
SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

August 13 - 19

Silencing the Wind

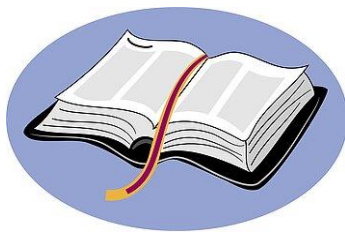
In a world filled with noise and empty words, God comes to us as stillness and silence, even to the point that wind ceases (Matt. 14:32). Jesus walks over stormy waters to his disciples, entering their boat and being present with them despite their fears and doubts. Today's readings encourage us to keep our words spare and meaningful, lay aside our little faith with its wordy worries, and listen for God, who comes to us as quieting comfort.

The wind blows us powerfully, frighteningly, making even familiar places seem strange, stirring up the water to obscure our vision and make our journey fearful and slow. Today Jesus comes to us in our drowning panic, responding to our "Lord, save me" with a quick response. The little faith of Peter (and our little faith) is not only a chiding to "do better" in our faith lives and respond with discipline, but it offers forgiveness: even when we risk and screw up anyway, God's hand is there to reach out and catch us.

To command even the wind to be still is a powerful thing. If a very strong wind suddenly stopped near one of us, we would probably panic, wondering who did it, whether it was the calm eye of a storm, or whether a still bigger tornado is coming. There are giant turbines now that capture the wind to convert it to energy, but Jesus walked out upon the water and helped Peter in his fear to return to the boat's safety and security. Jesus gives powerful reassurance and the gift of presence. God is not distant from our fears, but close to keep us safe.

THIS WEEKS TEXTS

1 Kings 19:9-18
Psalm 85:8-13
Romans 10:5-15
Matthew 14:22-33



NEXT WEEKS TEXTS

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8
Psalm 67
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28

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

THIS WEEK WE WILL PRAY FOR:

Dean and Kristin Colby, Duane and Janice Colby, Jessica Colby, Parker and Jack Hamersky, John and Tami Colby, Jordan and Joran Colby

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-Wayne VanVeldhuizen

16-Dawn Ramaker

18-Kelly Dahle

16-Gary Nelson

17-Olivia Schoonover

19-Tanya Hengesteg

-WEEKLY GIVING-

LAST SUNDAY: 8/6/23 \$ 3,306

YEAR-TO-DATE: 8/8/23 \$113,558

LAST YEAR: as of 8/8/22 \$117,033

DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE: \$ -3,475

-Last Weeks Attendance-

68

Tuckpointing/Steeple Project Update: Total received as of 8/8/23 **\$132,514**

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

Blessing of the Backpacks will be on August 20th during our worship service.

Memorials Given In July:

Charles "Doc" Nelson: Tuckpoint--\$195, Organ Fund--\$100

Leroy Brackey: Tuckpoint--\$225

Dorothy Fjelstad: Tuckpoint--\$55, Cemetery--\$20

Sue Miller: Tuckpoint--\$50

Betty Aasgaard: Tuckpoint--\$25

Save the Date: Rally Sunday will be September 17th.

Cowboy Church has been rescheduled for September 24th.

School Kits: 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—and in some cases, adults—continue their learning despite the hardship they face. And that learning leads to a better life for them, their families and their communities.

Salem will be collecting School Kits and supplies to make the kits. Donations can be left in the Narthex.

INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN EACH FABRIC KIT:

| | |
|---|--|
| *Four 70-sheet notebooks of wide or college-ruled paper approximately 8"x10 ^{1/2} ", no loose-leaf paper | *One box of 16 or 24 crayons |
| *One 30-centimeter ruler, or ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other | *One pencil sharpener |
| *Five ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band | *One eraser |
| *Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band | *One blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well) |
| | *One sturdy drawstring backpack-style cloth bag approximately 14"x 17" with shoulder straps (no standard backpacks); recommended fabric include heavy cotton, canvas, denim or twill |

Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed. All items should be new and in good condition. Remove any excess packaging, pack all items in the bag and close. Do not enclose the kit or any of its contents in plastic bags. Visit lwr.org/beinvolved and click on School Kits or call 800.597.5972 for an easy-few backpack-style bag pattern and tips for purchasing pre-made bags.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Manly, IA has invited us to an ice cream social, Aug. 27th, 4:00pm-6:30pm. Homemade ice cream, hot dogs, maid-rites, potato salad, beans, pie, brownies and beverage. Take out available & free will offering. Funds go towards building updates. (Event is handicapped accessible).

All are invited downstairs after the worship service for fellowship.

SUNDAY 8/13

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

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

MONDAY 8/14

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 8/15

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

4:00pm Confirmation Students Boating/Tubing/Pizza Event

5:30pm Meeting w/Winnebago County Health Tobacco Coordinator-Library

WEDNESDAY 8/16

10:00am Adult Bible Study-Choir Room

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

THURSDAY 8/17

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

FRIDAY 8/18

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

SUNDAY 8/19

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

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

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

Dates available: Aug. 20, Sept. 17, Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29, Nov. 5, 19, Dec. 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)