
SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

August 20 - 26

We Are Beggars, This Is True

“We are beggars; this is true,” are reported to be Martin Luther’s last written words. Christians are “beggars” for God’s grace, undeserving but graced nonetheless. A beggar’s faith focuses not on what is given or accomplished or believed, but on what is *received*: the healing and sustenance desperately longed for and needed.

In today’s gospel, the Canaanite woman is such a “beggar” for Jesus’ healing for her daughter. She is denied a place at the table at first, but she will accept even “crumbs” in the faith that Jesus’ healing power and love are intended even for her. As a Gentile outsider, she inhabits the margins of Jesus’ mission to the “lost sheep of the house of Israel.” Jesus’ eventual response to her beggar’s faith reveals that the love of God even encompasses the margins.

Marginalized or not, we are *all* beggars before God, as Paul reminds the Romans—all “imprisoned in disobedience” and dependent on God. Thus, our sense of “insider” and “outsider” crumbles in the face of our common need and God’s abundant mercy to all. Instead of dividing people between those who have a place at the table and those who get crumbs, we have an opportunity to share hospitality with our fellow beggars.

It can be challenging to see ourselves as beggars. Today the Canaanite woman becomes our model, as she persists with both humility and audacity. As disciples of Jesus and “beggars” for God’s grace, we live the same paradox of humility and audacity, boldly coming to Jesus and humbly acknowledging our need. Even though crumbs from God’s table would be enough for us, we are offered instead the abundance of Jesus’ own self in bread and wine and invited to share this abundance with insider and outsider alike.

THIS WEEKS TEXTS

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

Psalms 67

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28



NEXT WEEKS TEXTS

Isaiah 51:1-6

Psalms 138

Romans 12:1-8

Matthew 16:13-20

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

THIS WEEK WE WILL PRAY FOR:

Michael Colby, Kristi Comstock, Cory, Tracy, Cassidy, Faith and Cody Cox, Jackolyn Cummins and Addison Kopp, Jordan and Tyler Dahlberg

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

20-Samantha Weisenborn

24-Isabelle Schoonover

25-Ryan Dilly

21-Rebecca Sletten

25-Ronald Moen

25-Lucas Bellinger

22-Melanie Zabel

-WEEKLY GIVING-

LAST SUNDAY: 8/13/23 \$ 4,925

YEAR-TO-DATE: 8/16/23 \$118,483

LAST YEAR: as of 8/16/22 \$120,790

DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE: \$ -2,307

-Last Weeks Attendance-

64

Tuckpointing/Steeple Project Update: Total received as of 8/16/23 **\$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!

"Thank You" to Bill & Linda Tweeten for taking the confirmation students boating/tubing on Clear Lake. We appreciate your kindness and support!!!

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).

Confirmation Student/Parent Meeting: Wed., Sept. 13th at 6:00pm--Sanctuary.

Rally Sunday: Sunday, September 17th—Food and Fun!

Cowboy Church has been rescheduled for September 24th.

Registration: Letters have been sent out to our Faith Formation families with upcoming event dates and a link to register online. There are also registration forms on the bulletin board across from the chapel. Each child needs to be registered so that we have the most updated info and we can plan accordingly.

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!

Salem's Clothes Closet is open Mondays 2pm-5pm and can be accessed at the south entrance. Clothes, shoes, boots, coats and jackets 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 Mondays 2:30pm-5:00pm 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.

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

-- **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)**

All are invited downstairs after the worship service for fellowship.

SUNDAY 8/20

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

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

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

MONDAY 8/21

11:00am-12:00pm Free Lunch-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)

6:00pm Quilt Club-Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY 8/22

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

WEDNESDAY 8/23

10:00am Adult Bible Study-Choir Room

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

SUNDAY 8/27

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

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

Doors: If you unlock a door at Salem, make sure you lock the door again when you leave or make a plan for someone to lock it when they leave. Thank you!

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

Dates available 2023: Sept. 17, Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29, Nov. 5, 19, Dec. 31

Salem Office: 641.592.1771 (Marci)

Mon-Wed: 11am-5pm, Thus: 11am-3:30pm Friday: 11am-5pm

(Hours subject to change. You are welcome to call ahead to ensure the office is open)