

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

January 8 - 14

The Power of a God Who Is Humble

From the time Jesus first presented himself for baptism by John until today, Christians have puzzled over why Jesus had to be baptized. The act of baptism was understood to be an act of repentance and the cleansing of one's sins. John does not understand why Jesus, whose sandals John is "not worthy to carry" (Matt. 3:11) should seek to be baptized. Instead, John declares to Jesus, "I need to be baptized by you" (Matt. 3:14). Why should the Son of God, who is without sin, need to be baptized?

Frederick Dale Bruner, in *Matthew: A Commentary* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2004), says that he considers Jesus' first miracle to have occurred at his baptism. The miracle is that Jesus was humble. The divine Son of God humbles himself by allowing John to baptize him. This act of humility is an act of obedience to God and solidarity with all humankind. Jesus has no sins to be forgiven. However, for us, he goes down to the river of repentance with all the other sinners to be baptized. Jesus' baptism, his first adult act as recorded in Matthew's gospel, gives us a clear indication of how Jesus will act for his entire life. The Son of God will come down with us, on our level, identifying with our needs. His baptism, then, foreshadows how his life will end, on the cross. In his death, Jesus experiences the worst we could ever experience as mortal humans. But, because Jesus united with us in baptism, we are united with him in both his death and resurrection. The barriers that separate us from God, including the barriers of sinfulness, mortality, and death, are broken by Jesus' obedience to God, through his humility to come down to us in the depths of our humanity.

THIS WEEKS TEXTS

Isaiah 42:1-9

Psalm 29

Acts 10:34-43

Matthew 3:13-17

**NEXT WEEKS TEXTS**

Isaiah 49:1-7

Psalm 40:1-11

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

John 1:29-42

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

THIS WEEK WE WILL PRAY FOR: Terry, Karen, Andrea and Scott Rodberg, Chalsea, Gracie, Jeneva and Peyton Roder, Dennis & Darla Rogstad, Margaret Rogstad, Robert, Kaleb and Katelyn Rogstad

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

8-Beth Dahle

8-Emmett Helgeson

9-Donna Harig

9-Jessica Colby

10-Jill Budach

11-Allan Zabel

11-Ken Lein

12-Brook Christianson

12-Ellie Redig

12-Joshua Hanson

12-Darlene Anderson

12-George Miller

12-Alex Beaty

14-Jade Durnil

14-Tammy Butler

14-Bryan Hengesteg

-WEEKLY GIVING-

LAST SUNDAY: 12/25/22 \$ 12,047 (no update due to the financial

YEAR-TO-DATE: 12/26/22 \$ 218,941 secretary being on vacation)

LAST YEAR: as of 12/26/21 \$ 253,132

DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE: \$ - 34,132

Last Weeks Attendance: 49

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

TUCKPOINTING PROJECT UPDATE

Total received as of 12/27/2022

\$68,730 (no update this week)

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



Lake Mills Community Blood Drive at Salem

Thursday, January 19th; 1:00pm-6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall

Appointments Are Encouraged-- Call: 800-287-4903

Text: LIFESERVE to 999-7777 or visit: lifeservebloodcenter.org

Annual Meeting: Salem's Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be on January 22nd, 2023 at 10:00am in the Sanctuary. There will be coffee fellowship to follow in the Fellowship Hall. No Faith Formation or Confirmation on that day. A quorum of 30 members are required in order to hold this meeting.



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

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

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

Please join the Hengesteg Family in the fellowship hall after the worship service to celebrate the baptism of Andor Russell.

SUNDAY 1/8

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

MONDAY 1/9

1:00pm-4:00pm Mission Quilters-Fellowship Hall
 2:00pm-4:00pm Clothes Closet is OPEN (To schedule a different time, call 592.5085)
 2:30pm-5:00pm Lake Mills Food Shelf is OPEN (south entrance at Salem)

WEDNESDAY 1/11

10:00am Adult Bible Study-Fellowship Hall
 12:00pm Cadettes & HS-Room 2

THURSDAY 1/12

1:00pm Mills Harbour Bible Study
 6:30pm Church Council Meeting-Library

SUNDAY 1/15

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

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)

Thurs: Noon-8pm (1pm Mills Harbour Bible Study, 6:30pm Council Meeting)

Fri: 8am-Noon, 1pm-5pm

Sat: 10am-Noon (service prep)

Sun: 8am-Noon (9am Worship, Confirmation)

Salem Office: 641.592.1771 Mon-Thurs: 10am-5pm, Fri: 10am-4pm