


The  Newsletter of
Salem Community Church — Wolfsville

Mountain Shepherd

Volume 43 March 2025 Number 3



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

Spring Forward!



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS MARCH 9

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Salem's new "student ministry" presents Youth Sunday, March 16th

FROM OUR PASTOR . . .

As the pastor of Salem Community Church, I would like to welcome you to our Wildfire Student Ministry.

Having served in youth ministry for 19 years, I have a passion and a love for students and student ministry. While the ministry will be in the hands of our energetic leaders, I will be involved in many activities as well.

We are excited to partner with you in the spiritual growth and development of our children.

Whether you are visiting us for the first time, or already part of our church family, you are invited to join us at any time for our activities! I am available to you if you have any questions or needs. We hope to see you soon!

WHO WE ARE . . .

We value our rich history as a community and gratefully acknowledge those who have worked with the youth in the past. These "youth" now have young families. Social media, artificial intelligence, and so many other factors make living for Jesus all the more difficult and complex. The kids need us more than ever.

We believe youth ministry is more than a calendar of events. Ministry begins with relationships that lead to discipleship. We are open to students of all ages, regardless of current church membership. We would love to have you join us! Salem is an amazing place to be, and we don't want you to miss out on this incredible church family!

HOW WE SERVE . . .

Discipleship means developing character, which doesn't only happen in church. It happens when kids have the opportunity to live out their choices, look at the outcomes, reflect, and be met with grace and an opportunity to try again. This is why we want to meet our students on their turf...to understand what is important to them and cheer them on. Our groups build relationships through engaging activities and service opportunities. Don't we all want to be a part of something bigger than ourselves? To make a difference in our community? We know our kids do, and we are giving them the chance to step up and step out.



WILD FIRE
STUDENT MINISTRY
SALEM COMMUNITY CHURCH
Wolfsville, MD



Youth Sunday
16 March
Theme
...because you are young
1 Tim 4:12
9:00 a.m. Salem Community Church



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Salem Community Church, Wolfsville

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

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: 60
Paper Copies at LDS Store: 70
Facebook Followers: 587
Instagram Followers: 122

Jan 2025 — Average Worship Attendance

85	Sanctuary
32	Zoom Online
117	TOTAL

Go  **2025 MISSION PROJECTS**
"Missions is the Mission of the Church"

Amount Paid Out to Projects Jan 2025

1. Frank & Nancy Stottlemeyer, Retired, New Tribes Mission \$205.00
2. Operation Christmas Child (shipping for shoe boxes) \$0
3. Salem Mission & Outreach (includes disaster relief) \$160.09
4. Christ Cream Ministry (Tim Leber) \$50.00
5. Wolfsville Food Pantry (at Salem) \$293.80
6. Travis & Mary D. (AIM - Canada) \$225.00
7. Board of Child Care (Martinsburg Campus) \$100.00
8. Potato Project (Society of St. Andrew) \$25.00
9. Open for 2025 0
10. The Least of These Ministries (Dominican Republic) \$200.00
11. Care Net Pregnancy Center of Frederick \$200.00
12. Compassion International (Sponsored Child in Tanzania) \$43.00
13. Heroes' Club \$0
14. World Vision (Sponsored Child in Colombia) \$35.00

TOTAL PAID OUT to these projects in January 2025 \$1,536.89

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 – NOW SCHEDULING FOR 2025
(Entering 3rd Year of Ministry

AVAILABLE MID-APRIL THROUGH MID-OCTOBER . . .

Warmer weather is coming! 😊
Tim is offering FREE individually wrapped ice creams and prayers at events
this spring, summer, and fall!

JUST SEND TIM LEBER AN EMAIL TO SCHEDULE.

Tim says... "With appreciation and much love!"
timleber10@gmail.com

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 -- "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all
circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."
[Salem provides a minimum of \$50 monthly to support this ministry.]

Who's Doing What, When?

March 2025

Lay Reader

- 2 Tim Eccard
- 9 Heidi Agostini
- 16 Student Ministry
- 23 Camilo Barkdoll
- 30 Mary Ellen Eccard

Computer

- 2 Wanda Barkdoll
- 9 Robin Haupt
- 16 Student Ministry
- 23 Sue Ellen Stottlemeyer
- 30 Sue Ellen Stottlemeyer

Acolyte

- 2 Cheyenne Leatherman
- 9 Brynleigh Irons
- 16 Shelby Leatherman
- 23 Saralynn Irons
- 30 Landon Lafferty

Camera

- 2 Brandon Leatherman
- 9 Michael Burrier
- 16 Student Ministry
- 23 Cathie Elsbach
- 30 Camilo Barkdoll

Organist/Pianist

- 2 Sara Weitzel
- 9 Sara Weitzel
- 16 Sara Weitzel
- 23 Susie Stottlemeyer
- 30 Sara Weitzel

Greeter

- 2 Donald & Susie Stottlemeyer
- 9 David & Sherry Scoggins
- 16 Matthew Stottlemeyer
- 23 Kathy Hill
- 30 Joy Barkdoll

Inclement Weather Policy

If inclement weather forces the church building to be closed for Sunday service, Pastor Neil will send out an email and voice message by 7 a.m. An abbreviated worship service will still be held at 9:00 a.m. using Zoom, giving folks an opportunity to worship at home.

If you are not currently on Salem's distribution list for prayer requests and church announcements by phone and/or email, please provide your phone number and/or email address to Pastor Neil (717-753-2112) or Michael Burrier (301-401-7575).



It's time to order a shirt with the Salem Community Church Logo

ORDERS DUE SUNDAY, MARCH 30

Orders are being accepted from church members who would like to order T-shirts, polo shirts, sweatshirts, aprons, etc. or any other item with the church logo.

Go to corporatecasuals.com and decide what you would like to order. Then, send a list of the items you want to Wanda Jimenez-Barkdoll at jansack@earthlink.net or contact her at 301-575-4293 for any questions. Wanda will compile everyone's orders and submit one combined order for the church.

The deadline to order is Sunday, March 30, 2025.



Salem Community Church "Choir Notes" 🎵

The Salem Community Church Choir has begun rehearsing and will continue on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Marlene and I welcome everyone back and also encourage anyone who hasn't sung with us before but would like to sing to join us. Marlene has chosen some wonderful selections which we will be preparing for morning worship, Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter.

We look forward to seeing and hearing everyone as we unite our voices in praise to our Lord. — Sandy Lewis

"I will sing to the Lord all my life. I will sing praise to my God as long as I live."

—Psalm 104:33 NIV

It's Your Day!



March Anniversaries

- 18 - Sam & Jane Zimmerman

March Birthdays

- 5 - Sarah Haddock
- 5 - Richard Harshman
- 6 - Jane Zimmerman
- 7 - Joshua Koons
- 8 - Madison Elsbach
- 9 - Janice Harshman
- 9 - Mary Ellen Eccard
- 11 - Dawn Nelson
- 12 - Tyler Stine
- 12 - Jennifer Harne
- 15 - Vicki Robinson
- 16 - Ken Poling
- 17 - Audrey Tolland
- 19 - Bobby Doyle
- 19 - Ralph Wright
- 23 - Chris Leatherman
- 23 - Kathy Hill
- 24 - Allison Adams
- 24 - Sharon Harshman
- 25 - Jody Eccard-Duley
- 28 - Shelby Leatherman

Church Van — The Church Council is favorably looking into acquiring a 15-passenger van for use in greater ministry. The van would have the Salem Church name and logo. If you would like to support this new ministry, please designate your gift as "church van." Contact: Pastor Neil (717-753-2112).



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

Constant Lent

By Mabel Long

For Lent, I shall abstain from petty things!
I shall abstain from hate and fear and greed.
I shall abstain from harmful thoughts,
As God has filled my every need.

For Lent, I shall abstain from unkind words
That sear the soul of those I love.
I shall not be discourteous.
As I would wound our God above.

For Lent, I shall abstain from vicious dread.
My homely tasks, I'll gladly do.
I shall abstain from prideful things.
Humbling myself, as God would have me do!

For Lent, I shall abstain from lack of faith
Because I see the faith God has in me.
My heart beats on, whether I'm good or bad...
My inner vision now can see!

My Lent, it shall be constant,
For the whole wide world to see!
My life . . . a little less than perfect,
From now . . . through all eternity!

March Winds

By Essie L. Mariner

March winds are blowing
a welcome to spring;
Birds flying northward merrily sing,
"Winter is ended; the sun and the rain
Are bringing the grass and the flowers again."



Hark to the wind's song, March on the hill
Calling all wildflowers their promise fulfill.
Winds through the garden, where bulbs
have been sleeping,
Find quite a few that are eagerly peeping.

Hear the winds cry as they rush past,
"The glory of springtime is coming at last."
They foretell the gifts summer will yield —
Flowers in the garden, grain in the field.

An Irish Blessing

May the road rise up to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back,
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
And the rains fall soft upon your fields,
And, until we meet again,
May God hold you in the hollow of His hand.



RECIPE



Irish Soda Bread

INGREDIENTS:

3 3/4 cups all-purpose flour 1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon soda 1/2 teaspoon cream of tartar
1/2 cup sour milk

1. Mix all ingredients together except the milk. Make a well and add milk. Mix into a stiff dough. Shape into a ball.
2. Place in a greased casserole. With a sharp knife, slash center 4 inches across and 1/4-inch deep. Brush with beaten egg yolk.
3. Bake at 350 degrees for 3/4 hour or until cake tester inserted in center comes out clean. Serve in slices. Makes 1 loaf.

Selected from "Ideals" magazine.



Give Me a Faith

By Garnett Ann Schultz

Give me a faith that I might keep
However dark the day,
That I might know that all is well
Though weary be my way.
Give me a hope to fill my heart
To make each day worthwhile,
A way to ease a troubled mind
And teach me how to smile.

Give me an understanding soul
That knows a peace supreme,
A quietness at close of day,
A treasured worthwhile dream;
A guiding hand that I may lend
That others too might see
And find the same in peaceful bliss
That life has given me.

Give me tomorrow, full and bright,
A worthwhile task to do;
Fill my todays with endless chores
And make each gray sky blue.
Help to believe that all is well
Though troubles too may come,
Just let me know that not far off
My heart shall find the sun.

Give me a faith that never dies
That I might find my way,
Eagerly waiting tomorrow's dreams,
Forgetting each yesterday.
Life with its troubles, life with its cares,
These I can take I know . . .
Give me a faith that shall last through all,
A faith that will live and grow.

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

The Years Rush By

By James Joseph Huesgen

The years rush by
The wasted chances . . .
Regret with hindsight
Backward glances.
Then too late
Felt sudden dread
Of reassuring words unsaid.
While time still favors
Tell yours true
This humble phrase
"I love you."

LENT

40 Days of Preparation



Message from the Pastor

and

Worship in March

■ By PASTOR NEIL SUDERS

The Challenge of Today's Churches

Following His resurrection, Jesus met with his disciples and issued them the Great Commission, which is to “make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have taught you..”

In other words, Jesus expected His disciples to share the gospel with people and make disciples of them after they had become born again.

Have you wondered why Jesus was determined for disciples to be developed?

I believe the price He paid to offer salvation gave Him every reason to expect true commitment from His followers; the type of commitment that compels us to “carry our cross daily.”

This brings us to a challenge churches face these days. In a world where interest in church attendance is waning, interest in discipleship is even more rare.

A recent Gallup Poll revealed church attendance declined from 70% in 1999 to 47% in 2020.

The COVID pandemic accelerated that trend with some congregations experiencing 20%-30% declines in attendance after reopening.

Fulfilling the Great Commission, as a mission, seems futile to most churches.

However, if we are looking to invite people to church, just so we can say we invited people to church, we would be failing the Great Commission.

Remember, Jesus commanded us to make disciples.

What are the benefits of discipleship? Off the top of my head a few come to mind:

- Disciples have a stronger commitment to the things of God, which produces a greater feeling of contentment and joy.



- Disciples have purpose and, as a result, have clearly defined goals and objectives.
 - Disciples also tend to see God answer prayers more consistently.
- Surely there is at least one person in your life that you would like to receive these benefits as he or she follows Christ as a disciple. The first step is to get that individual to church.

Our mission statement is “Building Relationships; Growing God’s Family.”

The best way to grow God’s family is to invite friends, family, and acquaintances to church.

Perhaps, inviting grandchildren to student ministry functions may also grow God’s family.

Here is my challenge to overcoming obstacles that churches face today.

- Think about a friend or family that is unchurched.
- Pray and ask God to give you an opportunity to extend an invitation to a church function.

God has been blessing Salem Community Church with growth, but we can’t become complacent. Fulfilling the Great Commission is why we exist as a body of believers.

Can we think of others who would benefit from being a part of this dynamic church family? I believe we can. Let us strive together to build relationships and grow God’s family. It is our mission.

In Christ, —Pastor Neil

Worship in March

This month we will be featuring our usual Sunday mornings from the Old Testament book of Jonah.

In addition to our usual Sunday mornings, there are two special services planned:

- **Preparation Service** — On Wednesday, March 5, we will be observing our Preparation Service. We do not observe Ash Wednesday here at Salem, but we like to meet and prepare for the season of Lent.
- **Youth Sunday** — We will also be highlighting our student ministry on March 16, with our Youth Sunday.

Sunday, March 2, 2025

Jonah 1:1-9

“Running From God”

Jonah is known as being the “Reluctant Prophet” because he initially disobeyed God’s calling. In fact, God called him to Nineveh, in Assyria, but Jonah fled to Joppa, trying to go to Tarshish.

His destination was the opposite direction of his calling.

This might be a familiar scene for most of us who either had been or are now running from God’s calling.

Here’s the interesting part: God didn’t stop him from running!

Wednesday, March 5, 2025

Hebrews 12:1,2

Preparation Service

Ash Wednesday is a liturgical tradition that is not commanded in Scriptures. However, its purpose is to prepare one for the start of Lent Season.

So, we recognize the day with our Preparation Service.

In this text we will emphasize “laying aside the sin that entangles us.”

We will prepare ourselves for the Lenten season that will ring in Easter.

Sunday, March 9, 2025

Jonah 1:10-17

“All Hands On Deck”

Jonah told the sailors to throw him overboard because of the waves. They didn’t want to do that, so they tried with all their might to row against the waves; to no avail.

Many times we try to overcome adversity by our own strength, but sometimes we need to submit to the storms God plans for us. And, God prepared a great fish!

—continued on page 6

—continued from page 5

Worship in March



Sunday, March 16, 2025

I Timothy 4:12

Youth Sunday

“Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity.”

This will be Youth Sunday, and our students will be participating in mostly all aspects of the service. We want to challenge our students to grow in their spiritual lives and strive to be examples in these areas of their lives.

Sunday, March 23, 2025

Jonah 2:1-10

“No ‘Gut’; No Glory”

Jonah found himself in the belly of the fish, and at that point he prayed. Let’s face it, what else WOULD you do in the belly of a fish??

Jonah finished his prayer by affirming that, “salvation belongs to the Lord.” At that moment, God instructed the fish to vomit Jonah onto the shore. Once we acknowledge the sovereignty of God, He has special ways to get us back into His service!

Sunday, March 30, 2025

Jonah 3:1-10

“A Revival For The Ages”

God called Jonah a second time to go to Nineveh. This time, Jonah went and proclaimed God’s judgment will come upon them unless they repented. Even though they were an extremely sinful and wicked people, everyone in the city repented and God withheld their judgment.

We will examine the value of repentance and the power of God’s forgiveness.

“Ignite” Youth Sunday School

In March, our “Ignite” Youth Sunday School class will be learning about the Bible and the Holy Spirit. All students in grades 4 and up are invited to join the “Ignite” youth class located at the top of the stairs in the social room. We meet each Sunday from 10:15 to 11:00 A.M., right after Sunday worship. Mike Burrier and Jessie Leatherman are the class teachers.

This unit guides students to understand that the Bible and the Holy Spirit lead people to know about God and His plan for salvation. Through these sessions, we will guide students to begin to develop a love for God’s Word.

The “Ignite” Sunday School class is a weekly activity of the Salem Wildfire Student Ministry.

NEWS & NOTES

Save the Date

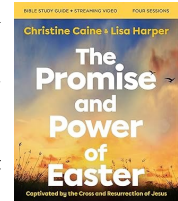
- May 10 - Plant & Food Sale
- May 14 - Ladies/Men’s Night Out

Ladies Bible Study

Ladies, come and join us for a wonderful Easter Bible Study. This particular study will last 4 weeks starting on Monday, March 24th at 6:30 p.m. at the church.

This will be a video study titled “The Promise and Power of Easter” with Lisa Harper & Christine Caine.

For more information, please contact Debbie Irons at 301-271-7012.



Soup & Sandwich Sale Successful

The January Soup & Sandwich Sale conducted by the Salem “Bee-lievers” Women’s Group was a big success.

The group sold 295 quarts of soup:

79 Vegetable	42 Turkey Noodle
37 Turkey Corn	137 Bean with Rivals

The group also sold 373 sandwiches:

236 Turkey Salad	137 Country Ham
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After expenses, the net profit totaled \$2,438.52.

In addition, 14 quarts of soup were donated to the Food Pantry; 6 Vegetable, 3 Turkey Noodle, and 5 Turkey Corn.

Spaghetti Dinner set for March 28, 2025

The Salem “Bee-lievers” women’s group will conduct a spaghetti dinner on Friday evening, March 28, 2025, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the church social room.

Please come and join us for great food, and fellowship with friends and neighbors.

There will be no set price for the dinner, just your donation. If anyone would like to contribute a dessert item for the dinner, it would be appreciated.

For more information, contact Wanda Barkdoll, jansack@earthlink.net or at 301-575-4293.

Welcome to First Time Visitors

We have many new folks attending worship. If you are new to our church, please complete a “Connection Card” so we can get acquainted.

First time visitors are asked not to feel obligated to give any money to the church; we pray that you will receive a blessing as our special guest.

Children’s Activity Bags

Children’s Activity Bags are available outside the sanctuary each Sunday. Each bag contains activities around the scripture reading for the day and other activities to engage your little ones during the service.

Salem's Annual Congregational Meeting Set for Sunday, March 9, 10:15 a.m.

The annual Congregational Meeting of the membership of Salem Community Church will be held on Sunday, March 9 (snow date March 16), from 10:15 to 11:00 a.m. (during the Sunday School hour that morning). As an independent church, the Congregational Meeting is the top decision-making body for the congregation.



Our Constitution states that a Congregational Meeting is to be held at least once per year to elect church leaders, review the church budget, share ministry reports with the congregation, and conduct other business as needed. All formal members of Salem Community Church will have a vote at the meeting. Regular participants in the life of the congregation who are not formal members are welcome to attend congregational meetings but may not vote.

Salem's Nominating Committee worked in January and February to prepare a slate of church officers and ministry leaders that was presented to the Church Council in February and to the church membership for a vote on March 9th. These leaders would serve until the next Congregational Meeting, expected in March 2026.

Agenda for Congregational Meeting

I. Gathering / Member Count	10:00-10:15 am	Theresa Haupt
II. Call to Order, Welcome & Prayer	10:15 am	Vernon Stottlemyer
III. Election of Officers *	10:20 am	Michael Burrier
IV. Proposed Changes to By-Laws	10:30 am	Michael Burrier
V. Treasurer's Report	10:40 am	Bill Burrier
VI. Trustees' Report	10:45 am	Sue Ellen Stottlemyer
VII. Pastor's Report	10:50 am	Pastor Neil Suders
VIII. Ministry Spotlight - Food Pantry	10:55 am	Justinn & Holly Irons
IX. Open Discussion / Questions	11:00 am	Vernon Stottlemyer
X. Closing Prayer of Consecration	11:10 am	Pastor Neil Suders
XI. Adjournment		Vernon Stottlemyer

* Elected officers and ministry leaders will be published in next month's "Mountain Shepherd." Terms will begin immediately and continue until the next Congregational Meeting in March 2026, or through the year indicated if a multi-year term. Thank you to each person who said "yes" to serve at Salem Community Church during 2025.

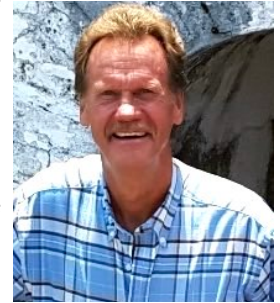


Have you seen the new Heroes' Club Bulletin Board . . . upstairs in the social room? The student's faces are in the center of each snowflake.

A Tribute to Robert A. Cline

January 7, 1950 - January 19, 2025

Robert Allen Cline, 75, of Wolfsville, passed away peacefully Sunday, January 19, 2025, at his home, surrounded by loving family.



Born on January 7, 1950, in Foxville, he was the son of the late Leah Virginia Toms-Cline and Kenneth Cline. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sisters, Eileen Pease (Robert) and Virginia Cline.

Robert graduated from Middletown High School, class of 1968. He served in the U.S. Navy.

Robert worked for Mack Truck for 45 years, until his retirement in 2013.

Robert was a member of Garfield United Methodist Church, Smithsburg; Life member of South Mountain Rod & Gun Club, Smithsburg; UAW Local #171, Hagerstown; and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

Robert was an avid hunter, having traveled out west many times to hunt Elk. He was a professional wood splitter, gardener, and there was nothing he couldn't fix, having worked on anything that needed work.

He is survived by his loving wife of 38 years, Mary Elizabeth (Kline) Cline; Daughter, Erica Joyce and significant other, Daniel O'Connell of Hagerstown; Step-Children, Dana Rebert and husband, Floyd of Waynesboro, PA, Robert C. Keller, Jr. and wife, Robin of Falling Waters, WV, and Travis Keller and wife, Renee of Rogers, AR; Grandchildren, British Cline, Tirzah Holsinger, Aiyana Joyce, Ashlin O'Connell, David Woods, Jr., Chase Woods, and Hayden Keller; several Great Grandchildren; Brothers, Ken Cline (Jean) and Donald Cline (Patricia); Sisters, Connie Herd (Gary-Dec.), Patricia Kline (Billy), and Jeannie Funk (Boyd-Dec.); and numerous nieces, nephews and countless friends.

As a father and a stepfather, Robert treated all the children equally. He used to take the grandkids on four-wheelers; he would play with games and toys on Christmas, and he always made time for the family. Robert loved to travel but he was also content to stay around home, too.

Robert always went the extra mile for other people. He was kind and compassionate; never too busy to help people in need. He was a hard worker and was able to fix anything. He was known for always being willing to play with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He was particular in the foods he liked. Robert preferred his vegetable soup WITHOUT meat, he liked his gravy yellow, and he was always looking for spicy food; being willing to try peppers on anything!

Funeral services were held at Salem Community Church, Wolfsville, on January 27, 2025, with Pastor Neil Suders officiating. Burial was in Salem Church Cemetery.

Lifelong Resident of the Wolfsville/Myersville area



A Tribute to Darlene M. Burrier — November 17, 1946 - January 29, 2025

Funeral services for Darlene Burrier, 78, were held at Salem on February 3, 2025. Burial was in the Salem Church Cemetery.

Darlene Mae Burrier, 78, of Myersville, Maryland, passed away on January 29, 2025, at Homewood at Williamsport, after a diagnosis of dementia and a brain tumor.

Born on November 17, 1946, at home, near Smithsburg, Maryland, she was the daughter of the late Charles and Annabelle Martin. She enjoyed her childhood growing up on Martin Road in Wolfsville, and moved to Myersville when she was a teenager.

She was a 1964 graduate of Middletown High School, and upon graduation, began work as a secretary at the Atomic Energy Commission in Germantown, Maryland.

After nine years as an accomplished secretary, she chose the important role as a homemaker and mother to raise two sons.

She was a life-long member of Salem Church in Wolfsville. Her faith in Christ was at the center of her life.

In addition to rarely missing worship, she served in various leadership roles, including secretary to the Church Council; taught children's Sunday School classes and Vacation Bible School, and most recently was teaching the Ladies Class until her illness.

She had a love of music and singing. Her home was filled with music every day. At church, she knew the words to all the familiar hymns and would use her strong alto voice to sing the alto part even during congregational singing.

She enjoyed collecting recipes and cookbooks, visiting Lancaster County, Pennsylvania; reading about the Amish life-style and life in New England, particularly Maine.

She loved poetry, particularly inspirational poetry, and for many years selected poetry and recipes for the church newsletter. Using her secretarial skills, she also served as the newsletter's proofreader each month before it was published. She enjoyed baking and was always quick to volunteer to bake something for church events.

Darlene is survived by her husband, William Burrier, of 58 years, and two sons, Michael Burrier and wife Jennifer of Thurmont, and Mark Burrier and wife Hallie of Frederick, and three granddaughters, Sarah Burrier of Thurmont, Emily Burrier of Thurmont,



and Vivian Burrier of Frederick. She is also survived by two sisters, Barbara Palmer and husband Nelson, of Walkersville; and Kathy Holter and husband Ron, of Jefferson.

At the funeral, Darlene's son, Michael, presented the following tribute to his mother.

Mom was most definitely an introverted person and wasn't fond of crowds. But like most introverts, she had a small, tight group of friends and family that she cherished. She loved her extended family and kept up with what everyone was doing.

You may not know that Mom had a high school teacher by the name of Miss McCaffrey. Miss McCaffrey was Irish and sparked a life-long interest in Mom for Irish music and culture. Miss McCaffrey must have been a special teacher because Mom exchanged St. Patrick's Day cards with her for decades.

Another close friend that comes to mind is Pat Snyder. When Mom went to work for the government after high school, she met Pat there and developed a close friendship. Mom and Pat shared a deep faith in Christ and, through the years, encouraged and supported each other through life's ups and downs. Up until her recent illness, Mom and Pat would still catch up over the phone each Sunday afternoon.

Mom used greeting cards as an

expression of her feelings for friends and family. She loved to send cards, and when you received a card from Mom, you knew that the words had been carefully chosen to express exactly what she wanted to say. She looked on sending cards as a ministry and had an extensive collection of cards at the house to draw from.

Mom loved listening to music. She almost always had the radio on in the house. She regularly listened to WJEF in Hagerstown and the daily "Phone Party" call-in show hosted by Lou Scally. It was a staple of our house growing up. I have many memories of being in the kitchen with the radio on. Mom didn't buy a lot of music albums, but I do recall her having "Chicago's Greatest Hits" and several albums by Neil Diamond.

Every so often a song would become popular that Mom would really like and she'd comment on it. Still today, when I hear those particular songs, I think of Mom. Believe it or not, Mom was actually a fan of the rock band Foreigner!

Mom had a couple sayings that have stuck with me:

Mom was 5' 3" tall. As Mark and I were growing up, there came a time when Mom became the shortest person in the family. I guess we teased her about being short because she would come back with, "I may be little but I'm mighty!"

The other saying that I vividly recall was her famous: "I don't think I like this" statement. Mom was all about being proper and no-nonsense. When we would watch or listen to something that strayed from what she thought we should be doing, we'd get the "I don't think I like this" comment and we would know that we'd reached the guardrail and needed to turn back onto the straight path. I still jokingly use this line in my family from time to time.

If I had to pick a spiritual gift that God had given Mom, I would say she had the gift of wisdom. Mom had an uncanny ability to assess a situation and then say just the right thing to the person that most needed to hear it. It may not have been what the person wanted to hear, but it was usually what they needed to hear

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(including me). I was on the receiving end of plenty of that wisdom.

One time I was talking with my sister-in-law, Hallie, about something that was going on in my life. She listened to my story, looked me right in the eye, and said, “I think it’s time to go ‘full Darlene’ on the situation.” I had never heard Mom described in that way before, so I paused for a second and then I realized exactly what Hallie was talking about. It was time to confront the situation head-on, with moral clarity and fierce love, just like Mom would do.

Today is actually my birthday and it somehow seems fitting to be honoring Mom on this day. I was the first born in our family and it was 6 years before Mom and Dad recovered sufficiently to think about having a second child. Let’s just say I was the kind of child that would make parents wonder if one was enough. Mom poured her heart and soul into being a mother even when it stretched her limits. Proverbs 31 comes to mind here: “Her children arise and call her blessed.”

So, for my Loving Mom:

For all the good advice you share,
For all the ways you show you care,
For teaching me what’s right and wrong,
For being kind, patient, and strong,
For all the praise and love you give,
And my mistakes that you forgive,
Thank you, Mom.

At the funeral, Darlene’s son, Mark, presented the following tribute to his mother.

I’d like to share some of my memories of my mother with you, hoping they might spur a memory you have of her or help you better understand the person she was.

Mom was raised on Martin Road in Wolfsville and lived most of her life in Myersville. She spent her entire life in this community. After high school, she took a secretarial position at the Atomic Energy Commission in Germantown. This is where she met my father. When they married and started a family, she became a full time homemaker.

She had two boys, Michael and myself, and was a grandmother to all girls: Sarah, Emily, and Vivian.

She was very close with her mother, Annabelle Martin, and sisters Kathy and Barbara.

Mom held a deep respect for the elder women in her life—her mother, grandmothers, and those in the church family. I always noticed how she gravitated to a certain type: the older woman with spunk. She enjoyed interacting with them and found great pleasure in those relationships.

She was raised to respect people, to help, and to go the extra mile if needed. And that’s how she raised us.

Mom would help cook for and serve Ruritan dinners, food stands at community events like auctions, and the Lord’s Acre.

Where she went, I would go along because she wasn’t a fan of kids at home by themselves. Because of this, I got to witness my mom’s work ethic, camaraderie working within a team, and responsibility staying until the clean up was done. If asked about why any of those were important, she’d say “I made a commitment to do my part.” Commitments were always followed through.

As a wife, she was fully committed to my father. They were best friends. They respected each other—never speaking down or unkind. If they had disagreements, it was rarely in front of the children. After my dad retired, they began running errands together and eventually going everywhere together—a true duo. They still made silly jokes and made each other laugh. Their marriage was a testament to true partnership. They always put each other first, supporting and caring for one another unconditionally.

Socially, mom was admittedly reserved. She would tell you that. Not a fan of parties or lavish attention, she much preferred the comfort of being with those she felt close with in small gatherings. My father, who is social, was a perfect match. Someone to break the ice and my mom would be right there beside, engaged and listening, but more quiet on the delivery.

You may have received one of her greeting cards for birthdays, anniversaries, Valentines, and St Patrick’s Day. Often arriving a day to two ahead of time in the

mail. These kind gestures were important to her to maintain.

At home, mom made every meal. No negotiations. The kitchen was her space and aside from helping dry dishes, you weren’t needed. She enjoyed Pennsylvania Dutch-style cooking, but catered to the family’s tastes. Many of the recipes she used were passed down from family and friends. She’d occasionally test new recipes from magazines. When they didn’t work out: we’d all take a bite, look at each other and have a laugh. She’d say with a chuckle, “Well, I know I’m never making that again.”

We always ate together as a family. Occasionally at dinner, I-270 traffic kept dad from arriving on time, but the attempt was made every time. We enjoyed eating out because even mom needed a night off once and awhile. A Rocky’s Pizza or Western Sizzlin trip was a family affair.

She was an avid baker. Cookies, brownies, cakes—not just for special occasions—but weekly. My wife coming into the family couldn’t believe the amount of baked goods mom could produce.

Mom loved reading. Subscriptions to *Down East Magazine*, *Good Housekeeping*, and *Southern Living* were some that I recall. She enjoyed reading stories of real people and had a great interest in New England—particularly the state of Maine, Amish culture, prairie life, and Ireland. We aren’t Irish, but her school teacher named Miss McCaffrey instilled a love of St Patrick’s Day in her as a young girl that she kept her whole life.

Growing up, we frequently went to the Hagerstown library and stayed for hours. As a young boy, I was likely not as tolerant of that length of time, but was always encouraged to check out books that interested me. When reading books, she didn’t crease the spine, dog ear a page corner or write notes in the margins. Books were kept in good condition out of a kind of respect.

Mom’s faith was plain to see. Her relationship with faith and the church felt tightly intertwined. Church was a source of friendships, a comforting routine, and

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whose work provided a sense of purpose.

She enjoyed seeing the small children perform holiday recitations and plays. She taught various Sunday school classes for many, many years. She sang alto in the church choir next to Caroline and Joann. In the hospital, even though her mind was preventing access to some memories, she sang along to traditional hymns in alto like muscle memory.

In private, mom maintained a daily devotional and prayer routine for as long as I can remember. She kept a list of people to pray for. She was a self proclaimed worrier and used prayer to counteract that. The meditative state of concentrated prayer helped ease her mind.

As I've been reflecting on memories of my mother over the past few months, one word keeps coming to mind—simplicity. And when I think about simplicity, two thoughts stand out.

First, when we remove the unnecessary distractions in our lives, we're able to focus more on what truly matters.

And second, when we start to see the value in what we already have, that gratitude brings a deeper sense of contentment.

Then I thought about: the stories of Maine or Amish culture she enjoyed reading—they are the pursuit of simplicity and how others maintain it. Her desire to foster a tight knit community of family and church. Her preference to not be the center of attention. Her familiar Wolfsville/Myersville geography. Her responsibility to her family. Her love of tradition.

Mom taught me that a fulfilling life is about finding joy in the simple things and appreciating the blessings around you.

Darlene's cousin, Marlene Young, submitted the following tribute.

Mike and I were traveling out of state during the time of my cousin Darlene Burrier's funeral service. We were grateful to be able to watch the service via Zoom, but we missed being in person with family to comfort, celebrate, and remember her collectively.

Darlene was a key part of many precious childhood memories with the "Martin cousins" growing up. The photo



(Top to bottom): Gene Martin, Delores Martin Hammond, Ronnie Martin, Darlene Martin Burrier, Barbara Martin Palmer, Linda Grossnickle Kline, Joann Grossnickle Leatherman, Shirley Martin Clopper, Marlene Grossnickle Young

above, taken on an Easter Sunday on the front porch steps of our grandparents Edgar and Marjorie Martin's stone home on Martin Road shows Darlene on the top right step clutching freshly picked flowers from Grandma's yard.

This picture includes 9 of what would eventually become 12 cousins as it was taken before David and Stephen

Brandenburg and Kathy Martin Holter joined the family. Four of those pictured here have now passed to their eternal Home in Glory.

As young children, we visited at each other's homes, were at Grandma and Grandpap Martin's home for holidays,

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summer picnics, picking up newly plowed potatoes, etc.

Cousins add so much to the storehouse of life's memories and blend the unbreakable bond of family with the warmth of shared experiences. My sisters Linda, Joann and I were blessed by these times.

Darlene was eight years my senior and I recall attending her high school baccalaureate service and recall when she began working at the Atomic Energy Commission where she met Bill. It was a joy to see their love for one another blossom, then their marriage and their family.

I have literally hundreds of cards that Darlene sent over the years, never missing a birthday, anniversary, Christmas, Easter or other special occasion. I've kept them, ever grateful for the loving thought behind each one.

To see the roles that Darlene and Bill took on and faithfully served in the church over the years was and continues to be a blessing. They were a team in service rendered both individually as well as in the "dynamic duo" sense.

Bill's incredible role as editor and publisher of "The Mountain Shepherd" church newsletter with Darlene as his impeccable proofreader for decades; and who can forget the puppet ministry of

Bill's adventurous Barney to Darlene's ever-engaging Stella?

Mostly, when I think of Darlene, I am mindful that she was the epitome of a Proverbs 31 woman. In hearing the powerfully moving tributes given by sons Michael and Mark at her service, indeed "her children rise up and called her blessed... and her husband praises her."

She was a woman after God's heart who sat in His presence regularly, was hardworking and industrious, dedicated to her family and her church family, was wise and discerning, loyal and supportive, resourceful and skilled, dignified and strong in her convictions.

In this life, we know that it is necessary that we say goodbye in order that we can meet again. Praise God that by the shed blood of Jesus, we know that in Christ, there awaits a grand reunion for eternity up ahead for all who have claimed Him as Lord and Savior.

I look forward to the day in God's appointed time when we again shall be reunited with Darlene and all those whom we love who have gone on before, never more to part, and will again lift our voices in singing "When we all get to Heaven, what a day of rejoicing that will be!" I'll be listening for that special alto harmony of Darlene's voice in song.

The Journey Towards Holy Week

Whatever your commitment for the Lent season, my prayer is that your relationship with your Heavenly Father will be closer than ever before.

God desires you to experience an intimate relationship with Him. But your commitment during these six weeks will not go unopposed.

Whenever we are distant from God, it seems that there is little opposition from the Enemy, Satan. However, whenever we aspire to take drastic steps toward a closer, more intentional, more meaningful walk with our Savior, there will be all sorts of "things" that will threaten to diminish our resolve. Be steadfast.

Please do not let any minor setback or misstep get you off course. If you are passionate about your commitment, and bathe this season in prayer, God will surprise you with your growth.

To God be the glory.

In Christ, —Pastor Neil



Enjoying the Red and Green

By Nancy Strine, Frederick, MD
2025

As sure as we feel the coming of spring
We see lovely colors and hear messages
they bring

Each one has a history of remembrances
each year

And remind us to love each other and
share.

The Red? It means to share love on
Valentine's Day

Sending nice cards or calling others to say
"I love you" and "thanks for all that you
do."

That's surely what Saint Valentine asked
that we do.

Then, we see Green—as blossoms do
sprout

"Earth is coming to life" we gratefully
shout

Surely old St. Patrick said as beauty
abounds

And sharing hope is the focus to all those
around.

Then, ending the year, we once again see
These same two colors—a beautiful green
tree

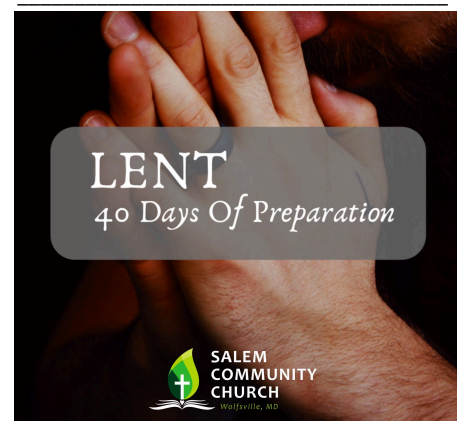
With bright red-colored ornaments and
lights

And gifts all around on a fine Christmas
night.

The red and the green are reminders on
earth

That Christ came to us in a Heavenly birth
So, "Shine brightly" and be grateful each
day

For God's Son who was sent in a very
special way.





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.



No Parking Zone

A minister parked his car in a no-parking zone in a large city because he was short of time and couldn't find a space with a meter.

Then he put a note under the windshield wiper that read, "I have circled the block 10 times. If I don't park here, I'll miss my appointment. Forgive us our trespasses."

When he returned, he found a citation from a police officer along with this note. "I've circled this block for 10 years. If I don't give you a ticket, I'll lose my job. Lead us not into temptation."



Some thoughts to ponder . . .

A child is likely to see God as a good father if he sees God in his father.

The presence of trouble does not mean the absence of God.

Never give the devil a ride — he will always want to drive.

Nothing else ruins the truth like stretching it.

We make a living by what we earn; we make a life by what we give.



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



March 2025

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