

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.

To all my dear friends at Salem!

WELL, THIS IS IT! My final issue of the Salem Spirit. After taking a whole year to consider it, I feel it is time to pass the Salem Spirit on. I will miss the creative part of it and hearing from friends who were so supportive over the past six years. But now that I have all this spare time I will be looking for another outlet for serving Salem and our Lord.

I want to thank all those who each month without fail sent in the articles that filled up the pages of the newsletter each month. I can't tell you how many times I stressed over whether I would have enough room for everything. But somehow there was always room. Your support really meant a lot to me. So many times I was stopped at church and told how much you enjoyed reading the newsletter and actually waited for it to arrive. My special thanks to Pastor Jeff and especially Pastor Wayne who trusted me with this very special mission.

God's blessings on you all!

Sandy



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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.

APRIL, 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

Dearest family and great friends in faith,

Grace and peace to you!

Over the next 3 weeks a COOKBOOK is being created by your Fellowship Committee. Members and friends are being asked to contribute a recipe for their favorite *"I just love your _____". Can I have the recipe? Pretty please! I promise not to share it with anyone.*" dish.

When Shelby and Garrett were but little tikes, Jeff Burns shared with me the following cookie recipe. It is a great "family" recipe anytime and especially before EASTER. I have used it during Lenten Catechetical overnights. I am looking forward to sharing it with my grandson, Cadyn, next year. Mom, Dad, Grandma, Grandpa get out the cookie sheet and have some fun with the child(ren) entrusted to your spiritual nurture.

EASTER STORY COOKIES

1 cup whole pecans
1 tsp. vinegar
3 egg whites
Pinch salt
1 cup sugar
Zipper baggie
Wooden spoon
Tape
Bible

1. Preheat oven to 300 (this is important-don't wait until you're half done with the recipe).
2. Place pecans in zipper baggie and let children beat them with the wooden spoon to break into small pieces. Explain that after Jesus was arrested, He was beaten by the Roman soldiers. Read John 19:1-3.
3. Let each child smell the vinegar. Put 1 tsp. vinegar into mixing bowl. Explain that when Jesus was thirsty on the cross he was given vinegar to drink. Read John 19:28-30.

4. Add egg whites to vinegar. Eggs represent life. Explain that Jesus gave His life to give us life. Read John 10:10-11.

5. Sprinkle a little salt into each child's hand. Let them taste it and brush the rest into the bowl. Explain that this represents the salty tears shed by Jesus' followers. Read Luke 23:27.

6. So far the ingredients are not very appetizing. Add 1 cup of sugar. Explain that the sweetest part of the story is that Jesus died because He loves us. He wants us to know and belong to Him. Read Ps. 34:8 and John 3:16.

7. Beat with a mixer on high speed for 12 to 15 minutes until stiff peaks are formed. Explain that the color white represents the purity in God's eyes of those whose sins have been cleansed by Jesus. Read Isaiah 1:18 and John 3:1-3.

8. Fold in broken nuts. Drop by teaspoons onto wax paper covered cookie sheet. Explain that each mound represents the rocky tomb where Jesus' body was laid. Read Matt. 27:57-60.

9. Put the cookie sheet in the oven, close the door and turn the oven OFF. Give each child a piece of tape and seal the oven door. Explain that Jesus' tomb was sealed. Read Matt. 27:65-66.

10. GO TO BED! Explain that they may feel sad to leave the cookies in the oven overnight. Jesus' followers were in despair when the tomb was sealed. Read John 16:20 and 22.

11. On Easter morning, open the oven and give everyone a cookie. Notice the cracked surface and take a bite. The cookies are hollow! On the first Easter Jesus' followers were amazed to find the tomb open and empty. Read Matt. 28:1-9.

He is Risen! He is Risen, Indeed!

Pastor Schmidt

Here is another recipe for a great EASTER.

April 5th Passion Sunday

*All Worshippers Processional with Palms
8:00 and 10:30 am
Passion Worship with a Contemporary
Twist 9:15 am.*

*April 6th, 7th Monday and Tuesday of Holy
Week.*

*Invite family, friends, associates, colleagues,
and neighbors to worship.
Anytime the Lord gives you the
opportunity.*

April 9th Holy Thursday

*Confession, Communion and Contemplation
7:00 pm*

April 10th Good Friday

*A Tenebrae Service of increasing darkness.
7:00 pm*

April 11th Holy Saturday

*Easter Story Cookies
An hour before Bedtime.*

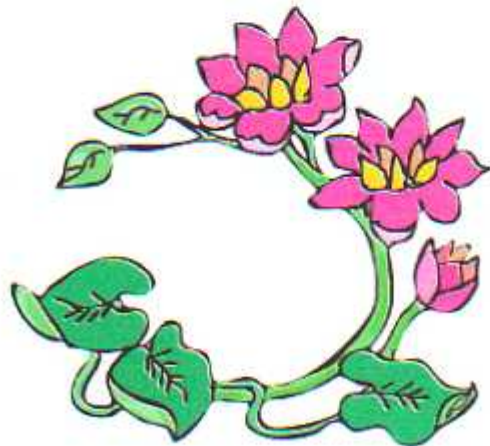
April 12th EASTER!

*Celebrating in the presence of the Living
Lord!
Worship! Breakfast! Joy-filled Believers!
6:30 am
8:00 am
9:15 am
10:45 am*

**TWO KINGDOM
PRAYER LUNCH**

*Thursday, April 23rd, 11:30 am - 1:00 pm,
Team Disney Cafeteria*

*Calling all Lutheran Disney Cast Members and
colleagues! You are invited to join a great bunch
of Disney Cast Members, active and retired,
who get together on the 4th Thursday of each
month in the Team Disney Cafeteria from
11:30 am to 1:00 pm as schedules allow for
mutual support, conversation, and prayer,
especially important during these economic
times. We take seriously Luther's teaching that
we live simultaneously in two kingdoms: the
Kingdom of God, where the freedom of the
Gospel reigns supreme, and out earthly
kingdom/nation, where the rule of law holds
sway. No one understands the tension between
the Two Kingdoms better than those who also
work in the Kingdom of the Mouse! For more
information, or to be put on the monthly email
reminder list, please contact Pastor Jeff at
pastorjeff@Salem LC.net.*



ELCA YOUTH GATHERING FUNDRAISERS

You are invited to participate in one or more fundraisers that the youth and adults from Salem who are attending the 2009 ELCA Youth Gathering are doing as part of their preparation for this important and significant event.

The first of these fundraising efforts will be a series of four Mid-Week Dinners, starting on Wednesday, April 15, at 5:45 pm. These dinners will be put on by the youth and adults attending the Youth Gathering, and will include a weekly Bible Study, the same Bible Studies that the ELCA has produced to prepare the youth for the Gathering.

The second of these fundraisers will be a Sponsorship Program, which allows you to directly sponsor one or more of the participants. You may select a particular participant, or you can have one assigned to you. Suggested sponsorship amount for each participant is \$50, though you can sponsor a participant at any amount. You will be invited to sit with your sponsoree at the Farewell Dinner before the start of the Gathering, and you will receive updates from your sponsoree during the course of the Gathering. The Youth who will be participating are Charlie and Mandy Andersen, Molly and Aubrey Johnson, and Michael Ryan. The adults who will be participating are Andrew and Suzanne Meyer, Jennifer Thompson, and Pastor Jeff.

Other fundraisers will be held as the event approaches.

SALEM ART CELEBRATION

September 26, 2009

On Saturday, September 26th, we will be holding an art celebration, an opportunity for those within our congregation to demonstrate their artistic talents in painting, sculpting, photography, craftwork, and the other visual arts, so that we can give thanks to God for blessing them and us with such talent. In addition, if any member of Salem would like to sponsor an outside artist who is significant to them, they may certainly do so (the artist in question would not have to be present for the event, but they would certainly be welcome). Participating artists may display works that they've already produced and/or display artwork specifically created for this event. The theme of this event will be "The Heart of Faith." There is no entry fee to participate, and this event will be free to the public. For more information, Please contact Pastor Jeff 407-414-5261 or email at pastorjeff@SalemLC.net.



March Mission Team report::

Mission Team activities for this year continue to be lively and productive and the March meeting was no exception.

The Salem Arts Celebration planned for September 26th was endowed with the theme of "Heart of Faith" in keeping with our pledge to utilize the time talents, and resources of our congregation. As that date gets closer you will see more communication on this fun event.

The Property & Building Committee will host a work day/clean-up day on Saturday April 4th from 8am-noon.

The Learning Committee and its teachers will host an outdoor Sunday school on May 17th.

The Service Committee and its nurses and doctors are making plans to perform a medical mission trip to Dade City on April 25th.

Worship & Music will move the a/v equipment to the rear of the church on March 16th.

The Youth Committee with Pastor Cox will host a series of Wednesday night dinners with Bible study starting on April 15th; a four consecutive week series.

The Mission Team by way of its established task force is considering a very interesting opportunity to allow a Montessori school to use the premises for day school use Monday through Friday. The benefits would be many; a greater connection to the community, a potential revenue source to fund Mission Investment activities, and an opportunity to further understand how we can impact others lives.

