

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

January 29 – February 4

A Hunger for Justice

In today's first reading, God cries, "O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me!" (Micah 6:3). The people of God have forgotten God's deliverance and who God has called them to be. Like a shrewd prosecutor, God has placed them on trial and is examining their actions, recounting the signs of mercy and loving kindness shown to them from generation to generation and searching for a sign that they are living into who God has called them to be. And so, they are reminded that this is how you shall live: do justice, love kindness, walk humbly.

A Latin American prayer asks: "Lord, to those who hunger, give bread. And to those who have bread, give the hunger for justice." The words of this more modern-day prayer do not sound so different from the ancient words spoken by the prophet Micah to God's people. "What does the Lord require of you," asks Micah, "but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" (Micah 6:8). The hunger of God's people has already been filled by the mercy of God, and so they are called by God to feed the hunger of others through lives of justice, kindness, and humility.

In the Sunday assembly, God surrounds the gathered people with reminders of who and whose they are: we splash in the waters of baptism, are brought to new life in the word, are fed and forgiven through bread and wine. Around the table, hunger is satisfied, and a hunger for justice is renewed. From the table, God sends the gathered assembly, blessed and broken, to feed the hunger of others as, together, we await the fulfillment of the kingdom.

THIS WEEKS TEXTS

Micah 6:1-8

Psalm 15

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Matthew 5:1-12

**NEXT WEEKS TEXTS**

Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]

Psalm 112:1-9 [10]

1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]

Matthew 5:13-20

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

THIS WEEK WE WILL PRAY FOR: Marlin & Marjorie Senne, Todd, Kristine, Peyton and Emily Severson, Carlton and Andrew Shaw, Loren & Sandy Scatter, Alan & Willie Skellenger and Gretchen Moriarty

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

29-Halie Anderson

30-Beau Honsey

3-Sara Knudtson

30-Hailey Borgmeyer

1-Dwight Angel

4-Chance Levine

30-Alyssa Hanna

3-Katie Olson

4-Hope Levine

-WEEKLY GIVING-**LAST SUNDAY:** 1/22/23 \$ 2,154**YEAR-TO-DATE:** 1/25/23 \$11,764**LAST YEAR:** as of 1/25/22 \$ 9,940**DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE:** \$ 1,882**-Last Weeks Attendance- 76**

Summer Camps: Reminder to sign up your children for summer camps before the early bird deadlines! Check out the camp websites for more information. This is such a great opportunity for our youth! In the past, the Enduring Gift Committee has helped to pay the remaining balances, after parents make the down payment. After you have registered your child and paid the deposit, forward your receipt email from camp to the Salem office. (Salem@wctatel.net)

Supplies: There are face masks, disinfecting wipes and hand sanitizer on the high top table in the Narthex. Please leave them on the table; they must be accessible to anyone who may want to use them. Thank you!

-Shannon Bruhns, Council President & The Board of Property & Management

Tuckpointing Project Update:

Total received as of 1/25/23 **\$125,136 (This total includes the \$50,000 match)**
 All contributions towards this project are greatly appreciated! Please remember to note “Tuckpointing Project” when submitting your contribution. Thank you!

Fellowship Breakfast is scheduled for Friday, February 3rd; 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 10am, whichever comes sooner. Breakfast is free. Donations collected will go towards youth activities.

Floyd Thomas Prints: Faye Aamodt has graciously offered Floyd Thomas nature prints for free will donation opportunity. These prints have been a part of Lake Mills history for many years appearing on calendars and the cover of the WCTA telephone books. If you would like a print, or several, please take what you would like! Donations will be designated for the tuckpointing project. Prints will be available in the Narthex before worship and after worship. They will also be available during the week, in the office. We thank Faye for her generous gift!

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

Salem Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 12, 2023 – 6:30 pm

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

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

Absent: Sondra Nelson, Mary Peterson

Guests: Pastor Randy Baldwin, Bart and Medara Winter, Marilyn Hoffman – Pastor Baldwin spoke for the group representing LMAMA and the Lake Mills Food shelf and offered thanks to Salem for providing a temporary location for the LM Food Shelf. The group continues to problem solve issues along with Shannon and Board of Property and management. The guests left the meeting prior to further business.

Pastor Joel led us in devotions and prayer.

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

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

A group text was initiated by Shannon to council members on December 28, 2022, regarding a request by the LM Food Shelf managers to use Salem as a temporary location due to water damage to the current location. The Board of Property and Management discussed and approved the use of the building for the food pantry pending additional evaluation including review of space and electrical needs and insurance coverage. As information became available, this information was shared per text with the council members. There was also a request from the American Legion to have their monthly breakfast at Salem due to the water damage at the Senior Center. On Monday, January 2, 2023, Mary moved to approve the use of Salem as a temporary location for the Lake Mills Food Shelf and monthly American Legion Breakfast, seconded by Sue. All approved. Shannon continued to provide information via text on set up of the Food shelf and there was also discussion regarding additional electricity usage by the refrigerators and freezers used for the food shelf. The Board of Property and management recommended no charge to the food shelf for electricity use and all council members agreed. Shannon later messaged all council members that the American Legion opted to use an alternate site for their monthly breakfast. Communication and correspondence – There were 2 anonymous donations for \$50 each; LM Chamber Development Corporation membership statement was received and will be paid for 2023 - \$85.00

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

Total income for December 2022 \$31,304.78

Total Expenses for December 2022 \$19,419.10 (Income less expense \$11,885.68)

Checking account balance (12/31/2022) \$125,222.70

CD's at FTSB (12/31/2022) Reserves \$26,014.17/Ness Estate \$3,230.02

CD at MBT (12/31/2022) Ness Estate \$52,215.45

Financial Secretary's report: Sondra provided a written report

2022 YTD total offerings (12/26/2022) \$218,941

2021 YTD total offerings (12/26/2021) \$253,132

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: The board met on 12/15/2022 to review and finalized preparations for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Planned to take down Christmas decorations on 1/7/2023.

Board of Life & Growth: Sue provided a verbal report: Christmas decorations in Sanctuary and Narthex were taken down on 1/7/2023; the pastoral acts mobile was replaced in the Narthex.

Board of Stewardship and Social Ministry: Al provided a verbal report: Noisy offering planned for the end of January into February; will be sending out a letter to congregation members regarding giving in 2023, encouraging increasing by 10%; Temple talk in a couple of weeks to review all ways available for giving.

Board of Property and Management: Shannon provided a written and verbal report: Board met on 12/28/2022; Boiler violation has been resolved and cleared, certificates were printed and posted in the boiler room; Chapel update – pending; Grinnell Insurance – Certificate of Liability Insurance documents obtained from LifeServe Blood Center, Girl Scouts of Greater Iowa and Sons of Norway; Bell tower – Tuckpointing project has reached \$68,730 as of Monday, 12/26/2022 not including any donor matches or other monies – Shannon will reach out to Pajic Tuckpointing to notify that quote amount has been met and to request advance notice when project work will be scheduled in Spring 2023; Congregational work day is pending; Investigation of roof leak in east educational wing – roof drain pipe became dislodged therefore was not connected properly and was not allowing water to drain as designed, this has been repaired and ceiling repair in Spring 2023.

Board of Youth: Jen and Marci provided a written report. Marci led discussion of items in the report that included: Christmas program and party following went well; Continue to look for volunteers to help with faith formation.

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 December and accounting for vacation and continuing education days/Sundays used and planned. Additional topics in his report included:

- Summer Feeding Program – Pastor Joel, in light of his retirement in May, has proposed to LMAMA to have the Summer Administrator for the food program be a stipend position. Pastor will continue to work on this proposal with Pastor Bill working on a job description; this position would be hired and supervised by LMAMA and like Deb Canny and Rita Anderson will be employees of the program.

Sue moved to approve Board/Pastor reports, seconded by Drake. All approved. Pastor Joel left the meeting following his report.

Old Business:

- A. Constitution (Continued)
 - a. Review ELCA Model Constitution and Guidelines
- B. 2023 Annual Meeting – scheduled on Sunday, 1/22/2023 at 10:00 am
- C. 2023 Budget Review – Drake presented the 2023 budget worksheet draft for review and discussion. Sue moved that the proposed budget be presented at the annual meeting, seconded by Al. All approved.

New Business:

- A. Temporary Lake Mills Food Shelf Distribution Center – see above under guests. The Food shelf group will continue to work with Shannon and the Board of Property and Management to address issues such as flow, food delivery and heating the room on Mondays. Shannon also noted that the cost for the completed electrical work was between the Food Shelf and Kirschbaum Plumbing and Heating.
- B. Floyd Thomas Prints – Faye Aamodt would like to donate prints by Floyd Thomas for free will donations that would be designated to the

Tuckpointing Project. They prints will be available in the Narthex on 1/22/2023, the date of the Annual meeting.

- C. Thrivent Choice Dollars Campaign for 2023 – plan to make announcements regarding this program in upcoming bulletins.
- D. Call Committee Report – working on a survey for congregation members to complete (paper/pencil or electronic) and will also be offering small group options for gathering insight and input from Salem members.
- E. New members – Al Sterrenberg requested his membership be renewed. Drake moved to accept the request for renewed membership, seconded by Marci. All approved.
- F. Transfers/statistical adjustments – In an effort to continue to achieve a more accurate listing of active members of Salem, Marci presented an additional list of members/families (approx 250) with either no contact information or inactive status. Sue moved to transfer these members to the Friends of Salem list as a statistical adjustment, seconded by Al. All approved.
- G. Next meeting will be held Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 6:30 pm in the Salem library.

Sue 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

Live Stream Sponsorship: Call the office to reserve your special date. Cost is \$40.
2023 Dates available: Feb 12. March 12, 26. April 16, 30. May 7. June 11, 18. July 9, 16, 23, 30. Aug. 6, 13, 20. Sept. 3, 17. Oct. 8, 15, 22 & 29. Nov. 5, 12 & 19. Dec. 10, 31.

Salem Office: 641.592.1771 (Marci)

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

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

All are invited downstairs after the worship service for fellowship.

SUNDAY 1/29

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary
 10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall
 10:00am Faith Formation-Chapel
 10:00am Confirmation-Youth Room

MONDAY 1/30

2:00pm-4:00pm Clothes Closet is OPEN (South entrance at Salem)
 2:30pm-5:00pm Lake Mills Food Shelf is OPEN (South entrance at Salem)
 3:15pm Daisies-Room 2

WEDNESDAY 2/1

10:00am Adult Bible Study-Fellowship Hall
 3:15pm Brownies-Room 2
 6:00pm Youth Board Meeting-Library

THURSDAY 2/2

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

FRIDAY 2/3

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

SUNDAY 2/5

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary
 10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall
 10:00am Faith Formation & Confirmation

Pastor Joel Guttormson

Mon: Off, but on-call

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

Wed: Noon-8:00pm (10am Adult Bible Study, 6pm Youth Meeting)

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

Fri: 8am-Noon, 1pm-5pm (8am-10am Fellowship Breakfast)

Sat: 10am-Noon (service prep) Sun: 8am-Noon (9am Worship, 10am Confirmation)