

Youth & Family Ministries

April 2017



At the time this is printed we will have met to complete our session on Radical Hospitality. Pastor spoke about hospitality in worship on March 12.

I'll share hospitality reflection from *Cultivating Faithfulness* (a companion book to the Five Practices materials) by Robert Schnase.

Sometimes members forget that churches offer something people need. What do people need that congregations have to offer? How do we express with integrity and clarity what we hope to others receive? What do people need from the church?

People need to know that God loves them, that they are of supreme value, and that their life has significance. People need to know that they are not alone; that when they face life's difficulties, they are surrounded by a community of grace; and that they do not have to figure out entirely themselves how to cope with family tensions, self-doubts, periods of despair, economic reversal, and the temptations that hurt themselves and others. People need to know that peace runs deeper than an absence of conflict, the hope that sustains them even through the most painful periods of grief, the sense of belonging that blesses them and stretches them and lifts them out of their own preoccupations. People need to learn how to offer and accept forgiveness and how to serve and be served. As a school for love, the church becomes a congregation where people learn from one another how to love. People need to know that life is not having something to live on, but to live for, that life comes not from taking for oneself but by giving of oneself. People need a sustaining sense of purpose.

How is your life enriched by being a follower of Christ?

What have you received by being a part of this community of faith?

Challenge: With a family member or friends, share your thoughts about these questions:

Why do people need Christ?

Why do people need the church?

Why do people need our church?

Quick Reference

We welcome God's children of all ages to join us in worship on Saturday afternoons at 4:30 or on Sunday mornings at 8:30.

Confirmation Classes meet on Wednesday nights. Classes begin at 6:15 and end at 7:30 unless otherwise noted on the syllabus.

Sunday School meets on Sunday mornings from 9:45-10:45. Except when otherwise noted on the Sunday School calendar. Children beginning 4K through 6th grade from our church and community are welcome to participate in Sunday School.

Confirmation classes meet on Wednesday nights beginning at 6:15pm. Students are welcome to enroll as early as 7th grade. Our Confirmation program is a 3 year program that combines study of scripture, faith application, prayer, worship, discipleship, and fellowship.

JR Youth Fellowship is open to children from 3rd-6th grade. JR Youth meets once a month from September-May. They generally meet after Sunday School until noon, except when they have special activities or events planned.

SR Youth Fellowship welcomes youth from 7th - 12th grade.

SR Youth Fellowship meets once a month from September-May. They generally meet on Sunday evenings at 6:30pm, except when they have special activities or events planned.

Sticky Faith is an intergenerational faith formation and fellowship opportunity that happens on the 3rd Wednesday of the month Sept-April. Sticky Faith is open to all. Children may attend without parents when they are in 3rd grade-12th grade. ALL AGES ARE WELCOME!

youth FELLOWSHIP

JR Youth Fellowship NEWS

JR Youth (3-6 grade) will meet in the youth room on April 9 from 10:45-noon.

If you have any questions please contact the advisors for JRYF:

Annette Bunyea (627-6621) or Marsha Meyer (892-0115)

What's coming Up for JR Youth?

- April 9 JRYF meeting
- April 15 Easter Egg Hunt
- April 19 Sticky Faith (Last one this year!)
- April 24-28 Rummage Sale Help
- April 29 Lemonade Stand
- May 21 Youth Sunday
JRYF meeting

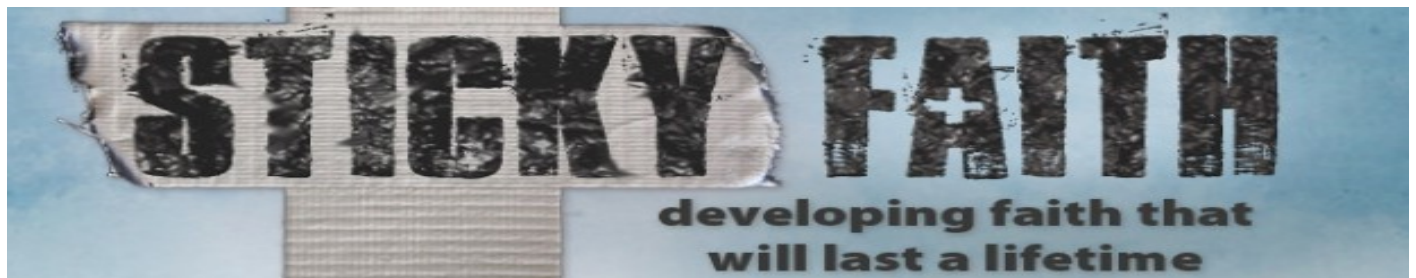
SR Youth Fellowship NEWS

SR Youth (7-12 grades) will meet in the youth room on April 9th at 6:30-8pm.

If you have questions about SR Youth you can contact one of our advisors Susan Clarke (627-0875) or Marsha Meyer (892-0115)

What's coming up for SR Youth?

- April 8 Scrapbooking workshop**
- April 9 SRYF meeting**
- April 14 Easter Egg Dying 10am**
- April 19 Sticky Faith**
- April 24-27 Rummage Sale Help**
- April 29 Rummage- Sale Brat fry**
- May 21 Youth Sunday
SRYF meeting**



Sticky Faith, our intergenerational, midweek faith formation ministry meets next on April 19!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Just a reminder, the children will be singing in worship on Palm Sunday (April 9) and processing in with palms. It's a special day; we hope you can join us for worship.

It's also that time of year when we ask our church family to think about paring down the stuff that we have that we no longer use to donate to our church's rummage sale. Toys or books that your children have out grown, clothes, household items, anything you no longer are using that may still have some life in it. Donations will begin to be accepted on April 25. If you have some time and a gift for organization or displays, I'm sure they could use extra hands that week as well. They'll be working during the day all week and evening volunteers will also be needed.

Our Sunday School children can also participate by working a shift with a parent/or other adult at the lemonade stand. Watch the Sunday School bulletin board for a sign-up sheet.

I'm planning a large group learning experience for Sunday School on April 30. We will gather in the sanctuary to begin on that day, since the Sunday School rooms will not be available to us due to the rummage sale occurring the day before.

Sticky Faith is another great opportunity for your family to do this faith formation thing together. Remember that growing in our faith is a lifelong thing, why not connect with others? It's not just for the kids. ;) Sticky Faith meets next on April 19 from 5:30-7:30pm. Join us!

Youth Sunday is May 21! And you know what that means..... (if you don't, you should ask the kids they LOVE Youth Sunday). Plan to be there for an exciting and vibrant worship experience.

Join us for VBS this summer. Watch for details and dates for that next month!



There are tentative plans to go and see the Shack as a group on March 28.

Contact the church office if you're interested in joining us, and we'll be sure to update you on the plans as movie times become available.



Easter Egg Hunt April 15 at 10am

Children are welcome to come to our annual Easter Egg Hunt

Our hunt is outdoors so please dress for the weather. We'll gather in the Fellowship Hall at 10am for refreshments and the hunt will follow

Bring a friend!

Please bring a basket for the eggs you find



churchWIDE RUMMAGE SALE

Our rummage sale is on Saturday, April 29 from 8am-3:30pm

And we need your help!

Here are some ways you can be a part of this church wide fundraiser:

- Donate toys: talk with your mom and dad about giving some of your toys to the rummage sale. If it is okay with them, look through your toys and see if you can find some that you are ready to give to others.
- Volunteer to help with setup after school the week before. See signup sheet in the Gathering Area for opportunities.
- Volunteer with a parent/grandparent to work a shift at the Lemonade Stand.
- Talk with your mom and dad and see if they can help.

This is a HUGE undertaking for our church and MANY hands will be needed.

This is a great opportunity to get involved!



At our All Church Rummage Sale

April 29 from 9am-2pm

Serving from the window in Fellowship Hall

BRATS * HAMBURGERS * CHICKEN SANDWICHES*

BAKED BEANS * GERMAN POTATO SALAD

Join us for
YOUTH SUNDAY
May 21

children
parent
transform
inquiry
believe
mindfulness
meditation
generation
community
abundance
gratitude
compassion
spiritual
teachers
life
family
conscious
stillness
peaceschool



Confirmation Updates!

A reminder that all students are REQUIRED to stay through the end of the Lenten Worship services.

Leaving early counts as an absence and needs to be made up.

March 29 NO CONFIRMATION CLASSES

April 5 Soup & Sandwich at 5:30, Class at 6:15, Worship at 7

April 12 NO CONFIRMATION CLASSES

April 14 Easter Egg Dying 10am

April 15 Help with the Easter Egg Hunt

April 19 Sticky Faith

April 23 Year 3 Review at 10am

(Year 3 workbook requirements need to be completed by this day)

April 26 Confirmation Class for years 1&2

Confirmation Rehearsal for Year 3

May 3 Confirmation years 1&2 have class



Confirmation review is scheduled for April 23 at 10am in the Library.

All are welcome to join us in getting acquainted with our Confirmands

We will celebrate the Rite of Confirmation at Salem on April 30 at 8:30am

Scrapbooking Day



Saturday, April 8th 10am-6pm

At Salem UCC 217 Salem Dr

\$20 to reserve your table

Lunch will be provided

Close to my Heart consultant will be available on site

Child care available \$2 an hour per child

Sponsored by SR Youth Fellowship



UCC Church Camp

Why not go to Pilgrim Center or Moon Beach and experience one of our wonderful UCC Church camps this summer?

There are camps for children, families, grandparent and me, teens, and adults.

UCC Church camp catalogs are available in the Gathering area.

Salem does have scholarships available for half of the fee up to \$100; contact the church office for more details.

Holy Week



Schedule

Palm Sunday

April 9 worship at 8:30am

Maundy Thursday

April 13 worship at 7pm

Good Friday

April 14 worship at 1:30pm

Easter Egg Hunt

April 15 at 10am

Holy Saturday

April 15 at 4:30pm

Easter Sunday

April 16 worship at 7:30am & 9:30am



SR Youth Fellowship is planning a weekend service trip to Minneapolis in July of 2017

Youth that are interested in coming along should come to our next SR Youth meeting on April 9 at 6:30 or contact Marsha if you can't make it and want more details ☺



The Back Bay Mission Team would like to thank everyone who supported our Fat Tuesday Dinner for our upcoming mission trip. Your support is appreciated.



Serving at the Gathering

Saturday, June 24 8:30am-2:30pm

The Gathering is a meal program that has a longstanding presence in Milwaukee. Salem was recently recognized for our partnership with them for more than 5 years of service. This time we will be serving at the St James site downtown. This is their busiest location, be prepared to serve more than 200 people in a short amount of time.

Make sure to wear closed toed shoes and bring a baseball hat to wear.

Sign up in the Gathering area so we know we can rely on you.

We are committed to sending 15-20 volunteers.

We'll plan to stop for a late lunch on the way back.

Families are encouraged to serve together ☺