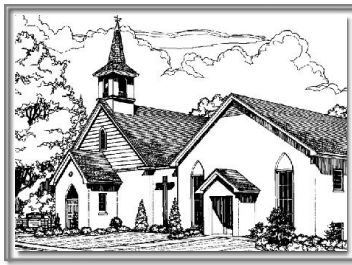


The  Newsletter of
Salem Community Church — Wolfsville

Mountain Shepherd

Volume 42 December 2024 Number 12



Salem Community Church
Wolfsville

Wolfsville FOOD PANTRY
Open Tuesdays, 6:30-7:30 pm
Located at SALEM COMMUNITY CHURCH
12479 Wolfsville Rd
Open to all residents with a Fayetteville, Switzerland or Sabalville zip code



**“Bee-lievers” Women’s Group
Winter Food Sale
ORDER NOW p.9**

INSIDE

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Celebrate the Christmas Season with us *at Salem in Wolfsville*

JOIN US
SUNDAYS AT 9AM DEC. 1, 8, 15, 22
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Tuesday, Dec. 24, 7 PM
SalemChurchWolfsville.org  

Christmas at Salem — at-a-glance

This Advent will feature sermons on the theme of “Emmanuel.” Emmanuel means “God with us” and it was the title Gabriel told Joseph to name his child. We will also be featuring the Advent candles.

“God with us” means that we have access to salvation because the Lamb of God was born to die for our sins. It also means that we have the opportunity to pray directly to God. Join us for this very special season of the year.



- Sun Nov 24 Hanging of the Greens 5:30 p.m.
- Sun Dec 1 “God With Us . . . the Promise” 9:00 a.m.
- Sat Dec 7 Salem Christmas Party 5:30 p.m.
- Sun Dec 8 “God With Us . . . the Peace” 9:00 a.m.
- Sat Dec 14 Country Churches Christmas Tour 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
- Sun Dec 15 “God With Us . . . the Power” 9:00 a.m.
- Sun Dec 22 “God With Us . . . the Purpose” Christmas Cantata 9:00 a.m.
- Tue Dec 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight — “God With Us . . . the Present” 7:00 p.m.
- Sun Dec 29 “God With Us . . . the Proof” 9:00 a.m.

PICK UP YOUR “ADVENT DEVOTIONAL” AT CHURCH



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Salem Community Church, Wolfsville

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Sunday School Treasurer: Mary Fogle
Chair, Personnel: Robin Haupt
Chair, Cemetery Committee: George Stottlemeyer
Food Pantry: Justinn & Holly Irons, Leaders

Salem Vision Statement:
Building Connections.
Growing God's Family.

Salem Mission Statement:
Bringing hope by sharing the peace of Christ
through teaching His word, extending His grace,
and serving others in His love.

Colophon:
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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 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.

Newsletter Distribution:
Online Website Link: 207
USPS First Class Mail: 15
Paper Copies at Church: 75
Paper Copies at LDS Store: 60
Facebook Followers: 565
Instagram Followers: 122

Oct 2024 — Average Worship Attendance

85	Sanctuary
34	Zoom Online
119	TOTAL

Go  **2024 MISSION PROJECTS**
"Missions is the Mission of the Church"

	Amount Paid Out to Projects Jan—Oct
1. Frank & Nancy Stottlemeyer, Retired, New Tribes Mission	\$2,075.00
2. Operation Christmas Child (shipping for shoe boxes)	0
3. Salem Mission & Outreach (includes disaster relief)	\$10,947.17
4. Christ Cream Ministry (Tim Leber) NEW in 2024	\$500.00
5. Wolfsville Food Pantry (at Salem)	\$9,817.48
6. Travis & Mary D. (AIM - Canada)	\$1,725.00
7. Board of Child Care (Martinsburg Campus)	\$1,075.00
8. Potato Project (Society of St. Andrew)	\$250.00
9. Open for 2024	0
10. The Least of These Ministries (Dominican Republic)	\$2,150.00
11. Care Net Pregnancy Center of Frederick	\$2,611.35
12. Compassion International (Sponsored Child in Tanzania)	\$430.00
13. Heroes' Club NEW in 2024	\$179.31
14. World Vision (Sponsored Child in Colombia)	\$350.00
TOTAL PAID OUT to these projects in 2024 to date	\$32,110.31

Here's how you can give . . .

1. Make checks payable to Salem Community 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 box at church, designate electronically, 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. 4

Christ Cream Ministry — Tim Leber

**CHRIST CREAM VAN
2024 WRAP-UP
(2ND YEAR OF MINISTRY)**

Now pausing until mid-April 2025.
Offering FREE individually wrapped ice creams and prayers at any of your events. Can't wait for the 2025 "ice cream season." We'll get started again in mid-April. Just send me an email to schedule.

Thanking God for Salem's partnership in this ministry.

- 149 events in 2024
- 13,100 ice creams given out with prayer
- An average of 88 ice creams given out per event.

Thanks to all of you for being shining lights for Jesus! May His love continue to fill your hearts as you serve Him! With appreciation and much love.
Tim Leber (timpleber10@gmail.com)

Good News Club at Greenbrier Elementary School

Thurmont 2024

Philippians 1:3 — "I thank my God every time I remember you."
Romans 8:14 — "For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God."
Psalm 9:1 — "I will give thanks to You, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds."
[Salem provides a minimum of \$50 monthly for this ministry.]

Who's Doing What, When? December 2024

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

Lay Reader	Acolyte	Organist/Pianist
1 Tim Eccard	1 Saralynn Irons	1 Sara Weitzel
8 Mary Ellen Eccard	8 Landon Lafferty	8 Sara Weitzel
15 Lora McGraw	15 Lawson Rouzee	15 Sara Weitzel
22 David Brandenburg	22 Cheyenne Leatherman	22 Sara Weitzel
29 Denny Leatherman	29 Brynleigh Irons	29 Susie Stottlemeyer
Computer	Camera	Greeter
1 Wanda Barkdoll	1 Brandon Leatherman	1 Donald & Susie Stottlemeyer
8 Robin Haupt	8 Michael Burrier	8 Dennis & Ruth Draper
15 Michael Burrier	15 Robin Haupt	15 Matthew Stottlemeyer
22 Sue Ellen Stottlemeyer	22 Cathie Elsbach	22 Barkdoll Family
29 Sue Ellen Stottlemeyer	29 Brandon Leatherman	29 Joy Barkdoll

Saturday, December 7, 5:30 p.m.

Salem Christmas Party

■ By Sue Ellen Stottlemeyer

- Potluck Dinner
- Package Exchange Game
- Visit from Santa

You, your family, and your friends are invited to the Christmas Party to be held at Salem Community Church on Saturday, December 7, at 5:30 p.m. in the social room.

Come together as a church family for an evening of fellowship and fun. The evening will start with a potluck dinner to be enjoyed by all. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Fun activities and games are being planned for all ages. We will be playing the package exchange game to be enjoyed by children, youth and adults. Please bring a wrapped gift under \$10.

There will also be a visit from Santa, so kids get those wish lists ready.



An Advent Devotional for each family at Salem

Advent is for adoring Jesus

It is a season of preparation for that special day when we mark Immanuel's arrival – the coming of our eternal God in frail, human flesh.

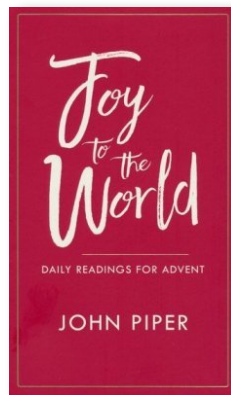
This is the greatest wonder of history's many wonders, something too stupendous to celebrate just on one day. Advent is a way of lengthening the joy of Christmas.

These 25 brief devotional readings from John Piper begin on December 1 and carry us to Christmas day. Our prayer is that God would use these readings to deepen and sweeten your adoration of Jesus this December and keep him as the center and greatest treasure of your Christmas season.

The candles and candies have their place, but we want to make sure that in all the Christmas rush and hubbub we adore Jesus above all.

About the Author

John Piper is founder and teacher of desiringGod.org and chancellor of Bethlehem College & Seminary. For 33 years, he served as pastor of Bethlehem Baptist Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota. He is author of more than 50 books.



It's Your Day!



December Anniversaries

- 12 - Bob & Petie Stup
- 24 - Dennis & Ruth Draper

December Birthdays

- 4 - Judith Harne
- 5 - Klaus Mueller
- 6 - Cody Blickenstaff
- 8 - Sara Weitzel
- 9 - Theresa Haupt
- 9 - Mark Koons
- 11 - Amber Breneman
- 12 - Laura Green
- 17 - Holly Rippeon
- 18 - Joy Barkdoll
- 18 - Holly Brashears
- 20 - Nicole Eccard Draper
- 23 - Bill Burrier
- 25 - Stuart Tolland
- 28 - Lavena Jenkins
- 28 - Hannah Rouzee
- 29 - Jackson Haddock
- 30 - Keagan Mellott

Operation Christmas Child

Barbie Stottlemeyer reports 71 Shoe Boxes have been delivered to the drop off center in Frederick for transport to Samaritan's Purse.

Salvation Army Stockings

Theresa Haupt reports 16 Salvation Army stockings were filled.



Contact:

Jessie Leatherman 240-676-1811
 JessieLeatherman@comcast.net

Pastor Neil's OFFICE HOURS

Monday 10:00-5:00 (office)

Study and Sermon Prep

Tuesday 8:30-5:00 (office)

Study and Sermon Prep

Wednesday 8:30-5:00 (office)

Study and Administration

Thursday 9:00-5:00 Visitation

Friday 8:30-5:00 (office)

Study and Sermon Prep

Saturday (day off)

(I am available to meet with you and family members at the hospital prior to surgery.)



INSPIRATIONAL Reading

Christmas Reflection

By Sarah C. Merrell

I hope my heart has heard the song
The shepherd heard that night.
I hope my heart has found the star
The Wise Men kept in sight.
Then maybe it will find its way
To the quiet manger too,
So the heart can kneel in worship,
Bringing gifts sincere and true.
My heart can bring no wealth of gold,
Nor perfumes rich and sweet;
But let it bring humility
And lay it at His feet.
It may bring loyalty and truth,
With love wrapped all around;
Then, having looked upon the Child,
Rejoice with gladsome sound.
For shepherds went upon their way,
Rejoicing loud and clear.
They spread good tidings so
That my heart, too, might hear.



The Star

By Thomas P. Carrol

Men were dust and the world was dark
When a star appeared in the sky,
Transforming this dust into children of God,
A miracle working on high.
It lighted the fires of faith and love,
Instilled hope in the hearts of men,
Marking the dawn of a new way of life —
"The Star of Bethlehem!"
Down through the ages has come the glow
Of this radiant Christmas star;
In the lighted heavens of man's ideals,
Its brilliancy carried far.
It represents the highest goal
That all nations should attain;
O discouraged, wearied, and war-torn world,
Reach out for this star again.



The Spirit of Christmas

In the quiet winter countryside
There's magic in the air —
For the beautiful spirit of Christmas
Surrounds us everywhere.



RECIPE



Chocolate-Cherry Squares

1 cup unsifted all-purpose flour	1/2 cup chopped nuts
1/3 cup butter or margarine	Filling
1/2 cup packed light brown sugar	Red candied cherry halves

Combine flour, butter and brown sugar in large mixer bowl. Blend on low speed to form fine crumbs, about 2 to 3 minutes. Stir in nuts. Reserve 3/4 cup crumb mixture for topping; pat remaining crumbs into ungreased 9-inch square pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 10 minutes or until lightly browned. Prepare filling; spread over warm crust. Sprinkle with reserved crumb mixture and garnish with cherry halves. Bake at 350 degrees for 25 minutes or until lightly browned. Cool; cut into squares. Store in refrigerator. Makes about 3 dozen squares.

Filling

1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened	1 egg
1/2 cup sugar	1/2 teaspoon vanilla
1/3 cup Hershey's Cocoa	1/2 cup chopped red candied cherries
1/4 cup milk	

Combine cream cheese, sugar, cocoa, milk, egg and vanilla in small mixer bowl; beat until smooth. Fold in cherries.



Wonder of Christmas

By Elizabeth Weaver Winstead

In manger bed on fragrant hay,
The precious Baby Jesus lay;
Gentle Mary proud vigil kept;
The Holy Infant smiling slept.
Soft lambs and sheep
beside Him stayed,
Warm shields from chilling,
cold winds made.
Wise Men and shepherds
traveled afar,
Guided by rays of
gold-gleaming star.
Heralding angels chorused in flight
The gladness of that glorious night.
Rich gifts of praise
were given to greet
The sacred Christ Child,
precious and sweet.
A brilliant, bright halo
encircled above
The cradled dear Baby,
God's gift of love.
The hopes of joy
and peace were born,
Our wondrous gift, that first
Christmas morn.

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

A Christmas Prayer

By Mabel Clare Thomas

I do not ask for riches, Lord,
In this my Christmas prayer,
Nor do I seek fame's transient glow,
However bright and fair.
The gift I seek is richer far,
Purer, undefiled —
Oh, give me, Lord,
the love and trust
In the heart of a little child.



Message from the Pastor

and

Worship in December

■ By PASTOR NEIL SUDERS

God With Us

This Advent will feature sermons on the theme of “Emmanuel”. Emmanuel means “God with us” and it was the title Gabriel told Joseph to name his child.

“The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel”— which means, “God with us.” (Matthew 1:23)

This is one of my favorite aspects of Christmas. The incarnation of Jesus Christ was where God, the Son, took on flesh and was born as a baby in Bethlehem.

It enabled Jesus to leave the splendor of heaven to come to earth, thereby bringing God down to earth with us!

Emmanuel or Immanuel?

Sometimes you will see it in the Bible spelled Immanuel, and other times it is spelled Emmanuel.

The former spelling is from the Old Testament Hebrew, while the latter is the Greek version of it. But while the spelling is different, the meaning is the same.

The transcendent, God of creation became imminently accessible to mankind. That’s what “God with us” means by definition, but what does it mean by application?

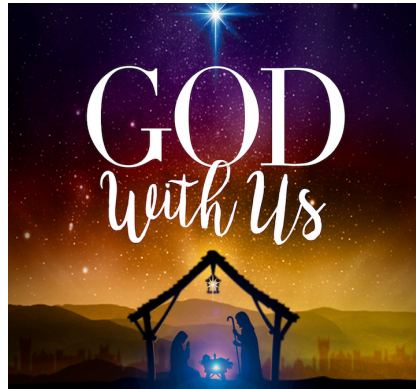
What does “God With Us” Mean?

“God with us” means that we have access to salvation because the Lamb of God was born to die for our sins.

It also means that we have the opportunity to pray directly to God.

Finally, “God with us” gave us a standard of righteous living that we can emulate. Jesus was tempted like we are but without sin. Immanuel brought us the opportunity for salvation, direct prayer, and a godly life. “God’s presence is God’s present.”

May this Advent season be one of blessing to you all. In Christ,—Pastor Neil



Sunday, December 1

First Sunday of Advent (HOPE)

“God With Us... the Promise”

(Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23)

Whether they are words spoken to the Prophet Isaiah, or the message from Gabriel to Joseph seven centuries later, the promise of Immanuel showed the plan of God and the power of God.

The HOPE candle is a reminder that God’s Promise of Immanuel offers HOPE.

Sunday, December 8

Second Sunday of Advent (PEACE)

“God With Us... the Peace”

(Philippians 4:4-9)

Even with the miracle of the Christmas season, people are often still searching for peace. That ever-illusive tranquility and serenity would go a long way in making this holiday become “the most wonderful time of the year”, if it could be found.

The good news is, our text today will show that, because God is with us, we have that peace available.

Sunday, December 15

Third Sunday of Advent (JOY)

“God With Us ... the Power”

(II Corinthians 13:4)

The power that brought Jesus to earth

and, therefore, brought God with us, enables us to live our lives for the glory of God. Because we have the power of God at our disposal, life can be characterized by genuine joy.

Sunday, December 22

Fourth Sunday of Advent (LOVE)

“God With Us ... the Purpose”

(John 1:1-14)

“God with us” gives us purpose. Today, the adult choir will be presenting the cantata “Christmas Forever, Amen.”

The word “Christmas” means a celebration of Christ. As children of God, it should be our goal to celebrate Christ forever! Since Immanuel means “God with us,” our purpose should be to bring glory to God.

Tuesday, December 24

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

“God With Us ... the Present”

(Galatians 4:4-7)

When the time had fully come, God sent His Son to be born of a woman. The present of His Son gives us the right to treat the transcendent God as an intimate Father.

Our annual Christmas Eve tradition of candlelight service and communion really brings our church and our community together.

Sunday, December 29

“God With Us ... the Proof”

(Matthew 2:1-12)

The visit of the wise men gives us insights into true worship of God, the Son. And true worship is proof that God is with us. What better way to end the calendar year than to plan on being in God’s house to learn about true worship?

MIDWEEK PRA YER MEETING & BIBLE STUDY

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

NOV 20, 27 - NO MEETING

DEC 4, 11 - SEE YOU AT 7 PM!

DEC 18, 25, JAN 1 - NO MEETING



WOLFSVILLE FOOD PANTRY AT SALEM THANKSGIVING BASKETS



A generous team of helping hands came together to pack Thanksgiving baskets for our food pantry patrons. We pray these baskets will shine the light of God’s love and brighten the holiday seasons of those who receive them. A letter from Pastor Neil was placed in each basket. A copy of Pastor Neil’s letter is printed below.

Justinn & Holly Irons, Salem Food Pantry Leaders, wish to thank everyone for their help with the Thanksgiving Baskets for the Food Pantry. We put together 22 baskets to give out on Thursday, November 21st to our Food Pantry Families who signed up.

Also, thank you to everyone who helped at the Thurmont Food Bank on Monday, November 18th. We received a lot of donations for the Food Pantry. (See page 7 for photos.) Thank you again to everyone for your support. We greatly appreciate it!

—Justinn & Holly Irons

Happy Thanksgiving!

It has been said, “We can’t choose WHAT happens to us, but we CAN choose how we respond to it.” That is the hill we all can climb this time of year. We all have struggles in life and crosses to bear, yet we can choose to be bitter or become closer to God.

Becoming closer to God is to be the objective of every believer, and the first step in growing closer to God is the giving of thanks.

The Apostle Paul told the church in Ephesus that a key to spiritual maturity is to “give thanks to God the Father for EVERYTHING, in the name of our Lord

Jesus Christ” (Ephesians 4:20).

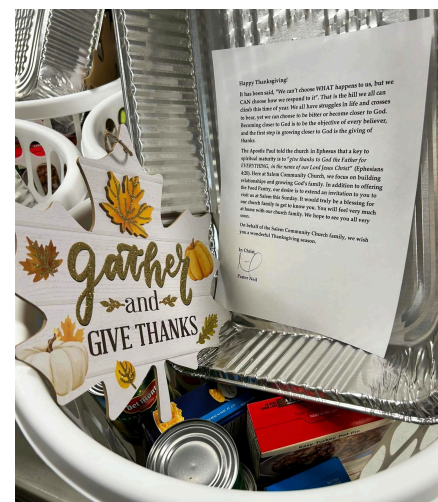
Here at Salem Community Church, we focus on building relationships and growing God’s family.

In addition to offering the Food Pantry, our desire is to extend an invitation to you to visit us at Salem this Sunday.

It would truly be a blessing for our church family to get to know you. You will feel very much at home with our church family. We hope to see you all very soon.

On behalf of the Salem Community Church family, we wish you a wonderful Thanksgiving season.

In Christ, —Pastor Neil





November 18, 2024 — Exciting morning in Thurmont as the Wolfsville Food Pantry and seven other area food banks received a shipment of FREE food just before the holiday season! Thanks to Justinn Irons (in the truck in the above photo) for organizing our team of Salem volunteers. Wolfsville’s Food Pantry is open Tuesdays from 6:30-7:30 PM at Salem Community Church.



Since the establishment of Salem Community Church in September 2023, the Lord has blessed us with 29 new members— 16 on October 29, 2023, 11 on May 5, 2024, and 2 more on November 17, 2024. In the above photo, Pastor Neil welcomes Amber Stine and Bill Bere into the loving family of Salem Community Church. Also in the photo is Amber’s son who stood with her in support.

Sunday, November 10, 2024



Honoring *our* Veterans *with* Gratitude



Sunday, November 10, 2024 — Honoring our Veterans with gratitude. L to R, David Harshman, Meredith Harshman, Bob Stup, David Scoggins, George Stottlemeyer, Donald Stottlemeyer, Steve Leatherman, Kenny Ifert, Dennis Draper, Janice Harshman, Wanda Barkdoll, Gary Barkdoll, Bill Bere, Dick Kline, and Dale Kline (next to Dick but not in picture). Heads are bowed as Pastor Neil prays a veterans prayer.

Salem’s Facebook page produced some very nice comments, like, “A very heartfelt Veteran’s celebration and great service this morning.” “Thank you to those who served and thank you Pastor Neil.” “This was the best veteran recognition that I have ever had. Thank you, Pastor Neil!” “It was a very poignant service.” “Blessed to celebrate with our neighbors.”



Wolfsville’s Community Trunk or Treat was a real treat! Over 185 tiny treaters visited 15 trunks, received ice cream and a prayer from Christ Cream, enjoyed a hayride, and warmed up with hot dogs and hot chocolate at the Salem pavilion; can we do it again next year?!

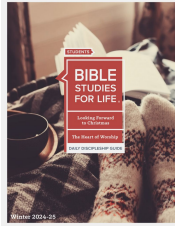
Thanks to the Wolfsville Elementary PTA and St. Mark’s Lutheran Church, Wolfsville, for co-hosting this community event again this year!!

Folks posted these comments on Salem’s Facebook page: “So much fun and blown away by the turnout!!” “This was awesome! We loved it. Thank you so much everyone!” “I had fun. Can’t wait for next year!” “Salem’s Trunk or Treat rocked. Way to go.” “We loved it and can’t wait till next year.” “It was a great time!



Youth Sunday School Class

In December, Salem’s Youth Sunday School Class embarks on a new Bible study titled 'LOOKING FORWARD TO CHRISTMAS.' All middle and high schoolers are invited to join our study group. The Youth Class meets in the upstairs assembly room from 10:15-11:00 AM each Sunday after worship.



Our December study will focus on the truth that Christmas is first and foremost a celebration of Jesus' coming to earth. Because of Him, we can look forward to hope, peace, joy, and love.

Contact Mike Burrier (301-401-7575 or bankermike73@gmail.com) with any questions about the Youth Sunday School Class.

Salem Community Choir Notes

The choir has been diligently preparing special musical offerings for the Christmas season. We will begin the celebration with “We Bring His Light” for Advent on December 8. Then on December 22, during the 9am morning worship the choir will present the Christmas musical arranged by Russell Mauldin entitled “Christmas Forever Amen”. Through traditional and original arrangements this musical chronicles how God prepared the special gift of His Son the Messiah for the salvation of His people from the beginning of time. Highlights of the presentation will be participation by our children and several solo numbers. We will wrap up the joyous celebration on Christmas Eve with the song “Touched by A Child” as we remember the eternal gift of the Christ Child. We hope you can join us for this joyous season! — *Sandy Lewis*

When Anxious Thoughts Tie You in Knots

By Amy Peterson, Crosswalk.com

God tells us we are to think of things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent or praiseworthy (Philippians 4:8).

Those are the things God wants us to dwell on. And isn't the Lord, all those things? And don't all those things pertain to God?

When I go for a walk I spend time singing to the Lord and bringing my concerns to him. I know God has given us access to his throne room. It's open all the time.

Like little children, we can go right in and climb on God's lap, telling him whatever is troubling us. Nothing is too small, not to the one who created butterfly wings.

So the next time your worries tie you in knots, take them to God. Knots are his specialty.

Knots

I'm trying to untangle, Lord,
these stubborn knots I see.
But every single time I try
they're getting worse for me.
And then I see Him smiling
as he takes them in his hands.
And I just watch with wonder
as he loosens every strand.

Submitted by Marilyn Leatherman

SALEM “BEE-LIEVERS” WOMEN’S GROUP JANUARY FOOD SALE – ORDER NOW

❖ FOOD SALE ORDER FORM ❖

Orders Due January 5, 2025

Please contact Sue Ellen Stottlemyer at ses1313@comcast.net or at 301-471-2603.

Your Name _____

Phone _____

SOUPS	How many?	Amount \$
Vegetable \$7.50/quart	_____	\$ _____
Turkey Noodle \$7.50/quart	_____	\$ _____
Turkey Corn \$7.50/quart	_____	\$ _____
Bean with rivels \$7.50/quart	_____	\$ _____
SANDWICHES		
Country Ham \$4.00 each	_____	\$ _____
Turkey Salad \$3.00 each	_____	\$ _____
TOTAL amount due at pick up		\$ _____

PICK UP (check one) Sat Jan 25 (4-6 p.m.)
 Sun Jan 26 (9-11 a.m.)



“And Then There Were Three”

We would like you to meet Simon, the newest member of the family. We were looking for a playmate for Grace because playing isn't exactly Willow's thing. Simon liked the parsonage right away. Grace was rather accepting of the new feline within a few days, and by the end of the first week, all three cats were fitting in and making any adjustments necessary.

This reminded me how grateful I am that our church is accepting visitors and making new members feel comfortable. This is what the Bible means when it says, “they were all in one accord.” May we continue to display the gracious spirit of openness and fellowship. (Minus the smelling of backsides, of course!) —Pastor Neil and Misty

**How to Give
Tithes & Offerings**

1. Offering Box in Sanctuary

For those at sanctuary worship, an offering box is available at the rear of the sanctuary.

2. By Mail

You may mail your tithes and offerings to:

Salem Community Church

Church Treasurer

P. O. Box 144

Myersville, MD 21773-0144

Make checks payable to: **Salem Community Church**

3. Electronically Online

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

Heavenly Humor

The Advent Wreath

Four weeks before Christmas, the pastor was leading a children’s service featuring an Advent wreath.

He had told them what the three purple candles represented, then asked, “Does anyone know what the pink one means?” No one answered.

Finally, little Sara’s hand went up, “Are they expecting a girl?”



Some thoughts to ponder . . .

A wonderful life is yours when you know the Christ of Christmas.

The world rewards success; God rewards faithfulness!

To give meaning to Christmas, give Christ first place in your heart.

Profanity disgraces the user and demeans the hearer.

We stumble over pebbles, not mountains.



The Mountain Shepherd

Salem Community Church, Wolfsville

P. O. Box 144

Myersville, MD 21773-0144

www.SalemChurchWolfsville.org

Address Services Requested

SERVICE TIMES

9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship

10:15 a.m. Sunday School



Place
Stamp
Here

