



# THE MONARCH

## CHRISTMAS WEEKEND WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### Friday, December 24, Christmas Eve

2:00 p.m.  
 5:00 p.m. Children's Message, No Sermon  
 7:30 p.m.  
 10:00 p.m.

### Saturday, December 25, Christmas Day

10:00 a.m. Service of Lessons and Carols  
 (Note: No 5 p.m. service on Christmas Day)

### Sunday, December 26, First Sunday of Christmas

10 a.m. only

There will be no 5 p.m. worship service on New Year's Day.

All services will be live-streamed on Salem's YouTube and Facebook channels.



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## CHRISTMAS DECORATING AT SALEM

For all of you who never get enough Christmas decorating, there will be another opportunity on **Sunday, Dec. 19, following the 11:00 a.m. service.** We need volunteers to set up and decorate trees, set up nativity sets, and hang garland from the chancel and choir loft. Please come and help us prepare Salem for Christmas. Any questions, contact Shelley Wolfram at [kswolfram@gmail.com](mailto:kswolfram@gmail.com), or call 410-379-8179.

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## NORTH AVENUE MISSION FREE MARKET

Oh, the weather outside is frightful. . .and the Guardians of Eden and the Salem Stitchcrafters are working to provide warmth for members of the North Avenue Mission (NAM) community. Donations are distributed at NAM's "Free Market," held every Wednesday at the corner of North Avenue and North Charles Street in Baltimore.



Beginning in early October and extending through mid-November, members of the Guardians of Eden (GOE) conducted a blanket drive at Salem. Well supported by the congregation, the project resulted in the collection of 26 blankets (including a sleeping bag or two). They were distributed to anyone in need on November 17.



GOE is already looking forward to the warm days of spring and two weeding sessions (one on a Saturday for adults, and another on a Sunday morning for younger folks); details to follow. Under consideration is a garden featuring those plants named in the Bible. Additionally, the group maintains a pollinator garden, receives donations for a memorial garden, and anticipates holding a pre-Mother's Day plant sale, cancelled last year because of the pandemic.

And it's never too late to donate more blankets.

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## SNOW POLICY

In case of snow or other inclement weather that causes Salem to cancel or adjust worship schedule, notice will be posted on Salem's website [www.salem-catonville.org](http://www.salem-catonville.org) and Salem's Facebook page. During the week, if Baltimore County schools are closed, activities at Salem are cancelled.

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## SHOPPING HELP

A neighbor on Edmonson Avenue needs occasional help with her Wednesday noon shopping at Giant. She has several people who help her with various tasks but occasionally they cannot come and she has asked if we have someone who could "substitute" on shopping day. Call Robin Schaefer in the office for more information or to volunteer. Thank you!

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## APARTMENT FURNISHED FOR NEWLY ARRIVING AFGHAN REFUGEE FAMILY

We thank all those who donated furniture, household goods, supplies, and foodstuffs for the apartment in Hyattsville. About 18 members of our task force were actively engaged in the online listing, gathering, sorting, packing, transporting, and unpacking. It was a very rewarding project. Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service and their partner, Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area, assure us of their thanks. And though we will have no personal connection with the family, we are confident that Hafizuddin and Raihanna and their children are gladly and gratefully settling into their new home. The photo shows a sign posted outside of the rental office, declaring it to be a place of hospitality. As followers of Christ, and as Americans, we rejoice to bid them *Welcome*.



Very soon LSS-NCA will be establishing an office in Arbutus to enable them to receive families and settle them in Baltimore County. We have offered to sponsor one of those families, so be watching for further information. We'll soon start gathering furnishings and foods again. So please keep this in mind, but wait for our notices!

### Storage Area Needed to Gather Refugee Furnishings

If you have a garage, shed, or some other suitable space where you'd permit furniture and boxes to be stored for about 6-8 weeks beginning in January, the Refugee Task Force would be grateful for your help. It will again be a small apartment, so a space about the size of a one car garage would be sufficient.

Should you have such space, or some idea for us, please contact Pastor Ed Whetstone at [edward-victoria@verizon.net](mailto:edward-victoria@verizon.net) or 410-788-5475.

## SHOWCASE DISPLAYS

With Salem now "reopening" and being able to have more members attend services, showcase displays are being requested from anyone wishing to share their "collections." The displays usually are in for about 3-4 weeks and you can set up your display, if you are able, during the week when the church office is open between 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Please note that the showcase does lock so your collections will be safe.

Thanks to the Salem Stitchcrafters for sharing their wonderful handcrafted items that they work on each Thursday here at Salem. The group shared their handiwork with the Seafarer's Ministry as in years past and this year with the North Avenue Mission. Please contact Sharon Stanton, [memsha7311@gmail.com](mailto:memsha7311@gmail.com) if you would like to do a display. We'd love to see your collections.

## SUCCESSFUL FILL-A-TRUCK FOOD DRIVE

Ellen Draper, who has led the food drives for the community throughout the pandemic for CEA and Grace AME Church on Winters Lane, reports that the food drive held on Saturday, November 6, was a huge success. The total amount collected was 4,749.3 lbs of food – that's 2.37 tons of food! The food was sorted, boxed, weighed, and delivered, half to the Catonsville Emergency Assistance (CEA) and half to the food pantry at Grace AME Church.

Ellen shares that we are blessed to have great community leaders like Bonnie Harry (CEA) and Vivian Watson (Grace AME), tireless women who lead organizations that serve our neighbors in need all year long and show us what Love in Action looks like.

Ellen sends her sincerest thanks to all the volunteers involved in the food drive, who helped with the planning, set-up, assembling of more than 100 cardboard boxes with labels, sorting of food brought to the Knights of Columbus that day, and to all the youth and adults that helped unload the food at the food pantries. She hopes everyone will continue to support our local food pantries in the coming months.

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## ADULT FORUM

Thank you to all of the teachers and participants of Adult Forum in November. During that month, we looked at the formation of the Church during the 300 years following the crucifixion of Christ, which included the development of the Trinity (and the Creeds) and also the formation of the New Testament. (We will revisit the *Lost Christianities* book and work through some of the other chapters during late winter 2021 or spring of 2022.) We closed out November with Sarah Lefler and Dan McEachran talking about the work of Mar-Lu-Ridge and Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), respectively

For the last three Sundays of Advent, Pastor Dave will be leading "*Prayer: Help, Thanks, Wow!*" It will be a discussion of prayer based on the writings of Anne Lamott. Lamott's writings are marked by their self-deprecating humor and openness and cover such subjects as alcoholism, single-motherhood, depression, and Christianity. Books in the latter genre include "*Help, Thanks, Wow: the Three Essential Prayers*," "*Hallelujah Anyway: Rediscovering Mercy*," and "*Almost Everything: Notes on Hope*." The discussions on the three Sundays promise to be uplifting and encouraging. Hope to see you there.

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## MONARCH ONLINE

Salem's Monarch newsletter is available online on Salem's website [www.salem-catonsville.org](http://www.salem-catonsville.org). If you would like a notice that a new issue has been posted or would like a PDF Monarch emailed to you, please contact Guy Davis at [guyddavisphd@gmail.com](mailto:guyddavisphd@gmail.com) to be added to the email list.





The Children's Home on Bloomsbury Avenue in Catonsville is a group home that provides a long-term residential program for boys and girls who have experienced abuse, neglect, abandonment, or are in need of supervised care. These children go to school with our children and yet are living apart from their families. Let's show our love and make their holiday wishes come true!

**Here are 4 ways you can show a child that you care:**

> all options are accessible via the Home's website: **[thechildrenshome.net/holiday](http://thechildrenshome.net/holiday)**

- **Purchase a gift online from their virtual registry** (Amazon or Target) and either deliver it or ship it directly to the Home.  
*Go to the above website and click on either the Amazon or Target icon within the Virtual Wish Lists square on the right side of the page. This will take you directly to either the Amazon or Target online shopping page. Choose a gift or gifts, purchase, and deliver it to the Home (either in person or have it shipped directly\*).*
- **Choose a gift from a specific child's wish list** and purchase it, then deliver it to the Home.  
*Go to the above website and click on the Resident Wish Lists square on the left side of the page. Scroll down, choose a child, and click on their name to see their list. Purchase something from their list and deliver it to the Home on a drop-off date.*
- **Get a group together to pitch in for a larger "cottage gift."**  
*Go to the above website, scroll down, and click on the tab "Other Ways to Give". Purchase an item and deliver it to the Home on a drop-off date.*
- **Make a monetary donation online.**  
*Go to the above website, scroll to the bottom of the page, and fill in the form.*

**IMPORTANT additional information:**

The Children's Home Holiday Giving website has a wealth of information! If you scroll down you will see tabs for Guidelines & FAQS (important things to know before you buy or deliver a gift), Drop-off Dates (when to deliver gifts), and Gift Ideas.

**\*Gifts can be delivered to the Home directly on suggested "drop-off" dates (see website) OR shipped directly to:**

**The Children's Home  
Attn: Wish List  
205 Bloomsbury Ave.  
Catonsville, MD 21228**

## NEW DISCIPLES

### Dorothy Miciche

Dorothy (Dottie) lived in Catonsville the first 32 years of her life. After marrying, she moved to Timonium and has lived there 37 years. Although she graduated with a teaching degree, she never found a job teaching. So she was in department store retail— a buyer for Hutzler's, then a sales manager for Bamberger's/Macy. In 1989 she quit to be a full-time mom, then a full-time substitute for BCPS high school for 30 years.



She and her husband Tom have a daughter, Jess, who is a Nurse Practitioner at Hopkins surgical division. Jess is a member of Lifepoint church in Westminster. Tom is retired but does a lot of volunteer work now. He attends St. Joseph, Cockeysville. She and her daughter traveled with us on our trip to the Holy Land

Dottie has been attending Salem services since the church of her birth, Christ Lutheran, Catonsville, closed. She came to Salem because she already knew some folks from the Israel trip and other members who once attended Christ Lutheran. Her hobbies are sewing, assorted crafts, more sewing. She does quilts for LWR and baby gowns for LWR baby care kits. She also does crochet/knit projects for Stitchcrafters. Right now she is laying low, having been an OVERLY active member of Christ Lutheran for 60+ years.

She usually attends the 11:00 a.m. service, either in person or online. She sits way in the back—old habit from when she sat with her dad while her mom was playing the organ. She has always been a Christian/Lutheran. She says she doesn't know any different. She comes from a long line of German Lutherans. Her grandparents helped found Christ Lutheran in 1908. Her mom played organ there 40 years. One of her brothers, Howard Mettee, is a retired Lutheran pastor, living with his family in Tennessee. He, his wife, his daughter, Dottie's daughter and she all went to Capital University in Columbus, which was the only ALC college east of the Mississippi. Her brother, Brad Mettee, and his wife are members of First Lutheran in Ellicott City.

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### Jane Travis Finneseth



Jane retired as a Budget Analyst at Minot Air Force Base in North Dakota. She moved to the Catonsville area six months ago to be closer to relatives in Delaware. She is involved in several things at Charlestown. Jane just joined the VFW and was drafted into service as a flagbearer for the Veterans Day ceremony. She is delving into Maryland politics, exposing herself to as many views as possible. She is also helping to register voters. She has a terrace-level apartment and enjoys tending to her large perennial garden and has two cats that keep her quite busy. She grew up Catholic but started attending a Lutheran Church as an adult. Her last church in North Dakota was small with an active membership of forty people.

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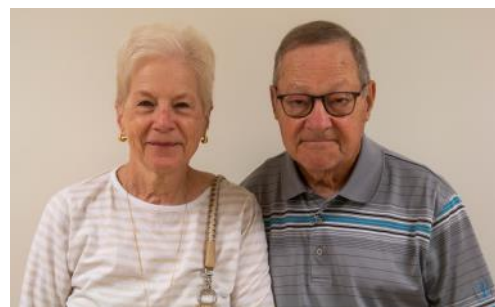
## Jane Travis Finneseth (cont'd)

Jane started attending the Lutheran service at Charlestown and then checked out Salem. She did one online Bible study with Pastor Dave. After that, she felt that she learned so much, and Pastor Dave made it so interesting, that she wants to attend more. Jane normally attends Sunday at the 8:15 a.m. service sitting on the right side close to the front. Please give her a warm welcome when you see her.

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## Joan and Jim Galloway

Joan and Jim joined Salem in October 2021. They “attended” worship services online when Salem was closed due to COVID, but then began coming to in-person services. They live in Arbutus and have been in their home since 1972. Joan originally worshipped at St. Paul’s in Highlandtown but, when that closed, she began worshipping at Christ Lutheran Church on Edmondson Avenue. Until it closed, she worked at the Christ Lutheran Nursery School as an assistant to the teacher and then, after several years, went into teaching herself. After retiring from there, she did daycare in the late afternoons at St. Philip Neri School in Linthicum. She was very active at Christ Lutheran as an Assistant Minister and sang in their choir. It was a sad time for her and the remaining few congregation members when Christ Lutheran closed. She visited Salem and found Salem members were warm and welcoming. After talking with Pastor Dave about New Disciple classes, she decided to join Salem. Her husband, Jim, was raised in the Episcopal Church, but after having joined Joan worshipping with Salem’s online services during the pandemic, decided to join Salem, too. Jim retired from NSA 10 years ago and enjoys playing softball and is looking forward to Spring softball starting up again. Joan enjoys gardening and her walks through her neighborhood. Their son and daughter-in-law, Steve and Aubrey Galloway, live in Woodbridge Valley. Their daughter and granddaughter, Kim and Annalee Holmes, live in Ocean Pines. Kim teaches English at University of Maryland Eastern Shore Campus and Annalee attends Stephen Decatur Middle School. Joan and Jim can be found on Sunday mornings at the 11 a.m. service on the pulpit side second row from the back.



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## Tony Hansen



Tony has been living at Charlestown for the past six years, moving there from Pasadena upon his retirement. He has two children, a daughter who lives in Pasadena and a son who lives in Los Angeles. He enjoys reading mysteries and quasi-spy novels. Tony retired as an analyst with the National Security Agency; after his retirement he sold real estate for a time and lastly drove a bus for five years. After Katrina struck New Orleans, he spent 10 years helping them to recover from the storm. For the last two to three years, he has spent ten months each year in New Orleans. Tony feels one of the most important things he has done is his volunteering in New Orleans.

During his time in New Orleans, he met so many people and he felt these people were mind-opening and broadening. Through this, his faith grew even more.

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## NEW DISCIPLES (cont'd)

### Tony Hansen (cont'd)

Tony is a lifelong Lutheran and attended St. Olaf, a Lutheran College. He was a member of St. Paul's, Glen Burnie, when he began attending the Lutheran services at Charlestown. He enjoyed Pastor Sarah's and Pastor Dave's services and wanted to look more closely at Salem. He likes Salem's outreach and what we support. He also feels Pastor Sarah's and Dave's preaching is outstanding. Tony had been attending the 8:15 a.m. service on Sunday mornings but the last few weeks has been at the Saturday evening service. You may see Tony sitting about a third of the way from the back on the right-hand side. If you see him, please give a warm hello.

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### Mary Ann and Earl Ruley



The Ruleys are relatively new to the area, having moved here in 2018, and then experiencing a pandemic.

Mary Ann has worn many hats. Her last two jobs were as a literacy volunteer coordinator, working in economically challenged elementary schools, and then a conference planner at Meharry Medical College.

Earl was Professor of Pathology, Microbiology, and Immunology at the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine.

Their daughter, Anna, son-in-law, Courtney, and two grandchildren, Charles and Ryan, live in Catonsville. Their son, Dan, lives in Salt Lake City, Utah.

They have been attending Salem online since Winter, 2020, and in-person once services resumed.

They came to Salem through some of our activities.

Mary Ann discovered the book group and started attending that in the Fall of 2019. One thing that drew her to Salem was the opportunity to have a faith family where they could bring their grandchildren. She really appreciates the teaching and the weekly celebration of the Lord's Supper is so meaningful.

Earl fell in with the Men's Prayer Breakfast and then one thing led to another.

Mary Ann is a big reader, and she likes to travel and be out in nature.

Earl likes to hike and to travel. He has been spending a lot of time writing a novel.

Mary Ann says that in addition to the book group, she's interested in helping with Sunday School and hopes to find other ways to get involved.

Earl has been part of the Men's Prayer Breakfast and is interested in helping with youth ministries.

They have not committed to a particular service or a seating preference.

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### **Mary Ann and Earl Ruley (cont'd)**

Mary Ann says, "Not having a strong family church background, I came to faith in Jesus around the same time I started graduate school. Earl and I met in a graduate student Bible study. Since then, small fellowship group Bible studies have been very important in helping me grow as a disciple. Service has always been a key way for me to feel part of a community and I've been able to serve in many different areas over the years. We have attended a wide range of churches, so I have a lot to learn about being Lutheran!" Earl, in regard to his faith journey, says, "My family attended a Baptist church when I was growing up but I was the only one of 4 siblings who wasn't baptized. I came to Christ while in graduate school and now I am the only sibling who professes Christ. There have been too many chapters in the journey to describe here, but grace has been the biggest constant."

After living for 26 years in Nashville, TN, they moved here to live close to their grandkids. Since Mary Ann is originally from Delaware, and she has two brothers who still live there, it sort of feels familiar. However, for half the time they have lived in Maryland there's been a pandemic, so in some ways they still feel pretty new to the area.

In their personal lives, since 2019, they have been volunteers with International Students Connect, a club at UMBC that provides opportunities for students from other countries to experience relationships with folks from the US. Before the pandemic, they held regular gatherings in their home and this year have been able to resume in-person outdoor activities like hikes. They also attend a weekly Bible study with the internationals who are Christian or are interested in knowing more about Jesus. Social justice is also a big concern for them.

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### **Tom and Liz Viets**

Tom and Liz Viets are two of our newest disciples. Years ago, they lived in the Glen Burnie area and attended St. Paul's Lutheran Church for many years. After deciding to move into a retirement community in the Ellicott City area, they started attending St. John's Lutheran on Waterloo Road as their youngest son and his family attended there. Several other new disciples came to Salem from St. John's along with the Viets and their son, Tim, who introduced them to Salem Church. Their other son and his family reside in Florida.



Tom was born in Missouri and joined the Air Force when he got older. Once retired from the Air Force but having acquired the knowledge/skills needed, he moved to Maryland and accepted a job offer at the National Security Agency, where he worked for 35 years, retiring in 1993. Liz was born in Nebraska and her father was an active member of the Armed Services as a Chaplain. Liz has lived all over the world traveling with her father and mother, as her father served in a number of locations. Liz is a retired nurse and enjoys painting on canvas, stitching, and previously enjoyed working with stained glass. They have four grandchildren. On Sundays, they look forward to Salem's online worship service at 11 a.m. as getting into Salem has become somewhat of a challenge for them both. Tom will be having shoulder surgery at Howard County General on Monday, December 6, to repair a prior shoulder replacement. Please keep them both in your prayers.

## SALEM REJOICES IN THE GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY OF PASTOR ED WHETSTONE'S ORDINATION

On Sunday, November 14, the Salem congregation hosted a celebration to honor the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Pastor Ed's ordination and his many years of ministry and devoted service. The jubilant event began with a service of Holy Communion. The sermon was delivered by Pastor Paula Roulette, Pastor Ed's longtime friend from his days in Sharpsburg, Maryland, who now resides in New York. Bishop William Gohl of the ELCA's Delaware-Maryland Synod presided at Holy Communion. Following the service, attendees were treated to a festive program of music and remarks honoring Pastor Ed. There were touching and sometimes humorous comments from special guest speakers, who included Ed and Vicky's daughter Linsey Martindale, Bishop Bill Gohl, and Pastor Dave Asendorf. A mesmerizing slide show captured many fond highlights from Pastor Ed's decades in the ministry and the Salem congregation presented him with a very useful Delta airlines gift card.



The program concluded with warm reflections dotted with comedic relief and words of sincere gratitude from Pastor Ed. He remains deeply appreciative of those who participated and attended the milestone celebration and is especially thankful to have the opportunity to have had input into various aspects of the event. Each participant played an important part in his journey of ministry and every song choice held personal significance as well - from the lectors, Carolyn Moore and Jeff Rasmussen, who shared in Pastor Ed's first parish ministry in Sharpsburg and are also valued leaders at Salem; to the insightful preaching of Pastor Paula Roulette, whom he first knew as a teen in the community Vacation Bible School in Sharpsburg and who later became a colleague in the ministry; to the Bell Choir and their rendition of "Offertory." Also included were Pastor Ed's favorite scripture (Micah 6:8) and the singing of The Benediction. The anthem "In My Sleep" composed by his mother, Kay, was sung by an ensemble and her festive tune "Pen Mar" was played by the Salem Brass. Each element was carefully selected and deeply meaningful.

Amid all of the touching tributes, poignant musical selections, and humorous anecdotes, there was an abundance of love. The event represented more than a commemoration of 50 years of faithful ministry. It was also a celebration of Salem's great affection for Pastor Ed and of his abiding care for the congregation he has served and continues to serve with incomparable enthusiasm, respect, and compassion.



"It was a joy to celebrate Pastor Ed's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination. The wonderful attendance for the worship and program is testimony of how much Pastor Ed is loved and how much the congregation appreciated his ministry," remarked Pastor Dave. "Our celebration was enriched by Pastor Paula Roulette's preaching and Bishop Bill Gohl's presiding at Holy Communion, and his presentation during the program. We are so grateful for their participation."

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## SALEM REJOICES IN THE GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY OF PASTOR ED WHETSTONE'S ORDINATION (cont'd)



"What I most want and need to express at this milestone is my gratitude to God for calling me to a service which I always cherished and never regretted. And for sending me to two parishes which I held as beloved from the start and ever after," said Pastor Ed.

Fittingly, he concluded his speech with uplifting words that represent his humility and devotion to service. "We have this treasure in clay jars, Paul said. We *all* do. Scripture once mentions a potter's field, meaning a field of fine quality, rich red clay prized by potters for their handiwork. Jeremiah and Isaiah tell us that

God is such a potter, shaping and forming and using each of us for good, for justice, for love. The Salem congregation is just such a bountiful potter's field, its soil deep with rich clay for God's molding, mending, and mission. May God continue to use *all* of us with powerful purpose, and may we ever offer ourselves to this service as much as God's grace makes possible in every one of us."

The Salem congregation rejoices with Pastor Ed on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his ordination. We are deeply grateful to him and Vicky for their faithful leadership, service, and the many remarkable ways they have positively impacted our lives.



## ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL BUDGET MEETING

The Annual Congregational Budget Meeting will be held after each service on **December 11 and 12**. The purpose of the meeting is to approve the budget proposed by the Church Council.

Prior to these meetings, there will be a Zoom meeting to answer any questions the congregation may have. The Zoom meeting will be on **Wednesday, December 8, starting at 7 p.m.** Additionally, questions may be e-mailed to Steve Kopp, Finance Committee Co-Chair, at [steve@kopp.us.com](mailto:steve@kopp.us.com).

There is a correction to the budget that was mailed. The amounts for budget lines 51102, United Seminary, and 51103, Discretionary Fund, were reversed. The amounts should be \$1,000 and \$2,500, respectively.

The information for the Zoom meeting is as follows:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81530003586>

Meeting ID: 815 3000 3586

OR

Dial by your location, 301.715.8592

Meeting ID: 815 3000 3586

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**PASTOR WHETSTONE'S THANK YOU**

November 15, 2021

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I thank you for such a delightful and meaningful celebration for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of my Ordination. I have been so richly blessed in my ministry to have served two such beloved and loving parishes. It has been an immeasurable gift to spend 33 years of my ministry with you. And now in retirement, to be with you still.

I began my first day as your pastor 44 years ago today. During that time I have shared with so many of you some of the most intimate, challenging, and special times of your lives. By God's grace, together we sought to be faithful, however imperfectly, to the Church's urgent and ancient mission through the changes of the years.

The celebrative service was so very meaningful to me, and I was grateful for the privilege of choosing the preacher, participants, scriptures, and hymn. But the offerings of music were all an unexpected joy: the Bell Choir's prelude "Offertory," the Women's Ensemble's "Benediction," and most especially the sweet delight of hearing them sing my mother's soft anthem "In My Sleep" and the Brass Ensemble playing her jaunty "Pen Mar" as the postlude!

Vicky and I are very grateful for the congregation's Delta gift card which will surely be put to use for our next flight to Minnesota!

I deeply appreciate all the good wishes and cards I've received.

For all of us the years hold so many changes. But the constant is the One that rests at the heart of our faith, and the One that binds us together. The prayer my mother set to such beautiful music, seen on page 13, heralds that truth.

May God keep us all in his Love, and keep us forever.

Pastor Ed Whetstone

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**WOULD YOU CONSIDER BEING A GREETER AT SUNDAY SERVICES?**

It really is a simple task and one that just requires a welcome to our congregation members and visitors with a smile and a "good morning." You would be scheduled about every 5-6 weeks at the service of your choice. Please give it some serious consideration and contact Sharon Stanton at memsha7311@gmail.com or leave a note in the Historic Old Salem mailbox outside the church office door 1<sup>st</sup> floor hallway. Remember to put your name and what service – 8:15 or 11 a.m. - you wish to be scheduled for. The schedule is posted on the "service" bulletin board between the restrooms.



## **PASTOR WHETSTONE'S THANK YOU**

### **In My Sleep**

In my sleep He watches yearning,  
He restores my soul  
so that each recurring morning,  
love and goodness make me whole.  
Were God not there,  
His face not near,  
He had not led me out of fear.  
All things have their time and sphere.  
God's love lasts forever.

Music by Katherine Steck Whetstone (1916-2005)

Text by Pastor/Theologian/Martyr Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906-1945)  
from his *Letters and Papers from Prison*

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### **SUNDAY MORNINGS AT SALEM – “THE YOUNGER SET”**

As we continue to “Reconnect” with our younger generation on Sunday mornings in Bethany Hall, we have had a busy November and are looking forward to an even busier December. Andrew Pfluger leads our opening worship with a rousing activity to get the children up and moving and awake. Each Sunday we begin with an opening worship, a special Bible story, and then work on a number of activities/crafts that are pertinent to the story.

We hope you have had an opportunity to admire the beautiful and creative “puzzle pieces” of our Reconnecting theme on the stairs outside Reformation Hall which were made by the children and by the teachers, too.

November Bible stories included Adam & Eve, The Lord's Prayer, and what Advent means to us. Advent wreaths were created by the children to take home and to celebrate each week in Advent and what it means. Looking forward to December with stories about “God's Love is Forever,” learning about the angel's visit to the shepherds watching over their flocks of sheep, and the most wonderful story of all – the birth of Jesus. The Children's Home Christmas Giving Tree will be up again this year and we're hoping that, since Salem's congregation always supports this event, you will do so this year. Sue Gdovin heads the project, as she has done for many, many years. “Thank you Sue.”

Please consider signing up to lead a station with 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).

Confirmants join us for worship time each Sunday and then depart with Pastor Sarah. She meets with them every Sunday except the second Sunday of the month, when she has fellowship time with our high schoolers in the youth room.

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## SALEM BOOK GROUP WILL DISCUSS

### *KATHARINA: DELIVERANCE*

The Salem Book Group regularly meets at **7:30 p.m.** on the **second Monday** of each month in the Upper Room. 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, biographies, short stories, or poetry. If you would like to recommend a book for discussion, please contact Guy Davis at [guyddavisphd@gmail.com](mailto:guyddavisphd@gmail.com) or 410-747-0744.

The next meeting will be on **January 24** (note day change) to discuss *Katharina: Deliverance* by Margaret Skea. *Katharina: Deliverance*, the first installment of the fictionalized story of Katharina von Bora, the wife of Martin Luther, focuses on her childhood and early adult years.

Katharina comes from a moderately well-to-do family from Saxony and is only five years old when her mother dies, leaving her and her brothers in the care of a father who is not up to the task. He quickly remarries and the new stepmother promptly packs the girl off to a convent at Brehna.

But the early decades of the 16th century are a time of social and religious upheaval in the German lands as the opposition to the corruption and worldliness of the Catholic Church gathers momentum under the leadership of fiery preacher Martin Luther. Centuries-old traditions come under fire, including the practice of shutting young women in convents even when they lack the vocation for the religious life. In time, reform ideas reach Katharina's convent as well and find fertile ground in the minds of several residents there.

After a daring escape, Katharina finds shelter in the house of famous painter Lucas Cranach and his wife Barbara in Wittenberg, a town that becomes the center of the Lutheran movement. One by one, her friends, all former nuns, find husbands and settle into their new lives, but after a romantic disappointment it seems that Katharina will not be so lucky as to settle down in her own household. That is until she realizes that Luther, faced with growing attacks from all sides, may be in need of a partner and companion able and willing to share his burdens.

2021-22 schedule so far:

<b>January 24</b>	<i>Katharina: Deliverance</i> by Margaret Skea
<b>February 14</b>	<i>Gilead</i> by Marilynne Robinson

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

## HISTORIC OLD SALEM NEWS

*Finally*, we hosted a bus trip to the Sight & Sound Theater near Lancaster to see “Queen Esther” on October 22. It was a wonderful performance enjoyed by everyone on the trip. A delicious family style lunch at Hershey Farms filled us up before the show with an opportunity after lunch for some shopping time in their gift store. “David” is the next performance at Sight & Sound beginning in March 2022 and we are hoping to plan the next bus trip to see that at some point in late April/early May. Hope you will consider hopping on the bus and traveling with us.

Pastor Dave and Pastor Sarah led our Annual All Saints Service at 2 p.m. on Sunday, November 7, at Old Salem. Our thanks to them for leading us in worship with lessons and song. A special thank you to Robin Schaefer who played the 1860 organ with the assistance of her husband, Rusty, pumping the organ. The organ requires the air to be pumped into the bellows in order to make the sound come forth.

**UNFORTUNATELY, we are cancelling our Christmas Open House this year that was scheduled for Saturday, December 11. Hopeful to have it next year if circumstances are different and I pray that they will be!**

We’ve placed **Saturday, March 5, 2022**, on the Salem calendar of events to hold our Craft Fair/Flea Market in Bethany Hall as we had done so many years in the past. It is our one big fundraiser to help support the preservation/maintenance of the Old Salem church and surrounding cemetery grounds. Vendors selling all sorts of beautiful crafts and/or special treasures from their attics will have tables. The cost of a table is \$20 each and we will provide; profits from the sale of vendor’s items is theirs. Please consider hosting a table at that event. More details to come.

**Change in plans** - we’ve received notice from the Hippodrome Ticket Office 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 p.m.** 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 11 months away; this is when the Hippodrome could schedule Hamilton here in Baltimore.) As time goes by, we will keep you updated with circumstances. MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW IN THE MONTHS TO COME BASED UPON COVID UPDATES!!!!

### 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.



## FINAL REPORT ON MARKETPLACE 2021

After a lot of uncertainty and hesitation caused by COVID-19, this year's Marketplace was a huge success and the three charities involved (North Avenue Mission, Hearing and Speech Agency, and Trees for the Future) benefited greatly. The final proceeds were a record amount of \$8,442.82. None of it happened easily and special thanks are needed for the many people who made it possible:



- White Elephant with Edie Hahn
- Silent Auction with Pat Krenzke, Tim Jennings, Dee and Mel Trimble
- Books with Karen Amy
- Jewelry with Treen Null and Barb Myers
- Baked Goods with Mary Krebs
- Craft Tables with Julia Graham, Patricia and Anna Joy Morgan
- Garden of Eden Raffle with Norma Hensler-Davis

But it all takes a HUGE village and the following people, in no particular order, gave of their time and effort graciously and deserve enormous thanks:



Sally and Steve Kopp, Shelley and Ken Wolfram, Sue O'Connor, Stephanie Pelesky, Sharon Stanton, Beth Rodgers, Judith LeGath, Jim Kempton, Mary and Nick Mason, Guy and Norma Davis, Polly McLaughlin, Ed Whetstone, Pete Salmon, Sue Gdovin, Mary Ann and Earl Ruley, Debbie and John Brohawn, Jan Culp, Cor-Rae Petri, Bob Hahn, Ruth Solt, Dave Trump, Pastor Dave, Pastor Sarah, Robin Schaefer, Anita Lane, Brendan Graham, Carolyn Vasold, Megan Simmons, Mary Krebs, and Jim, Susan and Jacob Gundlach.



THANK YOU ALL  
for your help.

Julia Graham  
Karen Amy





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## 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. We have had to stop accepting new AA/NA groups because of the crowded calendar of recurring meetings, for example; so please check with the church office before planning your event, meeting, rehearsal, etc. or even just thinking about changing rooms! Thank You!

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## PRAYERS

Father, just as You sent John the Baptist to prepare the way for Jesus, help me to clear the path in my heart, too. Show me the distractions in my life that block me from all-out worship of You this Advent. Lord, I await Your coming! As I celebrate the first Advent—the first coming—I look toward the day where I will see You face to face. I imagine what it will be like. Give me a heart, Lord, that looks for Your coming on a daily basis. Help me to live my life where I'm constantly seeking Your presence. My offering to You today is my righteous life for I know I am only clean because of Jesus. Show me today how I need to be refined, purified, forgiven. Give me the strength to ask for forgiveness and to then change my ways.

Awaken us, O Lord God, with your grace for the future. As you graciously forgive our sins, protect and strengthen us from all danger of future sins, so that we may serve You with a clear conscience, and joyfully receive our Lord Jesus Christ when He comes again in glory; He lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.

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## THE FAIR TRADE CART RETURNS WITH TEAS, COFFEES AND CHOCOLATES IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS!

It's back! The Fair Trade Cart will be in the narthex following most weekend services in December. Such a welcome opportunity—a chance to provide a fair wage to small farmers in developing countries and also enjoy fine quality chocolate, coffee, and tea at a reasonable price!

Whether you're someone who has missed the cart through these last pandemic seasons or someone ready to give these products a try, we hope you'll stop by.

SERRV no longer offers their handicrafts on consignment, so we regret that we'll not have a table of those varied and fine crafts available for your Christmas shopping. But you can still buy them! (Many of you have been making more online purchases already.) Just visit [SERRV.org](http://SERRV.org) to look through their catalogues and place an order.

God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son. Invite the world into your home this Christmas; here's one more way to concretely and creatively share the love God gives.



## The Heart of Maryland Chorus Presents



Salem Lutheran Church  
905 Frederick Rd  
Catonsville, MD 21228

Fri. December 10, 2021  
7PM - 8PM

Free Will offering to benefit Catonsville Emergency Assistance.

**All guests are welcome**

My dearest Salem Family-

My heartfelt thanks to all of you for your beautiful cards, your loving thoughts, your healing prayers, and much more; the delicious pumpkin bread, the wonderful quiche enjoyed, the altar flowers and visits by some of you. Thank you! Thank you all! And the love and care given so freely by my two favorite Pastors! You've always been there for me and my family - it means everything to me! And Robin - thank you for "listening" always and raising my spirits! Dear Salem family - God's gracious gift to me, my family,

Your thoughtfulness is a gift I will always treasure!

and to all of us!

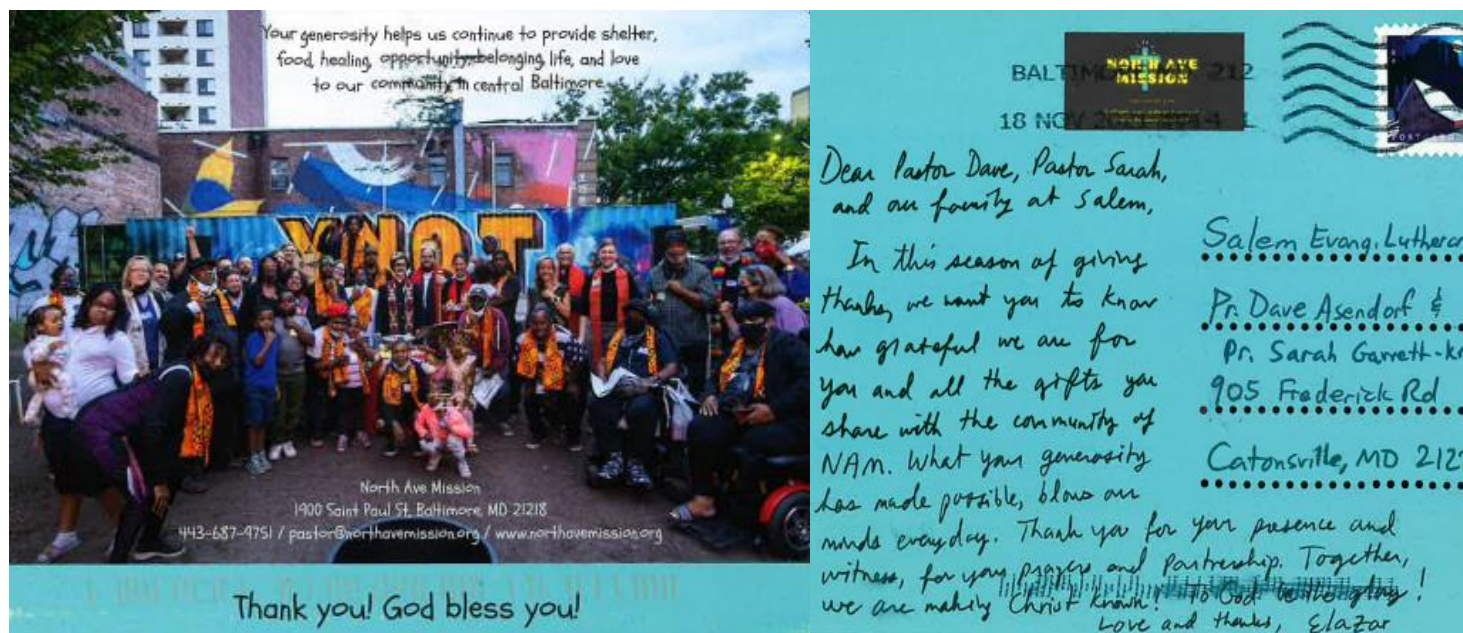
Peace and love to you!

Sharon Stauter



## ATTENDANCE REPORT FOR OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2021

	Saturday Evening	Sunday Service		Other	Specify Livestream	Weekly* Total
		First	Second			
October 2/3	16	48	108	9/16/53	Saturday/Baptism/Sunday	259
October 9/10	18	48	82	18/50	Saturday/Sunday	232
October 16/17	22	65	79	15/43	Saturday/Sunday	224
October 23/24	32	65	69	13/38	Saturday/Sunday	216
October 30/31	21	44	115	17/47	Saturday/Sunday	244
November 6/7	20	58	72	20/40	Saturday/Sunday	210
Nov.13/14 & Whetstone	20	62	53	11/44 37/95	Saturday/Sunday Whetstone Stream/in-house	322
November 20/21	18	57	118	14/43	Saturday/Sunday	250
November 25				151/45	Thanksgiving Eve	196
November 27/28	15	50	88	14/43	Saturday/Sunday	210





# Thank You!



November 14, 2021

Dear Salem Family,

I want to express my sincere thank you for the prayers, cards and flowers received during my recovery from surgery.

Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.

Your sister in Christ,  
Margaret Flein

July 23, 2021

Dear Salem Church,

Thank you for all the support during my four years at college. In May, I graduated from the University of Dayton with a degree in finance and a minor in economics. I just recently started a job with T. Rowe Price in Owings Mills.

Your support allowed me to grow so much in mind and spirit. The yearly letters were always reassurance that I had a great group of people supporting me at all times. I will never forget what this community has done for me and how it shaped me to be the person I am today.

Thank you,

William Kreps

## 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)

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Telephone: (410) 747-0720

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Worship Technology Director: Joey Morgan

Office Manager: Robin Schaefer  
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Sextons: Lirije Alaj, Letty Monahan

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Secretary: Nick Mason  
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Financial Secretary: Beth Massey  
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Treasurer: Tom Vasold  
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**CHURCH COUNCIL**

Becky Bass	Tina Hall
Debra Brohawn	Norma Hensler-Davis
Tom Brzezinski	Nick Mason
Emily D'Avella	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**

**January 2022**

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/>

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## SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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905 Frederick Rd.  
Catonsville, MD 21228-4517

Change Service Requested  
**TIME VALUE**