

## World Labyrinth Day in Salem, 2009

During the 11:00 pm news I heard it, rain coming down by the bucketfuls. In ten hours we planned to draw a chalk labyrinth at the Peace Plaza in Salem. The posters were sent out, the newspaper was notified and it looked as if the labyrinth would be washed away before it was started.

By 7:00 am our labyrinth builder Richard and I had talked and we decided that we should go with Plan B – having the walk at St Paul's in Salem. Since the church rummage sale was being held that day, we laid out two labyrinths in the parish hall. But would anyone find us?

By 1:00 we had several walkers waiting for 1:00. Some folks who came for the rummage sale were curious and also walked a labyrinth for the first time. In all 17 people walked at one. Many were first time labyrinth walkers and some had never walked at these labyrinths. As it turns out despite hints of sunshine, it was as if on cue at 1:00 a heavy rain shower drenched Salem. Even for Oregonians it was one that needed an umbrella!

Since the reservation at Peace Plaza has been paid, we are now looking to have a public walk on the August 1<sup>st</sup>— A Midsummer's Labyrinth Walk.











QuickTime™ and a decompressor are needed to see this picture.

## About the author:

Elaine Jenkins is a counselor who recently retired from a job as a Juvenile Probation Officer. Since then she has been able to devote more time to promoting the labyrinth at her parish, St Paul's Episcopal Church in Salem, Oregon. Elaine was trained as a facilitator by Lauren Artress and is a spiritual director.