



FAITH & FILM SERIES

A series of feature films celebrating faith in our lives

2025 – Winter/Spring

Fridays, 7 PM in Reformation Hall at Salem Lutheran Church

905 FREDERICK ROAD. CATONSVILLE, MD. (410) 747 - 0720

shown with closed captions. Bring your favorite snack all are welcome!



The Faith and Film series is about celebrating life and inspiring each of us through the power of story. Since the advent of the movies, there have been countless stories that have reached in and touched the soul. Consider the power of story to move you along in your journey. Consider the power of story to remind each of us of the importance of faith, hope and love. Consider the potential for the world to be a better place. And consider the possibility that films change people and people change the world. This series will be shown in the Reformation Hall at Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church and the community is invited to attend. All showings are at 7 PM. All films are shown with closed captions. All this information and more can be found on the church web page: <https://salem-catonville.org> or call the Church Office: 410-747-0720

PAUL, APOSTLE OF CHRIST

Friday, February 28, 2025 7:00 PM

PAUL, APOSTLE OF CHRIST is the story of two men. Luke, as a friend and physician, risks his life every time he ventures into the city of Rome to visit Paul, who is held captive in Nero's darkest, bleakest prison cell. Before Paul's death sentence can be enacted, Luke resolves to write another book, one that details the beginnings of "The Way" and the birth of what will come to be known as the church. Three plots interweave with Luke, who is connected to each thread: the central plot of Paul in prison; the persecution of the Christian community; and the illness of the daughter of a fictional Roman soldier, Mauritius, the prison's warden. ***"This is a film deserving of a wide audience; it is a strong presentation of forgiveness, grace and mercy, and is exceedingly wise in its portrayal of love."*** *The Reporter: Official Newspaper of the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod* Released in 2018. **Rated: PG-13 – 108 minutes**

ARTHUR THE KING

Friday, March 14, 2025 7:00 PM

Over the course of ten days and 435 miles, an unbreakable bond is forged between pro adventure racer Michael Light (Mark Wahlberg) and a scrappy street dog companion dubbed Arthur. Based on an incredible true story, ARTHUR THE KING follows Light, desperate for one last chance to win, as he convinces a sponsor to back him and a team of athletes (Simu Liu, Nathalie Emmanuel, and Ali Suliman) for the Adventure Racing World Championship in the Dominican Republic. As the team is pushed to their outer limits of endurance in the race, Arthur redefines what victory, loyalty and friendship truly mean. ***"Arthur the King is a feel-good movie with enough excitement and heartwarming drama to entertain the whole family."*** *Los Angeles Times* The web page, Rotten Tomatoes, audiences gave it a favorable 97% rating; quite an achievement! **Rated: PG-13. 107 minutes**

WADJDA

Friday, March 28, 2025. 7:00 PM

In the 2000s, Wadjda, a spirited 10-year-old living in [Riyadh](#), dreams of owning a green bicycle that she passes at a store every day on her way to school. She wants to race her friend Abdullah, a boy from her neighborhood, but riding bikes is frowned upon for girls and Wadjda's mother refuses to buy one for her. It was the first feature film shot entirely in Saudi Arabia and the first feature-length film made by a female Saudi director. It won numerous awards at film festivals around the world. The film was selected as the Saudi Arabian entry for the [Best Foreign Language Film](#) at the [86th Academy Awards](#) (the first time the country made a submission for the Oscars). ***"Though people will talk about how it breaks boundaries and how pioneering it is, that's not what you most need to know. What you most need to know is that it's fascinating, involving, moving, an entirely excellent film in its own right."*** *Chicago Times*. **Rated 99% favorable reviews from over 120 major film critics on Rotten Tomatoes. Released 2012. Rated: PG. 98 minutes**

RISEN

Friday, April 25, 2025

The first forty days after the Resurrection of Jesus Christ is told through the eyes of a Roman Centurion charged by Pontius Pilate to investigate rumors of a risen Jewish Messiah and locate the missing deceased body of Jesus of Nazareth in order to subdue an imminent uprising in Jerusalem. During the Centurion's mission, his doubts of such a supernatural occurrence peel away as he encounters the Apostles and other historic biblical characters and bears witness to the legendary storied events that followed the Resurrection. A great mystery unfolds during Centurion's quest to find the body and he is deeply affected by his first-person investigation, as his previous beliefs on the matter are forever altered based on what he's now witnessed. The outstanding cast, includes Joseph Fiennes (Shakespeare in Love, Luther). **"As faith-based films go, RISEN is one of the better ones."** Roger Ebert.com. Released 2016. Rating: PG-13. 107 minutes.

DEPARTURES

Friday, May 9, 2025 | 7:00 PM

DEPARTURES (2008's Oscar winner from Japan for Best Foreign Film) follows Diago, a devoted cellist in a symphony orchestra that has just been dissolved and who is suddenly left without a job. He decides to move back to his old hometown with his wife to look for work and start over. He answers a classified ad entitled "Departures" thinking it is an advertisement for a travel agency only to discover that the job is actually for a "Nokanshi" or "encoffineer," a funeral professional who prepares deceased bodies for burial and entry into the next life. While his wife and others despise the job, Diago takes a certain pride in his work and begins to perfect the art of "Nokanshi," acting as a gentle gatekeeper between life and death, between the departed and the family of the departed. The film follows his profound and sometimes comical journey with death as he uncovers the wonder, joy and meaning of life and living. A film that has been out of circulation for years and is rarely shown due to distribution issues, left New York critic, Andrew Sarris, stating: *"I regard Departures as the most moving film I have ever seen commemorating the bonds between the living and the departed; an incredibly fulfilling movie experience."* Winner of "Best Picture" at 8 international film festivals. Released in 2008. **Rated: PG-13 - 130 minutes**

