

SOMA

A Church of the Christ

Only 4 Weeks Away from...

LAUNCH SUNDAY on OCTOBER 5th!!!

So...if we seem a little scattered, it's because we probably are. But seriously, there is lots of energy at Soma right now as this vision of a new church becomes more and more a reality.

Last night we had our 5th (and last) preview worship gathering and had 40+ people there in attendance. Even better was the fact that we now have 3 new faces on our worship team (Brian Jones & Karley Herrick, students at WOU, and Kevin Ehmer) and various people serving in new ways (Cyndy Willis was running our PowerPoint and Don and Jean Vanlue were greeting people at the door).

Over the next few weeks leading up to launch, people at Soma will be busy serving our community with a painting project and a huge community-wide Clothing Giveaway on September 20. And, of course, we'll be inviting anyone we can think of to be a part of the launch of Soma in West Salem.

So...if you're interested in being a part of Soma's launch, please consider partnering with us in a few different ways:

- 1) **Give Financially**...we are still trying to raise \$8,000 to complete our postcard series as well as purchasing a few necessary supplies.
- 2) **Be a Missionary!** Volunteer to serve on 1 or all of the Sundays in October by greeting, helping with kids, setup, teardown, etc.
- 3) **Pray**...for our launch team and the new people God will send us.

If you need more info about helping launch, contact us at: info@somasalem.org.



Please Pray 4...

- **Launch.** We are prayerfully hoping to have 200+ people with us on October 5 and that will require tons of prayer. Please pray that God would send people.
- **Transformation.** Please pray that those people who are close to becoming Christ-Followers would take that next step of faith.
- **Funding.** We are still about \$8,000 short in being able to complete the postcard mailer series that we are sending into the community. Please pray that God would raise up those critical givers.
- **New LiFE Groups.** And as things continue to grow at Soma, we are will be launching new LiFE groups in the coming weeks. Please pray for those new leaders and the people that God will send their way.

Celebrating New Life!

Transforming lives by the power of Jesus and seeing lives restored to the image of God...that is the kind of community that we pray Soma becomes. On Sunday night, we celebrated new life in Jesus Christ as Mike Schafer was baptized into Christ!

Mike, Jen (his wife), and their 2 daughters have quickly connected into Soma and a few weeks ago, Mike let us know that he was ready to be baptized. From his teenage years, Mike had been involved in Wicca, dabbling in everything from Buddhism, Paganism, and Satanism.

But by God's grace, Mike has been passionately pursuing Jesus for the past 5 years (God definitely used Jen's strong devotion to Jesus). Both Mike & Jen are amazing people and Soma is blessed to have them as part of our faith community. Praise God for both of them and for Mike's baptism!





Buy a Sunday!!

Prayer, people, and pesos. Since March, Soma's launch team has been working hard to bring all 3 of those important elements together to launch this new church. God has provided us a perfect location right in the heart of the Edgewater District on Sunday nights at Kingwood Bible Church. But, like all good things, it definitely isn't free.

So here's our ask...*Would you and your church consider "buying a Sunday" beginning October 5 when we launch?* Kingwood costs us \$250 a week (\$1,000 for the month), but we believe God wants us in the Edgewater District. If you need more information or have questions, contact Dwayne Hilty(dwayne@somasalem.org).

By the Numbers...

a few stats...

Aug. 3.....	25
Aug. 10.....	20
Aug. 17.....	51
Aug. 24.....	23
Aug. 31.....	34
Average.....	31
Giving Total.....	\$1289.00

3

New LiFE groups that will be starting in the month of September before launch..

455

The # of "first time visitors" to Soma's website (www.somasalem.org) in the past 2 months.

1

Donated storage unit that is holding all of the clothes that we will give away on Saturday, September 20.

Clothing Giveaway: September 20th

Even before our actual launch in October, Soma has shown evidence of loving the community in many ways. Whether it's handing out muffins to the local businesses on Saturday morning, hosting free BBQ's at West Salem Park or cleaning up the streets in the Edgewater District, you will see a body of believers that wants to love people to Christ.

And it won't stop there. On September 20th, Soma Church is hosting a free Clothing Giveaway. This is an opportunity for people in need of clothes and shoes to come and "shop" for free. And donations have poured in, offering those in our community the opportunity to get in on the love by cleaning out their closet and bagging up their gently used clothes and shoes. Please pray with us that God will meet more than just physical needs as we invite the people of Salem into relationship.



Trish Sells
Avid Clogger,
27 Days Sugar Free,
Follower of the Way

THANK YOU!!!



We are blessed to have so many of you giving financially to make Soma a success. **Thank you!**

If you haven't given yet and would like to, you can send a checks:
Soma: A Church of the Christ
P.O. Box 5554
Salem, OR 97304

And as always, if you any questions or need more information, simply call (503.689.1995) or email us at info@somasalem.org.

SOMA

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Being Jesus to an Emerging Generation
by
Creating Authentic Community,
Practicing Missional Living,
Engaging in Creative Dignity,
& Nurturing Spiritual Formation