

There is something special going on with this month's Gospel Jam, "The One Spirit Traveling Medicine Show"!

Sometimes we hold this at a church that needs to raise some money for a ministry and we love to do that. This month stands out as an opportunity for all of us to make a difference.

This month's church, Salem Lutheran, is an inner city church with a poor congregation that is succeeding beyond its wildest dreams as a beacon of God's light, but is very close to failing completely because of unmet financial needs. Salem's ministry extends beyond church services to include feeding the poor in its neighborhood and providing much needed social services, one of which is a substance abuse prevention program.

On June 28 we can make a difference that is measurable. If we are unsuccessful Salem will close soon. If we can generate some new funding sources Salem will continue its ministry for years to come.

On May 17 the Toledo Blade ran a great article about Salem's ministry and possible demise. If you go to their website www.toledoblade.com and search for Salem Lutheran Church you will find the article and an accompanying video that will show you more about what Salem does and means to people in the area.

So, on Sunday, June 28, we are putting on our largest gospel jam ever. It will begin at noon with a chicken barbecue (free will donation) prepared and served by the men of Salem Lutheran Church. Music will begin at 1pm. The current list of performers includes One Spirit, Pastor Phillip Battle, The African American Quartet Union, and the choir and organist from Salem Lutheran. These folks alone will be worth some of your time that day! We have also received an e-mail from Toledo's only ever American Idol contestant Candice Coleman who said that she will join us and sing some of her favorite Christian songs! Fred LeFebvre from WSPD 1370 has also said he would do everything he could to help out. He has opened Clear Channel's doors to help us promote this event to a wider audience than we could ever have reached otherwise and will be there to MC.

Weather permitting we will be performing outdoors except for the performance by the Salem choir and pipe organ. The food will be available until we run out and the music will go to 5pm. Please put this event on your calendar and tell everyone that you know to come out that day. We can make a difference!

Sunday June 28 Sunday service starts at 10:30 Chicken Barbecue starts at noon Music starts at 1pm

Salem Lutheran Church

1125 North Huron St (Erie past Lagrange to Chestnut - turn right - turn right at Huron and the church will be on your right)

Come out and join in the celebration of all that Salem has been and will continue to be!