

Children, Youth & Family Ministries

2014 Highlights:

Children's Ministry:

- The VBS theme was 'Weird Animals' in which over 50 children and 30 volunteers participated.
- Special Children Events: Back Pack Blessing, bibles given to 3 year olds, Bible class for 3rd Graders, 1st Communion Class for 3rd Graders.
- Sunday School theme is "Love, Pray, Serve", this year the children's offering will purchase milk for the Pantry Pack distribution on Thursday.

Teen Ministry:

- Our confirmation program had 13 students in the fall, 4 of which confirmed in October. We continued to partner with Holy Cross and develop our own curriculum in house
- Middle school youth participated in Sunday school, a fall retreat, summer camp at Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp in Colorado, and quarterly events with our KCLYC partner congregations.
- Senior High youth participated in Sunday school, monthly youth hang-nites, service events, and monthly events with our KCLYC partner congregations.
- Our senior high mission trip was a mystery trip and to the group to Estes Park, CO to do flood recovery including debris clean-up, landscaping, dry wall installation, mudding and taping, and many more projects.
- Our senior high youth are representatives on the KCLYC Leadership Team helping guide the direction of the KCLYC collaborative ministry.

Cornerstone:

- Our cornerstone program provided a community meal each night at a low cost for all ages.
- Children gathered in both large and small groups for activities, crafts, songs, dance, and more.
- Adults gathered for bible conversations with pastor and other leaders.
- Middle school students gathered for confirmation instruction.
- All ages gathered at the end of the night for a short worship together.

Safe Sanctuary:

- Our Safe Sanctuary program began using a new background check vendor offering a more efficient delivery of services.
- We did background checks on all volunteers working in direct leadership roles with children and youth in our programs.

BIC (Building Inclusive Church):

- A BIC (Building Inclusive Church) team was created and several members attended training to help our congregation to become a more welcoming place.
- Today we will vote to become an RIC congregation

Adult Ministries

2014 Highlights:

Women's Ministry:

- Held the 1st Annual Women's retreat where 23 women attended.
- Distributed 14 prayer shawls and 91 care cards to remind individuals they are loved especially during difficult times.
- Donated 32 handmade items to the MLM Spring Fling and 34 handmade items to the MLM & SafeHome Christmas store along with \$325 for SafeHome.
- Created 4 Baptism Banners for Salem newest members
- Held several social events for women to get to know each other.

Men's Ministry:

- Breakfast Group: meets monthly for breakfast, fellowship & service planning.
- Christmas season: set up the Nativity scene in December and took it down in January.
- Annual Shrove Pancake breakfast: prepared and hosted the pancake breakfast for the congregation and community.
- June Sunday service: conducted by the men of the congregation, including presentation of the sermon at both services.
- Helped VBS with setup, serving, and cleanup of a dinner
- September Re-ignite: helped with setup, grilling, and cleanup for the Salem BBQ event.
- October: annual fundraiser where the men coordinated parking at the annual Lenexa Chili Challenge.
- Led and coordinated both congregational Spring cleanup and Fall cleanup efforts on Salem grounds and facilities; additionally after many of our monthly breakfasts, volunteers performed many basic maintenance and cleanup tasks on Salem grounds and facilities.
- Men's Group volunteers have responded to requests to setup and takedown chairs and tables for several events, including the Health Fair and multiple memorial services, as well as returning all pew cushions after the Christmas candlelight services.
- Contributions: donated several hundred dollars to a number of church groups & events such as Pastor's Fund, holiday meals for needy families, Mike Higgins memorial & the Boy Scouts.

Senior's Ministry:

- Seniors (members over 50): meet monthly for fellowship, food and fun, and field trips a couple of times during the year.
- Seniors help Salem in various areas such as Sunday School and other church events.

Service & Outreach Ministries

2014 Highlights:

KC Service Network:

- 2014 projects included a Mosaic workday, Habitat for Humanity build and an After the Harvest where volunteers prepared strawberry beds for Harvesters.
- Helped St. Mark Hope and Peace (SMHP) with the Hope Center for youth.
- KCSN is a combined effort from Atonement, Holy Cross, Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, SMHP and Salem.
- Salem's food pantry is open 3 hours every Thursday. Over the course of the year, we packed and distributed 1,435 pantry packs.

Pantry Pack Program (P3):

- P3 is a dedicated group of volunteers from Salem and from Shawnee Mission Unitarian Universalist Church that make trips to Harvesters, pack and help distribute packs weekly. Had several small groups - Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and youth groups that collected food and made donations to our mission this year.
- November, participated in the Harvesters Holiday meal program. We handed out 42 Thanksgiving meals that included a Turkey or Chicken and traditional side items.
- During Advent, collected over 400 new pairs of socks from the congregation. Also received a generous donation of scarves. With the help of our Salem Boy Scout troops, we collected side items for 40 Christmas meals. The Harvesters Holiday meal program helped us provide a Turkey or Ham with each meal. The congregation helped pack the meal boxes at our mid-week Advent service. The socks, scarves and meals were all given to our pantry pack participants at our Christmas distribution.



Fellowship Ministries

2014 Highlights:

- The Fellowship Team provided Sunday morning hospitality in the Salem café and beyond. This year the team was able to add a new coffee bar and new bar top tables to the café.
- The team organized and kicked off the Dinner 4 Eight groups in November. Thirty-two people signed up to gather in groups of 8 for dinner and fellowship.
- The team hosted all new member exploration lunches, new member receptions, confirmation reception, and Advent & Lenten dinners.

Facilities Ministries

2014 Highlights:

- Turf and landscape maintenance handled by Gary Johnson
- A new vanity installed in basement restroom of the Sanctuary
- Don Knudston designed, built and installed a new audio visual security cabinet in Fellowship Hall.
- Interior facility cleaning of Salem's performed by Angela Osheim.
- Major pruning on several trees adjacent to Koinonia Hall which allowed for clearance of utility service to the building.

Koinonia Hall:

- New 200 amp 120/240 volt single phase load center was installed along with a new 200 amp single phase meter can.
- Complete HVAC system was installed with 2 new AC units and 2 new high efficiency furnaces.
- New "peaked roof" system has been constructed. Thanks to Steve Wise for his professional guidance and expertise.
- New "drop-down" ceiling has been installed in Fellowship Hall.

Design Team:

- Decorates the sanctuary and narthex area according to the church seasons.
- Springtime of 2014, "Luther Rose" cross was commissioned by Reilly and Kelly Hoffman and hung in the narthex.
- Summer: updated the sanctuary restrooms and basement
- Provided a "Thanksgiving" meal to several families in the Overland Park Strengthening Families Program (plus volunteers of the program) with the generous help of Thrivent and many Salem members.

2015 Goals:

- Continue routine maintenance activities
- Plans are being considered and developed to include upgrade and renovation projects in the Sanctuary building
- A five-foot cross to hold candles on special occasions is a project in the works.

Administration Ministries

Financial reports were distributed on January 14th. The reports can be found on the Salem online directory: salemks.ourchurchfamily.net. Hover over the 'Home' tab.

2014 Highlights:

Finance Team:

- Implemented a new software accounting system which will benefit Salem in a more detailed tracking of financials.
- Oversee memorial funds, record and deposit weekly offering, track Membership giving, pay bills and track expenses
- Prepare annual budget, track monthly status and prepare quarterly updates
- Looks forward to expand and performing additional supportive tasks.

Past Presidents:

- Presented Long Range Planning Research at 2014 Annual Meeting with estimates for programs, staffing and selected enhancements to Koinonia Hall and Luther Hall.
- Helped with small group meetings during the summer – deferred any Luther Hall enhancements based upon feedback received.
- Focus on new staff position and sanctuary enhancements as part of the Growth Appeal (3 year).

2015 Goals:

- Detailed draft of Long Range plan for Salem to include options for Programs, Staffing and Facilities (all options)
- Present draft of Long Range Plan to Church Council (4Q)



Salem Highlights of 2014

Sunday, January 25, 2015



Encounter, Grow, Serve

Worship Ministries

2014 Highlights:

Worship:

- Children's programs: Lenten musical *Hurry On Down (story of Zacchaeus)*, summer musical camp *Rescue in the Night (story of Daniel in the lions' den)*, many participated in the combined children's choir at the Better Together concert, and Christmas pageant *The Heart of the Story*.
- Adult choir: Good Friday cantata *Whispers of the Passion*, participated in the Better Together concert, Christmas cantata *Where You There on That Christmas Night?*.
- Praise band performed outside at the Salem Re-ignite BBQ.
- New soundboard and monitors purchased and installed, with a huge difference in sound quality and consistency.

Altar Care:

- Held 2 semi-annual meetings to discuss concerns, issues and the coming year.
- Resumed the practice of fresh flowers on the altar
- Continues the practice of Easter lily and Christmas poinsettia donations.

2015 Goals:

- Open up the altar area to allow more flexibility for the band, communion, choirs, drama and children's programs
- Make room for a grand piano in the redesign of the altar area
- Recruit and train a new Altar Care team leader