

SALEM SPIRIT



Our Vision:

To be a congregation of disciples proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all.

Our Mission:

To Glorify God in all that we do, reflecting His love to our community and the world.

NEW ORGANIST AND SENIOR CHOIR DIRECTOR HIRED!

The Mission Team of Salem Lutheran Church is delighted to announce the hiring of Mr. Jim Kuzman as our Organist and Senior Choir Director. Jim is from Ohio, but has lived in Florida off and on for about 10 years. He does production engineering and serves as the assistant to the regional director for Radio Disney in Celebration. He has two children, Caitlin and Patrick, who are currently living with their mother in Arkansas, but they will be staying with Jim over the summer. Jim comes to us from St. David's Episcopal Church in Lakeland, and before that Jim served as the organist and choir director at All Saints Lutheran Church in South Orlando for five years. Jim will begin his positions on Sunday, June 22nd.

(A note of clarification: the title "Senior Choir Director" should not be read as "the director of the Senior Choir" but instead "Senior" should be understood in the same way that the "Senior" in "Senior Pastor" is understood. In other words, the Senior Choir Director not only directs our 10:30 Senior Choir, but oversees all other musical ensembles apart from the Contemporary Service. In this capacity the Senior Choir Director might not personally direct a newly created choir, for instance, but is still responsible for overseeing and nurturing that new choir, including scheduling, selection of music, and recruiting and supporting the volunteer director for that choir.)

The position of Contemporary Worship Team Leader is still open at this time.

WORSHIP SERVICES

SALEM LUTHERAN
CHURCH
phone: (407)876-4000
Fax: (407)876-1084
E-mail info@salemcl.net
website salemcl.net

8:00 A.M.
9:15 A.M.
10:30 A.M.
BIBLE SCHOOL
9:15 A.M.
JUNE, 2008

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor.....Wayne Schmidt
Asst. Pastor.....Jefferson Cox
Minister of Music.....
Secretary.....Linda Magnuson
Grounds Keeper.....Ron Vasak

DASH

Discipleship - Assimilation - Service - *hospitality*

Dear Faith Family,

Happy Silver Anniversary!

As I reflect upon the spiritual composition and character our beloved community of faith, we regard ourselves as being a "friendly" congregation. And in many, many ways, rightfully so! I remember well how warmly I was received when I first came to Salem, some 18 years ago. People are drawn to "friendly" places. Over our past 25 years, we have made great efforts and gone to great lengths to be a welcoming congregation. In doing so, we have created and nurtured a culture of hospitality.

Theologically, we know there is a strong relationship between "friendliness: and Godliness." When Jesus was asked the question, "Which is the most important commandment? -- remember his response?

The first is, "Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you should love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength." The second is this, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." There is no other commandment greater than these.'

As his gathered church, God has called us into a living relationship with him. And he has called us into a living relationship with each other. The Christian faith is to be lived: loving God and loving others. Christianity is not just a vertical in direction -- reaching up to God, but also entails a horizontal dimension -- reaching out to others.

Sociologically, there is a strong relationship between a church's experienced friendliness and its members level of satisfaction. A recent survey revealed those "who have church-based friendships that extend outside the weekly worship services - either in small groups, through informal gatherings or other settings - report exceptional high levels of satisfaction (98 percent say that they are "very satisfied" or "satisfied)." When our relationships with our brothers and sisters in Christ deepen -- the feelings of personally being accepted, belonging and being cared for increase tremendously. Also research has revealed that there is a positive relationship between the depth of one's friendships within a congregation and the maturity of one's faith. When we choose to be connected with other Christians through significant personal sharing, we feel encouraged, enriched and included.

Want to grow spiritually? Want to deepen your faith? **MAKE A FRIEND!** Just don't smile at the person next to you in the pew, spend some time with them. Introduce yourself and get to know them.

It is wonderful to be regarded as "a very Friendly" church. It is even more so to be known as "a very caring" church. As we "Go for the GOLD" in the next 25 years, let us always extend a culture of hospitality to our guests and visitors! But also let us establish a culture of connectivity among us, Salem's dear and valued members.

*Celebrating the SILVER,
Going for the GOLD!*

Pastor Schmidt



Dear Family and Friends of Salem Lutheran Church,

Have you ever thought about becoming more involved in a ministry at Salem but didn't know who to talk to or when to show up? If so, you may be interested to know about a change we've been trying out for our committee schedules.

Over the last two months, and continuing at least until this month (the Mission Team will decide whether or not to continue the practice based on input from the Committees), most committees of Salem have been meeting on the same night, the 2nd Tuesday of the month. With so many committees meeting at the same time and the same place, there has been more opportunities to share critical information from one committee to another as plans are being made. Also, our secretary Linda and the editor of the Salem Spirit Sandy have made themselves available for this All-Committee Night as well, thus providing even more resources to our committees.

So here's an open invitation to you: come to Salem on the 2nd Tuesday of June (the 10th) at 7:00 pm for the opening prayer in the sanctuary, and if you'd like to get involved in a ministry of the congregation (*or better yet, propose a new one!!*), we'll put you in touch with the right people to make it happen. There's a lot of exciting things happening in the life of our congregation, and we are making a difference in the lives of others in a lot of new ways, so now is as good a time as any to get involved, adding your incredible gifts and talents to our congregational effort to live out the Gospel.

If you have any questions, please contact me (pastorjeff@salemhc.net/407-414-5261).

In Christ,
Pastor Jeff

Celebrating the Silver

Going for the Gold

Dear Salem Lutheran Church:

Congratulations upon the 25th anniversary of Salem Lutheran Church. Recently, as I visited an ELCA congregation celebrating its Centennial, I was struck by a huge banner above the doors in the back of the church. As the worshippers departed their space each Sunday, they were sent out reading the words, "Welcome to the Next Century of Christ's Mission!"

In this year of celebration, your congregation will undoubtedly look back and remember days of struggle, times of rejoicing, years of growth, and times of stability. This anniversary year will be a time to recall the presence and love of God in your congregation's life.

In this time of celebration, I would also like to thank you for the ways in which you have supported the ministry of the church beyond your walls and community. Because of your support, missionaries have been sent "to the ends of the world." Today, there are 140 indigenous, self-governed, independent Lutheran Churches around the globe. The ELCA accompanies 84 of them by responding to their requests for mission personnel or supporting specific projects or programs.

In this anniversary year, you may be contemplating where Christ's mission is calling you in the next era of your congregation's ministry....

I pray your year of celebration will be an empowering time in the life of your congregation. "Welcome to the Next Era of Christ's Mission!"

PEACE IN CHRIST!

*The Rev. Twila Schock, Director
Missionary Sponsorship/Global Gifts
American Lutheran Church Of America*

