

SOMA

A Church of the Christ

GRAND OPENING!!!

LAUNCH SUNDAY on OCTOBER 5 was AWESOME!!! When all was said and done, we had 135 people with us to kick off the beginning of a new community of Christ-

Followers. I debated on whether to write tons about the evening and then it occurred to me...why not let the pictures tell the story. So praise God with us and enjoy the many pictures of Soma's Grand Opening!



Praise God for...

- **Launch.** Not only did we have 135 people on Oct. 5, but our launch team was absolutely amazing!
- **Transformation.** People are experiencing Jesus' grace and are coming to know Christ for the first time in their lives. Please keep praying for personal and community transformation.
- **New LIFE Groups.** New groups are forming and people are getting plugged into our new, growing community. Please keep praying for these groups to grow and multiple.



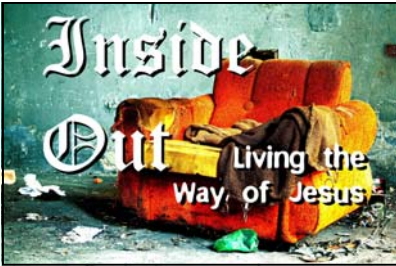
Celebrating New Life!

Praise God for new life! On Sunday, October 12 Ryan Pau were baptized into Christ!

Ryan is married to Christina, has 2 kids (Andrea and Timmy), and has been watching Soma from a distance the past few months (in fact, we first met Ryan when he and his family came to a BBQ we held this past July). Ryan hasn't been to church in years and decided to come to our grand opening on October 5 where he let us know that he was ready for a serious change in his life.

Please welcome Ryan into God's kingdom and please pray for him and his family as he strives to lead his family closer to Christ.





Looking Ahead...

This past Sunday we just finished our first sermon mini-series called "Inside Out: Living the Way of Jesus." With so many people checking out Soma for the first time, it seemed fitting to identify Soma with God's missional heart to reach into the world.



Over the next 7 weeks we will take a journey through 1 John through a series called "Created for Community." Not only will it give us a biblical understanding of authentic community, but will provide a wide open door for people to connect with Soma's various LIFE groups (doing life together).

By the Numbers...

a few stats...

Sept. 7.....	40
Sept. 14.....	9
Sept. 21.....	22
Sept. 28.....	—
Average.....	23
Giving Total.....	\$1777.35

135

Guests that came to Soma's Grand Opening Worship on Oct 5

3

The # of service dogs that attended our launch worship gathering

5

The # of people who attended Compass on Sunday, October 12 (Compass is our monthly intro to Soma)

9

The # of days that Dwayne kept procrastinating finishing September's newsletter (it was like things got busy all of a sudden)

21

The # of days that Craig Paulsen will have been in Hawaii in September and October...not cool.



"Maybe Dwayne should remember that envy is a sin...sure is nice in Hawaii!"

Don't GO to Church...

Be the church! That word "church" has come to mean so many things in popular culture. From a weekly worship event to nothing more than a building, unfortunately all too often we talk about "going" to a church.



Funny how scripture never defines church in this way. Rather, time and time again, church is described as people who are sharing their lives together as they seek to live out the mission of God in the world.

Although we still need to tighten a few details, over the next few weeks Soma will begin collecting food for people in our local community who are having a hard time making ends meet (especially in a hurting economy). So please keep our growing church community in your prayers as we seek to "be" the church in Salem.



THANK YOU!!!

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

If you would like to make a financial gift you can send checks to:
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**