

## Salem Lutheran Church

## **OUTREACH**

## September 2019

#### Salem's Mission and Vision

We are God forgiven and mission driven.

As God's people...we desire 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.

We invite you to join us for our weekly Worship Services

Sunday:

8:30am Traditional Worship Service

9:30am Coffee and Fellowship Fellowship Hall

10:30am Contemporary Service

Saturday:

5:30pm Casual Worship

#### **Pastor Joel Guttormson**

641.596.0535 joelguttormson@gmail.com

Pastor Melinda McCluskey 563.581.9965 melindamcmc@gmail.com

Helen Rice, Church Secretary 641.592.1771 ~ salem@wctatel.net Ruth Sheldon, Organist 641.592.0184

SalemLMinfo@gmail.com

Ashley Hoffman, Communications Director 641.590.3087

# A Message from Pastor Joel Guttormson... THEATER AND THEOLOGY: A LOOK AT CHANGING VIEWS OF MARRIAGE AND

#### IMMIGRATION



We will be previewing the movie, Sweet Land, A Love Story on Friday, September 27 in Salem's Chapel at 10:00 am and 7:00 pm. Sweet Land is a 2005 American independent film written and directed by Ali Selim. It is an adaptation of the 1989 short story "A Gravestone Made of Wheat" by Will Weaver. Both the book and the movie received a number of awards, including the Minnesota Book Award for Fiction and Independent Spirit Award for Best First Feature.

It's a story about Inge, a feisty German mail-order bride who has come to Minnesota to marry Olaf, a young Norwegian immigrant farmer of few words. But in a post-WWI, anti-German climate, the local minister openly forbid the marriage. Inge and Olaf fall in love despite the town's disapproval. But when the town banker attempts for foreclose on the farm of Olaf's friend Frandsen, Olaf takes a stand and the community unites around the young couple, finally accepting Inge as one of their own.

This is one of my family's favorite movies, maybe because it reflects so much of the complexity of small-town life and honoring our values of the church and ethnic identity from which we were raised. The author of the book, Will Weaver, was raised on a dairy farm near Park Rapids, where his parents, who were of Scandinavian descent, farmed 150 acres. He taught school in Park Rapids for a time and went on to teach creative writing at Bemidji State University. He has a gift for describing the true to life emotions of how individuals and communities come to terms with global issues of conflict

At Salem we, like many churches, have been challenged by changing views of marriage and immigration. For some the, biblical view is clear and unchanging, supported by cultural norms and practices that have remained constant for generations. For others the biblical story has never been uniform for every people in every place and time. I am not aware of any faith communities that still uphold the obligation of levirate marriage in which the brother of a deceased man is obligated to marry his brother's widow.

Throughout Israel's history monogamy was not considered a normative ideal. King Solomon was reported to have 700 wives and 300 concubines, and he was known for his surpassing wisdom! Today most would agree that sounds sort of crazy. The prophet Ezra was appalled by the abomination of the taking of foreign wives, defiling the purity of their calling as a holy people. Yet, the story of Ruth seems to provide another perspective of a love that transcends cultural norms, race and religion. We find in the scriptures, as in our own lives, there are often more than one perspective and the path forward is never straight and clear.

#### **Heritage Sunday**

Celebrating 100 years of Ministry in this building September 8th - 8:30am– Heritage service 10:30am– 4 year olds receive their bibles

At 11:30am there will be a celebratory potluck. Members are encouraged to use recipes from church cookbooks to lift up that great part of our heritage. People with last names A-H are encouraged to bring a main dish, I-O to bring a side dish, and P-Z to bring desserts.

#### Save Local Lives - Lake Mills Community Blood Drive

Tuesday, September 10, 2019 - 1:00 - 6:00 p.m.

To make an appointment, contact LifeServe at 800.287.4903 or visit www.lifeservebloodcenter.org

#### A Message from Pastor Melinda McCluskey...

Question: What are the stories that every student should know about Jesus' life and parables from the Gospel of Matthew?

- 1. Matthew 1:18 –25- Announcing a Baby The Birth of Jesus the Messiah
- 2. Matthew 2:13-23- Escape to Egypt The Escape to Egypt
- 3. Matthew 5:1-12- Jesus Blesses the People- The Beatitudes
- 4. Matthew 5:38-48- Love Your Enemies- Concerning Retaliation/Love for Enemies
- 5. Matthew 6:24-34- Don't Worry about Tomorrow- Serving Two Masters/Do Not Worry
- 6. Matthew 11:2-11- A Question from John- Messengers From John the Baptist/Jesus Praises John the Baptist
- 7. Matthew 18: 21-35- Forgiveness Seventy Times Seven- Forgiveness /The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant
- 8. Matthew 20:1-16- All in a Day's Work- The Laborers in the Vineyard
- 9. Matthew 21:33-46- Whose Vineyard Is It?- The Parable of the Wicked Tenants
- 10. Matthew 22:15-22- Middle of a Riddle- The Question About Paying Taxes
- 11. Matthew 22:34-46- Rule Number One- The Greatest Commandment/The Question About David's Son
- 12. Matthew 23:1-12- Pharisees Show, Jesus Tells- Jesus Denounces Scribes and Pharisees
- 13. Matthew 25:1-13- Five Were Ready, Five Were Not- The Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids
- 14. Matthew25:14-30- Trusted with Talents- The Parable of the Talents
- 15. Matthew 25:31-46- Serving People, Serving Jesus- The Judgment of the Nations
- 16. Matthew 21:1-11- Hosanna!- Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem
- 17. Matthew 26:14-29- Bread and Wine with Jesus- Judas Agrees to Betray

Jesus/The Passover with the Disciples/The Institution of the Lord's Supper

- 18. Matthew 26:30-75- Deserted by All- Jesus Prays in Gethsemane/The Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus/ Jesus Before the High Priest/ Peter's Denial of Jesus
- 19. Matthew 27:11-31- Pilate's Questions- Pilate Questions Jesus/ Barabbas or Jesus?/Pilate Hands Jesus Over to be Crucified/The Soldiers Mock Jesus
- 20. Matthew 27:27-66- When Jesus Died The Soldiers Mock Jesus/The Crucifixion of Jesus/The Death of Jesus/The Burial of Jesus/ The Guard at the Tomb
- 21. Matthew 28:1-10- Easter Morning- Good News The Resurrection of Jesus
- 22. Matthew 28:16-20- Jesus Commissions the Disciples- The Commissioning of the Disciples



The next Noisy Offering collection will go to the Feed My Starving Children packing event which will be October 26th at the CVR event center in Osage. Collection Sunday is September 15th.



Our denomination, the ELCA, holds a churchwide assembly triennially to worship, vote on matters of governance and policy, and be church together for the sake of the world. This past week's churchwide assembly was full of important votes and actions, including:

- Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton was reelected for a second six-year term on the first ballot.
- A declaration of apology to our siblings of African descent, which was received by the African Descent Lutheran Association with thanks and a call for accountability and living into the words shared.
- Approved resolution declaring the ELCA is a "sanctuary church body," encouraging participation in the ELCA AMMPARO initiative for migrant children, discernment of care for our immigrant neighbors in our context, and the promise of forthcoming resources for this work.
- Approved support for the World Council of Church's Thursdays in Black, awareness movement for a world without rape and violence.
- Voted to commemorate June 17 as a day of repentance, in honor and remembrance of the martyrdom of the Emanuel 9.
- Approved a declaration for inter-religious commitment, reaffirming ecumenical and interfaith partnerships.
- Approved the recommendations from a strategic taskforce which has been studying how to work toward authentic diversity in our church.
- Approved memorials: affirming but not "endorsing" the Poor People's Campaign, care for immigrants and refugees, and other statements.
- Adopted a new social statement, "Faith, Sexism, and Justice: a Lutheran Call to Action," and its implementing resolutions.
- Deacon Sue Rothmeyer was elected Churchwide Secretary, a full-time position which acts as executive administrator and leader on all constitutional matters and interpretation.
- Constitutional change for Deacons (rostered ministers of word and service) to be ordained, from the previous practice of consecration.
- Celebrated the milestones of 50 years of women's ordination, 40 years since the first woman of color was ordained, and 10 years since full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ clergy.

#### **Faith Formation Upcoming Events**

#### September:

8th-Faith Formation Kickoff (9:35am)

4 year olds receive new bibles at the 10:30 service

15th—First day of Faith Formation (9:35-10:20am)

Play and Pray

22nd—Bible class for 3rd graders and parents (9:35am)

29th – Bible class for 3rd graders and parents (9:35am)

October:

6th-One service at 9:30

13th—Bible class for 3rd graders and parents (9:35am)

4 year old -- 2nd grade SING at 10:30 service

Play and Pray

20th – Bible class for 3rd graders and parents (9:35am)

27th– 3rd graders receive new bibles at the 10:30 service

Fall Festival

November:

3rd-4 year olds—2nd graders sing at 10:30 service

Play and Pray

December:

1st- No Faith Formation

4th– Christmas program practice at 2:30pm

8th-Christmas program at 10:30 service

Play and Pray

7

	Sunday		Monday		Tuesday	
1		2 LABOR DAY		3		
8:30 am	Worship Service	O	FFICES CLOSED	1:00 pm	Staff Meeting	
9:30 am	Coffee Fellowship			5:30 pm	Life & Growth Board	
9:35 am	Faith Formation			7:00 pm	Altar Guild	
10:30 am	Outdoor Service					
8		9		10		
8:30 am	Heritage Service	1:00 pm	Clothes Closet Open	10:00 am	n Care Givers Support Group	
9:30 am	Coffee Fellowship	1:00 pm	Mission Quilters	1:00 pm	Bloodmobile	
9:30 am	Usher/Acolyte Train-	2:00 pm	Food Shelf Open	1:00 pm	Staff Meeting	
	ing	5:30 pm	Council	3:15 pm	Daisy Scouts	
9:35 am	Faith Formation					
10:30 am						
Contemp	oorary Service					
4year olds receive Bibles						
11:30 am Pot Luck						
15	Feed My Starving	16		17		
Child	en Collection	1:00 pm	Clothes Closet Open	1:00 pm	Staff Meeting	
8:30 am	Worship Service	· ·	Food Shelf Open			
	Coffee Fellowship	•	Cadette/Sr. Scouts			
	Man Meeting	6:00 pm	Quilt Club			
9:35 am	Faith Formation					
9:35 am	Play & Pray					
10:30 am						
Contemporary Service						
	Flood Bucket Pack-					
	ing					
22	LWR Quilt & School	23		24		
	Kit Sunday		Clothes Closet Open	1:00 pm	Staff Meeting	
8:30 am	Worship Service	· ·	Mission Quilters	-	Daisy Scouts	
	Coffee Fellowship	•	Food Shelf Open	-	Stephen's Ministry	
	Faith Formation; 3rd	-	•		. ,	
Grade Bible Class						
10:30 am						
Contemporary Service						
	Youth Board					
29		30				
	Worship Service		Clothes Closet Open			
	Coffee Fellowship		Food Shelf Open			
	Faith Formation;	•	Cadette/Sr. Scouts			
	ade Bible Class					
10:30 am						
	emporary Service					
Cont	.cporary oct vice					

weanesaay	inursday	Friday	Saturday		
:15 pm Junior Scouts :00 pm Confirmation	<b>5</b> 9:30 am Grace Circle 2:00 pm Martha Circle	6	<b>7</b> 5:30 pm Worship		
1 :00 pm Confirmation :30 pm Stewardship Committee	12	3:15 pm Brownie Scouts	14 5:30 pm Worship		
8 :15 pm Junior Scouts :00 pm Confirmation	<b>19</b> 11:30 am WELCA Guest Day		21 10:00 am Trinity (Kenny) Olson Baby Shower 5:30 pm Worship		
5 :30 pm Care Center Communion :30 pm LMCC Communion :00 pm Confirmation :15 pm Good Samaritan :30 pm Stewardship Committee	<b>26</b> 5:30 pm Worship & Music Board	3:15 pm Brownie Scouts	<b>28</b> 5:30 pm Worship		
	Salem Lutheran Church SEPTEMBER 2019				

**Thursday** 

Friday

Saturday

Wednesday

Salem Outreach

#### Salem Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

Monday August 12, 2019 – 5:30 pm

Vice President Stephanie Steffens called the meeting to order at 5:30pm. Members present: Marci Adeogun, Sondra Nelson, Willie Skellenger, Stephanie Steffens, Mike Swenson, Pastor Joel Guttormson and Cindy Haugsdal

Absent: Delane Behr, Shannon Bruhns, Brad Evenson, Ashley Hoffman, Pastor Melinda McCluskey

Devotions and Prayers: Pastor Joel led us in devotion and prayer.

**Secretary's Report:** A motion was made by Mike, seconded by Sondra to accept the minutes of the previous meeting as written. All approved.

**Communication and Correspondence:** None

**Treasurer's Report:** Mike provided a written report. Total income for the month \$25,957.07. Expenditures \$27,343.78. Checking account balance \$32,332.63. Heating Project balance \$93,055.23.

**Financial Secretary's Report:** Sondra provided a written report – Total offering year-to-date as of 7/31/2019 \$152,489.

A motion was made by Cindy, seconded by Willie to accept the treasurer and financial secretary reports as written. All approved.

#### **Board Reports**

**Board of Worship and Music:** Shannon provided a written report. The board is thankful for members who have volunteered to usher/serve communion after need communicated. The usher and acolyte duties are being updated. Acolyte training is scheduled Wednesday, August 28 and usher training is scheduled on Sunday, Sept. 8. Planning continues for future services this year.

Board of Life and Growth / Board of Stewardship and Social Ministry: Willie provided a verbal report. "I do, I do" Wedding dress event was sold out, 200 tickets sold with total profit of \$2,683.95. The profit will be divided (approximately \$500 each) as follows: #1 Drinking fountain at LMCPD; #2 Bench on walking path by the LMHS Football Field; #3 Replace chaise lounge chairs at the LM Aquatic Center; #4 Remaining funds will be donated to Salem.

10

September 8 is Heritage Sunday and Rally Sunday with a Church cookbook Potluck; Noisy offering for September 15 is for Feeding my Starving Children; Packing event for Flood buckets – Board received a \$250 grant from Thrivent for supplies; September 22 – Lutheran World relief.

**Board of Property and Management:** No report.

**Board of Youth:** Marcie and Jennifer provided a verbal report. The board is recruiting teachers for Faith Formation; Rally Sunday is September 8; Planning to review the Youth Scholarship/Funding process with a focus on encouraging student involvement in fundraising events.

**Pastor Reports** – Complete Pastor reports are available for review in the church office.

**Lead Pastor's Report:** Pastor Joel shared a written/verbal report. Written report included Pastoral acts for July; Pastoral visits and future plan for tracking; July Jubilee Day camp review; Upcoming Baptisms outside Salem worship; Designated giving to LGBTQ education; Possible Building use inquiry — Country View Acres (Wedding venue) requesting wedding backup and/or winter month ceremony site. Council had lengthy discussion regarding the following issues from the Pastor's report. Possible building use was tabled to the next council meeting.

UPCOMING BAPTISM: I was asked by three families, Jerod & Kari Osheim, Chalsea (Harmon) & Drew Roder and Ashley & Spenser Brackey if I would be willing to baptize their children, Cash Osheim (July 12, 2019) Peyton Roder (April 16, 2019) and Emily "Emmy" Brackey (March 12, 2019) Saturday, August 24th 2014 at the home of Craig & Cindy Haugsdal. It is not common practice in our Lutheran tradition to have the baptism outside of the regular worship. I met with the families on May 8th to show a video on baptism by my former professor Winston Presaud who talks about the differences between a "personal" and a "impersonal" and the "private" and "public" nature of the sacrament. There is a commitment made by pastors, families, sponsors, and congregation to keep sacred promises, "to live among God's faithful people, bring them to the word of God and the holy supper, teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed and the Ten Commandments, place in their hands the holy scriptures, nurture them in faith and prayer, so that they may learn to trust God and proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world

God made and word for justice and peace." It's hard to do that without community, however broken or imperfect.

The struggle for these three families is that Chalsea's brother Derrick (a baptized child of God of this congregation) and his partner Jèsus will be sponsors and since the vote to exclude them from the opportunity of marriage in the sanctuary, these three families have felt in many ways shunned or excluded and would feel there would be a lack of integrity with the congregational response of welcome concluding the baptism, "We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world." Having bylaws that exclude people in LGBTQ community, affect our families and supporters and has these kinds of consequences.

#### **DESIGNATED GIVING TO LGBTQ EDUCATION**

Salem has received two donations of \$150, designated to be used to increase support and awareness of LGBTQ issues. I have been thinking about and previewing some resources that might be helpful.

#### **POSSIBLE BUILDING USE INQUIRY**

Helen forwarded an email from Sara Brackey with a request; "We own Country View Acres (wedding venue) and have had some couples ask about area churches as a backup for weather or during winter months. We are wondering if this is an option and what you would charge as well as what your capacity is. Saturday weddings are usually at 4 or 5:00. They would provide their own pastor. If this is not an option, that is fine too:) Thank you!"

Sara made the same request to Winnebago and I talked to Pastor Bill Peters, who like me have a number of questions and reservations.

- \* Who would set the price for the use of the building use? Country View Acres is not a non-profit and any income given to us would be considered taxable income by the IRS.
- \* One of the first questions I ask of couples who request me to preside at their weddings is, doyou want a church wedding or to be married in a church? If they don't see a distinction, I take the time to explain the difference. Those who choose to be married at Country View Acres have already made that choice. They for whatever reason have chosen to be married at a wedding

venue.

- \* Couples book their weddings at Country View up to a year in advance. What would be the formal expectation that churches be available on those dates. Would Salem need to have those weddings listed tentatively on our calendar as well?
- \* Not all who preside at weddings at Country View Acres are pastors or clergy who recognize the ELCA and its clergy. Sharing in the formal status of pulpit and altar fellowship with the ELCA are the Presbyterian Church (USA), Reformed Church in America, United Church of Christ, The Episcopal Church, The Moravian Church, and the United Methodist Church. These are called CCM or Call to Common Mission churches. It's confusing and has a long history, but currently the NALC, LCMC, the Missouri Synod, Wisconsin Synod, Synod, Evangelical Lutheran, Lutheran Brethren, and Lutheran Free are not in "full-communion" with the ELCA or CCM member churches.

**Associate Pastor's Report:** Pastor Melinda submitted a written report. Written report included Pastoral acts for July; Pastor Melinda is on vacation through 08/14/2019.

**Communication Director:** No report

A motion was made by Mike, seconded by Sondra to accept all board/Pastor reports as presented. All approved.

#### **Old Business:**

Stewardship Progress – Committee (Sondra, Keith Johnson, Mike Swenson, Harris Honsey, Dan Rice, Wayne Van Veldhuizen, and Marie Menke) has met and is working with Mark Anderson from the synod to develop a stewardship campaign. Consecration Sunday is scheduled for 10/6/2019.

Synod Benevolence – Being addressed as part of Stewardship campaign.

Good Samaritan Committee – Tabled to next meeting.

#### **New Business:**

Enduring Gift Fund Progress – EGF committee has consulted with an attorney regarding changes in EGF to make it possible to use the principal as well as the interest for special circumstances. EGF committee would like to meet with council to review this information. Discussed that this change would need to

be addressed at a congregational meeting/vote with a 60-day notice.

**Transfer:** Frank and JoAnn Ostby to Swedesburg Evangelical Lutheran Church, Swedesburg, IA. A motion was made by Mike, seconded by Willie to approve the transfer. All approved.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer. Motion to adjourn made by Sondra, seconded by Mike. All Approved. The meeting was adjourned. Our next regular meeting will be Monday, September 9, 2019.

Respectfully Submitted, Cindy Haugsdal

#### SALEM RECORDS—AUGUST

#### Memorials:

Muriel Rognes- \$20 Heat/AC

Shirley Pals - \$10 Cemetery, \$1085 Heat/AC

#### Transfer:

Frank and JoAnn Ostby

#### Wedding:

Curran McLaughlin and Skye Volk

#### **Baptisms:**

Emily Louise Brackey, Peyton Marie Roder, Cash Haugsdal Osheim

#### September 22nd is Quilt and School Kit Sunday

Mission Quilters will display quilts and school kits in the sanctuary

When you make and send a quilt, you are not only comforting someone you have never met, but providing an object that is useful in ways you probably never imagined. In addition to being a cozy, clean new bed cover, it can be: a baby carrier, tied around a mothers back, a market display, a sack, a sunshade, a shawl, and most importantly, a reminder that someone far away, cares a lot.

cares a rot.

Education is important for any community, especially where poverty or disaster has limited the options for young people to reach their potential. School kits contain essential supplies to help children continue their learning despite the hardships they face.

### Salem Women of the ELCA

**Altar Guild** 

September 3rd at 7pm

Fellowship Hall

**Altar Guild for July** 

**Sharon Casey** Jean Rondeau

WELCA Fall Luncheon

Thursday, September 19th.

Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Program to follow. Guest speaker is Kim

Katuta. Gather your friends and

come join us!

**Communion Schedule** 

Sundays, September 1st and 15th

(8:30)

Sundays, September 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th (10:30) Saturday, September 14th

Mills Harbour & LMCC

Wednesday, September 25th

Birthdays: Grace Circle Program: Sarah Circle

Man to Man Meeting

Man to Man volunteer meeting will be held in the Fellowship Hall after worship at 9:30 a.m. September 15.

Purpose: To share our visits.

To encourage each other.

To give suggestions.

Come! Get your coffee & we will gather in one corner or

another.

September Worship Schedule

Saturdays:

Casual worship at 5:30 pm in the lounge

**Sundays:** 

Traditional service at 8:30am in the sanctuary

Coffee fellowship at 9:30am in the fellowship hall

Contemporary outdoor service at 10:30 in the sanctuary

Salem Lutheran Church

401 South Lake

Lake Mills, IA 50450

Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage PAID

Permit No. 33

LABEL

**Address Service Requested**