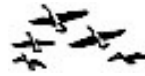


The



Newsletter of
Salem Community Church — Wolfsville

Mountain Shepherd

Volume 44 May 2026 Number 5



Salem Community Church
Wolfsville

**Wolfsville
FOOD
PANTRY**

Open Tuesdays, 5:30-7:30 pm

Located at
**SALEM
COMMUNITY
CHURCH**
12479 Wolfsville Rd

Open to all residents
with a Fayetteville,
Switzerland, or
Sabittown TC code

OUR VISION
Building Connections
Growing God's Family

We are meeting
new families
almost every Sunday

Come Grow With Us

INSIDE

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In Wolfsville . . .

Flower & Plant Sale Saturday, May 9 8 am – 2 pm



**GET YOUR
MOTHER'S DAY
FLOWERS HERE**

Salem Community Church "Pavilion"
12479 Wolfsville Road



Photo by Bill Burrier - May 10, 2025

.....
Barbie Stottlemeyer will be traveling to Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, with her family, to hand-select the beautiful flowers to be sold at this year's flower & plant sale.

➔ Also
**Sandwiches
Baked Goods
Yard Sale**
.....



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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.

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Online Website Link: 210
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Mar 2026 — Average Worship Attendance

109	Sanctuary
44	Zoom Online
153	TOTAL

Go  **2026 MISSION PROJECTS**
"Missions is the Mission of the Church"

Amount Paid Out to Projects Jan-Mar 2026

1. Frank & Nancy Stottlemeyer, Retired, New Tribes Mission	\$615.00
2. Operation Christmas Child (shipping for shoe boxes)	\$0.00
3. Salem Mission & Outreach (includes funeral luncheons)	\$414.68
4. Christ Cream Ministry (Tim Leber)	\$150.00
5. Wolfsville Food Pantry (at Salem)	\$2,587.02
6. Travis & Mary D. (AIM - Canada)	\$675.00
7. Everstand (formerly Board of Child Care) (Martinsburg Campus)	\$300.00
8. Potato Project (Society of St. Andrew)	\$75.00
9. Kelsey McHugh (WIM - Honduras)	\$325.00
10. The Least of These Ministries (Dominican Republic)	\$600.00
11. Care Net Pregnancy Center of Frederick	\$700.00
12. Compassion International (Sponsored Child in Tanzania)	\$129.00
13. Heroes' Club (After School Ministry)	\$0.00
14. World Vision (Sponsored Child in Colombia)	\$105.00
TOTAL PAID OUT to these projects in 2026	\$6,675.70

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 2026

Mid-April through Mid-October

Offering FREE individually wrapped ice creams and prayers at any of your events this spring, summer, and fall! Just send me an email to schedule.

[\[timleber10@gmail.com\]](mailto:timleber10@gmail.com) With appreciation and much love! — *Tim Leber*

"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." *1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*

[Salem provides a minimum of \$50 monthly for this ministry.]

Who's Doing What, When?

May 2026

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

Lay Reader

- 3 Denny Leatherman
- 10 Jesse Lewis
- 17 Shannaa Bidle
- 24 Gary Barkdoll
- 31 David Brandenburg

Acolyte

- 3 Brynleigh Irons
- 10 Shelby Leatherman
- 17 Saralynn Irons
- 24 Landon Lafferty
- 31 Lawson Rouzee

Organist/Pianist

- 3 Sara Weitzel
- 10 Sara Weitzel
- 17 Sara Weitzel
- 24 Joann Leatherman
- 31 Susie Stottlemeyer

Presenter PC

- 3 Wanda Barkdoll
- 10 Cathie Elsbach
- 17 Sue Ellen Stottlemeyer
- 24 Brandon Leatherman
- 31 Sue Ellen Stottlemeyer

Zoom PC

- 3 Robin Haupt
- 10 Brandon Leatherman
- 17 Wanda Barkdoll
- 24 Michael Burrier
- 31 Robin Haupt

Greeters

- 3 Donald & Susie Stottlemeyer
- 10 David & Sherry Scoggins
- 17 Matthew Stottlemeyer
- 24 David Kline
- 31 Joy Barkdoll

10 New Members Received April 19th



Salem extends a warm welcome to our 10 new members and their families—our hearts are full! Please join us in welcoming (L-R) Delilah, **Mike Mellott**, **Mandy Mellott**, Keagan, Amber, Grayson, **Colby Stine**, **Melanna Lewis**, Cole, **Jesse Lewis**, Gracie, Shannaa, Easton, **Josh Bidle**, Pastor Neil, and (not pictured) **Joe Kulina**, **Jill Kulina**, **Forrest Hunt**, **Mary Hunt**. (Joe, Jill, Forrest & Mary participated via Zoom.) We are so grateful that God has brought each of you to our fellowship, and we pray for His continued blessing on your spiritual journeys.

51 NEW MEMBERS since becoming Salem Community Church

16 New Members on October 29, 2023

Heidi Agostini, Joy Barkdoll, Tim Eccard, Mary Ellen Eccard, Janet Goetzke, Sharon Harshman, Daniel Lafferty, Jamie Lafferty, Klaus Mueller, Tonia Mueller, Kenneth Poling, Dianna Poling, Cheryl Webb, Cassidy Webb, Rylie Webb, and Shannon Webb

11 New Members on May 5, 2024

Tim Duley, Jody Eccard, Kathy Hill, David Kline, Wanda Kline, Bryan Rouzee, Hannah Rouzee, David Scoggins, Sherry Scoggins, Misty Suders, and Krista Willman

2 New Members on November 17, 2024

Bill Bere and Amber Stine

8 New Members on June 29, 2025

David Brandenburg, Susan Brandenburg, Ron Holter, Kathy Holter, Dale Kline, Audrey Kline, Tony Miller and Rhonda Miller

4 New Members on November 9, 2025

Shannaa Bidle, Michelle Mallory, Brittini Rouzee, and Jesse Rouzee

10 New Members on April 19, 2026

Josh Bidle, Forrest Hunt, Mary Hunt, Joe Kulina, Jill Kulina, Jesse Lewis, Melanna Lewis, Michael Mellott, Mandy Mellott, and Colby Stine

It's Your Day!



May Anniversaries

- 1 - Doug & Lori Cline
- 14 - Dan & Jamie Lafferty
- 18 - David & Sherry Scoggins
- 20 - Deane & Patty Weagley
- 21 - Robert & Shelly Decker
- 21 - Bobby & Mary Fogle

May Birthdays

- 2 - Mandy Mellott
- 4 - Trace Rhinehart
- 6 - Mark Burrier
- 7 - Austin Main
- 8 - Anita Harshman
- 11 - Steve Leatherman
- 17 - Deane Weagley
- 17 - Elijah Sowers
- 18 - Cindy Harp
- 19 - Brandon Leatherman
- 20 - Abigail Weagley
- 24 - Nelson Hipkins
- 25 - Sam Zimmerman
- 26 - Sharon Hipkins
- 28 - Jim McHugh
- 30 - Bobby Fogle Jr.

**WE ARE A CHURCH
THAT TEACHES &
PREACHES TRADITIONAL
CHRISTIAN VALUES.**

PASTOR'S NEW OFFICE HOURS

Pastor's Parsonage Office:

- **Monday** 10:00-5:00 Study, sermon prep, administrative duties
- **Tuesday** 8:00-4:30 study, sermon & Bible study prep
- **Wednesday** 8:00-4:30 Sermon & Bible study prep
- **Thursday** 8:00-4:30 visitation, study

Pastor's Home Office:

- **Friday** 8:00-4:00 sermon prep (working from his residence on Fridays)

Pastor's Day Off:

- **Saturday:** available for emergencies

NOTE: Please notify Pastor Neil of scheduled hospital procedures. Also, he may be out of the office for meetings, appointments and visitation, so it would be best to make an appointment.



INSPIRATIONAL
Reading

An Angel in Disguise

By Jennifer Ranae Fisher

For all those nights you didn't sleep,
And days that would never end.
I thank you for being my Mother,
I thank you for being my friend.



For all of the obstacles,
You've helped me to overcome.
For many years of happiness,
And being a loving mom.

For all that you've given me,
And taken from yourself.
Having you as a Mother,
I have all the world's wealth.

For all of the times you took care of me,
And put your problems on hold.
I thank you for being my Mother,
And having a heart of gold.

For all of the good things you've done for me,
And things that you continue to do.
I want you to know that I love you,
And that no one compares to you.

The People

By Gail Brook Burket

This land whose founders
cherished liberty
Produced a people
venturesome and strong,
With kindness as
untrammled as the sea,
Keen, homespun humor
and contempt for wrong.



Their ax blades rang, their
rough-hewn plows cut straight
Across the sod. They sowed their lives like seed
Into the nation they envisioned great.

Resolved to make their dream an accomplished
deed.

From the four corners of the world they came
To build the new republic which would rise
In startling splendor, like a comet's flame,
Whose sudden brilliance floods the star-strewn
skies.

They left a heritage by life and death:
To the land where freedom breathed her first pure
breath.



RECIPE



Cheesy Chicken 'N' Shells

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 1-1/2 cups uncooked medium shell pasta | 1/4 teaspoon salt |
| 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour | 1/4 teaspoon pepper |
| 1/4 cup water | 1/4 teaspoon poultry seasoning |
| 1-1/4 cups chicken broth | 1/8 teaspoon paprika |
| 1 can (10-3/4 ounces) condensed cream of chicken soup, undiluted | 1-1/2 cups cubed cooked chicken |
| 1/2 cup process cheese (Velveeta), diced | 3 tablespoons dry bread crumbs |
| | 1 tablespoon butter, melted |

Cook pasta, according to package directions. Meanwhile, in a sauce, pan, combine the flour and water until smooth. Gradually stir in broth.

Bring to a boil; cook and stir for two minutes or until thickened. Reduce heat; add the soup, cheese and seasonings. Cook and stir for five minutes or until cheese is melted.

Drain pasta; place in a bowl. Stir in soup mixture and chicken. Transfer to a greased 1-1/2 quart baking dish. Toss breadcrumbs and butter; sprinkle over the top. Bake, uncovered, at 3:50° for 30 minutes or until golden brown. Yield: 2 to 4 servings.



Rough Roads

By M. Elaine Fowser

How many rough roads have you traveled
Thinking you had lost your way?
But when life's roads bring us to our knees,
It is there we learn to pray.

In times like these, God has His reasons
To increase our faith in him.
Too many times when the way is easy.
We drift with the crowd into sin.

So, thank You, Lord, for the trials
You see fit to send our way,
To keep our focus on the One.
Who is our guide day after day.

Submitted by Marilyn Leatherman

Jesus gave His all for us;
are we giving our all for Him?

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

**Happy Mother's Day
May 10, 2026**

**Every woman
in attendance on
Mother's Day
will receive a gift
of a potted
flowering plant.**



Message from the Pastor

and

Worship in May

■ By PASTOR NEIL SUDERS

Theology 101; Hamartiology; the Doctrine of Sin

One of the words in the New Testament for sin is hamartia. For this reason, the study of sin is Hamartiology.

Despite the most earnest attempts by liberal theologians and philosophers, sin DOES exist.

I say that because great measures have been taken to try to prove the Bible is false, that the claims of Jesus and the Bible's authors are incorrect and unreliable.

Their motives are to discredit the Bible because the Bible identifies sin and sinful behavior.

If the Bible could be rendered irrelevant and unreliable, then there can be no absolute sin. Everything can become relative, and nobody will be qualified to judge.

However, the Bible IS inspired and inerrant, and it speaks volumes about sin! In this article, we will examine the definition of sin, the scope of sin, the penalty for sin, and the remedy for sin.

Spoiler alert, the remedy will be addressed at length in the June issue of *The Mountain Shepherd!*

The Definition of Sin

We can define sin by looking back to the third chapter of Genesis. Adam and Eve were given access to almost every tree in the Garden of Eden except for the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. Sin occurred because they disobeyed God.

Sin can be defined as disobedience, but looking at the word hamartia, we can find an even more general definition of sin: it is "missing the mark" of God's holy standards.

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23)



The Scope of Sin

That brings us into the scope of sin. "ALL have sinned!" "All fall short!" The Apostle John put it accurately: "If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us." (1 John 1:8)

In an attempt to make us appear more righteous, we might try and compare ourselves to other people. "Well, I am no worse than "so-and-so." But the bottom line is that we are still guilty of being sinners.

I believe that sin nature was handed down from Adam (Romans 5:12). "We are not sinners because we sin. We sin because we are sinners."

The Penalty for Sin

Paul made it clear in Romans what the penalty for sin was. He wrote, "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:23).

In other words, we were born with a sin nature; the penalty for which is death. That seems rather bleak.

However, back in the Garden of Eden, God told Adam and Eve that the day they ate of the forbidden fruit they would surely die.

Death, in that context was not a physical death. Rather, it would be a spiritual death, which is eternal separation from God.

In the first three chapters of Romans, Paul spelled out the doctrine of

condemnation; that all mankind was guilty and condemned before a Holy God.

But in the fourth chapter of Romans, he introduced the concept of being declared righteous by God through faith in Jesus Christ.

This introduced the audience to the remedy for sin, which is salvation. Paul wrote, "Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us." (Romans 5:1)

As I wrote earlier, that will be the topic next month. So, we have defined sin as obedience and missing the mark of God's holiness. We have also seen that every human who ever lived has been tainted by the sin nature and, as such, has been declared guilty.

And while the penalty for our sins is Spiritual death, God has provided a remedy to save those who would believe. I hope you have a better grasp on the doctrine of hamartiology!

In Christ. —Pastor Neil

Worship in May

Sunday, May 3

"He Gives Gifts and Power to Serve"

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

There is no shortage of debate on the existence of Spiritual Gifts among evangelical churches today.

The bottom line is that whenever a believer is born again, he or she receives at least one spiritual gift to be used in the service of our Lord.

Spiritual gifts are dynamic, special abilities to be implemented for the purpose of furthering the kingdom.

By identifying our spiritual gifts, we should be seeking ways to get plugged into the ministry. This is how the Holy Spirit gives us power to serve.

Today, we will examine the list of spiritual gifts and learn how we can make a difference in our Christian lives.

Sunday, May 10

Mothers' Day

"He is our Guide"

Romans 8:1-16

We will be recognizing all mothers today. One of the chief roles of a mother is being a guide for her child/children to follow while navigating through life.

In a similar way, the Holy Spirit acts as a guide for all believers.

After Paul had laid out in detail how he

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

continued from page 5

WORSHIP IN MAY

was in constant struggle between not doing what he SHOULD do, while doing what he SHOULD NOT do, he stated that life guided by the Holy Spirit is a life marked with peace.

SOMETHING will guide us: either our sin nature or the Holy Spirit.

Mothers' Day will set the tone for this message by looking at the benefits of being led by God, the Holy Spirit.

Sunday, May 17 "His Role in the Scriptures" 2 Peter 1:21

We all have access to the Holy Scriptures, known as the Bible.

(Fun fact: the word 'Bible' is from the Greek Biblios, which means "book", or "writing.")

But what was the source of the Bible? Skeptics and liberal theologians will argue that they are a collection of fictional writings that were collected over the span of a few hundred years.

Some say the prophecies contained in the Scriptures are not futuristic, but rather are stories that have already occurred.

The "Battle for the Bible" is so important to believers today, because there is an all-out assault on the credibility and inspiration of the Holy Scriptures.

Today, we will examine the source of the Scriptures, as well as their inspiration. We will leave with confidence in the Bible as our sole source of God's written word,

Sunday, May 24 Memorial Day Weekend "Handle With Care" Ephesians 4:30; 1 Thessalonians, 5:19

Our Memorial Day service is always a somber experience as we reflect on the sacrifices of the brave who have given their last full measure of devotion.

Just like Jesus offered us His full measure of devotion, we can celebrate our freedom!

One of the benefits of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ was that He would be able to send us the Comforter so we would not be alone!

We have learned that God, the Holy Spirit, can display emotions similar to what humans can experience.

As we have to learn the proper way to treat our friends, families, and other people along life's way, so we need to learn how to handle God, the Holy Spirit.

Sunday, May 31 Guest Speaker: Pastor Ken Walls "Giving It All Away" Acts 3:1-21

Today's message will be about ordinary people doing extra-ordinary things.

Two ordinary fishermen are on their way to a prayer meeting when something extra-ordinary happens. So, the question that follows is, "Are you ordinary enough to be extra-ordinary?"
[Pastor Neil & Misty are on vacation this Sunday.]

"Monthly Themes" for Wolfsville Food Pantry at Salem

For the first two Tuesdays of April, we served 29 people from 10 families.

April
Spring Cleaning: Cleaning Products

May
Easy Meals: Hamburger Helper, Ramen Noodles, Chef Boyardee, etc.

June
Canned Meat: Spam, Vienna Sausage, Tuna, Chicken, Ham, Salmon, etc.

July
Fruit: Canned or Fresh

August
Hygiene Products: Shampoo, body wash, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, etc.

September
Condiments: Ketchup, Mustard, Mayo, BBQ Sauce, Pickles, Relish, etc.

October
Blankets: New only, please.

November
Turkeys

December
Baking Supplies: Cake Mix, Icing, Jello, Cooking Oil, Pudding, Salt, Pepper, etc.



EASTER EGG HUNT

By Caroline Buhman



It was a beautiful warm and sunny day for the Salem Community Easter Egg Hunt.

About 1000 eggs were filled with various candies, some with dollars, silver dollar coins, and many quarters, with some containing small Jesus figures which were really special.

While this year's attendance was a bit lower than last year, both age groups were excited and eager to fill baskets, buckets, and various containers with the bright colored eggs that were filled with surprises.

After the hunt, a few prizes were given, and a time of refreshments and fellowship followed.

Thank you to all for making this a special event for the young ones.

Also, thank you to all the friends and relatives of the children who attend and support the children and help out with anything needed.

Special thank you to Kathy Hill for getting refreshments ready and to all who helped with cleanup.

It was a joyous afternoon and I hope everyone had a fun time.

Photos by Wanda Barkdoll



Salem Mission News

Missions is the Mission of the Church

Salem Mission Project No. 1

Frank & Nancy Stottlemyer, Retired Senegal Missionaries

Dear Folks at Salem Community Church, April 4, 2026 — What a wonderful privilege we have, to be celebrating that the Son of God willingly gave His life that we might have forgiveness of sins and everlasting life!

And then He arose from the dead assuring our resurrection and eternity with God!

Thank you once again for your faithfulness in praying; for your gifts; and for your friendship. We appreciate you all very much.

We are doing pretty well as far as our health.

Nancy was diagnosed with Wet Macular Degeneration in her left eye. An eye specialist said that, if left untreated, it would lead to blindness. She had lots of tests done and had an injection in her eye. Those injections are to be continued monthly. She is on medication that, hopefully, will prevent her right eye from changing from Dry Macular Degeneration to the Wet type.

Frank had to begin on a low dose of blood pressure medication.

We are still doing mostly the same things we've been doing for some time.

Nancy continues to visit a widow with dementia in a nursing home. She takes another lady to a ladies' Bible study each week, and other things.

Frank serves on the board of our home church, sometimes teaches Sunday School or Wednesday evening Bible study; he is bookkeeper/treasurer, prepares a weekly bulletin insert of prayer requests and announcements, and he helps with things at the Hagerstown Rescue Mission one day each week. We have regularly been taking a handicapped lady, who can't drive, to doctor's appointments, etc. and sometimes to see her husband who is in a rehab center.

Our daughter, Wanda, and son-in-law, Lynn, have jobs and are involved in ministries.



Frank & Nancy Stottlemyer

Our son and daughter-in-law, Eric & Wendy, are in the U.S. for a few months. In Senegal, Eric is the Bible teacher to the Badyaranké people. Wendy helps with the Bible translation into the Badyaranké language.

Our daughter, Rebecca, is teaching and overseeing literacy classes for the Badyaranké people in Senegal. She also meets with ladies for them to read Scripture in their language.

She is a literacy consultant for West Africa for the mission to help other missionaries get literacy programs started.

Our son & daughter-in-law, Gary & Lisa, serve at a missionary retirement center in Florida. Gary is part of the grounds crew, and works on other projects at the center; Lisa heads up cooking for the retired missionary residents who are unable to do that themselves.

Our granddaughter, Tara & her husband, Asheton, completed the missionary training of Ethnos360.

They are now trying to get meetings to raise support for them to go to Senegal. They would like to go there in August. Their fourth child was born in December; our 17th great-grandchild.

Another grandson and his wife are expecting a baby this month.

Our granddaughter, Elli, & husband Devin, are taking a two-year Bible College course.

Thank you again sincerely for your faithfulness. Joyfully in Christ.

—Frank & Nancy Stottlemyer

Salem Mission Project No. 11

Care Net Pregnancy Center of Frederick

Dear Salem Community Church:

Today we saw a couple that are pregnant and facing a decision. This pregnancy was not planned and they are strongly considering abortion.

We are thankful that they came to our center to receive our services. They were treated with kindness and compassion, and were given a chance to see their baby in the womb through ultrasound.

She was further along than what she thought, so seeing this fully formed baby, moving around, was very impactful to her. Please pray that they choose life and are spared the trauma of abortion.

Thank you for your generous and faithful giving to this center so that we can see clients and offer them compassionate and truthful care in a very vulnerable time in their lives. Thank you for sewing seeds into this ministry so that we can sew seeds into our clients.

May you experience the truth of Proverbs 11:25 — "The generous will prosper, those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed." Blessings.

—Linda King, Executive Director

Salem Mission Project No. 10

The Least of These Ministries Dominican Republic

Dear Salem Community Church:

"Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path. —Psalm 119:105

The Psalmist reminds us that God's word guides us and lights our way as we navigate this life. His word is so important for his children to know, which is why reflection on scripture is an integral part of our food distribution.

Please pray for those who teach God's word in these communities, and for the ones hearing it, that the Holy Spirit would bring clarity to what they hear.

Your support helps to ensure we are able to continue teaching from the Bible to provide spiritual strength, even as families in the bateys receive nutritious food for physical strength. Thank you for your generosity and Christian love.

In Christ alone. —Marty Hogan

Jesus said, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." (Matthew 28:19-20 NIV)

Grades 3-5

BE A "SPARKS YOUTH" EVERY SUNDAY

In May, the "Sparks" (Grades 3-5) Upper Elementary Sunday School class will highlight "Telling About Jesus."

Go and Tell

How many times do you hear something exciting, and you go and tell someone else about it? In this unit, our "Sparks" students will learn how the Holy Spirit helps us share the gospel with our community and world.

They will hear how Peter preached at Pentecost, Paul and Barnabas became missionaries, and how Paul listened to God, taught in Athens, and even preached to an angry crowd. All people need to hear that Jesus is their Savior.

The lessons this month will serve as a guide to help our Upper Elementary students understand that missionaries are called by God to tell people the good news about Jesus -- and that they, too, are called to tell others the good news of Jesus.

Mike Burrier teaches the "Sparks" Upper Elementary Class each Sunday from 10:15 to 11:00 a.m. at the top of the stairs in the social room. Come grow with us!



Seniors Ministry

Age 60 and Older

Tuesday, May 12

■ By Ken Walls

Our next Seniors Ministry gathering will be Tuesday, May 12th at 10 a.m.

Our discussion will be all about moms.

- "The Things That Momma Told Me"
- "The Things That Momma Taught Me"
- "The Places That Momma Took Me" and
- "The Treasures That Momma Left Me"

It promises to be a special time of celebrating and honoring our moms. Bring along some cookies and bring along some stories. We'll keep the coffee hot! —Ken & Thelma Walls



Ladies Night Out May 13 6:00 p.m.

Ladies, please come and enjoy a night of fun and good food at Mountain Gate Family Restaurant in Thurmont. All women and children are invited to attend. Activities start at 6:00 p.m. and will conclude around 8 p.m.

Adults \$24.75; Ages 5-12 \$11.00; and Ages 2-4 \$2.80. Cash only to Wanda Barkdoll who will consolidate everyone's funds and pay the entire bill to the restaurant.

Men, too. At the same time, the men will also enjoy good food in a separate area of the restaurant from the ladies. Men will get separate checks and each pay their own bill.

A sign in roster, for both women and men, has been placed in the hallway at church.

This will be a good opportunity to invite a friend to get to know the many new folks at Salem Community Church.

NEWS & NOTES

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.

Pastor Neil will send you a card. Please let him know if you have a need. He will meet with you and answer any questions you may have.

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.

We encourage children to remain with their parents in worship and participate in Pastor Neil's children's message.

Children who worship with their parents learn early that they are part of the larger church family. They grow up seeing themselves as valued members of the congregation.

Children's Activity Bags

Children's Activity Bags are available as you enter the sanctuary each Sunday.

Each bag contains activities around the scripture for the day and other activities to engage your little ones during the service.

Need to Step Out During the Service?

If you need to step out during the service, you may watch the service on the big screen in the upstairs social room. Feel free to use this space whenever needed.

How to Receive our Announcements

If you are not currently on Salem's distribution list for prayer requests and church announcements, please provide your email address to Pastor Neil (717-753-2112) pastorneil05@gmail.com or Michael Burrier (301-401-7575) bankermike73@gmail.com.

Record Attendance on Easter Sunday

Easter Sunday included amazing worship, preaching, music and children's recitations and singing. Record attendance was 154 in person and 48 on Zoom, totaling 202. A dozen or more folks chose to view the service on the big screen in the upper room.

Cemetery Paving Improvements

Salem's Church Council approved a recommendation from the Cemetery Committee to contract with Remsburg Paving to improve and widen the sharp turns on the cemetery road.

Pastor Neil & Misty: Vacation

Pastor Neil & Misty will be on vacation May 28 — 31. Pastor Ken Walls will be leading worship and presenting a message of God's Word on Sunday, May 31.



Salem Salutes Veterans Buried at Church Cemetery

In honor of Memorial Day 2026, Salem Community Church wishes to recognize our nation's veterans who are buried at Salem Church Cemetery. Visitors to the cemetery on this day will notice a flag at these grave sites.

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Lloyd Bear | Alvey G. Kline |
| Robert Bear | Ary M. Kline |
| Howard Brandenburg | Carroll M. Kline |
| Robert A. Cline | Floyd Ray Kline |
| Aaron Craver | Gaither W. Kline |
| Rodger Lee Eccard | Kenneth E. Kline, Jr. |
| Joseph R. Farsht | Lawrence S. Kline |
| Elmer R. Finneyfrock | Raymond W. Kline |
| James Richard Frey | Merhle K. Martin |
| George C. Harne | John Henry Maugans |
| Harold G. Harne | Ronald L. McLucas |
| Francis C. Harshman | Joseph M. Nusbaum |
| Robert Woodrow Heefner | William H. Shuff |
| William H. Horn | Gaither E. Stotelmyer |
| Agnes Kemerer | Daniel Bruce Warrenfeltz |
| Verne F. Kemerer | Paul Weiss |
| Allen John Kline | |

We also wish to honor Bill Buhrman who served in the U.S. Army National Guard.

Memorial Day • Decoration Day • Poppy Day

We give thanks on Memorial Day that we live in a free nation and we honor those who gave their lives for that blessing. Memorial Day is sometimes called Decoration Day. Since World War I, it has also been called Poppy Day.

The location of the first observance of Memorial Day is in dispute. Some claim the custom of honoring war dead began in Boalsburg, Pennsylvania. Others claim the custom was originated by some southern women who placed flowers on the graves of both Union and Confederate soldiers after the Civil War.

According to one writer, the first Memorial Day service took place on May 30, 1866, on Belle Isle, a burial ground for Union soldiers in the St. James River, at Richmond, Virginia. The school

superintendent and the mayor planned the program of hymns and speeches and had the burial ground decorated with flowers.

In 1966, however, the U.S. Government proclaimed that Waterloo, New York, was the birthplace of Memorial Day. On May 5, 1865, the people of Waterloo had honored soldiers who had died in the Civil War. The custom of placing flowers on graves is an old one that exists in many countries.

Today, almost everywhere around the globe, people have a special day to honor not only those who gave their lives in battle, but also family members and friends whom they wish to remember. The northern states and some southern states celebrate Memorial Day on the last Monday in May. This date was made a Federal holiday in 1971.

Cemetery Points of Contact:

- George Stottlemyer, Chair (301-293-2372)
- Bobby Fogle
- Meredith Harshman
- Robin Haupt
- Steve Leatherman
- Neil Suders, Pastor

Cemetery Mowing:

- Mountain Valley Lawn Service
- 12405 Loy Wolfe Road
- Myersville, MD 21773
- 301-293-1470

Salem Church Cemetery is located at 12537 Brandenburg Hollow Road.



The Month of May is . . .

APPLE BLOSSOM TIME

We always referred to May as Apple Blossom time in my childhood home. Each spring, I would walk through the orchards when the trees were in their heavy may bloom. The symphony of the honeybees as they probed the blossoms for one of their richest harvest of the year, reminded me to pause and savor the sweetness of spring.



For the bees, and for me, there certainly would be more harvest to come. In the honeysuckle vines along the road, in the clover fields, and in the profusion of summer flowers would be site and scent and sound to fill long, sweet summer days and soft, warm evenings.

But spring reached for its fulfillment there in those orchards. Fresh and new and full of promise, May was not merely a prelude to the summer, it was a time to be treasured. The music of the honeybees lured me into the lacy, white orchards, and there, I too made a harvest of the gifts of the fullness of spring.

I have held on to the lesson of those honeybees. Today I still pause to find God's craftsmanship in all that I see and hear. And now that it is May again, I can still hear May's sweet symphony, as rhythmic as the purling waters in the rill and as tender as the chiming bells of the wood thrush's song.

[Adapted from a writing by Lansing Christman, Published 1991]

New Cemetery Adornment Policy

By George Stottlemeyer, Chair
Cemetery Committee

Beginning in 2026, a seasonal policy has been instituted regarding the placement and removal of flowers, ornaments, and other adornments at grave sites in our cemetery.



The cycle for placement of those items will be consistent with seasonal changes. Therefore, beginning in March through September, we ask that spring and summer seasonal items be displayed; and October through February fall and winter seasonal items be displayed.

At the end of each season, we ask that items out of season be removed. Any items remaining will be removed by custodians of the cemetery. We ask that all items displayed be placed either on the headstone or as close to the stone as possible to accommodate mowing.

A MOTHER'S DAY TRIBUTE

Dear Mom,

I suppose you're wondering why I sent you this letter, since we live only 5 miles apart and talk on the phone every few days. As you know, it's sometimes easier for me to express myself in writing than in person. Since Mother's Day will soon be here, I've been thinking about you and what you've meant to me through the years.



As I think back now, I guess I really didn't appreciate you as much as I could have while I was living at home. It wasn't until I went off to college that I began to get a new perspective on our relationship. We didn't always agree on everything, of course, but still I missed the many talks we had while doing dishes, and the way you always took time to listen whenever I had a problem that I wanted to talk over.

Just as you used to get out Grandma's old sewing basket to fix my doll when her arm came off, so you were good at fixing a wounded heart. After I left home, I missed not being able to confide in you except long distance, by mail or by telephone.

When I was at college, I also missed the sewing and baking that I had taken for granted before. How nice it was when you surprised me with a new dress you had made for me, when you came to visit! The boxes of goodies you regularly supplied tasted especially good to me because you had baked them and knew all my favorites.

I think it was while I was at college that I really began to think of you as a person, rather than as "just Mom." I admired your abilities with flower arranging and all kinds of handicrafts. I respected your leadership in church activities. I found that you were generous and always ready to help out a neighbor or a friend.

You know, you've given me good advice over the years, Mom, and I haven't always taken it. But I remember when my husband and I found a note from you on our wedding day. The advice about not holding a grudge has proven to be wise and right, through the years of our marriage.

After our first child was born, I began to see what it means to be a mother from a new point of view. Then I felt a special kinship with you, as I understood for the first time, the joys of having a child of seeing his first smile, hearing him say "Mama," and watching him learn to walk.

Standing and watching at the bedside of a feverish child, I also discovered the long hours of work and worry you put into caring for me. I found them, as I'm sure you did years before, that a mother learns to rely on God a great deal.

As our son and two daughters grew, I found that I could sound grouchy just as you sometimes sounded when I was a girl and for some of the same reasons.

Remember how you used to complain when we came home from school and scattered our books, coats, and lunch pails all over the dining room table after you had just finished cleaning? I didn't care much about your frustration then, but I now know exactly how you felt!

Since I've had children of my own, I feel that I know you better, Mom. I understand now that a mother makes mistakes, loses her temper when she doesn't mean to, and has normal human emotions. For instance, it was only a few years ago, that I discovered that you have always been afraid of severe thunderstorms. Yet, when I was a girl, you fascinated me with your predictions of how much wind would be in the storm (by how fast the clouds were rolling) and that there would be hail (if the sky looked greenish). You gave me confidence and never showed that you were afraid.

Yes, I understand now that mothers don't always know how to settle sibling quarrels, fairly, or may even run out of patience sometimes! But they never run out of love. You've shown me that through the years.

With love, Your Daughter, —Alice

[By Alice Brill, Published 1982]



There's something special about "Children's Time" during worship

April 12, 2026 — Each week, Pastor Neil shares the Gospel with the kids in a way that's simple, joyful, and meaningful for all ages. This Sunday started with a surprise— before he even began, a "flash mob" of "Wildfire" teens and youth leaders joined the group up front! A beautiful reminder of our church family growing together in faith.

Photo by Wanda Barkdoll



If you missed the "Last Supper" reenactment on April 2, here's what happened.

From Left, Brian Rouzee (Bartholomew/Nathaniel), Denny Leatherman (James the Lesser), Vernon Stottlemeyer (Andrew), David Scoggins (Judas), Dan Lafferty (Peter), Robin Haupt (John), Jim Laky (Jesus), Gary Barkdoll (James the Greater), George Stottlemeyer (Thomas), Bobby Fogle (Philip), Jesse Lewis (Matthew), Donald Stottlemeyer (Thaddeus), and Josh Bidle (Simon the Zealot).



1. In Person

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.



Prayer



A tale is told about a small town that had historically been "dry," but then a local businessman decided to build a tavern. A group of Christians from a local church were concerned and planned an all-night prayer meeting to ask God to intervene. It just so happened that shortly thereafter lightning struck the bar and it burned to the ground. The owner of the bar sued the church, claiming that the prayers of the congregation were responsible, but the church hired a lawyer to argue in court that they were not responsible.

The presiding judge, after his initial review of the case, stated that "no matter how this case comes out, one thing is clear. The tavern owner believes in prayer and the Christians do not."

Some thoughts to ponder . . .

It takes as much energy to hold out a helping hand as to point a finger.

No matter what may be your lot in life, build something on it.

You can't control the length of your life, but you can control its width and depth.

Blessed are those who can give without remembering and take without forgetting.



The Mountain Shepherd

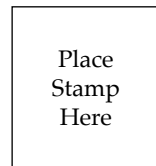
Salem Community Church, Wolfsville
P. O. Box 144
Myersville, MD 21773-0144

www.SalemChurchWolfsville.org

Address Services Requested

SERVICE TIMES

9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship
10:15 a.m. Sunday School



May 2026

COME GROW WITH US