

The

Mountain Shepherd

Newsletter of
Salem Community Church — Wolfsville

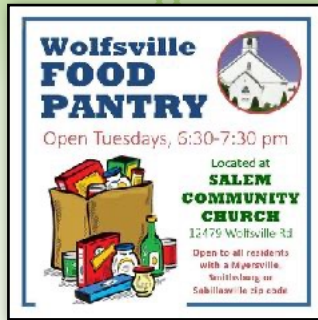
Volume 44

July 2026

Number 7



Salem Community Church
Wolfsville



OUR VISION
Building Connections
Growing God's Family

We are meeting
new families
almost every Sunday

Come Grow With Us

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Celebrating America's 250th

Wolfsville in 1776

By Bill Burrier

This being the July "patriotic" issue of *The Mountain Shepherd*, and this being the year our nation celebrates its 250th anniversary, I was wondering what the Wolfsville area would have been like... back in 1776.

A wonderful point of reference is a series of 14 monthly articles written by local historian Fonda Gormer from December 2018 to January 2020, and then published in a book titled *Sidelights to Salem History*.

To my surprise, in Chapter 2 of the book, we learn that the first white man to permanently settle in the Wolfsville area was John Hoover Jr. who moved here about 1776.

Fonda wrote "In a valley east of South Mountain, log cabins were beginning to spring up. About 1776, John Hoover, Jr., son of the Johannes Huber who settled in the Ringgold area of Washington County, moved into a house on the property of his father-in-law, Christian Stouffer in Frederick County, MD."

This property consisted of 291 acres and included a farm across from the current Wolfsville Ruritan Community Park on Brandenburg Hollow Road, southward to Stottlemeyer Road. John Hoover Jr. and his wife Susan raised their family at this location, parenting 3 sons, John, Jacob and Christian. They acquired vast tracts of land totaling 763 acres.

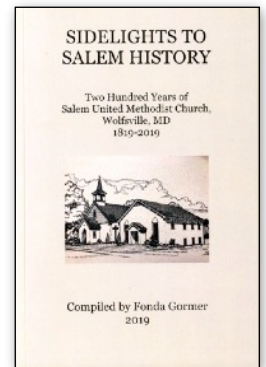
Fonda wrote "John Hoover Jr. and his son John are the ones who became part of the United Brethren in Christ denomination, and became instrumental in the establishment of Salem."

Hoover Homestead: Birthplace of Salem Church

Regarding the very early beginnings of Salem Church, Fonda wrote "John, Jr. and Susan Hoover had a son John III, who married Susannah Harshman in 1803. John III and Susannah lived in the cabin in the meadow across from Salem's current parsonage, on land he received from his father. In 1819, John III built a large stone barn on the property in Wolfsville, followed in 1820 by a substantial stone house. This home became a regular preaching place for Salem Church of the United Brethren in Christ in 1819. Bigger meetings were held in the barn. These structures, which are still standing, [at the corner of Wolfsville Road and Harp Hill Road] served as places of worship until a church building was erected in 1847."

Salem's History spans 207 Years

After being associated with three denominations, Salem is now an independent church following traditional Biblical values; serving the greater Wolfsville area by proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ, helping each other grow in faith, and serving those in need in our congregation, community and the world. [More details about Salem's history on page 9.]



This book is available at Salem for \$10 to benefit Salem's Lord's Acre project.



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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:
Produced using macOS Pages 15.2.1 and macOS 26.5 on an Apple M1 MacBook Air computer, HP LaserJet P3015 postscript laser printer, and Ricoh MP-3054 digital copier.

Purpose of Newsletter:
The purpose of this newsletter is to provide a means of communicating with our members, their families, and our many friends of the Wolfsville community and surrounding areas. We pray that this newsletter will inspire you 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: 210
USPS First Class Mail: 16
Paper Copies at Church: 65
Paper Copies at LDS Store: 65
Facebook Followers: 648

May 2026 — Average Worship Attendance

110	In Sanctuary
40	Zoom Online
150	TOTAL

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

Amount Paid Out to Projects Jan-May 2026

1. Frank & Nancy Stottlemeyer, Retired, New Tribes Mission	\$1,025.00
2. Operation Christmas Child (shipping for shoe boxes)	\$0.00
3. Salem Mission & Outreach (includes funeral luncheons)	\$831.30
4. Sweet Blessings Ministry (Tim Leber)	\$250.00
5. Wolfsville Food Pantry (at Salem)	\$3,336.43
6. Travis & Mary D. (AIM - Canada)	\$1,125.00
7. Everstand (formerly Board of Child Care) (Martinsburg Campus)	\$475.00
8. Potato Project (Society of St. Andrew)	\$100.00
9. Kelsey McHugh (WIM - Honduras)	\$525.00
10. The Least of These Ministries (Dominican Republic)	\$800.00
11. Care Net Pregnancy Center of Frederick	\$950.00
12. Compassion International (Sponsored Child in Tanzania)	\$215.00
13. Heroes' Club (After School Ministry)	\$0.00
14. World Vision (Sponsored Child in Colombia)	\$175.00
TOTAL PAID OUT to these projects in 2026	\$9,807.73

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. 8

Potato Project — Society of St. Andrew, Big Island, VA

GLEANING

More than one-third of all food grown in the U.S. is lost as waste, yet hunger remains a daily reality for many. Volunteers on the Potato Project go into the fields and glean perfectly good potatoes left behind by the harvesting machines.



Potatoes left behind by harvesting machines.

The Society of St. Andrew (SoSA) takes its name from a moment of profound faith found in John 6. When faced with a hungry crowd of thousands, most of the disciples saw an impossible problem and suggested sending the people away. But Jesus offered a different solution: feed the hungry.

While others questioned, Andrew went to work. He didn't wait for a miracle to appear; he sought out a solution within the community. He found a young boy willing to share his small lunch of five loaves and two fish. Andrew brought what he found to Jesus, believing that if we do our part, the Lord provides abundance.

By gathering what remains so that nothing is lost, this organization continues Andrew's legacy of hearing the call and serving neighbors in need.

Salem provides a minimum of \$25 each month to this project.

Who's Doing What, When?

July 2026

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

Lay Reader

- 5 Marlene Young
- 12 Jesse Lewis
- 19 Gary Barkdoll
- 26 Shannäa Bidle

Acolyte

- 5 Landon Lafferty
- 12 Lawson Rouzee
- 19 Cheyenne Leatherman
- 26 Brynleigh Irons

Organist/Pianist

- 5 Susan Koons
- 12 Joann Leatherman
- 19 Sara Weitzel
- 26 Sara Weitzel

Presenter PC

- 5 Wanda Barkdoll
- 12 Cathie Elsbach
- 19 Sue Ellen Stottlemeyer
- 26 Brandon Leatherman

Zoom PC

- 5 Robin Haupt
- 12 Brandon Leatherman
- 19 Wanda Barkdoll
- 26 Michael Burrier

Greeters

- 5 Paula Main
- 12 David & Sherry Scoggins
- 19 Matthew Stottlemeyer
- 26 Kathy Hill

Believer's Baptisms *by* Immersion

Each step into the water was a beautiful testimony of God's work in their lives. Join us in praising God for these lives and praying for them as they continue to follow Christ!

June 7, 2026



Josh Bidle



Shannäa Bidle



Colby Stine

June 14, 2026



Joe Kulina



Landon Lafferty



Mike Mellott

It's Your Day!



July Anniversaries

- 4 - Michael & Mandy Mellott
- 10 - Robin & Theresa Haupt
- 14 - David & Wanda Kline
- 20 - Randy & Karen Sowers
- 29 - Gary & Wanda Barkdoll
- 30 - Rebecca & Brandon Potter

July Birthdays

- 4 - Marlene Young
- 5 - Brett Haupt
- 8 - Linda Grossnickle
- 10 - Randy Sowers
- 11 - Alyssa Fogle
- 13 - Patty Blickenstaff
- 15 - Pastor Neil Suders
- 19 - Oliver Hudson-Koons
- 21 - Donald Stottlemeyer
- 24 - Pat Eccard
- 26 - Audrey Kline
- 27 - Cyndy Weddle
- 28 - Kim Tolland
- 28 - Jennifer Burrier
- 29 - Matthew Stottlemeyer
- 29 - Katy Hornbecker

**WE ARE A CHURCH
TEACHING AND
PREACHING
TRADITIONAL
BIBLICAL VALUES.**

PASTOR'S 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

Our Heritage

By Grace Noll Crowell

This is the land they came to
When they came across the sea,
Brave men and strong men,
And men of brawn and might;
This is the land they conquered
And left for you and me
To cherish as our homeland:
Our heritage by right.



This is the land they left us:
A land to hold in trust
For generations yet to come
That they, too, may be blest:
A Continent — far-reaching
To the North, South, East and West,
A land of light and freedom . . .
O men, today we must

Cherish the gift they gave us;
Must keep its bright flag high;
Must hold our independence
As sacred, thanking God
For our land as we go forward,
Our faces toward the sky,
Or as we kneel for guidance
On the same soil they once trod.

The Fourth of July

By Gladys C. Winkleblack

The Fourth of July
Is a day of memories, sacred and happy,
A parade of the red, the white, and blue,
The ring of an old and cracked bell
As we our birthright of freedom review.

The Fourth of July
Is a day of fun and barbecues,
Of happy laughter of young and old,
And picnics with steak and pink lemonade,
And old men's tales are told and retold.

The Fourth of July
Is a cherished day on history's page,
From Valley Forge to the Coral Sea;
And the spirit of freedom has prevailed
As men have carried the flag of the free.

The God who gave us life, gave us liberty.



RECIPE



Old-Fashioned Fresh Cherry Pudding Cake

For Cherry Base:

2 1/2 cups fresh sweet cherries, pitted	1/2 cup water 3/4 cup granulated sugar
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For Cake Batter:

1 cup all-purpose flour	1 cup whole milk
1 cup granulated sugar	1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 teaspoon baking powder	1/2 cup butter, melted
1/4 teaspoon salt	

- Preheat & Prep:** Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Lightly grease a 9 x 13-inch baking dish.
- Make the Cherry Sauce:** In a saucepan, combine the pitted cherries, water, and 3/4 cup of sugar. Bring to a gentle boil, stirring until the sugar is dissolved.
- Mix the Batter:** in a bowl, whisk together the flour, one cup sugar, baking powder, and salt. Stir in the milk, vanilla, and melted butter until just smooth.
- Assemble:** Pour the batter into a prepared baking dish. Carefully spoon the hot cherry mixture (including the juice) evenly over the top of the batter.
- Bake:** Bake for 35 to 45 minutes, or until the top is golden brown and a toothpick inserted into the cake portion comes out clean. May be served warm.

This classic recipe bakes a sweet batter over a bubbly cherry base, creating a tender, cake-like top and a rich, saucy fruit bottom. Yield: 6-8 servings



An American

By Benjamin E. Neal

I am an American! The Golden Rule is my rule. In humility and with gratitude to Almighty God, I acknowledge my undying debt to the Founding Fathers who left me a priceless heritage, which now is my responsibility.

With steadfast loyalty, I will uphold the Constitution of the United States. I will treasure my birthright of American ideals.

I will place moral integrity above worldly possessions. Problems of interest to my country shall be of interest to me! I will count my right of voting to be a sacred trust, and I will diligently strive to prove worthy of that trust.

I will give my full support to upright public servants, but those

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

with unclean hands I will firmly oppose.

Each obligation that comes to me as a true American, I will discharge with honor! My heart is in America and America is in my heart! I am an American!



Message from the Pastor

and

Worship in July

■ By PASTOR NEIL SUDERS

Demonology: the Study of Satan, Demons, and Hell

Two months ago, we looked at the doctrine of sin, followed by last month's article on salvation. Following the "Bad News; Good News" model, we will be looking at Satan, Demons, and Hell this month, and follow that with a look at Heaven next month.

This study reminds us that spiritual evil is real, divine judgment is certain, and the hope of Christ must move believers toward faithful witness.

Satan and His Demons

Lucifer was a created angel. Scripture describes Satan as one who can disguise himself as an "angel of light," but pride, arrogance, and rebellion marked his fall.

In Isaiah 14, we read the words, "I will ascend to the heavens; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of Mount Zaphon. I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High" (Isaiah 14:13-14).

He became known as "Satan" because that name means "adversary" or "accuser." The Bible tells us he was cast out of heaven. The Book of Revelation tells us that he took one third of the angels with him. Those angels are known as "fallen angels," and they are more commonly known as demons.

Because Satan was once an angel, he has a great deal of power. However, because he is a created being, his power is limited. He is not like God. Satan cannot be everywhere at one time, nor is he all-knowing.

His demons have been dispersed throughout the world to do his work on his behalf. Satan's work includes tempting people to sin, accusing believers of sins that have been forgiven,



counterfeiting works of God, and possessing non-believers.

Paul described this spiritual conflict in Ephesians 6: "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms" (verse 12).

Although Satan's present work is carried out through demonic influence, he will come into sharper focus during the "Day of the Lord," the season of judgment following the Rapture of the Church.

During the Tribulation, Satan will give authority to the Antichrist and the False Prophet. Revelation portrays him as the dragon, and he will unite the armies of the world to battle the Savior at Armageddon.

He will then be banished to the Bottomless Pit for the 1,000-year Millennium. At the end of the Millennium, Satan will be released one final time.

He will again try to unite the armies of the world against God, only to be banished to the Lake of Fire for eternity. Until then, satanic influence remains active on the earth.

The Reality of Hell

Sadly, an ideology often associated with nihilism claims that after death there is simply nothing. In other words, once a person dies, he ceases to exist and life goes on without him.

The problem with this view is its disregard for eternity. Nihilists deny both heaven and hell, yet the Bible speaks of both.

The Old Testament refers to Sheol as the Hebrew realm of the dead. In the New Testament, Hades refers to the realm of the dead, while Gehenna is used as a picture of final judgment and everlasting punishment.

Gehenna is derived from the Valley of Hinnom, a place associated with refuse and fire outside Jerusalem.

Hell is described as a place of everlasting fire; it will be hot, but it will not consume.

Jesus referred to hell as a "place of torment," where there will be "weeping and wailing, and gnashing of teeth."

In Luke 16:19-31, Jesus told of a rich man who lived in luxury and a poor beggar named Lazarus. Both men died. Lazarus was escorted into "Abraham's bosom," which is Paradise. The rich man died and was in torment in Hades. He asked that Lazarus be allowed to dip his finger in water and cool his tongue because of the flames.

The passage presents a sobering picture of conscious torment after death. That is how it will be with hell. Those who suffer there will be there for eternity because they rejected Jesus as Savior.

God created hell for Satan and his demons, but those who leave this world without Christ will be condemned there as well for all eternity.

May the sobering truth of Satan's work and the reality of hell, stir us to witness faithfully to our loved ones.

In Christ. —Pastor Neil

Worship in July

In July, we will be finishing the 23rd Psalm and starting the first epistle of Peter. Obviously, Peter was the author of both of his epistles.

The same Peter that claimed he would follow Jesus to the death, and then later denied Jesus three times, wrote this letter.

He preached at Pentecost and 3,000 souls got saved and added to the church that day.

His first epistle is a guide to managing through tough times.

Sunday, July 5, 2026 "The LORD, Our Righteousness"

Psalm 23:5

This fifth verse of Psalm 23 invokes two names of Jehovah. "You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies"

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

continued from page 5

WORSHIP IN JULY

pictures God as Jehovah Nissi, (The LORD my victory). God fights our battles for us and grants victory on our behalf.

The second name comes from the latter part of the verse. "You anoint my head with oil, my cup runs over." The name of God here is Jehovah Mekoddishkem (The LORD who sanctifies).

Anointing ones head with oil was a sign of consecration and sanctification. So, in this verse, we will see how God will provide us with victory and sanctification.

Sunday, July 12, 2026 "The LORD My Shepherd" Psalm 23:6

As a result of Jehovah being our Shepherd, we are blessed with eternal life. And that life is characterized by God's goodness and His lovingkindness.

The "love" in this verse is the word "Chesed," which means His unmerited favor and loving kindness. The Psalmist said they would follow him all the days of his life. On top of that, he will live in the house of His LORD forever.

The 23rd Psalm was an encouraging reminder of the love our Shepherd has for His flock.

I Peter: "Grace in Suffering"

Sunday, July 19 "A Living Hope" 1 Peter 1:1-12

Peter began his letter to those who were suffering by referring to a "living hope." This "living hope" is the reality of

the resurrection of Jesus Christ. This hope comes from the resurrection and brings us into an inheritance that can never spoil or fade.

Additionally, as followers of Jesus Christ, they were shielded by God's power through faith. Their persecutions and sufferings were within the protection of God's shield.

These same truths apply to us today. Nothing can happen to us that the "living hope" cannot overcome.

Let us walk in confidence because of this living hope God has graciously bestowed upon us.

Sunday, July 26 "Be Holy, For I am Holy" 1 Peter 1:13-21

Peter began this passage with the word, "Therefore," which is a transition word that takes the readers from the 'explanation' to the 'expectation.'

In light of that living hope, they were expected to be holy. Since God, who called them, is holy, the same obligation fell on them.

Consequently, that same mandate faces us today. We are saved because a holy God saved us. We worship Him because a Holy God deserves it.

So it follows that we should live a holy lifestyle because a Holy God demands it. Peter tells us this is possible by living as "strangers" on this earth.

Today we will examine this passage and have a game plan for fulfilling these righteous expectations.

"Monthly Themes" for "Wolfsville Food Pantry" at Salem

On May 1, 2026, the Food Pantry moved across the parking lot to the front room in the parsonage at 12477 Wolfsville Road.

The new space is larger and has more storage area.

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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.



JOB OPPORTUNITY

Part-Time Administrative Assistant

"Pastor Neil needs Help!" The church is looking for a part-time Administrative Assistant, to support Pastor Neil, who can work from home during the day and contribute about 5-8 hours per week.

Here is a summary of the job description:

Qualifications:

- Proficiency in Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)
- Organizational skills
- Communication skills

Duties to include,

but are not limited to:

- Creating and maintaining spreadsheets
- Purging and organizing email
- Consolidating sermons and notes
- Sorting and managing meeting agenda sheets
- Creating and sending letters to vendors
- Maintaining pastor's calendar

All candidates will be interviewed by Pastor Neil and members of the Personnel Committee.

Candidates may be from within or outside the church family.

Interested parties may contact the church office at 301-293-1616 or salemchurchwolfsville@gmail.com.

Hourly salary is to be determined.



Salem's cemetery is located on a hillside off Brandenburg Hollow Road. The sign in the above photo marks the entrance to the long driveway leading to the cemetery burial areas.

When Salem became an independent church, all references to United Methodist were removed including the words on this sign. The new sign, shown above, was made by Hammaker & Darner Memorials and beautifully installed by Salem member Tony Miller, a master at stone masonry.

Honoring our Graduates

By Denny Leatherman

High School Graduates

Nicholas Stup

(Son of Mike and Cathy and Grandson of Bob and Petie Stup)
Graduating from Middletown High School. Plans on attending University of Maryland College Park, studying in the Honors College Engineering Program and majoring in Chemical Engineering.

Anthony Cheek

(Grandson of Forrest and Mary Hunt)
Graduating from Martin Luther King High School in Riverside, California. Goal is to be a firefighter. Beginning EMS school this summer. After that, fire academy.

Nevaeh Mellott

(Daughter of Mike Mellott)
Graduated from McConnellsburg High School. Achieved the title of Certified Nursing Assistant in high school. Will be heading to West Virginia University to study nursing.

Kiara Grace Suders

(Granddaughter of Pastor Suders)
Graduating from Greencastle Antrim High School. She will be attending Hagerstown Community College, studying dentistry.

Payton Robinson

(Daughter of Adam and Vicki Robinson & Granddaughter of Dick Kline)
Graduating from Middletown High School. Will be attending the University of Delaware, majoring in Kinesiology. Plans to be a Physical Therapist.

Kaleb Ritter

(Grandson of Mike and Marlene Young)
Graduated from Smithsburg High School with high honors. Just received rank of Eagle Scout. Going to Messiah University in Doctor of Physical Therapy program.

Danielle Eakles

(Girlfriend of Trevor Mehaffie)
Graduated from Middletown High School. Plans to attend Frederick Community College, while working at Frederick County Adult Detention Center. Goal is to be Frederick County Deputy Sheriff.

College Degrees

Lily Mueller

(Daughter of Klaus and Tonia Mueller)
Graduated from University of Maryland School of Engineering with a Master's Degree in Software Engineering (her 3rd degree from Maryland). Working at Carderock for U.S. Department of War.



June 14, 2026 — Payton Robinson (L) and Danielle Eakles with Pastor Neil

Kaitlyn (Katy) Laky

(Daughter of Jim and Kathy Laky)
Earned an Associates Degree at Frederick Community College. She is continuing her education at FCC and is going for a Certification in Media Production.

Jennifer Burrier

Graduated from Walden University with a Post-Master's Degree in Family Nurse Practitioner Studies. Plans on taking the Nurse Practitioner Certification Exam and then obtain a job as Practitioner and continue working in the Frederick Health Hospital System where she has worked for 16 years.

Sarah Burrier

Graduated from Towson University with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Art-Design. She graduated with highest honors (Summa Cum Laude). Plans to pursue her passion as Freelance Illustrator.

Coco Agostini-Broadt

Graduated from University of Maryland Global Campus with a Bachelor's Degree in Marketing. She was also on the Dean's list.

Nellie Stup Pappalorda

(Daughter of Rob and Caroline and Granddaughter of Bob and Petie Stup)
Graduated from Capella University with Master's of Science Degree in Applied Behavior Analysis with a specialization in Autism Spectrum Disorder.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR HIGH SCHOOL, COLLEGE AND ADVANCED DEGREE GRADUATES.

Grades 3-5**BE A "SPARKS YOUTH" EVERY SUNDAY**

In July, the "Sparks" (Grades 3-5) Upper Elementary Sunday School class will learn about "Making Choices" through engaging lessons that highlight people who made good and bad choices.

Gideon sought out God's help to obey Him. Rahab chose to respect God and make good choices by helping the Israelite spies. Mary recognized God's authority in her life and chose to honor and show love to Jesus. But not everyone chooses to do what is right when it is hard. This is demonstrated through the story of the rich young ruler.

The lessons use engaging materials and videos like "Scripture Sketches" and "The Adventures of Dab & Derek" to reinforce the gospel message in a fun and age-appropriate way.

Mike Burrier teaches the "Sparks" Upper Elementary Class each Sunday from 10:15 to 11:00 a.m. in the lower level of the Educational Building. Come check us out!

**Special Music Schedule****Summer of 2026****■ By Marlene Young**

The following special music will be presented at Salem Community Church during Sunday 9:00 a.m. worship.

June 14th — Ken Walls

June 28th — Salem Men's Quartet

July 12th — Katie & Jim Laky

July 19th — Joann Leatherman & Marlene Young

July 26th — Linda Marenic & Susie Stottlemeyer

Aug. 9th — Salem Praise Band

Aug. 16th — Joann Leatherman

Aug. 23rd — Denny Leatherman & Marlene Young

Aug. 30th — Tony Miller

Sept. 13th — Marlene Young & Pastor Neil Suders

Sept. 20th — Jody Eccard-Duly & Children

**Septic Update**

If you have driven through Wolfsville recently you may have seen construction in the parsonage front yard.

Salem is updating the parsonage septic system.

C. R. Semler Inc, Smithsburg, is doing the design work and Todd Hame of Wolfsville, is doing the construction. This photo was taken June 18, 2026. By the time you read this, the drain field will be covered and the work will be well on the way to completion.

**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.

Wildfire Student Ministry Summer Series

Our summer series of meetings started EARLY this year— at the request of the students!

Meetings are held at Salem Church, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Students must be going into 6th grade next year or older to attend. Food will be provided!

JUNE 4 — Kick-off! Kickball & Chic-fil-A

JUNE 11 — Hot dog bar, water balloons

JUNE 18 — Tie Dye Night & wiffle ball

JUNE 25 — Taco Night and beach volleyball!

JULY 2 — July 4th Night & flag football

JULY 9 — POOL PARTY! (New time - 5-8:30)

JULY 16 — Sports Fan Night & football

JULY 23 — Night of the Old Timers (fried chicken)

JULY 30 — Mustaches & Mini Golf!

AUG 6 — BOG SHACK!

AUG 13 — Wrap it Up Night!

*Another pool night is a possibility... stay tuned!

Bible Study every Sunday at Salem 10:15-11:00 a.m.

Contact: Jessie Leatherman

Questions - call me at 240-676-1811

See you there!

A BIT OF SALEM HISTORY

The Salem congregation began in 1819 and was originally affiliated with a denomination called the United Brethren in Christ.

United Brethren in Christ (1819-1946)

The denomination, the first to be established in America, was organized near Frederick City. It is interesting to note that during these early years the United Brethren preachers used the German language.

Rev. Christian Newcomer, born near Lancaster, Pennsylvania, moved to Maryland (Beaver Creek) in 1775, began to preach in 1777, attended the first United Brethren Conference in Frederick, and was elected Bishop in 1813. For over half a century he was in his saddle almost daily, going from house to house, state to state. He preached at various locations throughout Frederick County, including the Hoover homestead in Wolfsville, until his death at the age of 81. Newcomer was buried near his home at Beaver Creek.

Evangelical United Brethren (1946-1968)

In the early 1920's, the Church of the United Brethren in Christ had suggested a merger with The Evangelical Church. The cultural and religious backgrounds of both churches were the same. Both denominations were distinctly American-born churches. But it wasn't until November 16, 1946, that The Church of the United Brethren in Christ and The Evangelical Church met in conference at Johnstown, Pennsylvania, to consummate the merger.

Salem Church was affiliated with the Pennsylvania Conference and later the Susquehanna Conference of the Evangelical United Brethren Church.

United Methodist (1968-2023)

On April 23, 1968, following many years of conversation and negotiation, the United Methodist Church was formed through a merger with the Evangelical United Brethren Church and the Methodist Church. Salem was not enthusiastic about the merger since Salem's roots were Brethren, not Methodist.

Salem Community Church, Wolfsville Independent (2023-Present)

On March 19, 2023, Salem members voted to disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church, due to the denomination's drift from following traditional Biblical values.

After paying the denomination to regain ownership of Salem's property, Salem began operating as Salem Community Church, Wolfsville on September 15, 2023. Salem proceeded to recruit a new pastor and selected Pastor Neil Suders from more than 100 applicants.

THE 56 RADICALS OF 1776

One of them was from Frederick County

250 years ago, come the 4th of July, a group of 56 Americans risked a noose around their necks to sign a provocative and radical document, the Declaration of Independence.

Most Americans can readily identify John Hancock, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, and John Adams as signers, but who were the other now almost forgotten patriots who committed this rash act? And what happened to them?

Were they typical stereotyped, revolutionaries, politicians or radicals? Researchers have come up with an approximate composite profile. The average signer, they find, would incongruously resemble a lawyer, a farmer, a mechanic, an Ivy League graduate, a school dropout, a clergyman, or simply a family man.

Most of the 56 signers had little in common except their passionate belief in political freedom and their determination to achieve independence from George the Third and his Parliament.

Personally, they varied occupationally, religiously, economically and psychologically. Professionally, and it is not surprising, their most common denominator was the practice of law. More than half can be placed in that category.

But 13 were farmers, five were doctors, two were mechanics, one was a stone mason and one was a minister.

By even today's standards, the majority were well educated.

Ironically, however, the most historically famous signer, Benjamin Franklin, was an elementary school dropout. Although he went to work at the age of 10 after only two years of formal education, he eventually became one of the intellectual giants, not only of the 13 colonies, but also of Europe. He was the only American to ever achieve election to the prestigious French Academy.

But Harvard, Princeton, William and Mary colleges and even the Inner Temple of London, which then offered the world's finest training in the law, were well represented among the



immortal 56.

One common trait shared by the signers was a penchant for fatherhood. Collectively, they sired 325 children — almost 6 apiece — a feat which should rank them among the first Americans to generate the nation's population explosion even before we became a united country.

Charles Carroll of Frederick County

Their average age was 44. Edward Rutledge, 27, was the youngest. Benjamin Franklin was the senior member at 70. Charles Carroll of Frederick County who always signed his name "Charles Carroll of Carrollton" to distinguish himself from a raft of other Carrolls in Maryland, was the last signer to survive. He died 56 years after signing this historic document.

Ethically, the signers were for the most part natives of the American continent, and of Anglo-Saxon descent, although two were natives of Ireland, three of England, and one from Wales.

One of the most interesting signers was Button Gwinnett. His signature is most in demand today by autograph collectors.

The handwriting of the signers has been analyzed by the International Graphoanalysis Society, the professionals in the field. Their conclusion is that the 56 signers were "plain people."

Some revealed flamboyant natures, others, a flair for showmanship; but most were found to be analytical thinkers and patriots in the verdict of posterity.

This article was published in the Frederick Post on July 1, 1970. The author's name was not printed.



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.



His First Wedding

Jamie was attending his first wedding. After the service, his cousin asked him, "How many women can a man marry?" "Sixteen," was Jamie's quick answer. "How do you know that?" his cousin asked. "Easy," Jamie answered. "All you have to do is add it up, like the pastor said: Four better, four worse, four richer, four poorer."



Some thoughts to ponder . . .

Be Americans. Let there be no sectionalism, no north, south, east or west: you are all dependent one on another and should be one in union. In one word, be a nation: be Americans, and be true to yourselves. —George Washington

A man who will not protect this freedom does not deserve to be free. —General Douglas MacArthur

These are the times that try men's souls. —Thomas Paine



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

