

Come, Holy Spirit, Come!

We arrived at church on Pentecost morning (this year, May 23) to this sensible notice taped to the inside and outside of the doors at Intermedia Arts: The parking lot will be closed for maintenance on May 24. My e-mail revealed a few more details: painting was planned for the IA building, a power sprayer would be used to paint literally the entire exterior of the building, IA wasn't responsible for drifting paint on parked cars left in the lot, over the summer months a graffiti art curator named JoJo would curate the repainting. Today I pulled up to a building I hardly recognized painted gray-brown and white. Just in case: 2822 Lyndale Avenue South!



There is something wonderfully and frighteningly Pentecost-y about a white-washed building awaiting bold, bright, prophetic art. What will it look like? In June? In August? How will it be transformed? The same and yet brand-new? I confess, Pentecost is one of my very favorite Sundays in the church year. Over the last decade or so, I've found (been given?!) a new respect/joy/awe/craving for the Holy Spirit and all the Spirit is up to. Some of this new-found favor is directly the result of sharing life and ministry with you all in Salem's Spirit-led journey, some comes from the process of welcome in the ELCA, some comes from my life experience, round-about and clearly led.

I, too, would like a crystal ball with a window into the future. Instead we get this amazing and sometimes disconcerting yet-to-be-fully painted opportunity. I give deep thanks to God who comes to us in these long summer months with Spirit power, shaking us from our usual ways, emboldening us in what we've done well for many years, opening us to new possibilities, layering us in experience after experience of the Spirit at work in beautiful ways.

Thank God the Holy Spirit for Sunday School and our teachers, for our celebration with our elders, for Erin's Youth Ministry, for Carrie our summer intern, for picnics in the parks, for justice yet lived, and for ministry at hand both inside and outside these walls. I trust the Holy Spirit to continue to lead us as our building is redeveloped and the shared ministry center takes new shape. It is so very hard to await change! I pray for the Spirit's courage in our waiting and the Spirit's ministry in the meantime. I pray the Spirit's healing power blowing through the church and the world, and through your life: granting time for rest and renewal, gentle love, and fresh possibilities in these months to come. As the bright paint begins to re-create IA, may the Holy Spirit re-create you and me anew! Come, Holy Spirit, Come.

—Pastor Jen

Picnics in the Parks Begins June 16

That's Picnics plural, and Parks plural. Some years our BBQs have been in front of the church, other years regularly at a neighborhood park, last year at IA. This year we're on the move: three parks, three dates, three different days, with hopes that one or more will fit your schedule. These are great events to which to invite a friend or three.

Mark your calendars for summer picnics in our neighborhood parks:

Wednesday, June 16, 6pm at Mueller Park @ 25th Street and Bryant Ave.

Sunday, July 25, Noon at Whittier Park

Thursday, August 19, 6pm at Bryant Square Park

Please bring a side dish to share. The grill will be hot and burgers, hotdogs and veggie burgers will be provided. We'll set up picnic fare and spread the invitation widely in the neighborhoods surrounding each park. Sponsored by Salem's Transformation Team—everybody is welcome!





Salem News ...

Development Update

- We continue to await word from the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (MHFA) about the award of a gap funding grant for Brighton's affordable housing project.
- If Brighton receives this gap funding grant, we will be able to move forward later this summer.
- If Brighton does not, then we move to other sources, but this will take longer.
- We are told this gap funding grant is not affected by state budget cuts, but we don't know this precisely.
- Once funding is secured, the timeline includes: scheduling a closing, final architectural drawings, stabilization of the north wall, abatement of asbestos and hazardous materials, demolition, and building!
- The Design Team sub committees are working hard to finish their recommendations for special working areas (worship, education, technology, community life, office, and more).
- The next **ReDevelopment Forum is scheduled for Sunday, June 20 at 9:40am.**

Partnership Covenant

The Partnership Team is firming up a final draft of the Covenant that will guide Salem and Lyndale's partnership through the coming years. Thanks to Paul Wharton and Linda Hanson for their oversight of this process (they joined Michael Vanderford from Lyndale UCC). A congregational vote on this document may be scheduled for June 20. Watch for details and official notice in the coming weeks.

Telling the Lyn-Lake Story

Thather Imboden and Cedar Phillips are writing a new book about Lyn-Lake. They've contacted Salem asking for pictures and stories about the area over the years. Do you have pictures to share? Stories to tell? You are invited to a session with the authors in June, date and time TBA. Bring pictures if possible, and be ready for some great stories and memories.

ReDevelopment Forum

Our next RDF will be Sunday, **June 20** at 9:40am. Join the conversation for updates.

Stash the Cache!

Geocaching is a world-wide treasure hunt. (Cache is pronounced cash, but the treasure is not money.) You need a GPS unit, which many of the newer phones have, and access to the web site, www.geocaching.com. There are about a million geocaches in Minnesota, and the metro is full of them. Any individual hides a small container in a public place. The container may be as big as a coffee can, or as small as the rotating cap on a bottle of Elmer's Glue. If it is bigger, there will be a log and small items to trade for fun. The micro size only has a log to sign as proof that you found it. The game is in the hunt. There is a geocache at our Intermedia Arts location. It is named "God and Graffiti." There is one at our church building, named "The Once and Future Cache." Both have been found many times by geocachers. Pastor Jen and I hid them. Go to www.geocaching.com to find information on caches all around you. You will need to join, but it's free and anonymous. I urge you to check it out, and ask me your questions. Have fun!!

—Deb Geelsdottir

Partnership Video

The video Teri Homan produced to tell about our partnership is available on youtube at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SQfyncgEDXc>. In April, Lyndale and Salem were honored by two partnered churches in New York City (Broadway UCC and Advent Lutheran) in celebration of the 10th anniversary of their partnership. This video was made at their request for a special dinner they held.

Camping Weekend on July 16-18

Mark your calendars. The details are coming. This is Salem and Lyndale's annual camping weekend at a near-by Three Rivers Park. Come for the whole weekend, a day, or just stop in. This is a great chance to get to know our communities and enjoy some time together. If possible, plan to bring your own equipment and food; some meals will be shared. April Conlee of Lyndale UCC is the contact person for this event.



More News ...

Seeking: Titles for Reading

Over the last months, Salem folks have read *The Shack* and Jane Goodall's *A Reason for Hope*. How did we pick these titles? People said things like, "I'm really into this book and want to discuss it with others." Our group is never the same and the potential is endless. Do you have an idea for a good read? Something you'd like to dig into and discuss with others? Let us know and we'll plan for a book a month if possible. Feel free to offer a title, we'll spread the word, those interested will gather: Let the discussion begin!

Supporting a Sister Congregation

Salem's Council invites us to add our dollars in support of sister congregation Bethany Lutheran on Franklin Ave. Bethany is struggling financially and a number of churches each seek to offer \$500 to show our commitment. Bethany will match these gifts. The Minneapolis Area Synod is able to help as well. Gifts can be given via Salem until 6/13, noting "In Support of Bethany."

Seeking: Titles for Reading

"Hello! My name is Carrie Boyle, and I am so excited to be serving as a summer intern at Salem starting June 6th. I am a rising senior at Davidson College in North Carolina, who - like many rising seniors, I would imagine! - is in the midst of the wild and wonderful process of discovering just what my vocational calling is. Fortunately, Davidson has given me the opportunity to spend this summer and my senior year engaged in a program called the Ministry Fellowship for Religious Leadership and Vocation -- in so many words, I'll be exploring the field of ordained ministry through my summer at Salem and a year-long discernment process back at Davidson.



I am very grateful that the church council has graciously offered me a space at Salem to explore ministry as a vocation into which God may be calling me. This summer, under Jen's mentorship, I will be involved in working with Salem's youth, fostering communication with the community, visiting and offering pastoral care, and planning and leading Sunday worship... among many other exciting adventures! In addition to learning about the ministry while I am here, I am equally excited about becoming a part of a new congregation and getting to know all of you this summer as well. Thank you for welcoming me into your church, and I can't wait to meet you all soon!"

—Carrie

Celebrating our Generations

On May 16th, the Salem community of all ages gathered at Walker Care Center for a special service and time of fellowship celebrating our generations. It was a time of reconnecting, catching up, and making new friends. Thanks to all who attended and hosted!





More News ...

End of Sunday School

On Pentecost, we celebrated the last day of Sunday School with lots of participation by our kids and youth: they danced, prayed, served communion, gathered the offering, announced the year's giving to the Heifer Project, and thanked Sunday School teachers.

Thanks to Youth Minister Erin Davis! On May 23rd, we sent Erin off with many prayers and great thanks for her ministry over the last 1 1/2 years.



Seeking:

A used boys bike in adequate condition, for a family in need.

A Gift of Love ...

Thanks to the Rachel Circle for their gift of \$185.50 to Salem as a gift of love. This Circle began in 1976 and this year, 2010, concluded their ministry together. The anticipated move of some of the members prompted the group to end. Many thanks, Rachel Circle, for your witness to us and to one another over 34 years!

Congratulations, Graduates!

Last month we listed some of graduates. This month, we give thanks and continue in this spirit celebrating a few finishing Masters Degrees:

Jess Helle-Morrissey and **Jeremiah Menk**. If you know of others graduating this year, please pass the word. Congratulations!



The Greenway Challenge

Be part of a Bike-a-Thon along the Midtown Greenway on June 5, 2-6pm.

Information at

<http://www.midtowngreenway.org>

A Note from Kathryn ...

"I want to thank all my friends at Salem for their cards, cake and making my birthday so special. Many blessings to you all and also for Salem"

—Kathryn Patterson

Prayer Requests

Have a prayer request to share? Want to pray for others? Check out the new prayer request folder by the sign up table

Our Sympathy and Prayers to ...

- ♥ David Pena and his family as they grieve the loss of his sister in Chicago.
- ♥ Sandy Block and family as they grieve the loss of a close friend, Karen.
- ♥ Roger and Barbara Livdahl and family as they grieve the death of a nephew.
- ♥ Chris Wogaman and community, as they grieve the death of a close friend, Hans.
- ♥ Paul West and Sheena Dean and family as they grieve the Paul's grandfather and Sheena's cousin.
- ♥ Dona and Paul Varns, as they mourn the loss of sister in law, Jo Berger.

Reaching Out *Service, Justice, and Outreach Opportunities*

Taking Root

Over the years, you may have heard about a church or congregation sponsoring a refugee as they make the transition to this new land. Taking Root is a new program of Minnesota Council of Churches with a similar but different process. In Taking Root, individuals from the Christian community and Muslim community come together to be formed into a team to together host a refugee family moving into our city. Participants learn from the new refugee as well as the other team members. There are many ways to be involved on a team: be the team leader, offer transportation for the new family, assist in securing housing, do shopping in preparation for the family's arrival, solicit donations, help the kids or parents arrange for school or English classes, provide basic orientation to the family, help secure employment, or offer on-going social support. Volunteer information pages are available at church, or contact Lynnea at 612-870-3622.



Reaching Out *(cont. ...)* **Simpson Women’s Shelter Meal-June 7**

Emergency Fund and Gift Cards

Salem receives requests for emergency assistance from members and others in times of crisis. People come in need of food after they’ve exhausted their monthly opportunity at the local food shelf. They come trying to meet a co pay for medication, seeking a bus pass to get to work or an interview, or seeking other basic needs. If you are able to contribute to Salem’s emergency fund, please do so (checks can be written to Salem, memo: Emergency Fund) or if you’d like to donate grocery or gas cards, these will be given out for particular emergency needs.

The Women’s Shelter will soon move in along with the men’s shelter on 28th Street. Sign up to join the Salem team in serving the final meal at Simpson Women’s Shelter (1900-11th Ave. S.) on Monday, June 7, 6pm. We know about hospitality in the wilderness—let’s share this with the guests and staff.

Pride Parade and Booth

June 27th is Pride Fest in Minneapolis. Salem will likely march in the parade on Sunday and offer information at a booth throughout the weekend. This is something we do in coordination with other Reconciling in Christ congregations. Watch for details of how you can be involved.

ZOOM House Update

What a night! The ZOOM House Benefit was held on a balmy April evening at Jax Café in Northeast Minneapolis



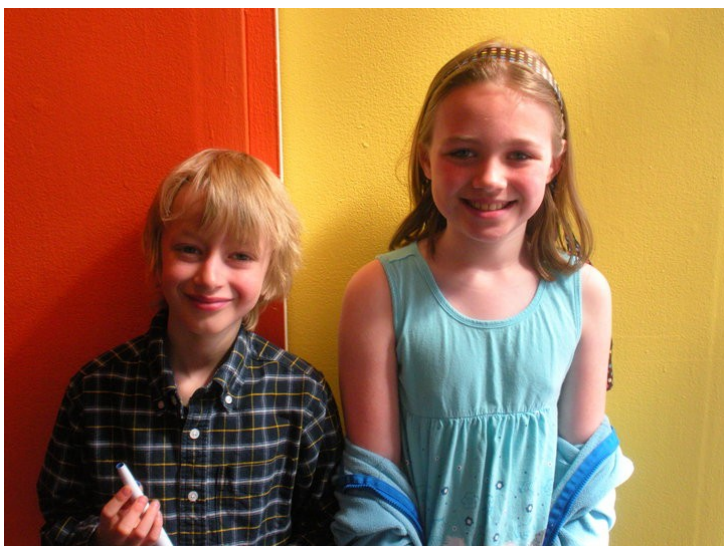
and it was a grand success. Building on the work of past years, we had our most successful event ever! Thanks to the generosity and caring of the more than 165 people who attended the event, we were able to raise slightly more than \$25,000. From the opening of the Silent Auction to the final bids in the Live Auction and Fund-A-Need, hearts were moved to make a difference in the lives of the families living at ZOOM House in a way that guarantees the program will continue for years to come.

Sarah, a former ZOOM House resident, told her moving story of what it feels like to be homeless. She also told her story about graduating from the ZOOM program and how wonderful it feels to have a job, live in secure and permanent housing and have reliable transportation. Her story is just one example of the life-changing events that happen every day at ZOOM House.

From the red wool Olympic mittens to the week in a Florida beachfront condo, the items in this year’s event were eclectic, exciting and elicited lively bidding. Tony, an attorney by day and an auctioneer by night, gave us a quick lesson in “auctioneer speak” (can you say Betty’s better butter made her bitter batter better, ten times, fast?). He

quickly led the bidding through the dozen items in the live auction and on to the highlight of the evening – the Fund A Need. In a few short moments, with bidder paddles flashing, we raised \$10,000 for a card entry system at ZOOM house plus bikes, helmets, bike locks and racks. And one more thing – an experience in the great outdoors for the families at ZOOM, as they pack up for a couple of nights of camping. For most, this is a first time life experience.

If you missed the event, won’t you please join us next year? If you were there this year, come again and bring a friend!



Smiling kids! Keegan and Corinn.



Sunday School News

Kathy Hayden, SS/CE Chair

I am writing this update on May 21 before I leave for my San Diego vacation and our end of Sunday school celebration. So how was it? Was there a sea of Red? Did you enjoy the music and dance? Were you surprised to hear that the children raised over \$500? They took great delight in spreading their love throughout the world buying a llama, rabbits, a share of a water buffalo, a flock of hope, an earth basket, and a share of joy to the world. Did you feast on a variety of foods? Did you play, laugh, and visit? I look forward to hearing the stories and seeing pictures.

Check out the notice for Day Camp, June 14-17. So far we've got 6 kids from Salem and Lyndale signed up. Who else will be there? These kids will join the group from the other churches and we'll have a great time!

July 16, 17, and 18 camping weekend. Check bulletin and email blasts for more information about our camping weekend. You can always visit the camp site for the day. I did that last year with Aiden. It was so much fun eating, playing, and socializing around a camp fire I hated to leave.

We will have two opportunities to do Feed My Starving Children this summer: the 1st is Wednesday, July 14th from 6-7:30pm and the 2nd is Saturday, August 21st from 11:30-1:30pm at the Chanhassen location.

We strongly encourage everyone to give us input on the Sunday school program before June 14th. All are welcome at our planning meeting Monday, June 14th from 6:30-9pm at Rebecca Miller's house for a pot luck meeting.

Day Camp on June 14-17

Registration brochures are available on the sign up table for this year's Day Camp. Day Camp is shared between Salem, Lyndale, Our Saviour's, Zion, Calvary, and Little Flock (Independent Baptist, meets at Zion). This year it will be hosted by Zion Lutheran at 33rd and Pillsbury and is designed for kids 4 years-6th grade. Please fill out the registration form for each child attending and give to Pastor Jen. Friends, neighbors, cousins: everyone is welcome! The camp staff from Luther Crest Bible Camp (near Alexandria) will lead our program. Thanks to a generous grant from Minneapolis Area Synod to assist with Salem's portion of the cost. If you'd like to donate to the cost of the camp, please do so.

Childcare During the Summer

During the summer months, child care will be available each Sunday for the 10:30am services, beginning at 10:15am. One staff person will work each Sunday. Staff can usually be found in one of the two classrooms at the bottom of the ramp. At IA, our ministry of hospitality is vitally important. If you meet someone visiting with kids and seeking child care, please introduce them to the child care staff. Information will soon be available by the sign up table with the names and pictures of the staff, and other basic information about the program.

Thanks from our Sunday School Students

Over this year, our Sunday School students have been collecting and raising an offering to give to Heifer Project. With your help, they've raised over \$500. Thank you for your assistance to our kids, and to the families that will be served by Heifer.



Salem and Lyndale kids enjoying Sunday School and snack time!



CALENDAR

Week of May 30

Sunday 5/30 8:30 am Traditional Service
 5/30 9:30 am Fellowship
 5/30 10:30 am Jazz Service
 5/30 11:30 am Fellowship
 Monday 5/31 **Memorial Day**
 Wed. 6/2 7:00 pm Design Team
 At Intermedia Arts

Week of June 6

Sunday 6/6 8:30 am Traditional Service
 6/6 9:30 am Fellowship
 6/6 10:30 am Jazz Service
 6/6 11:30 am Fellowship
 6/6 Youth Group Pizza Gathering
 (details to come)
 Monday 6/7 6:00 pm Simpson Women's Shelter Meal

Week of June 13

Sunday 6/13 8:30 am Traditional Service
 6/13 9:30 am Fellowship
 6/13 10:30 am Jazz Service
 6/13 11:30 am Fellowship
 Monday 6/14 9 am-4pm Day Camp at Zion
 6/14 6:30 pm Christian Ed Meeting
 at Rebecca Miller's
 Tuesday 6/15 9 am-4pm Day Camp at Zion
 6/15 6:00 pm Executive Committee
 6/15 6:30 pm Church Council
 Wed. 6/16 9 am-4pm Day Camp at Zion
 6/16 6:00 pm Picnic in the Parks
 at Mueller Park

Youth Ministry News

Thanks, Erin Davis, for your ministry!

Youth, over the summer months, watch for a retreat and activities. Lyndale and Salem leaders and youth are considering what the Youth Ministry position will look like in the future. Details are still to come.

Erin's new email: davier01@luther.edu

Attend a Muslim Service

On Friday, June 18, Salem's confirmation students will attend a mid-day (12:45pm-1:30pm) Friday prayer service at one of our local mosques in Bloomington. If you'd like to join this group for the service and an explanation by the hosts, please talk with Pastor Jen.

Thursday 6/17 9 am-4pm Day Camp at Zion
 6/17 7:00 pm Partnership Team
 at Myra's
 Friday 6/18 Attend Muslim Service (details to come)

Week of June 20—Happy Father's Day

Sunday 6/20 8:30 am Traditional Service
 6/20 9:30 am Fellowship
 6/20 9:40 am ReDevelopment Forum
 6/20 10:30 am Jazz Service
 6/20 11:30 am Fellowship

Week of June 27

Sunday 6/27 8:30 am Traditional Service
 6/27 9:30 am Fellowship
 6/27 10:30 am Jazz Service
 6/27 11:30 am Fellowship
 6/27 Pride Parade (details coming)

One Voice Mixed Chorus:

Different is GREAT! A Family Concert

June 4, 7:00 pm and June 5, 2010, 11:00 am, 3:00, 7:00 pm. In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre, 1500 East Lake St., FREE for kids! Normal is fine, but different is GREAT! Framed by the classic story, "Ferdinand the Bull," One Voice presents a family-friendly concert celebrating what makes us all unique. With sing-alongs, puppetry and music ranging from Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious and De Colores to highlights from "Carmen."



Safechurch Policy

This spring Salem and Lyndale leaders attended a workshop training called Safe Guarding God's Children. This training was sponsored by the local ELCA synods and offered information about how to make our churches and communities safer for kids. In the wake of the Catholic Church violations, our congregations seek to instill policies and a culture that aides the safety and well being of our kids. Watch for adult education sessions, parent training opportunities, and new policies in the fall. Those attending the training were: Sheena Dean, Kathy Hayden, and Pastor Jen.