

Salem's Mission

9/29/17

We exist to

Welcome people to Jesus Christ,
Equip people with a faith that works in their lives, and
Send people into the world in Jesus' name.

Salem's Guiding Principles

1. Jesus is our Lord and Savior. (Philippians 2:5-10)
2. Every person is a beloved child of God. (Acts 10:34-36, 15:13-19)
3. We seek to grow as disciples of Jesus. (Acts 16:5)
4. The Spirit calls us to step out in faith. (Acts 10:9-16, 19-20, 28-29, 16:9-10))
5. We serve God by serving all without distinction. (Matthew 25:37-40)

Salem's 5 Year Action Plan

In addition to maintaining ministries and programs that are working well, Salem members identified 4 areas of ministry they felt God calling us to concentrate on in the next 5 years. In response to our changing world Salem's council, teams, committees, and individuals are encouraged to engage in faith-filled experiments, to try at least 2 new ministry ideas per year from the list below or from their own ideas.

Evangelism: How do we "**Welcome people to Jesus?**" Some ideas include:

- Reach out to the neighborhood with faith
 - o Pray for the unchurched and events outside our walls during worship
 - o During worship, 2 times per year, train all Salem members to welcome and engage newcomers
 - o Create at least 2 outdoor public worship services per year.
 - o Sponsor events to which the entire community is invited such as open gym nights at the Auditorium, etc.
 - o Create "Rock the House" worship experiences
- Reach out to those who've fallen away
 - o Make contact with members who've been absent 4 consecutive weeks
- Reach out to the next generation
 - o Sponsor at least 4 inter-generational faith events per year
 - o Nurture mentor relationships in FINK, Sunday school, etc.
 - o Create an "Every Kid Goes To Camp" culture, and full camperships to make it possible
- Reach out to New Members
 - o Create and distribute welcome gifts to 1st and 2nd time visitors
 - o Enlist and train "befrienders" who will journey with new members for 1 year
 - o Quickly incorporate new members into small groups, studies, and activities that fit their interests and abilities
- Study other churches to learn best practices

Youth & Family Ministry – How do we **Welcome** and **Equip** Youth in new and compelling ways. Some ideas include:

- Mountain bike ministry
 - Bike clinic & blessings
 - Intergenerational rides
 - Multiple church events
 - Extra bikes for the bikeless
- Mini Series that appeal to youth
- Create Youth friendly culture and worship
 - Empower and train youth to lead all parts of worship
 - Incorporate smart phones and social media into communications, study and worship
- Reach out to Young adults
 - Monthly Beer & Hymns or Wine & Word events at a local establishment
 - Coffee shop
 - Create online worship opportunities
 - Create a Salem App for smart phones
- Reach out to Families
 - Create a small group for Moms
 - Use the popularity of, and information from, VBS to draw families
 - Encourage and promote “Faith 5” family devotion time
 - Create a Pre-school
 - Experiment with new ways to equip busy families with a faith that works in their 24/7 lives

Adult Faith Formation – How do we **Equip people with a faith** that encourages personal and corporate growth and knowledge of Jesus? Some ideas include:

- Create a congregation wide small group series for Lent or another season
- Create 2 new confidential focused prayer groups
- Create monthly Adult Sunday School/Forums with guest speakers/presenters
- Enlist 4 Salem members per year to attend Lay School of Theology
- Promote/initiate/develop in-home Bible study/small groups

Stewardship – How do we **Equip people** with a generous faith and **Send people** to serve God with everything they have? Some ideas include:

- Offer an annual “Financial Peace University” style course
- Enlist Salem members to tell “Why I give” faith stories during offering time quarterly or monthly
- Teach about money without asking for any at least 2 times per year using the principles: 1) It all belongs to God, 2) I am a steward, 3) How I live with money is a faith issue
- Create a menu of ways to give that are convenient for 21st century Christians such as credit/debit card kiosks or online apps for electronic giving
- Develop planned gift education programs