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Salem English Lutheran Church

Late January -February 2019

A New Year Has Begun



Well, most of the trees are down, the lights have been stored, and we are left with all of the often daunting possibilities that come with a new year. As you read this, we are in the third week of the year and if you made a new year's resolution, I pray that it is working for you. But, if you are like most people -statistically speaking- your new year's resolution may have already come to its end. Science has determined that the day by which most resolutions bite the dust is January 12. So if you are still going strong, you are above the curve.

The new year always brings a lot of pressure...for individuals or communities. What will we do differently? How will we be better? What if, instead of trying to figure out how we will be better this year, we took the lens of gratitude and spent time reflecting on how we were already better last year? What if, instead of piling a whole lot of pressure into the months to come, if we simply were mindful of where we are, practiced gratitude for our blessings, and committed to moving forward with that lens? Sounds easy enough...but...

I'll be honest with you, I have been part of a lot of conversations over the past month-in various compartments of my life-about how terrible the past year has been. From the chaos of the world to personal challenges that almost everyone seems to have faced, there is a lot of lamenting. And it is real! This feeling of being overwhelmed by personal suffering, by a world in disarray that is dominated by elections and shutdowns, by injustice on the margins, and by disaster that does not discriminate...it is real. It was a tough year.

But what else do we know? Beyond all the lamentations...what else do we know? We know that in the midst of the darkness...a light shines. And? The darkness does not overcome that light. We might just have to be intentional about looking for it.

Oh, I think we all could look at the year behind us and pronounce-"This year I'm going to be better!". We can all list

things to change. But maybe the spiritual discipline we need in the new year is to see how we already have changed and are better. Maybe in the new year we need to take a look and really see where the light has broken through.

Now, I'm going to leave you hanging just a bit here. Normally, I would go on to talk about the things I see through this lens about our life and work together in this place over the past year. But because I am running out of space, and because we have our annual meeting coming up in less than two weeks, I am going to table the revelation of good news and blessings. I can think of no better place to celebrate the light, the ways we are better and stronger, and the ways we put darkness in it's place, than at our annual celebration of ministry. So you will have to stay tuned to be privy to the good news...and join us on January 27. (see details inside)

As for those new year's resolutions? If they work for you-fantastic! If they don't, I would invite you not to sweat it...they don't work for most of us. As for me, as an individual, and as a leader in this community of faith-I guess my resolution is to keep shining a light. It may seem small or not enough in ...but again, what is it that we know? The light will not be swallowed up. A new year has begun! Here's to another year of ministry, of being light-bearers, and of gratitude.

Epiphany Blessings!
Pastor Rhonda

Chili Cook-Off This Saturday!

Don't miss the fun! Join us at 4 pm on Saturday for our 2nd annual cook-off! See details inside...it's not too late to find a recipe!




Servant Trip to South Dakota!

Check out the details inside about how to join Springhouse's summer adventure to the Cheyenne River Reservation and its Horse Ministry.



Annual Meeting Bingo!

If you need another reason to join us January 27 for our annual meeting-introducing "annual meeting bingo!" You will just have to show up to find out...there will be prizes!



Salem News

Not Just an Annual Meeting!

Make sure you have your calendars marked for Sunday January 27! You do not want to miss this meeting. Yes, there are some business items we need to attend to, but it is also a chance to get together as a faith community to talk about how Salem is shining its light in our world! Rumor has it there will be bingo, prizes, and treats!

- ◆ Joint Worship at 10:30 am (NO 8:30 am worship this day)
- ◆ Brief SpringHouse Annual Meeting immediately following worship
- ◆ Lunch - which will transition into...
- ◆ Salem Annual Meeting

Childcare will be provided for all of the above

If you have questions about our annual meeting, please feel free to contact congregational President Michelle Ruppert or Vice President Barb Livdahl

Can't wait to see you all there!



Annual Meeting Day Lunch

On Sunday January 27, Annual Meeting Day, we'll share a noon potluck lunch. Subway sandwiches will be provided, please bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share. Volunteers are needed to set up at 9:15 on Sunday, and to clean up afterward. All help is greatly appreciated!

Theology on Tap



Come and join the fun...be part of the conversation! We are trying **something NEW**. We will meet Wednesday, **January 30 at 6:30 pm at Lago Taco** (just south on Lyndale) for our final Theology on Tap before our Lenten break. We would love to have you join us for tacos and conversation!

Seasons of Giving

ReconcilingWorks
LUTHERANS FOR FULL PARTICIPATION



For the next 6 weeks, we will turn our focus to Reconciling Works as our Seasons of Giving recipient. As a church that has long been R.I.C., it is incredibly important that we continue to support the work of this organization. Currently there are 842 ministry settings that have been recognized by Reconciling Works as being "publically and intentionally welcoming"...but that number continues to grow, and more congregations, seminaries, and colleges continue to trust the process, learn, educate, and welcome.

Watch for ways to engage, amazing new resources, and opportunities to give in the weeks to come. Envelopes for monetary gifts are available in the back of the sanctuary. As always, your generosity and commitment to being truly welcoming is a gift and testament to our community!

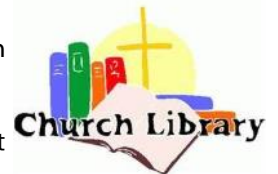
SpringHouse Library Alerts!

On our shelves soon:

- ◆ The progressive, ecumenical periodical *Christian Century*, donated by First Christian member Garry Hesser. *Christian Century* is "loyal to the church and open to the world."
- ◆ Adult and children's books around the issue of Environmental Justice, purchased by the SpringHouse Green Team.

On our shelves now:

- ◆ Books about the beliefs and practices of the parent bodies of the three churches that own SpringHouse: The Disciples of Christ, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and the United Church of Christ. Doctrine statements, histories and hymnals can be found on the shelves labeled 13.1, 13.2, and 13.3.
- ◆ Colorfully illustrated and well written children's books
- ◆ Interesting and compelling adult fiction found on the shelf labeled 16.



More News

Chili Cook-Off

THIS SATURDAY! It's time for our SECOND annual Chili Cook-Off! Join us on Saturday January 19, from 4-6 pm, as we gather around steaming crockpots full of delicious chili. Whether you are up for making a pot, or just tasting them all, this will be a fun fellowship event for everyone! (Invite your friends!) For those who like an opportunity to give - we will be highlighting the ministry of the Simpson Shelter and their ministry with the hungry. As we eat our fill of chili, we will collect spare change and other financial contributions that will go directly to Simpson's ministry with the hungry. No need to have signed up—we welcome you to join us for all the fun!



Worship Planning Meeting

If you have a heart for worship and are willing to help plan, please join us on Wednesday January 23 at 6:30 pm for the first of our quarterly worship planning meetings. We will be looking at the upcoming season of Lent which begins the second week of March. We need people with ideas about music, sanctuary decorations, themes, prayer, children, traditions, and all things worship. We will work together to shape our Lenten worship experience - and we would love to have YOU be part of the process!



It's Late, But It's Coming

Lent does not begin until March 6 this year, but it's never too early to get some dates on the calendar.



Tuesday March 5—Fat Tuesday Celebration (see below)

Wednesday March 6: Ash Wednesday worship

Wednesdays March 13, 20, 27, April 2, and 9: Lenten Soup Supper and Holden Evening Prayer and possible Tai-Chi

Thursday April 18: Maundy Thursday worship

Friday April 19: Good Friday worship

2nd Annual FAT Tuesday (Mardi Gras) Celebration

Join us the day BEFORE Ash Wednesday as we come together as a community to eat, drink, and have fun together. Following the tradition of purging all the things that are rich, excessive, or decadent before the season of Lent begins, we will be making waffles! It's the traditional last "Huzzah" before Lent— the season of repentance, reflection, and walking with Jesus.



What you need to know:

- ◆ Date: **Tuesday, March 5**
- ◆ Time: **6- 7:30 pm**
- ◆ **EVERYONE is welcome!** Invite your friends and neighbors!
- ◆ This is a **FREE** event for everyone!
- ◆ Donations for the celebration will be accepted - sign up in the sanctuary to bring items
- ◆ Volunteers needed to help set up and clean up. If you can help, please sign up in the back of the sanctuary or email Laurie in the office.

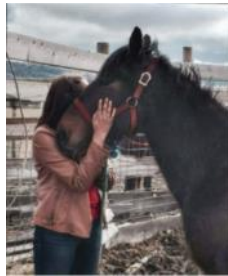
SpringHouse News

SpringHouse Joint Servant Trip

Cheyenne River Reservation

Spiritual Healing Horse Ministry

Join us as we travel west to Bridger, SD and meet our Lakota neighbors! We have been invited to experience an amazing ministry that centers on young adults and horses at The Horse Ministry Program. The program draws upon Lakota knowledge and tradition and is a refuge and healing space for at-risk youth and young adults.



“Horse Ministry is not teaching youth how to ride a horse, it’s about teaching people that are hurting how to reconnect to the spirit.” Toni Buffalo (founder)

Our time will be spent building relationships, learning about Lakota history, traditions, and life, participating in work projects, working with the people and horses in the program (there will be an opportunity for each of us to choose to ride), and of course– having fun!

Here is what you need to know to participate:

- ◆ **Who?** This servant opportunity is open to **ALL** (youth and adult) members of SpringHouse.
- ◆ **When?** We are set to leave after worship on **Sunday July 7 and return Saturday evening July 13.**
- ◆ **Cost?** We have some planning yet to do, but anticipate that the total cost will not exceed \$350 per person. **If cost is an issue, know that there are scholarships available.*
- ◆ **When and how do I sign up?** Sign up by filling out the registration form found in the sanctuary or linked to the e-blast and turn it in with a \$100 deposit to Pastor Rhonda, Pastor Rebecca, or Jon Bates in the SpringHouse office. We would like to have everyone who is planning to join us signed up before we meet for the first time for planning. **Our first group planning meeting will be on Sunday February 17 after worship at 11:45 am.**

Adult Faith Formation

You have spoken, and we listened! Based on all the wonderful feedback you gave us, here’s what we are going to be doing over the next several months!

January 13 & 20: What’s the Difference Between the SpringHouse Congregations? Over these two weeks, we’ll take a laid-back look at our three congregations through the lenses of our 3 SpringHouse denominations.

February 3, 10, 17, 24, March 3: The Views From the Gospels

We’ll examine the difference between the Gospels (i.e. how Matthew comes from one direction, Luke comes from another direction, etc.) using a combination of videos and other materials, plus learn about the Gospel of Q, which influences Mark, the first of the gospels in the New Testament.

March 10, 17, 24, 31, April 7: Social Justice Through The Eyes of Prophets You May Not Know (or remember...)

For our Lenten study, our focus will be on some of the prophets that we forget about or may not know about, and how they underpin social justice.

April 28, May 5, 12: Human Geography of Palestine

We hear a lot of things in the news about the situation in Israel and Palestine. What’s the Biblical history that connects the dots, how does it relate to the Bible and modern history?

June 2 & 9: Is My Muslim Neighbor’s God the Same as My God?

Guest speakers TBA.

June 16, 23, 30, July 7 & 14: Myths, Leviticus, and Us

Pastor Laurie of First Christian will lead us through a study on Leviticus, helping us examine some common myths and how people use the Bible to ‘justify’ certain positions.



Reaching Out ...

Wedge Neighborhood Community Meal

Come join in community dinners twice a month at SpringHouse. This meal is created for the Wedge neighborhood—a gift to neighbors from neighbors. Everyone is welcome for a place to rest and be good to one another. The last date for this season is Tuesday, January 22 from 6-8 pm. For more information visit www.thewedge.org or email outreach@thewedge.org.

Simpson Shelter Meal

Our next opportunity to serve the evening meal at Simpson Shelter will be Tuesday, February 12. 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)



Support Families in Sanctuary

As a Sanctuary-Supporting/ Immigrant Welcoming Church, we are working with other faith communities in South Minneapolis who are providing sanctuary at this time. This network allows us to learn what the needs are and how SpringHouse can best respond. **One very pressing need is help with the cost of food. Specifically, we can support families by donating Cub Food gift cards.** You are invited to buy Cub Food cards and place them in the offering plates on Sunday. They will then be delivered to churches hosting sanctuary families. Thank you for your support in this ever important ministry!

Many Thanks!



Thank you to everyone who participated in our ZOOM House Secret Santa project this year. Salem participated by purchasing gifts from residents' wish lists for 5 families (10 people.) Thank you for helping to make Christmas bright! Below are the thank you cards we received from those families. Enjoy!

Merry Christmas! We hope your family is blessed for blessing our family this Christmas. It's been a really hard year. Thanks so very much
 many thanks,
 LIZ and Maddy
 — ZOOM HOUSE

Thank you so much for the gifts! You have made our Christmas that more special! Happy New Year!
 -Cherry Family
 — ZOOM HOUSE

Thank you SO much
 peace to you all
 and much love
 C.H. Ash
 — ZOOM HOUSE

God bless you guys in the name of Jesus. you guys are so awesome and Amazing thank you you guys did it for met Michael in 2016, 2017 and now 2018 we love you guys God bless you in Jesus name
 Michael + Lilly
 — ZOOM HOUSE

Thank You So much for helping another family during the holidays. The world needs more people like you. Happy Holidays
 and lots of thanks
 — ZOOM HOUSE

Sunday School and Children's Ministry



Fun was had by all at the SpringHouse Christmas Pageant, "Christmas in a Box" on December 16!

Godly Play News!

Godly Play stories from the New Testament this winter will include parables of the Good Shepherd, the Good Samaritan, the Great Pearl, the Leaven, the Mustard Seed, and the Sower.



Children's Ministry Team

The Children's Ministry Team meets on the first Sunday of the month at noon in the Sunday school space. Our next meeting will be Sunday, February 3.

Donations Needed

We would welcome donations of different colored felt, low book shelf units, bean bag chairs, manipulative building toys like Legos, K'Nex, Magna tiles.

Questions about Sunday School?

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

Youth News

Upcoming Youth Activities

Sunday, January 20, 11:30 am-2:00 pm

Middle School Lunch

After worship, the middle school group (5th - 8th grade) will gather to enjoy lunch and fellowship. After lunch we will make cards for members of SpringHouse and others. Please let Jon know if you have any dietary restrictions!

Sunday, February 3, 11:30 am-2:00 pm

High School \$5 Lunch

High school youth are invited to lunch together and fellowship after worship. Please bring \$5 to cover lunch and let Jon know if there are any allergies present.

Sunday, February 24, Youth Group Dinner

Time & Location TBD. If you would like to host, please contact Jon!

Youth Group Themes

For four weeks during Youth Group, beginning January 13, we will be focusing on the question, "Why Christian?" Pastor Laurie, Pastor Rhonda, Rev John-Anthony, and Pastor Ashley will be joining Youth Group on separate Sundays to give a response to that question.

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 January 20

Sun	1/20	8:30 am	Traditional Worship
	1/20	9:15 am	Sunday School and Youth
	1/20	9:30 am	Adult Ed
	1/20	10:30 am	Jazz Worship
	1/20	11:30 am	Middle School Lunch
Mon	1/21	6:45 pm	Building & Grounds
Tue	1/22	8:15 am	Lectionary Bible Study at Walker Home
	1/22	6:00 pm	Wedge Community Meal
Wed	1/23	6:30 pm	Worship Planning Meeting

Week of January 27

Sun	1/27	9:15 am	Sunday School and Youth
	1/27	9:30 am	Adult Ed
	1/27	10:30 am	Combined SpringHouse Worship
	1/27	11:30 am	SpringHouse Annual Meeting
	1/27	12:00 pm	SpringHouse Lunch
	1/27	12:15 pm	Salem Annual Meeting
Tue	1/29	8:15 am	Lectionary Bible Study at Walker Home
Wed	1/30	6:30 pm	Theology on Tap at Lago Taco

Week of February 3

Sun	2/3	8:30 am	Traditional Worship
	2/3	9:15 am	Sunday School and Youth
	2/3	9:30 am	Adult Ed
	2/3	10:30 am	Jazz Worship
	2/3	11:30 am	High School Lunch
	2/3	12:00 pm	Children's Ministry Team
Tue	2/5	8:15 am	Lectionary Bible Study at Walker Home

Youth-Save the Date!

Youth will have the opportunity to attend a retreat with the theme, "Spiritual Care: For ourselves and for each other" from 7 pm, Friday, March 8 to 10 am, Sunday, March 10. A location in the Twin Cities metro is still to be determined. The cost will be \$40 to cover a donation to the church we'll be staying at, food, dinner out, and other resources. Scholarships are available. Please give your \$10 deposit to Jon by Sunday, February 17. The full cost is due Sunday, March 3.



Week of February 10

Sun	2/10	8:30 am	Traditional Worship
	2/10	9:15 am	Sunday School and Youth
	2/10	9:30 am	Adult Ed
	2/10	10:30 am	Jazz Worship
Tue	2/12	8:15 am	Lectionary Bible Study at Walker Home
	2/12	5:15 pm	Simpson Shelter Meal

Week of February 17

Sun	2/17	8:30 am	Traditional Worship
	2/17	9:15 am	Sunday School and Youth
	2/17	9:30 am	Adult Ed
	2/17	10:30 am	Jazz Worship
	2/17	11:45 am	Servant Trip Info Meeting
Mon	2/18	6:45 pm	Building & Grounds
Tue	2/19	8:15 am	Lectionary Bible Study at Walker Home
Wed	2/20	6:30 pm	Salem Council

Week of February 24

Sun	2/24	8:30 am	Traditional Worship
	2/24	9:15 am	Sunday School and Youth
	2/24	9:30 am	Adult Ed
	2/24	10:30 am	Jazz Worship
	2/24	TBD	Youth Dinner
Tue	2/26	8:15 am	Lectionary Bible Study at Walker Home

January-February 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.

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Mary Johnson – 1/28 | LaVonne Sjogren – 2/17 |
| Paul West – 1/31 | Austin Tollerson – 2/18 |
| Chris Wick – 2/6 | Solveig Tollerson – 2/22 |
| Axel Jorstad – 2/8 | Mary Patterson – 2/28 |
| Frank Marynak – 2/15 | |
| Ingrid Jorstad – 2/17 | |





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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