



THE MONARCH

SALEM LENTEN SCHEDULE

“Lent: Forty days granted us in which to marvel at a love too great for words” —Roger of Taizé

March 4

5:30-7:30pm, Bethany Hall

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner and Youth Group Fundraiser

March 5

2pm and 7:30pm, Sanctuary

Ash Wednesday Worship

March 12, 19, 26; April 2, 9

6:30pm, Bethany Hall

Lenten Soup Supper—sign up sheet in Narthex

March 12, 19, 26; April 2, 9

7:30pm, Sanctuary

Lenten Mid-week Worship with Salem Disciple Reflections

Lenten Adult Forum

Pastor Dave will be leading Adult Forum with a series on Lenten practices, Sunday morning at 9:30am, starting March 2.

March 2: An overview of the Season of Lent

March 9: Cleaning Up the Glass

March 16: Pondering God’s Love

March 23: Letting God be #1

March 30: Holy Listening Lectio Divina

April 6: Prayer Over Possessions

April 13: Palm Sunday - Holy Week Journey

Adult Forum will be held in the Katie Luther Room except the April 13th session, which will be held in the Wittenberg Room.



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MONARCH ON-LINE

Salem’s Monarch is available on-line at www.salem-catonville.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.

SAVE THE DATE: PASTOR DAVE'S RETIREMENT PARTY

Saturday June 7, 6:30pm at FOP Lodge, 2832 Nine Mile Cir, Catonsville, MD 21228

An all-ages potluck dinner with reflections celebrating Pastor Dave's accomplishments at Salem, plus special Salem entertainment! Come and celebrate Pastor Dave!

RSVP and potluck signup will be available in late April in the Narthex. For more information, contact Pastor Carolyn (pastorcarolyn@salem-catonsville.org) or Paul and Lynda Bell (410-314-1706)



SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATES

For the month of February we focused on Inclusion and Kindness. We started the month with a service project of making placemats for Meals on Wheels. We then did a week on Love, where we did activities on working together and being kind to everyone. This carried over to a lesson on All are Welcome and ended with the Good Shepherd and who in our lives are shepherds to us. The students made sheep craft and played a game of herding the sheep.

SALEM SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION NOW ONLINE

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 \$1,000 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 2025 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 website, at the bottom under "For Salem Disciples".

NEW DISCIPLES

The Tracy Family

Welcome to the Tracy family: parents Marcus and Stephanie and their three children: Judah (5 yr old), Arlo (4 yr old) and Iris (2 yr old). They have lived in Catonsville since 2020. Both parents are from the area. Marcus grew up in Catonsville and Stephanie is from Ellicott City.

Both of them moved to the west coast where they met each other and started their family .

They moved back east to the eastern shore, and then to Catonsville to be near family when Arlo was born.

Marcus is Director of Operations at Kirken Gates and Stephanie is a wedding assistant at the Tidewater Inn.

Both of them enjoy outdoor activities like fishing and hiking. Stephanie also likes gardening and reading. Stephanie grew up in the Roman Catholic faith at St Paul's Catholic Church and Marcus was a member of Catonsville Presbyterian Church

They are friends of Dan and Natalie Miller. Dan is Mary Miller's son and that is how they found their way to Salem. The children attend Sunday School and both parents look forward to being active at Salem.



Anne Evans

For Anne Evans, her journey to Salem began on a bicycle. . .a stationary bike, that is. Pedaling away for five minutes at a time last fall, she would look out the window of the physical therapy center where she was a patient and see that there was a Lutheran church across the street. She noted that its name was "Salem."

Anne reported back to her daughter Rachel, whose family attends the Lutheran church in their home in Tomball, Texas. And as it happens, that church's name is also "Salem Lutheran." Rachel encouraged her Mom to check out the one in Catonsville. Taking her daughter's advice, Anne went online and saw that there was a group for needleworkers. "I love to crochet," she said. "My mother taught me when I was a teenager." And so she visited the Stitchcrafters. The coincidences didn't stop there, as Anne learned that her son and his family live in Catonsville just a few doors down from Stitchcrafter Katie LeCourse.

The pieces continued to fall in place, but with one hitch. Hip surgery prevented Anne from joining the Salem congregation last fall. But having found her new church home, Anne was a member of the most recent disciples' class. What we might not have known about Anne before: Back in the 1980s, she and her family hosted an English teacher from Finland as part of an exchange program. The two have remained friends, and Anne is hoping to visit her again next year.

And this: Anne loves cats. And they love her back. Word seems to have gotten out to the felines in her Halethorpe neighborhood ("they find me"). Her brood is currently down to four furry friends: Bruce, Quincy, Charlie, and Oscar, three of whom were feral. And what doesn't come as a surprise: "I've always had a deep faith," having grown up Lutheran in nearby Pasadena. "Crochet just brought me back." Call it a series of signs. "I'm happy."

FORMATION CO OP UPDATES

"[Thus says the Lord:] I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth; do you not perceive it?"

Isaiah 43:19

In the forty-third chapter of Isaiah, God encourages God's people to envision and imagine a new way—water in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. Where previously there was dry and empty land becomes an oasis for all life to flourish.

This year, Salem has embarked upon a 'new thing' as one of its strategic goals: the Formation Co Op. This is a nationwide program of the ELCA; its goal is to root young people in a lifelong, transformative faith in Jesus Christ through lifegiving communities. Through listening to the needs of youth in our communities, members of the Co Op discern new visions for youth ministry in their context.

Throughout the fall, the Formation Co Op Committee at Salem met with internal Salem groups and external community partners for listening sessions. These listening sessions began by having members share formative faith experiences as youth in their own lives before turning to the challenges and opportunities young people face today. Groups were asked to share their reflections on Salem's strengths, growing edges, and assets in youth ministry. Listening sessions concluded with questions about potential partnerships in our area.

After these listening sessions were concluded, two members of the Formation Co Op attended training in Louisville, Kentucky to process what was heard and to discern where the Holy Spirit may be guiding Salem. Pastor Carolyn and Christy Hensler-Davis met with our Formation Co Op guide Melissa Whitman (all present in the above photo) to form a potential ministry plan that will be implemented in the fall of 2025.

From this training, the Formation Co Op Committee has articulated the following as a new vision statement for Salem's youth ministry: Salem strives to empower our youth to participate authentically in the Body of Christ. With this vision in mind the Formation Co Op is considering: a mentorship program to connect confirmands and adults through mutual learning and spiritual growth; changes to our confirmation curriculum; changes to our Sunday morning youth curriculum and schedule; and creating opportunities for our youth to be leaders in Sunday School and worship.

Are you feeling called to 'do a new thing' with us? How you can help:

- Include the Formation Co Op regularly in your prayers
- Volunteer to be a mentor or youth group leader
- Get involved in the Formation Co Op by emailing Pastor Carolyn (pastorcarolyn@salem-catonsville.org) The Co Op meets monthly on Zoom; usually the 3rd Sunday at 3pm.

Through this program, we pray that God is 'doing a new thing' as promised in Isaiah so that our youth ministry may be a place for all young people to flourish in the grace, love, and mercy of our Triune God.

Peace and blessings,

Pastor Carolyn



DRAMA CAMP 2025

Greetings and WELCOME SPRING!! (We Hope)

Salem Drama Camp will take place this year from June 30th to July 25th. Camp runs daily from 8:30 -1:30 for ages 6-13. The cost is \$400 for the 4 weeks. This includes a great deal of theatrical fun, set and prop crafting, games, a tee shirt and two evening performances. Registration is open. A nonrefundable \$25 deposit is due with the registration slip. Have questions? Contact Miss Anita at phrogdiva@verizon.net or 443- 707-9842.

Summer Drama Camp Registration

Salem Lutheran Church Ages 6-13

June 30- July 25, 2025 8:30AM- 1:30 PM

Participants Name: _____ Tee Shirt size: _____ (Youth or Adult)

Address: _____

Guardians name: _____

Cell Phone: _____ additional phone: _____

e-mail: _____

Alternate Emergency Contact

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Persons allowed to pick up youth: _____

Allergies or medical conditions that may affect participant's involvement in activities

AFTERCARE Option, daily 1:30-5:00, is under consideration. Looking at numbers and staffing availability to determine details. ___Please check here if you plan to use our Aftercare on a regular basis. \$5 an hour per child additional.

Camp is \$100 a week per camper. This includes supervision, tee shirt, daily snack, and good theatrical fun. Families with multiple youth attending will receive a 15% discount.

There will be two evening performances at 7:00 PM. One on July 24th and one on July 25th . No camp on Friday July 4,2025

Please return this form with a \$25 non-refundable deposit made out to Salem Lutheran Church, drama camp marked in memo.

Mailing address is 905 Frederick Rd. Catonsville, Md 21228 Attn: Anita Lane



**WITH DEEP GRATITUDE TO THE CONGREGATION
FOR SUCH AN ASTOUNDING AND IMMEDIATE
RESPONSE TO APPEAL FOR REFUGEE FUNDS
\$23,000 BY 80 DONORS GIVEN IN 24 HOURS**

Sunday morning, February 9, the Refugee Task Force made an appeal to the congregation at all three services to fulfill an urgent request from Lutheran Social Services/National Capital Area for funds to furnish an apartment for at least one, or perhaps two, newly arrived refugee families, then waiting in a local hotel. With no time to gather furniture, household items and foodstuffs, \$2500 was needed to ready at least one of the apartments before the following weekend.

By late Monday 80 donations had been given, totaling \$23,000, far beyond our best hopes. So \$5000 was immediately provided for LSS/NCA for two apartments, and the remaining \$18,000 a few days afterward. Funds continue to be received for their critical, compassionate work with refugees.

The needs of resettlement agencies, like all humanitarian agencies which had been promised and allotted federal funding to continue their established services, became dire with the sudden order to stop all funding. For LSS this meant no funds to begin initial work with families who had been rigorously vetted, chosen and already flown here with legal status. LSS/NCA is owed millions of dollars by the federal government for services already provided.

The Refugee Task Force, having taken a year's hiatus since the Durrani family achieved full independence, met this past Sunday, eighteen strong, and has chosen to continue this current appeal through Lent and Eastertide. **A celebration dinner for the work of LSS has already been planned by the Social Ministry Committee for Sunday March 16, 5pm.**

It was decided to also provide donated funds to Global Refuge, formerly Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, and to Lutheran World Relief, both of which are reeling from losses in promised funding. Global Refuge has for decades been one of ten organizations entrusted with the State Department's acceptance of refugees who have been meticulously vetted and legally brought to the US, and works with local partners like LSS/NCA. Lutheran World Relief is actively engaged in serving refugees still in camps across the world, waiting for acceptance into some safe haven. You are encouraged to visit their websites to see their essential, excellent work.

We will be grateful for your support, as will the agencies engaged in this fundamental ministry. We ask that the plight of refugees have place in your Lenten devotion and Easter joy. And that this ministry of hospitality and compassion receive your financial support as a Lenten sacrifice and an Easter celebration. You may use a pew envelope, mail to the church office, or contribute online, marking your gift for the Refugee Fund.

In so doing you are joining the best of our legacy as a nation of immigrants. You fulfill the Old Testament commands to care for the alien and stranger, loving them as native-born, remembering God's mercy upon your ancestors when they were aliens in this land. (Lev. 19:33) And as Jesus promised, in welcoming the stranger, you welcome your Lord himself. (Mt. 25: 35)

Pr. Ed Whetstone, chair

SALEM SUPPER CLUB PHOTOS

On February 15 at the FOP Lodge, Salem members gathered for an evening of good food and great entertainment. Impersonator Mary Ann Jung led us through the life of esteemed chef Julia Childs. See if you can spot the Salem cameos in her performance!





FAIR TRADE CHOCOLATE

Pictured to the left is Indalecio Ceaico Vilca, a farmer member of the APROSAROCH co-op, which is one of Equal Exchange's (EE) organic chocolate co-op partners in Peru. EE, which provides some of Salem's fair trade chocolate, is built on long-lasting cooperative partnerships. They have been working with some of the cacao cooperatives in their chocolate supply chain for over 20 years.

EE works only with democratically organized groups that are part of the fair trade movement and have the vision of improving the lives of farmers and their communities. Equal Exchange's chocolate impact in 2023 numbers is:

- 718 tons of organic and fairly traded cacao, sugar, and vanilla used in the production of their chocolate.
- \$2,431,600 paid to farmer co-ops with more than 50% of purchases paid upfront before the harvest.
- They work with more than 18,000 small-scale farmers organized democratically in 15 co-ops and seven countries.
- They have long-term partnerships; the average length of relationships between EE and farmer co-ops is 14 years.
- The average price for cocoa paid to farmers by EE is \$4,071/ton compared to \$3,259/ton, which is the average International Cocoa Organization (ICCO) market price for commodity cacao.
- Provides \$32,636 for co-op partner projects on 135,200 acres used for organic production.

Equal Exchange partners are smallholder farmers who are proud of their work and want to sell organic cacao, sugar, and vanilla for use in delicious chocolate through a fair system. Equal Exchange products have full traceability back to our farmer cooperative partners. They guarantee a minimum price to the cooperatives and pay higher prices for the work that goes into organic cocoa production.

Additionally, the advance credit their partners receive helps them weather the ups and downs of the market. This is even more important now that the price of cacao is at an all-time high, and cooperatives are strained to finance the prompt purchasing of high-value cacao from their members. Advanced credit enables cooperatives to pay their farmer members earlier while continuing to guarantee supply to buyers, even when faced with new buyers competing for limited beans in the global market.

Your support of this model is crucial to the sustainability of fairly produced and delicious chocolate! Consider purchasing an Equal Exchange or Divine candy bar when the fair trade cart is out. The cart is typically out between services and after the late service on the first Sunday of the month (i.e., 3/2 and 4/6) and after the service on the preceding Saturday. In addition to several varieties of white, milk, and dark chocolate candy bars, we also have coffee, tea, and hot cocoa from Equal Exchange for sale. (Please let Jim Kempton know if there is an Equal Exchange or Divine product that needs to be added to the fair trade cart.)

CLASSIFIEDS

- Many of you know that Salem has walkers, rollators, and other medical equipment available to lend to members. But did you know that you can borrow a knee scooter from Jim Kempton while you recover from your broken foot, ankle, or leg. He originally acquired it in 2018 when he broke his leg and has been loaning it out to anyone in church or his neighborhood since then. Please contact him if you have a need for a knee scooter. the4kemptons@verizon.net
 - Calling all shoppers (and vendors, shoppers, bakers, and raffle chance takers): Don't miss the Old Salem crafts fair and flea market, set for March 8 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Salem.
 - Things to add to your grocery list: For CEA, mac and cheese kits and 15-ounce cans of fruit. For the LSS refugee resettlement, white sugar and all-purpose flour (and more). See the accompanying article in the Monarch for details.
 - Flower sponsors: Check the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board across from the water fountains. There are several open dates available.
 - Greeters: Looking for a friendly face (or two or more) to welcome worshipers on the third Saturdays of the month. See Penne Giuliani. prgiuliani@verizon.net
-

TECH COMMITTEE UPDATES

As of January 1, 2025, after many years as our webmaster, Guy Davis has stepped down from this position. We thank him for his dedication and expertise. Now we must look for a replacement. (Volunteers are Welcome!) In the interim, Jeff Tsai, Pastor Carolyn, and Lisa Yerkey will take care of changes and updates to the website.

Additionally, as one of Salem's strategic goals, and along with the Communications Committee, we will be working on refreshing our online presence at salem-catonsville.org. If you have any thoughts or ideas for improvements please pass them on to either Guy Davis (guyddavisphd@gmail.com), or Lisa Yerkey (lcyerkey@gmail.com).

NO LONGER RECEIVING CANCELED STAMPS FOR LWR

We're no longer appealing for your canceled stamps. In recent years we sent them to a dear woman in Texas who organized them and sold them to stamp dealers. Monies received were donated to Lutheran World Relief. She received stamps from all over the US. Managing them was no small task.

For many years before that we sent them to the National Lutheran Home in Washington DC. Since 1959, this project provided occupational therapy for their residents and the sales benefitted various programs there. (I recall my Grandmother Whetstone's dish in the dining room where she put her canceled stamps. By the early 60s she became a resident of the Home for the rest of her life. Across the earlier years of my pastorate here we had about 15 members who lived their last years there.)

Sales now provide too little money to make the effort worthwhile. I could find online no faith-based agency inviting stamps for donation and sales. My thanks to those who brought their stamps to church and supported this project over the years.

Ed Whetstone

FAITH & FILM SERIES SPRING 2025

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 Reformation Hall at Salem 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

ARTHUR THE KING

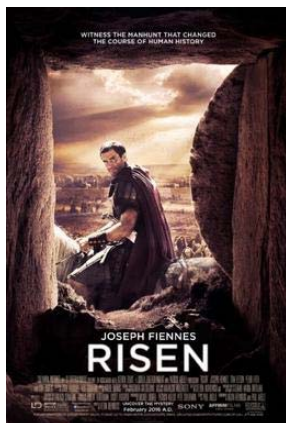
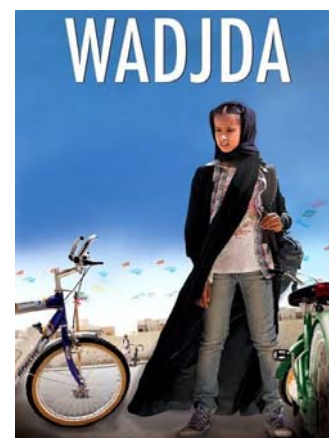
Friday, March 14, 2025 7:00 PM

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. 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. 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. Rating: PG-13. 107 minutes.

DEPARTURES

Friday, May 9, 2025

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. Rated: PG-13 - 130 minutes



HISTORIC OLD SALEM NEWS

Get Ready, Get Set and go pack up all your “treasures” to host a table at our second annual {although we did it for many years prior to COVID} Craft Fair/Flea Market held in Salem’s Bethany Hall. On Saturday, March 8th from 9 am to 1 pm, Bethany Hall will be jumping with vendors selling all sorts of wonderful items. Plan to be a vendor yourself {fee for a table is \$20}; we provide the table. Delicious food including chili, pulled BBQ chicken, breakfast sandwiches, and of course grilled hot dogs among other food items will be available for a nominal fee. Bake table, raffles, and an Old Salem White Elephant table will round out the festivities. {NOTE: Old Salem will **NOT** be collecting any White Elephant items; the Board members have enough themselves!} There’s still a few table spaces left. This is one of our major fundraisers that we host to support our preservation efforts at the original church and cemetery of Salem Lutheran Church {located at 701 Ingleside Avenue}.

AND --- WE ARE ON THE ROAD AGAIN: “NOAH” @ Sight & Sound Theater – Friday, March 28, 2025 – all day bus trip. We’ll enjoy a family style lunch at Hershey Farm Restaurant serving three entrees, veggies, and more {Hershey Farm has an amazing gift shop}. Cost for the trip-\$175 pp inclusive {thank inflation} but **only a few seats left, so please contact me ASAP if you want to see this wonderful show.**

If you are interested in joining the Old Salem Board of Directors or would just like some additional information, please let me know. We welcome everyone to join us. It’s not a strenuous responsibility and the members are a wonderful group of people working together to maintain the Old Salem Church and surrounding cemetery located at 701 Ingleside Avenue.

Our next Board meeting is Wednesday, May 21st at 7 pm at Salem Church, 905 Frederick Road. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Contact Sharon Stanton - memsha7311@gmail.com or call 410-744-8724 for more information and/or to make reservations.

175th ANNIVERSARY MEMORABILIA

Still have some Anniversary T-Shirts and very versatile tote bags available. Old Salem will be selling them at their Craft Fair/Flea Market on Saturday, March 8th from 9 am to 1 pm. If you missed out getting one or many, now’s your chance to make your purchases. Totes sell for \$5 each and T’s 2 for \$10 {all sizes}. The tote bags are great for knitting supplies, library books, groceries, going on vacation or whatever other use you can imagine. The T’s are comfortable and a wonderful remembrance of the amazing 175th anniversary celebration Salem had throughout 2024. You don’t want to miss out on owning these memorable pieces of Salem’s history as we move forward to celebrate the next 175 years!

WHAT'S IN THE SHOWCASE

Guardians of Eden {GOE} filled the showcase in February. They shared their mission statement, information about the effects of our carbon footprint, a calendar of upcoming events, and encouraged the congregation to utilize their Lending Library that's housed in the Upper Room on the 2nd floor with the diversified environmental books displayed. Join the committee at their meetings the first Monday of each month at 7 pm in the Katie Luther room. Always welcome new members. And we also share all sorts of environmental information on our bulletin board, 1st floor hallway between the restrooms.

MARCH is Pastor Dave's turn for a display. Needless to say, it's entitled "**Gifted Chickens**" and what a very special display this will be! Don't miss it.

Want to do a showcase? Any committee-share what your group does or any individual with your own wonderful collection? Contact Sharon-memsha7311@gmail.com or leave a note with your name and showcase idea in the Historic Old Salem mailbox outside the main church office. I'll contact you.

GUARDIANS OF EDEN

Members of the Guardians of Eden committee are busy planning upcoming events inviting everyone to attend and be a part of them. First, we are hosting an Open House in Reformation Hall on **Saturday, March 15th from 10 am to noon.** Please plan to attend this informational event about carbon footprints, energy audits, bat box information, a fall excursion to Hart-Miller Island, and other environmental issues. Bring your family and friends. We'll have refreshments too!

Next, GOE will lead the **Adult Forum on Sunday, April 6th at 9:30** in the Katie Luther Room with a presentation on Serenity Ridge/Natural Burials with guest speaker, Joe Freed, the Community Liaison for the Ridge. Joe is a retired Baltimore County School Principal and has worked at Serenity Ridge since its opening in January 2023. He's involved with educating the public regarding the many benefits of natural burials. A natural burial ground requires the adoption of practices/protocols that are energy-conserving, minimize waste, and do not allow the use of toxic chemicals. Everything used for burial is renewable. Also, Natural Burials provide for ecosystem conservation and wildlife habitat management. Come learn about this unique burial procedure. **Note:** Serenity Ridge is located on Ridge Road in Windsor Mill.

Lastly, we're hosting an **EV Car Show** on Salem's Parking Lot, **Saturday, April 26th from 2 – 4 pm.** Inviting Salem members with EVs to participate and share their experiences. Also inside in Reformation Hall, there will be presentations on charging procedures, where charging stations are located in our area, tax incentives, vehicle costs and more. Contact Julia Graham at juliag1958@gmail.com or call her on 443-386-6174 to sign up to participate or if you just have any questions. Hope to see all of you there throughout the afternoon.

Ken Scarletelli and Sharon Schueler are Co-Chairs of the GOE committee. Ken also serves on the Board of the nonprofit Serenity Ridge Conservation Area and Arboretum. Reach out to them should you have questions about any of these events.



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

January 27, 2025

Pastor David K. Asendorf
 Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church
 905 Frederick Road
 Catonsville, Maryland 21228-4517

“...but blessed is the one who is kind to the needy.” - Proverbs 14:21

Dear Pastor Asendorf,

While the season for banquets and family gatherings has passed, the new year remains a time of great abundance and joy for many. However, for others, like those served by Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland (MOWCM), it is a time of despair, loneliness, and need.

Thank you for your past support and kindness to our organization and the people we serve with your **last donation of \$1200**. Your generosity, and that of our congregation, enables us to deliver more than one million nutritious meals each year to the nearly 5,000 homebound older and disabled adults we serve throughout Maryland – many neighbors and friends in your community.

I am filled with gratitude and want to **thank you and the members of Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church again**. We hope that you will consider continuing your support with a gift this year.

The number of older and disabled adults with nutritional and social needs that compromise their health and independence is growing exponentially. Over the past seven years, the number of meals that MOWCM produces and delivers daily has increased by an astounding 175%. This, when combined with the knowledge that the number of individuals who are over 85 is the fastest growing demographic in our region, makes the economic uncertainty of older adults clear, and the need for our services more urgent.

Your congregation's support of our mission is more important now than ever. **Will Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church please consider renewing your gift of \$1200 or even more, if possible, to ensure daily meal delivery and support service for older and disabled adults to remain living safely at home with dignity?**

As you know, feeding the spirit is just as important as feeding the body, which is why our wraparound support services include crisis intervention, wellness and safety checks, weekly companion calls, periodic pet food delivery, grocery shopping, and home repairs and safety modifications. These services not only deliver meals but also independence, hope, and love to your neighbors in need... older adults like Evelyn.

Evelyn lives alone and despite her illness, she still lives independently in the home she purchased after decades of hard work. Although limited mobility makes day-to-day tasks more difficult, Evelyn takes pride in managing her home.

Evelyn first turned to Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland in 2018 while undergoing chemotherapy. **“Going through treatment, if it wasn't for Meals on Wheels, I don't know how I would've gotten through it all. It's only me, so I needed the support,”** she said.



Beyond meals, Evelyn participates in the Call Connections program, where volunteers provide weekly phone calls to reduce isolation and brighten her day. One volunteer became a dear friend to Evelyn. **“We still talk two or three times a month and chat over the holidays,”** Evelyn said.

“I don't do a lot of activities with big groups of people. My cats, a few neighbors, and the Meals on Wheels volunteers are my community.”

Please consider renewing your gift today! **A gift in the amount of \$1500 to provide nutritious meals to homebound neighbors who would otherwise face hunger and loneliness will make all the difference in someone's life.**

Thank you for keeping us and the people we serve in your hearts and minds throughout the years. On behalf of Evelyn, and those like her, I wish you good health, peace, and hope this year and always.

Gratefully,

Stephanie Archer-Smith
 Executive Director & CEO

Anne Arundel County | Baltimore City | Baltimore County | Carroll County | Harford County | Howard County | Montgomery County | Prince George's County



Pastor Dave | Pastor Carolyn | Jeff -
 Thank you so much for letting Cieran + Marni host 'Camden's Collection' during the month of February. I can't tell you how much it means to them! It's so important to us our kids learn to give back and learn the world is bigger than them - and it's one of the reasons I fell in love with Salem... there is always something to do to give back! Salem also does an incredible job of making the children feel included. I know Cieran was thrilled to be able to present his idea to the congregation. Thank you always for making such a wonderful experience for our family.

The Tress family -
 Mike, Meg, Cieran, Marni
 (+ of course Camden!)

Thank You!



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

RE: Your Donation Report for 2024 from the Lutheran Volunteer Corps

Dear Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church,

As part of Lutheran Volunteer Corps’ commitment to providing Donor Services to you and other generous benefactors to our mission, I am writing to provide you with a summary of your charitable donations for 2024.

Thank you for your continued partnership with the Lutheran Volunteer Corps (LVC) and our Fellows. Because of your gifts this year, our Fellows received all their necessary rental, healthcare, utilities, food, and incidental costs throughout their Fellowship Year while receiving a modest monthly stipend.

- Our 2024 Fall class of Fellows represents a 49% increase in Fellows’ recruitment and 33% increase in Fellows’ retention over 2023,
- Social services within Washington, D.C., Alexandria, VA, and Minneapolis, MN, were strengthened through our Fellows’ efforts,
- LVC held Fellow-led National Program Days to educate on the social issues most pressing within our communities.

This was a pivotal and watershed year, yet with your support, we revitalized our Fellowship program and created promising new relationships with organizations across the country. **To continue this work, please consider offering an additional donation to the “Fellows Stipend Impact Fund for Life and Learning!”**

As we look towards 2025, we express our sincerest gratitude for your dedication to our mission to unite people to work with peace for justice.

With peace and hope,

K. Jean Ahwesh, Interim President
 Lutheran Volunteer Corps

P.S., Our FY2024-2025 Fellows are only halfway through their Fellowship! Please consider making a donation to The Fellows’ Stipend Impact Fund for Life and Learning. Contact our Interim President, Jean Ahwesh, at **724-316-9507** or jahwesh@lutheranvolunteercorps.org.

Item	Received Date	Amount Received	Non-Deductible Amount	Tax Deductible Amount	Fund Name
1	06/28/2024	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00	General Fund
	Total:	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00	



MAR-LU-RIDGE CAMP & RETREAT CENTER

3200 Mar Lu Ridge Road 301.874.5544
Jefferson, MD 21755 mlr@mar-lu-ridge.org

WITH OPEN ARMS
MAR-LU-RIDGE

Salem Lutheran Church
905 Frederick Rd.
Catonsville MD 21228

Dear Pr. Dave, Pr. Carolyn and friends in Christ,

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 \$523.08 has been received and is greatly appreciated. Thanks so much for your support.

We are pleased to share that work on the Ridge Inn has begun. It is very exciting to watch it take shape and know that these changes will improve our guest's experience. We appreciate 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

Peace,

Sarah Lefler
Executive Director



January 15, 2025

Rev David Aendorf
Salem Lutheran Church
905 Frederick Rd
Catonsville, MD 21228

Dear Pastor Dave & Congregation,

Thank you for your donation of \$6,939.10. Catonsville Emergency Assistance continues to serve our neighbors because of the generosity of donors like you!

Your gift will help us meet the challenge of steady growth as an increasing number of neighbors continue to seek our help. We exist to ensure that local families have a place to come when they need food, utility, and eviction assistance. In the past year, we served nearly 700 people in 294 households. As a partner of the Maryland Food Bank, we distributed over 106,000 pounds of fresh and shelf-stable food as well.

Thank you for your commitment to our mission of **Neighbors Helping Neighbors!**

With heartfelt gratitude,

Caitlin Kirby
Executive Director

P.S. Check with your employer to see if they will match your gift!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
23	24	25	26	27	28	1
8:15am - Early Service 9:30am - Adult Forum 9:30am - Salem Choir 9:30am - Sunday School 11am - Late Service	4pm - Yoga 7pm - AA Women's Group 7pm - Centering Prayer 7pm - Guardians of Eden 7pm - Prayer Stitchers	12:30pm - English Music 4pm - Girl Scout Troop 4:30pm - Girl Scout Troop 4:45pm - Shrove Tuesday 7pm - Heart of Maryland	6am - AA Meeting 8am - Men's Prayer 10am - Salem Quilters 2pm - Ash Wednesday 4pm - Chair Yoga	8am - Professionals Group 10am - Stitchcrafters 6pm - St. David's Choir 7pm - Trombone Practice 7:30pm - Salem Choir	12pm - AA Group 5:30pm - Girl Scout Troop	5pm - Contemporary Worship Service
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8:15am - Early Service 9:30am - Adult Forum 9:30am - Salem Choir 9:30am - Sunday School 11am - Late Service	4pm - Yoga 6pm - Salem Tech Meeting 7pm - AA Women's Group 7pm - Centering Prayer 7:30pm - Nar-Anon	12:30pm - English Music 4pm - Girl Scout Troop 4:30pm - Girl Scout Troop 6pm - Salem Tech Meeting	6am - AA Meeting 8am - Men's Prayer 10am - Salem Quilters 4pm - Chair Yoga 5:30pm - AA Meeting	8am - Professionals Group 10am - Stitchcrafters 6pm - St. David's Choir 7pm - Trombone Practice 7:30pm - Salem Choir	9am - Garden Club 12pm - AA Group 5:30pm - Girl Scout Troop 7pm - Faith & Film Series (Arthur the King)	9am - Old Salem Annual Craft Fair/ Flea Market 5pm - Contemporary Worship Service
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
8:15am - Early Service 9:30am - Adult Forum 9:30am - Salem Choir 9:30am - Sunday School 11am - Late Service	4pm - Yoga 6pm - Salem Tech Meeting 7pm - AA Women's Group 7pm - Centering Prayer 7:30pm - Nar-Anon	12:30pm - English Music 4pm - Girl Scout Troop 4:30pm - Girl Scout Troop 6pm - Salem Tech Meeting	6am - AA Meeting 8am - Men's Prayer 10am - Salem Quilters 4pm - Chair Yoga 5:30pm - AA Meeting	8am - Professionals Group 10am - Stitchcrafters 6pm - St. David's Choir 7pm - Trombone Practice 7:30pm - Salem Choir	9am - Garden Club 12pm - AA Group 5:30pm - Girl Scout Troop 7pm - Faith & Film Series (Arthur the King)	9:30am - Guardians of Eden Open House 5pm - Contemporary Worship Service
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
8:15am - Early Service 9:30am - Adult Forum 9:30am - Salem Players Open House 9:30am - Sunday School 11am - Late Service	4pm - Yoga 7pm - AA Women's Group 7pm - Centering Prayer 7pm - Prayer Stitchers 7:30pm - Nar-Anon	9am - Village Quilters 12:30pm - English Music 4pm - Girl Scout Troop 4:30pm - Girl Scout Troop 7pm - Church Council	6am - AA Meeting 8am - Men's Prayer 10am - Salem Quilters 4pm - Chair Yoga 5:30pm - AA Meeting	8am - Professionals Group 10am - Stitchcrafters 11am - Bent Twig Garden 6pm - St. David's Choir 7pm - Trombone Practice	12pm - AA Group 5:30pm - Girl Scout Troop	9am - Council Retreat 5pm - Contemporary Worship Service
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
8:15am - Early Service 9:30am - Adult Forum 9:30am - Salem Choir 9:30am - Sunday School 11am - Late Service	1pm - Luke Bible Study 4pm - Yoga 7pm - AA Women's Group 7pm - Centering Prayer 7:30pm - Nar-Anon	12pm - Blood Drive 4pm - Girl Scout Troop 4:30pm - Girl Scout Troop 7pm - Heart of Maryland 7pm - Tuesday Fellowship	6am - AA Meeting 8am - Men's Prayer 10am - Salem Quilters 4pm - Chair Yoga 5:30pm - AA Meeting	8am - Professionals Group 10am - Stitchcrafters 6pm - St. David's Choir 7pm - Trombone Practice 7:30pm - Salem Choir	Old Salem Sound & Sound 12pm - AA Group 5:30pm - Girl Scout Troop 7pm - Faith & Film Series (Wadja)	4pm - Hargest Wedding 5pm - Contemporary Worship Service
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
8:15am - Early Service 9:30am - Adult Forum 9:30am - Salem Choir 9:30am - Sunday School 11am - Late Service	4pm - Yoga 7pm - AA Women's Group 7pm - Centering Prayer 7:30pm - Nar-Anon 7:30pm - Overeaters Anon	12:30pm - English Music 4pm - Girl Scout Troop 4:30pm - Girl Scout Troop 7pm - Heart of Maryland 7pm - Tuesday Fellowship	6am - AA Meeting 8am - Men's Prayer 10am - Salem Quilters 4pm - Chair Yoga 5:30pm - AA Meeting	8am - Professionals Group 10am - Stitchcrafters 6pm - St. David's Choir 7pm - Trombone Practice 7:30pm - Salem Choir	9am - Garden Club 12pm - AA Group 5:30pm - Girl Scout Troop	5pm - Contemporary Worship Service

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR JANUARY

January

General Fund

Receipts to Date	73,015.23
Expenses to Date	44,095.17
Difference	28,920.06

Budget to Date	52,425.00
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R.S.V.P

Receipts to Date	4,594.00
Disbursement to Date	9,358.06
Difference	4,764.06

(Carryover balance from 2024: \$30485.05)

OFFICIAL ACTS

AT THE BAPTISMAL FONT

<i>Judah Henry Tracy</i>	<i>01/26/2025</i>
<i>Arlo Louis Tracy</i>	<i>01/26/2025</i>
<i>Iris Catherine Tracy</i>	<i>01/26/2025</i>

PARISH LEADERS

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

ATTENDANCE REPORT FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2025

	Saturday Evening	Sunday Service		Other	Livestream	Weekly* Total
		First	Second			
Jan 18/19	26	50	53		7/49	185
Jan 25/26	24	50	100		7/50	231
Feb 1/2	20	62	99		16/29	226
Feb 8/9	17	70	96		19/38	240
Feb 15/16	12	54	84		9/39	198

*Week reflects Saturday through Friday



NO PHISHING
Don't take the bait!

Occasionally we hear about members receiving an email from one of the Pastors asking for gift cards or for us to pay a bill, etc.; because 'they are in a meeting' (or whatever) and 'can't take care of this right now.' This is ALWAYS a scheme to get something from you by someone else and this is NEVER from Salem's Pastors. Please, if you are contacted by anyone asking for money or gift cards and they say it is an emergency; contact us yourself first. Please don't take the bait in their phishing scheme!

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 the Technology Committee, Lisa Yerkey, 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.



ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

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

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

Pastor Carolyn Lawrence
pastorcarolyn@salem-catonsville.org

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

Director of Music: Mary Miller
marymiller359@gmail.com

Director of Contemporary Music: Sid Meier

Worship Technology Director: Joey Morgan

Office Manager: Jeff Tsai
jefft@salem-catonsville.org

Sextons: Letty Monahan and Joey Morgan

CHURCH COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

President: Emily D’Avella

Vice-President: Ray Giuliani

Secretary: Matthew Fairchild

Financial Secretary: Linda Fleischer

Treasurer: Ray Hamelin

Assistant Treasurer: Jane Stolte

CHURCH COUNCIL

Ron Bruce	Veronica Merriman
Emily D’Avella	Carolyn Moore
Guy Davis	Michael Petry
Matthew Fairchild	Janet Van Sant
Ray Giuliani	Lisa Yerkey
Pat Jennings	

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE AND CONTRIBUTING STAFF

<p>Guy Davis, Co-Chair Karen Amy, Co-Chair Barbara Beem Peggy Dell Carolyn Lawrence Judy LeGath Joey Morgan Sharon Stanton Bethann Snyder Ed Whetstone</p>	<p>Contributing Photographers Guy Davis</p> <p>Proofreading Sharon Stanton</p>	<p>NEXT MONARCH PUBLICATION</p> <p>April 2025</p> <p>If you are interested in participating on the Communications Committee, or contributing as a <i>ad-hoc</i> writer or photographer, please contact our committee chairpersons.</p>
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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

905 Frederick Rd.
Catonsville, MD 21228-4517

Change Service Requested
TIME VALUE