



THE MONARCH

SALEM HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday, March 24th

8:15 and 11:00 services with choir cantatas

Maundy Thursday, March 28th

2:00 and at 7:30 services

Good Friday, March 29th

2:00 and 7:30 services

Easter Vigil March 30th

8:00 service

Easter March 31st

8:15 and 11:00 services

plus an Easter egg hunt between services



MONARCH ON-LINE

Salem's Monarch is available on-line at www.salem-catonsville.org. If you would like notification that a new issue has been posted or would like a Monarch (PDF form) emailed to you, please contact Guy Davis at guyddavisphd@gmail.com.

Inside This Issue:

Page 2: 175th anniversary

Page 3: Adult Forum, children ministry, and scholarship

Page 4-6: New disciples

Page 7: Historic Old Salem

Page 8-10: Happenings, request, and job posting

Page 11-15: Thank you notices

Page 16: Official acts

Page 17: Attendance and access

Page 18-19: Staff and leadership

SALEM CELEBRATES 175 YEARS

In this 175th anniversary year, we are tempted to pause for a moment and take a good look at our dear Salem Lutheran Church, and when we do this, we can identify so much that gives us reason to celebrate. Our spirit-filled worship life (including inspiring musical offerings); our opportunities for religious education for members of all ages; opportunities for Christian service, both here in our own community as well as in areas far beyond Catonsville; our strong financial position; and perhaps most precious of all, our genuine love and concern for each other combine to make us a truly blessed community.

In 1974, as Salem celebrated its 125th anniversary, it was decided that a new history of the congregation would be a valuable and lasting remembrance of the celebration. The congregation asked a new member, Dr. Edward Orser, to undertake this project. Ed and Jo Orser were new members of the congregation after moving to our area as Ed began a 40-year professorship of American Studies at UMBC. His book, [*Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church, 125 years of Christian Ministry, 1849-1974*](#), continues to be an important source of congregational information.

It was with great sorrow that we said farewell to Ed at his funeral at Salem on January 20th this year. Pastor Dave in his sermon pointed out that Ed's book went beyond so many similar congregational histories in that it focuses on the spirit of the members through the years rather than just a list of building projects or the names of pastors.

Ed's book points out that our church's Christian ministry has taken differing forms in various periods of its history, and that change has not always been easy. He concluded by writing "...what is impressive in examining the record of Salem's 125-year ministry is its resilience in adapting the nature and character of that ministry to new times and new conditions. The challenge for the future, as for the past, is to be able to hold true to the basic commitment to Christian ministry while maintaining an openness to the possibility for reformation and renewal."

Those words are as true today as they were 50 years ago. We can say to each other and to ourselves, "A VERY HAPPY ANNIVERSARY".



ADULT FORUM FOR MARCH

We discussed Richard Rohr himself in an introductory discussion that included Chapter 1 of his book *The Universal Christ* on Feb, 18th. Here are the readings for the next month.

2/25 – Chapter 1-3

3/3 - Chapter 4-6

3/10 – Chapter 7-9

3/17 – Chapter 10-12

3/24 - Chapter 13-17

Join us for these interesting discussions at 9:30 a.m. in the Katie Luther room on Sunday mornings.

There will be no meeting on March 31 for Easter Sunday.

CHILDREN MINISTRY

In February Pastor Carolyn taught the children the story of the Good Samaritan, how many people walked by the injured man until the Samaritan came and took care of him. This led to a discussion on how we treat others. We made Valentine cards to share with someone and made a heart sun catcher to remind us of how Jesus's light shines in our hearts. The third Sunday we started to discuss Lent and how people observe Lent in different ways: some people give things up, others do extra acts of kindness while some people add extra Bible time to their daily schedule. The children made a game board to be able to follow the forty days of Lent. For March our topic will be courage. We will be learning about Miriam and Baby Moses, Moses and the 10 Commandments, Deborah, and how Naaman is healed with a focus on the bravery of the unnamed servant girl.

ARE YOU A HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR?

YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR A SALEM SCHOLARSHIP!

Making plans for the next step after graduation can be stressful for high school seniors and their families, especially with the increasing cost of higher education. Please keep in mind the ministry of Salem's Scholarship Program which, for over 30 years, has assisted Salem members as they take the next step in their academic pursuits. Stipends of up to \$1000 per year for a total of four years cover only a modest part of the total higher education bill, but can make a difference and serve as an important piece in defraying costs.

Salem scholarships recognize individuals based on any (or all) of the following categories: academic achievement; Christian character, service, and citizenship; educational and career goals; and financial need. We thoughtfully consider all of the ways in which students have applied their talents and interests, and therefore recognize the variety of post-high school educational experiences that may ultimately be the most appropriate for each student.

The deadline for 2024 applications is April 15. Salem's high school seniors will receive a personal letter inviting them to consider applying for the program, but it's not too early to learn about the program. If you want to learn more, a print brochure and application forms are available on the Salem web site, at the bottom under "For Salem Disciples".

SALEM WELCOMES NEW DISCIPLES



Deborah Andrews

Deborah lived in Maryland 20 years ago where she worked in real estate at Long & Foster. She then moved to Texas continuing her career with Keller-Williams. She returned to Maryland recently after retiring in 2021. She currently works part time at Miller's Grant Lutheran Village as a bartender and lives at Westchester condos.

Her faith background is Lutheran. Her mother was Lutheran deaconess. When she returned to Maryland she visited several churches in the area and spent a while attending the Methodist church. She was intrigued by the castle-like architecture at Salem. When she visited, she felt welcome

and eventually decided to become a member here. She attends the 11:00 service and sits on the left (lectern) side.

Paula Reisz

Paula Reisz's faith journey has taken her to many places. And now, for the second time, Salem is playing a part in that process. During her younger years, Paula traveled a great deal. Wherever she was, she'd pray that she'd find the right church for her, regardless of its denomination. "It was a wonderful adventure," she recalls, meeting different people and learning about their beliefs. Later living in Halethorpe, Paula and her husband, who were married in a Baltimore Lutheran church, worshiped at Salem during the early 2000's.

Fast forward to two decades later, when Paula decided that it was time to seek a congregation. "I was shopping around," she said, and so she repeated the prayer that had guided her before. This time, when she visited Salem, "I really felt that God was calling me here."

Paula is retired, having served as a nurse in Baltimore County schools for many years. Her last assignment was at Arbutus Elementary School. She has eleven grandchildren and is the great-grandmother of one. She and her sister enjoy quilting together, and she likes to read.

Paula's husband is a retired military veteran, and as such, she volunteers at the American Legion – Dewey Lowman Post in Arbutus. She speaks enthusiastically about the Doughboy Foundation's "Hello Girls" project, which works to commemorate the sacrifices made by women who served on the front lines during World War I. Paula noted that these women, who went on to work for women's suffrage in America, were unrecognized and underappreciated for years.

Now living in Catonsville, Paula enjoys walking to church whenever she can. And on a perfect weekend, she worships at both the Saturday evening service and again on Sunday at 11 a.m. Look for her in a pew on the aisle.



Eva Carey -Brown

Eva Carey-Brown is a native of Brooklyn, New York but has long ago lost her "accent." She now lives at Charlestown and was invited to attend Salem by Edie Hahn. At her very first service, she felt a sense of peace and is happily joining us as a member.

Eva worked at one time as a pharmaceutical liaison for the State of Maryland, the Department of Health and Hygiene. Her hobbies include walking and reading and she has done some cruises to the Caribbean. You'll find Eva at Saturday evening services.



Paul, Rachel & Eleanor Klingensmith

The Klingensmiths moved to the Baltimore area in 2020 and started attending Salem in July of 2023. Paul works for the government and Rachel is a stay-at-home parent. Eleanor will be turning 5 in April and will begin Kindergarten in the fall. Rachel was raised Catholic and Paul grew up Southern Baptist. Paul converted to Catholicism after he and Rachel married and together their faith journey led them to the Episcopal church then to the ELCA. Their search for a faith community that aligned with their beliefs have landed at Salem. They like the robust active children's ministry which was important for them for Eleanor. They also like that Salem is a community that believes in social action which aligns with their faith journey. Rachel and Paul are interested in learning more about the St. Dysmas program here at Salem and how they can help. Rachel has also accompanied Mary on several occasions with her flute on Sunday morning. In her spare time Rachel enjoys crocheting, sewing (she helped with making some of the Christmas pageant outfits this year) along with music especially playing woodwind instruments. Paul enjoys playing classic video games. As a family they all enjoy playing board games together.



Bhavna Ambalavanan

Born in England, Bhavna lived there until she was seven, and then lived in India for a year before coming to western Canada and the United States where she's lived various places since then. In 2021 she moved to Ellicott City to be near family in this area. After college she worked as a software designer for years, and then in the field of User Experience Design. More recently she has worked in freelance day trading. She's grateful that this affords her more time for personal interests and her spiritual journey. Enjoyment of music led her to sing with the Sweet Adelines Barbershop Chorus. She's also studied Indian Classical Singing.

She'd come to feel a strong sense of call to Jesus, to explore the Christian Church. Christmas Eve, yearning for a communal experience, she looked online for a local service and happened upon our 7:30 service. Drawn by the music and our expressed invitation, she came to the 10 p.m. service. Warmly welcomed and enriched by her experience, she returned for the Christmas morning service. At the Saturday evening service on December 30th, she told Pr. Dave that she wished to be baptized, and felt God's Spirit calling her to be baptized before the new year. We were blessed to celebrate her baptism the next morning.

Her first name in Hindu tradition means "meditation", and that has been a rich channel in her searching. She has taught meditation in the men's and women's prisons, working with Pr. Sue Beck of St. Dysmas.

It was only after coming to worship that she realized this was the congregation for which her barbershop chorus had sung at the FOP Lodge a few weeks before, and discovered that Pr. Sue has her office here at Salem. She now sings in the Salem Choir.

All this has given her a strong sense that Salem is the right place for her to be now in her journey, and she looks forward to growing in her faith along with us.

Pastor Sigurd and Jean Arnesen

Pastor Sigurd and Jean Arnesen were both members of a large Norwegian Lutheran Church in Brooklyn, NY. Brooklyn was always Sig's home; and Jean's family moved there in her youth. They didn't know one another until they happened to sit beside each other at a wedding reception. There was such sufficient spark that Sig told his folks that night that he'd met the woman he intended to marry. And marry they did. This was following Sig's Army service and graduation from St. Olaf College.

Then living in Cleveland, at age 30 Sig decided to attend seminary. They moved to St. Paul and upon graduation from Luther Seminary in 1961 he was ordained in the American Lutheran Church (which merged with the LCA to form the ELCA in 1987). His first call was to serve a struggling mission church "out in the orange groves" near Sarasota, Florida. The congregation became well established and in 1969 the Church called him to a new challenge, to serve Faith Lutheran Church on North Avenue in Baltimore City. It was the year after the riots and urban congregations were in crisis. Throughout the next years, by their efforts in the congregation and in the community, he led the church's integration. In his work with the community, he became well acquainted with such Baltimore leaders as Clarence Du Burns, Thos. D'Alesandro, and Kurt Schmoke.

Across the years, though busy raising six children, Jean was very actively involved in the life of the congregations and the community—teaching Sunday School, leading the Women's Group, serving on Church Council, singing in the choir, directing children's choir, volunteering at a free clinic, Meals on Wheels, at Union Memorial Hospital as a hospice volunteer and then working there.

When Sig retired 33 years ago they moved to Georgia; finding that there were no churches in the area, he started a mission congregation. He served several interim positions. One was in Ocean Springs, Mississippi after half the homes were destroyed in Hurricane Katrina. The church housed 200 volunteers. Sig recalls working 12 hour days. Last year he and Jean returned to Baltimore to be near family here, living at Charlestown. They visited a dozen churches before they decided to join Salem. Jean has joined the choir and remarked that they keep discovering new, interesting and wonderful things in the life and ministries of Salem.



WHAT IS THE PRAYER TREE AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

A database of email addresses is maintained by the tech committee and the 2 people who issue prayer requests. This is done by issuing prayer petitions (requests) to the people who have asked to participate.

If you would like to participate in praying for others, contact the prayertree and supply your name and email address and you will be added to the mailing list and receive prayer requests.

If you would like to add a prayer request to the Salem prayer tree, send your request directly to the prayer tree at prayertree@salem-catonville.org or email Barbara Beem (odd months) barbarambeem@gmail.com or Karen Amy (even months) at karenamy888@gmail.com.

Please know that your pastor is available to you for private conversation, prayer, and pastoral care. To be in contact with Pastor Dave, call the church office at (410) 747-0720 or his cell (443) 761-1905. You can also email him at pastordave@salem-catonville.org. To be in contact with Pastor Carolyn, call the church office at (410) 747-0720. You can email her at pastorcarolyn@salem-catonville.org.

HISTORIC OLD SALEM NEWS

On Saturday, March 2nd, the Board of Directors of Old Salem hosted an indoor Craft Fair/Flea Market in Bethany Hall with lots of vendors selling their amazing crafts and special treasures. We had delicious food and a bake table filled with all sorts of delicacies. Breakfast and lunch items were available throughout the event for a nominal fee and enjoyed by everyone. The Board appreciates that we were able to host this indoor event since the last time we did have an indoor event like this was March 2020, right before the COVID plague came upon us and we faced “home detention” for the next two years.

I, on behalf of the Board, extend our sincerest thanks to Beth Rodgers and Treen Null for volunteering their time in helping out in the kitchen, to all the vendors who shared their crafts, special treasures, and/or Fair Trade items for sale, to all the bakers who baked their delicious goods for our bake table sale, to all the people who came to shop and enjoy the food prepared in Salem’s kitchen, to all who took a chance or two on our raffles, to all the Old Salem Board members for their hard work in making this a success, and most of all to Salem’s Pastor Dave, Pastor Carolyn, and Church Council members who supported us in this endeavor. Thank you to everyone.

Upcoming events to be a part of:

We will again host our outside yard sale on **Saturday, May 4th from 8 a.m. to noon in the Salem parking lot.** Spaces are \$15 each and you will need to provide your own table or display set up. Reservations are being taken now; contact Sharon Stanton memsha7311@gmail.com or place a note with your name and contact info in the Historic Old Salem mailbox outside the Church office.

Sunday, May 12th 9:30 a.m. – Judy LeGath and Michele Trump Miller, two of our Board members, will share Salem’s history through the early years of our congregation’s forming in 1849 and worshiping at our original church, now what we call Old Salem. Judy and Michele will lead the discussion at Salem’s Adult Forum in the Katie Luther room. All are invited.

Sunday, June 2nd – 2 – 4 p.m. – Judy Legath will share a wonderful, informative program about Gustav Lurman, a local Baltimore businessman, who was one of the primary financiers contributing to our first congregation to help build the church. Mr. Lurman was a Catonsville resident, having purchased the estate known as “Bloomsbury” in 1848 and then renaming it “Farmlands”. The property remained in the Lurman family until 1948 when it was sold to Baltimore County Board of Education, who then built Catonsville High School in the 1950’s on the corner of S. Rolling Road and Bloomsbury Avenue. Our program will be held at Old Salem, 701 Ingleside Avenue. Everyone is invited to attend and of course, we’ll have refreshments following the presentation.

Wednesday, July 31st - bus trip - come for a 3 hour crab feast/cruise on the Dorothy Megan paddle wheel boat out of Suicide Bridge marina in Hurlock, Maryland. Menu is Maryland crab soup, corn on the cob, cole slaw, fried clam strips, fried chicken, steamed crabs, dessert and non-alcoholic beverages. Cost of the trip is \$120 per person inclusive. Taking reservations now {45 seats} with money due by June 30th.

Friday, December 6th – bus trip – American Music Theater for their Christmas Show with a family style lunch at Hershey Farms which includes fried chicken, ham, mashed potatoes, two vegetables, rolls/butter, non-alcoholic drinks, and pie & ice cream for dessert. Cost of the trip is \$128 per person inclusive. And yes, you can reserve a seat now {there are 47 tickets available}, but money is not due until November 1st.

Our next Old Salem Board meeting is Wednesday, May 15th at 7 p.m. in the Katie Luther room. Interested in joining the Board which meets 4 times a year or if you’d want to learn more about our Board, please come to our meeting. Contact Sharon Stanton - memsha7311@gmail.com or call 410-744-8724 for more information and/or to make reservations.

SHOWCASE DISPLAYERS 2024:

Thank you to Jo Orser who shared hers and Ed's whimsical collection of push button collapsible toys that they began collecting while serving in the Peace Corps in Ethiopia many years ago. Their collection grew through their years of traveling throughout the world.

Hope you had an opportunity to see the February showcase which was just a small portion of the wonderful collection of Old Salem materials contained in our Church Archives maintained by Judy Legath. Thank you, Judy, for choosing the unique pictures featuring the many scenes at Old Salem.

March's showcase comes from Pastor Ed Whetstone. It's entitled "Whetstones and Whetstone Holders, 300 – 1930. Fascinating, so take some time to check it out!

FAITH&FILM SERIES

Salem's FAITH&FILM SERIES continues in March with "Are You There, God? It's Me, Margaret," based on the book, loved by millions, by Judy Blume. This film adaptation tells the story of a young girl's journey moving from NYC to NJ, meeting/making new friends and going through the awkwardness of growing up. ***"This is without a doubt one of the most enjoyable movies of 2023 so far and one of the easiest and purest recommendations I can make."*** Ann Hornaday, Wash Post. Almost a perfect score on Rotten Tomatoes: loved by 99% of 223 critics with a audience score of over 95%. A film for everyone and all ages.

FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 7PM in Reformation Hall. All are welcome; shown with closed captions. Invite your friends – do them a favor !!!



CEA PROGRAM ASSISTANT

Catonsville Emergency Assistance (CEA), a local non-profit organization providing neighbors in need with emergency food, utility, and eviction assistance, is seeking a Part-Time Program Assistant (25 hours per week). The Program Assistant is the initial point of contact for community members in need of assistance. This role requires strong interpersonal skills, the ability to multitask, excellent communication skills, and patience. A typical day at CEA for a Program Assistant consists of answering phone inquiries, scheduling appointments, assisting, and advising those in need of services, distributing food, restocking freezers and food shelves, and other office assistant duties as assigned. This Program Assistant will partner with another Program Assistant in separation of duties related to client and volunteer management. This is a rigorous four-day week (Monday through Thursday), where the Program Assistant will serve over 40 clients per week, including 5-10 individual meetings with clients in need of eviction and utility assistance.

REFUGEE TASK FORCE SEEKING A CAR

The Task Force is searching for someone willing to donate their car to our refugee family. The car we planned to give them is not now suitable. If you're mindful of a possibility, please contact Jeff Rasmussen, Dave Trump or Pastor Ed. Rohail, now a senior at Catonsville High, earned his driving license a few weeks ago. Having a driver in the family will literally change a daily challenge of their lives.

Around the Parish

- We bade Farewell and Godspeed to Emma Schutz at the 11 a.m. worship service on Sunday, February 11. Emma is headed to Indiana to take a new job. She was only with us for less than a year but we were very blessed to get to know her and wish her the very best out west.
- The International Student's Group of UMBC held a pre-Valentine's Day social event in Bethany Hall on Saturday, February 9. Earl and Mary Ann Ruley are two of the sponsors of the group, and report that everyone had a wonderful time.
- We raised over \$1,000 for the Youth Trip to New Orleans and a fun and well-attended Shrove Tuesday Supper.

Interior LED Lighting Energy Savings Upgrade

In late January Salem submitted an application to the EmPOWER Maryland program for no cost installation of energy efficient interior LED lighting. BGE recently approved our application and installation will begin in late February/early March. The most noticeable difference will be new two by four-foot overhead lighting fixtures in Bethany Hall, office, choir, and various meeting rooms. No changes for the Nave, Reformation Hall, or the stage areas. The installation will take approximately three weekdays. Salem will see a decrease in electricity use after installation, stay tuned for additional details.

Church Council Meeting Highlights

- Received a report on the Youth Group from Pastor Carolyn. Melissa Miller and Veronica Meriman will be co-chairing the Youth Committee.

Refugee Fund Closed

The Refugee Task Force has finished their work with the Durani family and are very pleased to be able to report they are doing well.

There is no longer a need for financial contributions to Salem's Refugee Fund. If you feel called to help financially support refugees, please consider directing your contributions to Global Refuge/MIRS.

www.globalrefuge.org

Spring Cleaning Time!!

The Salem Technology Committee will be sponsoring an electronics recycling date with JunkLuggers on Saturday May 11, from 10 am to 12 noon. Computers, Monitors, printers, TVs, phones, toasters, vacuum cleaners, lights (even Christmas lights!)....anything with a plug.

4th Monday Bible Study Continues Discussion of Ezekiel

The 4th Monday Bible Study meets in the Katie Luther Room on the 2nd floor at 1 pm. The discussion is recorded and usually available the next day. Approximately 5-10 folks gather with Pastor Asendorf. Currently the group is reading the Book of Ezekiel. They will be beginning at Chapter 20 on Monday, March 25 (Maryland Day!!). Please drop in if you can.



Baltimore West/Anne Arundel Conference Seeking Nominations

The Delaware-Synod's Baltimore West/Anne Arundel Conference is seeking nominations from lay persons interested in:

Serving on the Synod Council which meets about monthly. The Synod Council oversees the work and mission of the DE-MD Synod in a very similar manner as to how a Church Council oversees the work and mission of a congregation.

Serving as a voting delegate to the Churchwide Assembly in Phoenix Arizona from July 28 to August 2, 2025.

Please see Pastor Dave or Pastor Carolyn for more information and to express interest.

Men's Prayer Breakfast

Salem's Men's Prayer Breakfast gathers every Wednesday morning both in person and on Zoom for a time of prayer and conversation. The group meets on the 2nd floor of the Katie Luther Room at 8 am and the meeting usually ends by 9 am. Feel free to bring a breakfast sandwich, pastry or whatever passes for breakfast. Earl Ruley and Guy Davis would be glad to share more about this robust gathering.



Parish Directories Available

Please keep an eye out for the latest Salem Parish Directory that will be available in the narthex before and after services. Please just take one copy per household. The directory has the latest contact information for the Salem membership.

SALEM Sheep + Lambs Easter Egg Hunt

All young families are welcome to join us for our first ever Easter Egg Hunt! Youth elementary aged and younger will meet in Reformation Hall on Easter between services before heading out to find Easter eggs throughout the church. For more information, contact Pastor Carolyn.

THANKS A MILLION



Lutheran Volunteer Corps

UNITING PEOPLE TO WORK FOR PEACE WITH JUSTICE

February 12, 2024

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church
905 Frederick Rd
Catonsville, MD 21228-4517

Dear Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church:

Thank you for your support of LVC fellowships. Your gift helped us continue the service experience at no cost to LVC fellows, with LVC covering the costs for housing, utilities, transportation, health insurance, programming, and administration. Because of your generosity:

- Nine LVC fellows were gifted the year-of-service experience in Washington DC and Minneapolis MN; with virtual fellows serving from their hometowns.
- Fellowships included intentional community in LVC housing, year-long placements with nonprofit partners, and exploration of spirituality and LVC values.
- The service experience was provided at no cost to LVC fellows, and they received a modest monthly stipend.
- LVC continued monthly, national program days, bringing everyone together to take deeper dives into social justice topics like activism and voting rights; while learning to use a social justice lens to reimagine the possibilities.

In Fall 2023, LVC organized alumni-led Zooms to galvanize support; and in early 2024 hired an interim executive director to continue conversations about LVC's future. With more fellowship applications in January than in all recent years, we are excited about the days ahead.

This letter includes a summary of your gifts for 2023. We'll continue to keep you updated on activities through our e-newsletter in the days ahead (as long as we have your email address).

With gratitude,

Deirdre Bagley
President, Lutheran Volunteer Corps

Thank you for your gift. No goods or services were received in exchange for this donation. Lutheran Volunteer Corps (LVC) is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization, Tax EIN: 02-0702016. Contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Keep this document for your records and tax purposes. Unless your donation is anonymous, your name may be published for recognition.

| Item | Received Date | Amount Received | Non-Deductible Amount | Tax Deductible Amount | Fund Name |
|------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| 1 | 06/09/2023 | \$1,200.00 | \$0.00 | \$1,200.00 | General Fund |
| | Total: | \$1,200.00 | \$0.00 | \$1,200.00 | |

National Office 1226 Vermont Ave NW, Washington, DC 20005 • 202.387.3222 • www.lutheranvolunteercorps.org

Thank You!



Thank You!

January 23, 2024

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church
905 Frederick Rd
Catonsville, MD 21228-4517

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your organization's recent gift of \$3,651.77 to Lutheran World Relief! When you love your neighbors with your generous gifts to LWR, you change lives in amazing ways.

For Walaa Ali al Ali, a Syrian refugee living in Lebanon, your love arrived in the form of a beehive. As the primary breadwinner for her family — including her mother, her developmentally disabled brother, a niece and a nephew — she struggled to find work amid Lebanon's economic crisis. Her family was safe from the war in Syria, but they didn't have access to adequate food or basic medical care.

Through LWR, Walaa enrolled in a livelihoods program for refugees and received all the training and supplies she needed to start a business as a beekeeper. With the money she earned, she also planted a vegetable garden to help feed her family. Now she's earning enough to keep her family afloat, and she's even training other women how to produce and sell honey.

Thank you for saving and transforming lives by loving your neighbors like Walaa!

We'd love to show you more examples of your gift in action. Please visit www.lwr.org and sign up to receive the latest updates. If you have any questions, please contact us at 800.597.5972 or lwr@lwr.org.

Thank you again, and God bless you!

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Daniel Speckhard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Daniel" and last name "Speckhard" clearly legible.

Ambassador Daniel V. Speckhard (ret.)
President and CEO



515 South Haven Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21224
410-558-0932
www.mealsonwheelsmd.org

February 2024

Pastor David K. Asendorf
905 Frederick Road
Catonsville, MD 21228-4517

Dear Pastor Asendorf:

On behalf of our Board of Directors, volunteers, staff, and most importantly, those we serve, please accept my deepest gratitude for the thoughtful donation of \$1,200.00 received on 2/7/2024 in support of Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland.

Because of generous donors like you and our more than 2,000 dedicated volunteers, we deliver over 4,000 meals a day to older adults who rely on us for nourishment, social support, and peace of mind.

Your contribution not only provides meal delivery, but it also ensures access to the other safety net support services that make us *'more than a meal™'* – services such as pet food delivery, home repairs and safety modifications, and regular wellness checks.

As the older adult community continues to grow, our services are more important now than ever. Despite the many challenges of today, we remain determined to fulfill our mission to keep homebound aging and disabled adults living safely and independently at home. As we look toward the future, with you by our side, we are confident in our ability to serve.

Thank you again for your kind support. We accept it as confirmation that you share our vision for a community in which aging is defined by health, dignity, independence, and self-determination.

For more information on our services and the impact your gift makes, please visit www.mealsonwheelsmd.org.

Gratefully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stephanie Archer-Smith".

Stephanie Archer-Smith
Executive Director and CEO



WITH OPEN ARMS

MAR-LU-RIDGE

MAR-LU-RIDGE CAMP & RETREAT CENTER

3200 Mar Lu Ridge Road

301.874.5544

Jefferson, MD 21755

mlr@mar-lu-ridge.org

Rev. David Asendorf
905 Frederick Rd.
Catonsville MD 21228

Dear Pr. Dave,

Thank you for your support for the With Open Arms campaign at Mar-Lu-Ridge. We are grateful for your vision and commitment as we work to upgrade our facilities to be fully inclusive for people with mobility challenges. As our mission statement says, we welcome all. Taking these steps to renovate the Ridge Inn and Cabin 3, as well as create a safer environment throughout our camp, will assure that we truly can welcome and include everyone.

Your gift of \$271.43 from the congregation has been received and is greatly appreciated. Thanks so much.

We look forward to sharing updates along the way. Thank you again for your support of With Open Arms.

A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. John 13:34

1/2024

Peace,

Sarah

Sarah Lefler
Executive Director

Dear Pastor Dave,

Thank you and the entire Salem Lutheran congregation for your continued support of Catonsville Emergency Assistance (CEA). With your generous monetary and food donations, we are able to continue our mission of helping our neighbors in need. We look forward to our continued partnership in 2024.

*Sincerely, Caitlin Kelly
Executive Director*



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

February 12, 2024

Thank You

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church
905 Frederick Rd
Catonsville, MD 21228-4517

Dear Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$4,748.66 to the ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

"[Jesus said,] 'Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?' [The lawyer] said, 'The one who showed him mercy.' Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'"
(Luke 10:36-37)

As a church, we are freed by the transformative life of Christ, and this freedom emboldens us to love and serve our neighbors just as Christ has shown us. Your gifts to the ministries of the ELCA help people around the world feel the power of God's love.

With your gifts you are putting God's love into action – living faithfully, witnessing boldly, serving joyfully and giving abundantly. Your generosity allows this church to continue to spread the good news of Jesus Christ by equipping leaders, positioning communities to grow and sharing the love of a faithful and abiding God.

Thank you for your gracious gifts. The glory of God shines through you.

With gratitude,

Rachel Wind

Rachel Wind
Executive for Development

Gift date: 2/5/2024

Gifts are designated for:

ELCA: Where needed most

\$4,748.66

Total contribution:

\$4,748.66

OFFICIAL ACTS**AT THE GRAVE**

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

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Leslie Brooks Steirer*</i> | <i>01/04/2024</i> |
| <i>Meril E. Weimer*</i> | <i>01/06/2024</i> |
| <i>Edward Orser</i> | <i>01/20/2024</i> |
| <i>Ellen Rapson Miller*</i> | <i>02/05/2024</i> |

**Not a Salem member*

ATTENDANCE REPORT FOR

| | Saturday Evening | Sunday Service | | Other | Livestream | Weekly* Total |
|--------------------|------------------|----------------|--------|-------|------------|---------------|
| | | First | Second | | | |
| Jan 6/7 | 14 | 64 | 100 | | 10/29 | 217 |
| Jan 13/14 | 26 | 54 | 79 | | 8/31 | 198 |
| Jan 20/21 | 16 | 56 | 80 | | 16/43 | 211 |
| Jan 27/28 | 33 | 61 | 84 | | 11/38 | 227 |
| Feb 3/4 | 22 | 60 | 114 | | 8/29 | 233 |
| Feb 10/11 | 38 | 68 | 81 | | 9/31 | 382 |
| Feb 14 Charlestown | | | | 23 | N/A | |
| Feb 14 afternoon | | | | 40 | 10 | |
| Feb 14 evening | | | | 72 | 10 | |
| Feb 17/18 | 30 | 50 | 101 | | 9/36 | 323 |
| Feb 21 | | | | 70 | 27 | |
| Feb 24/25 | 28 | 65 | 99 | | 11/28 | 309 |
| Feb 28 | | | | 71 | 7 | |

*Week reflects Saturday through Friday

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 **Salem-Church**.

If you have any questions about our network please contact the Technology Committee Chairperson, Steve Kopp, at salemtech@salem-catonsville.org.

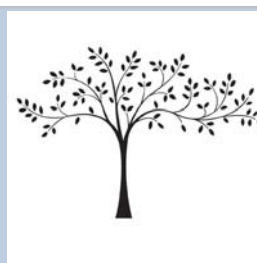
**SMART PHONE QR CODE****AVAILABLE FOR GIVING**

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.



PARISH LEADERS

Altar Guild: Mary Krebs
Archive Committee: Judy LeGath
Arts Committee: Tricia Morgan
Child Protection Committee: Linda Fleischer
Children's Ministry Committee: Eileen Merriman, Zoë Dell
Christian Fellowship Committee: Darla Sando, Pam Wilsey
Communications Committee: Guy Davis, Karen Amy
Evangelism Committee: Nicki Fatherly
Finance Committee: Ken Wolfram
Guardians of Eden: Norma Hensler-Davis
Health Resources: Beth Rodgers, Lynda Bell
Historic Old Salem: Sharon Stanton
Memorial and Bequests: Paul W. Krabitz
Mutual Ministry (Pastor Asendorf): vacant
Prayer Tree Coordinators: Karen Amy, Barbara Beem
Property: Rusty Schaefer
Salem Players: Lisa Yerkey
Scholarship: Sue Gdovin
Social Ministry: Mary Kay Willing
Stewardship Committee: John Brohawn
Technology Support Committee: Lisa Yerkey
Ushers: Mary Krebs, Ray Hamelin
Youth Ministry Committee: Veronica Merriman and Melissa Miller
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

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

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

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Director of Contemporary Music: Sid Meier

Worship Technology Director: Joey Morgan

Office Manager: Jeff Tsai
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Sextons: Lirije Alaj, Letty Monahan

CHURCH COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

President: Emily D'Avella

Vice-President: Ray Giuliani

Secretary: Becky Bass

Financial Secretary: Beth Massey

Assistant Financial Secretary: Linda Fleischer

Treasurer: Ray Hamelin

Assistant Treasurer Jane Stolte

CHURCH COUNCIL

Becky Bass
Debbie Brohawn
Ron Bruce
Tom Brzezinski
Emily D'Avella
Ray Giuliani

Pat Krenzke Jennings
Katie Leisher
Nick Mason
Veronica Merriman
John Pfluger
Lisa Yerkey

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

Contributing Photographers
Guy Davis

Proofreading
Sharon Stanton

NEXT MONARCH PUBLICATION

2024

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

We are on the Web!

www.salem-catonsville.org



www.facebook.com/salemlutheranchurch.catonsville



Evangelical Lutheran Church In America
www.elca.org



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

SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Catonsville, MD 21228-4517

Change Service Requested
TIME VALUE