

About the Salt & Light Program

Salt & Light is our congregation's weekly Christian ministry for children and youth, Kindergarten through High School. Salt & Light is like a camp or retreat at the church each Wednesday! Students form friendships with Christian adults and with those their own age.

Our purposes are:

- To provide opportunities for young people to understand the teachings and example of Jesus and become His disciples.
- To encourage good moral decisions based on Biblical concepts, accepting personal responsibility for one's own decisions.
- To allow young people to enjoy Christian fellowship, building wholesome relationships and character in a safe, structured, and loving setting.
- To welcome new young people and their families into our faith community.

Contributions

Salt & Light is a volunteer-run ministry of First Presbyterian Church that relies on contributions of money, time and participation.

Salt & Light does not require a fee payment, but requests a suggested contribution of \$35 per student per semester, or \$70 per family, if possible, to cover the costs of providing meals and curriculum materials. A less than suggested contribution will help, and more than the suggested amount will be greatly appreciated. All students are welcome regardless of the family's ability to make a financial contribution.

Adult Meals: A suggested contribution of \$3 per meal, or \$40 per adult per semester, is requested to cover the cost of food for all volunteers, table parents and visitors. Please call at the church office if you plan to join us for dinner.

Pictures

Occasionally, photographs are taken during Salt & Light activities and may be posted in the church or shown on our church website without including names. Please complete a permission slip.

Essential Parent and Congregation Involvement

During the baptism of children, parents and members of the congregation commit themselves to nurture these children in Christian faith. Parents also make this commitment when they register their children in Salt & Light. Active participation by at least one parent, grandparent, or a

volunteer sponsor from the congregation, is requested. Here are examples of how to become involved:

- Activity praying for our ministry and its participants.
- Being a “Shepherd” escort for students.
- Teaching Bible classes, or being a helper.
- Leading recreation, or being a helper.
- Providing transportation from school.
- Providing student support for after-school homework and movie time.
- Providing childcare for young children of volunteers.
- Actively praying for our ministry and its’ participants.
- Decorating for dinner on Wednesday mornings
- Providing or serving after-school snacks.
- Baking or buying cupcakes for birthday celebrations (second week of every month).
- Being a Table Parent weekly, or an alternate.
- Serving on a monthly Kitchen Crew.
- Contributing monetary support.

Family of God Dinnertime

Our dinners together are an important part of the Salt & Light. That is the one time when everyone, students and staff, gathers for food and fellowship. Our Pastor serves as Dinner Dean, and each age-grouped table has Table Parents who will get to know each student and help those at the table form a caring, congenial group during the semester.

- Courtesy and good manners are to be used.
- Meals are served family-style, and students take only the food they will eat.
- Dinner conversation should be in low volume.
- The signal for silence is an upraised arm.

- Servers and clean-up persons will be assigned on a rotating basis.
- Servers of the youngest tables go to the serving window first.
- Everyone remains seated, except Servers and Cleaners, unless excused by a Table Parent.
- Everyone will walk, not run, in the dining room.
- Children are excused from their tables only upon sign out from their parent/guardian.

Discipline at Salt & Light

Students are treated with love and courtesy, yet firmly, as called for in any particular situation. They are expected to take responsibility for their own behavior. If necessary, an adult will intervene to maintain the safety and well-being of everyone. Leaders in all areas of Salt & Light strive to teach and follow the example of Christ. If intervention becomes necessary, these steps will be followed:

1. Clarify acceptable behavior at Salt & Light.
2. When a behavior is unacceptable, the student will be gently reminded of his or her pledge to follow the Golden Rule and to take responsibility.
3. If unacceptable behavior continues, the student will be given a choice to correct it or be removed from the group for a brief supervised “Time Out”. It will be made clear that the adult hopes the student will remain a part of the group.
4. If the problem continues, the student will need to speak with the Director. If unable to reach a solution, the student will meet with the Pastor. If the pastor

must speak with the student more than once, a parent-conference will be set up.

Our Guiding Rule Is the Golden Rule

“Treat others as you would like them to treat you.”

(from Matthew 7:12)

All Students Are Asked to Agree to the Following:

- I will show respect and consideration to each student and adult at Salt & Light.
- I will do my best to participate in all of the planned activities, learning and having fun.
- I will act safely and be responsible for my actions and choices.
- I will leave Salt & Light only with my guardian or parent (for Elementary and Mid-schoolers) and (for all students) will be sure my teacher or table parent knows I am leaving.

And for Parents:

- I will make every attempt to be sure my student(s) attend Salt & Light each Wednesday, in order to benefit fully from the program.
- I will discuss weekly lessons with my child and support them in their Christian Education.
- I will contribute my time and financial support, as I am able.

Kinder/Elementary	Middle School	High School
3:45pm Snacks	4:00pm Snacks, Homework & Recreation	4-4:45pm Snacks(may assist w/elem til dinner)
4:15-6:10pm Rotation: Bible, Music, & Recreation	4:55pm Music 5:35pm Bible	5:15pm Homework & Recreation
6:10pm Dinner	6:10pm Dinner	6:10pm Dinner
7:00pm Dismissal	7:00pm Dismissal	7:00-8:00pm Bible

- 2:50pm-3:45pm **Homework & Movie Time** for Kinder & Elementary who arrive early is held in the Cinema.
- 4:15pm Elem rotation locals: Branigan, Sanctuary, outdoors, cinema etc.
- 4:00pm The **Kindergarten** class is held in Branigan, with program activities.
- **Childcare** will be provided during Salt & Light for younger children of volunteers and staff (only).

Salt & Light Calendar of Wednesdays (see insert for Singing dates)

<u>Fall 2012 Dates:</u>	<u>Spring 2013 Dates:</u>
September 9 S&L Luncheon	January 9
September 12 Salt & Light begins	January 16
September 19	January 23
September 26	January 30
October 3	February 6
October 10	February 13w/Ash Service
October 17	February 20
October 24	February 27
October 31 NO S&L- TRUNK /TREAT begins @6pm	March 6
November 7	March 13
November 14	March 20
November 21-No S&L Thanksgiving break	March 27 NO S&L Spring Break
November 28	
December 5	April 3
December 12 S&L semester ends	April 10 Tailgate
	April 14 Luncheon