
SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

May 14 – 20

Not Orphaned

“I will not leave you orphaned,” Jesus promises us in today’s gospel. God is not some ruthless heavenly spectator judging us as on reality television, relishing our failures, wishing to exchange us for a better or more attractive child, no curmudgeonly “Daddy Warbucks” in the sky. Rather, God comes to love us in Jesus, singularly loving and accepting, seeking our trust, promising to be ever-present with us in the Holy Spirit. This Holy Advocate moves us even when we don’t recognize its power, even when it seems “an unknown God” (Acts 17:23). Though we might battle an elemental loneliness, we have not been abandoned.

Many life experiences can leave us feeling orphaned or abandoned. Family can ease that feeling but also magnify it if our family relationships are strained or if our families live far away. Think of those in your congregation who count deployed soldiers among their loved ones in recent years, or construction workers and tradesmen who need to live in hotels far away from their families to keep making money for their families in the recent difficult economy. The Internet, webcams, Skype, and social networking can link people across the miles but can further aggravate loneliness and isolation when these substitute for real intimacy in our highly connected world. How do we experience this loneliness and this longing for home and belonging? How does Jesus’ promise that he will not leave us orphaned speak to these real-life concerns?

When Jesus makes this string of promises in John 14, saying that he will remain with us in the Holy Spirit as our Advocate, it’s hard to envision how this support comes to us sometimes. When we do not get to see or hear those we love, the simple gifts Jesus offers in body and blood, bread and wine shared with real warm neighbors have great power. Even when life keeps delivering bad news about how far apart we are from another, how broken our relationships are, “I will not leave you orphaned” is the godly reassurance that we are not alone.

THIS WEEKS TEXTS

Acts 17:22-31
Psalm 66:8-20
1 Peter 3:13-22
John 14:15-21



NEXT WEEKS TEXTS

Acts 1:6-14
Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11
John 17:1-11

Each week we will lift up five church families/members in prayer.

THIS WEEK WE WILL PRAY FOR:

Jerry Adams, Justin Adams, Marci Adeogun, Chike and Chima Ikefuama, Mark and Tammy Alphs, Bruce & Patti Anderson

This week the following members will be celebrating their birthdays and we would like to wish them a HAPPY BIRTHDAY! Please call the office if you have an upcoming birthday, to ensure we have it in our records. 641.592.1771

14-Patricia Young	16-Jerod Osheim	18-Bill Rondeau
14-Tori Sterrenberg	17-Raymond Nielsen	18-Harris Honsey
15-Stephanie Gilbertson	17-Kyla Johanson	

-WEEKLY GIVING-

LAST SUNDAY: 5/7/23	\$ 3,553
YEAR-TO-DATE: 5/8/23	\$ 71,844
LAST YEAR: as of 5/8/22	\$ 70,090
DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE:	\$ 1,754

-Last Weeks Attendance-

134

Tuckpointing Project Update: All contributions towards this project are greatly appreciated! Please remember to note "Tuckpointing Project" when submitting your contribution. Total received as of 5/8/23 **\$127,554** Thank you!

AED/CPR Training is being offered Saturday, May 20th in the Fellowship Hall from 1:00 - 3:30 pm. Beth Aschenbrenner will be the instructor. Those completing the class will become designated responders which are required by our insurer, Grinnell Mutual. Please contact Marci if you are interested in attending this class. Thank you!

Baccalaureate will be held at Salem on May 17th at 6:30pm.

Parking on the north side of Salem (3rd Ave) continues to be problematic for those living in that area. People attending worship at Salem have continued to block their driveways when parking. We can not block driveways in any way when parking on the street. This has been posted in the announcements in the past and there has been a sign on the north door, but it continues to happen. These are valid complaints as photos have been shared. The owners do not want vehicles ticketed, but if this continues, vehicles will get ticketed.

Farewell Party: Please join us in the fellowship hall after worship on May 14th for Pastor Joel's Farewell party.

Upcoming Blood Drive: Lake Mills Community Blood Drive
Thursday, May 18th; 1:00pm-6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall
Appointments Are Encouraged; Text: LIFESERVE to 999-7777 or
Call: 800-287-4903 or visit: lifeservebloodcenter.org

WECLA will meet on Thursday, May 18th at 2:00pm in the Lounge. Pastor Joel will lead the Bible Study from the Gather Magazine.

Walker: Is anyone missing a walker? It was sitting by the north door for several weeks. It is now by the office if anyone is looking for it.

Live Stream Sponsorship: Call the office to reserve your date. Cost is \$40.
2023 Dates available: June 18, July 9, 16, 23, Aug. 6, 13, 20, Sept. 17, Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29, Nov. 5, 19, Dec. 10, 31

Salem Office: 641.592.1771 (Marci) Monday-Friday:11am-5pm
(Hours subject to change. You are welcome to call ahead to ensure the office is open)

Pastor Joel Guttormson

Mon: Off, but on-call

Tues: 10am-Noon, 1pm-5pm (2:30pm Text Study)

Wed: Noon-8pm (10am Bible Study)

Thurs: Noon-8pm (1pm Bible Study, 2pm WELCA, 4pm Life/Growth Meeting)

Fri: 8am-Noon, 1pm-5pm

Sat: 10am-Noon (service prep)

Sun: 8am-Noon (9am Worship)

All are invited downstairs after the worship service for Pastor Joel's Farewell Party.

SUNDAY 5/14

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary

10:00am Farewell Party-Fellowship Hall

3:00pm Zoom Interview Intentional Interim Pastor-Salem Library

MONDAY 5/15

1:00pm-4:00pm Mission Quilters-Fellowship Hall

2:00pm-4:00pm Clothes Closet is OPEN (South entrance at Salem)

2:30pm-5:00pm Lake Mills Food Shelf is OPEN (South entrance at Salem)

6:30pm Quilt Club-Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY 5/17

10:00am Bible Study-Fellowship Hall

3:15pm Brownies-Room 2

6:30pm Baccalaureate-Sanctuary

THURSDAY 5/18

1:00pm-6:00pm Blood Drive-Fellowship Hall

1:00pm Mills Harbour Bible Study

2:00pm WELCA-Lounge

3:15pm Juniors-Room 2

4:00pm Life & Growth Board Meeting-Salem Library

SATURDAY 5/20

1:00pm-3:30pm AED/CPR Training-Fellowship Hall

SUNDAY 5/21

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary (Graduation Recognition)

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

6:00pm Silver Lake Huskers 4-H Meeting-Fellowship Hall