



# SALEM SCRIPTURES

Salem United Methodist Church Newsletter

May 2017

## Mother's Day May 14

The official Mother's Day holiday arose in the 1900s as a result of the efforts of Anna Jarvis, daughter of Ann Reeves Jarvis. Following her mother's 1905 death, Anna Jarvis conceived of Mother's Day as a way of honoring the sacrifices mothers made for their children. After gaining financial backing from a Philadelphia department store owner named John Wanamaker, in May 1908 she organized the first official Mother's Day celebration at a Methodist church in Grafton, West Virginia. That same day also saw thousands of people attend a Mother's Day event at one of Wanamaker's retail stores in Philadelphia.

Following the success of her first Mother's Day, Jarvis—who remained unmarried and childless her whole life—resolved to see her holiday added to the national calendar. Arguing that American holidays were biased toward male achievements, she started a massive letter writing campaign to newspapers and prominent politicians urging the adoption of a special day honoring motherhood. By 1912 many states, towns and churches had adopted Mother's Day as an annual holiday, and Jarvis had established the Mother's Day International Association to help promote her cause. Her persistence paid off in 1914 when President Woodrow Wilson signed a measure officially establishing the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day.

Anna Jarvis had originally conceived of Mother's Day as a day of personal celebration between mothers and families. Her version of the day involved wearing a white carnation as a badge and visiting one's mother or attending church services. But once Mother's Day became a national holiday, it was not long before florists, card companies and other merchants capitalized on its popularity.

While Jarvis had initially worked with the floral industry to help raise Mother's Day's profile, by 1920 she had become disgusted with how the holiday had been commercialized. She outwardly denounced the transformation and urged people to stop buying Mother's Day flowers, cards and candies. Jarvis eventually resorted to an open campaign against Mother's Day profiteers, speaking out against confectioners, florists and even charities. She also launched countless lawsuits against groups that had used the name "Mother's Day," eventually spending most of her personal wealth in legal fees. By the time of her death in 1948 Jarvis had disowned the holiday altogether, and even actively lobbied the government to see it removed from the American calendar.

<http://www.history.com/topics/holidays/mothers-day>

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## Aldersgate Day May 24

On Wednesday, May 24, 1738, John Wesley experienced his "heart strangely warmed." This Aldersgate experience was crucial for his own life and became a touchstone for the Wesleyan movement.

John wrote in his journal; *"In the evening I went very unwillingly to a society in Aldersgate Street, where one was reading Luther's preface to the Epistle to the Romans. About a quarter before nine, while he was describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone, for salvation; and an assurance was given me that He had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death."*

We recognize this day as the birth of the Methodist movement. After this life changing experience he began to preach a deeper conviction of personal and social holiness that is the foundation of the United Methodist Church today. We bear the inheritance of the work and changed heart of John Wesley.

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/aldersgate-day-or-sunday>



This monument marks the approximate location of John Wesley's "Aldersgate experience"

## Meals on Wheels May 29- June 2

Focused on individuals who have no reliable means for maintaining a healthy diet, our community Meals on Wheels program helps keep homebound seniors independent and in their own homes for as long as possible. Meals on Wheels also reduces isolation and reassures and comforts families who live far from loved ones, providing recipients with a friendly smile and that important safety check, making the program extend far beyond the meal.



Image courtesy of Meals on Wheels gallery

Catering to a range of dietary needs, meals are prepared at the Sentara Rosemont care community where caring volunteers pick up the nutritious, diet-specific meals and deliver them to the recipient's front door.

With the help of caring volunteers and dedicated staff, the Meals on Wheels family works together to take care of the people who have often spent their lives taking care of others.

Salem United Methodist church in our desire to feed the hungry in our community continue in this partnership. We deliver meals whenever there is a 5th week in a month. Meals are picked up at 9:30 a.m. at Sentara Rosemont care community along with directions for the delivery route. Our route finishes near the church. This act of service ideally has two persons for each day and takes about an hour to an hour and a half to complete. Please sign up on the bulletin board or the Sign Up genius emailed from the church office. If you have more questions about this important ministry, call Pastor Bill at 757.471.2406 or email [pastor.bill.mcclung@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.bill.mcclung@gmail.com)

# CHURCH CALENDAR



## Weekly Calendar Items

Youth Group/ Adult Sunday school – Sunday @ 9:00 a.m.

Worship Celebration – Sunday @ 10:00 a.m.

Karate in Fellowship Hall – Monday and Thursday at 5-8 p.m.

Pre-School Praise and Worship in the Fellowship Hall – Tuesday @ 10:10-10:30 a.m.

Girl Scouts – Tuesdays @ 6:00 p.m.

Ladies Quilting Group in the Quilting Room – Wednesday @ 10:00 a.m.

Boy Scout Troop 471 – Wednesdays 6-9 p.m.

- Don't miss the United Methodist Women's Spring Fling on Saturday May 6th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.! Come replenish your craft supplies and shop at the wonderful participating vendor booths.
- Our May meeting of the Finance Ministry will be Tuesday, May 9th at 6:30 p.m.
- Church council. Our monthly meeting will be Monday May 15th at 6:30 p.m. Everyone from the church is welcomed and encouraged to attend. Bring ideas for ministries we should be doing or to live out evangelism to grow God's kingdom.
- Meals on Wheels May 29—June 2
- United Methodist Men. Join the men of the church for their next monthly breakfast meeting on the first Saturday, June 3rd at 8:00 a.m. (there will not be a breakfast for the month of May). All men of the church are encouraged to attend and be an active part of this vital ministry to men.
- Chat and Chew with Pastor Lewis June 3rd at Courthouse Community from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Salem Church Picnic on Sunday June 4th after the 10:00 a.m. worship service until 4:00p.m. Come comfortably dressed and wear red!



Photo by Anthony Massey, Wikimedia Commons

## Memorial Day Worship May 28

Memorial Day, the last Monday in May, is a day on the civil calendar for remembering and honoring those who have given their lives in battle. The day is also known as Decoration Day for the custom of placing flags at the graves of the patriotic dead. Without legitimating war, there is resonance with the gospel reading: "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends."

Memorial Day often passes in our churches with little or no mention. Historically and traditionally, it has been viewed more as a civic than a liturgical observance. As with New Year's Day, Mother's Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and others, Memorial Day is not a part of the liturgical calendar — although sometimes local congregations will observe these days in some manner in Sunday congregational worship.

Pastoral and congregational attention to the day can be an occasion of healing hurt and connecting with the raw

ness of loss. Participation in public observance offers Christians the opportunity to get outside our churchy bubble and be present with and to others as they struggle to come to terms with war, loss, devastation, and what it all means.

If churches are going to honor and give thanks for our nation's war dead, the observances should be in a context of prayer and in the concerns and prayers. Churches should not turn the entire service into a rehearsal of our national concerns. Let us remember President Woodrow Wilson's proclamation establishing the Veterans' Day observance that aims to "show sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nation." Let our churches continue to celebrate the good news of God's grace and love manifest in Jesus Christ, Lord and Savior of the world, in whom all the creation is redeemed and is to be restored for the glory of God.

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/memorial-day-worship-and-prayer-resources1>

## **Chat and Chew with Bishop Lewis Saturday June 3**

Bishop Lewis has been traveling around the Conference meeting with clergy and laity at Chat 'n' Chew events. The Chat 'n' Chew on the Elizabeth River District will be June 3, 2017 at Courthouse Community (2708 Princess Anne Road, Virginia Beach) from about 9am to 4pm. The morning session will be for the clergy and the afternoon session will be for the laity. There will be a worship service and lunch in the middle for all clergy and laity.

The schedule:

9:30-11:30 - Clergy Session

11:30-12:15 - Worship

12:30-1:30 - Lunch

1:45-3:45 - Laity Session

Bishop Lewis is asking that each church have 6 or 7 lay persons attend this important meeting to help her discern the future ministries of the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church. If you are able to attend, please contact Pastor Bill at 757.471.2406 or [pastor.bill.mcclung@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.bill.mcclung@gmail.com)

## **Preschool Sunday and Church Picnic June 4**

To celebrate our weekday ministry to children ages 2-5 we are inviting our preschool teachers and families to join us for worship on Sunday June 4th. After our worship gathering will be our annual church picnic. We will hold worship outside under the big tent so we are encouraging folks to come comfortably dressed. As this is Pentecost Sunday everyone is encouraged to wear red if possible. Bring your favorite outdoor chair and we will celebrate together in the big tabernacle tent.

After worship we will have our picnic. A main dish will be provided and we ask the congregation to bring side dishes and desserts to share. There will be a bounce house and games for children of all ages to enjoy. We invite the entire congregation to join us and help us get to know each other and our preschool families even more. To make this a fantastic event that connects with our preschool families and our community, we will need lots of hands to serve. For more information contact Beth Gibson at 757.646.5076 or [bgibson852@gmail.com](mailto:bgibson852@gmail.com)

## **Pentecost June 4**

On Sunday, June 4, 2017, Christian churches celebrate Pentecost. For Christians, Pentecost occurs fifty days after Easter. On that day, the church celebrates the happenings recorded in the New Testament Book of Acts, chapter 2.



Notice when you go into church on Pentecost Sunday, the changes in colors in the sanctuary. Red is the color of Pentecost, and it signifies the tongues of flames seen over the heads of those praying together. The Scripture also tells us that the sound of the blowing of a violent wind filled the house where Jesus' followers were praying. In addition to the color red, churches often display tongues of flame and symbols of wind on banners and posters.

In Scripture, we read that the believers were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to go into the streets telling of Jesus to all those they met. Following Peter's sermon, many were baptized, and the church began to grow. Because of this, we call Pentecost "the birthday of the church."



Image courtesy [www.developpementdurable.com](http://www.developpementdurable.com)

# Spring Fling Sale



## Don't Miss Out on Your chance to SAVE !

Fabrics Galore	Books
Magazines	Ribbon
Partial Quilts	Lace
Patterns	Linens
Gift Items	Kits
Sewing Notions	Plants
Holiday Items	Beads
Baskets	Buttons
Collectables	Pottery
Arts	Crafts
Scrapping Items	Vintage

...and SO Much More

## Salem United Methodist Church

2057 Salem Road

Virginia Beach, VA 23456

(757) 471-2406

### Directions:

About 1/2 mile south of the intersection of South Independence & Salem Road

### VENDORS WANTED!!

### Sale Hours:

Saturday May 6, 2017

10:00 am—3:00 pm

## Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about our services and products

### Salem United Methodist

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Virginia Beach, VA 23456

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Visit us on the web at  
[www.salemumcvb.org](http://www.salemumcvb.org)

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**Salem United Methodist Church: Changing Lives Together!**

### Salem United Methodist Church

2057 Salem Rd.

Virginia Beach, VA 23464

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE