



# Salem Lutheran Church

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**OUR MISSION:** We are God forgiven and mission driven.

**OUR VISION:** To be that Lake Mills place where belonging, healing, growing, serving and believing are open to all, regardless of background, experience or aptitude. Central to this is that we are a -forgiving, mission-driven community, which means we all want to have an impact, shaped by the love of Christ to serve all others.

## WEEKLY ANOUNCEMENTS

January 23th – January 31st

–THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY–

### THIS WEEKS TEXTS

5:30pm

**FIRST READING:** Jonah 3:1-5, 10

**PSALM:** 62:5-12

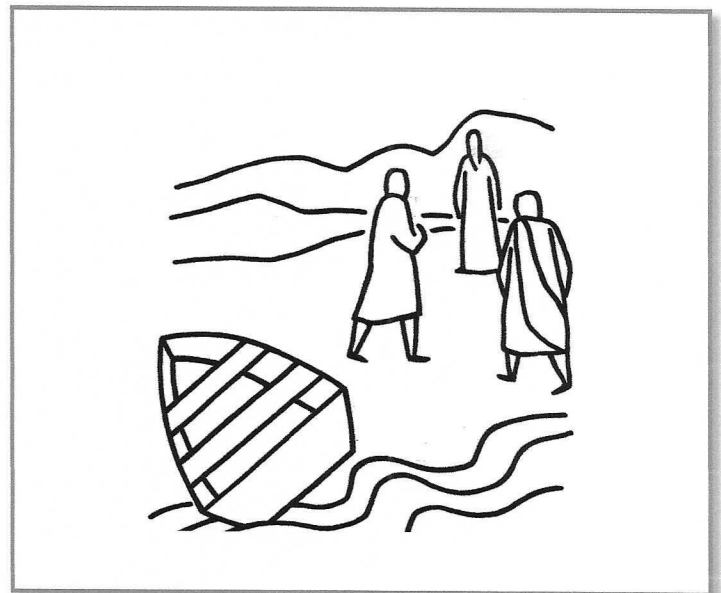
**SECOND READING:** 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

**GOSPEL:** Mark 1:14-20

9:00am

**FIRST READING:** James 3:13-18

**GOSPEL:** John 17:6-11



### When Saying Yes Requires Saying No

It was one of those thought-for-the-day-calendars you find in your Christmas stocking. The sayings mostly were trite and pithy, but every so often there was a truth worth repeating, for example: "Decide what you want and what you are willing to exchange for it. Set your priorities and go to work." In other words, if we're serious, saying yes to one thing often requires saying no to something else.

Jonah—after fleeing from the mission to which God was calling him (and three days and nights in the belly of the fish!)—now says "No!" to his former urges and "Yes!" to God as he sets out as God's prophet to Nineveh. Paul invites us to say "No!" to trivial matters and "Yes!" to the things of God that have serious and eternal consequences. Jesus calls the disciples to say "No!" to their boats and nets and families and much of everything else they have known and to say "Yes!" to his "Follow me and I will make you fish for people."

We feel a kinship with Jonah's situation, because he struggles. He runs away from God and only relents after a huge fish vomits him onto a distant shore. The call-response stories of Simon, Andrew, James, and John make it all seem so easy. One little word of invitation from Jesus and these men turn in an instant from fishers to disciples.

But most of us live somewhere in the middle, not resisting God's call with the vigor of Jonah but certainly responding more slowly and ambiguously than the disciples. So a question for today is: To what is God calling us to say "No!"? Remember, it's not just the ugly stuff but often good things that must be denied for the sake of following Jesus. And then we must also ask in faith: To what is Jesus inviting us to say "Yes!"?



### **WEEK AT A GLANCE**

**SATURDAY- 5:30pm Worship Service**

**SUNDAY- 9:00am Worship Service**

**10:00am Annual Congregational Meeting**

**6:30pm Youth and Education Board Meeting**

**MONDAY- Clothes Closet (Open by appointment)**

(Call Rita Anderson 641-592-5085)

**TUESDAY- 2:30pm Pastor Text Study**

**7:00 Stephen Ministry**

**WEDNESDAY- 8:30am Staff Meeting**

**10:00am Adult Bible Study**

**1:15pm Confirmation**

**5:00pm Zoom Confirmation**

**THURSDAY- 6:45 Worship & Music Board Meeting**

**NEXT SATURDAY- 5:30pm Worship Service**

**NEXT SUNDAY- 9:00am Worship Service**

**10:15am Faith Formation**

**NEXT WEEKS TEXTS-Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**

**FIRST READING:** Deuteronomy 18:15-20

**PSALM:** 111

**SECOND READING:** 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

**GOSPEL:** Mark 1:21-28

### **CELEBRATING GENEROSITY**

During this time of social distancing, there are several ways to continue your giving.

-- By mail.

-- By "Simply Giving"- Sign up for weekly or monthly ACH withdrawals. Call the office to get a form.

-- By PayPal- Go to our website home page (www.salemlakemills.com) and scroll to the bottom left- there is a Donate button. Click on that and it will take you to a PayPal or credit card donation page.

We as a church still have financial obligations to meet at this time.

Please call the office with any questions. (641.592.1771)

### **CELEBRATING GENEROSITY**

#### **-WEEKLY GIVING-**

**LAST SUNDAY:** 1/17/21 \$ 4,430

**YEAR-TO-DATE:** as of 1/19/20 \$ 9,728

**LAST YEAR:** as of 1/19/19 \$ 10,819

**DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE:** \$ -1,091

**New Office hours:  
Monday, Tuesday & Friday 9am-5pm  
Wednesday 10am-2pm.**

**We are proud supporters of the Lake Mills Chamber Development Corp. Council voted to continue membership and paid the annual membership dues. In response to pandemic-led business mandates beginning in March, they established a Lake Mills Gift Card program that infused over \$35,000 into local retail and service shops. They also worked with the City of Lake Mills and Hanson Foundation to provide a \$30,000 COVID Business Relief Grant.**

**FYI: Altar Guild members.... In 2021 we will be following the same calendar as we have had for 2020.**

**We are looking for volunteers that would be available to pick folks up and take them to appointments. Please contact Marci at the church office, if interested. 641.592.1771**

**Reserve your special date to sponsor an 8:30 a.m. radio broadcast. The service is heard on KIW (107.3 FM) radio in Forest City and on cable channel 2. Cost for is \$83. CALL THE OFFICE TO RESERVE YOUR DATE 641.592.1771.**

#### **2021 RADIO BROADCAST DATES AVAILABLE:**

March 28, April 18, April 25,  
May 2, May 9, May 23, June 13

**We also have a sponsorship program for the live internet broadcast of the worship service. Sponsorship is available for \$40 per Sunday. CALL THE OFFICE TO RESERVE YOUR DATE 641.592.1771**

**Salem has a wheel chair available for use. It is kept in the narthex closet near the coat rack.**