

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

October 23 – October 31

Restored by Grace

The word for today is *restoration*. Both the Old Testament reading and the psalm speak of God's restoration of the people of Israel, gathering them from sorrowful exile into joyful community. The gospel tells the story of Jesus healing Bartimaeus, restoring his sight in response to his faith. Today we do not have the same understanding of "clean" and "unclean" people; however, those who are sick still need restoration. There are people who are hospitalized for extended periods of time who need to be restored to the community. There are folks in nursing homes who long for the connections they once had to a worshiping community. There are people in prison who are cut off. There are even people who have been hurt or disappointed by the church who need restoration.

This same Jesus, the letter to the Hebrews reminds us, is our great high priest who continually restores us to right relationship with God. This hope of restoration is echoed in the reading from Jeremiah. Here God promises to gather and restore the people of Israel from their exile.

This promise of restoration is acted out through worship. Much of what happens in worship is concerned with restoration. In the word, in the meal, in confession and forgiveness, we are restored to wholeness (and *holiness*) with God and with one another. In the sharing of the peace we act out the restoration and reconciliation we all need. In the Lord's Prayer we ask, "forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us." What is this if not a plea for restoration? This restoration is not through our own merit, but through the love of Christ and the faith we have been given.

CELEBRATING GENEROSITY

During this time of social distancing, there are several ways to continue your giving.

-- By mail.

-- By "Simply Giving"- Sign up for weekly or monthly ACH withdrawals. Call the office to get a form.

-- By PayPal- Go to our website home page (www.salemlakemills.com) and scroll to the bottom left- there is a Donate button. Click on that and it will take you to a PayPal or credit card donation page.

-WEEKLY GIVING-

LAST SUNDAY: 10/17/21	\$ 4,727
YEAR-TO-DATE: as of 10/20/21	\$ 184,024
LAST YEAR: as of 10/20/20	\$ 181,274
DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE:	\$ 2,750

THIS WEEKS TEXTS

[Jeremiah 31:7-9](#)

The LORD gathers the remnant of Israel

[Psalm 126](#)

Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy. (Ps. 126:5)

[Hebrews 7:23-28](#)

Christ the merciful high priest

[Mark 10:46-52](#)

Christ healing the blind man Bartimaeus

NEXT WEEKS TEXTS

[Jeremiah 31:31-34](#)

I will write my law in their hearts, says the LORD

[Psalm 46](#)

The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. (Ps. 46:7)

[Romans 3:19-28](#)

Justified by God's grace as a gift

[John 8:31-36](#)

Jesus says, Continue in my word and you will know the truth

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:

Jessica and Parker Colby

John and Michael Colby

Jordan Colby

Timothy Colby

Donald Cole

Suggested Best Practices for Salem Members

As we continue to experience community spread of Covid-19 and we enter flu season please keep in mind the following recommendations and best practices to protect yourself and others while worshipping here at Salem:

- Monitor your own health – If you are not feeling well or have had a possible exposure to Covid-19, please stay home.
- Wash your hands often, hand sanitizer is available at the west entry doors and in the Narthex. Sharing the peace without contact is preferred and safer for all.
- Cover coughs and sneezes.
- Masking is optional for those who have been vaccinated. Masking is strongly recommended for those not vaccinated. Show respect for all members who choose to wear a mask. Masks are available at the west entry doors and in the Narthex.
- Maintaining distance between yourself and people who don't live in your household provides you better protection from those without symptoms that could spread the virus.

Mission Quilters 2021 Totals Given to Lutheran World Relief: 258 quilts, 75 baby care kits, 94 care kits and 127 health kits. 64 quilts were given to Salvation Army in Mason City and 2 quilts were given locally. Thanks for items given, money, time given and drivers to get them to the gathering spots

God's Work Our Hands: Please join the Faith Formation & Confirmation Students in using our hands to serve the community. We will be doing town and roadside clean up after church on Sunday, October 31st; 10:00am-11:30am. Lunch will follow at 11:30am in the Fellowship Hall (soup and hotdogs). If you would like to help the Faith Formation students in town, meet them in the Chapel after church. If you would like to help the Confirmation students on the roadside, meet them in the Choir room after church.

Baked Donations: The Board of Youth and Education is looking for volunteers to donate bars for the lunch on October 31st, following the God's Work Our Hands service project. You can sign-up in the Narthex or call the office 641.592.1771

Ila Grothe: The family of Ila Grothe is asking for prayers. Ila just had a pacemaker put in and they wanted to replace her aortic valve, but she's been losing blood so she needed a transfusion. Then they discovered a lot of blockages and wanted to do a TAVR. Now they found out she has cancer in her liver and lungs. If you would like to send a card to Ila, please send it to the address below.

604 S Mill St
Lake Mills, IA. 50450

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

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

Bibles: 3rd Graders and 4 year olds will be receiving their Bibles on October 31st during the 9:00 worship service.

Special Music: The Faith Formation students will be singing during the 9:00 worship service on October 31st.

Operation Christmas Child Project: The Board of Life & Growth will be collecting shoeboxes filled with gifts for the Operation Christmas Child Project. There are brochures in the Narthex with information, instructions and labels. It's fun to go shopping and pack a box with gifts for a child, but you don't have time for that, you can even build a box online! All you have to do is go to their website, samaritanspurse.org/buildonline or scan the QR code in the brochure, make your donation online, pick what you want in your box and the Samaritan's Purse will do the rest! The Samaritan's Purse has collected shoebox gifts filled with toys, school supplies, and hygiene items for children around the world. Since 1993, more than 188 million children in more than 170 countries and territories have received an Operation Christmas Child shoebox. The project delivers not only the joy of what, for many kids, is their first gift ever, but also gives them a tangible expression of God's love. All boxes need to be at the church by **November 14th.**

Volunteers Needed: The Board of Worship and Music is looking for volunteers. If you are willing to usher, acolyte, read, sing in the liturgical choir or would like to learn how to help with sound, monitors or live stream, please contact Heather at 641-909-4050 or write it on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Collections: The Board of Life & Growth collects used stamps, pop tabs, eye glasses and receipts from David's Marketplace. The WELCA group receives 1 tenth of 1% of all receipts collected. This can really add up and help. They ask that receipts do not get rolled up. Collection baskets are in the Narthex.



Radio Sponsorship: Reserve your special date to sponsor an 8:30am radio broadcast. The service is heard on KIOW (107.3 FM) radio in Forest City and on cable channel 2.

This year has quickly filled with sponsorship and only a few dates are still available. Don't miss your chance to sponsor a radio broadcast this year.

Cost is \$83. CALL THE OFFICE TO RESERVE YOUR DATE. 641.592.1771

2021 RADIO BROADCAST DATES AVAILABLE:

Nov. 7, Nov. 14, Dec. 5, Dec. 12

2022 RADIO BROADCAST DATES AVAILABLE:

Jan. 2, Jan. 16, Feb. 10, Feb. 20, March 13, March 27, April 3, April 24, May 1, May 8, May 22, June 12, July 10, July 17, July 24, July 31, Aug. 7, Aug. 14, Aug. 21, Sept. 4, Sept. 18, Oct. 9, Oct. 16, Oct. 23, Oct. 30, Nov. 6, Nov. 13, Nov. 20, Dec. 4, Dec. 11, Dec. 25

We also have a sponsorship program for the live internet broadcast of the worship service. Sponsorship is available for \$40 per Sunday.

Pastor's Schedule

Pastor Joel Guttormson

Monday: Off, but on-call

Tuesday: Off, but on-call (2:30pm Pastors Text Study)

Wednesday: Noon-8:00pm (10am Bible Study, 1:30pm Mills Harbour Communion Service, 2:30pm Lake Mills Care Center Communion Service)

Thursday: Noon-8pm (5:45pm Worship & Music Board Meeting)

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

Saturday: Noon-8pm (5:30pm Worship Service)

Sunday: 8am-Noon (9am Worship Service, 10am-11:30am Confirmation Service Project)

Secretary

Marci Adeogun

Mon-Thurs: 10am-5pm

Friday: 10am-4pm

Sat-Sun: Off

You will
seek
me
and find me,
when you
seek me with
all your
heart.

Jeremiah 29:13

SATURDAY 10/23

5:30pm Worship Service-Sanctuary

SUNDAY 10/24

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

10:00am-10:45am Faith Formation-Chapel

10:00am Confirmation-Choir Room

MONDAY 10/25

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

2:00pm-4:00pm Clothes Closet is Open(Call 641-592-5085 to schedule alternate time by appt.)

3:15pm Daisies-Preschool Room

WEDNESDAY 10/27

10:00am Adult Bible Study-Fellowship Hall

3:15pm Brownies-Preschool Room

THURSDAY 10/28

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

SATURDAY 10/30

5:30pm Worship Service-Sanctuary

SUNDAY 10/31

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary (3rd Graders & 4 year olds receive Bibles, Kids Sing)

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

10:00am-11:30am Faith Formation-Chapel (God's Work Our Hands Service Project)

10:00am-11:30am Confirmation-Choir Room (God's Work Our Hands Service Project)

11:30am Chicken Noodle Soup and Hotdog Lunch after the service project