

# **WEEKLY UPDATES**

## **Friday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020**

***Join us in person or online for live worship at either 8:45 AM (Traditional) or 10:45 AM (Contemporary).***

***A reminder that masks are required when attending any church worship or event.***

**ONLINE WORSHIP: FACEBOOK LIVE** – We are online! We are offering in-person and live streaming worship (via Facebook) Sunday mornings. You can view Sunday worship online as its happening by joining here: <https://www.facebook.com/salemchurchorwigsburg/> Many of you have shared concern about the distorted sound on the Livestream worship primarily at 10:45 am worship. We had a sound technician come in this week to fix our sound distortion problems. Our initial tests indicate that the problem is corrected. Music is now clear and without distortion. Tune in this Sunday and let us know if the sound is better. Thank you for your patience!

**REFRIGERATOR NEEDED** - We have been contacted to ask if anyone has a working refrigerator that they can spare to donate to a flood victim in Gilberton. If so, please call Kay or John Jones at 570-366-1333.

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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**NEW EVENT! BELATED BUNNY TRAIL** - The Easter Bunny has a stash of Eggs that he could not give out at Easter this year, so he is having a "*Belated Bunny Trail*" at Salem Church! It takes place on **Sunday, August 30, 2020, from 2- 4 PM out on Independence Street. You need to go to <http://www.SalemUM.com> and sign up ahead of time.** Bring your own baskets! You will hop down the bunny trail to pick up your eggs and then pick up a goodie-bag when you are done. Open to all children up to 10 years old. A safe and fun outdoor event. Make sure you have your "bunny" mask on! See you on the trail!

**HELPERS NEEDED: BELATED BUNNY TRAIL** - We are having a "Belated Bunny Trail" out on the street on Sunday, August 30, 2020, from 2-4 pm. We will create an outdoor bunny trail on the street and hand out our filled eggs. **If you have eggs still at home, please bring in to the church office ASAP.** Brenda will have safe "bunny" masks for you and bunny ear headbands! **Most people will be stationed at a section of the bunny trail to hand out candy. Please, consider helping so we can make this event happen. We need volunteers (teens and/or adults) to:**

1. Stand on the trail with a bunny mask on and hand eggs out. **Looking for 10 people.**
2. Man the tables to check people in and to hand out goodie bags. **Looking for 2 people.**
3. Help to set up the trail on Independence Street the morning of the event.

Please contact Barb Stein (570-449-6533) / Brenda Binns [bbins1@msn.com](mailto:bbins1@msn.com) / or the Church Office if you are willing to help.

**HANDBELL SUNDAY** - We plan on having a Welcome Back Bell Sunday on **September 27, 2020**, where we will play the music that we had prepared for this past March. The bells will play during both morning worship times (8:45 am and 10:45 am). We invite you to hear our handbells play by joining us either in person or online!

**RESCHEDULED TO 2021: BLOCK PARTY** – Due to COVID-19 restrictions and constraints the Annual Block Party for this year (2020) has been canceled. The Block Party will take place next year 2021. Thank you for your understanding!

## **FALL 2020 BIBLE STUDIES**

**NEW! DISCIPLE II BIBLE STUDY CLASS** - Salem will be offering a yearlong Disciple 2 Bible Study class, beginning in September. Currently, classes are scheduled for Tuesday evenings, but a daytime class may also be added if there is enough interest. Anyone who has completed a Disciple 1 class may participate in this class. The first half of the study will focus on the origins of our faith and the Old Testament books of Genesis and Exodus. The second half of the year will be spent in Luke and Acts, learning about Jesus's life and the birth of the Christian church.

- **Disciple II Bible Study Class registration and information will be offered between worship services this Sunday, August 23, 2020, in the Sunday School room (located off the lobby), and also available on Sunday, September 6, 2020.**
- **Please note that participant books are on sale at Cokesbury through August 31, when Salem will be placing an order for class materials. We ask that you sign up sooner rather than later, so we have an estimated number to order materials.**

The class will initially meet over the ZOOM platform, making it possible for people with children at home to participate online. (Face to face meetings may be added later at the discretion of the participants and if warranted by a decrease in COVID-19.) Please call or email Brenda for information if you cannot stop in at church between services this week. Contact Brenda at [Bbinns1@msn.com](mailto:Bbinns1@msn.com) or 570-617-1342.

**“FAITH & FOOTBALL FALL” RETURNS TO SNL** - Anticipating the continuing of in-person worship at Salem into the Fall, SNL will return with an abbreviated schedule. SNL will consist of Movie Nights with theme-based discussions for September. Facing adversity and perseverance in hard times will be the focus of the 2 family films that will bookend the series.

On Sunday, September 6, the film “*Season of a Lifetime*” will be shown from 6 to 8 pm. The movie documents the final season of high school coach Jeremy Williams, who coached from a wheelchair while terminally ill with ALS. Two weeks of discussion format meetings will follow focusing on topics from Tim Tebow’s book, “*This Is the Day: Reclaim Your Dream. Ignite Your Passion. Live Your Purpose.*” This “*Faith and Football*” Series will end with the showing of the Tebow produced the film, “*Run the Race,*” on September 27th. **(The full Faith & Football Schedule is below.)**

|                       |                      |   |
|-----------------------|----------------------|---|
| <b>Sept.<br/>6th</b>  | 6:00 PM -<br>8:00 PM | <b>Movie Night</b><br>Movie: “ <i>Season of a Lifetime</i> ”  |
| <b>Sept.<br/>13th</b> | 6:00 PM –<br>7:30 PM | Discussion based on the book “ <i>This Is the Day: Reclaim Your Dream. Ignite Your Passion. Live Your Purpose.</i> ” By Tim Tebow |
| <b>Sept.<br/>20th</b> | 6:00 PM –<br>7:30 PM | Discussion based on the book “ <i>This Is the Day: Reclaim Your Dream. Ignite Your Passion. Live Your Purpose.</i> ” By Tim Tebow |
| <b>Sept.<br/>27th</b> | 6:00 PM -<br>8:00 PM | <b>Movie Night</b><br>Movie: “ <i>Run the Race</i> ”  |

**SNL GUIDELINES & SAFETY PROCEDURES** - Due to the conditions imposed by the coronavirus, entry to the church for SNL will be through the ramp side door, and all protocols, such as wearing masks/face coverings and social distancing must be followed. Changes to these protocols will be made as necessary in keeping with updates to the Pennsylvania and local guidelines for group meetings. All changes and updates will be posted on Salem's website and Facebook page.

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## **SMALL GROUP SCHEDULES**

**HANDBELL CHOIR: LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS!** - The Handbell Choir plans to return to in-person practice on **Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 7 PM**. We have some openings if you or someone you know is interested in joining. The Handbell Choir will continue to meet on **Wednesdays at 7 PM at SUMC**. If you would like more information on joining the handbells, please contact Allison Wagner at 570-391-8948 or Barb Stein at 570-449-6533.

**PRAISE BAND REHEARSAL**- Praise Band Rehearsals are held weekly on **Wednesdays at SUMC at 7:00 PM**. *Praise Band will continue to meet during the Fall: Practice will switch back to 8 PM starting Sept. 16th.* Meetings are currently in person. If any regulation or rule changes prohibiting meeting in person there will be an announcement. For any questions regarding Praise Band Rehearsals please contact Kevin O'Brassill.

**CHOIR PRACTICE FALL START-UP: LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS!** - The Choir will resume meeting in the Fall. We will have our first Choir Practice on **Thursday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6 PM** at SUMC. We are looking for new members! Raise your voice to the Lord and sing with us. If you are interested in joining the choir or have questions, please contact Wendy Campbell for more information at [wendy2346b@yahoo.com](mailto:wendy2346b@yahoo.com) Choir Practice will continue (in person) throughout the fall **Thursdays at 6 PM**.

**THURSDAY WOMEN'S SMALL GROUP** - We are returning from summer break on Thursday, September 3, 2020, at 10 AM. We will meet in the hall. Our first study book will be handed out that day. *"I'm Waiting God" by Barb Roose. Finding Blessings in God's Delays*. There are some extra books if you would like to join our group. Contact Barb at 570-449-6533 for more details.

**NEED TO HOLD A CHURCH MEETING? HAVE VIRTUAL SESSION!** - Missing your church small group? Go online! Contact Admin. Assistant / Secretary, Hayley, at the church office to schedule an online session! You must contact the Office to use our zoom. Please plan a week before your meeting date so we can review all zoom meeting procedures with you ahead of time. We also must make sure your meeting does not conflict with another scheduled time. You can contact the Office for more information at 570-366-0201 / [office@salemum.com](mailto:office@salemum.com)

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**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: SANITIZE AFTER SERVICES** - Help is needed after each worship service on Sunday mornings. We need a couple of people to wipe down pews, doorknobs, and railings each Sunday after each worship. Wipes and disinfectant spray are available on the Welcome desk near the entrance. This takes about 10-15 minutes. Thank you to all of you who have been staying a few extra minutes after church to help.

**WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU ARRIVE FOR WORSHIP** - Our County is under the GREEN PHASE of reopening in PA. This allows up to 250 people to be gathered. However, there are still rules and guidelines for how we are to gather. Please remember to wear a mask and maintain a social distance when able. **Please view our full list of guidelines at the end of these announcements.**

**IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM WORSHIP - Please remember to follow all the safety procedures and guidelines if you plan on attending in-person worship.** Livestreaming is a new ministry for us and there are bound to be glitches as we startup. We are enthusiastic about this new opportunity for ministry and we ask for patience as we spend the summer learning how to Livestream well. This is a wonderful ministry that helps us reach existing and new people once we get the hang of it. We give thanks to God for the generosity of donors and the forward-thinking of church leadership as we move in this new direction.

## This Week's Schedule

(Sunday Morning Worship is available In-Person and Livestreamed)

|                     |                                 |   |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>Sun<br/>8/23</b> | 8:45 am<br>10:45 am             | Traditional Worship<br>Contemporary Worship   |
| <b>Mon<br/>8/24</b> |                                 | <b>Office Closed</b>  |
| <b>Tue<br/>8/25</b> | 7:00 pm                         | Yoga Class with Ed Folk   |
| <b>Wed<br/>8/26</b> | 7:00 pm                         | Praise Band Practice  |
| <b>Fri<br/>8/28</b> |                                 | <b>Pastor's Day Off</b>   |
| <b>Sun<br/>8/30</b> | 8:45 am<br>10:45 am<br>2 – 4 PM | Traditional Worship<br>Contemporary Worship<br>Belated Bunny Trail ( <i>Must Pre-Register to Attend</i> ) |

### Joys & Concerns from 8/16/2020

- Prayers for my cousin, Todd, his wife, and two children. They have decided to stop treatment for cancer. – Tonya McJunkin
- Prayers for Debbie Shepler – prayers for healing of her BP issues. Prayers / Joy for Rose Galuska – today is her birthday. – Barb Stein
- Thank God for the blessing of my sons Travis and Austin. Celebrating their births this week. – Susan Carlson
- Prayers for the family of Diane Kahr (Hay) – passed away – Norm Stein
- Prayers for my sister in law Joanne Kuhns from Zionsville - who passed away. And Prayers for my husband Charles who is not doing well. – Sandy Thomas

### ALTAR FLOWER SCHEDULE

- August 30th Kathy Schaffer
- September 6<sup>th</sup> Bob Guers
- September 13<sup>th</sup> Barb Stein
- September 20<sup>th</sup> Nancy Anderson
- September 27<sup>th</sup> Jeanne Porter

*Please refer to the Altar Flower 2020 Calendar in the lobby for the date you signed up to provide Altar Flowers. **THANK YOU** to all those who sponsor flowers throughout the year. Now more than ever, those beautiful flowers that adorn our altar are seen each week by many people as we live stream.*

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**GIVING THROUGH ONLINE BANKING** - Several people are sending their offering through online banking with their local bank. You simply go online at your bank's website and fill in the amount you

would like to send, and your bank sends a check to the church. Call your local bank or check their website to learn more. A couple of people are giving through Vanco, a company that works with churches across the country. You need to contact Pastor Warner if you want to sign-up to give through Vanco.

**MAIL YOUR OFFERING** - Many of you have dropped off or mailed in your offering. You can mail your offering envelopes to the Church Office at (Salem UMC 133 South Liberty Street Orwigsburg PA 17961). Please call ahead if you plan to drop off to make sure we are open at (570-366-0201) or place them outside in our mailbox. Thank you for continuing to share your offering during this time.

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## **WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU ARRIVE FOR WORSHIP:** **GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES**

Our County is now under the GREEN PHASE of reopening in PA. This allows up to 250 people to be gathered. However, there are still rules and guidelines for how we are to gather. Here are some procedures and information you need to know for when in-person worship begins.

### **SIGN-IN AND SANITIZE**

a.) There is a hand soap dispenser at the door as well as sanitizer throughout the church to use coming in and going out of the church. Remember to sanitize your hands before and after coming into the church.

b.) Please sign-in on the sheet provided in the lobby before heading up to the sanctuary. Everyone needs to sign in every Sunday they attend. This provides us with a contact list in case we discover someone who has been here contracts COVID-19.

c.) Please make sure to include the date that you are attending. If your contact information changes, please inform the office so we have an up-to-date email and phone number for you.

d.) Email address is preferred. Email makes it much easier to get the word out to you than by phone. Please include your daytime phone number if you don't have an email address. Make sure to include proper capitalization and any punctuation when writing your email as email addresses are case sensitive. Emails might not arrive if written incorrectly.

### **TECH & TOUCH-LESS WORSHIP**

We are minimizing the amount of personal contact and the number of surfaces in the church to be touched to avoid any risk of "contact exposure". Please do not touch any additional objects or surfaces you do not need to.

a.) All churchgoers should enter through the ramp door; other church doors will remain locked to ensure one entrance in and out of the building. We will have a volunteer Greeter stay at the door to wipe down the door handles and greet churchgoers.

b.) There will be an offering plate in the back of the sanctuary for you to place your offering in before or after worship. You can also continue dropping off/ mailing your offering envelopes or give online.

c.) All music and scripture will be projected. We hope to include music and words for songs from the hymnal. Please refrain from touching and using the hymnals and Bibles in the pews.

d.) Any Church updates and announcements will be emailed each week. If you are not already signed up to receive our email updates please send your email address to [office@saalemum.com](mailto:office@saalemum.com) and request to be added to our email list.

e.) Fellowship time before and after worship will not be offered to avoid congregating in closed areas. Please talk with folks outside the church building at an appropriate social distance.

f.) There will be no infant/toddler nursery for the Summer. The infant/toddler nursery is on hold until September. We will announce when this resumes. It's impossible to social distance with kids.

g.) Please avoid handshaking, passing the peace, or hugging others to avoid spreading any possible germs.

### **MUST WEAR MASKS**

Masks are required when you come to church even as part of the GREEN PHASE. Please bring a face covering it with you. We realize masks have become controversial and some people prefer not to wear a mask. Please remember that it is possible to have COVID-19 asymptotically, feel fine, and pass it on to someone else. While you may feel fine, you could unknowingly have and give the disease to someone else who may not be fine or who could pass it on to others. We wear masks to reduce the other person's chances of getting it. Please observe the practice of wearing a mask out of respect for our congregation, staff, volunteers, and the people around us.

### **SOCIAL DISTANCING**

Please practice social distancing of about 6 feet between people other than your own family members when able. Keep a 6 ft. distance between yourself and others in gathering areas such as the Welcome Lobby, on the steps to the Sanctuary, in the Sanctuary when you sit in church and other places there may be groups.

### **LIVESTREAMING**

We will be livestreaming worship for people who are unable to attend in person. If you or a family member feel sick or were recently sick, we are asking that you stay home and join the online Livestream option. This means you will be able to watch worship online on your smartphone or computer.

a.) Worship will be simultaneously broadcast on Facebook while we are worshiping in-person. You can go to <https://www.facebook.com/saalemchurchorwigsburg/> to view worship.

b.) Worship will be recorded. We will upload a recording of service to YouTube later in the week so persons without Facebook can also view the service. You do not need an account to view these videos.