



# THE MONARCH

## REFORMATION LEADS TO TRANSFORMATION

The Reformations of 16<sup>th</sup> century Europe changed everything. Many Christians stopped seeing their relationship with God based on their own goodness, their own merit, and good works. Instead, rediscovering the Good News of the Apostle Paul in his New Testament Letters, they accepted that through God's free gift of grace in Christ Jesus they had been saved. They were objects of God's love and mercy. This reformation leads to transformation of our very lives. Instead of striving to make ourselves right with God, now Christians can be assured of salvation through the death and resurrection of Jesus. Now instead of anxious striving we respond to God's grace through lives of faith, seeking to bear the fruit of the Spirit – love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. (Galatians 5: 22) See you on **Saturday/Sunday, October 30/31** as we celebrate together the treasure of transformation!

Pastor Dave



*A Christian does nothing but receive; he must however, spend a lifetime dealing with this treasure.*

*Martin Luther*

### Inside This Issue:

ULS President	2
Martin Luther and the Bubonic Plague	3
Confirmands	4
Congregational Council Updates	5
Live at 905!/ Adult Forum	6
Guardians of Eden	7
Salem Renovations	8
Book Group/Salem Players	9
Simon's Baptism/International Students	10
God's Work Our Hands	11
Salem Marketplace	12
Scheduling at Salem	13
Historical Old Salem	14
Pastor Whetstone's 50th Anniversary	15
The Treasure of Darkness	16
The Breath of God	17
Attendance and Prayers	18
Parish Leadership	19
	20-21
	22-23

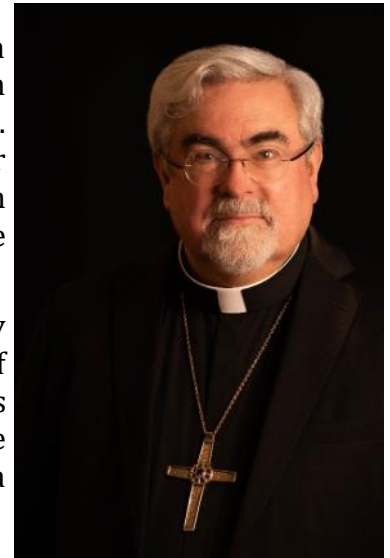
## UNITED LUTHERAN SEMINARY PRESIDENT TO VISIT SALEM

Rev. Dr. R. Guy Erwin, President of United Lutheran Seminary, will visit Salem on **Sunday, October 3**, to preach at both services and lead Adult Forum to share information of the seminary.

In August 2020 Dr. Erwin was appointed President of United Lutheran Seminary and Ministerium of Pennsylvania Chair and Professor of Reformation Studies. He was the ELCA's first gay, partnered bishop and the first openly gay male to serve in that office in any of the churches of the Lutheran World Federation. As an enrolled member of the Osage Nation, on whose reservation he was born in Oklahoma, he was also the first Native American bishop in the ELCA.

During the Reformation anniversary year, in 2017, Dr. Erwin was in high demand as a teacher and speaker and gave 30 lectures and presentations in the United States and Germany in addition to his normal duties as bishop. Through the Lutheran World Federation and his work with the Faith & Order Commission of the World Council of Churches, Dr. Erwin maintains an extensive set of international connections, particularly in Germany and the Nordic countries.

Dr. Erwin received a Fulbright grant for two years of study at the University of Tübingen in Germany, and an IREX grant for a year at the University of Leipzig. His doctoral dissertation was on the late medieval roots of Luther's theology of the cross and his subsequent scholarly work has focused on the religious culture of Lutheranism, particularly its worship and piety, with a special interest in the visual arts and architecture.



## FAMILIAR VOICES PROVIDE SUNDAY WORSHIP MUSIC

If you have attended Salem's Saturday worship in person or online, you probably recognized familiar faces and voices from the Salem-Faith Virtual Choir of our pre-recorded worship services. Sid Meier explains "We're in the process of building a new singing group for the Saturday Contemporary service." Right now, the service usually has Sid Meier on keyboards, Meg LeDuc playing guitar, and Susan Meier joining us in singing. Sid is trying out some new music, some classic songs, and even a few fun selections from the ELW. They begin each service with a brief preview of the songs they'll be singing. Sid continues, "Over time we hope to expand the group with additional singers and instruments, but for now our little 'trio' is enjoying the chance to worship and make music with our friends at Salem."

As Meg puts it, "I am enjoying the opportunity to help lead the music at Salem's contemporary service. It has been a rewarding experience and I'm grateful for all the opportunities that have developed from Faith and Salem's partnership."

You can view recordings of the Saturday services on Salem's [YouTube](#), [Facebook](#), and web page ([www.salem-catonville.org](http://www.salem-catonville.org)). You can also view selections of their music on the links below:

[Take My Life](#)  
[No Matter What](#)  
[All Are Welcome](#)  
[Goodness of God](#)





## Martin Luther, writing during the Bubonic plague of the 1500's:

"I shall ask God mercifully to protect us. Then I will fumigate, purify the air, administer medicine, and take medicine. I shall avoid places and persons where my presence is not needed in order to not become contaminated, and thus perchance inflict and pollute others, and so cause their death as a result of my negligence. If God should wish to take me, he will surely find me. But, I have done what he has expected of me, and so I am not responsible for either my own death or the death of others. If my neighbor needs me, however, I shall not avoid place or person, but will go freely. This is a God-fearing faith because it is neither brash nor foolhardy, and does not tempt God." - Martin Luther



## CONFIRMANDS AFFIRM BAPTISM DURING SPECIAL SERVICE

During a special afternoon service on Sunday, September 26, seven Salem confirmands affirmed their baptismal faith in the Rite of Confirmation: Abigail Bass, Trinity Blevins, Matthew Fitch, Jacob Gundlach, Maggie Kubofcik, Anna Lassen, and Samantha Shepherd. Salem also welcomed Logan Kahatapitiya and Gavin Smith who are beginning their own faith journey and acknowledged Veronica Merriman, Melissa Miller, and Lily Stysley who are continuing their faith journey into their second year.

As part of Confirmation, each confirmand writes their own statement of faith. The following are short extracts of their more complete journeys of faith:

**Abigail Bass:** “My beliefs have fluctuated a lot over the past few years, but going through confirmation has helped me realize that it is okay to not be sure of some things, and it has helped me grow and expand my faith even further.”

**Trinity Blevins:** “My faith has brought me great friends and a loving family. Being a member/disciple of the church has helped me with my faith journey since it has helped me understand and figure out what God is trying to tell me.”

**Matthew Fitch:** “My deepest belief about God is that He loves everyone no matter what and that everyone is a beloved child of God. I believe that God loves everyone no matter their sexuality, gender identity, or lack thereof. I think God intends for me to stand up for the rights of minorities and groups of people that have been oppressed.”

**Maggie Kubofcik:** “I am choosing to be confirmed not just because my mom wants me to be but because when I get confirmed I will renew my baptismal promises and continue to live/follow a strong community all believing in our Heavenly Father.”

**Anna Lassen:** “Back when I was about to do confirmation, I thought I knew everything by knowing about what happened to Jesus during church. When I started confirmation, I learned that we took the Bible lessons into chunks, and we went deeper into the text, telling everyone what we thought and what we believed. I never really thought about when Jesus had hard times, but when we took a chapter and lesson in the Bible, I started to think.”

(continued)



---

## CONFIRMANDS (cont.)

**Jacob Gundlach:** “My faith affects my life because I sometimes talk about or demonstrate it, and understanding my faith makes me feel more comfortable when I act in my faith. For example, in the summer of 2021, I went to Philmont and led daily devotions and worship for my group. My understanding of my faith helped me to be our group’s chaplain in a more comfortable way.”

**Samantha Shepherd:** “During my life, I believe that God is omnipresent because when I am upset or angry, wherever I am I know I can count on God being there with me. I believe deeply that God has a plan for me. When I am on a rough path, I know that God has a plan and I just have to get through the rough path.”

Salem is proud of our Confirmands and rejoices with them and their families as they affirm their baptismal faith.

---

## CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATES

A new Church Council began in person meetings on Tuesday evening, September 21, with five (5) new members. They are Becky Bass, Debra Brohawn, Tom Brzezinski, and Nick Mason, serving a three year term, and Preston Shepherd, who will complete the last year of Marleigh Toscano’s term. Thank you for volunteering.

Our big thank you ’s to Milt Dorsch, Sharon Schueler, Sharon Stanton, and Ken Wolfram, who ended their three year term, and to Marleigh for serving two years. We wish the very best to Marleigh as she is studying now at Wagner College on Staten Island in NYC. A special thanks to Sharon Stanton and Sharon Schueler, for serving two consecutive years as President and Vice President of Council respectively.

In addition to the new members indicated, returning members are Morrinah Egharevba, Ryan Fredriksson, Bob Hahn, Tina Hall, Norma Hensler-Davis, Denise Morris, and David Paton. Ryan Fredriksson was elected as the new Council President and Denise Morris was elected as Vice President.

Best wishes to all the Council as they serve as leaders of Salem’s congregation.



## LIVE AT 905; IT'S SUNDAY MORNINGS! JOIN THE FUN!

Eileen Merriman, along with Pastor Sarah, kicked off Rally Day on Sunday, September 19 in Bethany Hall. **"RECONNECTING"** is our theme this year. Pastor Sarah led the children, who ranged from age 3 through confirmands, in a rousing rendition of the *Hippo Song* which really livened up the opening worship. We were so excited to welcome back close to 20 children, of course masked (as were the teachers), to a new year of being able to come together. Eileen shared a wonderful icebreaker game, with each student taking two slips of paper containing a colored dot on each slip indicating a specific topic for them to share some information about themselves, e.g. name, what school they attended, what grade they were in, what is their favorite food/activity/something about themselves. (The majority love pizza!)

Following the opening worship, our younger friends in pre-kindergarten and kindergarten went with their teachers, Ms. Zoe Dell and Mrs. Peggy Dell, to their own classroom. (Please note we have purchased an air purifier for the PK room as an added level of safety.) The children designed their own puzzle piece as part of the "RECONNECTING" theme. All the pieces will be hung in the stairwell leading downstairs to Bethany Hall.

The confirmands headed to the youth room with Pastor Sarah and the remaining children went to stations set up with their own bag of supplies to decorate their own puzzle piece to hang in the stairwell wall. What beautiful creations all the children, including the confirmands, made with their puzzle pieces. We can hardly wait to share them with the congregation.

Please know that all teachers and participants are required to wear a mask regardless of vaccination status. As the children participate in activities, our leaders will do their best to minimize sharing of materials to ensure that they maintain a safe amount of distance between each other.

As we continue through the next several months, we will be sharing stories with the children that highlight our "RECONNECTING" theme. Just to name a few that include reconnecting with each other and reconnecting with God are stories about The Greatest Commandment, Naomi and Ruth, The Disciples, Adam and Eve, The Lord's Prayer, God's Love is Forever, Angels Visit and Jesus is Born. Crafts, science projects, and games will be used to further develop the stories with the children.

Please consider signing up to lead an activity station for the children on Sunday mornings. There are many ideas and resources available online at the Sparkhouse curriculum pages. Your help and support of our Sunday school program is essential. Let Eileen Merriman know you are willing to give of your time and talent by emailing her at [esavage109@yahoo.com](mailto:esavage109@yahoo.com).

**A reminder to our high school youth in grades 9 through 12** to join Pastor Sarah in the downstairs youth room for their "Second Sundays with Pastor Sarah" next time on **Sunday, October 10 at 9:30 a.m.** Come join the lively discussions, as well as having fellowship time with each other. Questions and/or concerns, please contact Pastor Sarah.





## ADULT FORUM – FALL 2021

Welcome (or welcome back) to Adult Forum. October begins with a special lecture by Rev. Dr. R. Guy Erwin, President of the United Lutheran Seminary. In following weeks, we will resume our series on *Lost Christianities* by Bart D. Ehrman and led by Carl Engelbrecht.

*Lost Christianities* - In the first three hundred or so years after Christ, the beliefs of “Christians” varied greatly. There was no set canon, and no universally-accepted creeds. Many early “Christian” theologies were developed in parallel by very different people with very different theological backgrounds, and each group had their own “scriptures” to support their viewpoints. Ultimately, one group won out, selected the scriptures, which became our New Testament, and suppressed and destroyed the rest. In this class, we will use Bart D. Ehrman’s book *Lost Christianities* to guide us through a brief study of some of the beliefs and “scriptures” which were not included in our canon, and also look at the process through which the canon was formed. (Please note that each topic is distinct enough that missing a Sunday is not an issue.)

October Schedule:

- October 3** What’s Happening at United Lutheran Seminary (ULS), presented by Rev. Dr. R. Guy Erwin, President of ULS; Rev. Dr. Erwin will also be our guest preacher on that day.
- October 10** Session 2: Some early Christian “Heresies” (Chapter 5 of *Lost Christianities*); Marcionites, Ebionites, and the Arians, and their scriptures.
- October 17** Session 3: Gnosticism and the Gnostic Scriptures (Chapter 6 of *Lost Christianities*) and some selected readings from “The Gnostic Gospels” by Elaine Pagels.
- October 24** Session 4: Proto-Orthodox Christianity (Chapter 7 of *Lost Christianities*).
- October 31** Session 5: Formation of the Canon / “The Invention of Scripture” (Chapter 11 of *Lost Christianities*) and a brief look at the Nicene and Athanasian Creeds

SESSIONS ARE BEING HELD IN Reformation Hall at **9:30 a.m.** We look forward to seeing you there. Books can be made available by contacting Jim Kempton.



## GUARDIANS OF EDEN

The Guardians of Eden are having a blanket drive to benefit the North Avenue Mission. We are requesting that all blankets be clean and in good condition. They may be left in the box in the Narthex. The drive will run until the **Sunday** after Marketplace, **November 7**.

Also, GOE is participating in Marketplace again this year. We are having a raffle of a Maryland basket filled with items from Maryland.

Included will be Maryland coffee, wines, gift certificates, and other items of interest. All monies will be donated to Marketplace and its recipients.

Tickets will be sold between services and are priced at \$1 each or 6 tickets for \$5. Tickets will be available in the Narthex on most Sundays between services and on some Saturdays. They are also available by contacting Norma Hensler-Davis at [henslerdavis@gmail.com](mailto:henslerdavis@gmail.com).



## SALEM IN THE COMMUNITY





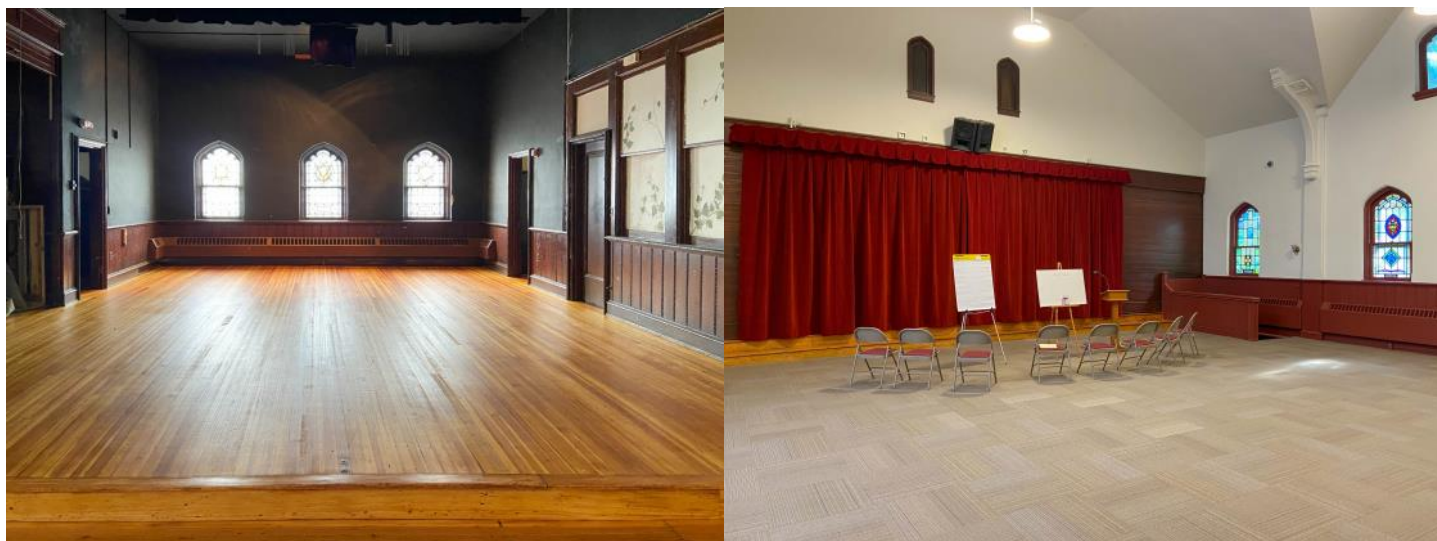
## REFORMATION HALL & RESTROOM RENOVATIONS, AMEN, THEY ARE DONE!

The Reformation Hall and downstairs restrooms are now complete. The project consisted of three major areas in Reformation Hall including lighting, painting, and carpet replacement. The four overhead lights were replaced by Hamel Brothers Remodeling and the amazing difference in the lighting now is incredible. We are saving a significant amount of energy now with just the four lights as compared to the previous five lights which consumed a huge amount of watts, but produced less usable light. Tabler's Painting prepared the plaster surfaces and wood trim prior to painting with a color scheme matching the Nave. The stage floor was refinished before the new carpet was installed by ABC Flooring. On your next visit to Salem, definitely "stick your head" in the door and check out the beautiful, newly renovated Reformation Hall. It's incredible. A job well done!

The downstairs restrooms received a total makeover too, with the work being completed by Catonsville Plumbing Services, John Pfluger with fresh paint, and floors being cleaned and waxed by Duane Linsenhardt and Robin Schaefer. The new granite counter tops are beautiful in both the women's and men's restrooms. And all the toilets work now!

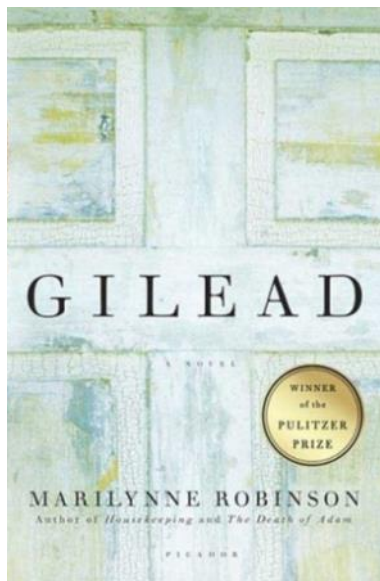
We extend our sincere thanks to all who have planned, worked on, and supported both of these projects. To name a few – Jim Kruger, Duane Linsenhardt, Matt Medicus, Paul Timmel, Robin and Rusty Schaefer, Salem Players, Char Brooks, and to Pastor Dave for handling the carpeting arrangements and signing up Tabler Painting Services. (Please note: no one's name was omitted on purpose; consequently, apologies and many thanks are extended to others who may have worked on these projects.)

AND, many thanks to all who so faithfully contribute to the RSVP (Renew Sustain Venture Proclaim) fund to keep our building up-to-date. These renovation projects are your contributions/support at work.



## SALEM BOOK GROUP WILL DISCUSS *GILEAD*

The Salem Book Group regularly meets at **7:30 p.m.** on the **second Monday** of each month in the Upper Room. On September 13, the group met via Zoom to discuss *The Dutch House* by Ann Patchett. In the future, depending on the COVID situation and the comfort of the members, meetings may continue with ZOOM or be in-person. Please contact Guy Davis ([guyddavisphd@gmail.com](mailto:guyddavisphd@gmail.com)) to check on meeting status. The group is open to all readers interested in meeting and discussing books. Books discussed range from novels, nonfiction, and biographies, short stories, or poetry.



*Gilead*, by Marilynne Robinson, (**October 55**) is a beautifully written novel set in 1956 when John Ames, a third-generation congregational minister, has decided to write a long, memory-filled letter to his seven-year-old son. At seventy-six years, this reflective man has been diagnosed with angina pectoris and doesn't have very long to live. John wants to pass on the faith that has filled his life with meaning, the love that has sprung from his second marriage to a serious young woman, and the forgiveness that has been a challenge to several generations in his family.

2021-22 schedule so far:

**October 11**  
**November 8**  
**January 10**

*Gilead* by Marilynne Robinson  
*Native: Identity, Belonging and Rediscovering God* by Kaitlin B. Curtice  
*Katharina: Deliverance* by Margaret Skea



## SALEM PLAYERS ANNOUNCES ITS FALL PRODUCTION

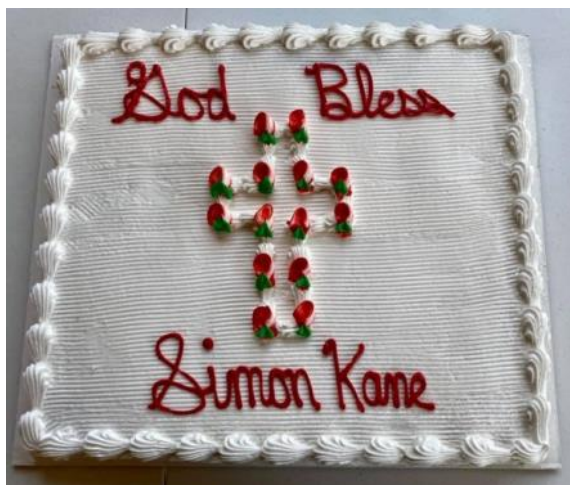
**November 12,13,14,18, 19, 20**

Salem Players is in preparation for a new production. *Radio Plays* will have five shows over two weekends. There will be evening shows on **Friday, November 12** and **November 19**; **Saturday, November 13** and **November 20** with a curtain time of **7 p.m.** There will be a **2 p.m.** Matinee on **Sunday, November 14**. *Radio Plays* is a one-set show that takes place in a 1940's Radio Studio and will showcase three short productions of original radio scripts. The shows that will be highlighted are *The Lone Ranger*, *A Mystery*, and *Fathers Knows Best*, a comedy. There will be a sound effects table and incidental music. The original shows had commercials, and these will be replaced with commercials from local companies. Local companies will receive live commercials in the shows and listings in the show's booklet. If you would like to sponsor a commercial or know of a company that would, please contact Anita Lane at 443-707-9842 or [phrogdiva@verizon.net](mailto:phrogdiva@verizon.net). Proceeds from the ads will benefit Catonsville Emergency Assistance and Lutheran World Relief Disaster Relief. There will be eleven actors playing various roles throughout the production. The cast includes several Salem members: Sara & Tim Toscano, Fran Huber, Sue O'Connor, and Guy Davis; Assistant Director/Commercial Voice Nick Mason; and Director Anita Lane. Ticket prices and purchase options will be available later in October and will be listed in the weekly bulletin.



## PASTOR DAVE BAPTIZES HIS GRANDSON, SIMON

On September 19, Pastor Dave Asendorf baptized his grandson Simon Kane Berger in Pontiac, IL. Simon is the son of Pr. Amy Asendorf Berger and Pr. Mathew Berger. The baptism took place in a park by the Vermilion River. Also attending from Salem were Nancy Asendorf and Christy Hensler-Davis, Simon's God Mother.



## VOLUNTEERS FOR UMBC INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Earl and Mary Ann Ruley have been helping out with international students at UMBC. They are gearing up for some post-pandemic activities with them. Volunteers are always needed to provide rides to activities and participate. In the past students have been welcomed to join volunteer families for Thanksgiving or other holiday dinners. They love the chance to visit in the homes of Americans. Of course, the pandemic complicates this greatly.

Volunteers must be vaccinated per UMBC regulations. All the students are vaccinated and the campus also has a mask mandate, and the students are great about wearing masks in cars. As an example activity, the Ruley's took a group hiking at the Patapsco/Avalon park one afternoon. They also hope to bring at least one South Indian student to church with us soon.

Eventually the Ruley's will be hosting a group for a gathering at their house once their young grandchildren are able to be vaccinated. They can put you in touch with the International Students International staff worker for UMBC, Nancy Parlette, if you want more details.



## GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS 9.11.21

Many thanks to ALL who contributed in any way to the success of this year's God's Work Our Hands (GWOH) events of Saturday, September 11, 2021. We had small groups gathered at Salem in the Katie Luther Room (letter writing to homebound or away from home parishioners), Bethany Hall (Youth Group doing bags for the Homeless, and a small group making up back packs for Lutheran World Relief Services), the Narthex (baskets for First Responders in recognition of 9/11), the lawn (the "Yarn In"—or "Out" in this case!), and around Catonsville at CEA and making trips to deliver baskets to the First Responders at the Fire and Police Departments. Flowers in a red, white and blue arrangement were sent to St. Agnes Emergency Room staff in remembrance of 9/11 as well.

Workers of the day ranged from a little tyke who happily carried cardboard from the Youth Group to the recycling bin, to a nonagenarian who, in conjunction with the groups assembled here at Salem, wrote letters from home to others who are homebound! The Stitch Crafters and Prayer Shawl Groups joined forces to knit and crochet hat and scarf sets for Christmas for the Seafarers - and they are well on their way to exceeding their goal of 300 sets! The Youth Group made 130 bags for the Homeless with supplies and snacks which our parishioners will distribute. Several people from the Refugee Committee used the day to find storage for items already donated for a family. And many snacks and supplies were donated by people unable to participate on Saturday.

So thank you, "Salem", for strengthening our Church Community through this participation in the community at large!





## MARKETPLACE IS COMING ON NOVEMBER 6, 2021!

Despite COVID, another great Marketplace is shaping up for **Saturday, November 6, 2021**. We have decided we will not serve food or beverages this year, in anticipation that indoor masking may still be required at the time of Marketplace. The Bake Table will still be held but for carry-out only. The Marketplace opens at **10 a.m. and ends at 2 p.m.** All of the proceeds will be given to the following (please see last month's article for details about each charity):

[North Avenue Mission](#)

[Hearing and Speech Agency](#)

[Trees for the Future](#)

You can start bringing in your donation items on **October 9**. Please leave donations for the White Elephant and Books downstairs in the first Sunday School room. Please mark book boxes clearly!

Costume jewelry donations can be given to Treen Null or left at the church office. Please place necklaces individually in ziplock bags to prevent tangling.

Let Mary Krebs (410-788-6580) know if you will be bringing items for the bake table. You can drop those items off on the morning of Marketplace or the day before.

In addition to Stitchcrafters, we would love to have more crafters selling their creations this year! So far we have Trish and Anna Morgan selling a variety of handcrafted items including key chains, cat toys, soaps, zippered pouches, and bowl buddies. Julia Graham will be selling alcohol ink painted Christmas ornaments. Please contact Karen Amy to request a table for your creations!

Dee and Mel Trimble and Pat Krenzke will again be heading up the Silent Auction. The White Elephant sale will again be led by Edie Hahn (410-991-0736, [edith.hahn@gmail.com](mailto:edith.hahn@gmail.com)), and she can always use help with setting up the week before and with packing up the leftovers!

We also need lots of help setting up the tables on **Friday, November 5!** Let Julia or Karen know if you can help!

So mark your calendar now to start your Christmas shopping on November 6! There will be used books and jewelry. Find new treasures at our big White Elephant Sale in Reformation Hall! 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. Oh, and don't forget to get there early to buy some of the delicious baked good items. Get into a spirited bidding battle over the many baskets, gift certificates, and other great deals in our Silent Auction. 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 [jig58@verizon.net](mailto:jig58@verizon.net) and Karen Amy [kamy08@verizon.net](mailto:kamy08@verizon.net), Marketplace Co-Chairs



## Scheduling Your Event at Salem

As more organizations and Salem groups and committees are meeting in person, we are finding that some groups are not telling us of their plans. We have a large building and sometimes it seems infinite space, but that is not really so. Some spaces, the Sanctuary and Reformation Hall for example, are really one large room with a “divider”. If there is a singing group on one side and a study group on the other, neither gets much done. Also, your group leader might not be aware of another groups plans.

Please check with the church office before planning your event, meeting, rehearsal, etc. Thank You!

You call us to be your hands and voice  
and walk the path you trod,  
to bring your love to those we meet,  
show compassion,  
hate injustice,  
help the weak.  
You call us to be not just hearers  
but doers of your word,  
to be the face of Christ they see.  
When we fail you,  
which is often,  
please forgive, we pray.  
You call us to be your hands and voice.  
Grant us the faith to become  
the people you would have us be,  
agents of change in this, your world.

John Birch

May the angels of light  
glisten for us this day.  
May the sparks of God's beauty  
dance in the eyes of those we love.  
May the universe  
be on fire with Presence for us this day.  
May the new sun's rising  
grace us with gratitude.  
Let earth's greenness shine  
and its waters breathe with Spirit.  
Let heaven's winds stir the soil of our soul  
and fresh awakenings rise within us.  
May the mighty angels of light  
glisten in all things this day.  
May they summon us to reverence,  
may they call us to life.

John Philip Newell  
'Praying with the Earth'

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



## HISTORIC OLD SALEM NEWS

On Sunday, September 19, we were finally able to host an Open House at the Old Salem Church (after 18 months of “home detention”) located at 701 Ingleside Avenue, which is Salem Lutheran’s original worship site built in 1849. Twenty-five guests attended and shared in a wonderful program honoring/remembering Sgt. George Edward Reich, son of one of Salem’s original founding fathers ( see September’s Monarch). Ed Reich, as he was known, served in WWI and was stationed in France, where during a battle against the German artillery, he was killed on November 9, 1918, two days before the Armistice that ended WWI. He was only 26 years old at the time of his death. His remains were buried in France, as WWI practices required those who died in combat should be buried in temporary graves there.



It took Ed’s family three years to have his remains sent home where his casket was delivered to his father’s home at 428 Ingleside Avenue (which had been the Reich farm but is now Caton House Apartments on Ingleside Avenue). Pastor John Bowers, of Salem Lutheran Church, conducted Ed’s funeral at the family home and Ed’s body was then transported to the Old Salem graveyard, where he was buried beside his mother’s grave. This year on September 15, the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his funeral, we remembered his sacrifice for our country and his homecoming. And we extend a very “special thank you” to Judy and Joe LeGath for planning the remembrance at his gravesite on Wednesday, September 15, with the placing of flowers and an American Flag to honor him.

Our next planned event is an **October 22** bus trip to Sight and Sound Theater to see Queen Esther. We leave at **9:30 a.m.** from the Southwest Park & Ride Lot on S. Rolling Road, heading to Lancaster and Hershey Farms Restaurant for a family style lunch at 12:15 p.m. Following lunch we’ll head up to the Sight and Sound Theater for the 3 p.m. show. After the conclusion of the show, we’ll board the bus to come home arriving back at the SW Park & Ride Lot approximately **7:30 p.m.** At this time, I have **only four (4) tickets left** and if you are interested in going, please contact me as soon as possible to add your name to the trip. All proceeds from the trip go towards the preservation efforts of the Board of Old Salem for the Church and surrounding cemetery grounds.

At this time, we are hoping to hold our Annual All Saints Service at **2 p.m. on Sunday, November 7** at Old Salem, with Pastor Dave and Pastor Sarah leading our worship. Everyone is invited to attend.

Still holding on to **Saturday, December 11** from **11 a.m. to 3 p.m.** for a Christmas Open House at Old Salem. The church will be beautifully decorated with the lanterns giving off the same warm glow our early congregation must have felt in the late 1800’s as they came to worship, especially in the winter months. Everyone is invited. And don’t forget to spend time chatting with our very special guest, who travels from the North Pole to visit with young and old alike.

(continued)

---

## HISTORIC OLD SALEM NEWS (cont)

Looking for new Board Members to join the Old Salem Board of Directors. The Board meets 4 times a year as well as the first Sunday in June and third Sunday in September for Open Houses and Programs. Term of office is for two years. Contact Sharon at [memsha7311@gmail.com](mailto:memsha7311@gmail.com) if interested or seeking additional information.

**Change in plans:** we've received notice from the Hippodrome Ticket Office that again because of COVID, all scheduled show dates for Hamilton and other shows have been changed. We rescheduled our Hamilton show date to **Saturday, October 22, 2022 at 2 pm** still maintaining the original 20 tickets located in the Balcony Left Side, Row D 207-225 and Row E 201-219 with a cost of \$150 per ticket. And yes, the date is 12 months away; this is when the Hippodrome could schedule Hamilton here in Baltimore.

As time goes by, we will keep you updated with circumstances and trips.

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW IN THE MONTHS TO COME BASED UPON COVID UPDATES!!!!

---

## PASTOR ED WHETSTONE 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

"He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your GOD?" -- Micah 6:8 NRSV

There was never any question in his mind the direction he wanted to take with his life, but when Pr. Ed Whetstone read those words as a student at Gettysburg College, they became engraved in his heart and mind. And this year, as Pr. Ed celebrates the 50th anniversary of his ordination into the ministry, he reflected on his life of service.

"I always wished I had a call story," he said. The son of a Lutheran pastor, he was born at Bon Secours Hospital in Baltimore and "grew up in a parsonage," for a short time in Hampstead and then in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and later, Hagerstown. "The ministry was so much a part of my life. I always felt that I was being drawn in that direction." After graduating from Gettysburg, he enrolled in Northwestern Lutheran Theological Seminary in Minnesota and on June 6, 1971, he was ordained at the Synod Assembly at Christ Chapel in St. Peter, Minnesota.

His first call was to three churches in Antietam. He recalled that every Sunday, he delivered three sermons ("the bells would ring when they saw me coming"); although at the time he considered the congregations small, he noted that the combined weekly attendance was about 180 worshipers. "I loved my years there," he continued. "The people were wonderful," and as a lifelong history buff, he particularly appreciated his view of the Civil War battlefield from a second story window. All the same, he anticipated that his next call would take him back to Minnesota after a nearly seven-year stint in Maryland. That did not happen.

The bishop approached Pr. Ed and suggested to him that he might consider a call to Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church in Catonsville. He recalled that he was favorably impressed with the "depth of lay leadership" at the church. After a tearful departure from Antietam, Pr. Ed was installed on November 15, 1977, as the sixth pastor at Salem; his 33-year tenure is the third longest among his predecessors.

Salem then and Salem now: Naturally, some things have changed, while others, not so much. Initially, Pr. Ed said that the physical plant was "in disrepair." Projects (a new roof was one of the first orders of business) were undertaken to remedy this; in the process, he believes that doing so "lifted people's spirits." A major renovation resulted in handicap accessibility from the parking lot to the communion rail.

(continued)



## PASTOR ED WHETSTONE 50TH (cont.)

Before he arrived at Salem, the congregation had already established a pattern of social outreach, and under his leadership, this continued to grow and flourish. He is particularly gratified that at least a quarter of the congregation's budget has been directed toward benevolent causes in recent memory.

"Old members have long welcomed with open arms those new to the congregation, and this sense of harmony endures to this day," he said. A renewed appreciation in Historical Old Salem has helped to promote an understanding of the congregation's rich history.

The church hosts a variety of what might be considered as extracurricular activities, many of them initiated by members. "The congregation likes seeing the building used," he said, adding that "the Salem community is larger than its membership."

Most notable among the things that have changed is the celebration of Holy Communion on a weekly basis, with the age of those participating gradually tapering down. Also, the size of the staff grew to include an associate pastor.

All of these achievements were possible thanks to a group effort. "It is not that I did any one of these things, but that I was a part of them," he stressed. And when it was time for him to step down in 2010, he said that knowing Salem would be in the able hands of Pr. Dave was a tremendous blessing. After spending a year away (as prescribed), he was anxious to return to Salem. He continues to volunteer ("it's my turn now") and derives great satisfaction from leading the Refugee Task Force.

Personal notes: The publication of a book of sermons ("Caught in the Acts") was particularly gratifying. He counts the service conducted on the night of September 11, 2001, as especially moving. And there's the time he ate a lily blossom as part of an Easter Sunday sermon. As for his legacy, he would like to be remembered as "a loving pastor." Not surprisingly, during his days of leading Salem, the Bible on the altar was always open to Micah 6:8.

\*\*\*

The congregation will celebrate the 50th anniversary of Pr. Emeritus Ed Whetstone's ordination on the weekend of **November 13-14**, postponed from June because of pandemic concerns. On Sunday, **November 14, at 4 p.m.**, a special service with Holy Communion will be celebrated at Salem, with a covered-dish meal (and yes, sauerkraut will be on the menu) and program to follow. There will be a sign-up sheet; at that time, because of space constraints, those wishing to attend are encouraged to respond as soon as possible. As with most activities these days, however, these plans are all subject to change in the case of any possible health emergency.



---

## THE TREASURE OF DARKNESS

*I will give you the treasures of darkness  
and riches hidden in secret places,  
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,  
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.*

Isaiah 45:3

September 22<sup>nd</sup> was the autumnal equinox, marking the end of the summer season and the beginning of autumn. You may be starting to notice that the days are getting shorter, little by little. No longer is it still light outside at almost 9pm, and we find ourselves waking up to darkness when we rise early these days.

For many, the beginning of fall is an exciting time. The promise of cozy sweaters, the beauty of changing leaves, and the anticipation of a delicious bowl of warm soup evoke a sense of comfort and joy. Still for others, fall is an unwelcome sight, signifying the end of summer warmth and the march toward the cold of winter. I land somewhere in between anticipation and dread of autumn. I love the crunch of leaves underfoot and the chance to improve upon my chili recipe. But I struggle with the loss of daylight and the increasing darkness.

When I was a kid, I was afraid of the dark. It was always something to be feared – a place where bad or scary things lurked. I think part of that fear has remained in some sense, and I notice it creeping up around this time of year as the daylight decreases.

Not long ago, I was reading through a passage from Isaiah where God says “I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places.” The phrase “treasures of darkness” jumped out at me. So many of us were conditioned to expect only bad and scary things from the dark. But what about the treasures, the wonderful things, that come forth from darkness?

I consider Mary when she discovered she was pregnant with Jesus. In the darkness of a mother’s womb, new life was growing and taking shape. I consider Jesus’s parable about planting seeds of faith, seeds which need to be buried in the darkness and safety of the earth before they can spring forth and produce something new and beautiful. I consider the darkness of the tomb, where death was being transformed into resurrection hope.


Perhaps there is treasure to be found in the coming darkness of the fall and winter. What riches might we uncover in the coming season? What new things might God be planting, growing, and redeeming in us and around us in the coming months? My prayer for you, dear church, is that you might discover the treasures of darkness this season, and that any fear or trepidation of the dark is replaced with hopeful expectation. God is making all things new.

Peace to you,

Pastor Sarah







# "Ruah" The Breath of God

*Breath Prayer — Chaplain Eileen Kelley-Warner*

The ability to commune with God in prayer is one of the most precious and powerful gifts we have as people of faith. God invites us to share all our cares, concerns and loves to receive our thanksgiving and praise. There are many ways to pray, but one of the easiest and most natural is through praying "Breath" prayers.

Breath prayers make us more aware of the rhythms of our bodies and help us to remember that our breath connects us to the Spirit of life itself. At creation, God breathed the Spirit into humankind and that is what made us living souls (Gen 2:7). After Jesus' resurrection, He came to the fearful disciples in the upper room and breathed His Spirit onto them to bring them peace and deliver them from their fear and confusion (John 20:22).

Deep breathing, especially when we are worried, angry or afraid, while focusing on a passage of scripture, a line from a hymn or a simple thought or request can bring us a wonderful sense of comfort and peace. Breath prayers help us focus on the nearness and goodness of God. It is one way to "abide" in the one who is as near as our next breath.

To pray a breath prayer:

- breathe in slow and deeply as you whisper or think the words on which you choose to focus
- hold your breath for a moment and be mindful of God's presence
- then exhale as you whisper or think the next part of your prayer

For example, you can inhale deeply as you say, "The Lord is my Shepherd," hold your breath momentary and feel God's presence and love, and then exhale as you say, "I shall not want." Another example is "I need you Lord. Be near me now."

Breath prayers can be offered any time or anywhere we feel the need or desire to share the company of the One who knows and loves us and promises to never leave or forsake us.



Confirmation 2021

**ATTENDANCE REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2021**

	Saturday Evening	Sunday Service		Other	Specify	Weekly* Total
		First	Second			
August 28/29	21	38	49	26/54	Sat/Sun Livestream	188
September 4/5	20	41	68	23/56	Sat/Sun Livestream	208
September 11/12	14	43	64	26/60	Sat/Sun Livestream	207
September 18/19	17	47	74	17/41	Sat/Sun Livestream	196
September 25/26	19	51	82	9/42	Sat/Sun Livestream	203
Confirmation 9/26			55	/9	Livestream	64
TOTALS	91	220	392	101/262		1066

\*Week reflects Saturday through Friday

*Thank You!*

Dearest Salem family!

Carl and I are so grateful for your help at this needful time. The flowers, the wonderful meals and the offers of every kind of help have brightened our days in so many ways. Your many cards with uplifting greetings and excellent suggestions to keep up a positive message and pictures of "dogs and kitties as well as babies and flowers keep me laughing and allow me to drift off into another world free from care.

We hope these trials will be behind us soon and that we can worship with you in person soon!

With heartfelt gratitude.

Char and Carl Brooks

Art by Char Brooks





September 14, 2021



Salem Lutheran Church  
905 Frederick Rd.  
Catonsville, MD 21228-4580

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you! We truly appreciate your gift of \$1,500 in congregational benevolence, given to the Mar-Lu-Ridge. On behalf of the Board of Directors and Staff, I offer my thanks and appreciation for this gift in support of our outdoor ministry.

These gifts directly benefit our year-round program by allowing us to purchase needed supplies for programming, support our staff, and set aside funds to bring youth to camp through Camperships. We were excited and grateful to offer a safe camping season during this extended time of COVID, and it is now a joy to welcome everyone home to MLR as our retreat season picks up! Your gift helps to ensure the future and continued growth of this year-round mountaintop sanctuary.

You are making a difference. We appreciate your prayers and ongoing support!

Thank you again for your gift.

God's peace,

Sarah Lefler  
Executive Director

\*Mar-Lu-Ridge provides no goods or services in return for this contribution, thus meeting the requirements of a charitable contribution.

DE MD Synod Ck 109906  
R26370

*Your generosity is deeply appreciated -*



## FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM

Salem has an Instagram account. Follow us at [salemlutheranchurchcatonsville](https://www.instagram.com/salemlutheranchurchcatonsville). Lizzy Fitch, Pastor Sarah, and Guy Davis contribute. Keep up to date on what's going on at Salem!



## 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, Sharon Stanton  
 Christian Fellowship Committee: Darla Sando, Pam Wilsey  
 Communications Committee: Guy Davis, Karen Amy  
 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: Vacant  
 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@salem-catonsville.org](mailto:prayertree@salem-catonsville.org)



**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

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

Pastor David K. Asendorf  
pastordave@salem-catonsville.org

Pastor Sarah Garrett Krey  
pastorsarah@salem-catonsville.org

Pastor Emeritus: G. Edward Whetstone  
edward-victoria@verizon.net

Director of Youth Ministry: Anita Lane  
phrogdiva@verizon.net

Director of Music: Mary Miller  
marymiller359@gmail.com

Saturday Worship Musician: Sid Meier

Worship Technology Director: Joey Morgan

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

Sextons: Lirije Alaj, Letty Monahan

**CHURCH COUNCIL LEADERSHIP**

President: Ryan Fredriksson  
ryan.fredriksson@gmail.com

Vice-President: Denise Morris  
dmorris198@comcast.net

Secretary: Vacant

Financial Secretary: Beth Massey  
eamasse@gmail.com

Treasurer: Tom Vasold  
tvasold@verizon.net

**CHURCH COUNCIL**

Becky Bass	Tina Hall
Debra Brohawn	Norma Hensler-Davis
Tom Brzezinski	Nick Mason
Morrinah Egharevba	Denise Morris
Ryan Fredriksson	David Paton
Robert Hahn	Preston Shepherd

**COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE AND CONTRIBUTING STAFF**

Guy Davis, Co-Chair  
Karen Amy, Co-Chair  
Barbara Beem  
Peggy Dell  
Steve Kopp  
Mary Carroll-Mason  
Joey Morgan  
Sharon Stanton  
Bethann Snyder  
Ed Whetstone  
Ken Wolfram

**Contributing Photographers**  
Guy Davis

**Proofreading**  
Sharon Stanton  
Ken Wolfram

**NEXT MONARCH PUBLICATION**

**?? November??**

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



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

905 Frederick Road  
Catonsville, MD 21228-4517  
(410) 747-0720  
[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](https://www.facebook.com/salemlutheranchurch.catonsville)



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



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

---

## SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

---

905 Frederick Rd.  
Catonsville, MD 21228-4517

Change Service Requested  
**TIME VALUE**