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Salem English Lutheran Church

March 2018



Where Do We Go From Here?

I love to call Salem “small but mighty”. We have devoted, tenacious, faithful, and committed members. We have leaders who are from different generations, yet share a passion for their church. We have meaningful experiences in worship. We have an amazing progressive gospel message. We have a love for the church and our history. We have depth and breadth of experience from a myriad of places. We have a love for the city we serve. We have a desire to share who we are and hope to welcome others into our midst.

So why are people not knocking down the doors? Where are the people God wants us to share our faith, our community, and our church with? I love to call Salem “small but mighty”. But I also think we are ready to grow. But how?

Unfortunately, there is no easy answer to this question. If there was a formula for this equation – the church in America would not be facing such a crisis of identity. If there was one proven plan for evangelism/outreach, pastors would line up from all over to learn it and churches would be implementing it across the board.

There is no ONE answer to how to grow the church or a congregation. There are as many answers as there are individual faith communities. What works for one neighborhood will not work for another, what works for a church “here” will not necessarily work for a church “there”.

So where do we go from here? Small but mighty – ready to grow. The leaders of Salem have been taking small, but significant, steps to understand “who” we are looking to reach in the neighborhoods we serve. We have been collecting online data about church searches on google and website data. We have been working to increase our social media presence. We are even looking to meet with a member of the synod staff to

talk about the metrics in our specific context and how we might best reach the people looking to be reached.

These are all important pieces as we strive to be a relevant congregation in the midst of our city. But there is more we can do...and you hold the keys. You, the people who love this church...you just might have the ideas God wants to plant. We need you to be part of the conversation, the brainstorming, and ultimately the planning. I want to invite you to join me to tap into what God has already written on our hearts. Join with me to talk about outreach at Salem – about how we can share this amazing place of gospel, community, and faith with new people. **Come to Outreach on Tap (a special edition of Theology on Tap) on Tuesday March 20 at 6:30 pm at Lynhall** (right down Lyndale just a block). We will use our love of our church to transition into ideas for letting others in on the good thing we have here.

I love to call Salem “small but mighty” – AND I think we are ready to grow. But we need your help to do it. Let’s use year 501 to continue the reformation...to reimagine who we are in our neighborhood and to increase our relevance among our neighbors. Where do we go from here? Come, let’s find out!

Blessings!

–Pastor Rhonda

Lenten Schedule

- ◆ Wednesdays March 7, 14, and 21 there will be Soup Supper at 5:30 pm, Worship at 6 pm, and Group Study at 6:30 pm.
- ◆ Maundy Thursday worship will be March 29 at 7 pm
- ◆ Good Friday Worship will be March 30 at 7 pm

Wednesday Evenings in Lent: Soup, Worship, and Conversation

Join us on Wednesday evenings during Lent for soup supper, Holden worship, and conversation. We will gather as SpringHouse for soup at 5:30 pm and worship together at 6 pm. Following worship, Salem will gather for conversation around some of the hot button issues we have been encountering in our world using the “Faces of Christ” Lenten Study. Everyone is welcome!



Salem News

Lenten Adult Faith Formation

Join us in the gathering space at 9:30 am on Sundays in Lent as we explore the New Poor People's Campaign. All of SpringHouse will gather together to learn about this movement that is rooted in the belief that justice is for all. Come explore the call of Jesus to stand up.



Outreach on Tap

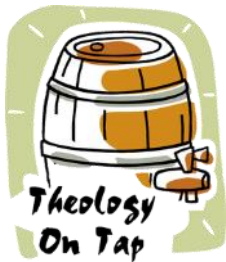
A Special Edition of Theology on Tap

For the month of March, we will switch up the usual and turn our Theology on Tap into



Outreach on Tap!

Join us at Lynhall at 6:30 pm on Tuesday March 20 as we brainstorm, dream, and look at outreach at Salem.



We have a lot of work to do and we need as many of you as we can get to help us dream of the different ways we can do it!



Salem and SpringHouse members enjoy a Fat Tuesday waffle feast!

Faces of Christ

Come and join the conversation on Wednesday evenings during Lent as we explore the "Faces of Christ." What does it mean to partner in mission? How can God's presence change lives? Where can we find God? How do we find hope in light of the world's chaos and suffering? Come and join our conversations and see where we will end up. Everyone is welcome...join us every week or whenever you can. No experience necessary, as *our conversations are casual and will bend toward what is important to those at the table.* We'll meet around 6:30 on Wednesdays after the Lenten service. We hope to see you there!



Update on our Stewardship Challenge Dollars



Challenge 4: We did it! We got our 5th new electronic giver! This means we unlocked another \$1000 for our kingdom work! Thank you to those who were willing to give it a try.

Challenge 1 & 2: Matching dollars and a block gift for NEW PLEDGERS. **We have work to do! Let's find some new pledgers!** We still have funds for matching if you have not pledged before and would like to be part of our year 501 challenge! Either fill out a pledge form or contact the office to get started.

Challenge 3. I would use the "A" word—but it's Lent! We did reach our goal that called for at least 15 of our 31 current regular pledgers to raise their pledge by any amount! Hurray! This feat unlocked a gift of \$2000!

Greeters in March

We're the greeters at the main SpringHouse doors before the 10:30 am services all through the month of March. Please sign up for a Sunday; welcome others, point them to a congregation/sanctuary, be a friend. And don't forget what an important security piece this is! Can you help out with this really important job?

More News

Mission to Detroit

The SpringHouse annual mission trip will be to Detroit MI this summer. First Christian has a long history with an organization called Rippling Hope and this summer we are invited to join the kingdom work. Here are some of the details you need to know:

- All are welcome! Adults and youth are invited to join this adventure. Talk to Pastor Rhonda if you have questions.
- We will leave Saturday, July 21 early in the morning and return Sunday July 28 in the early evening.
- While a majority of our time will be spent in Detroit being hosted by Rippling Hope, we will also spend a day in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and probably cross over into Canada.
- Cost of the entire trip will be \$300 per person (this includes all meals in Detroit and transportation) Money for meals on the Saturday and Sunday to and from, as well as for our “play day” is in addition to the cost of the trip. *Scholarships are available if cost is too prohibitive. Please contact Pastor Rhonda or Pastor Laurie for information.
- We will engage in home improvement projects connected with economic recovery efforts. There are projects for novices and experts—so no experience necessary—but any experience is welcome!

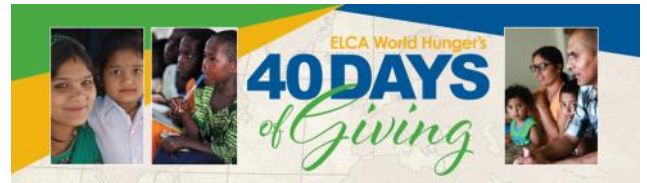
Talk to Pastor Rhonda if you are interested in joining us. She will have registration materials available soon!

Easter Flowers

If you'd like to donate Easter flowers to beautify our worship space, please fill out the bright pink form at church or contact the office (612-872-4650 or office@discoversalem.org) The deadline is March 11. These flowers can be given in honor or memory of someone if you choose, and you can take them home or give them away as cool Easter gifts. Due to fragrance sensitivities, we will NOT be offering Easter lilies as an option



again this year; our apologies for any disappointment this may cause.



Seasons of Giving

Join us for our Seasons of Giving in Lent! We are participating in the ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving. This fantastic organization of the ELCA is lifting up three distinct ministries that are part of their work in the world.

- ◆ India: Food and Agriculture or Women's Rights
- ◆ Malawi: Education and Income or Health and Wellness
- ◆ United States: Immigration and Refugee Settlement

We have started looking at all three and on Sunday March 4 will pick the areas we would most like to support. We will spend the rest of March looking closer at those areas that ELCA World Hunger is working with and how we can make a difference. Envelopes are available in the back of the sanctuary for financial gifts or you can choose to give online at www.elca.org/40days. (*If you give online, please make sure to mark your giving on behalf of Salem English Lutheran Church.)

Pack the Pews for Simpson Shelter

In addition to our ELCA World Hunger financial donations, we will be focusing on 40 Days of Giving to our neighbors at the Simpson Shelter by collecting non-perishable food items, cleaning supplies, and other items of need. Simply help us pack the pews with your donations all the way through March 25.



Sunday March 25 (Palm Sunday) will be Pack the Pew Sunday and we will put all donations that have been brought thus far and any you bring that day in the front pew as an offering.

Suggested items always include non-perishable protein such as peanut butter and canned meat, canned beans, granola bars, nuts, soup, canned vegetables or fruit, cooking oil, whole grain cereal, as well as cleaning supplies, socks, and hygiene items.

SpringHouse News

Share the Care

On Saturday, March 3, 9 am - 1 pm, SpringHouse folks will work together to help clean up and maintain our building. We'll start with donuts at 9 am and end with pizza at 12:30 pm

Projects on tap:

- ◆ Kitchen cleaning and organizing - led by the Kitchen Divas (Sandy, Nancy, Mary, and Kathy)
- ◆ Nursery and Sunday School space clean-up - led by Children's Ministry Team members
- ◆ Yellow Tape refurbishing & replacing- led by Elly Wagner
- ◆ Deeper restroom cleaning - led by Fred Kuhnen
- ◆ Cleaning out storage space - led by the Building Committee

Come, work, laugh, learn, eat lunch, and share-the-care of SpringHouse. Please let us know if you can join us by e-mailing Michael at michaeljvanderford@gmail.com, or talking to Erica Larson or Jon Hanke.

Lenten Brunch

First Christian Women's Ministries is sponsoring a Lenten Brunch on Saturday, March 10 at 10 am in the Gathering Space at SpringHouse. Everyone is welcome at this event. \$8.50 per person donation to cover food expenses is requested. Child care is available if requested ahead of time, Special dietary needs? Let us know also. Please reserve your place by March 7 by contacting Deb at deb.murphy@fccmpls.org or 612-870-1868.

SpringHouse Family Folk Dance March 4

Come join in the annual SpringHouse Family Folk Dance event on Sunday, March 4. A lunch of pizza and salad will be served from 11:30 AM to noon, and we will dance from noon to 1:30 pm on the South Sanctuary wood floor. All ages, all congregations welcome. The event will feature easy to learn, easy to follow folk dances taught and led by our favorite caller, Robin Nelson. For more information, contact Michael Vanderford at michaeljvanderford@gmail.com or 612-296-9647.

Sanctuary Supporting Update

The SpringHouse Sanctuary/Immigrant Welcoming Task Force is at work! Each congregation approved the proposed Immigrant Welcoming Resolution at their January annual meetings. The SpringHouse board will finalize resolution approval with a vote in March or April. The task force will be bringing three opportunities to support immigrant families to you this spring.

- ◆ Sign up to receive **Action Request Alerts**. Alerts will notify you of GoFundMe opportunities, immigrant justice training opportunities, or upcoming demonstrations.
- ◆ Sign up to participate in our partnership with **Conversation With Friends** (conversationswithfriendsmn.org). We plan to publish sign up list for specific actions and dates. You can pick one date or several. **Conversation With Friends** volunteers do detainee visits, letter writing, Circle of Compassion prayers and safe release accompaniment. Volunteers must attend training. The task force is working to potentially schedule a training at SpringHouse.
- ◆ Sign up to attend an **Interfaith Vigil for Immigrant Justice**. These are hosted by the Interfaith Coalition on Immigration (ICOM) on second Tuesdays monthly, 7:30-8:30 AM at the Whipple Federal Building, 1 Federal Drive, Ft. Snelling. Sign up for just one, or for many. Bring a friend.

God whose Son was a fleeing migrant, comfort all who awake today hounded by threats against self and family. Open our hearts to the voices of children and parents pleading that we do all we can to keep them together. Make us builders of paths that protect and policies that fight pain. AMEN.

Join the Huddle!

The Springhouse Huddle is a group of people who believe that one person can make a difference and a group can make real change. Weekly emails provide suggested actions - large and small - based on pending legislation, local and world events, or other political activities. We gather on the second Saturday of each month at 9 am to share thoughts, information, and resources to help keep us going in our work to improve our communities and the world. Our next meeting will be Saturday, March 10. For more information or to be added to the email list, contact Anna Bliss at akb@pobox.com

Reaching Out ...

March for Our Lives

In the wake of just the latest mass school shooting in America, the students have asked us to stand up and march.



On **March 24**, the kids and families of March For Our Lives will take to the streets of Washington DC, and cities all across the US, to demand that their lives and safety become a priority and that we end gun violence and mass shootings in our schools today.

Information on the MN march is still coming out—but we know it will be on Saturday March 24 from 10 am–12 pm. Watch for information on coordinating a group from Salem/SpringHouse to meet that morning. For more information check out www.marchforourlives.com.

ZOOM House Gala



It's not too late to get tickets for this year ZOOM House Gala!

This year's ZOOM House Gala, "Beyond Shelter" will be March 24, 2018 at the Minneapolis Marriott Northwest. It is an evening of food, auctions, and fun activities in the

name of fundraising for this amazing organization that many call home. The event doors open at 5:30 pm and dinner will begin at 7:00 pm. You can purchase individual tickets, or Salem may buy a table of 8 together. If you are interested please contact the church office or Kate Rime.

Caritas Vocal Ensemble Concerts

Caritas Vocal Ensemble is a non-profit vocal ensemble which performs acapella choral music from all genres to raise money and awareness for people in need. Laurie Zaepfel from the Salem office sings in this group! Please join us for a concert this spring. More information at caritasvocalensemble.org.

- ◆ Sunday, March 4, 4 pm
Olivet Congregational Church, 1850 Iglehart, St. Paul
benefiting Keystone Community Services
- ◆ Sunday, March 11, 3 pm at Lake of the Isles Lutheran
2020 Lake of the Isles Parkway, Minneapolis
Benefitting Our Saviour's Housing

Simpson Shelter Meal

Our next opportunity to serve the evening meal at Simpson Shelter will be Tuesday, March 6. We gather in the large commercial kitchen at Simpson United Methodist Church, 28th St. and First Ave., at 5:15 pm to prepare the meal. We serve dinner to approximately 100 shelter guests at 7 pm, and clean up afterward, finishing about 8:30 pm. A team of 10 volunteers is needed for this work. We ask that you sign up on the info table or with Mary (mandmvanderford@gmail.com)

Challenge Dollars for Outreach – Let's Get Busy!

As part of our Stewardship and Outreach Challenge, we received a lump sum that has been set aside specifically for outreach. As we move forward, as we focus on Salem's horizon, we are looking at ways to use these funds in creative and effective



ways for outreach in our neighborhoods. We want everyone to know how great our church is and why we love it, getting people to know is us the first step.

Statistics tell us that half of the unchurched people in our society are looking for a faith community to call their own. But statistics also tell us that a majority of those people would prefer their first encounter with a church to be OUTSIDE of a Sunday morning worship experience. What do we do with this information?

What ideas do you have? Have you thought about ways our congregation could be more present with our neighbors? We are just beginning to flesh out what the horizon looks like with outreach at its forefront. **But if you are inspired to be part of a small group of Salem friends who want to brainstorm and work toward some new and innovative outreach, join us on Tuesday March 20 at 6:30 pm at our Theology/Outreach on Tap at Lynhall to brainstorm and think about what's next for Salem and outreach!**

Sunday School and Children's Ministry

It's the PEEPs Intergenerational Event!

Don't miss our annual PEEP's Intergenerational Event on Sunday March 25. Join us as we celebrate Palm Sunday and the coming of Easter as we take these beloved holiday candies and depict Bible story dioramas. All are welcome in the gathering space at 9:15 am.



Save the Date for Day Camp!

Many families are planning summer activities already. Be sure to save the week of June 18-22 for South Minneapolis Day Camp, to be held at Bethel Lutheran, 4120 S 17th Avenue in Minneapolis. Kids in preschool through 8th grade are welcome to participate; high school youth can serve as shepherds or other helpers. More info to come!

Youth News

Upcoming Youth Activities

Youth have many great opportunities for both service and fellowship coming up:

Saturday March 3, 4:30-6:30 pm

Feed My Starving Children,

990 Lone Oak Rd #136, Eagan, MN 55121

Help pack food for our neighbors across the globe at Feed My Starving Children. RSVP with Jon ASAP if you're able to attend.

Thursday, March 15, 5:30-8:00 pm

Third Thursday Turnout at Bob's Java Hut

Spend time talking about faith over a game of cards or homework help if needed! Bring money for a coffee beverage.

Saturday, March 24, time TBD, between 4 and 8 pm

Love Simon Movie Outing at Mann's St Louis Park Cinema 6

We'll make a journey to watch *Love Simon* in the theater! Watch out for more details by Remind's texts or emails. If you need to get signed up for texts or emails, please let Jon know!

Sunday School News

Godly Play: The stories for March in our Godly play curriculum are The Mustard Seed on March 4, The Good Shepherd on March 11, and Palm Sunday on March 18.

Wish List. Part of transitioning to the Godly Play curriculum is acquiring some materials. We are in search of: **shoe boxes** to store story props and scripts, **small rugs**—for children to do their work on, **bookshelves**—no taller than 30", and a **wood worker** to make wooden figures for the Godly Play stories

Questions about Sunday School?

Contact April Conlee (april.conlee@gmail.com) or Nancy Curry (ncurry9107@comcast.net) or come to the Children's Ministry team meetings, 1st Sunday of the month at noon.

Sunday, April 1 – Breakfast served from: 9:30 am-10:15 am

Easter Sunday Breakfast

Watch for more info on times for Easter breakfast prep.

Questions? Contact Youth Minister Jon Bates at 651-253-8494 or springhouseyouth@fccmpls.org



Salem kids participate in a service project with other Reformation Confirmation kids in February

Next Confirmation Meeting March 4!

Confirmation will meet again on March 4, 1- 4 pm at St. James Lutheran Church (4854 Portland Ave. Minneapolis). Our topic will be the Sacraments. Please let Pastor Rhonda know if you will not be there.

Calendar

Week of March 4

Sun	3/4	8:30 am	Traditional Service
	3/4	9:15 am	Sunday School and Youth
	3/4	9:40 am	Adult Ed
	3/4	10:30 am	Jazz Service
	3/4	12:00 pm	Children's Ministry Team
	3/4	12:00 pm	Family Folk Dance
	3/4	1:00 pm	Confirmation Meeting
Tue	3/6	8:15 am	Lectionary Bible Study at Walker Home
	3/6	5:15 pm	Simpson Shelter Meal
Wed	3/7	5:30 pm	Soup Supper
	3/7	6:00 pm	Holden Evening Prayer
	3/7	6:30 pm	Faces of Christ study
Sat	3/10	9:00 am	Women's March Huddle Group
	3/10	10:00 am	First Christian Lenten Brunch

Week of March 11

Sun	3/11	8:30 am	Traditional Service
	3/11	9:15 am	Sunday School and Youth
	3/11	9:40 am	Adult Ed
	3/11	10:30 am	Jazz Service
	3/11	12:00 pm	Green Team
Tue	3/13	8:15 am	Lectionary Bible Study at Walker Home
Wed	3/14	5:30 pm	Soup Supper
	3/14	6:00 pm	Holden Evening Prayer
	3/14	6:30 pm	Faces of Christ study
Thu	3/15	5:30 pm	Youth at Bob's Java Hut

Week of March 18

Sun	3/18	8:30 am	Traditional Service
	3/18	9:15 am	Sunday School and Youth
	3/18	9:40 am	Adult Ed.
	3/18	10:30 am	Jazz Service
Mon	3/19	6:45 pm	Building & Grounds
Tue	3/20	8:15 am	Lectionary Bible Study at Walker Home
	3/20	6:30 pm	Theology/Outreach on Tap at Lynhall
Wed	3/21	5:30 pm	Soup Supper
	3/21	6:00 pm	Holden Evening Prayer
	3/21	6:30 pm	Faces of Christ study
	3/21	6:30 pm	Salem Executive Committee
	3/21	7:00 pm	Salem Council
Sat	3/24	10:00 am	March for Our Lives
	3/24	TBD	Youth Movie Outing
	3/24	5:30 pm	ZOOM House Gala

Week of March 25

Sun	3/25	8:30 am	Traditional Service
	3/25	9:15 am	Intergenerational Event: Peeps Dioramas
	3/25	9:40 am	Adult Ed.
	3/25	10:30 am	Jazz Service
Tue	3/27	8:15 am	Lectionary Bible Study at Walker Home
Thu	3/29	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Worship
Fri	3/30	7:00 pm	Good Friday Worship

Salem Calendar on the Salem Website

Did you know that our congregational calendar is available on our website? At www.discoverstalem.org you can link to our calendar. For some events there are extra details included, too. Check it out.



Daylight Saving Time Begins March 11

Don't forget to turn your clocks forward one hour early Sunday morning, March 11.



March Birthdays

Wish these Salem members and friends a happy birthday! If you're new to Salem and would like your birthday listed, please contact Laurie in the office.

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Matt Potts – 3/4 | Bob Hlavinka – 3/28 |
| David Seiffert – 3/7 | Matt Giinther – 3/31 |
| Sarah Sinderbrand – 3/8 | Linda Hanson – 3/31 |
| Bettie Buzzell – 3/20 | |



610 West 28th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55408

Salem English Lutheran Church
is a Reconciling in Christ
(R.I.C.) Congregation
 We are a Spirit-led, welcoming, and bold
 Christian community rooted in the neighborhood,
 striving to live faithfully in God's world.
 612-872-4650

Pastor:	Rhonda Hlavinka	revrhonda@discoversalem.org
Office:	Laurie Zaepfel	office@discoversalem.org
Youth Minister:	Jon Bates	springsouth@discoversalem.org
Jazz Music:	Tom Pieper	spirit@msn.com
Traditional Music:	Kent Goodroad	kgoodroad@gmail.com
Building Coordinator:	Deb Murphy	deb.murphy@fccmpls.org
Building Manager:	Rick Bowman	rjamesb49@gmail.com

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