

# Salem Youth News

Salem United Church of Christ  
6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade youth

May

2012

*While they were saying all this, Jesus appeared among them and said, "Peace be with you."*

*~ Luke 24: 36*

Dear Friends,

In our family, we used to call this month "May Madness". There is always so much going on right now: spring sports, concerts, final projects and exams, all the activities that come with wrapping up the school year. Fun, but sometimes stressful, and often exhausting. In the weeks after Easter, the disciples were not having a lot of fun, but life was certainly stressful and often exhausting. So is it any wonder that when Jesus appeared to them after his resurrection, the first thing he always said was "Peace be with you". I don't think it was an idle greeting but a blessing, offering a gift of calming, inner quiet that would help overcome the hectic panicked feelings that they had. I think too, it was a reminder - that in peace, Jesus was with them too, that he could find the disciples off wherever they had hidden themselves away, whatever they were doing. My prayer for each one of you is that in this month of May when so much is going on, you will know the peace that Jesus brings to you. That you will turn and find that Jesus is by your side, to strengthen you, to encourage you, to comfort you on the rough days, and to cheer you on. Peace be with you.

Your friend in Christ,

Laura

## **Pie Auction, Sunday, May 6!**

Come for the fun to buy and sell delicious pies at our pie auction fundraiser. There are lots of ways to be involved – be an auctioneer, a cashier, a pie walker, a pie seller, even a baker! Plan to be there – we can use everyone's help to support our summer mission fund. Besides, it's just plain fun, and you won't want to miss the premier of this year's pie video!

## **High School Youth Mid-Week Wednesday**

Our next mid-week High School get-together will be held on Wednesday, May 9 at 6:30 pm. Please rsvp to reserve your slice(s) of pizza!

## **Confirmation Sunday, May 27**

Join us for worship on Sunday, May 27 as we celebrate the confirmations of the following youth: Lisa Bakken, Conlin Bass, Kevin Cashman, Nicolas Graese, Jackson Pundt, Sawyer Quade, Laura Williams, Isaac Worley. Blessings to each and all of you on this important step in your faith journey.

## The Amazing Grace, recap!

Salem Youth was enthusiastically represented among youth from congregations from all over Madison at the Amazing Grace on April 22. Team Salem "Salt" consisted of members Paul Driftmier, Kati Hart, Jackson Pundt, and Laura Williams, Laura Kolden driver, and Jamie Kolden riding shotgun. We didn't come in first, but boy did we have fun. Olbrich Gardens, South Towne Mall, Forest Cemetery, and the Vilas Zoo were some of the stops on our scavenger hunt for clues throughout Madison. Ask team members what animal at the zoo has 14 toes, and about who ate the marshmallow peeps and a certain "delicacy" Gefilte fish to earn the next clue.

We'll be ready next year!

NEW DATE!

## End of Year Picnic, June 10, 3:00-6:00 pm

A change in date but not a change in time! Come celebrate a great year together and the end of the school year at a Youth Picnic at the Driftmier home. Fun, Food, and bring your ideas for next year's program!

- **Summer Experiences for Middle and Senior High Youth \***  
**Deadlines for sign up are Wednesday, May 9**

Middle and High School Youth! – We are making plans for our summer activities and the **deadlines for sign up for both trips are Wednesday, May 9**. Registration forms are available in fellowship hall or can be emailed to you by contacting Laura. The cost of the trips will be finalized as soon as we know how many youth will be attending and as we see the results of our fund-raising. We will keep our costs as low as possible. The middle school trip will not exceed \$125 with a \$50 deposit due by May 9. The High School Trip will not exceed \$250 and a \$100 deposit will be due by May 9. Checks can be made out to Salem UCC.

We want to make these trips as affordable as possible for everyone; if you have financial concerns that would prevent you from participating, please speak to Laura about scholarship assistance.

## **Middle School Youth – S.A.L.T. for Madison!**

**Tuesday, June 12 – Thursday, June 14**

Plans are falling into place for our Middle School summer adventure in Madison. Highlights will include conversation with a client from Porchlight, attending a community meal at Luke House, working at the First Methodist Church Food Pantry, with more to come. Our fun will include ice cream at the Memorial Union, paddleboating and kayaking on Lake Wingra, an evening bonfire and maybe some swimming.

## **High School Youth – July 10-14, UCC National Youth Event,** **Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana.**

The theme for this year's gathering is IMAGINE! and the week will include awesome music, worship, speakers and workshops, and fun STUFF to do, shared with youth from all over the USA! This will be awesome! More info about artists and speakers is available at [ucc.org/youth/nyel](http://ucc.org/youth/nyel) *Check it out!*

## Have an Adventure...

### **at Moon Beach or Pilgrim Center, our awesome UCC summer camps!**

Pick up a Camp catalogs for our UCC summer camps and take a peek. Lots of adventures await you! The Salem Women's Guild generously offers scholarships to each Salem youth attending! Please speak to Laura about your plans to register.

## Youth Fun-d Raising for Summer Learning and Service

Have fun and be involved! Support our summer youth experiences.

May 6 – Our famous Pie Auction

May 25-28 – Brat Fest (still time to sign up!)

Please mark these dates on your calendar and plan on good fun and hard work to make these events a success!

## Youth News - "Sharing Our Journey"

*This is a place where we recognize some of the special joys and concerns of Salem youth. If you have something share about yourself, or another youth, please contact Laura or a YMT member.*

## Did You Know?...

**Kailey Hodel's** cheer team took first place at the Xtreme Spirit National Competition last month at the Kalahari in WI Dells!

**Nadia Graese and Kati Hart** participated in the walk for suicide prevention, raising more than \$500.

**Zach Nechvatal and Jackson Pundt** are playing for the VAHS JV LaCrosse Team.

## Remember in Prayer...

Teens in our community who are struggling with anxiety and depression

**HEY! There are a lot more of you out there who are doin' cool stuff! What are YOU up to this year? School, work, interests, accomplishments, let us know! Share it with us!**

## Liturgist - Welcomer schedule

*Youth are responsible for ushering and reading the scripture (liturgist) on the first Sunday of each month during worship. If you have a conflict, please call another youth to arrange a trade, and let the YMT contact of the month know of your plans.*

### May 6, 2012

YMT Contact: Sarah Pundt

Welcomers: Nadia Graese  
Nic Graese  
Zach Nechvatal  
Zoe Shaw

Liturgist: Kaitlyn Hopfensperger

### June 3, 2012

YMT Contact: Cara Bahr

Welcomers: Elaina Durnen  
Jeanie Driftmier  
Noah Nechvatal  
Max Driftmier

Liturgist: Anna Pundt

# YOUTH CALENDAR!

April 29 - 5:30-8:00

All youth gathering - pie making and prep for pie auction

May 6 - 11:30 - 1:00

Pie Auction!

May 25-28

Brat Fest

May 27

Confirmation Sunday

June 3

Graduation Sunday

June 10, 3:00-6:00 pm

End of year Party at Driftmier Home

June 12-14

Middle School S.A.L.T. adventure in Madison

June 20

Trip planning meeting for HS youth attending NYE

July 10-14

High School trip to N.Y.E., Purdue University