



salem Connections

HAVANA, FLORIDA

Salem United Methodist Church

Curtiss Cain, Pastor April 2018

PO Box 646: 202 East 9TH Ave. Havana, Florida 32333

(850) 539-6634 salemchurchhavana@gmail.com salemumchavana.org

¹⁵ He [Jesus] asked her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?" Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him." ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means "Teacher").

-John 20:15-16

Dear Salem UM Church Family,

On this Easter morning, as we are surrounded by crosses, empty tombs and songs declaring "He Lives" we see everywhere the amazing story of how Christ not only died on the cross for our sins, but defeated death for us by raising back to life three days later on Easter morning! But even outside the church, the story of Christ's resurrection may be hiding in more places than you might think.

One staple that has long been a part of our Easter celebration is the egg. Do you remember coloring them as a child, that smell of vinegar in the air and the excitement of the great hunt? Have you ever wondered where that came from? According to Eastern Orthodox tradition, Mary Magdalene visited Emperor Tiberius to show him an egg as a way of explaining the resurrection. The idea being that, as the egg was already a sign of new life in the Eastern culture, like the tomb, when the egg is opened, we are reminded of Christ raising to life again. According to one legend, Emperor Tiberius scoffed at her, saying the resurrection was as likely as her white egg turning red, and it did! Another tradition tells us the egg was red to begin with, yet this is why Mary Magdalene is often portrayed holding a red egg in ancient paintings, and where we get the tradition of coloring eggs from. In medieval Russia and Poland people would spend hours drawing intricate designs on eggs and give them away as gifts. During the same time in Britain the wealthy would beautify eggs with real gold and even jewels, like a crown, to celebrate Christ as our King of King & Lord of Lords, while the middle to lower class would use dyes to color their eggs.

So, what about the Easter Egg Hunt? Does anyone remember rolling eggs downhill? In England, Germany and other countries children would roll eggs downhill to remind them of the stone being rolled away from the entrance of the tomb. This was first observed in America on the White House lawn in 1814 when the wife of President James Madison

brought it to the states. Over the years it has been "Americanized" into hiding eggs and excited children running **everywhere**, in the same way that the women who went to the tomb, the apostles later and many others, found the resurrected Jesus meeting them in places they might not expect. As the egg is still a sign of the tomb, when we open those plastic treasures, inside is a sweet treat, very much like the sweet love and grace we find in Jesus Christ.

White flowers that look like trumpets, spring colors reminding us of plants that look dead in the winter coming to life, and more! The resurrection story is all around us today. Like that Easter Egg, your Jesus may be hiding in places you might not expect him. Keep a look out for where you might find the Easter story in some unexpected places today.

May God look after your loved ones and our church family,

Pastor Curtiss Cain

Dunlap-Berg, Barbara. "Which Came First: Easter or the Eggs?" United Methodists Living in Faith: Interpreter Jan./Feb. 2016: 49-50. Print.

VBS



We are gearing up for this year's VBS! With the theme of "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you" (Isaiah 43:2) we will have the opportunity to invite children to trust God when the waters of life get rough. Our VBS will be June 10th – 14th 5:30p-8:00p. To help them experience the love of Christ in a fun and inviting way we are asking for your help in loaning the church camping and boating equipment. Please write your name on all items you would like returned, details of when to start bringing them to come. But from behind the scenes, to working with children, in order to love these children in Christ name we will not be able to put on this year's VBS without roughly 20+ volunteers. Whether you've done it for many years or this is your first time, please see Misty or the signup sheet on the bulletin board to be a part of changing young lives for Christ.

News from the Nursery

The nursery has been busy preparing because we "Heard the News!" Jesus is coming to town! As we get ready to welcome Jesus we have learned of some gifts to welcome Jesus with. We read a story about Jesus asking for a donkey and what the donkey was used for. We colored Palm leaves to put down for when Jesus rode by on the donkey. We learned in Mark 11:9, 'blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord!'

The children ended March with adding eggs to a cross set up in the Fellowship Hall. Each Sunday the children added to the cross and Easter Sunday we will complete the cross! On Easter Sunday the children will fill the cross full of eggs to show that when we come to Jesus we all can be filled with his love. After the cross was decorated, the Palm branches laid out, and Jesus left on the donkey, we come to Easter Sunday and "The Tomb is Empty" Jesus is Alive!!

The nursery will start reading from Acts 9:20. He began to preach about Jesus in the synagogues. "He is God's Son," he declares.

We teach the children with picture cards, coloring sheets and posters on the wall with our Bible verses each Sunday along with music and dancing all helping them grow in God's love! Please walk by and look at what the young children are doing! Thank you for your support in the nursery ☺

Blessings,

Lindy Pennington



Family Ministry Fun

This has been a wonderful month for the children and youth. We are celebrating our blessings as we welcome more and more little ones. The children have been enjoying bible lessons, music time, crafts, puppet shows, play time, and the special trips to the prize box. Mrs. Sandy has been such a special Sunday school teacher. We now have our walls covered with masterpieces made by our very own artists here at Salem! The children have been learning so much about Jesus and his love for us, and how amazing it is to witness the little ones blossom in the spirit. The children are growing in every way. Bring your children....we will love, and teach them. The youth Sunday school class

has a lot of fun with Mrs. Nettie who always brings them special treats, plays fun games, and has a good lesson for them. This month we did one lesson on I Am second where the youth watch testimonies from some of their favorite athletes, movie stars, and song writers who all have given their lives to God. The rest of our material is curriculum based, and fun learning. We also like to send the kids home with something to share with their families. Sunday school is held upstairs after coffee house service and starts around 9:50 A.M. Please bring your kids. Our acolytes are dismissed a little early to go join the worship team. *Please check the acolyte schedule and make sure if your child can't be here someone is aware that way we have a replacement.* In Children's Church our children have been breaking bread, washing each other's feet, learning to see like the blind, and having a great time while learning about the stories in the Bible! Children's church is so much fun and the kids really enjoy the teachers and each other. We welcome all children & teens to join us as we meet every Sunday during traditional service. Youth movie night was a success! The youth gathered around the television upstairs after a learning series on "What is love".... to watch the movie about a family who struggled yet overcame with an abundance of love for one another. Malissa and I had plenty of snacks, candy, pizza, and salad for them to enjoy while watching the movie "Wonder." This past week we opened with prayer, a delicious meal, a lesson on how if one can't God can, and went upstairs to the craft room where we made our very own God cans! The youth are geared up for their big contest at Easter Fest, and the upcoming spring trip to Wild Adventures. Youth group is every Sunday at 5:00 P.M. and we sure would love to add to our group of young adults. Grades 6th-12th are welcome to attend and get involved in our mission to change the world one mission at a time. The bird feeders the youth made have been donated to different members of our church that can't always be here with us. We love all of you, and want to thank everyone who donates, volunteers, or contributes in any way. We appreciate and love our church family!



Church Finances



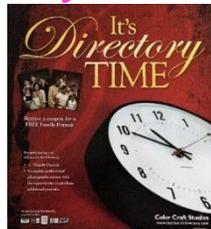
“Our Faithfulness” is a section on the back- of our bulletin each week and is an accountability report to ourselves on Sunday worship attendance, Salty Service cards and giving. As you can see from our bulletins and the next page of this newsletter, our needs to meet the budget exceed our receipts (or income) so far this year. Although we have nine months to catch up, we need to be diligent in our spending and our giving. The Finance Committee will be meeting in April to review the 2018 budget.

Beverly Crawford
Finance Chairperson

New Church Directory!

It's Church Directory Time! From April 20th – 22nd we will be taking photos for our new directory.

About two weeks later each family will receive a *free* 10x13 family photo and have the opportunity to purchase additional family photos if they wish. A few months later each family will receive a *free* church printed directory, *free* access to a Salem UMC phone app directory, the opportunity to purchase an additional printed directory and the opportunity to purchase a print pocket (or mini) directory.



5th Sunday Fellowship



After attempting a combined service when there is a 5th Sunday in the month several times, we are going to try something a little different, but

similar to what we have done in the past. On April 29th (the next time there will be a 5th Sunday in the month) Sunday School will be replaced by an hour of fellowship from 10-11am. Even if you don't attend Sunday School, please come, meet someone new from the other service, and enjoy some coffee & refreshments.

Worship Committee

Fragrances Safe Place

Do to the ever-growing list of chemicals used in things like perfume, cologne and scented lotions more and more people are being affected by allergies and even asthma attacks, including members of our own church family. In an effort to create safe space for worship we are asking everyone to refrain from wearing fragrances at the church. Thank you for your help.

Scent Free
Space

Lay Servant Training



Have you ever wanted to learn how to minister to others more effectively? As a Sunday school teacher, church leader or speaker in general, would you like to learn how

to share God's love with people through devotionals and sermons? Our district will be hosting a course where you can be certified as a lay servant (ministering to others) through a basic course, or if you have already done the basic course and would like, an advanced course in lay speaking. The event will be held April 13-14 at the John Wesley UMC in Tallahassee. To sign up contact the district office or Pastor Curtiss. \$35 cost includes book, lunch, tuition and a snack.

Shirts & Tumblers!

We will soon be taking orders for church t-shirts at \$9 each (gray or lime green) embroidered polos at \$24 each (gray) and tumblers at \$5 each (logo & lid will be red). For more details keep an eye on the bulletin.



Child Protection Training

We will be hosting a Child Protection Training event on Saturday May 5th at 10:00am here at Salem UMC.

What You Will Learn:

- Safe effective practices for interacting with young people,
- What “safe touch safe talk’ looks like,
- What United Methodist Policy is for child protection,
- and much more.

What is Included:

- Background check (required for all volunteers working with children & youth ministry)
- Certification as a Child Protection Trained volunteer in the United Methodist Church.



We are asking that all staff & all Sunday school teachers that work with children or youth attend. We highly encourage all other children/youth volunteers to attend, including those who work with VBS, Easter Egg Hunt and Funday Monday. Registration will be in the bulletin.

Lectionary Reading

April 1, 2018

Acts 10:34-43, Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24,
1 Corinthians 15:1-11, John 20:1-18, or Mark 16:1-8

April 8, 2018

Acts 4:32-35, Psalm 133, 1 John 1:1-22, John 20:19-31

April 15, 2018

Acts 3:12-19, Psalm 4, 1 John 3:1-7, Luke 23:36b-48

April 22, 2018

Acts 4:5-12, Psalm 23, 1 John 3:16-24, John 10:11-18

April 29, 2018

Acts 8:26-40, Psalm 22:25-31, 1 John 4:7-21,
John 15:1-8

April Birthdays

Sonnie Rowan	4
Jean Miller	5
Ginger Farrell	7
Nettie Loy	13
Jack Hanbury	15
Cecilia Frau	16
Joe Bell	17
Marcia Payne	17
Blake Norman	22
Lillian Moulton	23
Larry Wood	23

Now Hiring! Choir Director

As you may know, our Choir Director Don and his wife Emily will be leaving us at the end of May to move back to Arkansas. While we are sad to see them go we are excited for where God is going to use them next. But it is for this reason that we are now accepting applications for a new Choir Director. Background in directing or vocal music is preferred. This part-time job consists of two practices a week (Wed. evening & Sunday morning), leading music for one Sunday worship service and helping to build/lead several special musical events throughout the year. Inquiries and applicants may contact Lynn Lovallo iimsjunk03@msn.com or Pastor Curtiss at sumchavana.pastor@gmail.com.

Our Faithful Giving

Our 2018 Budget	\$242,365
Needs Jan - Mar	\$60,597
Giving Jan - Mar	\$47,917

Readings for April 2018

April 1: Judges 6-7
 April 2: Judges 8-9
 April 3: Judges 10-12
 April 4: Judges 13-15
 April 5: Judges 16-18
 April 6: Judges 19-21
 April 7: Ruth
 April 8: 1Samuel 1-3
 April 9: 1Samuel 4-8
 April 10: 1Samuel 9-12
 April 11: 1Samuel 13-14
 April 12: 1Samuel 15-17
 April 13: 1Samuel 18-20; Psalms 11/59
 April 14: 1Samuel 21-24
 April 15: Psalms 7/27/31/34/52
 April 16: Psalms 56/120/140-142
 April 17: 1Samuel 25-27
 April 18: Psalms 17/35/54/63
 April 19: 1Samuel 28-31; Psalms 18
 April 20: Psalms 121/123-125/128-130
 April 21: 2Samuel 1-4
 April 22: Psalms 6/8-10/14/16/19/21
 April 23: 1Chronicles 1-2
 April 24: Psalms 43-45/49/84-85/87
 April 25: 1Chronicles 3-5
 April 26: Psalms 73/77-78
 April 27: 1Chronicles 6
 April 28: Psalm 81/88/92-93
 April 29: 1Chronicles 7-10
 April 30: Psalms 102-104

Salem in Egypt



A few weeks ago, I had the privilege of touring Egypt. One of the highlights of the trip was a hot air balloon ride to see sunrise over the Valley of the Kings. There were several balloons lifting into the air at the same time. As the balloon I was in lifted, this one rose up next to us! Good morning, Salem!

Karen Stansberry



You can visit us on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/SalemUMChavana

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:45am - Coffee House Service
 (Holy Communion Each Week)
 9:50am - Sunday School
 11:00am - Traditional Service
 5:00pm –Youth Fellowship
 (meal provided)

April 2018

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

7:45am - Men's Morning Group
 (Country Kitchen Restaurant Next to Publix)
 11:00am - Prayer Circle
 12:00pm – Subs & Scriptures @
 Subway in Havana
 7:00pm - Choir Rehearsal

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <p>saalem HAVANA, FLORIDA</p> <p>Salem United Methodist Church PO Box 646: 202 E 9th Ave. Havana, Florida 32333 (850) 539-6634 salemchurchhavana@gmail.com www.salemumchavana.org</p>						
<p>1 7a: Sunrise Service- Havana Golf Club 8:45a: Coffee House Easter Cantata 11a: Traditional Easter Cantata</p>	2	<p>3 9a: Moses Baskets</p>	4	5	6	7
<p>8 11a: Holy Communion in Traditional Service 12p: Lunch Bunch</p>	<p>9 5:45p: UMW</p>	<p>10 Pastor Out of Office</p>	11	<p>12 Men's Walk2Emmaus</p>	<p>13 Pastor Out of Office Men's Walk2Emmaus</p>	<p>14 Men's Walk2Emmaus</p>
<p>15 Men's Walk2Emmaus</p>	16	<p>17 9a: Moses Baskets</p>	<p>18 1:30p: Worship Committee</p>	19	<p>20 Salem Directory – Picture Day</p>	<p>21 Salem Directory – Picture Day</p>
<p>22 Salem Directory – Picture Day</p>	23	24	25	<p>26 Pastor Out of Office</p>	<p>27 Pastor Out of Office</p>	<p>28 7a-8p: Youth to Wild Adventures 1p-5p: Greensboro Thrift Store</p>
<p>29 8:45a & 11a: Community Cares offering & Moses Baskets dedication 10-11a: Church-wide fellowship 6p: Hallelujah Night at 1st Chattahoochee</p>	30					