

Salem United Methodist Church — Wolfsville

## Salem Bids Farewell to Pastor Bob Snyder

### A Tribute to Pastor Bob and his 15 Years of Ministry in Wolfsville

By Bill Burrier



Pastor Bob Snyder

**FOOD**  
pantry  
TUESDAYS  
6:30-7:30 PM  
SALEM UMC - WOLFVILLE

**Honoring Pastor Bob  
FAREWELL PICNIC**  
Sunday, June 11  
12 noon  
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**On** July 1, 2008, nearly 15 years ago, Salem began a new era as a single station church and Pastor Bob Snyder was appointed as Salem's first full time pastor.

This was a significant time in Salem's history. To become a single station church was one of Salem's goals for many decades — finally realized. Prior to this, Salem had shared its pastor with at least one other church and sometimes two other churches.

This was Pastor Bob's first pastoral appointment after graduating from Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC, less than two months before, in May 2008.

He began his ministry in Wolfsville as a United Methodist commissioned pastor. After a three-year probationary period, he was ordained an Elder on May 27, 2011.

Prior to becoming a pastor, he served in the U. S. Marine Corps and then held various training positions in civilian industry.

#### Snyder Family Moved to Wolfsville

Following a 4-week Salem parsonage renovation, the Snyder family moved to Wolfsville from their home in Poolesville, Maryland, in late July 2008.

At that time, the family consisted of Pastor Bob's wife, Donna, and three daughters: Laura, a medical assistant in an OB-GYN practice in Leesburg, Virginia; Karyn, a student at Elizabethtown College, studying to be an early elementary school teacher; and Colleen, a junior in high

school. Today, a fourth daughter, Loralli, a high school student, now graces the Snyder family.

#### Pastor Bob's Spiritual Journey

In the July 2008 edition of *The Mountain Shepherd*, Pastor Bob wrote, "It took me awhile to become a pastor. At a young age, I ran from the call. Years later, I responded to the call but by then life's circumstances got in the way.

"Now finally, I'm a pastor. And finally, I feel very much at peace with myself, and I feel that I'm home at Salem.

"Looking back, I can see that God never gave up on me. In fact, God was leading me. Maybe you're unsettled and yearning for peace. Maybe you need a spiritual home. If so, I believe I can identify with you and help you on your journey of faith."

—continued on page 4



# Who's Doing What, When?

June 2023

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

### Lay Reader

- 4 Gary Barkdoll
- 11 Dennis Leatherman
- 18 Sue Ellen Stottlemeyer
- 25 Mary Cline

### Acolyte

- 4 Loralli Snyder
- 11 Cheyenne Leatherman
- 18 Valentina Barkdoll
- 25 Shelby Leatherman

### Organist/Pianist

- 4 Sara Weitzel
- 11 Sara Weitzel
- 18 Sara Weitzel
- 25 Sara Weitzel

### Computer

- 4 Donna Snyder
- 11 Wanda Barkdoll
- 18 Camilo Barkdoll
- 25 Sue Ellen Stottlemeyer

### Camera

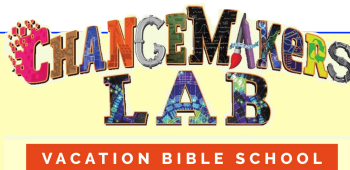
- 4 Camilo Barkdoll
- 11 Robin Haupt
- 18 Michael Burrier
- 25 Dennis Draper

### Greeter

- 4 Donald & Susie Stottlemeyer
- 11 Dennis Draper
- 18 Matt Stottlemeyer
- 25 Barkdoll Family

Monday-Friday, July 17-21, at Salem

## Become a Changemaker at Vacation Bible School



Evenings 6:30—8:30 p.m.

■ By Fonda Gormer

The Wolfsville Community Vacation Bible School will be held July 17-21, from 6:30—8:30 p.m. at Salem UMC in Wolfsville. Children ages 4 through 6th grade are invited to participate.

This year's Vacation Bible School is called "Changemakers Lab" and is based on Mark 1:15: "Now is the time! Here comes God's kingdom! Change your hearts and lives, and trust this good news!"

At the Vacation Bible School, the children will learn that everyone can make a difference in the world.

Join us as the mad scientist works on ways to change the world, and is visited by a Bible-times person.

### Five Bible Stories

The five Bible stories explore examples of people who experienced and brought

about change in the world around them. These people provide a model for asking hard questions, working together to solve problems, reaching across differences, caring for all people, and imagining a new world.

Through worship and drama, Bible study, STEAM activities, games and refreshments, children are invited to see and experience the transforming love of God. Grounded in God's love, children can use their unique gifts to make a difference wherever they go!

This Vacation Bible School is a cooperative project of Salem UMC and St. Mark's Lutheran Church, with the Wolfsville Ruritan Club as a sponsor.

For more information, contact Fonda Gormer at 301-293-2436 or [fonda.gormer@comcast.net](mailto:fonda.gormer@comcast.net).

Photo by Bill Burrier



Petie Stup browses the beautiful flowers. She has supported the Salem flower sale for many years. We thank everyone who came out to help setup, sell, and buy our flowers and plants; and to those who provided food items and worked in the kitchen.

## It's Your Day!



### June Anniversaries

- 8 - Kenneth & Dianna Poling
- 19 - Brandon & Jessie Leatherman
- 22 - Mark & Sarah Koons
- 25 - Vernon & Sue Ellen Stottlemeyer

### June Birthdays

- 1 - Emily Burrier
- 2 - Richard Freysz
- 2 - Bob Stup
- 3 - Andrea Palmer
- 3 - Barbara Palmer
- 6 - Jonathan Gormer
- 11 - Joyce Weaver
- 12 - Petie Stup
- 13 - Cheyenne Leatherman
- 23 - Seth Hipkins
- 23 - Jeremiah Sowers
- 24 - Casey Weddle
- 26 - Christi Beall
- 26 - Justin Brown
- 26 - Paul McCormick
- 27 - George Stottlemeyer
- 28 - Liam Haupt

### Holy Communion

Sun June 4, 9:00 a.m.



Photo by Bill Burrier



Barbie Stottlemeyer poses with some of the flowers she selected in Lancaster County, PA, to sell at Salem's annual plant and flower sale on May 13. The sale was a big success again this year

15 Years of Ministry in Wolfsville

## A Tribute to Pastor Bob Snyder

—continued from page 1

### Pastor Bob's Ministry Goals

Upon arrival at Salem, Pastor Bob outlined his three ministry goals.

First, I hope we can help others know God's overwhelming love for them. None of us are worthy of God's love and none of us can earn it. But despite our sin, God freely chooses to love us unconditionally. John 3:16 states: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life."

Second, I hope we can help others grow in their relationship with Christ. Spiritual growth is a lifelong journey. For young and old alike there is always a next step in the journey. Growth comes about through participation in the means of grace: worship, prayer, Bible study, Holy Communion, fasting, and Christian conferencing.

Third, I hope we can help others discover the gifts for service God has given them and then support them in using those gifts in service to others. Christ spent much of his life caring for those in need. In our time and place, we are called to continue Christ's work; we are Christ's arms and legs.

Although these were Pastor Bob's "initial" goals, he has maintained throughout his 15 years at Salem.

### Ministry Involvement

During Pastor Bob's tenure at Salem, he fully supported and participated in the many ongoing adult and youth ministry activities— mission trips, Creation, ROCK, Ice Cream Socials, Lord's Acre Festivals, music ministry including Salem's praise band, and many others.

He maintained a close relationship with the Wolfsville Elementary School where many of their students participated in Salem's "Hero's Club" after school program, as well as working with the PTA on monthly parenting breakfasts.

He worked with other pastors in the area planning community ministry events such as sunrise services and Thanksgiving services; and supported the annual CROP walks and Vacation Bible School.

### Building Projects

During his time in Wolfsville, a new pavilion, the Linda M. Kline Memorial Pavilion, was constructed at the rear of Salem's educational building. Pastor Bob officiated at the ground breaking and dedication in 2012.

Numerous building utility, upgrades and renovations were accomplished during his tenure, including renovation of the entrance and lower level of the educational building in 2021.

### Anniversary Services

Pastor Bob was a leader in organizing Salem's 190th anniversary in 2009, and the 200th anniversary celebration in 2019.

In 2009, a documentary of Salem's history was produced on DVD and distributed widely among Salem members, friends, and members of the community. In that documentary, Pastor Bob recorded four video segments reiterating Salem's deep history going back to 1819.

### Reaching Out

Pastor Bob also supported the establishment of Salem's food pantry in 2011, which still remains open one evening each week for residents with Myersville, Smithsburg or Sabillasville addresses.

Pastor Bob has made himself available to minister to the food pantry patrons, providing referrals and words of encouragement.

### Ministry Challenges during COVID

During the COVID-19 lockdown which began in March 2020, worship did not stop. Salem established a Zoom connection and Pastor Bob led worship from his home.

After Salem re-opened with social distancing, on Sundays when Holy Communion was observed, and only a small percentage of the congregation was in the sanctuary, Pastor Bob went the "extra mile" and hand delivered communion elements to the homes of those who did not yet feel comfortable attending. Communion was also offered to parishioners in their cars in the Salem parking lot.

### HONORING PASTOR BOB Farewell Picnic

**Sunday, June 11, 2023, 12 noon**

A picnic honoring **Pastor Bob Snyder** will be held Sunday, June 11, 2023, at 12 noon, at Salem.

This community event is to celebrate his service to Salem and the Wolfsville community, as he has been given a new assignment effective July 1, 2023.

Fried chicken, beverages and place settings will be provided. Each family is asked to bring a covered dish or dessert to share.

In order to determine how much chicken to order, each family is requested to sign up, either on the door in the church entry way, or by contacting Fonda Gormer at 301-293-2436 or

fonda.gormer@comcast.net.

Please join us as we say good-bye!

Also during the pandemic, in an effort to keep everyone connected, Pastor Bob began preparing Words of Encouragement, which he wrote and sent out every day via email and telephone message.

Even after the pandemic emergency ended, he continued to prepare and issue these daily devotions, based on the "Our Daily Bread" devotional guide.

The Zoom connection still continues for those who are not able to attend worship in the sanctuary. The service is also recorded and copied onto DVDs for distribution to elderly shut-ins.

### Another New Era for Salem

Pastor's Bob's tenure in Wolfsville began with Salem entering a new era as a single station church.

His time in Wolfsville is now ending with Salem entering another new era as Salem transitions to an independent church after disaffiliating from the United Methodist Church.

Pastor Bob has decided to remain with the United Methodist Church and has been reassigned to a two-point charge in Hagerstown: Washington Square United Methodist Church and Shiloh United Methodist Church.

We wish Pastor Bob God's richest blessings in his new appointment which begins July 1, 2023.



### What Makes a Dad

God took the strength of a mountain,  
 The majesty of a tree,  
 The warmth of a summer sun,  
 The calm of a quiet sea,  
 The generous soul of nature,  
 The comforting arm of night,  
 The wisdom of the ages,  
 The power of the eagle's flight,  
 The joy of a morning in spring,  
 The faith of a mustard seed,  
 The patience of eternity,  
 The depth of a family need,  
 Then God combined these qualities,  
 When there was nothing more to add,  
 He knew His masterpiece was complete,  
 And so, He called it ... Dad

*Submitted by Margaret Yowell*

### The American Flag

*By David J. Materazzi*

The American Flag, is red white and blue  
 To you, I salute, this is what I do.  
 The American Flag, you stand so free  
 To you, I salute, with love from me.  
 The American Flag, nicknamed Old Glory  
 To you, I salute, a flag with a story.  
 The American Flag, you changed over the years  
 To you, I salute, with a song and  
 music to our ears.  
 The American Flag, we display you with pride  
 To your salute, your true colors we do not hide.  
 The American Flag, what can I say  
 To you, I salute, each and everyday.  
 The American Flag, raised by a rope  
 To you, I salute, you give us hope.

### In His Time

*By Mary Chevalier*

I knelt there on the grassy knoll  
 And bared to God my heart and soul;  
 To Him, I poured out all my grief,  
 Then pleaded for His sweet relief.  
 I know, by faith, God always hears;  
 He bears our pain — releases fears.  
 If I but trust Him, wholeheartedly,  
 In His time, I know He'll answer me.  
*I call to God most high, to God who provides for me.*  
 —Psalm 57:3



## RECIPE



### Cranberry Nut Bread

#### INGREDIENTS:

- |                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 2 cups all-purpose flour      | 1 egg                                  |
| 1 cup sugar                   | 3/4 cup orange juice                   |
| 1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder | 1 tablespoon grated orange peel        |
| 1 teaspoon salt               | 1 1/2 cups fresh or frozen cranberries |
| 1/2 teaspoon baking soda      | 1/2 cup chopped walnuts                |
| 1/4 cup butter                |  |

#### DIRECTIONS:

- In a bowl, combine flour, sugar, baking powder, salt and baking soda. Cut in butter until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Beat egg, orange juice and peel; stir into dry ingredients just until blended. Add the cranberries and walnuts.
- Spoon batter into a greased and floured 8-in. x 4-in. x 2-in. loaf pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 65-70 minutes or until a toothpick inserted near the center comes out clean. Cool in pan 10 minutes before removing to a wire rack to cool completely.

*Joyce Weaver made this bread for the "Adult Discussion Group Sunday School Class" snack. Class members requested the recipe.*



### The Morning Sky

*By Hope C. Oberhelman*

I looked out at the morning sky,  
 The day was bright and clear;  
 I felt a gladness in my heart,  
 And I sensed the Master near.

I looked out at the noonday sky,  
 Some clouds were drifting by,  
 While happiness o'erflowed my soul  
 That almost made me cry . . .

I looked out at the evening sky,  
 The sun had gone to rest,  
 And I thanked the Savior for His love,  
 For I felt completely blessed!

*Your word in a lamp for my feet,  
 a light for my path.*  
 —Psalm 119:105

### Sticky Buns & Pies For Sale

As a fundraiser for Salem's "Bee-lievers" women's group, 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

### In Your Steps

*By Edna Massimilla*

In Your steps, dear Lord, we trod,  
 Blessed Savior, Lamb of God.  
 In Your steps we'll be secure;  
 Earthly trials we shall endure.  
 As Your spirit leads the way,  
 From Your side we shall not stray.  
 In Your steps we'll ever be,  
 Faithful, loving, close to Thee.

*The Lord is my strength and my shield...* —Psalm 28:7

## A Church-Wide Effort

## Salem Disaffiliation “Transition Teams” at Work

• By Michael Burrier

Much has happened since last month’s disaffiliation transition update. During May, all of our Transition Team working groups met (some multiple times) and several groups completed their tasks. Thank you to each person who responded to the call and volunteered to serve on the Transition Team. It has truly been a church-wide effort.

On May 25, 2023, Salem’s Church Council approved several recommendations made by the Transition Team. The following summarizes each working group, its role, its membership, and actions taken to date, including approvals by the Church Council.

Our disaffiliation from the United Methodist Church is expected to receive approval from the Baltimore-Washington Conference on June 1, 2023. After this approval is received, we will complete the final legal work in preparation for the formal disaffiliation on September 15, 2023.

Progress updates will continue to be provided each month in *The Mountain Shepherd*.

### Church Name / Logo / Branding

**Role:** Responsible for making recommendations to the Church Council regarding Salem’s new name and logo image to create an inviting brand that is representative of our new independent church and statement of beliefs.

**Members:** Michael Burrier (leader)    Jessie Leatherman  
Denny Leatherman                    Debbie Irons  
Bill Burrier                                Sandy Miller  
Donnie Stottlemeyer                Heidi Agostini

**Actions:** Met May 1. Reviewed sample church names and logo ideas. Church Council approved the group’s recommendation to adopt “Salem Community Church” as our new church name. The logo design and branding are still in process.

### Statement of Beliefs, Core Values, Mission & Vision

**Role:** Responsible for making recommendations to the Church Council regarding Salem’s statement of beliefs, core values, and mission and vision statements that would outline our guiding principles for the future. These statements would be posted on the church website and social media.

**Members:** Theresa Haupt (leader)    Denny Leatherman  
Jessie Leatherman                    Steve Leatherman  
Michael Burrier                        Jim Laky  
Debbie Irons

**Actions:** Met April 24, May 8 & 18. Developed a Statement of Beliefs, and Mission and Vision Statements that were approved by the Church Council. The vision statement is intended to be used as a tagline along



with the new church name, Salem Community Church. The mission statement and beliefs will be used to guide Salem’s ministry efforts moving forward and will be posted on the church’s website and social media to be easily found by those searching for churches.

- **Vision** (what we’re always doing):  
BUILDING CONNECTIONS.  
GROWING GOD’S FAMILY.
- **Mission** (how we accomplish the vision):  
BRINGING HOPE BY SHARING THE  
PEACE OF CHRIST THROUGH  
TEACHING HIS WORD, EXTENDING  
HIS GRACE, AND SERVING OTHERS IN  
HIS LOVE.

### By-Laws / Constitution

**Role:** Responsible for making recommendations to the Church Council for the church’s new by-laws and constitution (how Salem will organize itself and operate going forward), which must be written and adopted before the Legal Work Group can complete its work.

**Members:** Michael Burrier (leader)    George Stottlemeyer  
Bill Weaver                                Linda Marenic  
Vernon Stottlemeyer                    Gary Barkdoll

**Actions:** Met April 26 and May 15. Developed constitutions and by-laws for the three non-profit corporations that will be formed to receive the church assets and property of Salem United Methodist Church on the date of disaffiliation (September 15, 2023). The constitutions and by-laws were approved with edits by the Church Council. A resolution was also passed that allows the current Council and church officers to remain in place until the first leaders are approved for the new church at a Congregational Meeting in the fall of 2023.

**DISAFFILIATION** —continued from page 6**Legal**

**Role:** Responsible for making recommendations to the Church Council, working with Salem's legal counsel, and interfacing with the Conference Trustees to coordinate transfer of the church's property, along with any other legal items.

**Members:** Meredith Harshman (leader) Wanda Barkdoll  
Sue Ellen Stottlemeyer Marlene Young

**Actions:** After June 1, Salem's attorney, Michael Delauter, Esq., will begin the process of forming three non-profit corporations that will be used to receive the church's assets and property currently held in Trust by the United Methodist Church. The disaffiliation payment from Salem to the UMC will occur on or about August 25, 2023, and the transfer of assets from the UMC to Salem will occur on the date of disaffiliation, on or about September 15, 2023.

**Pastor Search Committee**

**Role:** Responsible for making recommendations to the Church Council regarding a pastor job description, a profile of Salem Church to share with candidates, the selection of online job sites to use for the posting, establishing procedures for reviewing and interviewing candidates, and making recommendations to the Church Council regarding candidate selection and the compensation package.

**Members:** Robin Haupt (leader) Debbie Irons  
Vernon Stottlemeyer Joyce Weaver  
Michael Burrier Linda Marenic  
Wanda Barkdoll Cathy Elsbach  
Donnie Stottlemeyer Caroline Buhrman  
Sandy Miller Bill Buhrman

**Actions:** Met on May 10 & 22; next meeting June 12. This group is working to establish policies and procedures for hiring a pastor. Items being completed include writing a job description and defining the steps involved in the selection process. The selection process is expected to include screening applicants, interviewing candidates, checking references and performing background checks, preaching on a Sunday, receiving feedback from the congregation, bringing back top candidates to preach again, receiving additional feedback from the congregation, and ultimately making a hiring recommendation to the Church Council.

The committee is currently working to finalize these procedures, after which the job posting will be made public and the selection process will begin. Pastor Bob Snyder will be with us until June 30, 2023, after which the Church Council will arrange for guest speakers each Sunday (both from within the congregation and outside speakers) until a new pastor is hired. Arrangements will also be made for pastoral coverage in the event of an illness or death in the congregation during this transition period.



# News & Notes

**Honoring our Graduates**

On Sunday, June 11, 2023, at 9 a.m. worship, the Salem congregation will honor our high school and college graduates.

- Emily Burrier (Catoctin High School)
- Lily Mueller (University of Maryland)
- Sarah Burrier (Frederick Community College)

Our high school graduate will receive a Student Life Application Study Bible and our college graduates will receive a financial gift.

**Ladies enjoy night out at Mountain Gate**

Twenty-four ladies, young and old, attended Ladies Night Out on May 17 at Mountain Gate Family Restaurant.

With a theme based on 1 Corinthians 13:13, "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love," they shared a buffet meal and activities relating to love.

A group of men also enjoyed the buffet in another part of the restaurant. A good time was had by all!

—Fonda Gormer

**Salem Financial Audit Completed**

Our thanks to Meredith Harshman, retired CPA, for conducting the audit of Salem's 2022 financial records.

The church's financial records were found to be in proper order and the audit report will be sent to the Baltimore-Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church.

**Ice Cream Social set for July 30**

Salem's annual Ice Cream Social will be held July 30, 2023, 6:30 p.m. at the pavilion. There will be no evening meal. Ice Cream will be served at 7:00 p.m.

**Salem Trustees News**

During the week of May 14, the parking lot received a fresh paint job... all of the parking spaces were re-stripped. The work was done by Dan Lafferty of D.L. Home Enhancements, Hagerstown.

Also, the Salem Church Council recently approved the purchase and installation of new ceiling fans in the sanctuary. The current fans were installed in 1991.

**Father's Day June 18**

All fathers and father figures attending worship at Salem on Father's Day, June 18, will receive a gift compliments of Salem.

**Baltimore-Washington Conference**

The 239th session of the Baltimore-Washington Conference is being held May 31 through June 3, in Baltimore. Salem is among the 23 churches in this Conference who have voted to disaffiliate.

Scenes from

## Salem's 1st... Family Hangout



Photos by Brandon &amp; Jessie Leatherman &amp; Michael Burrier



A little rain couldn't dampen our spirits for Salem's 1st Family Hangout at Loys Station Park near Thurmont. We love our kids! Thanks to Mr. Tim Leber for stopping by with the Christ Cream truck — we were blessed with ice cream and prayers.



On Saturday, May 20, 2023, Salem has its 1st Family Hangout at Loy's Station Park in Thurmont! Why a family hangout? A few parents noticed some budding friendships at church, and saw an opportunity!

The kids had a blast climbing, running, roller skating, and riding scooter! The rain didn't slow them down a bit, either. The adults even enjoyed a few sling-puck battles!

Our next event will be at the Bog Shack Snowball Stand in Myersville.... everyone is invited... stay tuned for details!

—Jessie Leatherman



Tim Leber, well-known local educator, has a ministry to children which comes from an ice cream van he calls "Christ Cream."





## Message from the Pastor and Worship in June

■ By PASTOR ROBERT E. SNYDER

**S**unday, June 25, will be my last Sunday at Salem. On July 1, I'll be starting a new appointment at Washington Square United Methodist Church and Shiloh United Methodist Church, both in Hagerstown.

My departure is coming sooner than we originally thought, but I believe it will help us all move forward to be Christ's disciples.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as your pastor these last 15 years. We have journeyed through life together during these years.

There have been very joyous times, and some very sad times; times when things were going along smoothly, and times of real struggle.

But the one constant has always been God's love and care for us, and his presence with us. Thank you for all the ways you have loved me and my family. I pray all the best for you in the future.

During June, I'll be continuing our sermon series titled "The Five Big Stories of the Bible."

As we journey through life, asking ourselves the question "which one of the five big Bible stories am I in?" helps us receive the wisdom and care God is providing for us.

It also helps us understand how the Bible is organized and where to go in the Bible to seek the help God is offering.

I pray the series is helpful to you as you continue to encounter God through Bible study and in daily life. May God bless you greatly during the month of June and beyond! Love, *Pastor Bob*

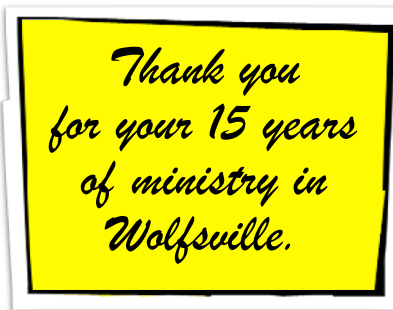
### June 4

#### Trinity Sunday

#### Holy Communion

#### Story 4 - "The People of God as Gathered and Sent"

Matthew 28:16-20



Jesus ascended into heaven. God formed the church and sent the Holy Spirit to dwell within it and empower it.

The apostle and missionary Paul led the effort to form new churches from the northeastern Mediterranean to Rome. Paul would establish a church and then move on to another city.

Letters were written back to the churches providing continued guidance and encouragement. Some were written by Paul himself and others were written in the name of Paul by his co-workers. Letters were also written by other Apostles and Jesus' brothers (James and Jude).

There were also other books of the Bible written during this period. Acts covers the spread of Christianity beyond Jerusalem and Judea as far as Rome, Revelation provides reassurance of God's control in the face of persecution, and Hebrews warns the church against sliding back to Judaism.

### June 11

#### Story 5

#### "The Final Victory"

Revelation 21:1-7

Jesus will come a final time to judge humans, both living and dead. The powers of evil will be completely destroyed, and the fulfillment of the Kingdom of Heaven will be at hand.

God will wipe away every tear from

our eyes and there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain.

Creation as God originally established it will be restored. God's love and peace will reign forever.

### June 18

#### Father's Day

#### "God Loves Us, God Is with Us"

Psalm 23

Psalm 23:4 - "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me, your rod and staff, they comfort me."

We have been looking at the "Five Big Stories of the Bible" over the last several weeks and there is an important thread that runs through all of them: God loves us, and God remains with us always.

At creation and the fall of humankind; during Israel's wilderness journey and as they lived in the Promise Land; at the coming as Jesus and during his life, death, and resurrection; as God formed the Church and sent us out to be disciples of Jesus Christ; and at his final return - God has always loved us and is always with us to help us prosper.

### June 25

#### "Loving God and Loving One Another"

Matthew 22:34-40

Matthew 22:37-39 - "Jesus replied, 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

In the end, it's all about love. I've been asked from time to time why I don't preach more about God's judgement.

I believe most people already know when they're sinning against God and are already experiencing the consequences that they have brought on themselves for their disobedience.

I know that's true for me when I sin. What moves me out of sin is the conquering power of love, not fear or judgement.

It was Jesus' love displayed on the cross that freed us from sin and death and isn't it that same love shared with one another that will cause us to want to sin less and become more and more like Jesus, and to live more and more the way he lived out his life.

When we're tempted to judge, let's ask "What would Jesus do?" When we're tempted to judge let's practice, "Do no harm, do all the good we can, and stay in love with God."

**How to Give  
Tithes & Offerings**

**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](http://SalemChurchWolfsville.org) and select GIVE.

**Heavenly Humor**



Submitted by Marilyn Leatherman

*Some thoughts to ponder . . .*

"By the time a man realizes that maybe his father was right, he usually has a son who thinks he's wrong."  
 ~ Charles Wadsworth

Be still. Remember who God is. Remember who you are. Then do your best to live without getting the order mixed up.

Submitted by Margaret Yowell

**The Mountain Shepherd**

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

[www.SalemChurchWolfsville.org](http://www.SalemChurchWolfsville.org)

Address Services Requested

**SERVICE TIMES**

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

**10:15 a.m. Sunday School**

Place  
Stamp  
Here

