

# WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COUNCIL MINUTES

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## SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

### January 1 – 7

#### What's in a Name?

All names are powerful, but Jesus' name is the most powerful of all. We use names as a concise way to convey complex meanings: being able to call someone by name means you know something important about that person, and being called by name means you are known. On this day we celebrate the privilege and the power of calling God by name, as well as how deeply we know God and are known by God, through Jesus.

Our texts for today affirm the power of the name we're given at baptism: child of God. The name of God is described in active terms: being blessed and claimed in the name of God *does* something to us. It ennobles and empowers us in ways we do not deserve and did nothing to earn (Ps. 8, Num. 6:27). The name of Jesus itself is described as being a powerful actor in our world and in our lives: "at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Phil. 2:10-11).

Our gospel reading from Luke finds the holy family in the midst of the ongoing extraordinary events of Jesus' birth. When the shepherds leave and the angels return to heaven, we can see a shift toward the ordinary. Luke records that Mary and Joseph made sure that Jesus went through the usual rites of passage for a Jewish boy; years pass between these milestones, unrecorded. But in his ordinary, everyday life, Jesus carried an extraordinary name. We carry the name of Jesus and the mark of his cross not only in extraordinary times, but in our ordinary, everyday lives. It's a name that is active and powerful in us and through us each day.

**THIS WEEKS TEXTS**

Numbers 6:22-27

Psalm 8

Galatians 4:4-7

Luke 2:15-21

**NEXT WEEKS TEXTS**

Isaiah 42:1-9

Psalm 29

Acts 10:34-43

Matthew 3:13-17

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

**THIS WEEK WE WILL PRAY FOR:** Greg & Julie Rice, Larry & Helen Rice, Doug & Vivian Richards, Terry Ringham, Adam, Megan, Finn and Knox Ritter

**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

1-Chelsey Kopp

1-Hallie Mannes

2-Alexander Mosby

2-Ronald Langfald

3-Matt Helgeson

3-Jeffrey Schoonover

4-Steven Bendickson

5-Jolie Rice

5-Drake Abbey

5-Hannah Evenson

5-Phyllis Moen

5-Kaci Osheim

6-Christopher Jamtgaard

7-Dakota White

7-Tonja Knutson

**-WEEKLY GIVING-****LAST SUNDAY:** 12/25/22      \$ 12,047**YEAR-TO-DATE:** 12/26/22      \$ 218,941**LAST YEAR:** as of 12/26/21      \$ 253,132**DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE:**      \$ - 34,132

**Fellowship Breakfast** is scheduled for Friday, January 6th; 8:00am – 10:00am in the lounge, across from the office. Everyone is welcome! Breakfast will be served until the food runs out or its 10:00am, whichever comes sooner. Breakfast is free. Donations collected will go towards youth activities.

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

**2023 Dates available:** Jan. 15, Jan. 22, Jan. 29, Feb 12, March 12, March 26, April 16, April 30, May 7, June 11, June 18, July 9, July 16, July 23, July 30, Aug. 6, Aug. 13, Aug. 20, Sept. 3, Sept. 17, Oct. 8, Oct. 15, Oct. 22, Oct. 29, Nov. 5, Nov. 12, Nov. 19, Dec. 10, Dec. 31

## TUCKPOINTING PROJECT UPDATE

Total received as of 12/27/2022

**\$68,730**

All contributions towards this project are greatly appreciated! Please remember to note "TUCKPOINTING PROJECT" when submitting your contribution. Thank you!



**Devotionals:** There are copies of the January/February/March devotionals in the Narthex, by the south entrance and by the Chapel.

**Card Shower:** Ken Lien will be celebrating his 90th birthday on January 11th. If you would like to send a card, use this address: 311 S. 10th Ave East. Apt. 112, Lake Mills, IA 50450

## Memorials Given in November

Ardis Langfald--\$25 Tuckpointing Fund, \$50 Building Fund, \$145 Cemetery Fund

Marietta Norris--\$20 General Fund, \$50 Building Fund



**Weather Policy:** Just a reminder that the weather may not be as friendly this time of year as this snowman! Should there be an emergency schedule change an announcement will be made via the following:

--Salem Lutheran Church, Lake Mills Facebook page

--KLOW Radio 107.3 (Forest City)

--KIMT TV Channel 3

Contact Shannon Bruhns at 641-592-5978 / 641-590-1532

## Upcoming Blood Drive

Lake Mills Community Blood Drive

Thursday, January 19th

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](http://lifeservebloodcenter.org)

## Salem Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 8, 2022 – 6:30 pm

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

Members present: Drake Abbey, Marci Adeogun, Shannon Bruhns, Al Skellenger, Cindy Haugsdal and Pastor Joel Guttormson.

Absent: Sue Langerud, Sondra Nelson, Mary Peterson

Pastor Joel led us in devotions and prayer.

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

Drake moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Marci. All approved.

Communication and correspondence – Anonymous donation of \$50 to general fund; \$500 donation from Janet Chiu for Lake Mills Clothes for Kids; Northeastern Iowa Synod mission support report for August, September and October 2022; request to support the 2022-2023 LMCS yearbook – Marci moved to give \$50 to LMCS Yearbook, seconded by Al. All approved.

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

Total income for November 2022 \$18,174.70

Total Expenses for November 2022 \$19,310.01 (Income less expense - \$1,135.31)

Checking account balance (11/30/2022) \$61,899.78

CD's at FTSB (11/30/2022) Reserves \$26,014.17/Ness Estate \$3,230.02

CD at MBT (11/30/2022) Ness Estate \$52,215.45

**Financial Secretary's report:** Sondra provided a written report

2022 YTD total offerings (11/30/2022) \$192,284

2021 YTD total offerings (11/30/2021) \$211,097

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

## **Board Reports**

**Board of Worship and Music:** Mary provided a written report from board meeting held 11/17/2022: Reviewed the bell choir schedule and the need for some repair to the bells, Nancy will coordinate repairs; plans for Thanksgiving service in the chapel at 7:00 with pie and coffee in the lounge following; Decorating the sanctuary will be on November 26 and poinsettias ordered for sanctuary; Faith Formation Christmas Program will be Sunday, December 18; Discussed ushers, communion servers and special music for Christmas Eve.

**Board of Life & Growth:** Sue provided a written and verbal report: 11 shoeboxes were sent for Samaritans purse program; served pie and coffee following the Thanksgiving Eve service; Chrismons bead and wire workshop was held on November 9; Church Narthex and Sanctuary were decorated for Christmas on November 26 with refreshments following; Nate and Mindy Sletten have agreed to be our singers for Song Fest during July Jubilee in 2023.

**Board of Stewardship and Social Ministry:** Al provided a verbal report: First temple talk last Sunday; future plans to reintroduce and educate regarding electronic methods for giving; Noisy offering in January will be collected for Florida hurricane relief; planning a letter to congregation members in January regarding Salem financial status and to encourage giving.

**Board of Property and Management:** Shannon provided a written and verbal report: Boiler violation continues to be addressed; Chapel update is pending; Grinnell insurance issues continue to be addressed; Tuckpointing project campaign letter was mailed out to current Salem members; Congregational “work day” pending; Investigating roof leak in east educational wing.

**Board of Youth:** Jen and Marci provided a written report. Marci led discussion of items in the report that included: Faith Formation dress rehearsal on December 11 and the program will be December 18 at 9:00 am in the Sanctuary with a Christmas Party to follow in the Fellowship Hall; Asking for cookie donations for the party; New sign-up sheet for Faith Formation Helpers after Christmas has been posted on the bulletin board across from the lounge.

**Pastor Report – 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 November and accounting for vacation and continuing education days/Sundays used and planned. Additional topics in his report included:

- Congregational Discernment – What kind of church do you want to be? How can you be that church together? What resources do you have or need to be that church? This represents a “three-legged stool” of sorts, all three are needed in order for the stool to stand and this congregation to thrive.

Drake moved to approve Board/Pastor reports, seconded by Al. All approved.

**Old Business:**

A. Constitution (Continued)

a. Review ELCA Model Constitution and Guidelines – Shannon presented correspondence regarding the approval in August of amendments to the Model Constitution for ELCA congregations. These amendments will be reviewed as we continue to work on revising the Salem constitution.

B. Call Committee was approved at the Special Congregational Meeting on 12/4/2022. First meeting will be Monday, 12/12/2022 with Bishop Kevin Jones.

C. 2023 Budget Review

. Office Administrator (Marci was not present for this discussion) – Annual review was completed in October. Marci has been employed in this position since December 2020 with no salary increases, other than a modest increase after probationary period. Considering her extremely good performance and the importance of this role, Shannon and Drake presented a proposal to approve a 7% increase (\$1/hour) in salary. This would increase her annual salary from \$26,208 to \$28,080. The executive committee has reviewed and has agreed with this recommendation. Al moved to accept this recommendation, Shannon seconded the motion and all present approved.

a. Drake presented and there was discussion of the proposed draft budget for 2023.

## **New Business:**

- A. 2023 Annual Meeting Ballot and Agenda – Shannon presented and reviewed the 2023 proposed Ballot. There was additional discussion regarding open positions and the treasurer position. The ballot will be posted tomorrow, 12/9/2022. The annual meeting agenda will be posted 12/22/2022.
- a. Annual Meeting Board Reports (due 12/22)
- B. Member List Review – Marci presented a list of members/families (approx 150) with either no contact information or inactive status. Clarifying our active member list is important for many reasons, including when preparing the Ministry Site profile by the call committee. Marci moved to transfer these members to the Friends of Salem list as a statistical adjustment, seconded by Drake. All approved.
- C. New members – None.
- D. Transfers – None.
- E. Next meeting will be held Thursday, January 12, 2023, at 6:30 pm in the library.

Al moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Marci. All approved. The meeting was adjourned.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Haugsdal

**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

### **Pastor Joel Guttormson**

Mon: Off, but on-call

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

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

Thurs: Noon-8pm (1pm Mills Harbour Bible Study)

Fri: 8am-Noon, 1pm-5pm (8am Fellowship Breakfast)

Sat: 10am-Noon (service prep)

Sun: 8am-Noon (9am Worship)

# HAPPY NEW YEAR!

## **SUNDAY 1/1**

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary  
10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

## **MONDAY 1/2**

2:00pm-4:00pm Clothes Closet is OPEN  
(To schedule a different time, call 592.5085)

## **TUESDAY 1/3**

5:30pm Altar Guild-Library

## **WEDNESDAY 1/4**

10:00am Adult Bible Study-Fellowship Hall  
3:15pm Brownies-Room 2  
5:30pm Call Committee-Library

## **THURSDAY 1/5**

9:30am Ruth Circle-Faye Aamodt's Home  
1:00pm Mills Harbour Bible Study  
3:15pm Juniors-Room 2

## **FRIDAY 1/6**

8:00am-10:00am Fellowship Breakfast-Lounge

## **SUNDAY 1/8**

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary  
10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

**Salem Office: 641.592.1771**

Mon-Thurs: 10am-5pm, Fri: 10am-4pm