

The  Newsletter of the
Salem United Methodist Church — Wolfsville

Mountain Shepherd

Volume 39 December 2021 Number 12



Salem United Methodist Church — Wolfsville



DEC 24
7:00 P.M.

- SCRIPTURE • PRAYER
- CHRISTMAS HYMNS
- CHILDREN'S RECITATIONS
- CHILDREN'S CHOIR
- ADULT CHOIR CANTATA

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Celebrating Jesus' Birth

Christmas at Salem

Salem Mission Projects No. 2 & 3



Photo by Bill Burrier

November 14, 2021 — Salem members and friends filled **62 shoe boxes** for Operation Christmas Child and **28 stockings** for the local Salvation Army.

Celebrate the Advent & Christmas Season with us . . .

*** Sunday Worship Themes — 9:00 a.m.**

- Sun Nov 28 **"New Life"** Jeremiah 33:6b-16
Special Music: Works in Progress Praise Band
- Sun Dec 5 **"Joy"** Luke 1:67-80
Holy Communion
- Sun Dec 12 **"Love"** Zephaniah 3:9-17
Special Music: Works in Progress Praise Band
- Sun Dec 19 **"Peace"** Luke 1:39-56
Special Music: Adult Choir Anthem "God's Greatest Treasure"
- Sun Dec 26 **"Responding to His Coming"** Colossians 3:1-17
Special Music: Works in Progress Praise Band



*** Christmas Eve Program — 7:00 p.m.**

- Fri Dec 24 **Celebrating the Birth of Jesus**
Children's Recitations
Children's Choir "Little Drummer Boy" & "Welcome Christmas"
Adult Choir Cantata "Messiah, Heaven's Glory"



Published monthly by Salem United Methodist Church – Wolfsville.
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Chair, Cemetery Committee: George Stottlemeyer
Food Pantry: Jennifer Gormer, Patrick Boyton, Dennis Draper & Tara Birriel

Salem Membership Statistics:
Current Membership: 238
2021 New Members: 0

Salem Physical Facilities:
Church built 1847
Educational Building built 1967
Parsonage built 1974-75

Salem Website:
www.SalemChurchWolfsville.org

Colophon:
Produced using macOS Pages 11.2 and macOS 11.6.1 on an Apple M1 MacBook Air computer, HP LaserJet P3015 postscript laser printer, and Ricoh MP-3054 digital copier.

Purpose of Newsletter:
The purpose of this newsletter is to provide a means of communicating with our members, their families, and our many friends of the Wolfsville community and surrounding areas. We pray that this newsletter will inspire you, our readers, to regularly attend worship services, Sunday School, and all other activities of the church. For those who are unable to attend, this newsletter is a means of bringing part of the church to you.

Salem Mission Statement:
At Salem, with God's help, we pledge to INVITE others to Christ, HELP each other grow in faith, and SERVE those in need in our congregation, the community, and the world.

Salem Vision Statement:
We will direct our efforts out into the community to serve people's needs and bring them to Christ.

Go  **2021 MISSION PROJECTS** **2021 Goal**

1. Frank & Nancy Stottlemeyer, Retired, New Tribes Mission	\$2,460
2. Operation Christmas Child (shipping for shoe boxes)	45
3. Salem Mission & Outreach (local needs)	1,180
4. Wolfsville Elementary School PTA - "All Pro Families Breakfast"	900
5. Wolfsville Community Food Pantry at Salem	1,180
6. Mary E. (AIM - France)	1,320
7. United Methodist Board of Child Care Christmas Offering	750
8. Potato Project (Society of St. Andrew)	300
9. Middletown High School Fellowship of Christian Athletes	300
10. The Least of These Ministries (Dominican Republic)	780
11. Care Net Pregnancy Center of Frederick	600
12. Compassion International (Sponsored Child in Tanzania)	456
13. Hero's Club after school ministry	4,500
14. World Vision (Sponsored Child in Colombia)	420
TOTAL GOAL for 2021	\$15,191

Here's how you can give . . .

1. Make checks payable to Salem United Methodist Church, or place cash in an envelope marked "Missions."
2. Tell us which mission project(s) you wish to support by making a note on your check or envelope.
3. Place your contributions in the offering plate at Sunday worship or mail to Salem.
If you do not designate a project, your contribution will be distributed to the project or projects needing funds to meet the monthly minimum payout goals.

MISSION PROJECTS - NEWS & UPDATES

Salem Mission Project No. 7
United Methodist Board of Child Care


CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING

Each year, the entire offering received at Salem's Christmas Eve program is given to the Board of Child Care.

The Board of Child Care is an agency within the United Methodist Church that is dedicated to ministering to the needs of troubled children and their families.

The Board of Child Care takes care of children by providing long term places to stay and schools they can attend while there, as well as sponsoring children for adoption and day care.

Campuses are located near Baltimore and in Falling Waters, West Virginia.



OFFICE HOURS for PASTOR BOB SNYDER

Sunday _____	7am - Noon	Prep and worship (at church)	Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday	6-7 am	Devotions (at home)
Monday (day off) _____	6-7 am	Devotions (at home)		9 am - Noon	Parsonage Office
	9-11 am	Planning Time (at home)		Noon - 1 pm	Lunch
				1-5 pm	Parsonage Office
			Saturday _____	7-9 am	Final touches on Sunday's sermon (at home)

Who's Doing What, When?

December 2021

9:00 A.M. SANCTUARY & ONLINE ZOOM WORSHIP

Lay Reader

5 Sue Ellen Stottlemeyer
12 Janice Harshman
19 Lavena Jenkins
26 Joyce Weaver

Acolyte

5 Loralli Snyder
12 Valentina Barkdoll
19 Loralli Snyder
26 Valentina Barkdoll

Organist

5 Sara Weitzel
12 Sara Weitzel
19 Sara Weitzel
26 Sara Weitzel

Computer

5 Michele Kline
12 Wanda Barkdoll
19 Lori Williamson
26 Robin Haupt

Camera

5 Lori Williamson
12 Michele Kline
19 Patrick Boyton
26 Dennis Draper

Greeter

5 Donald & Susie Stottlemeyer
12 Dennis Draper
19 Matt Stottlemeyer
26 Barkdoll Family

Salem Adult Choir to present anthem and cantata

- Sandy Lewis, Adult Choir Director, Accompanist
- Marlene Young, Interim Adult Choir Director

About six weeks ago, Pastor Bob mentioned in worship one Sunday that he missed the adult choir. After praying about it, I felt led to reach out to Sandy Lewis, Salem's Adult Choir Director, to ask if I could help her in any way until she felt fully able to resume the choir, and that I would be happy to do so.

I shared with Pastor Bob my conversations with Sandy who said that while she had resumed playing at Garfield around May of this year, she hadn't yet felt up to doing the choir.

Sandy told me that if I would lead it and didn't have anyone else to play, she would do it. After reaching out to members of the choir to let them know that Sandy had said she'd play if I directed, and knowing that time was closing in quickly before Advent season, I prayed about what music to select and the Lord led me to the cantata "Messiah, Heaven's Glory" by Russell Mauldin, and an anthem for the Sunday before Christmas—"God's Greatest Treasure" by Ruth Elaine Schram.

It looks like we will have 10-12 choir members and I'm thankful for each and every one, and have prayed for the anointing of the Holy Spirit on our musical offerings this Christmas season.

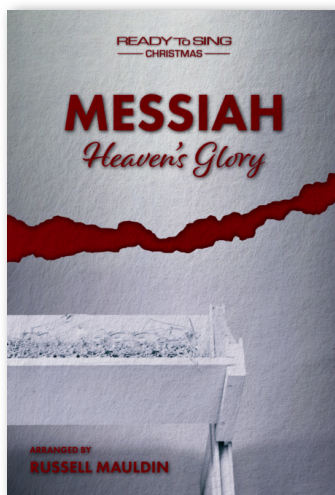
I find great joy, blessed assurance and peace as we're singing, to know that we are "surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses" of beloved family members and friends from the Salem Church family who have gone on to receive their eternal homes, and who are cheering us on from the realms of heaven in our efforts to glorify God for the Greatest Gift of All in sending us Jesus.

The cantata "Messiah, Heaven's Glory" tells the story in song and narration of the Baby born in Bethlehem that would change the world. The One who came as our Messiah, to redeem and deliver us.

This musical offering celebrates the coming Messiah with a worshipful retelling of the blessed Christmas story by combining selections of beloved Christmas carols, selections from Handel's Messiah and contemporary worship songs.

The Salem Adult Choir is rehearsing on Tuesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. and looks forward to presenting this joyful celebration of worship and praise of the newborn King, born to save us all.

—Marlene Young



It's Your Day!

December Anniversaries

- 3 - Ron & Amy Ellis
- 12 - Bob & Petie Stup
- 23 - Jon & Fonda Gormer
- 24 - Dennis & Ruth Draper

December Birthdays

- 3 - Joe Hawkins
- 4 - Judith Harne
- 4 - Dottie Hager
- 6 - Cody Blickenstaff
- 8 - Sara Weitzel
- 9 - Theresa Haupt
- 9 - Mark Koons
- 11 - Amber Breneman
- 12 - Laura Colbert
- 17 - Holly Rippeon
- 18 - Holly Brashears
- 23 - Bill Burrier
- 25 - Stuart Tolland
- 28 - Lavena Jenkins
- 29 - Jackson Haddock
- 30 - Keagan Mellott

Holy Communion

December 5, 2021
9:00 a.m.



Children's Choir to sing Christmas Eve

- Michele Kline
Children's Choir Director

The children's choir will be performing at the 7 o'clock Christmas Eve service this year.



All children are welcome to join us the last 15 minutes of Sunday school to learn the songs (10:45 am).

The children will be singing two songs, "Little Drummer Boy" and "Welcome Christmas."

Salem Iron Men

- Bill Weaver

The Iron Men will be meeting via zoom on December 12th at 6:30 p.m.



We will be taking a break for the rest of the month, resuming our 2nd & 4th Sunday evenings in January.



Message from the Pastor and Worship in December

■ By **PASTOR ROBERT E. SNYDER**

The first Sunday of Advent, November 28, marks the beginning of a new liturgical year. Liturgy means “the work of the people of God” — how we worship God and are in relationship with God during the course of a year.

The seasons and special days of the church year emphasize different aspects of our daily relationship with God:

- The Season of Advent – we expect to encounter God in our daily lives as he loves and cares for us;
- Christmas Day – Christ comes every day to be with us and reveal God to us;
- Epiphany Sunday – we recognize and worship Jesus for who he is, the Son of God and our Savior;
- Ordinary Time – with the example of his life, Jesus shows us how to live;
- The Season of Lent – we should examine ourselves and repent for our sins every day of the church year;
- Easter – God’s extraordinary love is shown to us through Jesus’ death and resurrection;
- The Easter Season – each day of our lives is an opportunity for starting over, renewing and restoring our relationship with God and people;
- Pentecost – God formed the church and sent his Holy Spirit to empower us to be the church;
- Ordinary Time – with the example of his life, Jesus shows us how to live our lives;
- Christ the King Sunday – Christ is the true Lord of our lives, now and forever, and no earthly power can change that.

Taking advantage of the focus of each season and special day of the church year can help us continue to grow in our relationship with God and people.

Have a wonderful Advent Season, Christmas Day, and Christmas Season, and please invite someone to come to church with you to experience God’s love and the love of a church family!

God Bless. —Pastor Bob

December 5 Second Sunday of Advent Holy Communion “Joy”

Luke 1:67-80

Luke 1:78-79 – “Because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace.”

These are the concluding verses of a section of the Bible known as “Zechariah’s Song” sung by Zechariah on the birth of his son, John the Baptist.

He was expressing his joy in God’s promise to him that their long-awaited Savior was coming soon and that his very own son, John, would prepare the people to receive their Savior and the gift of salvation he would be bringing to them. Burdened with their struggles, Jesus would be bringing joy into their lives.

December 12 Third Sunday of Advent “Love”

Zephaniah 3:9-17

Zephaniah 3:17b – “The Lord will quiet you with his love, he will rejoice over you with singing.”

Zephaniah served as God’s prophet in the 7th Century BC. He warned the Israelites that if they continued to sin against God their country would fall and their homes and way of life would be destroyed. But he also delivered God’s promise that one day he would bring them back home again.

It is difficult for us to grasp the depth of God’s love for us and all of creation. We continue to sin against God and it is destructive to us in many ways, yet God continues to love with us, stay with us, and guide us back into relationship with him. What can be

better in life than to be loved like this by God who will not give up on us? This Advent, how will we respond?

December 19 Fourth Sunday of Advent “Peace”

Luke 1:39-56

Luke 1:47 – “My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.”

Mary found out she was pregnant. An angel of the Lord had come to her and told her so. Even though she responded to God, “I am your servant, may it be to me as you have said” (V. 38), Mary was full of fear and must have felt very anxious and alone.

We know this because she fled to a distant town to be with her relative Elizabeth who she was hoping would understand and bring her comfort. And Elizabeth did.

Mary would need to face Joseph, her parents, and a whole town full of friends and neighbors who she knew would have great difficulty understanding her pregnancy. But through her visit to Elizabeth, God gave Mary the strength and peace she needed to return home, share her news, and serve the Lord.

December 24 Christmas Eve Worship Service, 7 p.m.

December 26 First Sunday after Christmas Day “Responding to His Coming”

Colossians 3:1-17

Luke 2:49 – “Why were you searching for me? He asked. Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?”

We’ve just experienced the Hope, Joy, Love and Peace of Advent and Christmas.

How do we now respond having remembered and celebrated Jesus’ birth? How do we respond to Jesus Christ as he comes into our lives every day?

We respond by following the example of Jesus who worshipped in God his Father’s house. And we respond by striving to be holy as he is holy, by each day “clothing ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.”

We respond by “bearing with each other and forgiving each other whatever grievances we may have against one another, forgiving as the Lord forgave us.

And, finally, we respond over all these virtues but putting on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Let us respond!



The Littlest Branch

By Nancy Strine

“A shoot shall come from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.” —Isaiah 11:1

Right now, I’m a little twig, you see. I’m hidden deep inside a big pine tree.
 ‘Can’t hardly do much; I’m tiny and thin. I hardly fill the space that I’m in.
 Other large branches look very dignified. Am I really too small to be here inside?
 So, I make excuses that I don’t need much— a little sun, wind, rain and such.
 One day, the tree shakes; the branches are quiet— unable to say what’s causing the riot.
 I hear a great thud as the tree hits the ground, its trunk in splinters and branches strewn ‘round.
 Cautious and nervous, I peek at the sight; and then, the whole tree is hoisted upright!
 Jostled and carried, big branches cry out. I’m really afraid and unable to shout.
 The journey is short and suddenly ceases. At this point, my fear greatly increases.
 Being small, I hope, will decrease the chances of being cut away like much bigger branches.

“You might be next!” is what they all say. I tremble as some big ones are carried away.
 The trunk is still reeling as it finds itself braced by the hard, metal rods of a rounded tree base.
 All hope seems to fade; but then, there’s a light— no, now there’s another— all colored and bright!
 A box is put down on the floor close to me with bright, fancy ornaments to hang on the tree.
 A beautiful bird’s nest just made for the tree is then gently fastened securely to me.
 By placing a bird’s nest in just such a way, many blessings will follow— or so legends say.
 The little bird inside is quiet and small. It doesn’t chirp or make noises at all.
 But I feel so happy that now it’s at rest, inside the tree on my little chest.
 Thus, I’m reminded that though I am small, I have great purpose and value to all.
 God loves us and gives us all worth. We’re reminded of this as we celebrate Christ’s birth.

The author of this poem is Nancy Strine. We are pleased to have Nancy and her husband Howard visiting at Salem for worship especially during the summer months.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. —Luke 2:11



RECIPE



Macadamia - Vanilla Chip Cookies

INGREDIENTS:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 3/4 cup (3/4 stick) butter flavor Crisco | 1 3/4 cups flour |
| 1 1/4 cups packed brown sugar | Pinch of salt |
| 2 tablespoons milk | 3/4 teaspoon baking soda |
| 1 tablespoon vanilla | 1 cup vanilla chips |
| 1 egg | 1 cup macadamia nuts (coarsely chopped) |

DIRECTIONS:

1. Blend Crisco, brown sugar, milk and vanilla in large bowl. Beat egg into creamed mixture.
2. Combine flour, salt and baking soda. Mix into creamed mixture just until blended. Stir in vanilla chips and macadamia nuts.
3. Drop by rounded tablespoonfuls, 3 inches apart, onto ungreased baking sheet.
4. Bake at 350 degrees for 8-10 minutes. Cool 2 minutes and remove from baking sheet. Makes approximately 3 dozen.

Caroline Buhrman made these cookies many years ago for the “Bee-lievers” Women’s Group Christmas Cookie Exchange.



Sometime During Christmas

Sometime during Christmas
 As the days go rushing by,
 Take time to see the Christmas lights
 Mist-haloed against the sky.

Sometime during Christmas
 Breathe deep the Christmas spell;
 The bayberry and the piney scents;
 What welcome they foretell.

Sometime during Christmas
 When carolers are singing,
 Retell the age old-story
 For which the bells are ringing.

Sometime during Christmas
 Midst the gaiety and noise,
 Take time to hear the quietness
 Of simple Christmas joys.

Sometime during Christmas
 Remember friends are near,
 And feel the warmth of knowing
 That your friendship’s very dear.

Submitted by Marilyn Leatherman

May joy come from God above
 To all those who Christmas love.

Sticky Buns & Pies For Sale

As a fundraiser for Salem’s United Methodist Women “Bee-lievers,” Anita Harshman is making sticky buns and pies.

- Pecan Cinnamon Sticky Buns: \$12
- Apple Pie: \$10
- Cherry or Peach: \$11
- Raspberry, Blueberry or Blackberry: \$13

You may purchase these items directly from Anita. To place an order, call Anita at 240-818-0126.

August 2020

The Spirit of Christmas

By Christel B. Ellis

Whenever Christmas carols
 Re-echo o’er the snow,
 The air is filled with laughter
 As the children come and go.

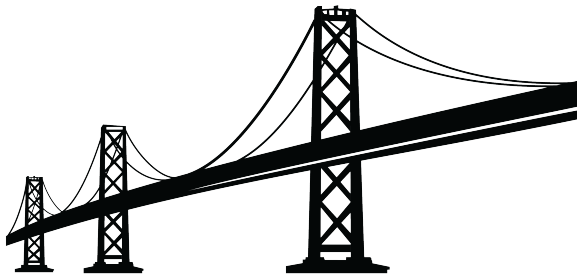
And each year we offer blessings
 At the birth of Christ our King,
 And each year the earth re-echoes
 With the praises that we sing.



It's happening!

Contemporary Worship

Mark your calendar



THE BRIDGE

CONNECTING FAITH AND LIFE

Sunday, February 13, 2022 • 4:00 p.m. at Salem

“IT’S HAPPENING!”

On Sunday, February 13th, 2022, Salem’s contemporary worship service will make its return with a new schedule, new time, and new name.

The new service will be called “The Bridge – Connecting Faith and Life” and will be held the 2nd Sunday of each month at 4:00 p.m.

Those familiar with Salem’s former contemporary service on Sunday mornings will recognize many of the elements that the new “The Bridge” service will offer, including current worship music led by the Works In

Progress Praise Band, and a relaxed, casual and family-friendly atmosphere that encourages participation by adults and children alike.

Plans are also underway to incorporate some new elements into the service — ways to help worshipers see how God is present and at work in our lives and the world around us.

It’s exciting to see how God is at work and leading us in these new directions. “It’s happening!”

More information is to come. For now, mark your calendars for February 13th at 4:00 p.m. and make plans to be part of the kick-off for “The Bridge” contemporary worship service at Salem.

Salem Mission Project No. 7

Christmas Offering for Board of Child Care

As has been done for many years, Salem will receive a Christmas offering for the United Methodist Board of Child Care. There will be an offering plate in the sanctuary on Christmas Eve.

Folks at home can use the electronic offering or mail a check to the church treasurer. (See page 8 for mailing address)

Checks should be made payable to Salem United Methodist Church with Board of Child Care on the memo line.

Martinsburg Residential Campus

The Martinsburg campus is located

just off Exit 20 of I-81 in West Virginia.

The 50-bed residential program serves both males and females (ages 12

to 21) that need support coping with emotional and behavioral issues.

The property offers extensive recreational, vocational, and educational facilities – all tucked behind a quiet neighborhood in Berkeley County.

A multi-disciplinary team of professionals provides behavioral health support and treatment to the residents.



Salem is going to the WAVE Youth Retreat

January 7-9, 2022

As of this writing, 12 tickets have been purchased for Salem folks to attend WAVE in January.

Hotel reservations have also been made at the Carousel Hotel in Ocean City.

WAVE is the new name for ROCK which Salem has attended for many years.

WAVE is the result of two United Methodist Conferences coming together for one combined youth retreat.

Since the Baltimore-Washington Conference and the Peninsula-Delaware Conference are now affiliated, an opportunity arose to take the two youth events that were similar in purpose and combine them for a pilot year.

Youth from both conferences met in July where they came up with the new name – WAVE – and a new logo!

There were more than 25 ideas for the name, but when 45 people unanimously decided on the name WAVE, you know it’s God-inspired!

It’s important to know that the event is still youth designed and driven, still held at the Ocean City Convention Center and still focused on connecting youth to Christ and one another in fun and powerful ways.

This year’s theme is “Find Your Piece,” based on 1 Peter 5:7 (NIV): Cast all your anxiety on God because God cares for you.

“Find Your Piece” reminds us that God is always there for you.

You can always talk to him even when you feel like no one cares about your situation. “Cast all your anxiety onto him for he cares about you.”

If you struggle with anxiety or depression, like many youth, we’re not saying that if you pray about it, that it will simply go away.

We’re trying to spread the message that through your hardest times, God is always there to lean on. God always cares about your feelings and your problems.

The “piece” is about finding your inner peace and having God in your life is the missing “piece” that can really help you.

News from . . .

Salem's Board of Trustees

By Sue Ellen Stottlemeyer, Chair

Photo by Bill Burrier



Renovation of Educational Building, Lower Level — During the week of July 11, a specialty contractor removed the old tile flooring, making way for Sanbower Builders to do the rest of the renovation work which included: new vinyl plank flooring, paint walls, heaters, door slabs, paneling surfaces, chair rail, door jams and trim; refinish stairs, and paint paneling in foyer from floor to ceiling. The work was completed in September, just in time to re-start Sunday School on October 3, 2021.

List of items the Trustees have recently completed

- Educational Building Renovation completed in September with Sunday School starting the first Sunday in October.
- Educational Building lower level back door closure replaced due to wear and leaking oil.
- Two new emergency lights installed.
- Purchased copier on October 15 and trustees will now maintain the service/maintenance agreement.
- New internet cable modem installed in parsonage and parsonage telephone landline transferred from Verizon to Comcast (same phone number 301-293-1616).
- Floor drains and drain from the dehumidifier under the sanctuary were unclogged. (Puddle of water was discovered on the floor under the sanctuary when trying to determine where the water on the back lawn could be coming from and discovered floor drains and dehumidifier drain were clogged)
- Outdoor steps leading from upper level Social Hall in the rear of the building were stained with weather/waterproofing stain.
- Estimates received to replace shingles on shed, garage and parsonage roof were presented to the Church Council and approved. Work to be scheduled for April 2022.
- Window screen replaced in Men's Classroom.
- Filters for the heat pumps in the sanctuary and social hall were changed/replaced.
- PJ's Roofing is scheduled to clean the gutters on the parsonage, sanctuary and educational building on November 29.



1. Offering Plate in Sanctuary

For those at sanctuary worship, an offering plate will be available at the rear of the sanctuary.

2. By Mail

You may mail your tithes and offerings to:

Salem United Methodist Church
Church Treasurer
P. O. Box 144
Myersville, MD 21773-0144

Make checks payable to Salem United Methodist Church.

3. Electronically Online

You may give electronically by viewing our website SalemChurchWolfsville.org and select GIVE.

Taking Baby Jesus for a Ride

It was the Sunday after Christmas. Pastor John was looking at the nativity scene prior to packing away the figures when he noticed the baby Jesus was missing.

Then he saw little Harry with a red wagon, and in the wagon was the figure of the little infant, Jesus.

Pastor John walked up to Harry and said, "Well, Harry, where did you get the little infant?"

Harry replied honestly, "I took him from the church, Pastor John." "And why did you take him?"

With a sheepish smile, Harry said, "Well, about a week before Christmas I prayed to little Lord Jesus. I told him if he would bring me a red wagon for Christmas, I would give him a ride around the block in it."

Some thoughts to ponder . . .

Christmas waves a magic wand over this world and, behold, everything is softer and more beautiful.

Christmas is not as much about opening our presents as opening our hearts.

Nothing ever seems too bad, too hard, or too sad when you've got a Christmas tree in the living room.

Submitted by Marilyn Leatherman

The Mountain Shepherd

Salem United Methodist Church
12477-79 Wolfsville Road
Myersville, MD 21773-9303

www.SalemChurchWolfsville.org

Address Services Requested

SERVICE TIMES

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:15 a.m. Sunday School

December 2021

Place
Stamp
Here