

## WHY?

January 7 to February 11, 2018

Suffering is one of the great mysteries of our faith. For millennia, human beings, when faced with suffering, have been asking "Why?" We wonder, "Is it something I did?" "Am I being punished?" Is it the work of evil in this world?" And, as people of faith, we ask, "How can a loving God allow such suffering in this world?"

The book of Job in the Old Testament is a sacred writing that, through the story of a good man who suffers greatly, struggles with these and other questions like them. Beginning on Sunday, January 7, and going through Sunday, February 11, we will explore these questions using the book of Job as our jumping off place.

In the course of this series we will ask other questions like:

- ◇ How does suffering affect my relationships?
- ◇ Why are friends important in a times of trouble?
- ◇ Is it Okay to question God?
- ◇ **Who's really in charge here?"**

*Suffering, at one time or another, is part of being human. Join us as we explore Godly and life-giving ways to survive difficulties and move on to even thrive.*

### 2017 CHURCH COUNCIL

The following people were elected at our Annual Church Conference to serve on the Church Council of Salem Church in 2018. The names in **bold** are new members on the Council.



#### Class of 2018

Brian Davis  
Stacey Wilkinson  
Eric Musselman  
Stephanie Sechrist

#### Class of 2019

Terry Duncan  
Jo-Ann Howard  
Mic Sadler  
Joan Dean

#### Class of 2020

**Bonnie Moody**  
**Steve Novacek**  
**Ellen Smith**  
**Jeff Strohecker**



Thank you to those that served as the class of 2017:

**Harry Derrick, Erica Duda, Christopher Wolf, and Judy Novinger**

Please know that you and your work on behalf of Salem are so appreciated!

## WHAT'S YOUR NEXT STEP?



**We** are Christ followers, disciples. And discipleship is a journey not a destination. Sometimes we're gung ho, sometimes we slow down and sometimes we step off the path altogether!

**Where** are you now? Where do you want to be? What's your next step?

**It** could be as simple as committing to:

- Attend one additional Sunday a month
- Participate regularly in our food, gift, or Mission Central drives.
- Become an usher or liturgist

**It** could include:

- Joining a small group
- Participating in a service project
- Volunteering with the children or youth
- Helping with a community meal
- Singing in the choir

**Or** you could chose to:

- Create a new ministry or group
- Facilitate a short term or long term small group
- Join the church

**Next** steps take a little commitment, a tad of determination and sometimes the need to overcome some fear.

**It's** okay if your next step doesn't work out.

**Not** everything we try will have the results we want. At Salem you have the freedom to try something new and if it's not for you, to try something else.

**January** offers new beginnings, take this as an opportunity to take your next step in your walk with Christ.

### Safe Sanctuaries

We are currently seeking a person to chair our Safe Sanctuaries Committee. Please contact Tracey Michelsen (tmichelsen@fcsalem.org) or sign up on the Connection Card if you are interested.



in  
January

- \* Holly Culp
- \* Amelia Duncan
- \* Jessica Duncan
- \* Leo Gross
- \* Emily Grunstra
- \* Blake Hockenberry
- \* Logan Hockenberry
- \* Matthew Murry
- \* Anna Strohl
- \* Jennifer Zuraw



# Easter Eggs!

The Easter Egg Project is ready to kick off a New Year of Egg Making. Come and join a dedicated group of folks who enjoy working, having some good fellowship, and making Easter eggs. We hope you will join us. No experience is necessary, and there really is a job for everyone. Please consider joining us in this service project that benefits many activities in and around our church!

We will do preparation work on January 4<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 12 noon. Egg-making production will begin on Monday January 8<sup>th</sup> and will continue every Monday and Wednesday thereafter through March 21<sup>st</sup>, so mark your calendars. Come and join us from approximately 7 am until 1 pm each day, or anytime during that timeframe. Lunch will be provided each day.

Have off school or work on January 15<sup>th</sup> for Martin Luther King Day? Why not join us? It's good for service or volunteer hours, and it helps our church.

Questions: Call Gary Cassell at 717-938-6484, Jeff Strohecker at 717-884-1941, or Jo-Ann Howard at 717-938-3216.

Thank you to everyone who has helped to make the Easter Egg Project a success for over 20 years! We look forward to seeing you!



*Women of Light* will meet at 12:30 pm at Jeannie Pelen's home for a pot luck lunch and a movie. Jeannie's address is 336 Braddock Drive, Etters. Please sign up on the Women of Light bulletin board



so we know you are coming.



Women of Light is open to all single women! Come join the fun!

## The United Methodist Women

will meet Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup> in room 115 at 7:00 pm. The program for the evening will be the installation of Officers for 2018 and the recipient for the Special Mission Recognition Award.



*Why not get the New Year off to a fresh start and check us out? All ladies of the Church and Community are welcome.*



## Electronics Recycling in January

Join us on January 20 from 9am-12pm at Mission Central (5 Pleasant View Drive, Mechanicsburg) for our electronics recycling day.

Mission Central refurbishes or properly recycles donated computers, accessories, cables and wires—even cell phones and old electronics!

We have donated more than 19,000 computers world wide and we even have a Scholarship Program.



For more information, go to [compministry.org](http://compministry.org) and be sure

to tune into "Good Day PA" on abc27 on January 17 at noon to learn more about us through a feature story! Hope to see you soon!

## BACK TO THE BIBLE SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

By Kathy Alford

During the first Sunday of January we will finish our Advent study of Adam Hamilton's *Not a Silent Night*. In his book, Adam Hamilton looks at Jesus' life through the eyes of his mother. Imagine what Bethlehem must have looked like from Mary's point of view. Focus your own gaze on the Savior she knew as her beautiful child! Beginning with the crucifixion and resurrection, then backtracking through Jesus' life and ministry, Hamilton paints a fresh and moving portrait of the Messiah's life in this 5-week Advent study.

For the rest of January, we will resume our study of the book *The Shack* that we began before Advent. This is a revolutionary book which looks at great sadness through the eyes of the triune God. *The Shack Study Guide* helps take readers on their own personal journeys toward renewal after profound loss or pain.

Are you looking for a small group? We always welcome visitors. Materials are provided. We meet Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:30 in room 210 upstairs.

### The following is our lesson schedule for January:

#### Not a Silent Night by Adam Hamilton

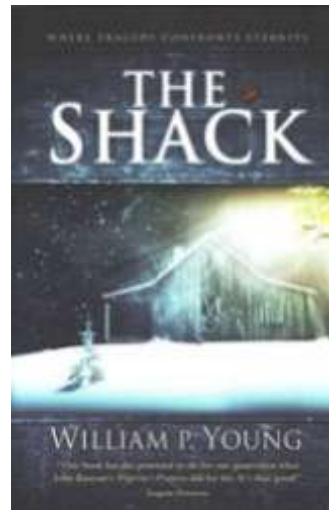
January 7 Chapter 5 "It Was Not a Silent Night"

#### The Shack Study Guide by William Paul Young

January 14 Chapter 11 "Here Come Da Judge"  
Chapter 12 "In the Belly of the Beast"  
Chapter 13 "A Meeting of Hearts"

January 21 Chapter 14 "Verbs and Other Freedoms"  
Chapter 15 "A Festival of Friends"  
Chapter 16 "A Morning of Sorrows"

January 28 Chapter 17 "Choices of the Heart"  
Chapter 18 "Outbound Ripples"



Winter weather is upon us! In the event of severe weather, the church office will follow the West Shore School District's (WSSD) delay & cancellation schedule. Sunday service cancellations will be broadcast on WHTM 27 & WGAL 8. Important change: The closings for the church will only be broadcast on **the stations' apps and on their websites**. Church closures will no longer be broadcast on the tv stations. If the WSSD cancels all evening activities, the church will cancel all evening activities as well. If the School district does not cancel evening activities, all group cancellations will be at the discretion of each group leader and he/she will be responsible for contacting the members of the group.

## Missions Corner



Item of the Month: A service Mission Central provides is the computer ministry. They will refurbish your unwanted electronics and give them to non-profit ministries. The item of the month is adult toothbrushes in their original packaging. Please put the toothbrushes in the bin marked "Mission Central" in Mission Corner.







# LIBRARY NEWS

By Kathy Alford

This article is geared toward the teenagers of our church, many of whom I have been their middle school language arts, science, or social studies teacher at Crossroads Middle School. If you have had me for a teacher, then you know that reading is one of my passions along with teaching. Twenty-one years ago, I started the library at our church because of my passion for reading and my training as a reading specialist. At that point, our church had no library, and I took it upon myself with the church's approval and financial backing to put together one for our church. I wanted our church to be a resource for learning and enjoyment for all ages.

Have you visited our library lately? Nothing would make me happier than if you did! I am almost always in the library from 10:30-11:15 every Sunday. Please stop in and let me give you a tour of all the items that are available to you.

Do you like to listen to Christian music? We've got it from rock to pop to worship music. Do you like to play games? We've got Christian versions of Apples to Apples, Pictionary, Trivial Pursuit, Sequence, Scattagories, etc. Do you prefer to read magazines? We've got *Brio* (for girls) and *Sports Spectrum*. We have all kinds of DVDs that I'm sure would interest you. Do you prefer to listen to books? We have audio CDs that will work great for you. As for books.....well, we have quite a selection. We have lots of series if you like to keep going with one author. We also have Manga Bibles! We have fiction to nonfiction. You will find mysteries to romance to science fiction to fantasy. As you can see, we have something for everyone.

Please give our library a try! I would be glad to help you with a selection. Everything is free to borrow, and I would love to catch up with you or meet you if I haven't already.

## WOMEN'S BOOK DISCUSSION

The women's book discussion meets at Salem on the third Thursday of every month at 7 PM. It is open to any woman who likes to read—or who wants to join in the discussion topic. Come and bring your ideas. If you have questions please call Marsha Uber (938-3108; uber2495@ptd.net). The books for the beginning of 2018 are as follows:

January 18:

*A Man called Ove*  
by Fredrik Backman.

February 15:

*A Case for Christ*  
by Lee Strobel

March 15:

*An American Family:*  
*A Memoir of Hope and Sacrifice*  
by Khizr Khan



SALEM WILL BE HOLDING A FUEL DRIVE JANUARY 14-28 TO BENEFIT OUR NEIGHBORS WHO MAY NOT HAVE HEAT THIS WINTER. PROCEEDS GO TO REDCAP WHO DISTRIBUTE THE FUNDS. CHECKS MAY BE MADE OUT TO "FCSUMC" WITH "FUEL DRIVE" IN THE MEMO.

## LOCAL MISSION TO EXPAND

Salem has been awarded by The Parish and Community Development Committee of the Susquehanna Conference, a one-year Social Ministries grant for 2018 for the Motel Ministry. This will allow Salem to expand ministry beyond what is currently being offered (Free Pizza Friday and Soul Food Ministry). We are going where the need is and plan to offer life



skills, worship, Bible study, social activities and support to families who reside at the Budget Inn off of the Limekiln Exit of Route 83. Interested in being part of a planning and brainstorming group to help guide this ministry? Contact Laurie Murry at [lmurry@fcsalem.org](mailto:lmurry@fcsalem.org).



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

Kathy Alford; Amanda Aymin; Judy Benton; Georgene Bingman; Scott Binns; Charlotte Brame; Fay Brown; Rick Burrows; California fire victims and families; Camden; Dennis Carr; Kathy Castonguay; Kim Chernow; College students traveling and finals; Confirmands; Judy Conley; Debbie; Meghan DeRoy; Diane; Duane and Barb; Ed and Kay; Linda Edmondson; Eleanor; family with marital problems; families with mental illness; Nicole Granger; Dennis Graybill; Bruce and Patsy Goiselman; Grover; Sue Gross (brother-in-law); Bonnie Gruver; Mary Gustin; Herk and Kristy; Dana Harman; Andrea Hartzell; Connie; Louise Heckman; Matt Hepburn; Ron Hepburn; Kathie Hoke; Joshua Hopper; Colton Howard; Don and Shirley Howard; Jim; Kitty; Shirley Krebs; Lacey; Live Nativity; Scott Livingston; Sue Lucas; Merv; Marge; Mike and Nan; Miller family; Neupane Family (Salem's refugee family); Joan Norwood; Deb Oakley; Alice Orlandi; Jeanette Payne; Carol Perry; June Pierces; Ron and Alice Provard; Sue Prowell; Jessica Rader; Kyle Ricketts; Donna Rife; Lou Rudy; Shawn Rupp and children (Jordan, Kayla and Sophia); Jenna Russell family; Dave Shafer; Shannon; John Shoff; Sosik Family; Raymond Stewart; April Strong; Patti Turner; Tom and Dee W.; Emma Welsh; Lynn Walsh; Julie Wentzel's daughter Emmie; Carole Welpton's family; Karen Wiest; Rose Williams; Kyle Young; all those hurting from abuse, neglect and separation.



**Do you have a prayer concern?  
Please contact the Prayer Chain Coordinator,  
Marsha Young, at [mdyoung805@gmail.com](mailto:mdyoung805@gmail.com) or contact Salem's Church Office  
at 717-938-1928 or [office@fcsalem.org](mailto:office@fcsalem.org).**



THANK YOU to all who served with Family Promise in 2017! If you have not yet been blessed with the opportunity to serve in this ministry, join us in 2018! We will be hosting on the following weeks: **February 25-March 4; May 27-June 3; August 19-August 26; and November 4-November 11.**



**Dear Salem Family and Pastors,**

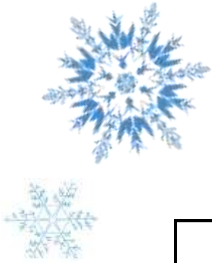
Thank you all so much for your prayers, cards, calls, concern and offers of help as I recover from involved spine surgery which has limited my ability to do many ordinary activities. I am improving every week. Please continue to pray for a successful recovery.

In Christian Love,

*Alice Orlandi*



*Thank You*



**TO OUR SALEM FAMILY,**

We would like to take this opportunity to send our appreciation for all of the cards, e-mails, phone calls, and, especially your prayers, during Dennis' recent hospitalization and recovery. A special thanks to Pastor Debbie for her hospital visit and phone calls, all very much appreciated.

From Our Family To Yours,  
A Very Happy and Healthy New Year!

Dennis and Nancy Graybill

**Dear Reverend Dr. Heisley-Cato, Reverend Overman and members of FC Salem United Methodist Church,**

Thank you so much for all the food that you collected for us. Also thanks for the recent, very generous monetary donation. We appreciate your support of our mission. We had a very busy November. We served 166 families, that added up to 478 people.

Nina Myers and Deb Trimmer  
Co-Directors of the Red Land Food Ministry



**Dear Fishing Creek Salem**

**United Methodist Church:**

Thank you for your generous donation of greeting cards to *Caitlin's Smiles*. Your donation was received on 12/4/2017. Your gift will allow us to put smiles on the faces of children in hospitals and specialty pediatric clinics across the region.

What a difference a smile makes. For children plagued with serious illnesses, a reason to smile makes the pain and agony fade away...at least for a little while. For Caitlin, glitter and glue was a miracle cure and as she let her artistic juices flow, she found herself far away from the painful day-to-day fight for her life.

Caitlin was four when doctors found a brain tumor. Over the next three years, Caitlin would receive many surgeries and treatments to try and help her small body fight the fight of her life. Sadly, at age seven, Caitlin lost her battle. Through the pain and sacrifice, Caitlin smiled as she focused on creating her beautiful masterpieces for others. What she didn't know at the time was that she was sharing much more.



Since 2004, *Caitlin's Smiles* has been putting smiles on the faces of children facing chronic or life threatening conditions by encouraging them to focus on creative arts activities. Last year, Caitlin's Smiles distributed crafts to over 100,000 children in hospitals.

Losing my daughter, Caitlin, was something I will never recover from, but I can and will continue to put smiles on the faces of kids as they fight their own battle. With your help we can keep smiles on the faces of children suffering from chronic or life threatening conditions. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

**Cheryl Hornung, Founder**



402 Valley Road  
Etters, PA 17319

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Permit No. 110  
Harrisburg, PA 17107

**Staff**



Rev. Dr. Deborah Heisley-Cato, Lead Pastor  
Rev. John Overman, Executive Pastor  
Sandy Herman, Administrative Assistant

dheisley-cato@fcsalem.org  
joverman@fcsalem.org  
office@fcsalem.org

Gina Curtis, Director of Salem Community Nursery School  
Kevin Fickel, Interim 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  
Jeannette Payne, Child Care Coordinator  
Kelsey Robertson, Director of The Gathering Worship, Keyboardist, Youth Choir Director  
Susan Ryder, Director of Communications, Small Groups Coordinator  
Derek Sandstrom, Director of Worship Ministries

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 9:30 AM; Adult Class at 11:00 AM

