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Salem English Lutheran Church

October 2018



Is The Church Dying?

Every year the bishop of the Minneapolis Synod hosts a retreat in Brainerd for all of the clergy in the synod. This year's theme is "serving the gospel for such a time as this." We are mid-retreat as I write this, so I don't have all the answers yet...I'm hoping our morning session will flesh that out. 😊 One of the questions we were asked to have conversation about was "What do you say to people when they ask if the church is dying?"

Dying. Is the church dying? It would be easy for me to say "no, the church isn't dying—it is just changing." But change is death and dying is part of life right? Isn't that kind of our "thing", as Christians? That out of death comes life?

I guess, just maybe we need to not be so afraid to talk about dying. Is it possible that embracing dying may allow us to bring about life for the church? Now, Salem knows this. You have, as a community of faith, experienced the church dying in palpable ways—but you have also experienced new life in ways that are profound.. SpringHouse—that thing that makes us different and gives us a new way to be church—came out of death. It wasn't easy and it wasn't quick...but through dying three congregations found life again.

I don't believe the church is going away—if that is what people mean when they ask if it is dying. I do think the church is dying...and being made new all of the time. But one of the stumbling blocks we run into is the fact that talking about it is hard. Death is hard. We shy away from naming it. We avoid conversations that should happen because death is uncomfortable—and to talk about it is too.

Many of you know that my dad recently passed away. We knew it was coming...my dad made a decision to just receive comfort care. But, even with all my "professional" experience, I was having a hard time talking to him about it. Enter my 10 year old. My boys didn't want to see grandpa that sick, they wanted to remember him as full of life. But my husband called and told me Jack wanted to call Grandpa Doug on the phone.

I didn't know what Jack was going to say, but I put the phone on speaker and put it up to my dad's ear...and this is what we heard: "Grandpa Doug...I hope you know that we love you very very much and we will miss you very much. But when you go and get to heaven, will you give Grandma Jackie a really big hug for us?" My dad simply smiled and whispered—"I will."

I couldn't do it. My brother couldn't do it. It felt like nobody was having an easy time naming the whole dying part. But Jack did. He named it. He made it ok. He gave us all permission to say it. Dad was dying...but we all knew that in his dying—the giving up of the body that had betrayed him for so very long—he would find life.

So what do we say when someone asks us if the church is dying? Maybe we need to not be afraid to say..."Yes, it is. Each and every day it is dying. But it is dying to bring about new life." In little and big ways...the church has to die to ideas and structures that served it in the past but no longer do. It has to let some things go that were, at one time, very effective and cherished. But we let these things go, we let them die, not so the church disappears...but so that the church can live.

How has our little corner of the church, how has Salem, died and found new life? More importantly though, what new life are we looking toward right now...and how does dying fit into the conversation?

Blessings, Friends,

Pastor Rhonda

Make a Difference—Donate Now!

If you are looking for a concrete way to make a difference, there are several opportunities right now at Salem to do so. We are currently collecting items for LSS Foster Care, the Minneapolis Homeless Encampment, and the "Sanctuary" supporting coalition and its families. Look for details inside about specific items to bring to worship this month!



Salem News

Seasons of Giving

Inspire hope and support change by giving to LSS.



Adoption, foster care, camps, disaster recovery, financial planning, employment counseling, housing assistance, mental health programs, programs for the military and veterans, senior programming, programming for people with disabilities, refugee resettlement, youth and young adult service, youth homelessness programs and housing, nutrition and food programs...these are just SOME of the things that are part of what Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota does in our communities.

Join us this fall as we learn more about what this amazing organization is doing all over MN and in our very own neighborhoods. Each week during the months of September, October, and part of November, we will take a closer look at their work and how we can be part of it.

Monetary gifts can be designated using envelopes found in the back of the sanctuary or by simply writing LSS in the memo line of your check. This fall, as we learn about how we can volunteer, support, and donate...LSS reminds us that "your gift provides hope for those who need it most in your community".

LSS Giving–Foster Care Wish List

The items below are needed in the Twin Cities for therapeutic foster care providers with LSS. Please bring any items you have to donate to worship at Salem by October 31, and they will be delivered to LSS.

- Backpacks and duffel bags
- Bathroom supplies, including soap, shampoo, lotion, deodorant, wide-tooth combs, hair brushes, toothbrushes and travel-sized toothpaste
- Clothing, including pajamas, socks and underwear, all sizes
- Diapers, all sizes
- School supplies, including notebooks, folders, binders, pens and pencils
- Art supplies and activity kits
- Books
- Board games and small toys
- Ear buds or headphones

Let Your Light Shine

Stewardship Season

Keep a watch in your mailbox and in our weekly communications for information regarding our fall 2018 stewardship campaign...Let your light shine! We hear it at our baptisms, and we sing about it in our most beloved children songs--what does it have to do with our stewardship?



"Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to God in heaven." Matthew 5:16

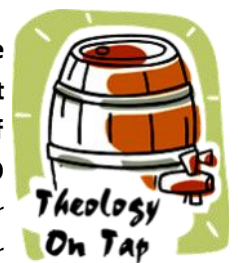
Get ready to let that light shine...as far as we can get it to reach...as we pledge our gifts and our time and our talents to the ministry God has called us to in this place.

Look What We Did!

Thank you to everyone for the incredibly generous donations to the pastoral discretion fund over the summer. We took in over \$830 that can go to help our neighbors who find themselves in need. If you donated gift cards, fantastic. If you donated monetarily, just know that your dollars will be turned into gift cards to use when we have requests made at Salem. Your generosity is overwhelming and the difference you make is real.

Theology on Tap

Due to MEA and Halloween falling at the end of October--we will move our next Theology on Tap to the first week of November. So, join us at Lynhall at 6:30 pm on Wednesday November 7 for conversation and beverages at our monthly Theology on Tap. The topic has yet to be determined, but watch for an update in the eblast and weekly announcements to find out what direction we will be heading. Don't miss this great opportunity for fellowship and conversation! See you on November 7!



More News

God's Work, Our Hands

During worship on Sunday September 23, we completed



9 fleece tie blankets and started 3 more. These blankets will go to kids and youth in our community that are sick or hurt and who need the warmth and love that a hand made blanket can provide. In addition, we wrote more than 30 advocacy letters regarding the Voters Rights Advancement Act to our congressional leaders in Washington DC (with many people take materials home to write their letters during the week.)

Nicely done, good and faithful servants! God's Work- Our Hands!



Adult Faith Formation

Join us for our joint SpringHouse adult faith formation each week in the gathering space between services at 9:30 am. Everyone is welcome for this great opportunity at learning and conversation! Here's what is coming your way...

September 30: Come hear from Loren McGrail about her work with Global Ministries on the West Bank.

October 7: Join us for an intergenerational event centered around World Communion Sunday. There will be activities for all ages in the gathering space.

October 14. 21. 28 & November 4: **A Study on Revelation** led by Pastor Laurie Feille. Hot topics make great conversation!

LivingLutheran

Living Lutheran Magazine

It is time again to update Salem's subscription list for *Living Lutheran* magazine! This dynamic publication has lots of information about what's going on in the larger Lutheran community, as well as other features about our Christian life together. If you'd like to see what it's all about, you can take a look at the church's copy in the library area of the sun room. Please see the bulletin insert and subscription list at church during October for more information about subscriptions and plan to update your information and donate to defray the cost of your subscription if you are able. For 2019, the total cost is still only \$9 for each subscription. You may call the church office (612-872-4650) if you'd like to opt in or opt out of the *Living Lutheran*, or update your subscription information. Questions? Talk with Laurie in the office. Thank you!



On Gathering Sunday, participants in the Detroit Mission Trip shared their experiences at worship.

Altar Flowers

Salem offers the opportunity to provide occasional floral arrangements for worship, created by member Myra Urness Rusten. If you would like to honor a birthday, anniversary, or other special occasion with an arrangement to beautify worship, and then take home to enjoy, you can sign up at church or contact the office (612-872-4650 or office@discoversalem.org). Arrangements are \$40 each. Checks may be written to Salem.



SpringHouse News

Apple Picking on September 30



The annual **SpringHouse** apple picking event will be September 30 at Deardorff Orchards in Waconia. We will meet at the orchard after church. Apples available

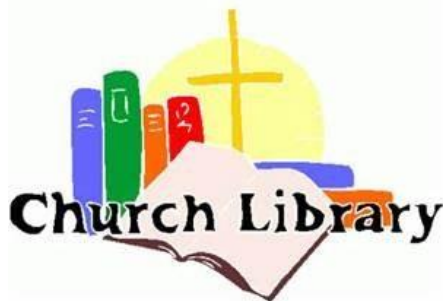
for picking will be Fireside, Haralson, Honeygold, and Regent. Pumpkins and other apple related items will be available for sale, and activities at the farm include tractor rides to the orchards, friendly farm animals, haystack play area, wine tasting, and live music

For more information please contact Michael Vanderford at michaeljvanderford@gmail.com or (612) 296-9647. More information about Deardorff Orchards can be found at www.deardorfforchards.com

SpringHouse Library Notes

Check out the new book cart for newly acquired books. Thanks to anonymous donors, we have a great, functional book cart. Roger Livdahl and Glenn Crown assembled it. To check out a book, simply write the name of the book and your name in the notebook at one end of the cart. When you return the book, just put it on the shelf and cross out your name in the check out book.

Spring House library is a rich source of a wide range of inspiration and information. On the east wall are commentaries, Bible dictionaries and atlases and other helps for studying the Bible (Categories 1-5), Justice Issues (Category 9), theology (Category 6), World Religions (Category 7) and Christian Living (Category 10).



T H E A T R E COUP D'ETAT

Shakespeare's *The Tempest*

Theatre Coup d'Etat presents *The Tempest* by William Shakespeare, directed by James Napoleon Stone, performing October 26 - November 17, 2018, all 7:30 pm showings at SpringHouse Ministry Center in Minneapolis. Theatre Coup d'Etat is proud to present this story of magic, redemption, and the power of self-realization. Combining actor-driven movement, a blend of live and engineered soundscape, and the black box seating of SpringHouse Ministry Center, Theatre Coup d'Etat's production of *The Tempest* is can't-miss experience. Admission is sliding scale, \$18-\$40. Tickets and more information available at www.theatrecoupdetat.com or call 1-800-838-3006. Discounts for members of SpringHouse congregations! Limited supply of \$15 tickets each evening.

The Tempest preview (pay-what-you-can):

Thursday, October 25, show time 7:30 pm (doors 7:00 pm)

The Tempest performances (sliding scale): \$18-\$40

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Monday, show times 7:30 pm (doors 7:00 pm) October 26, 27, 29, November 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 12, 15, 16, 17 (Monday, October 29 and November 5 are pay-what-you-can performances)

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, October 13**. For more information or to be added to the email list, contact Anna Bliss at akb@pobox.com

Reaching Out ...

Support Families in Sanctuary

Our decision to become a Sanctuary-Supporting/ Immigrant Welcoming Church has led us to network with other faith communities in South Minneapolis who are providing sanctuary at this time. Most of these communities have families in sanctuary. This network provides an opportunity for us to learn what the needs are and how SpringHouse can best respond. It also is a forum for planning and strategizing how to continue this work of becoming Sanctuary-Supporting/Immigrant Welcoming congregations.

One very pressing need is help with the cost of food. Specifically we can support families living in sanctuary by donating Cub Food gift cards. SO - YOU - MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF OUR THREE SPRINGHOUSE CHURCHES - ARE INVITED TO BUY Cub Food cards and place them in the offering plates on Sunday. These can be blessed during the offering as one small witness to being in solidarity with immigrant families. These Cub cards will be delivered to South Minneapolis. Sanctuary Coalition via Rebecca Voelkel and Wendy Manuel. Thanks for considering this ministry with our neighbors!

Simpson Shelter Meal

Our next opportunity to serve the evening meal at Simpson Shelter will be Tuesday, October 2. We gather at Simpson United Methodist Church, 28th St. and First Ave., to prepare and serve the meal at 7 pm. Please sign up on the info table or with Mary (mandmvanderford@gmail.com)

Greenway Clean-Up on October 13

Please join SpringHouse Green Team for a Greenway clean up event on October 13. We will meet at the church at 9:30 in the morning. Everyone age 12 and older is welcome to participate. It's a great way to spend time in the community while helping the planet. Get in touch with Shannon Fast (larrison.fast@gmail.com) if you're interested in joining us.



Minneapolis Homeless Encampment

If you have been paying attention to the news over the past few weeks, you are familiar with the homeless encampment that has grown to gigantic proportions off of Franklin and Hiawatha. Several people have asked how we can be of help to these neighbors.



Because things are moving very quickly at the encampment, because of the relocation that is imminent, and because of the consistently changing needs of the people there, the council came to the consensus that we would direct anyone who is wanting to help or make donations to do one of two things.

1. Check out the website. www.franklinhiawathacamp.org
The website is the clearinghouse for all donations and services. There are links to give financially through the appropriate groups supporting the community in specific ways as well as daily needs for "stuff" and volunteers. Check it out for details.
2. Donate Items. While the needs change on a daily basis, there are some things that they never have enough of. **Any donations will be taken to the appropriate places if brought to worship by Sunday, October 7.**

Items that are needed include:

- ◆ Paper plates, napkins and hot cups
- ◆ Plastic spoons and forks
- ◆ Non-perishable food items
- ◆ Bottled water and juice
- ◆ Hand towels and bath towels
- ◆ Flash lights
- ◆ Pepper spray
- ◆ Hoodies, socks, and shoes
- ◆ Rubbermaid-type plastic bins for residents to store clothes.

Sunday School and Children's Ministry

Godly Play News!

This year we are adding a "Feast" to the morning schedule. This part of the Godly Play curriculum involves sharing juice or water and crackers after work time and before the closing. It is a time of communion—being present with each other; feeding souls rather than just having a snack. Please let leaders know if your child has any food restrictions.

Sunday School Stories

In September, the Sunday School learned about the church calendar, the Bible, the Holy Family, and Creation.

Stories for October will be:

- ◆ October 14: The Ark and the Flood
- ◆ October 21: The Great Family
- ◆ October 28: The Exodus

Questions about Sunday School?

Contact April Conlee (april.conlee@gmail.com) or Pastor Rhonda (revrhonda@discoversalem.org)

World Communion Day Intergenerational Event



On October 7 from 9:15-10:15 am, Adult Faith Formation, Youth Group, and Sunday School will come together to celebrate World Communion Day. Several different opportunities and activities will be available for all ages!

Lyndale UCC Fall Festival.

Join Lyndale for a Fall Festival after service on October 14. This celebration is free and open to all ages. Food, games, music, pumpkin painting, and more! Invite your whole family to join in the celebration of abundance.



Youth News

Upcoming Youth Activities

Sunday, September 30, 11:45 am-6:00 pm

Apple Orchard Outing/Dinner at the Millers

Leave from SpringHouse, Pickup at the Millers

The group will leave from SpringHouse at 11:45 and have lunch on the way out (please bring about \$10). Pick-up will be at the Millers (of Lyndale UCC.) .

Friday, October 5 , 6-9 pm

Middle School Game Night at SpringHouse

Bring your favorite game and a friend! Pizza will be provided for dinner—please notify Jon of any dietary restrictions.

Saturday, October 13, 10 am-1 pm

Neighborhood Clean-up Around SpringHouse

Come help beautify the neighborhood! Bring work gloves and watch for more details to come.



Saturday, October 20, 6-10 pm

Halloween Outing

We'll meet at SpringHouse to venture out for a Halloween-themed activity. Attend Youth Group to help plan! It might be a haunted house, pumpkin patch, or pumpkin carving, or a safely rated Halloween Movie. Plans will be finalized the first week of October. Stay subscribed to Youth Newsletters for more information.

Sunday, October 28 , 6 pm

Youth Group Dinner – Location TBA

Sunday Mornings

Youth group meets every Sunday 9:30-10:20am in the Micah room. All high school and middle school youth welcome. Please stay connected with updates and adaptations by getting subscribed to the Youth Ministry E-Newsletter. Connect with Jon to get subscribed. Get yourself signed up! You can text @db2kc8 to 81010, or talk to Jon Bates.

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

Calendar

Week of September 30

Sun	9/30	8:30 am	Traditional Worship
	9/30	9:15 am	Sunday School and Youth
	9/30	9:30 am	Adult Ed
	9/30	10:30 am	Jazz Worship
	9/30	11:45 am	Apple Picking Outing
Tue	10/2	8:15 am	Lectionary Bible Study
	10/2	5:15 pm	Simpson Shelter Meal
Fri	10/5	6:00 pm	Middle School Game Night

Week of October 7

Sun	10/7	8:30 am	Traditional Worship
	10/7	9:15 am	Intergenerational event
	10/7	10:30 am	Jazz Worship
	10/7	12:00 pm	Children's Ministry Team
	10/7	1:00 pm	Confirmation Meeting
Tue	10/9	8:15 am	Lectionary Bible Study at Walker Home
Sat	10/13	9:00 am	Women's March Huddle Group
	10/13	10:00 am	Neighborhood/Greenway Clean-up

Week of October 14

Sun	10/14	8:30 am	Traditional Worship
	10/14	9:15 am	Sunday School and Youth
	10/14	9:30 am	Adult Ed
	10/14	10:30 am	Jazz Worship
	10/14	11:45 am	Lyndale UCC Fall Festival
	10/14	12:00 pm	Green Team
Mon	10/15	6:45 pm	Building & Grounds
Tue	10/16	8:15 am	Lectionary Bible Study at Walker Home
Wed	10/17	6:30 pm	Salem Council
Sat	10/20	6:00 pm	Youth Halloween Outing

Week of October 21

Sun	10/21	8:30 am	Traditional Worship
	10/21	9:15 am	Sunday School and Youth
	10/21	9:30 am	Adult Ed
	10/21	10:30 am	Jazz Worship
Tue	10/23	8:15 am	Lectionary Bible Study at Walker Home

Week of October 28

Sun	10/28	8:30 am	Traditional Worship
	10/28	9:15 am	Sunday School and Youth
	10/28	9:30 am	Adult Ed
	10/28	10:30 am	Jazz Worship
	10/28	6:00 pm	Youth Group Dinner
Tue	10/30	8:15 am	Lectionary Bible Study at Walker Home

Salem Calendar on the Salem Website

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

October 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.



Jack Hlavinka – 10/4

Jan Olson – 10/6

Cassie Sievwright – 10/9

Jon Hanke – 10/10

Antone Melton-Meaux – 10/11

Maria Thieling – 10/15

Clark Hlavinka – 10/23

Diann Uzelac – 10/26

Naomi Nelson – 10/29

Paul Varns – 10/29



Twin Cities Marathon on October 7

The Twin Cities Marathon is Sunday morning, October 7. Plan your route to church accordingly!

**MEDTRONIC
TWIN CITIES
MARATHON**





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	springshouseyouth@fccmpls.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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