



The Salem Stimulus

Volume XXXXIIIV No. XI

November 2016

STRETCHING ADVENT

The Christmas holiday is more than just a commercialized, secularized event. It is more than an old story from long ago. Christmas is an opportunity to remember that what happened that changes everything now.

The traditional **advent season** runs the four Sundays before Christmas. This year, in order to spend more time with the story of Christmas, we are “adding a little to” this special season.

Starting November 13, we engage in a 6-week series of sermons and study called **The Christmas Experience**. Our hope is that diving more deeply into the characters and the narrative of Jesus’ birth will remind us that Christmas is much more than a holiday. It was a holy event!

We kick off our “stretched out advent” with a church-wide **MOVIE NIGHT** on the evening of the 13th. Bring friends and family to the Fellowship Hall for cocoa, popcorn, and a viewing of feature-length film *The Christmas Experience*.

Our **Sunday morning sermons** will explore scripture and give insights to the people who actually lived out The Christmas Experience years ago. We will see that God chose each individual in the Christmas story for a specific purpose.

WE will also have **WEDNESDAY EVENING TABLE TALKS** – a chance for anyone who wants to gather with others and explore the meaning of this amazing story – on Wednesdays, 6:30 – 8:00 in the fellowship hall. If you can’t attend mid-week, we will also offer Sunday morning sessions with the Sunday School classes at 9:30 and 11:00.

Although our Advent is a little longer this year, we are providing numerous opportunities to prepare your heart for Christ’s arrival. What happened then changes everything now. Let’s join together to grow closer to Jesus as we embark on *The Christmas Experience*.

Pastor John

November Sermons:

Nov. 6: ***Being Married***, part 2: *Mutuality in Marriage*

The Christmas Experience

Nov 13: *Experience God’s Faithfulness*

Nov. 20: *Experience God’s Favor*

Nov. 27: *Experience God’s Peace*



Movie Night

Begin the Advent season focused on Christ;
Sunday, November 13 at 6 p.m.!

Adults will meet in Fellowship hall and view *The Christmas Experience*

Children will meet in 115 and watch Veggie Tales.

Enjoy popcorn and hot chocolate as you experience Christmas through this film. Prepare for Christmas as we await Christ's birth and recall that Christmas is about more than wrapping paper and bows.

Kids can bring a blanket to sit on. This film accompanies our church-wide small group study.

Contact: Susan Ryder sryder@fcsalem.org with questions.

Church Wide Advent Study

Salem will study Kyle Idleman's 'The Christmas Experience' as a church-wide study beginning **November 16th!** This 6 week Right Now Media study, will remind us "That the Christmas holiday is more than just a commercialized, secularized event ... But an opportunity to remember that what happened changes everything now. It will discuss how God chose each individual in the Christmas story for a specific purpose."

Here are the different opportunities being offered for this study:

- **Table Talk** - If you are not already part of a small group that will be participating in this study, join Table Talk on Wednesday evenings in FH at 6:30pm. This group will view the video together and then participate in discussion lead by Pastor John among those at your table.
- **Sunday Mornings** - If Wednesday's don't work for you, you can join any one of our Sunday School class discussions at 9:30am or 11:00am..
- **Sunday Evenings** - Karen Derrick will lead a **Young Adult** group study on Sunday evenings. Time TBD.



Salem is hosting a food drive, November 6-20 (first three Sundays) to benefit the Red Land Food Bank. Donations may be placed in the lower level of the Welcome Center (near the church office door). On average, the Red Land Food Bank serves between 125-150 families, or 335-420 people a month. New families and many senior citizens are served each time. Your donations are positively impacting your neighbors!

The Food Bank is in particular need of: pancake mix, syrup, cake/brownie mix, canned fruit, mac and cheese boxes, rice, peanut butter, and canned tuna.

SALEM'S 4th ANNUAL COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER

Thursday, Nov. 24th

12:00pm

ALL are welcome!

Join us to feast and fellowship on this great day of thankfulness!



Lots of Help is Needed!

If you feel you are being called to serve others this Thanksgiving, please consider volunteering to help. Please pray about how you may be a blessing to others as we give thanks for all God has provided for us! Below are the areas of need. Contact Bonnie Moody to help (bonniemoody31@gmail.com or 645-6703).

Donate a Dessert	Donate/Lend a Thanksgiving Centerpiece
Set up Wed., 11-23, 6:00pm	Early Morning Turkey Crew (7am-9am)
Kitchen Help	Greeters
Servers/Bussers	Drivers
Clean up Crew	Donate a Turkey (18-22 lbs.)



Salem's 4th annual Community Christmas Closet **Saturday, December 3rd, 9am-12pm!!**

We need your donations!

- ◆ Toys (older kids/preschool, bikes)
- ◆ Kids Clothes (infant - teen, boys/girls), Kids Coats
- ◆ Personal Items (liquid hand soap, lotions, toothbrush/toothpaste, body wash)
- ◆ Linens (towels, blankets, comforters, bedsheets labeled with size)
- ◆ Stocking Stuffers (coloring books, small new items for children)



Salem is hosting for Family Promise the week of **November 13-20!** It takes a lot of volunteers sharing their time, hospitality, and love of Christ, to have a successful week! Join in by making a meal, transporting the families to and from the day center and Salem Church, staying the night, donating food and paper products for the pantry, and/or fellowship with the families at dinner. Sign up is available at: www.volunteersignup.org/JAF4Y. Any questions, please connect with Laurie Murry at lmurry@fcsalem.org.

Interested in Serving alongside your family?
Check out Families in the Field!

Save the date and watch the bulletin for more info
on these opportunities...

November 6th - Cookies and Cards for Community Service
Members

December 4th - Help us spread holiday cheer to the community...
Candy Canes and cart return!

All meetings start at noon with a pot luck lunch and devotion before
heading into the mission field.



Salem's Giving Tree will be in the Welcome Center beginning, Sunday, November 27th. Select a tag(s) from the tree, purchase the item, wrap it, secure the tag on the outside of the gift, and place the gift under the Salem tree. All gifts must be placed under the tree by December 11th so they can be distributed to the families a few days before Christmas.



HELP US DECK OUR HALLS

Salem will continue our tradition of decorating the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall with poinsettias.

The flowers are available in 6.5" pots with 5+ blooms of red, white, or marbled. The flowers will be placed in the church for the Christmas Eve and may be taken home anytime after the last service in each location or after services on Christmas Day.

The cost is \$8 for each plant.

Please make checks payable to FCSUMC with "Poinsettias" in the memo. Place payment with the order form in Jeannie Pelen's mailbox by Dec. 4th. Order forms are available in the rack across from Pastor John's office.



Blue Christmas Service of Hope

If you have experienced the loss of a loved one and are in need of comfort and strength this holiday season, please join us to commemorate your loved ones.

Guest Speakers

Michael Gingerich, M. Div

Thomas Kaden, M. Div

Co-founder & President of Someone to Tell It To

Special Music

Elizabeth Beshore, Harpist

John Fay, Organist

Event Details

Sunday, December 4, 2016 at 3:00 pm

at

Community United Methodist Church

1601 Bridge Street, New Cumberland

Sponsored by:

*Community UM Church. Fishing Creek Salem UM Church
and Parthemore Funeral Home & Cremation Services*

"Living My Faith"

Keeping our faith at the CENTER of our life can be a challenge. Every day distractions, stress and concerns, and over committed schedules can easily de-rail us from keeping focused on God.

How can I exercise my faith daily?

What do others do?

Is what I'm doing having an impact?

Watch for "Living My Faith" videos to be shared during worship services once or twice a month and learn how others live their faith in practical and relevant ways every day. Faith is an ACTION word and is meant to be exercised daily in large and perhaps small gestures, words, and acts of kindness. Attend worship and learn more!



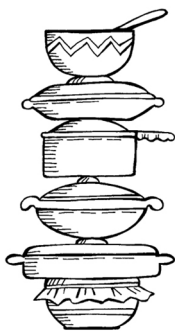
Safe Sanctuaries, Upcoming Training and Clearance Information

Jesus said “Let the children come to me.” Through Safe Sanctuaries, an initiative of the Susquehanna Conference, the children have a chance to learn about Jesus’ love in a safe environment. It is important that we ensure the safety of our children as well as the well-being of the church, so that they may continue to fulfill the purpose of Christ’s church here on Earth.

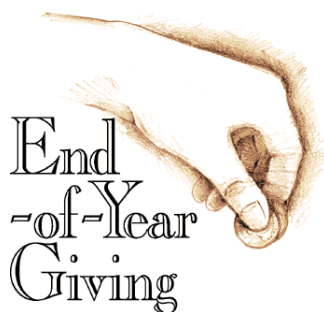
If you are, or would like to be, a Certified Volunteer at Fishing Creek Salem United Methodist Church you must take a Safe Sanctuaries training and certification assessment at least every three (3) years and produce FBI, PA Child Abuse History, and PA Criminal Background Check clearances every sixty (60) months. For more information on how to complete the clearances and take a Safe Sanctuaries training, see the Safe Sanctuaries bulletin board outside of the church office or contact Nicole Wolf at nicolemarie405@comcast.net.

A Safe Sanctuaries training will be offered by the Susquehanna Conference at Salem in Room 115 on Saturday, November 19th from 9:00-11:30 AM. For other dates, please see the Safe Sanctuaries bulletin board outside of the church office. Assistance with taking the online Safe Sanctuaries training, as well as completing clearances, will be available Sunday, November 20th from 9:30-11:00 AM in Room 215 at Salem. Please RSVP with your intent to attend either of these trainings to Nicole Wolf at nicolemarie405@comcast.net.

I encourage you to take the time to complete the clearances and training. By doing so, you are helping to support the children and youth ministries of Salem Church.



Have you been missing items from your kitchen at home? If you can't find your favorite dish or casserole, it may be on the counter inside the main kitchen. Please stop by and take home what is yours. **ANYTHING** left will be donated to the Christmas Closet.



Fishing Creek Salem always appreciates the financial gifts that are given to support and grow our ministries of sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ! God bless you for your faithfulness and generosity again this year. Please note that the Internal Revenue Service has rules on when taxable year donations can be counted. The IRS says that charitable donations to the church must be **received and/or postmarked** by 12/31/2016 to count as a donation in 2016. Following these IRS regulations, donations received and/or post-marked after 12/31/16 must be counted as donations in 2017 (no matter what date may be associated with the gift).

SALEM'S COMMUNITY GARDEN REPORT



It has been a great growing season for the FCSUMC Community Giving Garden! There were 8 households who planted, maintained and harvested from the garden. In these households, there were 15 adults and 12 youth/children; six families who attend FCSUMC and two from the community.

We did not keep records on quantity, but the variety growing was obvious-tomatoes, beans, annual flowers, pumpkins, squash, peppers, corn, watermelon and more. Some of the members were even able to donate extra produce to the Plant-An-Extra-Row ministry!

The gardeners planted without worry of deer and other garden pests thanks to the fence that was installed by Tyson Fence Company and funded by a donation from the Salem Players. The garden's soil was good for growing thanks to years of preparation by Boy Scout Troop 198. Thanks to all who gave this new ministry such a great start!

The season is coming to an end now. We will be cleaning up the garden and preparing the area for the winter. But even as we do this work, we will be thinking about the warmer days to come and assigning plots. If you are interested, each person will be offered a plot (180 square feet or larger) at no charge for growing annual crops for their family. Space will be limited, plots will be assigned on a first come, first served basis. To reserve your plot (respond by February 5, 2017) or for more details contact Joan Dean, joanerindean@gmail.com.



Save the Date!

The Easter Egg Project will begin on January 30th, and run on Mondays and Wednesdays thereafter through April 5th. Please consider joining this fun-loving group, whose profits benefit the church, and whose products benefit us all!!

WANT TO GO ON A MISSION TRIP THIS YEAR,
BUT WORRIED ABOUT THE COSTS?
CONSIDER ASKING FOR CONTRIBUTIONS AS A
CHRISTMAS GIFT!



Item of the Month: Mission Central sends out various kits to all areas of the world after disasters and for humanitarian efforts. They are in need of 2 inch packaging tape for the boxes to be sent.

Please put the tape in the bin marked "Mission Central Item of the Month" located at the end of the hall outside Nursery School rooms (rooms 112-114).

TRUE BEAUTY ~ Find your true identity in Jesus

**Women's Retreat
November 11 & 12
at FCSUMC!**

ALL women ages 18-118 are welcome!
Invite a friend, family member or neighbor!
Contact Marcia Sadler with interest/questions.
(msadler_pac@yahoo.com, 938-0890).

Cost is \$10, as you are able, to include meals and materials.



The Salem Seniors will be meeting
on Thursday, November 17th at 1pm
at Cheddar's Restaurant on Rt. 30 in York

Please contact Shirley & Paul Sheaffer
to make your reservations by November 12th.

ALL seniors are invited to join us for a wonderful afternoon
of fun and fellowship.

The United Methodist Women
will meet on
Thursday, November 10th at 7pm
in Room 115.

The program for the evening will be
"The World Thank Offering Service".
Come and join us and learn what this supports.

As always all women of the Church and
Community are welcome.



THE WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP

The Woman's Book Group is about to start a new year. It was originally started by Susan Schell and is open to women 18 years or older. We meet on the Third Thursday of each month at 7 PM. For more information contact Marsha Uber (938-3108 or uber2495@epix.net.)

The Book for this month is:

November - Boys in the Field: A Championship Journey from Red Land to Williamsport





LIBRARY NEWS

By Kathy Alford

This month's newsletter is devoted to new books for our youth (ages 12-18). It's so important that we encourage our youth to read literature that shows them Christian role models and heroes. The following new additions to our library will do just that:

Christianity by Philip Wilkinson

This Eyewitness book explains the history and teachings of one of the world's great religions and the many ways that Christians celebrate their faith.

Jesus Freaks and Jesus Freaks II by DC Talk

Rarely have books captured the attention of Christians of all ages as *Jesus Freaks* have with their stories of Christian martyrs. They feature testimonies of revolutionaries who took a stand for Christ against the culture of their day, along with new stories of martyrs through the centuries. DC Talk challenges readers to pray for the persecuted church around the world and openly stand for Jesus.

The Narrow Road by Brother Andrew

This bestseller tells of the young Dutch factory worker's incredible efforts to transport Bibles across closed borders and the miraculous ways in which God provided for him every step of the way. The book also features information about ministry to the persecuted church today, including country profiles, quotes, and Christians in underground churches.

The One Year Josh McDowell's Youth Devotions by Bob Hostetter

Aimed directly at the needs and interests of preteens and teens, this devotion book is a Right from Wrong devotional that helps young people apply the Scriptures in daily decision making. Covering a host of topics that are relevant to today's teens, this devotional encourages teens to think through difficult choices, enabling them to discover why certain choices are right or wrong.

True: Real Stories About God Showing Up in the Lives of Teens by Irene Dunlap

This is a collection of real-life stories of God's presence in personal situations, both the ordinary and the more challenging, that help reveal the true nature of God in the universe and His work in people's lives.

I Am Malala by Malala Yousafzai

Raised in a once-peaceful area of Pakistan transformed by terrorism, Malala was taught to stand up for what she believes, so she fought for her right to be educated. And on October 9, 2012, she nearly lost her life for the cause. She was shot point-blank while riding the bus on her way home from school. No one expected her to SURVIVE. Now Malala is an international symbol of peaceful protest and the youngest ever Nobel Peace Prize winner.

The Back to the Bible Sunday School Class News

Beginning November 6 and continuing after Christmas, our class will be learning from *Joseph: The Journey to Forgiveness* by Melissa Spoelstra. This 6-week study explores what God has to say to us about grace and forgiveness through Joseph's story of trial and triumph found in Genesis 37-50. As we study his dreams, betrayals, dysfunctional family, struggle to forgive, and journey toward common questions such as "How do I stop dwelling on the hurt?" and "Is forgiving someone excusing what happened?" Whether or not you're working through a hurtful situation right now, you can learn from Joseph how to release your past and present hurts to God and allow Him to do a supernatural work of forgiveness in your life. Student books and a video are included.

Beginning November 13 and continuing through Advent, we will be studying *The Christmas Experience* by Kyle Idleman, along with the rest of our church. Kyle is the Teaching Minister at Southeast Christian Church in Louisville, KY with over 21,000 in attendance. He examines the Christmas story in detail, emphasizing how God chose each individual in the Christmas story for a specific purpose. We'll see as Joseph leads his family with selfless faithfulness, as Mary follows obediently God's plan for her life, and as shepherds struggle with doubt as they wonder... could this really be their Savior?

We would love for you to join us for one or both of these studies. We meet Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:30 in room 210. Why don't you give us a try?

Lesson Schedule

Joseph by Melissa Spoelstra

November 6 Session 1 "Beginning With the End"

The Christmas Experience by Kyle Idleman

November 13 Week 1 "At Just the Right Time"

November 20 Week 2 "Favored One"

November 27 Week 3 "Faithful One"



Dinner Theater, 2016 Thank You!

We would like to thank everyone who helped to make this year's Dinner Theater a success. Over \$4,000 in profit was split between Family Promise and Salem's continuing Ministries. Over the past 6 years, Salem Players' Dinner Theaters were able to distribute over \$25,000 in profits to the Making Room Building Fund, Salem's General Fund, REDCAP, J. Hall Smith Church in Sierra Leone for a Generator, Family Promise and Salem's Community Garden.

All of this would not have been possible without the generosity of our Salem Family. We want to thank all of you who have cooked, served, baked, cleaned, washed, dried, hammered, greeted, donated, advertised, and attended the Dinner Theaters. We are ever grateful!

Also, thank you to all of the cast and crew who did hair and makeup, produced lighting and sound effects, staged, costumed, prepared, practiced, and performed to the delight of our audiences. You made it so much fun for us all! Wow, what a Troupe!!

"The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy." *Psalm 126:3*

The Producers:

Jeannie Pelen, Wendy Kautz, Marsha Young, Jo-Ann Howard, Betsy Kline



Thank you for the many Delicious, Delightful, and Devine Desserts

We have counted on Salem's Members' generosity in donating desserts for the Dinner Theater to help make our fundraisers a success, and you have never let us down!

This year was another success, and it's all because of you!!

We were able to keep costs down and profits up for Family Promise and Salem's own ongoing Ministries.

"Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and he will give you everything you need." Luke 12:31, TLB

Jo-Ann Howard

Many thanks to all who supported the CROP Walk this year! There were 13 walkers and they raised \$1050. Money is given to local and international food banks and hunger organizations. Great job!





P R A Y E R C H A I N

Please keep in your prayers these people who have had prayer concerns in the last month:

Paula Armes, Robert Armes, Rochelle Armes, Amanda Aymin, Justin Barlup, Stacey Barner (Wendy Miller's sister-in-law), Brittany Benton, Judy Benton's friend's daughter's son, Samantha Benton, Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Benton, Beth & family, Scott Binns, John & Charlotte Brame, Brother-in-law, Brooks & his family, Gloria Brunner, Jake Brown, Jean Cochran (Martha Beebe's sister-in-law), Velma Coffman, Greg & Beckey Condon, Alytnai Consbruck & mother (Susan Ryder's niece & sister), Crop walkers, Melanie Cunningham, Dan, Daughter moving to Denver, David & family, Death of Cycling Para-Olympian, Susan Dormer (Jo-Ann Howard's son-in-law's mother), Dover football player, Michele Graybill Drivas (Nancy & Dennis Graybill's daughter, Pam Dyer, Brandon Ebersole, Linda Edmondson, Eleanor, Explosions in NF & NYC, Ali & Matt Farmer, Walt Farmer, Father & Uncle, Carolyn & Wally Funk, Getz's, Ginny, Dave Gladfelter's family (death of wife, Bev), Mark Graybill (Nancy & Dennis Graybill's son), Lori Grim, Sue Gross (Lyle Gross's mother), Taylor & Saige Gruver, Haiti, Larry Hake (Jill Markley's uncle), Thomas Hardy, Jerry Hartman, France Heinitz, Mel Hepburn, Christina Higgins & family, Wendy Hummel, Hurricane Matthew's flood victims in the states & islands, Carol Hutchison, Carolyn Jenokovich, Barbara Johnson, Lynda Jones (death of friend Ray), Lynda Jones & family, Josh (Olive Gibney's nephew), Lisa Keck's cousin, Dave Kline, Sandy Kline, Arlene Kowal, Becky Kozich (Danielle Gross's mother), Lona, Gillermina Hardy & Mason Lopez, Sue Lucas's friend, Luemma, Pam & Frank Mailey (Pam's husband), Mike, Kelly Millard, Etta miller & family, Family of Rashaad Montgomery, Mother-in-law, Ruth Myers & family (death of husband, Larry Myers), Family of Larry Myers (Bonnie Moody's uncle, Bonnie's mom Terry's brother, and Larry's children: Tom, Mike, Matt & Pam, and grandchildren), Nan, Neighbor's mom, Deb Oakley & family, Rick & Alice Orlandi, Our Country & Presidential Election, Martha Page (Mary Ann McAllister's sister), Karen Pepperman, Ryan Pepperman, Phyllis (Teresa Green's aunt), Potteiger's, Presidential elections fairness & honesty, Chuck Pulis, Lillian Pusey, Katie Rafferty, Raylynn, Kyle Richetts, Jen Rose, Shawn Rupp & children, Salem Players & Dinner Theater, Salem's Youth Group, Secret Sisters, Service members & support groups in foreign lands, Mark Shank, Shea (Lou Rudy's granddaughter), Sherrie (Danielle Gross's aunt), Shooting in our country, Bonnie & Bob Shreiner, Kyle Snyder, Gina Stahlnecker, Heidi Stahl's son, Raymond Steward, Sue's son (friend of Deb Oakley), Louis & Pauline Suplee, Connie Warner, Weddings, Wendy, West Shore School District Negotiations, West Shore Marching Band student, Jim & Lois Witters, Terry Yinger (Bonnie Moody's mother, death of brother Larry Myers), Kyle Young, Ped Young, Sr., Young man, Ward Yorks, SalemCares Ministry, Salem Stephen Ministers, and Salem's Military.

Do you have a prayer concern? Please call the Prayer Chain Coordinator, Fay Brown at 938-1190 or call Salem's Church Office at 938-1928 or email at www.office@fcsalem.org.



I want to thank everyone, for the cards and prayers for my sister Martha Page. Her new address is 5308 River Road, Apt. 226, Fredericksburg, VA 22407.
Mary Ann McAllister

I want to thank everyone for all the prayers, cards and call that I received after my fall. They all mean so much and made me feel the love and support of my Salem family. I am doing well and will be soon be back worshipping with you all.
Love, Jerry Hartman

Dear Rev. Heisley-Cato, Rev. Overman, and Members of FCSUMC,
Thank you for the very generous monetary donation. We appreciate your kindness and support of our mission. In September, we served 146 families, that added up to 264 people. Thank you for helping us help our neighbors in need.
Nina Myers and Deb Trimmer
Co-Directors of the Red Land Food Ministry

Kinsey Connor
Maggie Curtis
Michael Daylor
Anna Dormer
Ryan Dyer
Christa Green
Abigail Lemieux

Kylar Nolt
Cammi Richcreek
Zachary Shaw
Hope Strenkoski
Emma Sylvester
Sydney Wilt





402 Valley Road
Etters, PA 17319

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Staff

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Rev. John Overman, Executive Pastor joverman@fcsalem.org
Bonnie Moody, Administrative Assistant office@fcsalem.org

Gina Curtis, Director of Salem Community Nursery School
Crystal Duff, Child Care Coordinator
Donna Garcia, Kid’s Club Coordinator
Rebecca George, Director of Youth Ministries
Vicki Inscho, Kitchen Coordinator
Tracey Michelsen, Director of Children’s Ministries
Cliff & Sandy Motter, Church Sextons
Laurie Murry, Director of Serving Ministries
Kelsey Robertson, Keyboardist, Director of The Gathering Worship
Susan Ryder, Director of Communications, Small Groups Coordinator
Derek Sandstrom, Director of Worship Ministries
Stacey Werner, Director of Informal Worship

Church Phone: (717) 938-1928
Church Website: www.fcsalem.org

Sunday Worship at 8:15, 9:30 and 11:00 AM
Sunday School for all ages at 9:30AM; Adult Class at 11:00AM

