

# 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.*

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*Holy Week Heads Up!*

*Sunday, April 5th*

*Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday Worship: 8:00, 9:15 (Contemporary), & 10:30 am*

*Sunday School: 9:15 am*

*Tuesday, April 7th*

*Holy Week Practice 6:30 pm, first session; additional sessions following*

*Holy Thursday, April 9th*

*Worship; 7:00 pm*

*Good Friday, April 10th*

*Worship; 7:00 pm*

*Saturday, April 11th*

*Easter Egg Hunt: Time TBA*

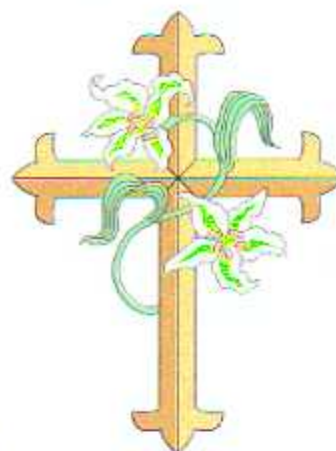
*Men's Easter Breakfast Prep Session: Time: TBA*

*Sunday, April 12th*

*Easter Sunday Worship: 6:30, 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 am*

*Men's Easter Breakfast: 7:00 to 10:00 am*

*(No Contemporary Service) (No Sunday School)*



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**SALEM LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

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**WORSHIP SERVICES**

*8:00 A.M.*

*9:15 A.M.*

*10:30 A.M.*

**BIBLE SCHOOL**

*9:15 A.M.*

**MARCH, 2009**

**CHURCH STAFF**

*Pastor Wayne Schmidt*

*Asst. Pastor Jefferson Cox*

*Organist/Senior Director of Choirs*

*Jim Kuzman*

*CW Team Leader Sara Holton*

*Secretary Linda Magnuson*

*Grounds Keeper Ron Vasak*

Dearly Beloved,

“...you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.” 1 Peter 2:9

As a congregation, the Lord God graced us to life. During our first 25 years, he gently shepherded us forward to discover our vision for being. It is our aspiration to become “a congregation of disciples glorifying God in all that we do.” In these next 25 years, the Lord invites us forward in to HIS future. We are to love and bless the world. As we go for the GOLD, we have a great calling and a great opportunity -- to be THE CHURCH!

The CHURCH. How do you think the average member sees the church? When growing up, what did you think the church was? Is your understanding different now? How do you think the average American citizen today defines the church?

In our world, church has become something we go to once a week. It is a destination. It is a commodity. It becomes something we shop for. It is identified as someplace where the pastor is. If there is no pastor under call, the church is deemed “vacant”. VACANT -- what? The church is regarded as something we pledge to, we build and hopefully payoff. It is no wonder more people are seeing the church as irrelevant. No wonder many are choosing to sleep in on Sundays. With these operating definitions, all of the potential and the promise God sees in the church goes to waste. The purpose for which we have been created goes unfulfilled!

There is “joy” in fulfilling God’s vision for his church!

This Lenten season on Wednesdays evenings, we will have a “good time” growing forward our congregation to be the CHURCH. We will have “good fun” of self-discovery as the Lord leads us as his people to identify our God-graced strengths with our God-given calling. Through each of these evenings together, God will be equipping us -- to be HIS CHURCH!

Lenten 09  
Midweek Service Theme

“Reclaiming the “C” Word”  
*Becoming HIS CHURCH.*

Ash Wednesday  
February 25<sup>th</sup>, Noon and 7:00 pm  
Gathering One: “Rethinking the “C” Word”

Wednesday, March 4  
Gathering Two: “Doing the “C” Word”

Wednesday March 11<sup>th</sup>  
Gathering Three: Introduction of Five Strategic Behaviors

Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>  
Gathering Four: “Modeling the “C” Word.”

Wednesday March 25<sup>th</sup>  
Gathering Five: “The Second Three of the Five Strategic Behaviors”

Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>  
Gathering Six: “Living the “C” Word.”

We are GRACED AND GIFTED to be His CHURCH !  
Pastor Schmidt

### ELCA Youth Gathering

Five youth from Salem (Charlie and Mandy Andersen, Molly and Aubrey Johnson, and Michael Ryan) along with four adult chaperones (Pastor Jeff, Andrew and Suzanne Meyer, and Jennifer Thompson) will be attending this year's Youth Gathering in New Orleans, LA, from the 22<sup>nd</sup> to the 26<sup>th</sup> of July. They will be travelling on a large tour bus along with youth from several other congregations in the Orlando area. While at New Orleans they will be staying at the Hilton Hotel on St. Charles St. The theme of the 2009 ELCA Youth Gathering is "Jesus, Justice, Jazz" and is heavily focused on service. The particular area of service that our youth will be experiencing is that of Health and Wellness.

One of the biggest challenges in participating with a National Youth Gathering is that of cost. Besides the registration fee of \$289 which is the sole responsibility of the participant, the congregation covers the rest of the cost of the event. Transportation per person will be about \$120, while the hotel will cost \$129 per room (4) per night (4). (Four was the minimum number of rooms that our group could reserve based on ELCA requirements regarding the total number of occupants per room and under what conditions adults can share a room with youth.) Thus the total amount for just transportation and housing will be at least \$3144, and that's not including the cost of food.

To cover the costs of this event, the youth will be having a series of fundraisers, but as they have not been officially approved by the Mission Team, they cannot be announced yet. However, spaghetti dinners have been part of the fundraising efforts for Gatherings in the past, so at least one such dinner is probably in the future.

Another way to support the Youth Gathering participants in the past has been the Sponsorship Program. This program has allowed members of the congregation to sponsor one or more of the participants going to the Gathering, which has given the supporters the opportunity to develop a bond with their "sponsee" that hopefully will last far beyond the end of the Youth Gathering.

But besides the financial support, more important to the success of this event is the encouragement of your prayer support. Please keep all of the participants in your prayers that through this event they may all grow closer to God and learn more about their ability to make a difference in the lives of others.

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Jeff (407-876-4000 or [pastorjeff@salemmlc.net](mailto:pastorjeff@salemmlc.net)) or Andrew Meyer ([kinganm@aol.com](mailto:kinganm@aol.com)), the Mission Team liaison to the Youth Committee.

### Best Easter Ever Meeting

Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM

All those involved in any way with the festivities of Easter Sunday are strongly encouraged to attend this year's Best Easter Ever meeting on Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. This meeting will be followed by the monthly All-Committee Meeting.

### Men's Easter Breakfast

Attention Salem men and young men! You are invited to assist with the Men's Easter Breakfast from 7:00 to 10:00 am on Easter Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. In addition to the work on Easter morning, there will be a prep session the evening before, at a time TBA. This is a great way to serve the community and to network with other men of the congregation. If you have any questions, please contact Sean Rundle ([seanrundle@gmail.com](mailto:seanrundle@gmail.com)).

## *FROM YOUR MISSION TEAM:*

*The 2009 Mission Team is off to a great start this year and the pace is picking up. Some of the highlights of the recent February 12th Mission Team meeting include:*

*1) Approval of the Worship & Music committee request to install an additional projection screen in the sanctuary. The benefit will be improved viewing for all worshipers. Along with this activity the sound control equipment will be moved to the rear of the sanctuary and into the choir seating area for better management.*

*2) There was exciting discussion about conducting an on-property Artist Show for congregational members and friends in September. This proposed event could be your opportunity to show off your talents, and give all of us the opportunity to get to know each other a little better. Pastor Cox is the sponsor for this activity so stay tuned for more details to follow.*

*3) The Service committee introduced a proposal to help those in need with additional food and financial resources. This could become an extension of the food pantry program. The Mission Team is giving this topic due consideration on how best to help, manage, and distribute to those in most need.*

*In January the MT approved the formation of a task force to pursue replacement of the portable classrooms. With that action research has started with Orange County to determine what our options are regarding permanent improvements to the church campus. There are a lot of steps to entitle the church property for additional improvements but this effort is needed before any portable replacement, or permanent improvement program can be implemented. If all goes well we will get a date to go before the Orange County Development Review Commission to be heard on this matter. Salem's leadership will have a good report-out to the Congregation on approved Outcome 4: HEART at the end of the first quarter.*

*Respectfully submitted and God bless you,  
Scott Fetterhoff*

*2009 Mission Team President*

