

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

October 23-29

God Be Merciful

We may expect the religious insider to be blessed, the moral person to be right with God. But as is so often the case, Jesus' parable for today sweeps away conventional expectations. Jesus surprises the disciples and us when he says it's not the Pharisee but rather the tax collector, that morally suspect, second-class citizen, who goes home "justified," right with God (Luke 18:14). Here is a strong reminder for those of us who are church "insiders." We are sinners who beg for God's mercy, utterly dependent on God's forgiveness and love—not merely for ourselves but for all in God's creation.



THIS WEEKS TEXTS

Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

Psalms 84:1-7

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Luke 18:9-14

NEXT WEEKS TEXTS

Isaiah 1:10-18

Psalms 32:1-7

2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Luke 19:1-10

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

24-Anna Menke

24-Katelyn Groe

24-Megan Groe

25-Krishna Hanson

25-Chad Kloster

26-Kevin McDonald

26-Elijah Stene

27-Bryce Budach

27-Kyle Helgeson

27-Samantha Jamtgaard

28-Emma Hoffman

29-Joe Jamtgaard

30-Cole Bergo

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:** Melissa, Kelsi and Bridget Odom, Lloyd & Margaret Okland, James, Candy, Andrew and Michael Olsen, Chuck and Kimberly Olson, Harlan Olson

-WEEKLY GIVING-

LAST SUNDAY: 10/16/22 \$ 3,646
YEAR-TO-DATE: 10/17/22 \$ 168,066
LAST YEAR: as of 10/17/21 \$ 184,024
DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE: \$ - 15,958

October 23rd: A special congregational meeting will be held in the sanctuary on Sunday, October 23rd, after the 9:00am worship service. This meeting is being called to vote on a proposed capitol project to tuckpoint/repair the bell tower and other specific areas of our church building. Additional building repairs will be discussed as potential continuation of this project. **Please note:** a quorum of 30 voting members must be reached in order to hold this special meeting. Coffee fellowship will commence post meeting.

Hand Bell Practice will be on Wednesdays at 7:00pm in the Choir Room. Anyone interested can still come and join the group (6th grade and above).

Trunk or Treat: The Youth & Education Board is hosting Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 30th; 4:00pm-5:00pm in the alleyway behind Salem. Everyone is welcome! To host a trunk, sign up on the Faith Formation table across from the chapel, or call the office. We need more hosts, please consider hosting a trunk! There will be warm drinks and snacks served too! Fun for all ages!

Baked Goods: The Youth & Education Board is looking for donations of cookies, bars or snack mix that can be served at the Trunk or Treat event on October 30th. Please sign up in the Narthex or call the office if you would be willing to help. Then drop them off in the lounge by 1pm on October 30th. Thank you!

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

Fall Dinner: West Prairie Lutheran Church, 40041-150th Ave, Leland IA, has sent an invitation to their Fall Dinner on Sunday, **October 23rd**; 10:30am-1:30pm. **Adults-\$10**, Children 10 & under-\$5. Menu: BBQ Meatballs, Cheesy Potatoes, Southern Green Beans, Dinner Roll, Cookie/Bar and Beverage.

Knitters & Crocheters needed! We have been gifted with a lot of baby yarn and would love to have help making sweaters and caps for the baby kits. Yarn and patterns can be found in the Narthex (or use a pattern of your own). If you have any questions, call Sue Langerud 641.568.3620

Living Lutheran will no longer be mailed out. If you would like a copy of it, you can find them in the Narthex by the Devotionals or in the south entrance.

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

Lutefisk Supper: Emmons Lutheran Church has sent an invitation to their 62nd Lutefisk Supper on Tuesday, **November 1st**; serving at 11am, 12:30pm, 5:30pm & 7pm. **Adults-\$22** in advance (no refunds) Children 10 & under \$8. Menu: Lutefisk, Meatballs & Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Sweet Pepper Coleslaw, Cranberry Relish, Lefse, Pastries. Tickets available at MBT Bank in Lake Mills.

Scandinavian Bazaar: Trinity Lutheran Church, 213 N. Pennsylvania Ave, Mason City IA, has sent an invitation to their Scandinavian Bazaar on Thursday, **November 3rd**; 8am-2pm. Coffee Shop featuring Norwegian sandwiches, lefse, pastries, rolls, pies--8am-10:30am. Luncheon (serving 2 shifts) seating at 11am and 12pm. Menu: Scandinavian Meatball dinner with pie--**\$9** Take out available. **All meal tickets need to be purchases in advance, Call 641-423-0536 to purchase tickets in advance.** They will also have a Scandinavian Boutique featuring unique holiday and everyday gifts, a Gift Gallery with handcrafted one of a kind items, Candy & Bake Shop with Norwegian pastries, candies, breads, cookies, bars and more and a Book Nook with puzzles and gently used hardcover and paperback books for all ages.

Lake Mills Community Blood Drive: Wed. Nov. 10th, 1-6pm; Fellowship Hall
 Appointments Are Required. Text: LIFESERVE to 999-7777 or Call: 800-287-4903

Volunteers Need: If you are willing to usher, acolyte, read or sing in the liturgical choir, sign up in the Narthex or call the office. If you would like to learn how to help with sound, monitors or live stream, call the office. Thank you!!!

Luke 18:1-8 - And He [Jesus] told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, 'Give me justice against my adversary.' For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor respect man, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.'" And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says. And will not God give justice to His elect, who cry to Him day and night? Will He delay long over them? I tell you, He will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on earth?"

I love this story, because the woman is so persistent. Somebody is treating her badly, and she knows she has an absolutely iron-clad legal case against him. If she can just get the judge to schedule her case, she will win!

But that's the problem. The judge isn't interested. He's a corrupt judge, and he sees no benefit to himself in dealing with the situation. So he won't listen—until she harasses him so much that he decides to hear the case, just to get rid of her!

And then the punchline—if an evil judge can get worn down like that, just because someone keeps asking—won't God do much better when the people He loves cry out to Him? Of course the answer is yes. Obviously it's yes! We should pray, and we should expect God to hear us. This is a no-brainer.

And yet ... Jesus sounds a bit frustrated when He says, "When the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on earth?" In other words, "Why aren't you asking Me for help? Why aren't you praying? Wake up, people!"

I think we can all relate to that. After all, is there anyone who hasn't had the experience of finding out that someone you love was in trouble and didn't come to you for help? They are telling you the story, and inside your head, you are screaming, "Why didn't you tell me? I could've done this and that to help you!"

We forget to ask for help sometimes. We're used to being independent, self-reliant—and so we soldier on all alone for too long, even to the point of breakdown. Sometimes there are darker reasons why we don't ask—for example, we've learned that we can't trust people to help us, and we extend this lack of trust to God.

Against all of this, Jesus stretches out His arms to us and He says, "Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30).

He doesn't care about your failures in the past. He wants you now. And so He says, "pray." Ask for help. Call on God, and wait for Him to answer. After all, this is the God who cared so much about you He came into this world, to live, to suffer, and to die, in order to make you His own child. He rose from the dead to give you everlasting life—because He wants you with Him forever. He will hear you. Trust in Him.

WE PRAY: Dear Lord, help me turn to You and pray, not just when I'm in deep trouble, but throughout my life—because You love me. Amen.

This Daily Devotion was written by Dr. Kari Vo.

source: <https://www.lhm.org/dailydevotions/default.asp?date=20221013>

Short Thanksgiving Prayer

Lord, thank you for walking with us through the seasons of our lives.
For the winter, when we are held safe in your arms through the darkness.

For the hope of spring, as we are filled with new promise and life.

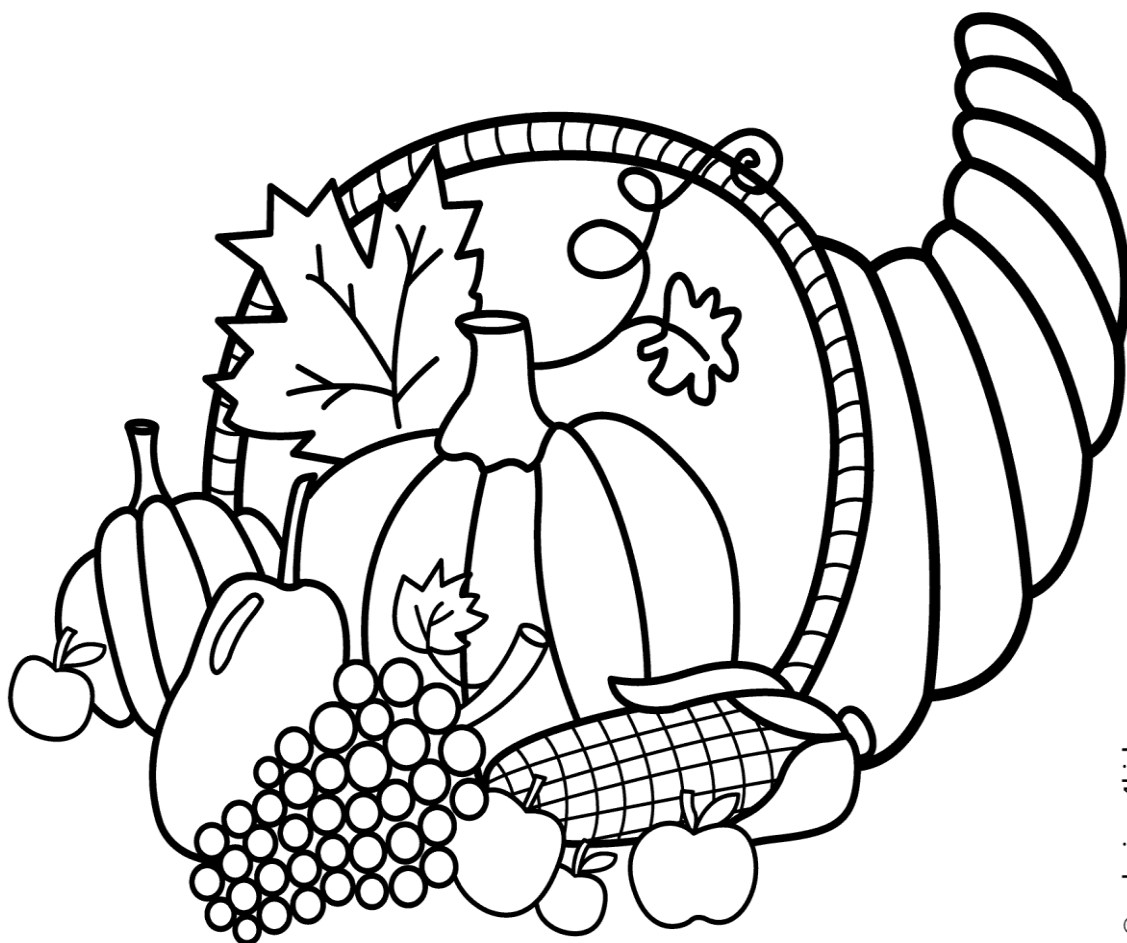
For summer time, full of warmth and colour

And for autumn days as leaves fall to see new growth.

You are always with us.

Amen.

source: www.lords-prayer-words.com



Fall Lutheran World Relief Shipment went to Albert Lea on Saturday, Oct. 8th. We sent 108 quilts, 2 blankets, 147 school kits and 37 baby care kits. Thanks to John, Wayne and Steve for loading them and to Steve for transporting them. The extra school supplies went to the Lake Mills School. Also, 16 quilts went to the Mason City Salvation Army. Thank you for all the contributions given so that we could have a great shipment. We could use any sheets, pillow cases, good hand towels and bath towels. Tiers, sewers, knitters and crocheters are always needed and appreciated too. -Mission Quilters

Lake Mills Clothes For Kids: *Let's clothe OUR children. Donations will be distributed throughout the Lake Mills Community School District to children ages birth to 18.* Pick a Christmas Tag (with a child's needs/sizes on it) from the electronic sign-up or the tree at Salem (if we run out of tags, we will publish other locations where they can be picked up). Both electronic and physical tags will be available starting **November 20th**. For electronic sign-up go to: **tinyurl.com/LMClothesForKids** Just in time for all those Black Friday deals! Purchase the items on the child's tag, wrap in one box, attach the original tag to the gift, and deliver/return them to Salem by **Sunday, December 11th**. Once again, this year each child's requests have been divided into two tags. One for clothing and the other for shoes and socks. This is an effort to keep costs affordable for the givers and be able to provide for the child's needs. *Cash donations are accepted at the banks or send to the LMCS Nurse's Office, 102 S 4th Avenue E, Lake Mills, IA 50450 Questions: LMClothesForKids@gmail.com*

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

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, 12-9pm Confirmation Lunch & Trip)

Thurs: Noon-8pm (1pm Mills Harbour Bible Study, 5:45pm Worship/Music Board Meeting)

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

Sat: 10am-Noon (service prep)

Sun: 8am-Noon (9am Worship Service, 10am Confirmation)

All are invited downstairs after the special congregational meeting for fellowship, coffee and a sweet treat. Fellowship is great opportunity to connect with other members of Salem & visitors.

SUNDAY 10/23

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary

10:00am Special Congregational Meeting-Sanctuary

Fellowship (following the congregational meeting)-Fellowship Hall

10:00am Faith Formation-Chapel

10:00am Confirmation-Youth Room

MONDAY 10/24

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

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

(To schedule a different time, call 641.592.5085)

2:30pm-5:00pm Lake Mills Food Shelf is OPEN (101 S. Mill St.)

3:15pm Daisies-Room 2

WEDNESDAY 10/26

10:00am Adult Bible Study-Fellowship Hall

12:00pm Cadettes & HS-Room 2

12:00pm Confirmation Lunch-Fellowship Hall

12:30pm Confirmation departs for Waverly

1:30pm Mills Harbour Communion Service

2:30pm Lake Mills Care Center Communion Service

6:00pm Property Board Meeting-Fellowship Hall

7:00pm Handbell Choir Practice-Choir Room

THURSDAY 10/27

1:00pm Mills Harbour Bible Study

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

SUNDAY 10/30

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary (Bible Sunday)

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

10:00am Faith Formation-Chapel

10:00am Confirmation-Youth Room