

THE MONARCH

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

April 13 **Palm Sunday** with "Once Upon A Tree" Cantata 8:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. April 17 **Maundy Thursday** 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

April 18 **Good Friday** Tenebrae Service 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

April 10 **Easter Vigil** with Holden Evening Prayer 8 p.m. (note: no 5 p.m. service) April 20 **Easter** 8:15 and 11 a.m.; Easter Egg Hunt for Sunday School 10 a.m.



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.

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Road to a New Pastor, Old Bay

THE ROAD TO A NEW PASTOR

The call process for finding Salem's new Senior Pastor has begun! Last month we took our first step in this journey with the distribution of the Profile Questionnaire. On March 22, Salem's Church Council had a productive meeting with Rev. Robin Simpson Litton, the Assistant to the Bishop for Leadership of the Delaware-Maryland Synod. She described the process and provided valuable insight and will continue to walk with us and support us through the entire call process. We will hire an interim pastor (¾ time) to work with Pr. Carolyn Lawrence, most likely in July. Phase 2 of the profile will occur in the late summer to early fall. Additional information will be obtained to create the Ministry Site Profile or "dating profile" of Salem.

In the fall, the resulting site profile will become available church-wide to all ELCA pastors considering a new call. Salem's Call Committee will be formed during the same time frame. Prospective candidates will submit their information to the synod, who will then submit three to five candidates to the Call Committee. The Committee will interview candidates, potentially asking for more names from the synod if needed. Once the Committee has identified the candidate whom it believes has been led to us by God, it will recommend the candidate to the Church Council, which will also conduct an interview.

If Council recommends extending a call, the candidate will come to Salem to lead worship, and a congregational meeting will follow for members to vote to extend the call and approve the compensation package. The candidate will discern and hopefully accept the call. If the candidate currently has a call, they will then need to notify their congregation and typically allow a month for a smooth departure. Plans will be made to welcome the new pastor to Salem.

The process is deliberate and provides several steps of discernment to assure a good match. The call for Pr. Dave was much simpler because he was first called as an Associate Pastor and then elevated to Pastor. Salem has not had to call a new Senior Pastor since Pr. Ed Whetstone was called about fifty years ago. We have been blessed with two long pastoral ministries. We hope to have our new pastor take office sometime in 2026.

Projected Call Process Timeline:

Profile Phase 1 – Questionnaire Present Hiring ¾ Interim Pastor July

Profile Phase 2 – Listening Sessions Late Summer-Early Fall

Call Committee Formed Fall
Profile Report Submitted to Synod Fall
Call Committee Interviews Candidates TBD
Call Committee Reports to Church Council TBD
Council Approves Candidate TBD
Congregation Votes on Candidate TBD
New Pastor Reports to Salem TBD

OLD BAY SEASONING INVENTED BY A REFUGEE

Our beloved and iconic seasoning was invented in 1940 by Gustav Brun, who'd come to these shores as a refugee from Germany the previous year. In Germany, he had been a spicemaker specializing in making blends for sausages. Who knows what gifts new refugees will bring to our country?

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ANNUAL SOCIAL MINISTRY POTLUCK SUPPER

The Social Ministry Annual Potluck Supper provided an opportunity to rejoice in our members' marvelous \$23,000 response to an urgent appeal to fund apartments for newly arrived refugee families. Our speaker was Emily Orner, Community Engagement Specialist for **Lutheran Social Services/National Capital Area** (LSS/NCA). She provided extensive information about the many endeavors that our \$23,000 donation has made possible. The serving table abounded with international dishes, including some from Kosovo and Afghanistan, provided by families we've sponsored.

As a result of the January stop-work order and frozen funds, LSS/NCA has needed to lay off 75 of their staff and curtail many, many essential services. Financial contributions are its chief need. There are also many opportunities to volunteer. Visit their website for more information: *Issnca.org*.

Following the initial major donation, we have broadened the appeal to include the other two Lutheran agencies serving refugees: Global Refuge (formerly Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service) and Lutheran World Relief, which were also highlighted that evening.

Global Refuge, formed in the wake of WW 2, suddenly lost 90% of its funding. Since then they have resettled



over 800,000 people, delegated by the State Department to coordinate legal entry, provide safety, sponsorship and resources, family reunification, legal services, and crisis interventions. This year Global Refuge established a new Welcome Center here in Baltimore to provide these services.

Oversees in refugee camps across several continents, where many refugees spend decades waiting in hope, **LWR** works to improve camp environments, assist with basic needs to help the refugees earn an income, and protect refugees from harassment and cruelty. Refugees there, too, are often recipients of the quilts we make and the personal care and school kits we provide. LWR has lost over 50% of its funding and also has been compelled to vastly reduce its staff and scope.

The evening's offering for the three agencies reached \$3,300. Our appeal for refugee ministries will continue through Eastertide.





SALEM YOUTH SERVE AT BALTIMORE STATION

This month, the Salem youth group served a meal at the Baltimore Station. The Baltimore Station, located in South Baltimore/Federal Hill, is a therapeutic treatment program supporting local veterans overcoming obstacles to self-sufficiency. Our youth group served a meal there this past fall and were excited to return for another meal!

Thanks to the generous financial support Salem offers our youth group, we were able to serve a special treat for the Baltimore Station veterans: Steak! Peter Crispino, the volunteer coordinator, told us that the residents had been looking forward to this meal all week long.

Youth prepared salad, cookies, potatoes, and prepped the steaks. Dave Merriman was the grill master for the evening. Around 40 veterans had a delicious meal, courtesy of Salem's youth!

Upcoming youth events include:

Monthly youth group on April 6 at 9:30am

Paint night at the Pottery Cove on April 26 at 6pm

Clean up of the Oella Cemetery on May 3 from 9am-noon







ADULT FORUM CONTINUES WITH LENTEN PRACTICES AND A GOE PRESENTATION

Pastor Dave continues to lead the Sunday morning Adult Forum at 9:30 a.m. in the Katie Luther Room (2nd floor). The schedule is:

March 30 Lectio Divina – explore the ancient practice of reading scripture in this prayerful

manner

April 6 Guardians of Eden will present this day

April 13 *Meet in the Wittenberg Room* – Last session of Lenten Practices

April 20 Easter Day No Adult Forum

CHILDREN MINISTRY

During March we started by talking about Lent and what that season means. We read the book *All Are Welcome Here*. The children were given leaves to put down acts of kindness they do during Lent, and then we will make our tree to show everything we did. We had the Drawing Zoo come and talk about the different animals, where they came from, and how we need to treat them. We ended by making prayer beads that the children can use to recite the Lord's Prayer and showed them how the different colored beads coincide with a line of the prayer.









GOE HAPPENINGS

Members of the Guardians of Eden committee are busy planning upcoming events, inviting everyone to attend and be a part of them. First we hosted an Open House in Reformation Hall on Saturday, March 15th from 10 a.m. to noon. A variety of environmental information was on display relating to carbon footprints, energy audits, bat box information, a signup for a fall excursion to Hart-Miller Island, and Serenity Ridge issues. We hope you had a chance to check out all the info.

A new tree was planted on March 24th on Salem's lot. It's a white oak, the state tree of Maryland. The Guardians of Eden were happy to announce this new addition to our church property. Then shall the trees of the forest sing for joy before the Lord. I Chronicles 16.33

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.

We're hosting an EV Car Show on Salem's Parking Lot, Saturday, April 26th from 2 – 4 p.m. Julia Graham has been Inviting Salem members with EVs to participate and share their experiences. {See her specifics in a



separate article.} Hope to see you there throughout the afternoon.

On Tuesday, June 17th we will again visit Hart Miller Island located in Middle River. This is a gem of an island that teems with all kinds of wildlife. This trip is free and we will be carpooling for a half-day journey. It is open to all members of the congregation. Contact Norma Hensler-Davis if interested, henslerdavis@gmail.com.

Ken Scarlatelli 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.

GUARDIANS OF EDEN EV CAR SHOW SATURDAY APRIL 26 2:00 - 4:00

Have you wondered if an Electric Vehicle would be right for you as your next vehicle? Or are you just interested in learning about them? If so, come to Salem's EV car show! Some members will be bringing their EVs for you to check out in the church parking lot. You will be able to sit in them while the owners tell



you about their car experiences. There will be sedans, hatchbacks, and SUVs for you to research. In Reformation Hall, there will be displays set up on how charging works, tax incentives, costs, and more. A GOE member will be available to answer your questions.

If you have an EV and have not already received an email from Julia inviting you and your EV to participate, please get in touch with her! Contact her at juliag1958@gmail.com or call her at 443-386-6174 with questions.

HISTORIC OLD SALEM NEWS

We hosted our first bus trip of 2025 to see the amazing performance of "**NOAH**" at the Sight & Sound Theater in Lancaster on Friday, March 28. We enjoyed a family style lunch at Hershey Farm Restaurant before the show and had some fun shopping in Hershey Farm's wonderful gift shop. It was a great trip.

The Board will host a *Founders' Day Open House and program on Sunday, June 1*st at 2 pm at the Old Salem Church and Cemetery, 701 Ingleside Avenue. If you've never been at Old Salem, our congregation's original worship site built in 1849, now is the time to come see where our congregation worshiped for their first 50 years. It's a walk back in time as the Church is being maintained in its original condition. All are welcome – no reservations required and we always have great refreshments!

Coming up next, we'll enjoy **steamed crabs** on board the Dorothy Megan paddle wheel boat out of Suicide Bridge in Hurlock, Maryland on **Wednesday**, **August 6**th **for an all-day bus trip**. Cost is \$110 per person which includes bus transportation {departing from the SW Park & Ride Lot on S. Rolling Road} and a three-hour cruise on the Choptank River while enjoying steamed crabs, Maryland crab soup, fried chicken, clam strips, corn on the cob, cole slaw, dessert and non-alcohol beverages. This has always been a great trip with delicious food and a relaxing cruise on the river near Cambridge. Deadline for reservations and money is July 1st. Sign up now to hold your spot.

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 {some Salem and some community members} 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.

WHAT'S IN THE SHOWCASE

Pastor Dave shared a few {but definitely not all} of his "Gifted Chickens" received throughout his years with us in March. As the showcase could not possibly hold all of his chicks, watch for them to hatch again on Saturday, June 7th at his retirement dinner celebration. And he'll continue on into April with a Lent and Holy Week remembrance showcase. *Pastor Ed* follows with the celebration of an Easter showcase.

May's display will be a special one from *Robin & Rusty Schaefer* and then *Guy Davis* shares his beautiful photographs of his and Norma's travels in June.

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.

175th ANNIVERSARY MEMORABILIA

Last chance – T-shirts and Tote bags – Shirts all sizes 2 for \$10 and Totes \$5.

If you missed out getting one or many, now's your chance to make your purchases. 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! Contact Sharon Stanton.

SALEM CELEBRATES 25 YEARS OF MARY MILLER

Dear Salem Congregation,

Thank you so much for the lovely reception and generous gift in honor of my 25th anniversary as Salem's Music Director. I feel so honored and blessed to have been a part of the Salem family for these many years. Where did the time go? I love you all so much for your support and encouragement. I know I have a few more good years in me so let's continue to make beautiful music together. Please join us in the fall if you love to sing. There is always room for more. The St David's choir has room for kiddos from 2nd grade to 8th grade. We have lots of fun. Actually, they love the brownies too. Salem Ringers will be in need of a ringer due to us losing our wonderful Nancy. A music reader is a must for this choir. Salem Brass if interested please see Michael Fitch.

Thank you and God Bless Mary Miller





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 p.m. All films are shown with closed captions. All this information and more can be found on the church web page: https://salem-catonsville.org or call the Church Office: 410-747-0720

WADIDA

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

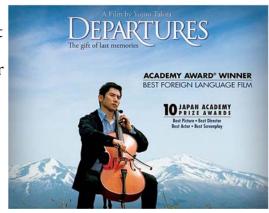
Friday, April 25, 2025

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



CIERAN AND MARNI TRESS COLLECT PET SUPPLIES

Cieran and Marni Tress collected pet supplies for Camden's Collection for the Baltimore Humane Society in honor of their new rescue pup Camden. The Baltimore Humane Society provides a temporary home, safe refuge, and care for homeless animals. They work to place each animal that comes to the shelter into a loving permanent home and strives to end the euthanasia of healthy, adoptable animals by offering affordable spray, neuter, and wellness services.

Thank you, Salem, for your wonderful generosity in donating supplies and gift cards.



REFUGEE COMMITTEE DONATION UPDATE

Thanks to all of the Salem family for their generous donations. The box in the narthex fills in the blink of an eye.

The committee is in contact with Lutheran Social Services (LSS) to update current needs. We will keep the needed items listed on the donation box and in the weekly worship announcements. We are asking for household items that are used daily. The families we are supporting are living in apartments so we are not asking for furniture or kitchen items at this time.

LSS is in transition and is not sure how long they can afford to keep storage facilities. We will deliver donations to the Arbutus office and they can disperse the donations to the families. This is a bit different from our usual donations in that Salem is not directly supporting a family.

The committee is committed to aiding LSS through Easter. Again thanks for your unending generosity.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR FEBRUARY

General Fund	
Receipts to Date	114,033.10
Expenses to Date	129,763.90
Difference	-15,730.80
Budget to Date	104,850.00
R.S.V.P	
Receipts to Date	7,303.00
Disbursement to Date	12,358.06
Difference	-5,055.06

(Carryover balance from 2024: \$100,090.00)



Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church

Your **25 years** of consecutive support and faithful compassion saves and empowers lives. No matter the distance, **YOUR LOVE** surrounds our neighbors most in need.

Thank you for walking in faith and being a steward of Christ's love.



Star Kipp Rev. Lisa Kipp

Director, Congregational Engagement
Lutheran World Relief

Until your love reaches every neighbor.





"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me." (Matthew 25:35)



8765 W. Higgins Road • Chicago, IL 60631 • 800-638-3522 ELCA.org/disaster

Jean-friends at Salem Catonsville,

Greate and greetings to you all and thank you
for your generosity to Lutheran Disaster Response.

Your Compassion and love of neighbor trings
Relief and hope to those impacted by
disasters hear and far. From providing immediate
Resources and support to long-term recovery,
your partnership embodies Christ's love in
action. Together, we are areating a
powerful ripple of hope and resittence for
families and communities. Thank you!

, Yours in Christ, Tastor Bentloque

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OFFICIAL ACTS

AT THE BAPTISMAL FONT

Aino Elizabeth Antar Jackson 03/09/2025

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."

Lillian Elizabeth Graeger* 02/25/2025 Beverly Ann Hoerl 03/08/2025

CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS

- Mary Oliver was appointed by the Church Council to complete Katie Leisher's term on Council.
- The Council received the report from the Ad Hoc Committee formed to investigate purchasing 919 Frederick Road. The Committee recommended the congregation not purchase the building. The Council concurred.
- The Council approved a motion to make a gift of \$2,000 from the RSVP Fund to the Good Trouble to help replace the burned shed (arson) and its contents in the Red Shed village.
- The Council approved a motion to make a gift of \$2,000 to the Acorn Augsburg Foundation to help residents of the Augsburg retirement community who are receiving benevolent care (meaning they do not have the money to pay for their care). Life-long Salem member Lynda Miller is one of those residents receiving benevolent care.
- The Church Council approved the placement of a sign sponsored by the Catonsville Art Guild. The project is being mostly funded by monies from the Catonsville Historical Society and seeks to make "road signs of real people pointing out local landmarks." For more information visit https://www.catonsvilleartsdistrict.org. The sign is expected to be erected near the driveway off Frederick Road sometime in September.

PARISH LEADERS

Altar Guild: Mary Krebs

Archive Committee: Judy LeGath

Arts Committee: Vacant

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: Ken Scarlatelli, Sharon Schueler

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

Social Ministry: Mary Ray Willing

Technology Support Committee: Lisa Yerkey

Stewardship Committee: John Brohawn

Ushers: Mary Krebs, Ray Hamelin

Youth Ministry Committee: Melissa Miller and

Veronica Merriman

Worship Life: Jane Stolte

^{*}Not a Salem member

ATTENDANCE REPORT FOR FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2025

	Saturday Evening	Sunday	Service	Other	Livestream	Weekly ^a Total
		First	Second			
Feb 15/16	12	54	84		9/44 ^b	203
Feb 22/23	17	65	105		N/A ^c	187
Mar 1/2	15	58	100		13/22	224
Mar 5				35/75	13	331
Mar 8/9	23	42	82		10/49	205
Mar 12				58	21	285
Mar 15/16	25	64	108		34/NA ^c	245
Mar 19				59	27	317
Mar 22/23	28	54	101		8/32b	293
Mar 26				56	14 ^b	293

^a Week reflects Saturday through Friday

^c Due to technical issues, these services were not livestreamed



Occasionally we hear about members receiving an email from one 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.



^b Livestream data for Feb 16 has been updated since the last Monarch and is pending for Mar 22, 23, 26

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Secretary: Matthew Fairchild

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



905 Frederick Road Catonsville, MD 21228-4517 (410) 747-0720 office@salem-catonsville.org Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church strives to be a Christcentered, caring community experiencing God's grace and sharing God's goodness with all people.

We are on the Web!

www.salem-catonsville.org



www.facebook.com/salemlutheranchurch.catonsville





SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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