

St. John's United Church of Christ,

located in the peaceful little town of Salisbury, Somerset County, Pennsylvania, is a member of Paradise Charge, a warm, friendly two-point charge, which is seeking an energetic spiritual leader to guide us in our faith journey, to encourage attendance, and to increase members' awareness of their God-given talents.

*We are a community of believers that...*

- ~ Embraces the Gospel of Christ
- ~ Believes in an all-powerful, loving, forgiving God
- ~ Believes in the power of prayer
- ~ Celebrates the past, and builds for the future
- ~ Supports families & enjoys family-centered worship
- ~ Nurtures its youth and cherishes its seniors
- ~ Enjoys musical and dramatic expressions of faith
- ~ Welcomes the community and its activities
- ~ Shares in one another's joys and sorrows
- ~ Offers help to those in need
- ~ Works continually to grow in faith.
- ~ Enjoys various styles of worship.



*The Pastor* of St John's can expect personal, friendly contact with our members, an open-mindedness to grow in faith and a willingness to participate in the work of the church.

*Our Ministries* include One Great Hour of Sharing, Strengthen the Church, Our Church's Wider Mission, Neighbors in Need, and the Christmas Fund. We also support Operation Christmas Child, Heifer Project International, and have a UCC Child Sponsorship in India. Local ministries include Camp Living Waters, Somerset Association of the UCC, Prayer Shawls, Casselman Valley Food Pantry, Joyful Noise Offering, Emergency Fund, and Called to Care.

*St. John's* is an older congregation that is family-oriented and that will offer a pastor love, spiritual and personal support. We encourage our **youth** to grow in faith & service to

God by allowing them to participate as acolytes, ushers, lay readers, choir members or worship leaders. We try to stimulate their learning through Sunday School or Bible School, and by sponsoring their participation at church camp, conference programs, and at the National Youth Event. We have very few youth and young adults that attend regularly, but we hope we can become more attractive to them as we offer our support and God's love in this ever-changing world. The **adult** members of our congregation offer support, stability, and a willingness to learn and grow in their faith. They serve as ushers, elders, deacons, lay readers, lectors, choir members, greeters, and volunteers. Our senior members help us remember the past, and the traditions that have made us strong.

*Trinity* United Church of Christ of New Germany in Garrett County, Maryland is the other member of Paradise Charge. We support each other and work well together for the good of the Charge, and in our service to God.



*St. John's* of Salisbury is a small congregation of 35 active members (out of 85) and is located in a small, tranquil postcard village near Mount Davis, the highest point in Pennsylvania. Major

access routes to reach our area are Interstates 68 and 219. We are just 2½ hours from Pittsburgh, PA; Baltimore, MD; and Washington, DC. Points of interest in close proximity are the four-season resorts of Deep Creek Lake near Oakland, Md; and Seven Springs and Hidden Valley, near Somerset, PA. The Allegheny Highlands Trail runs through the area, offering scenic hiking and biking for the nature enthusiast. Our rural area has its share of festivals and activities. The Autumn Glory Festival, the Garrett County and Allegany County Fairs, and Grantsville Days are family favorites. Near Grantsville is the Spruce Forest Artisan Village, where crafters hold open studios in historic buildings. Penn Alps is a well-known restaurant that also hosts a classical music series. In Pennsylvania, the the Flight 93 Memorial and the Quecreek Miners' rescue sites are of recent historical interest. Festivals include the PA Maple Festival, the Springs Folk Festival, Mountain Craft Days, the Farmers & Thresherman's Jubilee, plus the Somerset County Fair. Catch a play at the Mountain Playhouse during the summer months, or at Frostburg State University during the school year. Higher education and entertainment options abound at Frostburg State University, Allegany and Garrett Colleges in MD; the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, PA; and West Virginia University in Morgantown, WV.

*Come and enjoy the mountaintop with us! You'll see why our forefathers called it "Paradise!"*