
SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

June 25 – July 1

God Comes First

God is, the theologians say, transcendent—beyond us, always exceeding our easy grasp. Recognizing God’s awesome transcendence brings a reevaluation of other values. The God of vertigo-inspiring infinitude is also the God who know the hairs of our head. Trusting this God, fear is defanged and faith becomes a sort of courage. We live in faithful relationship to the hair-counting God as we joyfully “acknowledge” the one who acknowledges us. And as we do so, reveling in the intimacy of God’s loving regard for us, other relationships, even familial ones, take on a different cast. God comes first, we realize, not only in priority, but ontologically, “in the beginning.” Before the God who is at once gracious and transcendent, we “lose” our lives and discover the true life in following the way of Jesus the crucified Son.

THIS WEEKS TEXTS

[Jeremiah 20:7-13](#)

[Psalm 69:7-10 \[11-15\] 16-18](#)

[Romans 6:1b-11](#)

[Matthew 10:24-39](#)



NEXT WEEKS TEXTS

[Jeremiah 28:5-9](#)

[Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18](#)

[Romans 6:12-23](#)

[Matthew 10:40-42](#)

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

THIS WEEK WE WILL PRAY FOR:

Jayne and Brooke Bergo, Jim and Adam Bergo, Timothy Bergo, Mark and Melissa Bjorklund, Craig, Kathy and Hailey Borgmeyer

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

25-Brandon Hermanson

26-Judy Levine

29-Hazel Myers

25-Sylvia Heimdal

27-Kevin Grothe

29-Brecken Wempen

27-Lindy Brekken

1-Jordan Colby

-WEEKLY GIVING-

LAST SUNDAY: 6/18/23 \$ 3,405

YEAR-TO-DATE: 6/20/23 \$ 89,547

LAST YEAR: as of 6/20/22 \$ 91,565

DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE: \$ -2,018

-Last Weeks Attendance-

87

Tuckpointing/Steeple Project Update: Total received as of 6/20/23 **\$130,984**

All contributions towards this project are greatly appreciated! Please remember to note "Tuckpointing Project or Steeple Project" when submitting your contribution. Thank you!

Songfest will be held at Salem on July 8th at 3pm with Nate & Mindy Sletten and family singing/playing a variety of musical selections and a few with audience sing-a-long! All free-will donation proceeds will be used to purchase a bench for Kruggel Park in Lake Mills. Floyd Thomas prints will be available for purchase. (this will be their final sale, so get them while you still can!)

Upcoming Blood Drive

Thursday, July 20th in the Fellowship Hall

1:30pm-6:00pm

Appointments Are Encouraged

Text: LIFESERVE to 999-7777 or Call: 800-287-4903

or visit: lifeservebloodcenter.org

A Memorial Service for “Doc” Charles Nelson will be held at Salem on Saturday, July 1st at 2:00pm with visitation for an hour prior to the service.

Devotionals: There are copies of the new July/August/September devotionals in the Narthex, by the south entrance and by the Chapel.

Save The Date: The Board of Youth is hosting a Potluck Picnic for the entire congregation on Sunday, August 6th at 4:00pm in Oakwood Park. Mid July we will put a sign-up sheet in the Narthex, to ensure we have a variety of delicious food for everyone to enjoy. Mark your calendars for this fun filled evening with food, fellowship, yard games, mini golf, BINGO and more to be announced.

Volunteers Needed: Salem members help serve the Summer Feeding Program on Tuesdays from 10:45am-12:00pm, please contact Margaret Okland if you have any questions or would like to help. 641.590.2891 Thank you!

Volunteers Needed: If you are willing to usher, acolyte, read or sing in the liturgical choir, please sign up in the Narthex. If you would like to learn how to help with sound, monitors or live stream, call the office. Thank you!

Church Basement Ladies: Cedar Summerstock Theatre Company will be performing this musical comedy at the Cedar River Complex-Krapek Family Fine Arts Center in Osage IA (809 Sawyer Drive) on June 29, June 30, July 1, July 15, July 20 and July 21 at 7:00pm or July 2 & July 16 at 1:00pm. Call 641-390-3155 or email at carrieb.cst@gmail.com to reserve seats for your group. 20% discount for groups 10 or more, reserved seating, dress like a church basement lady and get your name entered into a drawing for CST gifts.

Emmons Lutheran Church has invited Salem members to their WNALC Guest Night. July 19th at 7:00pm. Program by Mark Waldeland Trio (Venus & Mars). Refreshments will also be served.

Live Stream Sponsorship: Call the office to reserve your date. Cost is \$40.

2023 Dates available: July 9, 16, 23, Aug. 6, 13, 20, Sept. 17, Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29, Nov. 5, 19, Dec. 10, 31

Salem Lutheran Church Special Congregational Meeting Sunday, June 4, 2023 10:00 am

Call to Order: President Shannon Bruhns established that a quorum of active members (52) were present. Shannon called the meeting to order.

Opening prayer – Shannon Bruhns

Purpose of the Meeting – Vote on how to apply existing building project/tuckpointing funds and to approve a request for funds from the Enduring Gift Fund (interest on principal) or a low interest loan from Cemetery Board if needed to finance Phase 2 of the building project; and to approve a contract with Young Construction Company for Steeple repair.

Shannon then reviewed the bid offered by Young Construction for repair of both steeples, stressing that this bid is for known costs at this time, noting there can also be incidental expenses. Shannon then reviewed project financing (handout provided to members in attendance). Review included current balance of Tuckpointing Project contributions and cost of Phase 1 Tuck pointing quote and Phase 2 Steeple repair quote. She also reviewed proposals to finance the continuing building project through use of additional current Tuckpointing/Building project funds (fund exceeds quote for tuckpointing) as well as continued capital fund raising from Salem membership. In the event that we are unable to raise enough funds to cover Phase 2, options to cover the cost include use of the Enduring Gift Fund (EGF) interest on principal of approximately \$11,000 and/or a low interest loan from the Cemetery Board. There was expressed interest from those present to encourage continued capital donations.

Salem members present were given the opportunity to ask questions and/or comment. Lyle Thomson raised the status of the Enduring Gift Fund, both principal and interest, questioning the purpose and availability of these funds. Shannon responded that use of Enduring Gift Funds is restricted to use of interest only and not the principle based on the current Salem Constitution. Shannon will be in contact with the EGF committee and ask them to clarify to the congregation how these funds can be used. Bruce Adams asked about specifics of the steeple repair, asking if painting/repair of the crosses on steeple and other repairs such as window casements will be included. Shannon and Mike Swenson noted that those repairs were not part of the steeple repair quote and that additional quotes for window casement and other repairs have been requested.

Connie Sabin moved that Salem members raise additional capital funds to support Phase 2 of the building project and if needed request for financial support would be used from the EGF interest and/or a low interest loan from the Cemetery Board. Seconded by Faye Aamodt. All approved with a voice vote.

Doug Bruhns moved to accept the bid from Young Construction for steeple repair, seconded by Bruce Adams. All approved with a voice vote.

Mike Swenson moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Becky Helgeson. The meeting was adjourned.

We prayed the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Haugsdal

Salem Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 8, 2023 – 6:30 pm

President Shannon Bruhns called the meeting to order.

Members present: Marci Adeogun, Shannon Bruhns, Doug Bruhns, Laura Gardner, Sue Langerud, Dan Rice, Cindy Haugsdal attended via Zoom.

Absent: Mary Peterson, Mike Swenson

Shannon opened the meeting with prayer.

Secretary's Report: May Minutes were available for review. There were no additions or corrections.

Doug moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Dan. All approved.

A request to support LM Chamber activities for July Jubilee was shared with council members via email on May 24 due to the need to address in a timely manner. Marci moved to donate \$100 to free activities and games, consistent with 2022, seconded by Cindy. All approved.

Communication and correspondence – Anonymous donation of \$100 will be deposited in the general fund; Thank you notes received from Pastor Joel and Nancy acknowledging gifts from Council and Salem members.

Treasurer's Report: Doug provided a written and verbal report.

Total income for May 2023 \$13,0089.17

Total Expenses for May 2023 \$19,727.20 (Income less expense - \$6,638.03)

Checking account balance (5/31/2023) \$44,275.47

FTSB/Tuckpointing account balance \$127,604.00

CD's at FTSB (5/31/2023) Reserves \$26,014.17

CD at MBT (4/30/2023) Ness Estate \$52,215.45

Financial Secretary's report: Laura provided a verbal and written report

2023 YTD total offerings (5/31/2023) \$80,067

2022 YTD total offerings (5/31/2022) \$82,961

Sue moved to accept Treasurer and Financial reports, seconded by Marci. All approved.

Board Reports

Board of Worship and Music: Mary provided a written report and Shannon presented the verbal report: the Board continues to manage pulpit supply as there have been some cancellations; reviewed the summer schedule including special music, readers, possible outdoor service, Cowboy Church, etc; Liturgy preparation continues; Working closely with Ruth to be sure that she is able to manage her obligations to other congregations; Communion packets continue to be prepared and distributed with bulletins to shut-ins, as individually requested.

Board of Life & Growth: Sue provided a written and verbal report: Songfest, featuring Nate and Mindy Sletten and family, will be held at Salem on July 8 at 3:00 pm; Floyd Thomas prints will be available for sale at this event and the proceeds and free will offering at Songfest will go to purchase a park bench in Krueger Park (next to WCTA office).

Board of Stewardship and Social Ministry: Dan provided a verbal report: the board is working on a new approach for a Stewardship drive.

Board of Property and Management: Mike provided a written report: Working on understanding the AC system and making sure all AC units are working correctly; still waiting to hear from Young Construction regarding repair or replacement of windows in the bell tower; talking to Young construction regarding options for roof in the educational unit; the Food Shelf group has installed a window air conditioner in the southeast classroom to help with temperature control.

Board of Youth: Marci provided a written and verbal report: Graduation gifts were given to Senior Salem members on May 21; Planning to get a smart TV mounted in the chapel and a laptop to be used for Faith Formation using funds in a dedicated youth activities account; planning a

pontoon ride for the upcoming confirmation students in August; Salem member Potluck Picnic is scheduled at Oakwood Park on August 6.

Pastor Report – None

Old Business:

- A. Food Shelf update – Window AC purchased and installed by Food shelf group to maintain temperature control; no date for moving back to Senior Center location yet. .
- B. Call Committee Report
 - a. Pastor Lanny Westphal MSP Consultation – Pastor Westphal has agreed to consult with the call committee to review and refine our Ministerial Site Profile (MSP) for a fee of \$50/hour. This work will help our MSP better reflect Salem to prospective candidates. The first meeting will be on June 15. Pastor Westphal is still fulfilling his current interim call and has not made a decision regarding his next call as interim pastor as yet.
- C. Pastor Joel Retirement Update
 - a. Covenant signed/submitted.
 - b. Certification of Completion of all obligations signed/submitted.
 - c. Exit Checklist was completed by Pastor Joel which included special needs of members and other areas that he wanted to bring to our attention.
 - d. Pastoral Care
 - i. Nelson Funeral July 1, 2023 – Pastor Bill Peters will preside for the funeral and will be working with Margaret Oakland for the lunch following.
 - ii. Potential graveside service Betty Aasgaard early/mid July – details are pending.
 - iii. Anderson Wedding August 5, 2023 – Pastor Randy Baldwin will preside if approved by council. Dan moved to allow Pastor Randy Baldwin to officiate this wedding, seconded by Marci. All approved.
- D. Capital Project Phase 2 – Steeple

- a. Special Congregational Vote/Next steps – Continue to work with Young construction to prepare to sign contract and make the initial 50% payment. No date for beginning the project established yet.

New Business:

- A. Grinnell Mutual Insurance – Shannon continues to work with Grinnell Mutual to verify our renewal and that our loss control list has been completed.
- B. Elm Tree – Shannon reported that the elm tree on the south lawn has been inspected and is dying from the inside out and will need to be taken down. Specifics for this are still being investigated.
- C. Enduring Gift Fund – Shannon talked to Wayne Van Veldhuizen and asked that the EGF committee make a presentation in July to the congregation during coffee fellowship to review with members the purpose and guidelines for use of funds designated to this fund as defined by our current constitution. Also reminded Wayne/EGF that the committee is required to submit a report to Salem Council on a quarterly basis.
- D. New members – None
- E. Transfers/statistical adjustments – Glen and Sandy Moretz to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Ankeny, Iowa. Marci moved to accept the transfer as requested, seconded by Sue. All approved.
- F. Next meeting will be held Thursday, July 13, 2023, at 6:30 pm in the Salem library.

Laura moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Doug. All approved. The meeting was adjourned.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Haugsdal

Celebrating Generosity: Thank you for your support of ministry at Salem!

Go Green—Go Paperless by giving in one of the following ways...

-- **Give through PayPal or Card** by going to www.salemlakemills.com and clicking the donate button at the bottom of the page OR **Scan the QR Code**.

-- **Give automatically through the Simply Giving Program**. Sign up for weekly or monthly ACH withdrawals. Call the office to have a form sent to you or stop by the office. We also have forms in the Narthex. Please return forms to the office. **(We are charged a much lower service fee through the Simply Giving Program)**

Salem's Clothes Closet is open every Monday from 2:00-4:00pm; and can be accessed at the south entrance. Clothes, shoes, boots, coats, jackets and a few other kids' items are available for free. We also accept donations; please make sure donations are folded and have no holes, tears or stains. Donations can be left inside the south entrance anytime.

The Lake Mills Food Shelf is open 2:30-5:00pm every Monday for anyone in need of additional food. The only criteria for eligibility is to reside within the Lake Mills School District. The Food Shelf is located at Salem and can be accessed at the south entrance. Anyone in need of food when the food shelf is not open, please feel free to call and leave a message at 641-592-1771 and someone will call back.

Collections: We collect pop tabs, eyeglasses and receipts from David's Marketplace and Hy-Vee. The WELCA group receives 1 tenth of 1% of all receipts collected from David's. The Hy-Vee receipts go towards a cure for cancer. The baskets for all of these are in the Narthex. Please do not roll the receipts and keep David's separate from Hy-Vee. Thank you!

Salem Office: 641.592.1771 (Marci) Monday-Friday: 11:00am -5:00pm
(Hours subject to change. You are welcome to call ahead to ensure the office is open)

Keeping The Peace

Recently someone was quite rude to me, and of course it hurt my feelings. I was tired because I had just returned from a conference, and that made me even more vulnerable. I had a decision to make! Would I stay angry, confront them, tell other people how they had treated me (gossip), or pray for them and be at peace?

I am sure you are familiar with the scenario I am describing, and when these things happen to us, we dare not follow our emotions. What we “feel” like doing and what God wants us to do are usually two very different things. I find it best to be quiet for a bit, let my emotions calm down, and think about the situation rationally.

Did the person hurt me on purpose, or were they perhaps under some sort of pressure that made them insensitive to my feelings? The individual who hurt me was having a very difficult day, and although they knew they were being rude and did apologize, they were having difficulty being kind to anyone. God’s Word encourages us to always believe the best of every person (see 1 Corinthians 13:7), and if we are willing to do it, it is one of the best ways to keep our peace in a situation like this.

Keeping the peace with others is very important and I highly recommend that you do so if it is at all possible. Confront those who mistreat you when God leads you to but avoid being touchy and getting your feelings hurt easily. When you get your feelings hurt, forgive the offender quickly and just imagine all the times you may have hurt someone and needed God’s forgiveness and theirs!

Prayer of the Day: Father, help me be at peace at all times. I want to always believe the best and forgive others just as You forgive me.

Source: [Keeping the Peace | Daily Devo - Joyce Meyer Ministries](#)

All are invited downstairs after the worship service for fellowship, coffee and a sweet treat.

SUNDAY 6/25

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary (Pastor Steve Smith)

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

MONDAY 6/26

11:00am-12:00pm Free Lunch-Fellowship Hall

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

2:00pm-4:00pm Salem's Clothes Closet is OPEN (Enter at South Entrance)

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

TUESDAY 6/27

11:00am-12:00pm Free Lunch-Fellowship Hall

6:00pm Call Committee Meeting-Salem Library

WEDNESDAY 6/28

10:00am Adult Bible Study-Choir Room

11:00am-12:00pm Free Lunch-Fellowship Hall

5:45pm Worship & Music Board Meeting-Salem Library

THURSDAY 6/29

11:00am-12:00pm Free Lunch-Fellowship Hall

5:30pm LMAMA/Good Samaritan Meeting-Salem Library

FRIDAY 6/30

11:00am-12:00pm Free Lunch-Fellowship Hall

SATURDAY 7/1

1:00pm Visitation-Narthex

2:00pm Memorial Service -Sanctuary

SUNDAY 7/2

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary (Pastor Judith Wozniak)

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall