing masks {definitely not a fashion statement}, social distancing, not seeing each other for months on end, washing our hands till they are red, never ending virtual classroom learning and let's not forgot the ever faithful zoom meetings. Sadly, I fear the end does not seem to have "a light at the end of the tunnel" yet either. But I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to all the dear people of Salem that have kept our wonderful church moving along and connected in so many ways over this past year.....our great Pastors, our wonderful church secretary, our talented musicians, our terrific tech crew, our treasurer, our financial secretary, our Church Council members, our finance committee, our altar guild, our flower stewards, our young adults, our youth group, all our committee chairs and their committee members and everyone else {not omitting anyone} who so willing gave, and still do give, their time and talents to make Salem such a super place to be a part of. I hope and pray that soon it will be time to get back together again and resume our Salem life in full swing.

May God bless and keep you safe and well until then.

SALEM SCHOLARSHIPS

Graduating in 2021? You might be eligible for a Salem Scholarship!

Salem's high school seniors--and their families--have many concerns about post-high school plans at the beginning of the new year, not the least of which is the cost of higher education. Do keep in mind the ministry of Salem's Scholarship program, which for over 20 years has assisted Salem members as they undertake the next step in their academic preparation. Stipends of up to \$750 per year for a total of four years cover only a modest part of the total higher education bill, but they can make an important difference. Salem scholarships recognize accomplishment in any of the following categories:

- academic achievement;
- Christian character, service, and citizenship;
- educational and career goals;
- and financial need.

They also take into account the differing ways in which students have applied their talents and interests, and recognize the variety of post-high school educational experiences that may be the best fit for students.

The deadline for 2021 applications is **April 15**. Salem's high school seniors will receive a personal letter inviting them to consider applying for the program, but it's not too early to learn about the program. If you want to learn more, a brochure and application form are available from the church office.

2021 MARNI MCNICHOL SCHOLARSHIP

It is with pleasure I am contacting you that the 2021 Marni McNichol Scholarship application period is now open.

The Amystrong Foundation is partnering with the McNichol family to award Maryland high school seniors with a scholarship, in honor of Marni McNichol.

Submission deadline is **Friday April 16, 2021**. Recipient(s) will be notified in early May. Full submissions include official transcripts from schools and must be received before prizes are awarded.

Last year we granted 5 graduating seniors \$20,000 and we hope to do so again this year!

For more information about the lovely Marni McNichol and the scholarship fund to honor her, check out our website http://www.amystrong.org/scholarship.html

Please feel free to share this information with coworkers, family, friends, local churches etc. We are trying to get the word out to as many eligible applicants as possible.

Thank you,

Meghan McNichol-Tress

MeghanM115@gmail.com

FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM

Salem now has an Instagram account. Follow us at salemlutheranchurchcatonsville. Lizzy Fitch is our Instagram lead. Pastor Sarah and Guy Davis will contribute. Keep up to date on what's going on at Salem.



SHARING OUR ABUNDANCE PROPOSAL

During our January Council meeting, Pastor Dave shared a proposal to expend \$200,000 of Salem's Seasonal Reserve Fund, which hd a \$275,000 balance at the beginning of 2021. The \$200,000 would be equally divided between the Catonsville Emergency Assistance {CEA} and the North Avenue Mission {NAM}. Salem has a long history of supporting CEA since its inception in the mid-1980's. As CEA has grown in its outreach over the years, the current building where it "resides" at 25 Bloomsbury Avenue in Catonsville is totally inadequate to house it. Some of you may have noticed that currently Salem is storing some of their non-perishable food donations in a Sunday school classroom downstairs. Our gift of \$100,000 to CEA would be a huge help for them to purchase a building, along the Catonsville corridor where they could house their food operation on just one floor. CEA is actively seeking, through the help of a broker, a new building and are hoping to be able to locate one and set up operations soon.

The NAM was begun in 2020 under the leadership of Vicar Atticus Zavaletta and is providing needed support to the homeless community located in the Station North area of Baltimore. The surrounding neighbors have openly welcomed this community. NAM is supported by the Delaware-Maryland Synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and other Synod congregations. It is making a positive difference in the lives of unhoused persons by providing shelter, food, access to health resources and spiritual care. The Mission is hoping to obtain a base of operations building where it can continue its outreach to the community in need by providing restrooms, showers, a mailing address for the homeless members and a place to safely store their materials, along with being able to worship indoors, especially in inclement weather. The members currently sponsor a "Farm to Stoop" free market which provides PPE, groceries, produce, clothing, warm meals, baked goods, medical and housing referrals and has been supported by a number of outside organizations every week since May 2020. Looking towards their future, they would hope to hire a social worker who could work with the members to help with addiction counseling, securing medical resources and job training. Our gift of \$100,000 would greatly enable this Mission to continue its much needed support of this community at Station North.

It is important to note that the Delaware-Maryland Synod is the fiduciary agent for the North Avenue Mission which means the Synod handles all of the monies. Also, the North Avenue Mission is an officially designated Synodically Authorized Worshiping Community {SWAC}. If the North Avenue Mission were to close, the Synod would redirect our monies given to other congregations and missions doing similar work.

{NOTE: Pastor Dave met with Vicar Atticus on February 3rd to see firsthand at its location how this mission functions and shared with Council in February all the wonderful things he had seen and heard.}

Therefore, at its February Council meeting, members approved the gift of \$100,000 to be used by CEA in their search to acquire a new building along the Catonsville corridor. Council also approved the unrestricted donation of \$100,000 to the North Avenue Mission to continue Vicar Atticus' work there.

Our next step in Sharing our Abundance was a letter mailed in February to the congregation, along with ballots for each voting Salem member that explained how we came to have this abundance of funds to expend, what other projects we have supported in past years, and where and why these two nonprofit organizations were decided upon as the recipients. A deadline for your ballot returns was 3/26/2021. As of 3/24/2021, the church office has had 227 ballots returned with 225 YES votes; 2 NO votes.

See page 17 for some of the comments written on the ballots!

SUPPORTING WESTSIDE MEN'S SHELTER AND MY BROTHER'S KEEPER

This is a community project sponsored by Catonsville United Methodist Church, Catonsville Presbyterian Church, Christian Temple, Grace AME, St. Mark Parish, New Hope Community and the Knights of Columbus Patapsco Council No. 1960. Trays of sliced meat and cheese will be sent to the Westside Men's Shelter and My Brother's Keeper, with food being provided by community monetary donations to Chef Paolino's Restaurant. The community is asked to mail in \$15 donations to Chef Paolino's, located at 726 Frederick Road, Catonsville, MD 21228, indicating "MEAT MADNESS" in the memo line of the checks. Checks are the only form of payments accepted now through April 15th. The restaurant will then purchase fully cooked ham, turkey, chicken, and cheese. Two volunteers are needed to pick up the meat and cheese from Chef Paolino's between 3:30 and 3:45 p.m. on Wednesdays and deliver it to Ms. Loriann Hughes in the kitchen at the Catonsville Methodist Church located on Melvin Avenue, where it will be sliced and packaged by volunteers there. Then on Thursday afternoons at noon, after the meat and cheese is sliced and packaged, several volunteers will be needed to pick up the trays of food and deliver them to the two locations. The Westside Men's Homeless Shelter is located at 5 Redwood Circle (on the grounds of Spring Grove Hospital Center and My Brother's Keeper, is located at 4207 Frederick Avenue. Ellen Draper who has arranged food donation collections throughout the summer/fall of last year is coordinating this effort and should you wish to volunteer for either the pickup from Chef Paolino's/delivery to Catonsville Methodist Church or deliver from Catonsville Methodist Church to the two organizations, please contact Ellen Draper at ellengdraper@hotmail.com or 410-788-9415.

Ellen is a member of St. Marks Parish and began the food collections in the early months of 2020 from a request by her Pastor to head the Social Justice Committee there. She began the Friday/Saturday food donation/delivery at the Knights of Columbus and Presbyterian Church in conjunction with Bonnie Harry at CEA. And it was off and rolling after that with other community churches, including Salem, joining in to help sponsor the food donations and deliveries to CEA and Grace AME food pantries. The Dimitris casserole program and Chef Paolino's food prep grew out of this summer/fall program to continue through the wintertime to help the Men's Shelter and My Brother's Keeper. With the hope that churches will be reopening fully soon as the vaccines become more widely available and gotten, Ellen is hoping to again join in an outreach project with all the community churches who have been involved previously and maybe with some others joining in too.

PRAYERS

God of liberation, we ask for the wisdom of our foremothers: the persistence of Rizpah, the boldness of the Canaanite mama, the courage of Deborah, the shrewdness of Tamar, the compassionate heart of Tabitha. We ask that the strength of our ancestor guide us, so that we, too, may be healers and co-creators and life-giving agents of your kin-dom.

-Kat Armas

Come, Lord, come to us.
Enter our darkness with your light,
Fill our emptiness with your presence,
Come refresh, restore, renew us.
In our sadness, come as joy,
In our troubles, come as peace,
In our fearfulness, come as hope,
In our darkness, come as light,
In our frailty, come as strength,
In our loneliness come as love,
Come, refresh, restore, renew us.

- David Adam

ORDER YOUR FAIR TRADE TEA AND CHOCOLATE HERE!

There's plenty of time for your Easter orders!

Please email me to order from our gourmet inventory of tea and chocolate. I will fill your order within a day or three, let you know it's ready, and leave it in the church office. You may leave a check or cash at the office when you pick up your order.

Note that we are not stocking coffees at present, as sales are slow with our altered worship patterns and coffee reaches its "best by _____" date so much sooner than tea or chocolate.

My email address is edward-victoria@verizonnet.

We have the flowing flavors available:

Large Chocolate Bars-\$3

White Chocolate & Strawberries Dark Chocolate & Lemon & Ginger Dark Chocolate with Caramel Dark Chocolate & Almond Crunch Dark Chocolate & Pink Himalayan Salt Dark Chocolate & Mint Crisp Dark Chocolate, Hazelnut Truffle Dark Chocolate & Gingerbead Crisp Dark Chocolate & Toffee, Sea Salt Dark Chocolate & Raspberries

Tea- \$3

Black Tea Chamomile **English Breakfast English Breakfast Decaf** Earl Grey Green Tea Jasmine Green Rooibos Chai Vanilla Rooibos



As you surely know, the effect of the global pandemic has been much more devastating in developing countries than for the rest of the world. Your support now makes a greater difference than ever to small scale farmers, like the tea and cocoa farmers pictured here. The whole village will benefit.

I'll be glad to hear from you!

85% Very Dark Chocolate

Pastor Whetstone

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 mobilefriendly 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 any of our four networks connections throughout the building.

The password for all connections is **SalemChurch**. If you have any questions about our network please contact Technology Committee Chairperson, Steve Kopp, at salemtech@salem-catonsville.org.

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."

Nicholas James Vasold February 6, 2021

Peyton Pearce Parks March 14, 2021

AT THE GRAVE

"For the assurance and hope of our faith and for the saints whom you have received into your eternal joy, we thank you, Heavenly Father."

Kenneth Phillips*

February 23, 2021

COMMITTEE CHAIRS! VOUCHERS NOW AVAILABLE ON THE WEB

Salem vouchers for reimbursement for expenses are now available on Salem's website www.salem-catonsville.org. The vouchers can be printed out, then signed by the appropriate Committee Chair and submitted to our Treasurer, Tom Vasold. Do not forget to attach the receipt!

ATTENDANCE REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2021

		Sunday Service					
	Saturday Evening	First	Second	Other	Specify	Weekly* Total	
February 6/7	14	13	8 (snow)	205	Online	240	
February 13/14	Cancelled	Can.	16	166	Online	182	
February 20/21	13	14	28	178	Online	233	
February 28	12	17	29	177 Online		235	
Ash Wednesday			32/In Person	116	Online	148	
TOTALS	39	44	113	842		1038	

^{*}Week reflects Saturday through Friday

Salem Youth Group Mulch Sale 2021 Order Form

NAME:						
					_	
E-MAIL:						
PHONE (Sat. Mor	ning)					
Please indicate num	ber of bags below					
Regular Hard- wood shred- ded 2 cu, ft.	vood shred- ordering 1-15 bags led delivered		\$3.75 per bag When ordering 16 or more deliv- ered		\$3.50 per bag if picked up	
Number or- dered						
Black colored hardwood shredded 2 cu.ft.	\$4.50 per bag when ordering 1-15 bags delivered		\$4.25 per bag When ordering 16 or more deliv- ered		\$4.00 per bag if picked up	
Number or- dered						
Choose Delivery Da	te: Saturday April 1	0th		Saturday A	April 17	7th
Check here	e to request spreadin	g servi	ces. Will cal	ll to discuss	details	and charges.
Please write any de	livery instructions or	ı back o	of form			
To be completed by	office					
Total due	deposit	Balan	ce due	Date Deliv	ered	Date paid



just a note 3/1/2021

We are so blessed Salim is a loarn, laving carring church family.

I think it is wording that we can share our monies. I support sharing with CEM and NAM.

I've any been a member since may 2019. and see good things happening here. Lod is at work in Salim.

Blessings marginal wache

SHARING OUR ABUNDANCE RESPONSES

Perfect! Nonline Jen.

great idea! she are so blessed to be able to share.

Hurray! Wonderful plan!

Inspire: Ng!

And just what Salam should be modeling. Thank you!

Yay!

So Excited about this!!

it IS an "investment", in people and hope,

exactly what the church should be doing with its material assets!. Well done.

Wonderful!

PARISH LEADERS

Altar Guild: Mary Krebs

Archive Committee: Judy LeGath Arts Committee: Charlotte Brooks

Book Group: Guy Davis, Linda Wayland

Child Protection Committee: Linda Fleischer

Children's Ministry Committee: Eileen Merriman

Christian Fellowship Committee: Darla Sando, Pam Wilsey

Communications Committee: Guy Davis

Evangelism Committee: Edie Hahn

Finance Committee: Sally Kopp, Steve Kopp 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 Mutual Ministry (Pastor Garrett Krey): Lisa Yerkey

Nursery Committee: Lois Grempler Personnel Committee: Scott Graham

Prayer Tree Coordinators: Karen Amy, Barbara Beem

Property: Rusty Schaefer Salem Players: Lisa Yerkey

Scholarship: Ed Orser

Social Ministry: Mary Kay Willing

Stewardship Committee: Irene Amoros

Technology Support

Committee: Lisa Yerkey, Steve Kopp

Ushers: Paul Krabitz

Youth Ministry Committee: Sara Toscano

Worship Life: Jane Stolte





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 Barbara Beem or Karen Amy via telephone at 410 382-4379 [Barbara] or 410 215-4279 [Karen] or via email at prayertree@salemcatonsville.org

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

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pastorsarah@salem-catonsville.org

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phrogdiva@verizon.net

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Worship Technology Director: Joey Morgan

Office Manager: Robin Schaefer robinschaefer@salem-catonsville.org

Sextons: Lirije Alaj, Letty Monahan

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councilpresident@Salem-catonsville.org

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(Pro-tem RobinSchaefer@Salem-Catonsville.org)

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guyddavisphd@gmail.com

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David Paton
Sharon Schueler
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Ken Wolfram

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Peggy Dell Steve Kopp

Mary Carroll-Mason

Joey Morgan Sharon Stanton Bethann Snyder Ed Whetstone Ken Wolfram **Contributing Photographers**

Guy Davis

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May 2021

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



905 Frederick Road Catonsville, MD 21228-4517 (410) 747-0720 office@salem-catonsville.org Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church strives to be a Christcentered, caring community experiencing God's grace and sharing God's goodness with all people.

We are on the Web!

www.salem-catonsville.org



www.facebook.com/salemlutheranchurch.catonsville





SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

905 Frederick Rd. Catonsville, MD 21228-4517

Change Service Requested **TIME VALUE**