



The Salem Light

Newsletter of the Congregation of Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church
3825 Norrisville Road, Jarrettsville, MD 21084, The Rev. Betty Lou Deuchler. Pastor
www.SALEMJARRETTSVILLE.ORG email: pastor@salemjarrettsville.org mobile:
(443)465-6668

Pastor's Ponderings ~ March – April 2020

Okay, I admit that I'm a Hallmark Story gal. There's something about watching a G-rated, you-know-it'll-end-happy-ever-after, and there is no mind-bending plot. Sometimes a Hallmark-like movie is just the thing to relax along with a cup of coffee.

Last week I was intrigued with a movie titled, "Coffee Shop." What I believed to be typical in a movie proved me wrong. So that I don't give away the film's message, allow me to say simply, the word that remains in my mind is "*belonging*."

What if our sole purpose is to create an opportunity, a place, and an invitation to others to feel they belong? Is this important?

In a way, life mirrors this movie. We have a cast of characters that come into, interrupt, and even surprise us in life. What would it take to intentionally find out about them? If we offer coffee to them, do we engage with them as we ask how they like their coffee? Or might we simply make a pot, set out sugar, creamer and a spoon and let them make their own, sidestepping this opportunity for engagement? Mind you there is nothing wrong with this scenario. But...what if we take the time to get to know them, really know who they are, what's important to them, how did their lives cross paths with ours?

I'm also thinking that in order to feel that everyone belongs somewhere; who they are and what's important to them is the place to begin.

Jesus spent time observing, talking, asking and sharing. Active listening is a way to describe how Jesus engaged and interacted with folks. As people felt valued, they also felt accepted into the community of Jesus' followers.

In the church office there are several mementoes from pastors who served Salem. They each left their mark in the growth of the church. Each one reached out in their unique way to get to know people and to offer a place of belonging. One of the tangible reminders discovered in the church office is a supply of magnetic promotional cards.

They have the words, "Share the Joy...know the peace." I have seen these words imprinted on a few other items and wonder if these items were used to invite people to come and learn what belonging in Salem's faith community could mean.

To feel accepted into a group is nothing new. It is a human need. Jesus saw this need and intentionally addressed it. I'm certain the former pastors each saw this need and addressed it too.

What if we intentionally build upon their blueprints adding our own fingerprints? What opportunities are we given to ask and acknowledge the value of another person? Where might God set up an encounter to take place in your daily routine? How might we value the time given to us that in some way may make a difference in the life of another and in our own?

Jesus appears to share the joy and others came to know the peace. Might we learn through him and these words? I'd love to hear your thoughts and opportunities!

Sharing the Joy of the gospel,

Pastor Betty Lou



...A few more thoughts

PRAYER WEAVE

Destiny itself is like a wonderful wide tapestry in which every thread is guided by an unspeakably tender hand, placed beside another thread, and held and carried by a hundred others. Rainer Maria Rilke -

Our prayers are the fabric of our community. As we pray for ourselves and for the world, we weave our trust, faith, and hope into our lives. We are knit together into the body of Christ, the church. One of the faith practices for Lent is prayer. The Prayer Weave in the Sanctuary is a way we are encouraged and experience prayer during the Lenten season.

Pr. Ellie Sanderson says that the imagery of weaving is so inviting. "It holds within it such a wealth of beauty and a deep resonance for so many gathered around our communion as one. Weaving speaks of diversity and unity, and it speaks of creativity and community." She noted that the wisdom of the Maori People speaks of a sacred thread, a "sacred interweaving between Christ and creation and the thread that never ends."

The congregation is invited to write the words of their prayers on strips of paper (cut to length and provided near the loom) with pen/pencils provided. Then weave your prayer paper together with the others already woven into the loom. As you do, remember that you are offering your prayers

to God. Your prayers join those of your sisters and brothers in Christ to create the fabric of our faith.

And, the prayer weave becomes a beautiful expression of our often tangled and plain-spoken prayers, and it symbolizes the connected yet individual thoughts and feelings of believers talking with their God. On Good Friday, Pastor will take the prayers from the prayer cross and the prayers will be burned as an offering to the Lord.

Let my prayer rise up like incense before you, the lifting up of my hands as an offering to

You.

Psalm 141:2

METAL CROSS FOR LENT

February 9th the Children's program tied prayer and the hearts of Valentine's Day and

the season of Lent together with the compassionate heart and love of Christ. Along with our candles from Transfiguration Sunday, you are invited to take a metal cross from the basket placed near the Prayer Weave in the Sanctuary. Display this throughout Lent, maybe close to your "Star Gift" word from Epiphany? May your Lenten journey renew your faith and deepen understanding of God's love for you and the world.

CROWN OF THORNS

According to scripture (Matthew 27:27-31 & Mark 15:16-20) Jesus was stripped, a purple robe put on him, and a crown made from thorns was made and placed upon his head. Then our Lord was taken to be crucified. Have you seen the crown of thorns in our Sanctuary?

Sunday Worship Assistants March- April, 2020

Sunday March 1st 1st Sunday in Lent

Ushers: Glenn Deuchler, Frank Altenburg
Acolyte: Judy Newsome
Lector: Glenn Deuchler
Communion Assistants: Sharon Lukens, Dennis Lukens
Tellers: Stearns, Bortmes

Sunday March 8th 2nd Sunday in Lent

Ushers: Sharon Lukens, Dennis Lukens
Acolyte: Sharon Lukens
Lector: Ruth Phoebus
Tellers: Wilson, Regan

Sunday March 15th 3rd Sunday in Lent

Ushers: Mike Whitacre, Judy Newsome
Acolyte: Skylar Dishon
Lector: Diane Grove
Communion Assistants: Carol Temple, Mark Hoefler
Tellers: Whitacre, Lukens

Sunday, March 22nd 4th Sunday in Lent

Ushers: Glenn Deuchler, Frank Altenburg
Acolyte: Sharon Lukens
Lector: Carol Temple
Tellers: Saffron, Newsome

Sunday March 29th Healing

Ushers: Mike Whitacre, Judy Newsome
Acolyte: Tessa Grove
Lector: Mike Whitacre
Tellers: Stearns, Bortmes

Sunday, April 5th Palm Sunday

Ushers: Sharon Lukens, Dennis Lukens
Acolyte: Skylar Dishon
Lector: Richard Kiesling
Communion Assistants: Doris Karoll, Ruth Phoebus
Tellers: Stearns, Bortmes

Thursday, April 9th Maundy Thursday

Ushers: Glenn Deuchler, Frank Altenburg
Acolyte: Judy Newsome
Lector: Mark Hoefler
Communion Assistants: Jean Weimer, Sharon Lukens
Tellers: TBD

Friday, April 10th Good Friday

Ushers: Mike Whitacre, Judy Newsome
Acolyte: Sharon Lukens
Lector: Glenn Deuchler
Tellers: TBD

Sunday, April 12th Easter Day

Ushers: Sharon Lukens, Dennis Lukens
Acolytes: Tessa Grove, Skyler Dishon
Lector: Ruth Phoebus
Communion Assistants: Glenn Deuchler, Sharon Lukens
Tellers: Wilson, Regan (Wine Assistant: Diane Grove)

Sunday, April 19th 2nd Sunday of Easter

Ushers: Glenn Deuchler, Frank Altenburg
Acolyte: Judy Newsome
Lector: Diane Grove
Communion Assistants: Carol Temple, Mark Hoefler
Tellers: Whitacre, Lukens

Sunday, April 26th 3rd Sunday of Easter

Ushers: Mike Whitacre, Judy Newsome
Acolyte: Sharon Lukens
Lector: Carol Temple
Tellers: Saffron, Newsome

Worship, Special Events March - April, 2020

Sunday, March 1st

- 9:00AM Traditional Worship with Communion

• 9:20AM Sunday School
Monday, March 2nd - 10:00AM Bible Study

Thursday, March 5th

- 9:00 AM – Stitchers
- 7:00 PM – Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, March 8th (Daylight Savings Begins)

- 9:00 AM Traditional Worship
- 9:20AM Sunday School

Monday, March 9th - 10:00 AM – Bible Study

Tuesday, March 10th - 7:00PM Council Meeting

Thursday, March 12th

- 9:00 AM – Stitchers
- 7:00 PM – Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, March 15th

- 9:00AM Traditional Worship with Communion
- 9:20AM Sunday School

Monday, March 16th - 10:00AM Bible Study

Thursday, March 19th

- 9:00 AM – Stitchers
- 7:00 PM – Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, March 22nd

- 9:00 AM Traditional Worship
- 9:20AM Sunday School

Monday, March 23rd - 10:00AM Bible Study

Sunday, March 29th

- 9:00 AM Healing Service
- 9:20AM Sunday School

Monday, March 30th - 10:00 AM Bible Study

Thursday, April 2nd

- 9:00 AM – Stitchers
- 7:00 PM – Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, April 5th Palm Sunday

- 9:00 AM Traditional Worship with Communion
- 9:20AM Sunday School

Monday, April 6th - 10:00AM Bible Study

Thursday, April 9th Maundy Thursday

- 7:00 PM Traditional Worship with Communion

Friday, April 10th Good Friday

- 6:00 PM Fish Fry
- 7:00 PM Tenebrae Service

Sunday, April 12th Easter Day

- 9:00 AM Traditional Worship with Communion
- 9:20AM Sunday School

Monday, April 13th - 10:00AM Bible Study

Tuesday, April 14th – 7:00 PM – Council Meeting

Thursday, April 16th

- 9:00 AM – Stitchers
- 7:00 PM – Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, April 19th

- 9:00 AM Traditional Worship with Communion
- 9:20AM Sunday School

Monday, April 20th - 10:00AM Bible Study

Thursday, April 23rd

- 9:00 AM – Stitchers
- 7:00 PM – Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, April 26th

- 9:00 AM Traditional Worship
- 9:20AM Sunday School

Monday, April 27th 10:00 AM – Bible Study

Thursday, April 29th

- 9:00 AM – Stitchers
- 7:00 PM – Choir Rehearsal

SALEM OUTREACH – 2020



Our Daily Bread

We prepared 26 Casseroles in February!

SMYLE youth will make casseroles February 23, and enjoy a Movie Night!

Mason-Dixon Community Center

As of February 19th we have donated 182 food items to Mason Dixon Food Bank! Please continue to remember them when you grocery shop. They really appreciate your thoughtfulness! And I enjoy delivering to them.

Thanks again! Sarah Keller

Souper Bowl Sunday

Again this year, we got our game on and donated Plenty of soup and staples!



I Love You Sunday February 9th



We celebrated with a special "I love you service" and a delicious brunch!





LOOKING AHEAD

Easter, April 12th

In May, our “Ladies” Tea Party

This years’ Theme is **“Grease.”**
So, get your poodle skirts, and saddle shoes out of the attic!

Bring copies of your Prom and Yearbook photos, too! Watch Salem Church Bulletin for Tickets from Lynn Cox.



Help Wanted

Our Salem Coffee Hour is an enjoyable way to chat and socialize together. Please sign up in the narthex to goodies, or supplies to keep the coffee coming!

Flowers beautify our altar each week. Remember special family occasions. Just place \$20 in an envelope marked flowers, With a note to identify date and occasion.

WANTED! Volunteers to sing in the Salem Church Choir! No experience necessary – just a love for music and the willingness to attend rehearsals on Thursday evenings and lead worship and sing as a choir during church services on Sunday mornings. Benefits include being part of a great group of people who enjoy making a joyful noise of praise to their Almighty God! Won’t you consider joining us? For more information please see Cathy, or call me at 410-692-9619.



The Salem Church Council is here to represent you, and support outreach to our community. Old and New members were installed in February. Feel free to ask questions or make suggestions to Council Members. We meet the second Tuesday of each month.



Salem Church Council Executive Committee

Elders:

**Lynn Cox, President
Ned Cockey, Vice President
Ruth Phoebus, Treasurer
Diane Grove, Secretary
Linda Brannan, SLCC Liaison**

Committees:

**Ned Cockey,
Mike Whitacre,
Trustees**

Deacons:

**Darla Lynch
Jennifer Everett
Mark Hoefler
Dennis Lukens**

SLCC Corner



Salem Lutheran Children's Center is always an exciting, busy place. The children are participating in a monthly music class with Ms. Amy and meeting with Pastor Betty Lou once a week for Bible chats. Our transitional Kindergarten class has been learning about community helpers with many parents visiting their classroom to talk about their careers. The extended day three-year-old class is busy learning about rhyming with Dr. Seuss's upcoming birthday and the extended four-year-old class is using science to learn about rainbows for a St. Patrick's Day theme.

With Spring almost here, we are definitely looking forward to summer! We are planning many field trips for this summer including Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, Oregon Ridge, Fawn View Farm, Churchville Mini Golf, Kiddie Crusoe, and Forest Hill Lanes. We also have many visitors scheduled to come and teach our children, including Can't Wait to Create, Window of Kuumba, Reptile Wonders, and The Bug Man.

Preschool registration for the 2019-2020 school year is also underway at Salem. We currently have openings in the PM three-year-old class, the PM four-year-old class, and the Monday-Friday 9:00 am-12:00 pm four-year-old class. Church members do not need to pay the registration fee so if you are interested in registering for the preschool program or the summer program please contact the office.

Cherie Johnson, Director

410-557-6612



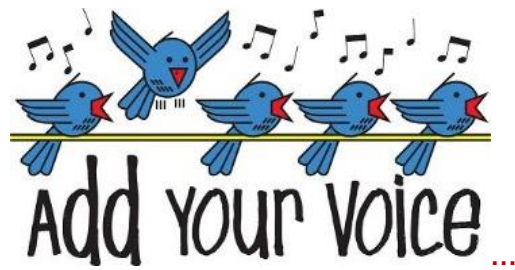
Salem's Lenten Outreach

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a season when God calls us to reflect on the meaning of Christ's death on the cross and His resurrection. The cross, a symbol of Jesus' crucifixion, offers hope. This year, our Lenten outreach gives hope to God's people in **Cambodia** who are in need.

As followers of Christ, we will be collecting funds to purchase piglets for families who are far less fortunate than most of us are. These pigs can be real lifesavers. For example, when a female piglet matures, she gives birth to approximately sixteen offspring each year. Pigs can provide fertilization for the crop fields so they, in turn, can produce needed food. In addition, the pigs can be sold for other necessities for families to help to enhance their existence.

Look for the display that will be appearing soon in the narthex and obtain your piglet box. For every \$30 that we raise, a pig can be purchased to support this important **ELCA World Hunger Appeal**.

This outreach opportunity runs from **Ash Wednesday, February 26, 2020, through Easter, April 12, 2020**. Please consider giving generously.



Hi,

I Just wanted to introduce myself to those of you who do not know me well and thank Salem for the opportunity and privilege to serve as your Music Director, effective January 1, 2020.

I grew up in Parkville where I was a member of St. John's Lutheran - Parkville. I became a member of the choir at St. John's at the age of 16 where I met my husband, Mark. We have been making music together ever since and have been happily married for nearly 42 years. God blessed us with three sons and two grandchildren.

Although I taught grades 4, 5, and 6 for Harford County Public Schools for 29 years, music has always been my passion. I started playing piano at the age of nine and graduated from the Peabody Preparatory School of Music with certification in piano upon my graduation from high school. I LOVE to SING! It is such a joy for me to now serve my God and you as Salem Music Director.

Please know I am always available to you and welcome your ideas on how we together can expand the music ministry at Salem. Please feel free to talk to me directly, contact me by phone at 410-692-9619, or email me at cathybhoefler@gmail.com. Together we can make Salem an even brighter musical beacon for God in our little corner of the world.

God bless you all.

Cathy

Thank you to the Church Council who approved the purchase of the beautiful baby grand electric piano that now graces the church sanctuary! This piano offers us AMAZING capabilities. If you have not had the chance to see it up close yet, please feel free to see Cathy and she will be happy to tell you about and show the instrument to you. We look forward to using this beautiful tool to enhance worship.



Let's Have a Laugh!

Smith climbs to the top of Mt. Sinai to get close enough to talk to God.

Looking up, he asks the Lord, "God, what does a million years mean to you?"

The Lord replies, "A minute."

Smith asks, "And what does a million dollars mean to you?"

The Lord replies, "A penny."

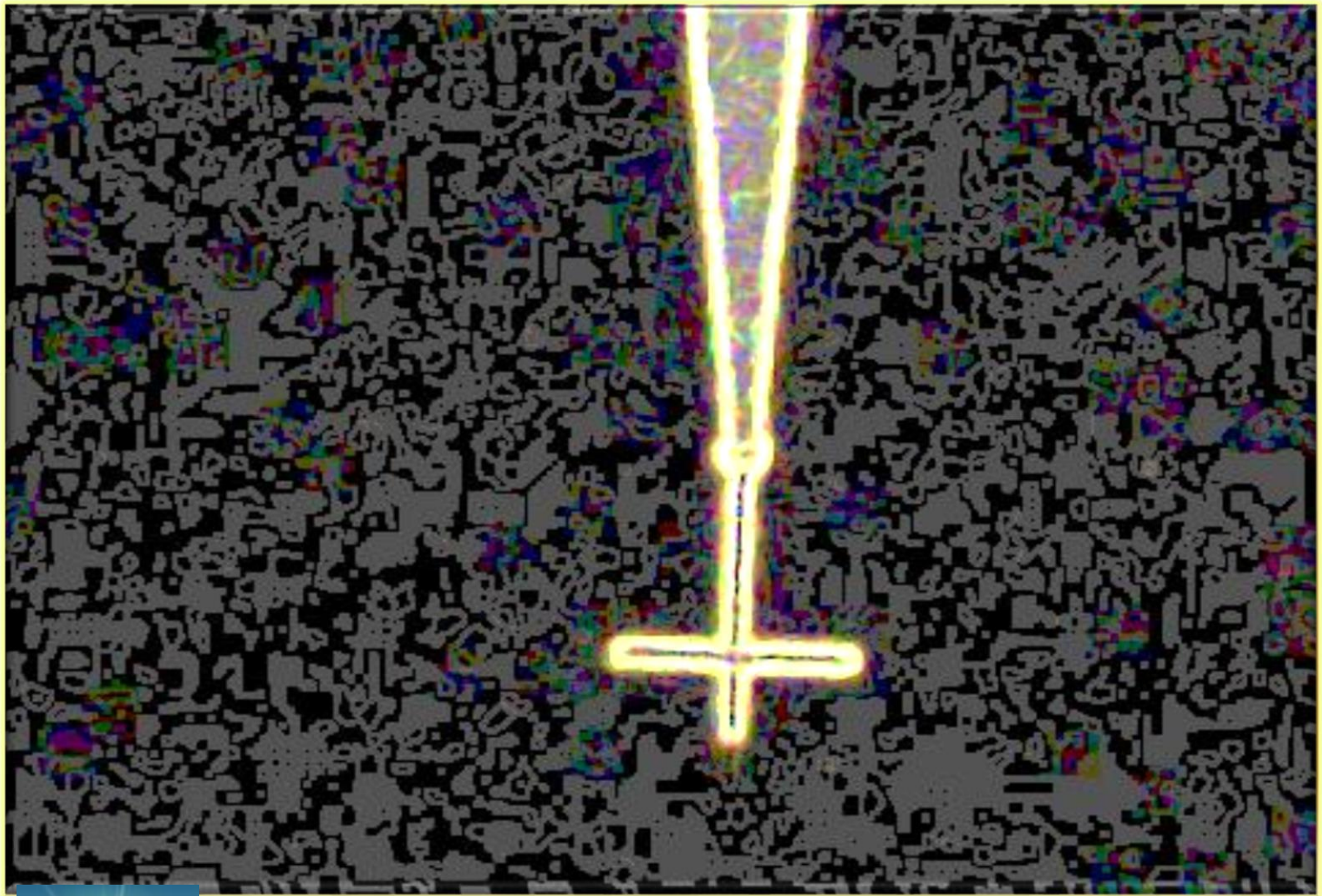
Smith asks, "Can I have a penny?"



Welcome to Salem's new "Grand" baby. To help her to make an even more joyful noise – please consider joining our choir!



The Lord replies, "In a minute."



Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church
3825 Norrisville Road
Jarrettsville, MD 21084

