
SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 29 – November 4

Jesus Is Really into Relationships!

Love God, love neighbor, and love self. Jesus is really into relationships! Oftentimes, even if unintentionally, we put loving self first, and because “we are bound to sin and cannot free ourselves” we usually do a poor job of actually loving ourselves. This means we have less love to give to neighbor and even less for God. Jesus puts relationship with God first. He doesn’t do this to make us last but so that we can fully understand love and relationship the way God desires it for us.

Today’s readings give us insight into the ways God desires us to be in relationship: by being just in all our dealings with others, by not being lead astray by the wicked, by sharing the gospel with humility and tender care, and by loving God and neighbor. It might sound simple, but relationships are far from simple. Relationships are complex creatures with complex issues. Even the best relationships include struggle.

People in our congregations struggle with relationships each and every day. Love should be an easy thing, but it takes work and effort to love God, love others, and love oneself. The psalmist uses the image of trees planted by streams of water to describe people who “delight in the law of the LORD.” These are not weak, brittle, or dying trees; these are strong trees that prosper. Our faith plants us, nourishes us, and strengthens us to love.

How can we be like trees planted by streams of water? In what ways can the church help people to make and maintain healthy relationships? How do we encourage self-worth and humility? This is an excellent day to ask these questions, to create forums where answers can be discussed, and to remind one another how much God truly loves us.

THIS WEEKS TEXTS

Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18
Psalm 1
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
Matthew 22:34-46



NEXT WEEKS TEXTS

Micah 3:5-12
Psalm 43
1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
Matthew 23:1-12

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

THIS WEEK WE WILL PRAY FOR:

Randy, Christi, Samuel and Katelyn Grothe, Duane & Judy Gudmonson,
Joel & Nancy Guttormson, Carole Hagen, Michael Hagen

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-Joe Jamtgaard

31-Cody Cox

3-Amber Christianson

30-Madison Shifflett

1-Faith Cox

3-Robert Drugg

30-Tiffani Linqvist

2-Beverly Mannes

-WEEKLY GIVING-

LAST SUNDAY 10/22/23:

No update this

-Last Weeks Attendance-

YEAR-TO-DATE: 10/22/23

week due to the

119

LAST YEAR: as of 10/22/22

Financial Secretary

DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE:

being unavailable

Tuckpointing/Steeple Project Update: Total received as of 10/22/23 **\$159,207**

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

Trunk or Treat: The Youth Board is hosting Trunk or Treat on **Sunday, October 29th; 4:30pm-5:30pm** on the west side of Salem. Everyone is welcome! **We need more trunks!** If hosting a trunk, please arrive early to set up. We will move to the Fellowship Hall and decorate tables if the weather is not good.

Baked Goods: The Youth Board is looking for donations of cookies, bars or snack mix that can be served at the Trunk or Treat event on **October 29th**. Please bring them to the lounge by 2pm on October 29th. Thank you!

Noisy Offering will be collected until **Oct. 29th** for those who are suffering as a result of the wildfires in Hawaii. Your gifts will support wildfire survivors and will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by wildfires. Please pray for those impacted by the wildfires. May God's healing presence bring them peace and hope in their time of need and give strength to those working diligently to contain the fires and care for affected communities. -The Stewardship Board
Noisy Offering update: As of 10/22/23 we have collected \$353.50

Congregational Birthday Party: The Board of Life and Growth invites everyone to a Congregational Birthday Party on November 5th in the Fellowship Hall, right after worship. This is to honor all of our members birthdays! There will be a table for each month, sit at the table of your birth month. There will be birthday games and prizes too! Everyone is welcome! It will be fun for all ages!

This years congregational birthday party will also be an opportunity to help our local food bank. They are in need of items to fill holiday bags with groceries for families in need. A free will donation of cash or non-perishable food items will be collected at the birthday party. This is optional and not required to attend the party. Items in high need are: canned vegetables, canned pasta meals, stuffing mix, mac & cheese, cream soups, cold cereal, pancake mix & syrup, brownie, cake & cookie mixes.

LAKE MILLS CLOTHES FOR KIDS 2023: This is the 14th Annual Clothes for Kids Event in Lake Mills--*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 (tinyurl.com/LMClothesForKids) or from the tree at Salem. *Both electronic and physical tags will be available starting Nov. 19th.* Purchase the items on the child's tag, wrap in one box, attach the original tag to the gift, and deliver them to the Salem office by **Sun. Dec. 10th.** *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.* Monetary donations are accepted at FTS Bank and MBT Bank in Lake Mills or send to the LMCS Nurse's Office, 102 S 4th Avenue East, Lake Mills, IA 50450 Questions: LMClothesForKids@gmail.com

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. If you don't have time to pack a box, you can build a box online! All you have to do is go to their website, visit samaritanspurse.org/buildonline or scan the QR code in the brochure to 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 shoeboxes 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 turned into the church office by November 19th. If no one is in the office, please leave them by the door.

Toys for Tots: The mission of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program is to collect new, unwrapped toys during Oct., Nov., & Dec. each year, and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to less fortunate children in the community in which the campaign is conducted. There is a collection box for toys across from the Chapel. The last day for collection will be December 5th.

Lake Mills Community Blood Drive Thursday, November 16th; 1:30pm-6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Appointments Are Encouraged; Call: 800-287-4903 or Text: LIFESERVE to 999-7777 or visit: lifeservebloodcenter.org

Fundraiser For Maui Fire Relief: We have been invited to the Fall Harvest Dinner at Galilean Lutheran Church (4454-255th St; Hwy 18 West) Clear Lake, IA. Share Life & Crisis Intervention. **Thurs. Nov. 2nd; 4:30pm-7:00pm.** Silent auction for lap quilts and gift baskets. Dinner will be creamed chicken and biscuits, salad, green beans, and assorted pies. Carry about available--call ahead 641-357-2296.

Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Manly Iowa has invited us to their Annual Fall Harvest Soup/Salad Luncheon on **November 5th; 10:30am-1:00pm.** Homemade soups, salads and pies--Free will offering. There will be door prizes 2/\$50 and a bake sale. Handicap Accessible and Takeouts Available--641-454-2586

Scandinavian Bazaar: We have been invited to the annual Scandinavian Bazaar at Trinity Lutheran Church in Mason City (213 N. Pennsylvania Ave) on **Thurs. Nov. 2nd; 8:00am-1:30pm**. This years Bazaar will feature a coffee shop serving a variety of Norwegian pastries, lefse, rolls, pies and sandwiches 8:00am-10:30am. A \$9:00 Scandinavian meatball dinner with pie will be served from 11:00am-1:00pm (seating times at 11:00am and 12:00pm). There will be various shops- Scandinavian Boutique selling holiday and specialty items; Craft Creations with unique hand-made items; Candy and Bake Shop; and the Book Nook with gently used puzzles and books of all kinds. All are welcome! All proceeds support local church and community projects in the North Iowa area.

Learn more at TRINITY-MC/ORG/BAZAAR

Asbury United Methodist Church in Lake Mills has invited us to their Fall Harvest Festival on Sat. Nov. 11th—Bake Sale 10:00am-1:00pm; Lunch 10:30am-1:00pm
Menu: Hamballs and creamed chicken gravy, mashed potatoes/biscuits. Both come with salads, roll, pie and drink. \$8.00 Takeouts Available--641-592-1106

Collections: We collect pop tabs, eyeglasses and receipts from David's Marketplace and Hy-Vee. The WELCA group receives 1 tenth of 1% of all receipts collected from David's. The Hy-Vee receipts go towards a cure for cancer. The baskets for all of these are in the Narthex. Please do not roll the receipts and keep David's separate from Hy-Vee. Thank you!

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)

Volunteers Needed: If you would be willing to learn how to help with sound, monitors or live stream, please call the office. 641-592-1771. Thank you!

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 2:30-5:00pm 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.



Salem Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 12, 2023 – 6:30 pm

President Shannon Bruhns called the meeting to order.

Members present: Marci Adeogun, Shannon Bruhns, Doug Bruhns, Sue Langerud, Dan Rice, Cindy Haugsdal.

Absent: Laura Gardner, Mary Peterson, Mike Swenson

Shannon opened the meeting with devotions and prayer.

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

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

Communication and correspondence – received 2 anonymous donations of \$50 each and which will be deposited in the general fund; received a request for support from Waldorf Lutheran College as they continue the successful transition under the ownership of Waldorf Lutheran College foundation – discussion resulted in a decision to pass this request on to Stewardship board for consideration to provide giving opportunity for members through a future Noisy offering.

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

Total income for September 2023 \$149,492.61

Total Expenses for September 2023 \$114,699.80 (Income less expense \$34,792.81)

Checking account balance (9/30/2023) \$44,524.63

FTSB/Tuckpointing account balance (9/30/2023) \$52,094.32

CD's at FTSB (9/30/2023) Reserves \$26,014.17

CD at MBT (9/30/2023) Ness Estate \$48,334.93

Doug pointed out a discrepancy in the Statement of Income and Expense. In the account 0–General Offerings/06-Thrivent Choice Giving and 02–Our Boards at Work/06-Altar Guild the amounts were listed as negative under Income and

were actually expenses, therefore will be moved to the expense section of the statement for each account.

Financial Secretary's report: Laura provided a written report.

2023 YTD total offerings (9/27/2023) \$136,331

2022 YTD total offerings (9/30/2022) \$156,299

Dan moved to accept Treasurer and Financial reports, seconded by Sue. All approved.

Board Reports

Enduring Gift Fund: Wayne Van Veldhuizen submitted a report that noted the total value of this account at \$437,987.90. The quarterly (July/Aug/Sept) report, including balance of each fund/interest was not available, but will be presented at the November Council meeting.

Board of Worship and Music: Mary provided a written report and Shannon shared a review of the report: Special music will be provided on Sunday, October 15 by Dave Melby. Ron Langfald has arranged this in memory of his wife, Ardis, who passed away one year ago; Faith Formation will be singing on October 22; 4 year olds and 3rd Graders will receive bibles on October 29; All supply pastors have agreed to provide children's time; Confirmation is off to a good start; looking for additional help to be trained to run sound system and live stream.

Board of Life & Growth: Sue provided a written and verbal report: Lutheran World Relief shipment for fall will be October 14; November 5 will be the congregational birthday party following worship in the fellowship hall, still looking for volunteers to decorate a table for each month; Christmas decorating at Salem is being planned for December 2.

Board of Stewardship and Social Ministry: Dan provided a verbal report: Continues to work on stewardship drive planning that will begin later this month.

Board of Property and Management: Mike provided a report via text message: Talked to the architect with Dean Snyder who has been talking with Dave Randall, who was also present to inspect the bell tower, and they are working on a plan to present to Salem for removal of the bell tower; Young Construction has not provided a date for when they will be available to shingle the south steeple; Continue to keep an eye on temperatures in the education wing and leaking in the chapel.

Board of Youth: Marci provided a written and verbal report: Eight of our confirmation students attended the UNI Lock-in; No interest from youth at Salem to attend the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering; Bible classes for 3rd graders will be October 15 and 22 and Bible Sunday will be October 29 with 4 year olds and 3rd graders receiving bibles; Postcards sent for this event were not received by all, so were sent again; Faith Formation is singing on October 22; Trunk or Treat scheduled for October 29 from 4:30-5:30, volunteers needed to host a “trunk” and donate cookies/bars/snacks (sign up sheets are in the Narthex and on a table across from the chapel); Planning for Christmas program (December 10) continues.

Pastoral Care Support: Funeral planning for two services with local pastors officiating at Salem.

Pastor’s Report: none

Sue moved to accept board reports, seconded by Doug. All approved.

Old Business:

- A. Call Committee Report – working on questions for interview process.
- B. Capital Project Update – see property and management report.
- C. Nominating Committee for 2024 Council and Boards – the committee is working hard on recruiting members to fill openings for 2024

New Business:

- A. Building Use – discussed the importance of lights being turned off and doors locked when using the facility. Shannon reported an incident that has been reported to the local authorities.

- B. Stewardship Drive – beginning this month, see earlier Board of Stewardship and Social Ministry report.
- C. 2024 Budget Planning – Doug provided and reviewed a budget worksheet for 2024 and asked board chairs to review and project potential expenses for 2024.
- D. 2024 Annual Meeting – January 21, 2024 (Backup date – January 28) in the Fellowship Hall. Meal to follow.
- E. Board Objectives Review – Tabled until next meeting.
- F. New members – None
- G. Transfers/statistical adjustments – Brooke Swanson requests transfer of membership from Silver Lake Lutheran Church to Salem. Marci moved that we accept this transfer of membership, seconded by Sue. All approved.
- H. Next meeting will be held Thursday, November 9, 2023, at 6:30 pm in the Salem library.

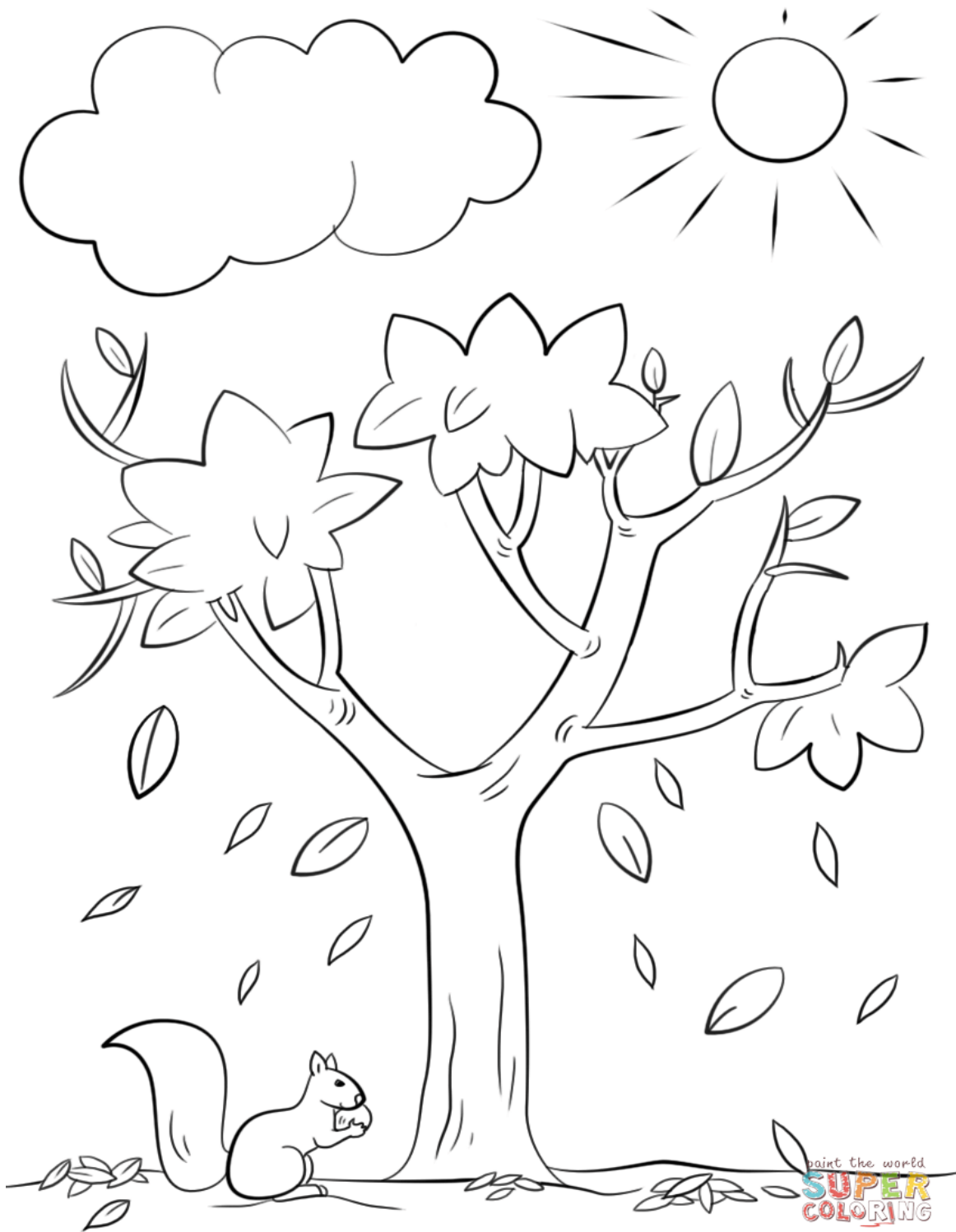
Sue moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Dan. All approved. The meeting was adjourned.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Haugsdal





ALL ARE INVITED DOWNSTAIRS AFTER THE SERVICE FOR FELLOWSHIP

SUNDAY 10/29

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

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

10:00am Faith Formation-Chapel

4:30pm-5:30pm Trunk or Treat (East side of Salem)

MONDAY 10/30

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

2:30pm-5:00pm Lake Mills Food Shelf is OPEN

WEDNESDAY 11/1

10:00am Adult Bible Study-Choir Room

6:00pm Confirmation Class-Choir Room

THURSDAY 11/2

9:30am Ruth Circle-Nancy Knudtson's Home

9:30am Grace Circle-Salem Library

4:00pm-8:00pm Fellowship Hall Reserved for Women Land & Legacy Meeting

SUNDAY 11/5

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

10:00am Congregation Birthday Party-Fellowship Hall

Live Stream Sponsorship: Dates available 2023: Nov. 19, Dec. 31

Dates available in 2024: Jan 7, 21,28. Feb 11, 25. March 10, 17, 24, 31. April 21.

May 5. June 9, 16, 23. July 7, 14, 21, 28. Aug 4, 11, 18, 25. Sept 1, 15, 22. Oct 13,

20. Nov 3, 10, 17, 24. Dec 1, 8, 29

Call the office to reserve your date. Cost is \$40.

Salem Office: 641.592.1771 (Marci)

Mon: 11am-5pm, Wed: 11am-1pm, Thurs: 11am-4pm, Fri: 11am-5pm

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