



# Connections

September 2019

[WWW.SalemUMCHavana.org](http://WWW.SalemUMCHavana.org) 

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<sup>7</sup> Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

*Philippians 4:7 (NLT)*

This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength. *Nehemiah 8:10 (NIV)*

My friends, what does it mean to *experience* the joy that comes from knowing the Lord, to have his peace that passes all understanding in your life? Recently I've been thinking of an old Christian friend who openly shared a testimony that he heard all his life about someone experiencing great personal joy because of their relationship with Christ. Yet my friend struggled because he himself doesn't often feel that sense of joy or peace. This is a good Christian man who loves the Lord, but at times he felt like all he ever did was keep sinning, let God down, or feel as if he was never good enough. As a result, he vulnerably shared in his testimony that he longed to feel that sense of joy in his life from knowing God, that he wanted to feel that sense of deep seeded hope and peace.

What came out of that is he said he believes there is a part of our relationship with God we may not be accessing. God not only doesn't intend the redeemed to feel condemned, but to know within our very being, we are truly loved, and we have been set free from our past. While we will always sin, God isn't looking for loopholes to hold it against us. So maybe, the part of our relationship with our savior we're not accessing yet is the fact that the joy and peace has always been there. We just have to not only believe it, but assume it's there, **live** like it is. Maybe like trusting a friend, or the faithfulness of a spouse, we just need to make the conscious choice and tell ourselves "I choose to believe God's joy is available to me." My friends, today may you *resolve* to claim God's peace which is always available to you. If nothing else may you start with today and say to yourself, "for the rest of the day I will choose to live in the joy of the Lord."

God's peace be with you,

*Pastor Curtiss Cain*

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## Flower Bed Ministry Open!



Isn't it GREAT that for August, Salem was awarded YARD OF THE MONTH by the Havana Garden Club? Yea! The gorgeous floral and seasonal displays you've been enjoying have been the artful creations of Debbie & Lew Purcell. Loving thanks to them for the welcoming first impression.

## Operation Christmas Child



Before you know it, it will be time to fill our shoeboxes with gifts for children to bring the temporary joy of receiving a gift and the opportunity to have their lives changed forever by knowing Christ. The kickoff for this year's shoebox project will be held at Tallahassee Heights UMC from 2:00-4:00 on Saturday, September 14. Guest speakers will be Tom and Brenda Stallworth who have recently participated in a distribution trip to South Africa and Alina Aisina, who will tell her personal story of receiving a shoebox as a child. "I still remember what it was like to receive a shoebox. In that moment it felt like God was there giving that gift to me.", she says. There will be information and suggestions on packing your shoebox, a time of praise and worship, food and fellowship. Mark your calendars and come! School supply and end of summer clearance sales are great opportunities to buy ahead for your shoeboxes. School supplies, flip flops, toys, are all welcome additions.

## YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Friends, fun, games, singing, food: doesn't that sound like a great way to spend your Sunday evenings? Come to the Salem Fellowship Hall at 5pm and we'll get closer to God and our friends. Y'all come!



## Notes from the Nursery

The nursery has been doing well. We had a new little one join us. The kids have been listening well when I tell them about Jesus. We are all getting along and enjoying each other. Blessings,  
Rachel Loy



## YOU Hold The Remote Control



If you go to the Traditional Sunday Service, have you ever wanted to adjust the volume up or down - - - or

adjust the picture? Now's your chance !!!]

Just volunteer to run the audio/visual booth in the choir loft one Sunday a month. All you need are basic computer skills. We use Power Point, so if you need additional, tender training, we will happily provide it.

If you are interested in broadening your horizon, please contact Pastor Curtiss or Kimsey Helms.

## Lunch Bunch Is Lots Of Fun !

Love to eat?  
Love to cook?  
Love to socialize with other hungry Christian?  
Who doesn't????



As most of you know, every first Sunday, Salem hosts a delightful pot-luck lunch in the fellowship hall immediately after the 11 o'clock service. There's lots of smiling, socializing, some laughter and even an occasional recipe sharing. Salem has some **GREAT** cooks.

And, after the sumptuous meal, just like at home, there's the clean-up. Usually it's just the same few people left alone to tidy-up everything- - and that's after they already heated/chilled the food and put it all out on the tables for us all.

We need everyone to pitch in after the meal, even if you only pick-up the salt and pepper shakers off every table. If you're not sure what to do, ask someone already helping clean.

We eat as a family, let's clean up as a family. Thanks ahead of time from the kitchen crew.

## Where's Mercy the Mouse?



*Every month Mercy finds a new place to visit in the church, see if you can find where she's hiding next.*

Hi my Salem friends! I hope you have survived the preparations for a major hurricane. Mom says

we need to find a shoe box somewhere around the church so we can put all of our supplies in it if another hurricane warning happens! I told her I knew in the crafts room upstairs there were lots of boxes! So if you are missing one it's in the closet where we live! We even have 2 plastic glasses of water! Mom's the best!

Anyway, I had to sneak off to write you 'cause I haven't finished my homework yet! Mom would be really mad if she knew that...unfinished homework that is! I've been spending the last few weeks in the Joy Class and boy can those ladies talk, all about the Bible and everything else!!!

Thought you would like to know we have 2 very skilled checker players in youth! Chris Collins and Katlyn Carpenter played one game that lasted more than 40 minutes! You'll have to ask them who won! I know but I'm not telling!

Please enjoy the coming fall weather and always remember...Look up, not down, look forward, not back, look out not in and lend a hand!

Blessings and love!

Mercy Mouse ♥

## Lay Servant Training

Have you felt a nudge to serve others, lead a small group, teach a Sunday School class or even preach a sermon? These classes can help equip you to serve others in new and exciting ways.

Coming in October are two different Lay Servant Trainings.

**Oct. 11-12: Trinity Tallahassee. There will be a Basic course and two Advanced courses.**

**Oct. 18-19: Trinity Lake City. There will be a Basic course and one Advanced course.**

**Times are:**

**Friday - 5:30 PM - 9:00 PM**

**Saturday - 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM**

To register, go to <https://florida-reg.brtapp.com/NWDISTRICTLAYSERVANTTRAININGOCTOBER2019> or speak with Pastor Curtiss.

## Lectionary Reading

### September 1, 2019

Jeremiah 2:4-13  
Psalm 8:1, 10-16 (UMH 803)  
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16  
Luke 14:1, 7-14

### September 8, 2019

Jeremiah 18:1-11  
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 (UMH 854)  
Philemon 1:1-21  
Luke 14:25-33

### September 15, 2019

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28  
Psalm 14 (UMH 746)  
1 Timothy 1:12-17  
Luke 15:1-10

### September 22, 2019

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1  
Psalm 79:1-9, or Psalm 4 (UMH 741)  
1 Timothy 2:1-7  
Luke 16:1-13

### September 29, 2019

Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15  
Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16 (UMH 810)  
1 Timothy 6:6-19  
Luke 16:19-31

## September Birthdays

David McNeill	1
Adam Teuton	5
Mark Stamps	6
Curtiss Cain	7
Debbie Purcell	7
Bill Buckhalt	13
Debbie Revell	14
Brantlee Suber	15
Cassie Turner	16
Gene Loy	17
Sharon Haughton	18
Ben Taylor	19
Jan Miller	22
Judy Davis	23
Jenny Tucker	23
Vince Walsh	23
Miller Shelfer	27
Alona McNeill	29

## Readings for September 2019

September 1: Ezekiel 18-19  
September 2: Ezekiel 20-21  
September 3: Ezekiel 22-23  
September 4: Ezekiel 24-27  
September 5: Ezekiel 28-31  
September 6: Ezekiel 32-34  
September 7: Ezekiel 35-37  
September 8: Ezekiel 38-39  
September 9: Ezekiel 40-41  
September 10: Ezekiel 42-43  
September 11: Ezekiel 44-45  
September 12: Ezekiel 46-48  
September 13: Joel  
September 14: Daniel 1-3  
September 15: Daniel 4-6  
September 16: Daniel 7-9  
September 17: Daniel 10-12  
September 18: Ezra 1-3  
September 19: Ezra 4-6; Psalms 137  
September 20: Haggai 1-2  
September 21: Zechariah 1-7  
September 22: Zechariah 8-14  
September 23: Ester 1-5  
September 24: Ester 6-10  
September 25: Ezra 7-10  
September 26: Nehemiah 1-5  
September 27: Nehemiah 6-7  
September 28: Nehemiah 8-10  
September 29: Nehemiah 11-13; Psalms 126  
September 30: Malachi 1-4

You can visit us on Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/SalemUMChavana](http://www.facebook.com/SalemUMChavana)



### Our Faithful Giving

Expenses Jan-Aug 2019: \$142,408  
Contributions Jan- Aug 2019: \$138,573

See the back of your weekly bulletin for the most up-to-date information.

**SUNDAYS**

**8:45am**-Coffee House Service  
(Holy Communion each week)  
**9:50am**-Sunday School  
**11:00am**-Traditional Service  
**5 to 7pm** Youth Fellowship

# Salem UMC

## September 2019

**WEDNESDAYS**

**7:45am**-Men's Morning Group  
**11:00am**-Prayer in The Park  
**11:50pm**-Subs & Scriptures  
(Subway in Havana)  
**7:00pm**-Choir Rehearsal

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> <b>9:50a</b> New Members class <b>11a</b> Holy Communion in Traditional Service <b>12p</b> Lunch Bunch	<b>2</b> <b>Labor Day</b> Church office closed	<b>3</b> <b>9a</b> Moses Baskets  <b>7p</b> Missions/ Outreach	<b>4</b> <b>1:30p</b> Fresh Expressions Monthly Missions Project @ Community Cares	<b>5</b> <b>3p</b> Beans & Bibles @ Poppy's Coffee Shop  <b>6:30p</b> Education Committee	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> <b>9:50a</b> New Members class  <b>5-7p: Youth Fellowship is back!!</b>	<b>9</b> <b>5:45p</b> United Methodist Women	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> <b>3p</b> Beans & Bibles @ Poppy's Coffee Shop	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> <b>1p-5p</b> Salem helps at the Greensboro Thrift Store  <b>2-4p</b> OCC Kick Off Tallahassee Heights UMC
<b>15</b> <b>9:50a</b> New Members class	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> <b>9a</b> Moses Baskets  <b>7p</b> Church Council	<b>18</b> <b>1:30p</b> Worship Committee	<b>19</b> <b>3p</b> Beans & Bibles @ Poppy's Coffee Shop	<b>20</b> <i>Charge Conference forms due to church office</i>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> <b>9:50a</b> New Members class  <b>8:45a &amp; 11a:</b> Community Cares offering & Moses Baskets Dedication	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <b>10a</b> Visitation Team Meeting	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> <b>3p</b> Beans & Bibles @ Poppy's Coffee Shop	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> <b>1p-5p</b> Salem helps at the Greensboro Thrift Store
<b>29</b> 9:50a New Members class  <b>8:45a &amp; 11a</b> <b>FLUMC Children's Home offering</b>  <b>6p</b> Hallelujah Night at Mt. Pleasant	<b>30</b>					