
SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 13 – 19

Fat Camels and Narrow Needles: Only Possible for God

A rich man approaches Jesus and asks how to inherit eternal life. Jesus tells him to sell what he owns, give the money to the poor, and follow. Jesus will accept nothing less than our very selves. Like the rich man, we too are left defenseless and grieving by Jesus' radical call to leave behind and give away what we count on for our own security. He wants us, and therefore also wants the things that keep us from him; he gazes upon us in love, even as he calls us to leave behind our false sources of security. How hard it is for us camels to pass through the eye of the needle! We too grieve at the impossibility. It is in fact impossible for us, yet more than possible for God to make it so. For we have a "great high priest who has passed through the heavens, the Son of God," who is both able to sympathize with our great weakness but also to provide mercy and help. While eternal life on the other side of the needle is a free gift that only God can give, it is a gift that claims the entirety of our lives and therefore reshapes our stewardship of whatever earthly goods we do have. For first and foremost we are called to follow the Christ who gazes upon us in love. Since we are his, following him we will enter through the eye of the needle, leaving behind what cannot fit through with us. In doing so we are promised that we will gain everything: a hundredfold more in this life in a new community under the Cross, "and in the age to come eternal life" (Mark 10:30).

THIS WEEKS TEXTS

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

Psalms 90:12-17

Hebrews 4:12-16

Mark 10:17-31



NEXT WEEKS TEXTS

Isaiah 53:4-12

Psalms 91:9-16

Hebrews 5:1-10

Mark 10:35-45

Each week we will lift up five church families/ members in prayer.
THIS WEEK WE WILL PRAY FOR: Bill, Linda & Jacob Tweeten, Keith Twito,
Doris Tweed, Wayne & Connie Vanveldhuizen, Ron & Clayton Velasquez

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

12-Kallie Christian

14-Tanner Fjelstad

15-Denise White

14-Dennis Madson

17-Austin Henderson

-WEEKLY GIVING-

LAST SUNDAY: 10/6/24:

No update this

Last Weeks Attendance

YEAR-TO-DATE: 10/6/24:

week due to the

73

LAST YEAR: as of 10/6/23:

financial secretary

DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE:

being unavailable.

Tuckpointing/Steeple Project Update: Total received as of 11/2/24 **\$166,647**

Total available balance as of 9/30/24 **\$59,949.32** All contributions towards this project are greatly appreciated! Please remember to note the “Steeple Project” in the memo when submitting your contribution. Thank you!

Memorials Given In September: Wayne Sprecher— \$10 Cemetery Fund

Guest Book: If you are visiting Salem today, we welcome you and invite you to sign our guest book, located in the Narthex, and we hope to see you again!

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 sign up in the Narthex.

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 the bottom of www.salemlakemills.com

-- **Give automatically through the Simply Giving Program.** Sign up for monthly or weekly 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)

Trunk or Treat: The Youth Board is hosting a Trunk or Treat community event on Sunday Oct. 27th; 4:30pm-6:00pm. Please consider hosting a trunk! The more we have participating, the more fun it is for everyone! Please sign up in the Narthex if you will host a trunk. Come early and set up on the East side of Salem

Goodies: The Youth Board is asking for donations of bars/cookies etc. for the Trunk or Treat community event on Oct. 27th. If you are willing to donate some goodies, please sign up in the Narthex and have them in the lounge by 3:30pm.

Fall Recharge: Sign up for a super fun weekend that is like a whole week of camp smashed into 40 hours! High energy worship, games, free time, small group time and awesome food! \$95 per person. Dates: October 18-19 for grades 3-6, November 8-9 for grades 6-9, November 22-24 for grades 9-12. Find friends from your school/church to be in a cabin with and register online. Check the Faith Formation bulletin board by the Pastor's offices to scan the QR code or go to riversidelbc.org

Faith Formation Volunteers Needed: The Youth Board is making weekly plans for music, activities, games and crafts, BUT...we need YOUR HELP to make this year a success! Please consider donating your time to supervise and interact with our children. There is a signup sheet on the bulletin across from the chapel. No planning or experience necessary, a youth board member will be leading.

Worship 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.

Gospel Concert: Music by Todd Utpadel, "Musicians Against Cancer". Freewill donation. All money is going to the Blooming Prairie Cancer Group--Community Fund. October 20; 2:00pm. At the Community Lutheran Church in Geneva, MN.

French Toast Breakfast: Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Leland has invited us to their breakfast event on October 26; 8:00am-1:00pm. There will be French toast, egg bake, sausage or ham, juice and coffee served. Free will offering.

Noisy Offering: The Stewardship & Social Ministry Board has decided to support ELCA World Hunger, for this sessions Noisy Offering. More than 820 million people, or about 11 % of the world’s population, are hungry. As members of the ELCA, we are called to respond. Working with & through our congregations, in the United States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands Lutheran churches overseas and other partners, ELCA World Hunger is uniquely positioned to reach communities in need. From health clinics to microloans, water wells to animal husbandry, community meals to advocacy, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger make it possible for the ELCA to respond, supporting sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty. We will be running our Noisy Offering campaign from Oct. 6th – Nov. 3rd. Noisy Offering containers are in the Narthex. Hunger facts: *821 million people around the world - that's more than 1 in 10 - can't access the food they need to live active, healthy lives. *According to the most recent estimates, 736 million people live in extreme poverty on less than \$1.90 per day. That's 10% of the world's population. *At some point in 2017 (the most recent year available), more than 40 million people in the United States were unsure where their next meal might come from. *39.7 million Americans were living in poverty in 2017. For a family of four, this means their annual household income was below \$25,094.

Tenth Avenue North brings “The Invited Tour” to the Surf Ballroom for a night of uplifting music & spiritual connection on **October 17**. This special event is an opportunity for the community to come together in faith, celebrate God’s love, and enjoy the powerful message that Tenth Avenue North has shared through their music for years. Whether you’re familiar with their hits or new to their sound, this concert promises to inspire and encourage! Tenth Avenue North, a beloved Christian band known for their powerful lyrics and deep convictions, is making a much-anticipated return to live performances after a four-year hiatus. With nearly 2 million albums sold, their music has long explored the human experience and God’s enduring love. Now, they’re back on the road, introducing new members and fresh music. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. The Surf Ballroom box office hours are Mon-Fri 8am-4pm. Tickets may be purchased by calling 641.357.6151 or online at www.surfballrom.com

West Bend Grotto Fall Field Trip: All women are invited, bring a friend (men too) but must RSVP to Chris VanDeventer at 515-320-2877 by **Monday, Oct. 14th**. Cost is \$5 for the POW museum, the other 2 are free-will donations, lunch on your own. Everyone will meet at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Mason City parking lot and carpool. Leave Mason City by 8:15am and arrive at the West Bend Grotto by 10:00am. Lunch 11:15am (free will donation) Wagon Wheel restaurant, Algona POW museum 1:15 (\$5 per person), Algona Nativity Scene 2:30pm (free will donation). Please RSVP with the following information, # of people coming, contact name, address, church, phone number and email.

Created To Be Connected: High school youth and adult leaders from the Northeastern Iowa Synod are invited to come together for an afternoon of games, Bible study and other fun activities on Sunday, Nov. 3, at the "Created to Be Connected" event. This new event will take place 2-5 p.m. at St. John Lutheran Church in Cedar Falls. Youth and leaders will have an opportunity to connect with one another, share ideas and get energized and inspired in their faith. Special guest Aaron Shoppa, program director for Youth Ministries for the ELCA, will share about youth ministries and other programs of the wider church. **Register by Oct. 28** The event is open for all youth in grades 9 through 12 and their youth leaders, whether they attended the 2024 Youth Gathering or not. The cost to attend is \$5 per person, which includes refreshments. Check-in will begin at 1:30 p.m. Questions about the event? Call 319-352-1414.

Retired Senior Volunteer Program: Reading Buddy pairs 1 volunteer to 1 student to read & practice literacy skills. The program at Lake Mills Elementary currently serves Kindergarten & 1st grade students. Volunteers typically serve 1 day per week for approx. 1 hour. Teachers provide all the necessary materials. The volunteer reads, works on sight words, literacy games, etc. and helps the student form a positive relationship around reading & also becomes a trusted, caring adult in their life. Lake Mills hopes to add MORE classrooms this year, so please tell a friend! To sign up, call 641-422-4304 or visit www.niacc.edu/rsvp to enroll. All volunteers will be provided orientation and training in Lake Mills so they feel confident and ready to help students have a successful experience.

Fall Dinner and Quilt Raffle: West Prairie Lutheran church (40041-150th St. Leland) had invited us to this community event on Sunday, October 13; 11:00am-1:30pm. Proceeds from this event will be donated to the local chapter of FAMILIES OF THE FALLEN. Cost is \$12 adult, \$6 child (5 and under free) at the door. Tickets can be pre-purchased at David's Grocery Store Saturday September 28, 10:00am-2:00pm. They will be serving BBQ meatballs, cheesy potatoes, southern style green beans, roll, dessert and beverage. Dine-in, take out, or free home delivery. Delivering to Forest City, Thompson, Leland, Lake Mills and Scarville. No beverage will be provided with home delivery. New this year. Call in for the FARMERS IN THE FIELD SPECIAL! Free delivery to a central location in Forest City, Thompson, Lake Mills, Leland and Scarville for farmers in the field. **Pre-orders only. Orders must be received by Friday, October 11 by leaving a message at (641) 567-3733.** They will return calls to confirm orders and time for deliver, so please remember to include your phone number in the message. Beverages will be provided with the Farmer's Special. Cost for that is \$8. The quilt raffle is \$1 per chance or 6 chances for \$5. Quilt measures 72 inches x 72 inches. Tickets can be purchased At David's Grocery Store prior to the dinner or the day of the dinner at the church. The winner will be contacted by phone and need not be present to win. Questions? Call (319) 931-3570

"One Year to Live" Men's Retreat: Registration is now open for this event. The retreat is set for Nov. 1-3 at Camp Ewalu, Strawberry Point. The retreat is an opportunity for men of all ages to rethink how they set their priorities & discover how God has equipped them to live. It is led by lay members and presented by Lutheran Men in Mission, in partnership with the NEIA Synod & Camp Ewalu. Cost is \$175 for those who register by Oct. 7. After that date, the rate is \$200, due by Oct. 21. Lodging, six meals and materials are included. To download the brochure/ registration form and to register online, visit www.neiasynod.org/oytl

Scandinavian Bazaar: Thursday, November 7th at Trinity Lutheran Church, Mason City IA, 8:00am to 1:30pm. \$10 meatball dinner and pie served from 11:00am to 1:00pm, plus various shops. More information coming soon...

Salem's Clothes Closet is open every Monday from 2:00-4:00pm; and can be accessed at the south entrance. Clothes, shoes, boots, coats, jackets and a few other kids' items 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 2:00-5:00pm every Monday 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 and someone will call back.

Prayer Shawls, hand knit or crocheted by Salem members, are available in the Narthex for you to wrap someone in need. A Prayer Shawl is for anyone in need of prayer, hope, comfort and love of a community. If you would like the person included in the prayer chain, please call the office.

Prayer Chain Ministry is a network of people who are committed to prayer and will take action on behalf of others. If you will pray for those in need, sign-up in the Narthex. If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, call the office. If there is no answer, leave a message and we will send out the request ASAP. All requests will be confidential among the prayer chain ministry. Thank you!

Live Stream Sponsorship: Dates available 2024: Oct 20. Nov 24. Dec 29.

Dates available 2025: Jan 5, 19, 26, Feb 9, 16, 23, March 9, 16, 23, 30, April 20, May 4, June 8, 15, 29, July 6, 13, 20, 27, Aug 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Sept 14, Oct 5, 12, 19, 26, Nov 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Dec 7, 28. Cost is \$40. Call the office to sponsor.

ALL ARE INVITED DOWNSTAIRS AFTER WORSHIP FOR FELLOWSHIP

SUNDAY 10/13

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

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

10:00am Faith Formation-Chapel

10:00am 3rd Grade Bible Class-Lounge

MONDAY 10/14

1:00pm Mission Quilters-Fellowship Hall

2:00pm-4:00pm Salem's Clothes Closet is OPEN

2:00pm-5:00pm Lake Mills Food Shelf is OPEN

WEDNESDAY 10/16

6:00pm Confirmation Class-Choir Room

THURSDAY 10/17

2:00pm WELCA-Lounge

SUNDAY 10/20

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

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

10:00am Faith Formation-Chapel

10:00am 3rd Grade Bible Class-Lounge

Salem Office: 592.1771 Monday-Friday 9:30am-1:30pm

(Hours subject to change. Feel free to call the office to ensure it's open.)

Visit us at www.salemlakemills.com or Facebook: Search Salem Lake Mills