

ROC SALT Center Update to Presbytery

January 29, 2019

Fourteen months ago, in November 2017, we, the presbytery, approved a three-year pilot program for ROC SALT Center. Included in that was a one-time financial commitment for capital improvements to the former Calvary-St. Andrews building and the inclusion of ROC SALT Center in the presbytery's annual budget.

This past September, we reported to you that during the first pilot year, the mission immersion program involved 164 participants and 15-½ days of service and learning together. We partnered with organizations like Foodlink, Harbor House, House of Mercy, and many more to give them hands-on experience, learning, and theological reflection on issues of poverty and justice.

Since then...

Mission Immersion Program

- We extend our deepest gratitude to Laura Bachmann for launching the mission immersion program pilot, and establishing a strong foundation on which to build. Laura determined her ministry call is leading her another direction, so she opted not to renew her contract when it expired on 12/31/18.
- The ROC SALT Board has approved a shared leadership model for the next phase of the pilot, and has hired Tedd Pullano and Melanie Jones as Co-Program Coordinators. We are grateful for the unique gifts each brings to further develop the program.
- Two youth groups have already signed up for summer pilot weeks in 2019; outreach and marketing to recruit additional groups for this summer (up to a total of 5 pilot weeks) has begun.

- The program continues to be enhanced by the gifts of our field education student from Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School, Michelle Allen (from Youngstown Presbyterian Church in the Presbytery of Western New York).
- We are working to deepen our bench of area partner mission organizations.
- A new ROC SALT logo is coming soon!

South Wedge Food Program

- Monthly number of people served (stats from December 2018):

Households: 323
Children: 334
Adults: 350
Seniors: 147

- 75 Thanksgiving Baskets were packed and distributed, and a record 90 Christmas baskets packed and distributed.

Facilities Renovations

- We have completed the scope and schematic design phase of the education building renovation plans with Bero Architects. Priorities for the project include accessibility, flexibility, and inclusion. The detailed plans are now underway, which will enable us to put the project out for bid and begin construction.
- Funding for these renovations will come from the \$300,000 capital funds already approved by the Presbytery in November 2017.

Nesting Congregation

- Open Arms Metropolitan Community Church began worshipping weekly at ROC SALT Center in October, and their presence and growing partnership is a good news story.

Community Events

- The Friends of Historic Calvary St. Andrews have hosted a full slate of lectures, concerts, and other community events in the historic sanctuary and chapel, including a holiday bell concert.
- Upcoming events include Musica Spei on February 16, the Yale Russian Chorus on March 10, and a benefit concert featuring Val Fowler and Greg Franklin on March 23.

ROC SALT Board - 2019

Ruth Fischer, Webster
Lea Kone, Downtown
Hezekiah Simmons, Pittsford
Dick Sprenkle, Pittsford
Laurie Tiberi, U of R Protestant Chapel
Community
Keith Hadley, co-chair, Gates
Lynette Sparks, co-chair, Third Church
Tracy Walker, Third Church
John Wilkinson, Third Church (advisory)
Melissa DeRosia, Gates (advisory)

There's a Place for You...

- If you know of a **local or national group, youth/adult/multi-generational**, who would like to connect with our efforts, please let Tedd, Melanie, or Lynette know (contact info follows).
- If you and your church have **relationships with area mission organizations** that could partner with ROC SALT, please share them with us!

- We are seeking to identify a couple of additional **candidates for board membership**. If you know of someone with appropriate skills to contribute, especially in development and marketing, please share those suggestions with us. Could that be you!?!?!?
- **Join a volunteer mission leadership team** to help plan and lead one of the weeks we host groups.
- If you'd like to **have a Session or committee meeting at the site**, or simply want to **bring a group for a visit or tour**, let us know.
- **Volunteer** (individual or a team from your church) **with the South Wedge Food Program**.

CONTACTS

Lynette Sparks lsparks@thirdpresbyterian.org
to get involved with one of the teams

Tedd Pullano or Melanie Jones,
directorrocsalt@gmail.com for ROC SALT
Mission Immersion info

Katie Jo Suddaby katiejosuddaby@gmail.com
for South Wedge Food Program info

Keith Hadley keith.a.hadley@gmail.com to get
involved in facility projects

Tracy Walker
tracy@walkermedia.net to get involved in
special events

Visit our website at

www.rocsaltcenter.org

Thanks to the presbytery for your prayers and support!