



# THE MONARCH

## CALL COMMITTEE HAS RECEIVED THEIR LIST OF CANDIDATES

The Call Process. It’s on so many hearts and minds these days, and no wonder – it’s a big deal! As we move more fully into spring, we know it can seem like this process is taking a long time.

Bishop Gohl joined the Church Council meeting in March and shared that we are right on time. At the outset, the synod let us know that it frequently takes 6-12 months, sometimes longer, to complete the call process. Salem has been spoiled with several atypical call scenarios, and we haven’t experienced a normal senior pastor call process in 50 years! So, we wanted to dig into the anatomy of the process a little bit to help ease concerns and respond to some frequently asked questions.

In recent years at Salem, we’ve had vicars, associates, or contract leaders who have moved naturally into permanent roles, so the congregation has been more aware of the individuals involved and it has moved more quickly. This is extremely unusual. For a senior pastor position in which we are looking for an experienced pastor via a typical call process, it’s important to remember that our candidates will already be serving other congregations even while they are engaging in the call process with us. They may be local, or they could be from anywhere in the United States. That means we must adhere to very strict confidentiality around the names of our candidates to protect their privacy and the integrity of the ministry in their current setting.

Salem’s profile, which we worked on collectively in the last half of 2025, is listed via a national ELCA database where interested leaders can view the opening and apply. In addition, our Delaware-Maryland Synod staff engage in direct outreach to pastors they know of who may be a good fit, and to the bishops of other synods to collaborate on potential candidates. To ensure that those who make it into our slate for review are qualified, the synod staff thoroughly vets each applicant, including running background checks, contacting references, and speaking with each candidate directly. This is the stage we’ve been in since December while the synod and the system actively work to identify good candidates for our community.

On Wednesday, March 31, the Call Committee received a slate of five vetted applicants. We reviewed their profiles with Pr. Robin Simpson-Litton, our primary contact at the synod, and the next step is scheduling interviews with each candidate.

*(continued)*

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### MONARCH ON-LINE

Salem’s Monarch is available on-line at [www.salem-catonville.org](http://www.salem-catonville.org). If you would like notification that a new issue has been posted or would like a Monarch (PDF form) emailed to you, please contact Guy Davis at [guyddavisphd@gmail.com](mailto:guyddavisphd@gmail.com).

This first round will be conducted via video conference to ensure an equitable experience for all who applied. Even at this stage, the synod will continue to receive and vet applicants to add to the pool as appropriate.

Once the committee has completed the first-round interviews, which we hope to do before the end of April, we will determine which candidates to move on to the second and possibly third round(s). Throughout the interview stages, confidentiality will remain of utmost importance and the committee will not be at liberty to share names or information about any of the candidates. The full interview process may take several weeks as we navigate schedules for all involved.

Finally, once the Call Committee has agreed on a candidate, we will recommend that person to the Church Council. Council will interview the candidate and if approved, that person will be introduced to the congregation in person, when they will spend a weekend at Salem, meeting people and preaching. The call vote will be conducted as a congregational meeting which will open with the Saturday evening service and close at the end of the 11:00 service on Sunday. After each service, eligible voting members will vote on whether to call the candidate as Salem's senior pastor. The hope is for the new pastor to begin this summer so that they can be fully on board by the start of the new school year. We are on track for this timeline! As the process unfolds, there will be more for the Call Committee to report more frequently.

Amidst this transition, it's important to remember that Salem is a healthy, active, and engaged congregation. We are well-equipped by both pastoral and lay leaders (that's YOU!). Our life together and ministry in the world are not on pause. One of our greatest gifts as a community is the energy and initiative of our members and that remains steady.

As we navigate this season together, especially the unknowns, we find comfort and courage in remembering that we are people of faith. In the book of Hebrews, we read that "faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." (vs 11:1) Grounded in this faith and trusting in God's guidance, we gain the ability to witness Christ in one another and in our collective action, imperfect though it all may be. It is a gift and privilege to be invited into the work God is doing, even if we aren't certain of the timeline or result. Thank you for your steadfastness, presence, prayers, and commitment as we work together to be Christ's hands and feet in the world, both in and beyond this time of transition.

*If you have questions at any point during this process, please connect with any member of the Call Committee, Church Council, or pastoral staff. If you have the question, it's likely others do, too!*

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## CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS FOR MARCH

The Council meeting on March 17 was visited by Bishop Bill Gohl to provide more detailed information about the call process, to give reassurance that the process is progressing in a timely manner, and to answer questions. The Call Committee Chair, Melanie Gibbons, was also present and will follow up with appropriate updates/communications to the congregation.

Church Council is working to formulate the goals and tasks of a new Stewardship Committee and is seeking committee members and someone to chair the committee. If this is something that interests you, please notify Lisa Yerkey or one of the pastors.

Carolyn Moore and Vicky Whetstone volunteered to represent Salem as delegates to the Synod Assembly June 5-6 at First Lutheran Church, Ellicott City.

# EASTER VIGIL



# EASTER



## LWR QUILT MINISTRY RESPONDS TO CURRENT NEEDS

As we watch the news these days, we feel helpless to assist those whose lives have been deeply affected by war and wish that we could assist those in need. Salem's LWR Quilters are working hard to address this issue, and you can help. Quilts distributed to those who have lost their homes and communities can offer a measure of comfort and relief.

Salem's quilters need most especially a supply of bed sheets of all adult sizes to be used as quilt backing material. The sheets do not need to be new but must be clean and in good condition. They can be any color or with any printed design. Sheets can be found at yard sales and thrift stores and of course be purchased online and in stores. Family members and neighbors who are likewise concerned with the effects of war may also be a source of used sheets.



Questions can be directed to LWR Quilt Group leader, Mary Miller by email at [marymiller359@gmail.com](mailto:marymiller359@gmail.com) or by phone at 443-869-0537.

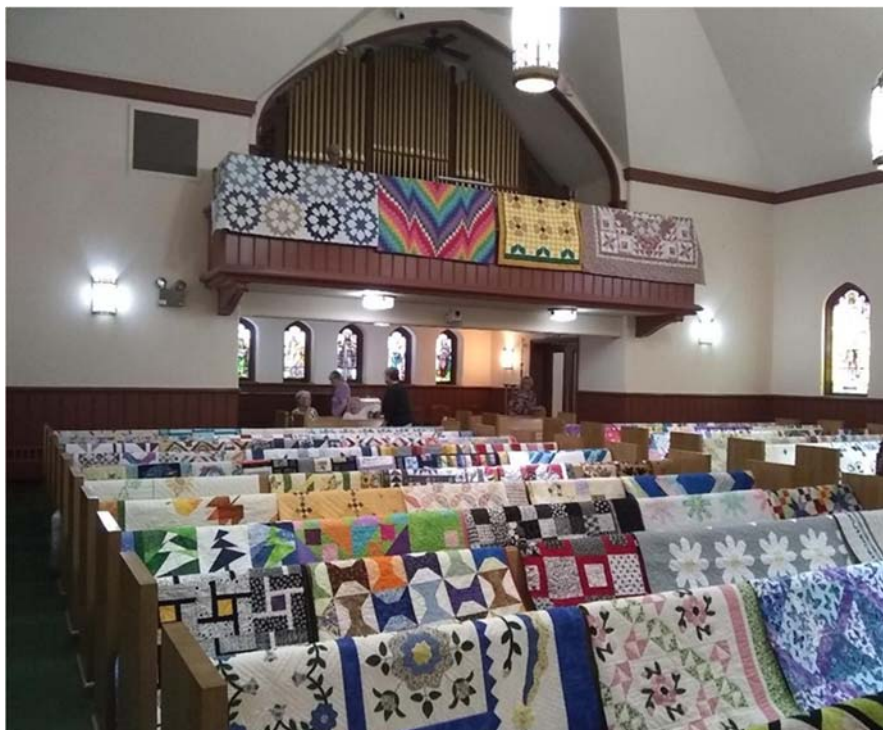
## PIECES OF PEACE QUILT SHOW

*Village Quilters of Catonsville*

One day only!

Saturday, June 13, 2026

10 A.M. – 3 P.M.



Please come visit our quilts lovingly displayed on the pews of **Salem Lutheran Church**, exhibited to illustrate the beauty of the craft and the success of working together. Hundreds of all kinds of quilts will be draped over the pews: patchwork and applique, antique, and brand new. Our show in June 2024 raised over \$500 for Mar-Lu Ridge and we are excited to repeat this fun and successful event.

**Admission is free**, but there will be a free will donation to Catonsville Emergency Assistance. For more information, contact Jane Stolte.

## DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN TAKE YOGA CLASSES AT SALEM?

Elaine Collins, who has been teaching yoga for 16 years, teaches Hatha yoga - a calming type of exercise that stresses a slower pace style of concentrating on flexibility, strength and balance. As she leads the practice through various physical postures, Elaine stresses breath work - different types of breathing, thus calming the mind.

There are two types of yoga classes given at Salem:

**regular yoga** - started in 2012 - classes on Mondays at 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. \$40 for 10 classes

**chair yoga** - begun in 2014 - classes on Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. \$40 for 10 classes.

Both of these classes are conducted in Reformation Hall and are open to all.

Regular yoga class teaches standard Hatha Yoga with mostly standing or floor-based poses.

Chair yoga does many of the same poses but done from a seated position. It is generally designed for people with slightly less mobility or flexibility,

Many of these students have had joint replacements or spinal issues. It's easier but still delivers a good workout.

Elaine also teaches a Zoom yoga class (free of charge) on Tuesday mornings from 9 a.m.-10 a.m.

She concentrates on stretching, yoga poses (holding the poses for longer periods of time to strengthen muscles in the legs and hips), and balance. She also teaches a stretching class on Wednesday from 8:50 - 10:10 a.m. on Zoom. This class is also free of charge. She began teaching these classes during the pandemic.

Take a look at the display cases in the narthex for some photos taken in these classes for the month of April and then join us!

Contact the Giulianis for more information on how to enroll. 410-747-1103.



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY MARCH

We began March with the letters Q/R talking about our Redeemer being reliable. We talked about whether it is better to build a house on sand or on rock. The children painted a rock and made a picture of their houses. For Shepherd, we talked about, "The Lord is my Shepherd," and the students did several activities with a shepherd's hook. It was about being trustworthy and truthful. We also discussed the stories of Joseph and his brothers. For the last two weeks, we took a break from our A-Z to discuss Palm Sunday with the children and made palms from their handprints for children in the church to use for Palm Sunday. Last week, we talked about Holy Week and all the things that happen in the church during that time. There will be no Sunday School on April 5th or April 12th. We will start again on April 19th with just five weeks left for the year.



## COMPLEXITY THROUGH SIMPLICITY

The Agape Art Gallery on the second floor is currently hosting an exhibition of paper cuts by Baltimore artist Katherine Broadwater from March 1 to April 19.

Katherine Broadwater's work is inspired by her roles as an art educator, mother, and pastor's wife. The exhibition, *Complexity Through Simplicity*, features many intricate paper cuts that illustrate significant events in her life and reflect an enduring faith.

A closing reception will be held at 12:30 p.m. on April 19, offering a final chance to meet the artist and view the exquisite works on loan in the Agape Gallery.

## GOE PLANS FIELD TRIP

Please join us to celebrate Earth Day on April 25 at the Serenity Ridge Nature Preserve and Arboretum in nearby Windsor Mill. The annual Earth Day Festival will take place from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and features live music, activities, food, and conservation organizations. You can learn more and register at [serenityridgenaturepreserve.org](http://serenityridgenaturepreserve.org). Registration includes up to three native trees.

A carpool will depart from Salem at 11:30 a.m. Additionally, naturalist Ken Scarlatelli will be leading a hike on the two-mile trail network, which includes some uneven terrain and two steep sections. To sign up for the carpool, the hike, or both, please contact Ken at [kscarlatelli@gmail.com](mailto:kscarlatelli@gmail.com).

## FAIR TRADE

In case you did not get enough chocolate in your Easter Basket, fair trade chocolate, coffee, tea, and cocoa will be available for purchase in the narthex at the following times in April. (Please contact Jim Kempton if you would like to purchase fair trade items outside of these times.)

- After the 5 p.m. service on Saturday, April 11th
- After the 8:30 a.m. service on Sunday, April 12th
- Before and after the 11 a.m. service on Sunday, April 12th.

As you have probably seen at the grocery store, the price of chocolate and coffee have increased. Unfortunately, price increases on food are not limited to the grocery store. Starting in April all items on the fair-trade cart have increased by one dollar. Thank you for your support in the past; we hope that you will continue to support fair trade farms through your purchases.

## Complexity Through Simplicity



*Paper Cuts*  
by Katherine Broadwater



Agape Gallery @ Salem Lutheran Church  
905 Frederick Rd  
Catonsville, MD 21228

**Closing Reception: April 19, 2026, 12:30 PM**

For further information, contact [kaybroadwater@gmail.com](mailto:kaybroadwater@gmail.com)

## SALEM PLAYERS ARE HARD AT WORK ON *The Mouse that Roared*

Save the Dates - May 8, 9 at 7:30 p.m. - no show on Sunday - Happy Mother's Day

May 14, 15, 16 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday May 17 - 2:00 p.m.

**Director:** Erin Klarner

Adapted by Christopher Segal. Based on the book by Leonard Wibberley

Rehearsals are underway for this very funny show. The play takes place in the fictitious country of the Grand Duchy of Grand Fenwick. This is a tiny country - founded centuries ago by a roving band of English bowmen. The pretty young (22 years old) Duchess Gloriana comes up with a unique solution to her country's imminent bankruptcy - declaring war on the United States. Sound ridiculous? Well - mayhem ensues. Enjoy the hilarity that follows this declaration. You'll see some new faces and several Salem stalwarts. Enjoy the show!!

**Cast - in order of appearance:**

Tully: Cory Bauer

Tourists: Julie Kempton, Nathan Rosen, Sal Robertson, Melissa Scott

Ann/Mrs. Bascom: Sarah Cowie-Miller

Benter: Sean Eustis

Mountjoy: Damien Gibbons

Page: Matt Klarner

Gloriana: Lexi Kay

Beston: Sam David

Miss Johnson: Linda Fleischer

Prof Kokintz: Nik Henle

Assistant: Sal Robertson

Mrs. Reiner: Julie Kempton

Gen Snippet: Tim Toscano

President: Terri Laurino

Jill and Debbie: Elinor Bower, Carolyn Lawrence

Soldiers: Stan Steele, Gareth Kelly

Announcer: Lenny Dinerman



## HISTORIC OLD SALEM NEWS

The HOS Board of Directors is celebrating our formation 50 years ago in 1976 throughout 2026. Several bus trips and our June 7<sup>th</sup> Founders' Day Open House and Special Program have been scheduled.

**Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup> @ 2 p.m.** – at Old Salem, 701 Ingleside Avenue. Program organized by Judy LeGath with a member of the Historic Preservation Planning Group for Baltimore County as our Keynote Speaker to share County Preservation Efforts TODAY. Everyone is invited/refreshments too!

**Bus trips scheduled: June 17<sup>th</sup>** – to Cambridge. Meet our step on tour guide at the Visitor Center, right off Route 50. We'll have a brief rest stop, then begin with our guide, on our bus, who will share Dorchester County's history as we travel to the Harriet Tubman Visitor Center, our first stop. Following our visit to her Center, we head over to Hoopers Island and Old Salty's Restaurant for a seafood lunch. After lunch, we're off to Layton's Chance Vineyard & Winery for a tour of the winery and some tasty wine slushies. Purchases from their stock can be made to take home with you. The tour is wonderful, having taken it in 2019. We depart from the SW Park & Ride lot on S. Rolling Road at 7:45 a.m. returning approximately 12 hours later. **Cost is \$135 per person inclusive and due by May 17<sup>th</sup>.**

**August 7<sup>th</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Crabs N' Cruise** out of Suicide Bridge Hurlock, Maryland

Cost is \$120 per person inclusive due July 7<sup>th</sup>. Menu: steamed crabs, fried chicken, clam strips, Maryland crab soup, corn on the cob, cole slaw, non-alcoholic beverages, and dessert. It's a 3-hour cruise on the Choptank River near Cambridge while enjoying those delicious Maryland steamed blue crabs. Again, we depart from the SW Park & Ride Lot at 9:30 am and return approximately 6 pm dependent on traffic.

**Upcoming trips: October 9<sup>th</sup> – Western Maryland Railroad** bus trip; travel by train from Cumberland to Frostburg with lite fare lunch on board; \$165 pp due September 9<sup>th</sup>.

**December 9<sup>th</sup> – American Music Theater “Winter Wonderland” Christmas Show;** family style lunch at Hershey Farm Restaurant; \$160 pp inclusive due November 9<sup>th</sup>.

Taking reservations NOW for all bus trips; Everyone is welcome.

Our next Board of Directors meeting is Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.; we meet in the Katie Luther Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, at Salem. Come if you are interested in joining the Board or just want to hear what we do and what we are planning with our preservation efforts at Salem's original worship site built in 1849.

Questions/Reservations: **Contact** Sharon at [memsha7311@gmail.com](mailto:memsha7311@gmail.com) or 410-744-8724.

## SEEKING A NEW FLOWER STEWARD

Salem's dedicated group of Flower Stewards faithfully deliver the Altar Flowers prepared by the Altar Guild to our home bound and/or sick members following the Sunday 11 a.m. Worship Service. They also help in delivering the Christmas and Easter Garden flowers. Their kindness and caring ministry is very much appreciated by the recipients. It only takes a short amount of time on Sunday morning to perform this ministry {or some have delivered on the following Monday morning}. Some have been doing it for many years and my heartfelt thanks goes to them for doing it. Right now we need a ***new steward*** for the following times; the fourth Sunday in February, the fourth Sunday in May, the fourth Sunday in August, and the fourth Sunday in November. If you would be interested in volunteering to take on these Sundays and be a part of this ministry, please contact Sharon Stanton, [memsha7311@gmail.com](mailto:memsha7311@gmail.com) or leave a note in the Historic Old Salem mailbox, first floor hallway near the restrooms. Thank you!

## WHAT'S IN THE SHOWCASE

**March through April 7<sup>th</sup>**, features local artist, Katherine Broadwater, sharing a beautiful “Complexity through Simplicity” art design. More of her artwork can be seen in the Agape Gallery on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Education Wing.

Finishing out **April** will be “a workout session” guideline for those interested in learning more about yoga and its health & physical benefits. Elaine Collins, who leads our Monday and Wednesday yoga classes here at Salem in Reformation Hall, along with Mary Krebs are our **April** hosts.

**May**, featuring a private collection of Norma Hensler-Davis and **June's** Historic Old Salem's Board of Directors' 50-year anniversary celebration are the showcases already scheduled.

Seeking displays for the remainder of the summertime, **July & August** to be exact. If you would like to share your committee's projects/events or your own private collection, please contact Sharon-[memsha7311@gmail.com](mailto:memsha7311@gmail.com) or leave a note with your name, showcase request date and idea in the Historic Old Salem mailbox outside the main church office. I'll contact you. Thank you.

## NATIONAL ROAD ANNUAL YARD SALE

We who call Catonsville “home” live, work, and travel nearly every day on a path of history: the **Historic National Road**. With construction that began in 1811, the road was America's first major federally funded highway, starting at Baltimore's City Hall and ultimately stretching westward to St. Louis, Missouri (and the Mississippi River). Today part of that road traverses 21228, from the Baltimore City/County line westward to Howard County at the Patapsco River. Part of the “Main Street of America,” this the second leg of the highway, is designated today as Route 144 or more familiarly, “Frederick Road.”

As in years past, a multi-day National Road Yard Sale spanning the eastern half of the country is being planned for May 27 through May 31. Fourteen years ago, the now-defunct Catonsville Historical Society for two years in a row hosted a one-day yard sale designated as part of the National Road Yard Sale. Nearly 200 individual vendors participated in what was a great community success. This year an independent committee has been formed to host a one-day sale in Catonsville set for **Saturday, May 30**. Rain or shine, Catonsvillians will once again line Frederick Road. Here at Salem, we'll set up from **8 a.m. to 12 noon**. In addition to a fun day with organized sales, this event showcases the community spirit that makes living in 21228 great.

We, the committee, hope to reach small and large businesses, private residences, and houses of worship to join in this event. At Salem, we're hosting vendors wanting to join this fun day on our parking lot closest to the Frederick Road entrance {chain will remain in place}, and renting them a parking lot **space** for \$15 with the table donation fee given to Catonsville Emergency Assistance {CEA}. Treasure sale profits from your own table {which you must provide} are yours to keep. Deadline to register is May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Please put the date and time on your calendar now and plan to join this special day, either by selling your treasures or shopping here at Salem and all along Frederick Road out to Ellicott City and beyond. It's a really great day meeting and greeting the wonderful people of Catonsville and surrounding communities. Also, it's a great opportunity to clean out the attic or basement at your home and make a profit in doing so. Please note that sales of the following items are **prohibited on Salem's lot**: weaponry, ammunition, suggestive adult items, and political items. This is a Family Oriented event.

Interested and/or want more info, contact Barbara Beem, [barbarambeem@gmail.com](mailto:barbarambeem@gmail.com) or Sharon Stanton, [memsha7311@gmail.com](mailto:memsha7311@gmail.com). See you there!



**Office Manager Job Description**  
**Salem Lutheran Church, Catonsville MD**  
**Monday through Friday 9-3 p.m.**  
*(hours negotiable)*

**Communication Duties:**

- Greet in-person visitors, phone callers, and email senders and assist their needs or direct them to someone who can provide assistance
- Communicate to the congregation through mass week email
- Maintain congregational records and membership data
- Edit, print, and email the newsletter
- Create the annual reports

**Worship Duties:**

- Create worship bulletins and slides
- Monitor sign-up sheets and worship attendance sheets and replace them as necessary
- Create volunteering schedules for lectors and communion assistants and send reminders
- Place printed Old Testament and New Testament readings in the sanctuary
- Order certain flowers and flower supplies as needed
- Track altar flower donations

**Organizational Duties:**

- Monitor and purchase supplies
- Collect and maintain notices of thanks
- Pay bills as necessary and write vouchers for other bills to be paid
- Receive mail and donations and disburse them as necessary

Knowledge of Word, Church Windows, MailChimp, and Tithely is a plus, but not necessary.

**To apply, please send resume to Pastor Stan and Pastor Carolyn: [pastorstan@salem-catonsville.org](mailto:pastorstan@salem-catonsville.org) and [pastorcarolyn@salem-catonsville.org](mailto:pastorcarolyn@salem-catonsville.org).**

## CLASSIFIED ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MONARCH

**NOT WANTED:** The reception of food donations to Catonsville Emergency Assistance is temporarily “on hold” until May 15 due to construction at CEA’s Bloomsbury Avenue headquarters.

**VENDORS SOUGHT:** On Saturday, May 30, from 8 a.m. to noon, Catonsville will take part in the 23rd annual National Road Yard Sale. Set up on Salem’s parking lot for a \$15 fee (to be donated to CEA). See details inside this issue of “The Monarch.”

**ATTENTION, BARGAIN HUNTERS:** National Road Yard Sale vendors will line Frederick Road from the Baltimore City line to the Patapsco River on May 30, from 8 a.m. to noon. Find your treasure and support this community event.

**SPREAD THE WORD:** Share news with your friends and neighbors about the upcoming yard sale. Encourage civic groups and churches, as well as residents and businesses that front on Frederick Road, to participate.

**E-CYCLING:** Electronics recycling will be available on the Salem parking lot on Saturday, May 9 from 8 to 11 a.m.

**SUPPORT THE ARTS:** “Complexity Through Simplicity,” an exhibition of paper cuts by Katherine Broadwater, is on display through April 20 at Salem’s Agape Gallery.

## MARNI MCNICHOL SCHOLARSHIP

The Marni McNichol Scholarship is now open and taking applications for the 2025 - 2026 school year! \$20,000 in merit scholarships will be awarded to the class of 2026. Academics, extracurriculars, family income, and a short essay about experience with cancer will factor into the decision. The application deadline is Friday April 24, 2026.

<http://www.amystrong.org/scholarship.html>

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

### February Year to Date

#### General Fund

Receipts to Date \$120,666.53

Expenses to Date \$120,285.18

Difference \$381.35

Budget to Date \$114,608.00

#### R.S.V.P

Receipts to Date \$7,823.00

Disbursement to Date **\$7,789.95**

Difference \$33.05

(Carryover balance from 2025:\$17,306.49)

## PENGUINS MIGHT NOT FLY, BUT THEY SING AND DANCE

I would like to introduce you to the Penguin Project.



Once a year, a magical and touching celebration of the human spirit unfolds at numerous theaters across the country. A group of children in a program called *The Penguin Project* take to the stage to perform a modified version of a well-known Broadway musical. These productions are unique, however, because all the roles are filled by young artists with developmental disabilities including Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, autism, intellectual disabilities, learning disabilities, visual impairment, hearing impairment, and other neurological disorders. They are joined on stage by a dedicated group of “peer mentors” – children the same age without disabilities who have volunteered to work side-by-side with them through 4 months of rehearsals and through the final performance. By providing access to community theater, *The Penguin Project* demonstrates that the special challenges of a disability should not handicap a child’s ability to participate in life’s experiences.

Penguin Project was established in 2004 by Dr Andy Morgan in Peoria Illinois and has evolved into a national program, with Chapter sites throughout the United States including one in Annapolis MD. The Talent machine, A children's theater in Annapolis, is the home site for our Penguin Project. We have a team of adults who produce, direct, choreograph and run these rehearsals and performances including our church member, Anita Spicer-Lane, who is a music director for this group and would love to see you at our spring performance April 24th and 25th.

This year’s show is “Willy Wonka” jr, complete with chocolate, golden tickets, Oompa Loompas and squirrels. The performances are at The Mid Atlantic Community Church in Millersville Md. Friday April 24th at 7:00 PM and Saturday April 25th at 2:00 PM. This experience is heartwarming beyond belief and well worth the drive down to Millersville. [www.talentmachine.com](http://www.talentmachine.com) for tickets!



## BECOME A FAITHFUL NEIGHBOR W/ LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

There are some things in life that feel both heartbreaking and hopeful at the same time. Learning that 122 million girls around the world are not in school is one of those things.

It's hard to imagine. For many of us, school was just part of life. But for millions of girls, especially in places like Sierra Leone, going to school isn't guaranteed. Poverty, family responsibilities, and limited resources often stand in the way. And yet...this is where hope begins.

Through Lutheran World Relief's Girls in School program, something simple—but powerful—is happening. Families receive small, consistent support that helps make school possible. Things like uniforms, supplies, and basic needs are no longer barriers. Attendance is tracked, encouragement is given, and girls who might have been left behind are now showing up, learning, and growing.

It doesn't take much to change the trajectory of a life. About \$348 can support one girl for an entire year of school. Think about that for a moment. One year. One girl. A future opened.

But this isn't just about education. It's about dignity. It's about opportunity. It's about a young girl beginning to believe, "I matter. My life has purpose."

And that's something we understand deeply as people of faith. We believe in showing up for our neighbors. We believe that small acts of love can ripple outward in ways we may never fully see. This is one of those opportunities. As a congregation, you already care deeply for others, locally and globally. This is simply another way to live that out. Whether it's supporting one girl, a group of girls, or even a full classroom, every gift becomes part of something bigger.

The need is real. But so is the impact. If you're looking for a meaningful way to make a difference, I invite you to consider supporting Girls in School. It's one of those places where your generosity meets real lives, and real change. Because when a girl goes to school, everything begins to shift. Not just for her, but for her family, her community, and the future.

And that's something worth being part of.

I see you and how much your congregation cares about our hurting world. Thank you for loving your neighbors through Lutheran World Relief.

Peace and hope,

Cathy

Senior Advisor Congregational Engagement  
Lutheran World Relief

A P.S. from Pastor Carolyn:

I'm sure many folks in the congregation have subscriptions to Netflix, Amazon, Hulu, and more. But did you know that Lutheran World Relief offers a subscription that serves neighbors in need?

Lutheran World Relief has a "Faithful Neighbor" subscription. For a little more than the cost of Netflix, you can impact lives across the world. Currently, this monthly subscription goes to help girls' education in Sierra Leone. For \$29/month, you can send a girl in Sierra Leone to school for an entire year.

I've become a Faithful Neighbor, and I hope you will too. Please consider becoming a Faithful Neighbor, and subscribing to a truly good service.



**Delaware-Maryland Synod**

Proclaiming Christ's Grace, Love and Justice.

## Thank you for your Mission Support!

Thank you, Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church, for your most recent gift of \$13,436.00 to our synod.

Because of *you*, congregations are supported through seasons of transition. Because of *you*, new leaders are being equipped and encouraged. Because of *you*, youth and young adults are discovering that faith is alive and active, and new and strategic ministries are being nurtured so the gospel is shared and God's love is known in every corner of our synod.

This work is possible because of **your partnership**. Thank you for your faithful generosity and for the ways you make this ministry possible. We are deeply grateful to be doing this work together with you.

**Our Contact Information**  
Delaware-Maryland Synod of the ELCA  
5699 Meridale Road  
Baltimore, MD 21228  
(410) 230-2860



Dear Friends of Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church,  
Thank you for your generous gift of \$4,840.42 to Lutheran World Relief. I'm truly grateful for your care for loving your neighbors near and far. Your generosity is making a real difference and it means so much to be part of this work together.  
Peace + Hope  
Cathy



**Delaware-Maryland Synod**

Proclaiming Christ's Grace, Love and Justice.

Dear people of Salem,  
Thank you for your most recent gift of Mission Support, which is already strengthening ministries across our Synod. Please know how grateful we are for your partnership in proclaiming Christ's love together.

In gratitude,  
Emma Wagner

The Table: a Lutheran Episcopal Ministry in Baltimore  
7601 York Road  
Baltimore, Maryland 21204

Salem Lutheran Church  
905 Frederick Road  
Catonsville, MD 21228-4517

Hi Salem Lutheran Church,

Your gift to our ministry does not go unnoticed or unappreciated. It was my immense joy to share with the students of The Table how much this community, and you in particular care about it's continuation and mission. We wanted to thank you for your \$281.80 donation that you made on 12/11/2025. Every act of generosity stands in contrast to the message that there is no place in the Church for our young people and helps us continue to share this message on campus to those friends we have not yet met.

Because we are a registered 501(c)3 organization, your donation is completely tax deductible. Please keep this for your tax records to claim your deduction. Again, we thank you for your support and look forward to seeing you at our spring triva night fundraiser - head to our website [www.thetablebaltimore.org](http://www.thetablebaltimore.org) for more information in the coming weeks.

Thank You & God Bless,

Rev. Kelsey M Green  
Director of Campus Ministry  
The Table: a Lutheran Episcopal Ministry in Baltimore



Thank you for supporting our non-profit. Your generosity and encouragement mean so much to us and the community we serve. Because of supporters like you, we are able to continue making a positive impact.

With gratitude,  
Gatekeepers



March 17, 2026

Salem Lutheran Church  
905 Frederick Rd  
Catonsville, MD 21228

Dear Congregation,

Thank you for your donation of \$1,200.00. Catonsville Emergency Assistance continues to serve our neighbors because of the generosity of donors like you!

Your gift will help us meet the challenge of steady growth as an increasing number of neighbors continue to seek our help. We exist to ensure that local families have a place to come when they need food, utility, and eviction assistance. In the past year, we served nearly 700 people in 294 households. As a partner of the Maryland Food Bank, we distributed over 106,000 pounds of fresh and shelf-stable food as well.

Thank you for your commitment to our mission of **Neighbors Helping Neighbors!**

With heartfelt gratitude,

Caitlin Kirby  
Executive Director

*Thank you for  
your continued generosity  
toward CEA in so many  
ways! We are grateful!  
All the Best -  
CK*

Thanks to our wonderful Salem Church family for their love, support, encouragement, kindness, service, and the wonderful things they have done for each of us, not just on Holy Week, but every single day that we have, which is always a gift from God. Thank you for the wonderful flowers given to us from the church altar on Easter. Thank you especially to David Rau for helping me hold up my hymn book when my hands were spasming, Darla Sando, Min Park, Pastor Stan, Lynda Bell, Pastor Carolyn, Tim Jennings for his help at the end of a Lenten service, and others. Thanks so much to Bruce and Darla Sando and Tim and Pat Jennings. All these wonderful angels of Salem helped me get home that evening. I am truly humbled by that help and thank them always. God bless.

- Judy Rotz

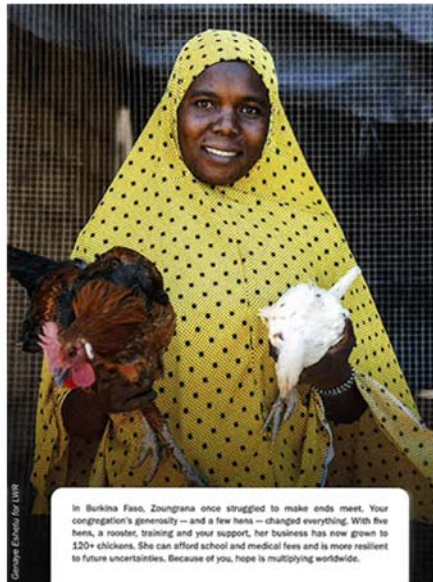
P.S., thank you for the people who helped me search for my precious icon of Jesus. Thankfully, the picture of Jesus and Mary, which was given to me by a pilgrim at the National Shrine of Lourdes, has been found. Thanks to Mary Krebs, Jane Stolte, Paul and Marilyn Timmel, Duane Linsenhardt, and Penne Giuliani. Thanks again for allowing me to check any place the picture could have been and for helping me locate it. Thanks to Pastor Ed and Vicky for always being there for myself, my husband, and my daughter and her wonderful family. Thanks always to Ray Hamelin for being a dedicated usher and to Rose Hamelin and Sue O'Connor for their support and prayers.

Marni  
Cietall

Thank You!

Dear Salem,

Thank you for giving to Camden's collection. Thank you so much for making all of the animals so happy. All of the cats and dogs said "I love this toy! and I love this treat!" This is going to make the animals so happy!  
Love ♡-



THANK YOU

Dear People of Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your longstanding commitment to loving our neighbors around the world. We are deeply grateful for your partnership.

In Gratitude,  
Rev. Cathy Pahar'sh



Dear friends,

My name is Rick Powell, and I chair the board of Suburban Crossroads counseling where your Associate Pastor, Carolyn Lawrence also serves!

I'm writing to thank you for your recent gift of \$1350. to our center. This generous gift will help us continue to offer life-giving therapy for members of our community of all ages. The gift is also yet another example of the grace-filled presence of

Salem Church in Catonsville. Your historic - and very present - willingness to reach out beyond your walls has made a huge difference in our world.

So, thank you! Please let me know if you have any questions about the center, although Carolyn could tell you as much or more as I could!

Blessings,  
Rick Powell

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
8:30am - Early Service 9:45am - Salem Choir 9:45am - Sunday School 11am - Late Service 12:30pm - Salem Brass 7pm - AA Meeting 7pm - AI-Anon Meeting	1pm - Yoga 7pm - AA Women's Group 7pm - Brass Quintet 7pm - Prayer Stitchers 7:30pm - Nar-Anon 7:30pm - Overeater's Anon	4pm - Girl Scout Troop 4:30pm - Girl Scout Troop 7pm - Heart of Maryland 7pm - Salem Bell Choir 7pm - Zoom Fellowship	6am - AA Meeting 8am - Men's Breakfast 10am - Salem Quilters	8am - Business Builders 10am - Stitchcrafters 2pm - Maundy Thursday	12pm - AA Group 2pm - Good Friday 7:30pm - Good Friday	1:30pm - Baltimore VE 7pm - Easter Vigil Service
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8:30am - Early Service 9:45am - Salem Choir 9:45am - Sunday School 11am - Late Service 12:30pm - Salem Brass 7pm - AA Meeting 7pm - AI-Anon Meeting	1pm - Yoga 7pm - AA Women's Group 7pm - Brass Quintet 7pm - Prayer Stitchers 7:30pm - Nar-Anon 7:30pm - Overeater's Anon	4pm - Girl Scout Troop 4:30pm - Girl Scout Troop 7pm - Heart of Maryland 7pm - Salem Bell Choir 7pm - Zoom Fellowship	6am - AA Meeting 8am - Men's Breakfast 10am - Salem Quilters 1pm - Chair Yoga 5:30pm - AA Meeting 6:30pm - Girl Scout Troop	8am - Business Builders 10am - Stitchcrafters 6pm - St. David's Choir 7pm - Salem Players 7:30pm - Salem Choir	10am - Catonsville Garden 12pm - AA Group	1pm - Salem Players 5pm - Contemporary Worship 6pm - Fair Trade Cart
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
8:30am - Early Service 9:30am - Fair Trade Cart 9:45am - Adult Forum 9:45am - Salem Choir 9:45am - Sunday School 11am - Late Service 12pm - Fair Trade Cart	1pm - Yoga 7pm - AA Women's Group 7pm - Guardians of Eden 7pm - Lazarus Caucus 7:30pm - Nar-Anon 7:30pm - Overeater's Anon	4pm - Girl Scout Troop 4:30pm - Girl Scout Troop 6pm - Salem Tech 7pm - Heart of Maryland 7pm - Salem Bell Choir 7pm - Zoom Fellowship	6am - AA Meeting 8am - Men's Breakfast 10am - Salem Quilters 1pm - Chair Yoga 5:30pm - AA Meeting 6:30pm - Girl Scout Troop	8am - Business Builders 10am - Stitchcrafters 11am - Bent Twig Garden 6pm - St. David's Choir 7pm - Salem Players 7:30pm - Salem Choir	12pm - AA Group 6pm - Girl Scout Troop	1pm - Salem Players 5pm - Contemporary Worship
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
8:30am - Early Service 9:45am - Adult Forum 9:45am - Salem Choir 9:45am - Sunday School 11am - Late Service 12:30pm - Salem Brass 6pm - Salem Players	1pm - Yoga 7pm - AA Women's Group 7pm - Prayer Stitchers 7:30pm - Nar-Anon 7:30pm - Overeater's Anon	4pm - Girl Scout Troop 4:30pm - Girl Scout Troop 7pm - Church Council 7pm - Heart of Maryland 7pm - Salem Bell Choir 7pm - Zoom Fellowship	6am - AA Meeting 8am - Men's Breakfast 10am - Salem Quilters 1pm - Chair Yoga 2:30pm - Worship Life 5:30pm - AA Meeting	8am - Business Builders 10am - Stitchcrafters 6pm - St. David's Choir 7pm - Salem Players 7:30pm - Salem Choir	12pm - AA Group	1pm - Salem Players 5pm - Contemporary Worship
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
8:30am - Early Service 9:45am - Adult Forum 9:45am - Fellowship Time 9:45am - Salem Choir 9:45am - Sunday School 11am - Late Service	1pm - Bible Study 1pm - Yoga 7pm - AA Women's Group 7:30pm - Nar-Anon 7:30pm - Overeater's Anon	4pm - Girl Scout Troop 4:30pm - Girl Scout Troop 7pm - Heart of Maryland 7pm - Salem Bell Choir 7pm - Zoom Fellowship	6am - AA Meeting 8am - Men's Breakfast 10am - Salem Quilters 1pm - Chair Yoga 5:30pm - AA Meeting	8am - Business Builders 10am - Stitchcrafters 6pm - St. David's Choir 7pm - Salem Players 7:30pm - Salem Choir		

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## OFFICIAL ACTS

### AT THE BAPTISMAL FONT

*Julian Park Lawrence*

*04/04/2026*

### AT THE GRAVE

*“For the assurance and hope of our faith and for the saints you have received into your eternal joy, we thank you, Heavenly Father.*

*Basil Antar*

*03/13/2026*

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## PARISH LEADERS

Altar Guild: Mary Krebs

Archive Committee: Judy LeGath

Arts Committee: Tricia Morgan

Child Protection Committee: Linda Fleischer

Children’s Ministry Committee: Eileen Merriman,  
Zoë Dell

Christian Fellowship Committee: Darla Sando, Pam  
Wilsey

Communications Committee: Guy Davis, Karen Amy

Evangelism Committee: Nicki Fatherly

Finance Committee: Ken Wolfram

Guardians of Eden: Ken Scarlatelli, Sharon Schueler

Health Resources: Beth Rodgers, Lynda Bell

Historic Old Salem: Sharon Stanton

Memorial and Bequests: Paul W. Krabitz

Prayer Tree Coordinators: Karen Amy, Barbara  
Beem

Property: Rusty Schaefer

Refugee Task Force – Beth Rodgers

Salem Players: Lisa Yerkey

Scholarship: Sue Gdovin

Social Ministry: Mary Kay Willing

Stewardship Committee: John Brohawn

Technology Support Committee: Lisa Yerkey

Ushers: Mary Krebs, Ray Hamelin

Youth Ministry Committee: Melissa Miller and  
Veronica Merriman

Worship Life: Jane Stolte

**ATTENDANCE REPORT FOR MARCH 2026**

	Saturday Evening	Sunday Service		Other	Livestream	Weekly* Total
		First	Second			
Feb 25				42	34	270
Feb 28/Mar 1	32	51	85		10/24	275
Mar 4				50	23	
Mar 7/8	37	39	91		12/20	276
Mar 11				56	21	
Mar 14/15	36	47	96		9/36	292
Mar 18				47	21	
Mar 21/22	33	69	90		9/38	297
Mar 25				48	10	
Mar 28/29	30	71	119		10/56	286

\*Week reflects Saturday through Friday



**NO PHISHING**  
**Don't take the bait!**

Occasionally we hear about members receiving an email from one of the Pastors asking for gift cards or for us to pay a bill, etc.; because 'they are in a meeting' (or whatever) and 'can't take care of this right now.' This is ALWAYS a scheme to get something from you by someone else and this is NEVER from Salem's Pastors. Please, if you are contacted by anyone asking for money or gift cards and they say it is an emergency; contact us yourself first. Please don't take the bait in their phishing scheme!

**WIFI AT SALEM**

The Technology Committee has installed WIFI access throughout the church. This free internet access is available to members and guests. Users may access any of our four networks connections throughout the building. The password for all connections is **SalemChurch**.

If you have any questions about our network please contact the Technology Committee, Lisa Yerkey, at salemtech@salem-catonsville.org.

**SMART PHONE QR CODE**  
**AVAILABLE FOR GIVING**

Salem allows offerings via your smart phone. Image Salem's QR code and you will be taken to the mobile-friendly version of Salem's giving page where you can make your gift via your bank account or credit card.



**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church Office  
Telephone: (410) 747-0720

Interim Pastor G. Stanley Steele  
pastorstan@salem-catonsville.org

Pastor Carolyn Lawrence  
pastorcarolyn@salem-catonsville.org

Pastor Emeritus: G. Edward Whetstone  
edward-victoria@verizon.net

Director of Music: Mary Miller  
marymiller359@gmail.com

Director of Contemporary Music: Sid Meier

Worship Technology Director: Joey Morgan

Office Manager: Jeff Tsai  
jefft@salem-catonsville.org

Sexton: Joey Morgan

**CHURCH COUNCIL LEADERSHIP**

President: Lisa Yerkey

Vice-President: Guy Davis

Secretary: Vicky Whetstone

Financial Secretary: Linda Fleischer

Treasurer: Ray Hamelin

Assistant Treasurer: Jane Stolte

**CHURCH COUNCIL**

Ron Bruce	Mary Oliver
Guy Davis	Michael Petry
Pat Jennings	Mason Pushman
Julie Kempton	Janet Van Sant
Peter Lassen	Vicky Whetstone
Carolyn Moore	Lisa Yerkey

**COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE AND CONTRIBUTING STAFF**

Guy Davis, Co-Chair  
Karen Amy, Co-Chair  
Barbara Beem  
Dan D’Avella  
Peggy Dell  
Carolyn Lawrence  
Judy LeGath  
Joey Morgan  
Sharon Stanton  
Bethann Snyder  
Ed Whetstone

**Contributing Photographers**  
Guy Davis

**Proofreading**  
Sharon Stanton

**NEXT MONARCH PUBLICATION**

**May 2026**

If you are interested in participating on the Communications Committee, or contributing as a *ad-hoc* writer or photographer, please contact our committee chairpersons.



*Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church strives to be a Christ-centered, caring community experiencing God's grace and sharing God's goodness with all people.*

905 Frederick Road  
Catonsville, MD 21228-4517  
(410) 747-0720  
[office@salem-catonsville.org](mailto:office@salem-catonsville.org)

We are on the Web!  
[www.salem-catonsville.org](http://www.salem-catonsville.org)



[www.facebook.com/salemlutheranchurch.catonsville](http://www.facebook.com/salemlutheranchurch.catonsville)



Evangelical Lutheran Church In America  
[www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)



Delaware-Maryland Synod  
<http://demdsynod.org/>

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SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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905 Frederick Rd.  
Catonsville, MD 21228-4517

Change Service Requested  
**TIME VALUE**