

# THE CROSSROADS

May 15, 2019

## Serving in the Community



Feed the hungry, and help those in trouble. Then your light will shine out from the darkness, and the darkness around you will be as bright as noon. - Isaiah 58:10

As Christians we are called to care for those in need and spread the love and light of Christ. One of the ways we share Christ's love in St. Louis is by serving. Each year Salem and The Connection host a Serve Day. Volunteers enjoy getting to know each other while working on projects for agencies we partner with to make a difference in our community.

On May 4 fifty-two volunteers gathered for Holy Communion, devotion, and prayer before heading out to different locations to serve in our community. We worked alongside our partner agencies at Kingdom House, Epworth Children & Family Services, Saint Louis Public Schools, and Haven Street. What a difference a few hours time can make! Thank you to the Outreach Team, all our volunteers, and staff for helping to share God's Extravagant Love in our community.

### Serve Day 2019 Stats

- 52 volunteers
- Filled 62 family-size bags of rice for Kingdom House
- Packed 100 hygiene kits for Haven Street
- Packed 85 snack packs for Epworth Children & Family Services Street Outreach
- Cleaned at The Connection United Methodist Church
- Sorted donations at Kingdom House
- Hosted a BBQ at Epworth Children & Family Services YES Program

Are you interested in serving in the community through one of the organizations we partner with? There are many ways to get involved on a regular basis and one-time opportunities such as: tutoring at Lyon Academy, helping cook a meal with teens or teach life skills at Epworth Drop-In Center, cook or serve a meal to food insecure adults & children at Haven Street, watch children while teachers receive training at Kingdom House, and many more. For more information visit [www.salemstlouis.com](http://www.salemstlouis.com) or call (314) 991-0546.

### FROM PASTOR DEB

Spring is Here (2)

### OUTREACH

Serving in the Community (1)  
Volunteers Needed (3)

### COMMUNITY

Marriage Night (2)  
Movie Night (3)  
Social Justice Book (3)  
Summer Fun for Kids (3)

### SAVE THE DATE

Calendar (4)

# SPRING IS HERE

Ask the Lord for rain in the springtime; it is the Lord who sends the thunderstorms. He gives showers of rain to all people, and plants of the field to everyone. - Zechariah 10:1

Spring is here!

The signs are all around us. It is raining as I write this afternoon, a sure sign of spring.



The tulips are in bloom at both our sites. The preschool kids have been able to enjoy the playground again this week. One of my favorite spring hymns, "Hymn of Promise," reminds us that in the cold and snow of winter there is always a spring that waits to be.

This is a glorious spring to be a part of the Salem Community. While Terri is on sabbatical this month, Dr. Roger Ross is preaching in our traditional services. He is a gifted preacher, and I know you will be enriched by his time with us. In all our services, we are continuing our sermon series "Resurrection Stories," which reminds us that resurrection occurs in each of our lives, in every season of our lives. We celebrate this not only on Sunday mornings in worship, but throughout our lives together.

This week we delivered a check for over \$27,000 to Epworth's Drop-In Center, in the Normandy School District, which will be used for both the immediate and long term needs of the youth who come to the Center for services and assistance. As the weather warms and summer break approaches, the number of young people who arrive at the

Center in need of meals increases. Many of these kids are functionally homeless. All are food insecure. The money we are sending, all of which you donated on Easter Sunday, will buy the ingredients that volunteers will use to make meals for these young people. While at the Center they will also be assisted with medical needs, clothing, preparing for job interviews, and finding new places to live. Talk about resurrection stories! Your gifts become a part of the resurrection story of each young person who walks through the door. Thank you.

We will continue to live out the resurrection story this summer as we prepare for our first Freedom School at The Connection. This amazing summer literacy camp, which we will offer in partnership with Kingdom House and the Children's Defense Fund, is designed to increase literacy and academic achievement over summer break for students, or "scholars" as we call them, attending schools with below average literacy rates. Only 36% of kids in St. Louis Public Schools read at grade level. At Blow Elementary, the school just around the corner from The Connection, only 13% of kids read at grade level. First and Second grade scholars will be enrolled in the program, and research shows that by increasing their literacy to grade level by the third grade they are three times more likely to graduate from high school. This program, too, is made possible by your ongoing generosity and support.

If you want to be involved in either of these life transforming programs just let us know. Volunteers are needed to cook at Epworth and to help with welcoming young scholars to Freedom School. There are also great opportunities for the kids (grandkids and next

door neighbors, too) in your life here at Salem. Vacation Bible School will take place at our Mid-County site the week of June 3 for kids ages 3 through 5th grade. For older kids, this summer we are hosting "Eagle Lake Camp" here at our Mid-County Site for ages 7-12. This full-day camp is an exciting new program for us, loaded with water slides, climbing walls, inflatables and all the activities older kids love. It is staffed with professional counselors and full of high energy activities. At our South City Site, kids in kindergarten through 5th grade can register for the Backyard Kids Club that meets every other Wednesday night for sports, crafts, Bible stories and fun! Details for all three programs are on the website, and scholarships are available!

All these great programs plant the seeds that help children grow in faith, ready to live their own resurrection stories! As "Hymn of Promise" says, "from the past will come the future; what it holds a mystery, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see."

Thanks for being a part of God's promise for each of these young people!

I look forward to seeing you all this spring and summer – in worship, in the classroom, and maybe even in the kitchen!

Grace & Peace,  
Pastor Deb

A large graphic for "MARRIAGE NIGHT" featuring a couple seen from behind, looking out over a city skyline at sunset. The title is written in a large, white, brushstroke-style font. Below the title, the event details are listed: "SUNDAY, JUNE 9 - 5:00-8:30 PM", "\$15 PER PERSON (INCLUDES DINNER)", and "SALEM MULTIPURPOSE ROOM". At the bottom, it says "REGISTER AT MARRIAGENIGHT.ORG" with several lit candles in front of the text.

## Get Your Tickets for Marriage Night

You're invited to Marriage Night on Sunday, June 9, from 5:00-8:30 pm at the Mid-County Site. Marriage Night is a one-night video simulcast event for married and engaged couples to laugh and learn as they hear from marriage experts and discover how to honor God through their relationship.

The speaker lineup includes Francis and Lisa Chan, Les and Leslie Parrott, and comedian Michael Jr. Tickets are available for \$15 per person and includes dinner. To purchase tickets visit <https://www.mariagenight.org/> or call (314) 991-0546.

# SIGN-UP FOR SUMMER FUN!

## ROAR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Go on a roaring expedition!  
Dates: June 3-7, 9 am -Noon  
Ages: Three yrs-5th grade  
Cost: \$30  
Location: Mid-County (Salem)

## EAGLE LAKE DAY CAMP AT SALEM

Get ready for contagious fun!  
Dates: June 17-21, 9 am - 4 pm  
Ages: 7-12 years  
Cost: \$200 (Full Scholarships Available)  
Location: Mid-County (Salem)  
Transportation Available:  
From South-City Site The Connection

## BACKYARD KIDS CLUB

Don't miss this backyard adventure!  
Dates: June 5 & 19, July 3, 17 & 31  
Times: 6:00-8:00 pm  
Ages: Kindergarten-5th Grade  
Cost: Free (includes dinner)  
Location: South-City (The Connection)

SIGN UP TODAY AT  
[SALEMSTLOUIS.COM](http://SALEMSTLOUIS.COM)

## JOGGING FOR JESUS

May 19, 9:30-10:30 am  
Kindergarten-6th Grade

Proceeds will be used to purchase books  
and art supplies for Samoan Children

Donate in person or online at [salemstlouis.com](http://salemstlouis.com)

Each year elementary children run laps on the Salem front lawn to raise money to support a cause to help kids. Proceeds this year will be used to buy books and art supplies for Samoan children. Salem's Jessica Puyo is serving in Samoa as part of her two-year assignment in the Peace Corps. Your support is greatly appreciated!

## COMMUNITY

Walter Wink  
Editor  
HOMOSEXUALITY  
AND  
Christian Faith  
Questions of Conscience for the Churches

David G. Myers  
Maria Harris & Gabriel Moran  
Lewis R. Smoot  
Richard Rose  
John B. Cobb, Jr.  
Peggy Campolo  
William Sloane Coffin  
Eusebio Bustillo  
Tancio Castanera  
EDITED BY WALTER WINK

### Justice Ministry Book of the Month

Each month Salem's Social Justice Ministry presents a featured book of the month. One copy of each book will be available in the Salem library. May's book of the month is *Homosexuality and Christian Faith: Questions of Conscience for the Churches* by Walter Wink.

MARY POPPINS RETURNS  
FEATURING

# OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT

FRIDAY, JUNE 14 | 7:30-10:30 PM  
CARONDELET PARK



You're invited to a FREE outdoor movie night event at Carondelet Park (3900 Holly Hills Blvd, 63116) featuring the Disney movie *Mary Poppins Returns*. Enjoy free popcorn and popsicles. All are welcome! Bring a blanket or lawn chair. Street parking is available.



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We're looking for volunteers (adult and youth) for upcoming outreach events. Visit [salemstlouis.com](http://salemstlouis.com) for details or call (314) 991-0546.

Marriage Night: Salem (June 9)

Outdoor Movie Night: Carondelet Park (June 14)

Vacation Bible School: Salem (June 3-7) & Kingdom House (July 8-12)

Eagle Lake Day Camp: Salem (June 17-21)

Backyard Kids Club: The Connection (June 5 & 19, July 3, 17, & 31)



1200 S. Lindbergh Blvd.  
St. Louis, MO 63131

Phone: (314) 991-0546  
Fax: (314) 991-1242  
Web: [www.salemstlouis.com](http://www.salemstlouis.com)  
Email: [info@salemstlouis.com](mailto:info@salemstlouis.com)

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
St. Louis, MO  
Permit No. 2013

Return Service Requested  
May 15, 2019

## ONE CHURCH - TWO LOCATIONS

### MID-COUNTY

1200 S. Lindbergh Blvd.  
St. Louis, MO 63131  
(314) 991-0546  
[www.salemstlouis.com](http://www.salemstlouis.com)

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:30 am Chapel  
9:30 am Modern  
10:45 am Traditional

9:30 am Classes for adults &  
children (2 years-6th grade)

8:30 - 11:45 am Nursery for  
infants & toddlers

### WEDNESDAY PRAYER SERVICE

6:00 - 6:30 pm Chapel

### SOUTH-CITY

6701 Virginia Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63111  
(314) 256-0545  
[www.connectingnow.org](http://www.connectingnow.org)

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

10:30 am Celebration

10:30 am Kids Connection  
for children & Nursery for  
infants

## SAVE THE DATE

- May 27: Memorial Day (Office Closed)  
June 3-7: Vacation Bible School (Mid-County), pg. 3  
June 5: Backyard Kids Club Begins (South-City), pg. 3  
June 9: Marriage Night (Mid-County), pg. 2  
June 14: Free Outdoor Movie Night (Carondelet Park), pg. 3  
June 17-21: Eagle Lake Camp at Salem (Mid-County), pg. 3  
July 4: 4th of July (Office Closed)  
September 2: Labor Day (Office Closed)  
September 29: Worship in the Park (details coming soon)

## DOWNLOAD OUR APP

- > Listen to Messages
- > Calendar & Sign-Ups
- > Read the Bible
- > Give
- > Connect Card

Search  
Salem Church - St. Louis

