



Salem Lutheran Church

401 SOUTH LAKE STREET LAKE MILLS, IA 50450

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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 30 – February 7th

–FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY–

THIS WEEKS TEXTS

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

The prophet speaks with God's authority

Psalms 111

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom. (Ps. 111:10)

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Limits to liberty: the case of food offered to idols

Mark 1:21-28

The healing of one with an unclean spirit



Rules or Relationship?

Do you want to be right, or do you want to have a relationship? When a teenager spends \$200 on the world's coolest sunglasses is it the time to comment on the foolishness of the purchase or to simply smile and nod? May the people of Corinth eat meat sacrificed to idols? Paul seems to suggest that it does not really matter where the meat comes from. What matters is how the people you care about feel about that meat. Will it challenge their faith? Will it become a stumbling block to the weak? Do you want to be right, or do you want to have a relationship?

This theme continues in the gospel. The laws prohibiting work on the sabbath carry deep meaning for many people of faith, and yet on this sabbath Jesus rebukes an unclean spirit and frees a man. Jesus chooses to care for the man and to free him, rather than worry over the details of the law. In this instance Jesus is not condemned for his choice, as he will be later. But his fame begins to spread throughout the region. That too will later prove dangerous, yet it is also a sign of the evangelical nature of the faith. This is not a private faith, held closely and kept hidden. Rather it is an outgoing faith spread from person to person throughout the world.

To this day people continue to place barriers and restrictions on the faith. Congregations do this in intentional ways, for example, by setting a minimum age for receiving holy communion. The benefits of these restrictions can be debated, but at least they are chosen intentionally. Churches also create unintentional barriers. Consider the clothes people wear to church each Sunday. Are many people wearing suits and ties? Do you see blue jeans? Do people wear shorts in the summer? What are some of the ways people might be kept from a relationship with Jesus by the barriers we create?



WEEK AT A GLANCE

SATURDAY- 5:30pm Worship Service
SUNDAY- 9:00am Worship Service
 10:15am Faith Formation
 11:00am Youth and Education Board Meeting
MONDAY- Clothes Closet (Open by appointment)
 (Call Rita Anderson 641-592-5085)
TUESDAY- 2:30pm Pastor Text Study
 3:15 Daisys
WEDNESDAY- 8:30am Staff Meeting
 10:00am Adult Bible Study
THURSDAY- 3:15 Brownies
NEXT SATURDAY- 5:30pm Worship Service
NEXT SUNDAY- 9:00am Worship Service
 10:15am Faith Formation

NEXT WEEKS TEXTS

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

[Isaiah 40:21-31](#)

The creator of all cares for the powerless

[Psalms 147:1-11, 20c](#)

The LORD heals the brokenhearted. (Ps. 147:3)

[1 Corinthians 9:16-23](#)

A servant for the sake of the gospel

[Mark 1:29-39](#)

The healing of Peter's mother-in-law

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: 1/24/21	\$ 7,069
YEAR-TO-DATE: as of 1/25/20	\$ 16,797
LAST YEAR: as of 1/25/19	\$ 11,201
DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE:	\$ 5,596

There are quilts that need to be tied in the stewardship room. Yarn and needles are there. If you can't sew the edges – return them. Also, squares kits for tops of the quilts are in the closet. Call Sue Langerud with questions.

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.

MEALS ON WHEELS DRIVERS/DISTRIBUTORS.

There is an urgent need for drivers/distributors to deliver meals on wheels to shut-ins. Currently there are no volunteers for the month of February. Meals are delivered Monday - Friday, with about twenty stops, from about 11:00 am to 12:30 pm. If anyone is willing to help out, please contact Ruth at the Senior Center. 641.592.9841

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

**Lake Mills Community Blood drive on January 6, 2021 Registered: 39
 New: 5 donors (This is great to see!)
 Eligible: 40 donors
 Collected: 40 units
 Convalescent Plasma units collected: 15 units
 The lifesaving donations collected impacted the lives of 135 people in our community!**

Reserve your special date to sponsor an 8:30 a.m. radio broadcast. The service is heard on KIOW (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

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