

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

SATURDAY 9/25

5:30pm Worship Service-Sanctuary

SUNDAY 9/26

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

10:00am-10:45am Faith Formation-Chapel

10:00am Confirmation-Choir Room

MONDAY 9/27

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

2:00pm-4:00pm Clothes Closet is Open

(Call 641-592-5085 to schedule alternate time by appointment)

3:15pm Daisies-Preschool Room

WEDNESDAY 9/29

10:00am Adult Bible Study-Fellowship Hall

3:15pm Brownies-Preschool Room

THURSDAY 9/30

5:45pm Board of Worship & Music Meeting-Fellowship Hall

SATURDAY 10/2

5:30pm Worship Service-Sanctuary

SUNDAY 10/3

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

10:00am-10:45am Faith Formation-Chapel

10:00am Confirmation-Choir Room

Don't Try to Stop God

In Mark 9:38-50 the disciples—at least John—are upset because they saw somebody, not a disciple, “casting out demons” in Jesus’ name. Here John sounds strikingly similar to the Pharisees, who became upset when someone out of their control, Jesus, healed a person on the sabbath (Mark 3:1-6). A common tendency among religious leaders seems to be uneasiness with God acting in ways that are outside of the expected channels and outside of their control.

Throughout Mark’s gospel we are reminded that God’s activity and power are not controlled by or limited to established religious institutions. This point is made clear in the opening verses of the gospel. Mark doesn’t begin the story of the “good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God” (Mark 1:1) in Jerusalem, where one might expect the story of a holy person to start. Instead, the beginning of Mark’s gospel takes us to the wilderness, a place often associated with the absence of God’s presence. But it is precisely in the wilderness where we find John, proclaiming that “the kingdom of God has come near” (Mark 1:15).

There was a sense in Jesus’ time that God could or would only be present in the temple, and that God’s activity was determined by the actions of the religious leaders. We have the same temptation today. We often think of what happens in the church building as God’s activity, but forget that God is also present and acting in the world outside the church. We often think of Christians doing God’s work, but neglect to notice the ways in which non-Christians are also active in doing things that help to bring God’s kingdom near. Jesus’ response to his disciple’s consternation about the fact that someone who is not a disciple is casting out demons in Jesus’ name is an important instruction to us as well. We shouldn’t stop someone who is doing God’s will and bringing God’s kingdom near, just because they aren’t a part of our group. In fact, we may even want to learn more about what they are doing, and join them!

**Each week we will lift up five church families/members in prayer.
We ask that you also remember them in your daily prayers.**

THIS WEEK WE WILL PRAY FOR:

Dale Chose
Kathy and Jason Chose
Nancy Chose
Randy Chose
Christian Family
(Cory, Kallie, Tyler, Morgan, Landyn)

THIS WEEKS TEXTS

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

The LORD's spirit comes upon seventy elders

Psalm 19:7-14

The commandment of the LORD gives light to the eyes. (Ps. 19:8)

James 5:13-20

Prayer and anointing in the community

Mark 9:38-50

Warnings to those who obstruct faith

NEXT WEEKS TEXTS

Genesis 2:18-24

Created for relationship

Psalm 8

You crown us with glory and honor. (Ps. 8:5)

Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

God has spoken by a Son

Mark 10:2-16

Teaching on marriage

CELEBRATING GENEROSITY

During this time of social distancing, there are several ways to continue your giving.

-- By mail.

-- By "Simply Giving"- Sign up for weekly or monthly ACH withdrawals. Call the office to get a form.

-- By PayPal- Go to our website home page (www.salemlakemills.com) and scroll to the bottom left- there is a Donate button. Click on that and it will take you to a PayPal or credit card donation page.

-WEEKLY GIVING-

LAST SUNDAY: 9/19/21	\$ 3,662
YEAR-TO-DATE: as of 9/20/21	\$ 165,918
LAST YEAR: as of 9/20/20	\$ 161,500
DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE:	\$ 4,418

Norma Thompson: For anyone who would like to send a card to Norma Thompson, below is the address where she can be reached. No visitors are allowed at this time.

Augusta Chapel View Care Center
Norma Thompson – Room #284
615 Minnetonka Mills Rd.
Hopkins, MN 55343-7203

Cemetery Board Loan Update: The Heating/AC Project has been completely paid off. Thank you to everyone who made this possible!!!

Celebrating A Life Well Lived

Clarine Steffensen will turn 100 years of age on September 27th. Greetings will reach her at 105 North Franklin, Lake Mills 50450

Blood Drive Results from September 9th: 42 Total Donors, 150 Lives Saved

Pastoral Visits: If you or someone you know would like a visit from Pastor Joel, please call the office to make an appointment. 641.592.1771

Prayer Pen Pals: The Board of Life & Growth is seeking Prayer Pen Pals for 1st graders. This includes sending a letter to a 1st grader and keeping them in your prayers. If you would be willing to do this, please contact Sue Langerud. 641.568.3620

Fall Carnival: Join the Lake Mills Parks & Rec Department, Lake Mills Public Library, area churches and sponsors for the 5th Annual Fall Carnival at Oakwood Park on Tuesday, September 28 @ 4-6 PM! The first 150 kids receive free pumpkins for pumpkin painting and prizes for pumpkin creations.

FREE ACTIVITIES:

Carnival games provided by local churches

Face painting, crafts & more!

Hot apple cider and cookies

Sponsored by the Lake Mills Library, Lake Mills Parks & Rec Department, Lake Mills Chamber Development Corporation, MBT Bank, Citizens Community Credit Union, and Lake Mills Care Center (ABCM Corp.)

Operation Christmas Child Project: The Board of Life & Growth will be collecting shoeboxes filled with gifts for the Operation Christmas Child Project. There are brochures in the Narthex with information, instructions and labels. It's fun to go shopping and pack a box with gifts for a child, but you don't have time for that, you can even build a box online! All you have to do is go to their website, samaritanspurse.org/buildonline or scan the QR code in the brochure, make your donation online, pick what you want in your box and the Samaritan's Purse will do the rest! The Samaritan's Purse has collected shoebox gifts filled with toys, school supplies, and hygiene items for children around the world. Since 1993, more than 188 million children in more than 170 countries and territories have received an Operation Christmas Child shoebox. The project delivers not only the joy of what, for many kids, is their first gift ever, but also gives them a tangible expression of God's love. All boxes need to be at the church by **November 14th.**

Volunteers Needed: The Board of Worship and Music is looking for volunteers. If you are willing to usher, acolyte, read, sing in the liturgical choir or would like to learn how to help with sound, monitors or live stream, please contact Heather at 641-909-4050 or write it on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Collections: The Board of Life & Growth collects used stamps, pop tabs, eye glasses and receipts from David's Marketplace. The WELCA group receives 1 tenth of 1% of all receipts collected. This can really add up and help. They ask that receipts do not get rolled up. Collection baskets are in the Narthex.

Reserve your special date to sponsor an 8:30 a.m. radio broadcast. The service is heard on KLOW (107.3 FM) radio in Forest City and on cable channel 2.

This year has quickly filled with sponsorship and only a few dates are still available. Don't miss your chance to sponsor a radio broadcast this year.

Cost is \$83. CALL THE OFFICE TO RESERVE YOUR DATE. 641.592.1771

2021 RADIO BROADCAST DATES AVAILABLE:

Oct. 24, Nov. 7, Nov. 14, Nov. 21, Dec. 5, Dec. 12

We also have a sponsorship program for the live internet broadcast of the worship service. Sponsorship is available for \$40 per Sunday.

CALL THE OFFICE TO RESERVE YOUR DATE 641.592.1771

Salem Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes, Thursday, September 9, 2021 – 6:30 pm

President Shannon Bruhns called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Members present: Drake Abbey, Marci Adeogun, Shannon Bruhns, Scott Hagenson, Sue Langerud, Heather Mannes, Sondra Nelson, Al Skellenger, Pastor Joel Guttormson and Cindy Haugsdal.

Members absent: None

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

Scott moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Sue, all approved.

Communication and correspondence - none

Treasurer's Report: Drake provided a written report

Total income for August 2021 \$23,368.27

Total Expenses for August 2021 \$21,695.21 (\$1,673.06)

Checking account balance (8/31/2021) \$28,110.09

Building Fund balance (8/31/2021) \$14,381.36

CD's at FTSB (8/31/2021) \$26,014.17/\$10,526.47

CD's at MBT (8/31/2021) \$30,000/\$151.23

ELCA Congregational Giving: Mission Support for 2021 YTD as of 7/6/2021 is \$11,013.07 or 48.95% of our congregational budgeted intention for 2021.

Financial Secretary's report: Sondra provided a written report

2021 YTD total offerings (8/31/2021) \$154,043

2020 YTD total offerings (8/31/2020) \$150,531

Al moved to accept treasurer and financial reports. Sue seconded the motion. All approved.

Board Reports

Board of Worship and Music: Heather provided a written/verbal report. The Board didn't meet in August. Rally Sunday is September 12; words for contemporary songs will continue to be printed in the bulletins; working on a schedule for acolytes, offering and communion; working on planning a parent meeting to go over instructions for helping with worship services.

Board of Life & Growth: Sue provided a written/verbal report. Looking for prayer pals for this year's first graders; planning to show the movie Shadowlands with a devotional series during Lent; Quilt Sunday is September 19; 15 quilts delivered to Salvation Army in Mason City; ELCA theme - God's Work, Our Hands – will be part of the Sunday service on October 31.

Board of Stewardship and Social Ministry: Al reported that the Stewardship Board met and will focus on a theme of generosity and encourage the congregation to participate in stewardship by highlighting and educating them regarding options for giving at Salem. Plans include: "Stewardship Thought for the Week" to be included in weekly announcements; "Noisy" offering quarterly

to support a specific cause, this quarter will be for Lutheran Disaster Relief; future plans for potluck/chili cook-off type event pending Covid-19 status.

Board of Property and Management: Scott provided a verbal report. Grinnell Mutual's annual report has been received with suggestions that were reviewed; Scott will meet with Dan Kirschbaum to discuss some recommended modifications.

Board of Youth: Jen provided a written report. Marci led discussion of items in the report that included: Youth events kick off this Sunday; Confirmation will now be on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am; Pastor Joel sent confirmation families the upcoming schedule; Faith formation will continue on Sundays from 10:00-10:45; families were sent a list of events for the Sept-Dec season, as well as a registration form; families have the option to register via a paper form or online via SurveyMonkey.

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

Lead Pastor's Report: Pastor Joel shared a written report that included Pastoral acts in August and accounting for vacation and continuing education days/Sundays used and planned. Additional topics in his report included:

- Community Day Camp – Summarized this year's day camp experience, positives, and challenges. Challenges include finding a good week for participation, a director/adequate volunteers, and the expense of approximately \$1600.00. The Board of Youth will be evaluating the future feasibility of Day Camp at Salem.
- Pastor's Fellowship Breakfast – the second breakfast served 22 with a cost of food being \$40 and \$101 raised for youth activities. Planning to continue monthly in the lounge on the second Friday of the month.
- Summer 2022 Vacation plans – Plans for vacation July 17 – August 2, 2022. This is a family camping vacation planned in Washington state. (This will conflict with the ELCA Youth Gathering dates July 24-28, 2022).
- 8th Grade Washington DC trip – Pastor will be participating in the DC trip March 19-March 26, 2022 as chaperone with Chike Ikefuama.

- Covid variant zoom presentation – Pastor will be attending on Wednesday, September 15, 2021 at 3:00 pm featuring Dr. Michael Osterholm, Director of the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy at the University of Minnesota will share strategies for navigating the continuing Covid-19 situation.
- Tri-synodical conference – previously scheduled in person on September 20-21 in Des Moines, will now be via Zoom.
- Rev. Kevin T. Jones as NEIA Synod Bishop Installation – Saturday, September 25, 2021 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Mason City.
- Church security – Pastor shared two recent incidents involving 2 individuals acting/speaking inappropriately within the church building. LM Police have been involved and have advised church staff.
- Faith Formation – Pastor shared that he is involved in pastoral counseling and education with two families (one inactive member and one non-member) interested in Baptism and confirmation programming.

Scott moved to approve board/pastor reports. Sondra seconded the motion. All approved.

Old Business:

- A. Covid Management Team Update – Will continue with communion packets through November 28; will encourage discretion with sharing of the peace; will continue to monitor status of spread in our community for further changes.
- B. Portico 2022 Annual Enrollment – After discussion, Scott moved that the Executive Board meet with Pastor Joel to determine enrollment choices for 2022. Sue seconded the motion. All approved

New Business:

- A. Cemetery Board Loan Update - \$15,181 has been raised to pay back the Cemetery Board loan for \$15,000. Sue moved that the Loan to Cemetery Board be paid back and the remaining funds will go to Building and Property account within the general fund and the account at FTSB labeled

Building fund will be closed. Heather seconded the motion. All approved.
The Heating/AC project is now completed and paid in full.

B. New members: none

C. Transfers/statistical adjustments – Lee Morgan and Lisa (Nelson) Kubick request to be removed from Salem membership list. Heather moved to approve removal from the member list, Al seconded the motion. All approved.

D. Next meeting Thursday, October 14, 2021 at 6:30 pm

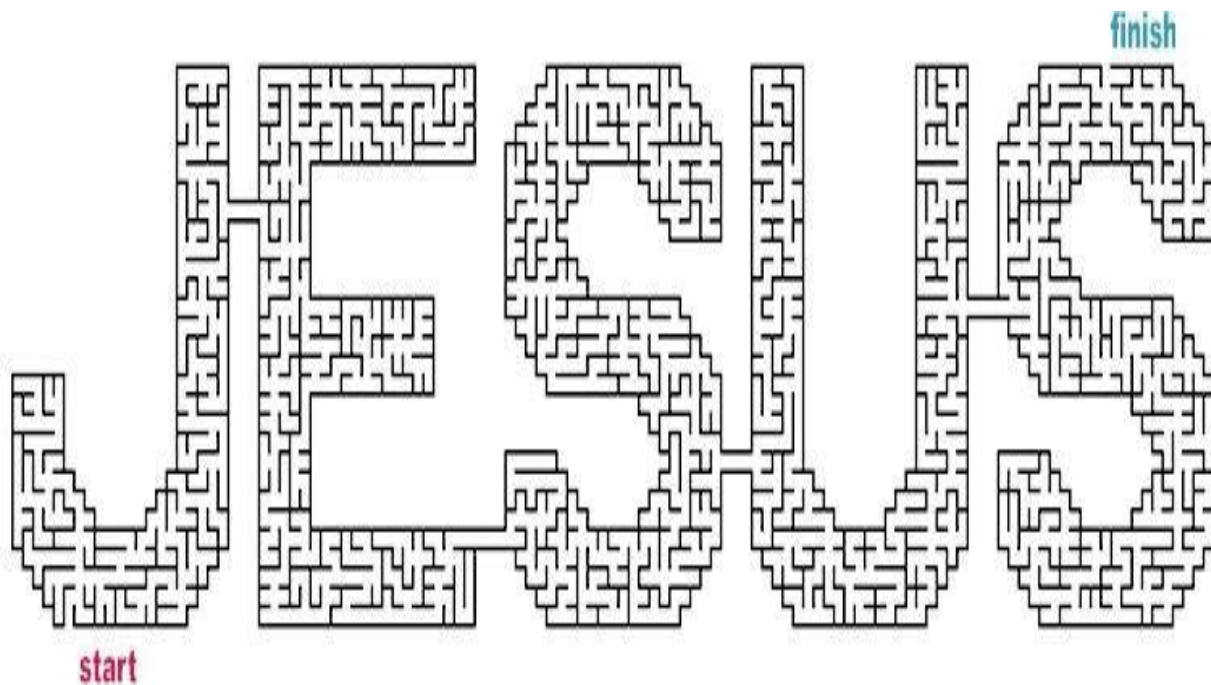
Al moved the meeting be adjourned. Scott seconded the motion. All approved.

The meeting was adjourned.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Haugsdal





Pastor's Schedule

Pastor Joel Guttormson

Monday: Off, but on-call

Tuesday: Off, but on-call (3pm-6:30pm Fall Carnival)

Wednesday: Noon-8:00pm (10am Adult Bible Study)

Thursday: Noon – 8pm (5:45pm Board of Worship and Music Meeting)

Friday: 8am – Noon, 1pm – 5pm

Saturday: Noon – 8pm (5:30pm Worship Service)

Sunday: 8am – Noon

(9am Worship Service, 10am Confirmation, 11am Board of Youth and Education Meeting)

Secretary

Marci Adeogun

Mon-Fri 10am-5pm

Saturday & Sunday: Off

