

Single married partnered divorced rich poor black brown red yellow white kid parent grandparent nice cranky queer pierced sm
tattooed plain rich poor short tall average fat thin heterosexual bisexual transgender slow quick employed freelance not working
retired unemployed gay lesbian liberal conservative using recovering homeowner renter homeless ambitious content devout seekin
old young athletic clumsy doer thinker couch potato reader writer geeky technological analog innocent guilty aggressive passive no
confrontational peacemaker challenger explorer Single married partnered divorced rich poor black brown red yellow white kid pa
grandparent nice cranky queer pierced virgin tattooed plain rich poor short tall average fat thin heterosexual bisexual transgende
quick employed freelance not working retired unemployed gay lesbian liberal conservative using recovering homeowner renter ho
ambitious content devout seeking old young athletic clumsy doer thinker couch potato reader writer geeky technological analog in

Salem English Lutheran Church

March-April 2023



Walking Through Holy Week

I was going to give this front page space to one of our members this time around, but she wasn't sure she was front page ready. Which I find fascinating because I've been filling front page space for some time now and am not sure I am front page ready. Anyway...before I get to the business of the front page, I want to point you to page 4 of this publication...because if you only have the bandwidth to read one article of length right now, read the one offered to

us by Michelle on her experience with the *Colors of Hope* book study. Seriously, go ahead and stop reading right here if you need to and read what she has to say about welcome, about authenticity, about Salem and SpringHouse...and if you have time, you can come back to the front page later. I'll wait.

You're back--great! That, or you stayed and will just keep reading all the way through so you don't miss page 4. Either way, it's time to talk Holy Week. I really cannot believe that Holy Week is just around a very close corner. It is one of my favorite weeks of the year, as most of you know.

I love Holy Week for many reasons, but most of all because it is that one week of the year when the rhythm of the church seems to take center stage, even in areas of life where the church doesn't always reside. Even the nightly news will have stories from Palm Sunday through Easter that correlate with the rhythm of the church around the world. From Hosannas at the Vatican to Good Friday parades in Nicaragua, the world knows it's a special week.

I love Holy Week because the rhythm of the church fills me and allows me to experience all of the emotions that make up a life of faith...even the ones that aren't always understood as being part of a life of faith. From the joy of Hosannas and waving palm branches to the fear and grief that comes with knowing what will come...from the love and welcome in the upper room around the table with Jesus to the loneliness and dread in the garden as Jesus prayed...from anger in the temple and resignation standing before Pilate to despair at Calvary...**from fear, grief and sadness, to empty tomb Alleluias...Holy Week gives us the opportunity to feel our humanity in a tangible and visceral way.** It allows us to feel our own humanity and the

humanity of Jesus, which makes it all so very much more real and even relevant.

I guess that's what I love most about Lent and Holy Week ...I love that the picture we get of Jesus isn't one of him glowing serenely across the desert. No, the picture we get of Jesus during Holy Week is one of him both fearful and resolved, tossing-tables angry yet gracious and forgiving. He is exasperated yet merciful, fearful and still trusting. I feel all those things and I love Holy Week because it reminds me that Jesus did too.

Holy Week reminds me that the one we call Christ, the Son of God...he walked through this world just as much in his humanity as I do mine. It should comfort all of us to know that maybe our angst, anger, fear, dread...all of those difficult human emotions...aren't so bad after all. I mean, if Jesus lived into them, maybe there is hope for me...and you...and all of us.

This is your invitation to walk with us through Holy Week, to experience the humanity of Jesus and the wonder of God's love for us. Come for Palm Sunday and join us in shouts of Hosannas. Come to the upper room on Maundy Thursday as we gather around the table in fellowship and worship similar to Jesus and his friends. Gather with us on Zoom on Good Friday to hear the story once again and to center in prayer at the foot of the cross. And then, well, then join us at the empty tomb on Easter Sunday morning as we celebrate that death doesn't win.

My prayer is that Holy Week will fill you, as it does me, with hope and a feeling of belonging as we show up in our own humanity to walk with Jesus in his.

Blessings...Pastor Rhonda

Holy Week at Salem

Palm Sunday, April 2: Worship (9:30 am) with Palms, Peeps, & Cake. Cake for New Member Sunday--don't miss this festive day!

Maundy Thursday, April 6: Upper Room Meal and Worship at 6:30 pm

Good Friday, April 7: Good Friday worship on Zoom only at 7 pm.

Easter Sunday, April 9: Celebration worship at 9:30 am with fellowship to follow.



Salem News



Gather with Us at the Tomb on Easter
Sunday, April 9 at 9:30 am
Festival Worship of Praise, Prayer, and Song
Coffee Hour with Easter Treats Following
Join Us for Our Resurrection Celebration!

Palms, Peeps, & New Member Sunday


This year Palm Sunday will be full of hosannas, Peeps, and a new member celebration (with cake, like good Lutherans do.) Make sure to join us for worship on **Sunday April 2** as we celebrate Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem and the beginning of Holy week by officially welcoming Rachel as a member of our community and making Peeps dioramas. You won’t want to miss it...palms, Peeps, and cake! *See the back page for details on Peeps dioramas for everyone.*





Narrative Lectionary Scripture Calendar
 3/19: Bridesmaids–Matthew 6:7-21
 3/26: Last Judgment–Matthew 25:31-46
 4/2: Triumphal Entry–Matthew 21:1-17
 4/6: Maundy Thursday Upper Room–Matthew 26:17-30
 4/7: Good Friday–Matthew 27:27-61
 4/9: EASTER–Matthew 38:1-10
 4/16: Great Commission–Matthew 28:16-20
 4/23: Peter’s Vision–Acts 10:1-17, 34-48
 4/30: Paul’s Mission–Acts 13:1-3, 14:8-18
 5/7: Gospel of Salvation–Romans 1:1-17
 5/14: God’s Love Poured Out–Romans [3:28-30] 5:1-11
 5/21: Hope of Resurrection–Romans 6:1-14
 5/28: Pentecost (Nothing Can Separate Us)
 Acts 2:1-4, Romans 8:14-39

MAUNDY THURSDAY DINNER
in the
UPPER ROOM



Maundy Thursday Worship in the Upper Room


Please join us for this special Salem tradition on Maundy Thursday April 6 at 6:30 pm. Just as Jesus and his disciples gathered, so we will gather around the table, with friends, for a meal and worship this holy night. Dinner will be catered by one of our local Greek/Mediterranean restaurants, so you don’t want to miss out.

Thursday April 6 - 6:30 pm

RSVP by Sunday April 2 by one of the following:

- ♦Using Sign-Up Genius through the E-Blast
- ♦Signing up on the clipboard in the sanctuary
- ♦Calling the Salem office at 612-872-4650





Lenten Prayer


Take a breath each week during your Lenten journey as we gather around the cross together on Zoom

Wednesdays in March

6:30 pm on Zoom

Good Friday Worship on Zoom

Friday April 7–7:00 pm
(Worship will be on Zoom only)
Service of Readings, Prayer, and Reflection.



Faith Practices & Neighboring Practices



What is a thriving congregation? (Part two)

Lilly Endowment grants bolster innovative projects across the ELCA

By [Brenda Martin](#) February 7, 2023

In the Minneapolis Area Synod, which also received a [Lilly Endowment Inc.](#) grant for just under \$1 million, 13 congregations are focusing on two areas that make a congregation vital or thriving: authentic relationship with the neighborhood and space for lifelong learning.

The participating congregations are digging into concrete practices—prayer, *lectio divina*, house meetings and storytelling—to give them the tools to step outside of the walls of their churches into their neighborhoods.

In many ways, the work is amplifying things congregations were already engaging in.

“If I had to describe what we’re doing in one word, it would be *listening*,” said [Nicholas Tangen](#), the synod’s director of faith practices and neighboring practices and project facilitator. “It’s getting congregations to be more intentional [about] listening to God in prayer and Scripture, bringing in an extra level of intentionality, learning to listen to our neighbors rather than thinking of them as problems to be solved.”

Leaders of the congregations are gathering as a cohort once a month for two years to share what they’re learning.

“For some of our congregations, this is new work, especially the neighborhood side of things,” Tangen said. “For others, they’ve been in the neighborhood for a while and bring a lot of wisdom to the cohorts.”

During summer 2022, each congregation engaged in three months of neighborhood listening. Each decided how it would hold space to build relationships.

One congregation, First Lutheran of Crystal in Brooklyn Park, Minn., held cookouts at the church. When several members brought their classic cars and parked them in the parking lot, it inspired interest from neighbors. At each cookout, more classic cars showed up.

“It became this informal car show in the middle of this neighborhood,” Tangen said. “Neighbors were curious, came out, including some high school students. It became a catalyst for that congregation.”



Tangen calls this a success story because it invites members of congregations to *be* the neighbor, not just to serve the neighbor.



In a culture in which we often measure success in numbers, Tangen said the work the synod is doing makes “success look more like depth of relationship rather than the breadth of our reach.”

“We’ve talked about how we approach the neighbor mirrors how we approach God in prayer—transactionally—and we do that with our neighbor as well.” He said the shift is in “resting or living in love of God, not what can God give me and what I can give to God.”

Tangen said leaders realize that culture change and building trust takes a long time. “A lot of these projects have a sense that you’re building some, and fertilizing some, soil that will last for a while,” he said.

Taking the time to fertilize might seem difficult for many churches “because the narrative of decline is so rampant,” he said. “The first thing people ask is, ‘What are we going to get? How will this help us?’ We’ve been so socialized as church to look at churches in numbers, and it takes a little time to convince folks to actually slow down and realize that their end goal isn’t survivability.”

When congregations focus too exclusively on growing numbers or developing flashy programs, he said, “it contributes to decline because it doesn’t bear authenticity.”

“We do say this work actually contributes to a sense of aliveness, what it means to feel like a congregation that feels alive,” Tangen said. “Once folks get into experiences of depth, this actually does contribute to the vitality of our congregations, but it seems counterintuitive to slow down, do less, focus on fewer people but focus on them intently.”

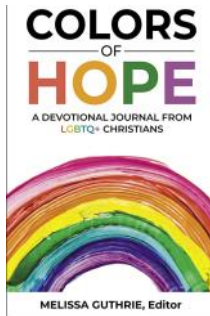
The Lilly Endowment awarded nearly \$93 million in 92 grants through the Thriving Congregations Initiative, including grants to the ELCA; the Indiana-Kentucky, Minneapolis Area and Oregon synods; St. Olaf College; Augsburg University in Minneapolis; and Calvary Lutheran Church in Alexandria, Minn.

Member Reflections



Reflections from a Colors of Hope Book Study by Michelle Madsen

This winter, Pr. Dan and Pr. Laurie of First Christian Church invited all of SpringHouse to join them in a book study, one of the first returns of joint-SpringHouse “Adult Ed” programming since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our book was Colors of Hope: A Devotional from LGBTQ+ Christians, edited by Melissa Guthrie.



In the spirit of radical welcome, the co-creators of the book emphasize the word *from* in the title: “Colors of Hope is a devotional journal *from* LGBTQ+ Christians, not a devotional journal (exclusively) *for* LGBTQ+ Christians. It is a resource for every body, for the LGBTQ+ community *and* the wider church.” The book chapters are each written by different contributors and center on the colors of the original Pride flag created by Gilbert Baker. (I highly encourage you to check it out. Borrow my copy if you like!)

While I couldn’t attend every single meeting of the study group, each time I was present, our group of distinct identities and backgrounds coming together to reflect on the reading and discuss the open-ended questions each chapter asked us – to wonder, to resist, to embody, to create, to hope, to stretch, to share.

- ♦ Pink (yes, pink!) Chapter: *Share: If you were to share with someone the story of the pink stripe in the Pride flag, what would you want them to know? What else might it allow you to discuss? Begin the conversation.*
- ♦ Red Chapter: *Hope: In what communities have you found hope? If you long for such community, how will you seek to be in community?*
- ♦ Turquoise Chapter: *Stretch: Do you know someone who is “still standing”? If yes, how was that person resilient?*
- ♦ Purple Chapter: *Embody: Is there anything that weighs down your body, something the Spirit may be inviting you to release? What feels light, or what lightens your spirit? Add more of this to your routine!*

Our group explored these questions and many more, sharing stories, commiserating about loss and hardships, and celebrating goodness in our lives. We each examined our past, present, and future. How can we find hope for ourselves? How can we be hope for one another?

It was a beautiful experience to go through this devotional *together*, as SpringHouse family. Some people in the group I was meeting for the first time, while others I tend to only cross in “administrative” ways through my role on the SpringHouse

Board. How good it was to carve out this time to spend with one another nourishing our spirits!

As tends to happen when I gather among people who are part of the Lyndale and FCC communities, I learned something new about SpringHouse that made me love our partnership of three congregations even more. Longtime members of FCC shared a touching story about a time when a member came out to the congregation, a story I had not before heard. Learning about the community’s embrace of that member for every bit of who they were made me reflect on one of the many reasons I am grateful to have found myself walking through the doors of SpringHouse Ministry Center some nine years ago: Each of the churches, including Salem, truly tries to be the fullest expression of welcoming to all people. In relationship with others in this community, being reminded and taught how to be welcoming through our community’s spiritual practices – and being reminded that I’m not alone in needing and doing that work – really matters and helps me move through the world in a kinder, more hopeful way.

Fast forward a few weeks after the book study ended. I was in conversation with someone I have known for many years professionally, and they came out to me. They said it’s part of them they neither promote nor hide in their professional life, but they felt like telling me because they “just knew” it would be okay and even good to share this part of themselves with me, that I could be trusted. I was deeply moved by their life story, and I also felt well-equipped because of my experience in this church of churches that call SHMC home to express gratitude for this sharing and demonstrate unconditional support of being their whole, genuine self at work or otherwise. We even discussed our religious backgrounds, allowing me to witness to the grace and welcome of Salem and our partners Lyndale and FCC.

Yes, the Colors of Hope book study prepared me for that moment – but more than that, I believe my relationship with the SHMC community over the years helps me be more loving and open in my day-to-day than I would be without it.

You should know that these final words in the book are about you:

“Who you are – your beautiful rainbow self of intertwining identities – you are a human bridge, fearfully and wonderfully made of the colors of hope. You are a bridge that connects people in ways that few can. You are blessed to be a blessing – you.” –Marian Edmonds-Allen

Congregational Life

Winning Chili!



Well, it finally happened! After a blizzard in 2020, followed by years of COVID isolation, we were able to gather for one of our best fellowship traditions...the

Chili Cook Off! We had GREAT chili, amazing homemade cornbread (Thanks Diann Uzelac!), ranked choice voting, prizes, and some wonderful fellowship. This year we moved it from a Saturday evening to a Sunday morning after worship and were even able to welcome some visitors in worship to join us. (An evangelism tool for sure!) A HUGE thank

you to everyone who got out their crock-pot on a Sunday morning and all those who helped set up and clean up, making this event a great success!

Taking prizes this year were one very familiar face on the podium and two new entrants. **First place went to Emma Jorstad** and her latest ground beef chili. Emma



has been on the podium at EVERY Salem Chili Cook Off since its inception! **Second place went to Jon Hanke** and his white chicken chili. **Third place went to Max Brumberg-Kraus**, who joined us alongside their best friend/roommate, our new building coordinator, Allison with a fantastic shredded beef chili. Congratulations to all of our winners!



(A special thank you to Axel, Ingrid, and Luke, who were excellent helpers during set up, clean up, and even announcing our winners!)



We Rise Together—Caritas 2023 Concert Season

This season, Caritas performs a selection of songs to highlight our care for each other and our world. Contemporary and classic expressions of cooperation and support draw us in and send us out inspired and refreshed. Join us as we rise together.

Now in its 21st season, Caritas has raised more than \$200,000 for local charitable organizations. Continuing its mission of raising money and awareness for people in need, Caritas will be performing seven concerts this season. Performances are open to the public, with a free will donation benefiting a local, nonprofit organization. For additional information on each performance, please visit www.caritasvocalensemble.org.

Let's Go See a Concert—Salem Group Outing!

Our very own Laurie Zaepfel, Salem's Office Administrator Extraordinaire and SpringHouse Bookkeeper, has been part of the Caritas Vocal Ensemble for years and **we've decided to take a group outing to one of their concerts this season!** They are doing a concert at our FP&NP cohort partner church, Salem (on the north side) on April 23, with all proceeds going toward Salem's Community Dinner Program. **Let's get out and support the woman who makes it all happen here at Salem Uptown and our partner in ministry Salem Lutheran** (on the north side).

April 23— 3:00 pm
Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church
4150 Dupont Avenue North—MPLS, MN 55412
Cost: Free Will Offering

We will plan to meet in the parking lot at the concert venue (Salem north side), but if you would like to carpool from SpringHouse, sign up on the clipboard in the sanctuary and we will try to put some groups together.

Children, Youth & Families

It's Peeps Time!



Yay! Palm Sunday is right around the corner and ***YOU are invited*** to join our amazing SpringHouse tradition of creating Peeps Dioramas!

Children, youth, and adults are invited to come and get creative with these marshmallow treats to depict a story from Holy Week, Easter, or any Bible story.



Kids and Youth—come create in the Gathering Space on Sunday April 2 during Sunday School time from 9:20 am–10:15 am.

EVERYONE (including adults) – join in the fun during fellowship time following worship! Let's see what we can create.



Day Camp—Building Beloved Community

South Minneapolis Day Camp, which began at Salem so many years ago, has been a huge part of our imprint in our city. This year we have almost 20 congregations working together to bring a fantastic day camp to kids from all over South Minneapolis and beyond.



This will be our second year with the new name that has become our overall theme...Building Beloved Community. This summer we will again look at how kids can be heroes and do their own kind of community organizing in order to affect change. We will be building a cardboard city again (everybody loves building a cardboard city), as well as singing, listening to stories, playing games, creating art, and having lots of fun!

There is programming for K-5th grade, 6th-8th grades (that includes field trips), and even High School Leader positions that come with a stipend! In addition, there is room for all kinds of volunteers...those who can come every day/all week and those who might be able to fit a few hours in on a single day. ***Day Camp is for EVERYONE so if you haven't participated before, this year is a great chance to get involved and be part of this amazing Salem tradition!***

Join us June 20-23, 2023!

9 am - 4 pm

Special Family/Community Celebration
Friday June 23 from 4 pm - 5:30 pm

Location: Bethel Lutheran Church
4120 17th Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55407

**Find Registration for Kids (K-8) &
Application for Youth Leaders at:**

www.smplsdaycamp.org

Adult Volunteer Sign-Up on our site SOON!

Yup! We got our own website domain!

Youth Ministry Announcements Coming Soon

Watch the eblast for youth ministry announcements coming soon. Pre-teen youth through high school youth will have a place in our programming...so watch for things to get up and running in the next few weeks. (Rumor has it, there may be "open youth room" hours on Sunday mornings coming your way soon—so keep your eyes open!

Youth NEWS

Welcome Chelsea Boyden: Our New SpringHouse Youth Minister!



Hello new friends! My name is Chelsea Boyden and I am excited to join SpringHouse as the new Youth Minister. I graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College in 2021 with degrees in Political Science, Philosophy, and Peace, Justice, & Conflict Studies and am currently pursuing

my M.Div. in Social Transformation at United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities and seeking ordination in the UCC. I have several years of experience in youth work and have been involved in several youth ministries and currently work full time as the Academic Success Coordinator for TRIO Upward Bound. In my free time, I enjoy exploring new foods and restaurants with my partner in the Twin Cities metro and spending time with my cat, Kiwi. I am eager to get to know all of you soon and help the SpringHouse youth navigate their faith and big questions.

More News

Council Corner

Highlights

- ♦ New officers were elected by the council. President: Paul Wharton, Vice-President: Myra Rusten, Secretary: Sarah Sinderbrand, Treasurer: Maria Thieling. We thank them all for their willingness to serve as officers.
- ♦ Paul Wharton and Diann Uzelac will be attending the Minneapolis Synod Assembly with Pastor Rhonda in April.
- ♦ With the strong tradition of our in person Maundy Thursday worship and meal, there was discussion of if we bring back an in person Good Friday service. The decision was made to offer a Zoom only Good Friday service.
- ♦ Online and social media presence: As part of our FP&NP goals, we will be looking at the way we interact online with neighbors. Paul Harper, Michelle Madsen, Mary Johnson, and Pastor Rhonda have begun the process of evaluating our website.

Full minutes available [HERE](#) (online readers right click), through the eblast, or contact the church office.

Lenten Book Study Continues

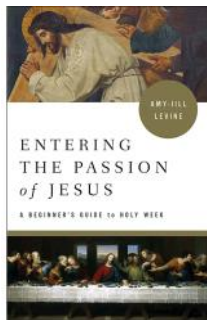
Join us Sundays on Zoom for Salem's book study during Lent. We are discussing Amy-Jill Levine's "Entering the Passion of Jesus". It's not too late to join, grab the book and read the chapter, then join us on Zoom.

Upcoming Dates/Chapters:

March 19: chapter 4

March 26: Chapter 5

April 2: Chapter 6



Remember You Can Park at Trustone



Just a reminder that on Sunday mornings, all of SpringHouse is able to park in the Trustone lot right south of 28th on Lyndale. This is a convenient parking opportunity that allows you to use a parking lot with sidewalks that lead all the way to Salem.

We're Still Collecting Egg Cartons!

Just bring them along when you have the opportunity to worship in person and put them in the box next to the information table and they will be re-used by CES (Community Emergency Services) and/or other food shelves to re-package eggs. Please direct any questions to Diann Uzelac.



Calendar

Our calendar highlights events that take place weekly. Be sure to check the rest of the Scene for one-time events!

Sundays

9:30 am Salem Worship In Person and on YouTube

9:20 am Sunday School activities in Squiggle Space

10:30 am Coffee Hour in the Sanctuary

Tuesday

8:15 am Lectionary Bible Study via Zoom

Wednesdays in March

6:30 pm Lenten Prayer Around the Cross via Zoom

Sunday April 2

9:30 am Palm Sunday Worship, Peeps , and New Member Cake

Thursday April 6

6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Dinner & Worship

Friday April 7

7:00 pm Good Friday Worship via Zoom

Sunday April 9

9:30 am Easter Sunday Worship

It's a Baby!

Congratulations to Emma, Josh, Axel, and Ingrid Jorstad as they welcomed the newest member of their family on Saturday, March 11.

Baby
WELCOME
TO THE
World

Happy
Birthday
Baby
Kjell!



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

David Seiffert – 3/7

Sarah Sinderbrand – 3/8

Bettie Buzzell – 3/20

Bob Hlavinka – 3/28

Matt Giinther – 3/31

Linda Hanson – 3/31





Salem English
Lutheran Church

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
Music:	Tom Pieper	thomas.pieper@wayzata.k12.mn.us
Youth Ministry	Chelsea Boyden	springshouseyouth@tcampus.org
Building Manager:	Rick Bowman	rbowmanb49@gmail.com
Building Coordinator	Allison Jones	shcoordinator@tcampus.org