
SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 6 – 12

Who Would Jesus Bless Today?

Many Bibles include a heading before the latter part of today's gospel reading (Mark 10:13-16) that says something like "Blessing the Children" or "Jesus Welcomes the Children." In reading such a heading, we might begin to imagine a sentimental scene in which Jesus is surrounded by cute, adorable children. When we think about children being blessed in our churches today, we might imagine children gathering around the altar or at the front of the worship space for a children's time, in which the pastor or worship leader would say a prayer with them and give them a blessing. The parents and others may also be gathered just behind the children, smiling in adoration of these young ones.

However, we cannot view the scene from Mark's gospel with only our modern understanding of the role and place of children in society. The life of many children in North America is one of relative privilege, with carefree days in which they often experience the care and love of grown-ups. Jesus, by bringing the children to him, identifies himself with those who were among the most vulnerable and helpless in society. In ancient times, children often were treated like property. They had few protections from those who would treat them badly. But Jesus came into the world for ones such as these children. Who, in our communities, is in the place of the children of ancient times? As Christ's church, do we provide a place of welcome and care for the most vulnerable and weak in our society?

THIS WEEKS TEXTS

Genesis 2:18-24

Psalms 8

Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

Mark 10:2-16



NEXT WEEKS TEXTS

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

Psalms 90:12-17

Hebrews 4:12-16

Mark 10:17-31

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

THIS WEEK WE WILL PRAY FOR:

Brian & Deb Throne, Dennis Trostheim, Mitchell and Wesley Turnbull, Paisley Merritt and Kristal Foley, Gregory & Julie Turvold, Barbara Tweed

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

6-Megan Knudtson

8-Charles Gardner

8-Carlton Shaw

7-Peter Hagenson

8-James Nielsen

8-Lois Jamtgaard

10-Samuel Grothe

-WEEKLY GIVING-

LAST SUNDAY: 9/29/24: \$ 4,620

Last Weeks Attendance

YEAR-TO-DATE: 10/1/24: \$ 147,171

67

LAST YEAR: as of 10/1/23: \$ 142,053

DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE: \$ 5,118

Tuckpointing/Steeple Project Update: Total received as of 10/1/24 **\$166,647**

Total available balance as of 8/30/24 **\$59,139.32** All contributions towards this project are greatly appreciated! Please remember to note the “Steeple Project” in the memo when submitting your contribution. Thank you!

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 contact Sue Langerud. 641.568.3620

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.

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

"You Gotta Believe": A Christian movie, rated PG, showing at the Mills Theater in Lake Mills, Sun. Oct 6 @ 3pm and 7pm & Thurs. Oct 10 @ 7pm. The movie is about a little league baseball team of misfits dedicate their season to a player's dying father. In doing so, they accomplish the impossible by reaching the World Series finals in a game that became an ESPN instant classic. Adult \$5, Student \$3

Fall Recharge: Sign up for a super fun weekend that 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

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.

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.

Salem Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 12, 2024 – 6:30 pm

President Shannon Bruhns called the meeting to order.

Members present: Delane Behr, Shannon Bruhns, Doug Bruhns, Sue Langerud, Mary Peterson, Dan Rice, Cindy Haugsdal.

Absent: Laura Gardner, Marci Prescott, Mike Swenson

Shannon opened the meeting with devotions and prayer.

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

Dan moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Mary. All approved.

Communication and correspondence – received 3 anonymous donations of \$50 each, \$150 deposited into the general fund.

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

Total income for August 2024 \$12,738.85

Total Expenses for May 2024 \$12,366.68 (Income less expense \$372.17)

Checking account balance (05/31/2024) \$123,497.30

FTSB/Tuckpointing account balance (05/31/2024) \$59,139.32

CD's at FTSB (05/31/2024) Reserves \$27,287.12

CD at MBT (05/31/2024) Ness Estate \$41,774.60

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

2024 YTD total offerings (08/27/2024) \$130,398

2023 YTD total offerings (08/27/2023) \$121,077

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

Board Reports

Enduring Gift Fund: Next report (July/Aug/Sept) due in November 2024.

Board of and Music: Mary provided a written and verbal report: Met on 08/28/2024; discussed Worship Coordinator schedule and pulpit supply schedule through end of 2024; reviewed Confirmation student/parent meeting held with Pastor Melinda; September 8 is Rally Sunday, Blessing of the backpacks and Faith formation teacher recognition; discussed December communion schedule and confirmed with Altar Guild; talked about possible ideas for special music this fall and the Christmas season.

Board of Life & Growth: Sue provided a written and verbal report: working on “photo op’ set up for the Community Fall Festival on September 26 at Oakwood Park; Now have postcards that will be sent to visitors who sign the guest book; making plans for a manger scene in the Narthex for Advent; Confirmation kids helped pack school bags as a service project.

Board of Stewardship and Social Ministry: Dan provided a written and verbal report: Cookout planning for Rally Sunday on September 8, may consider a breakfast/brunch next year; the next Noisy offering will be in October and will collect for ELCA World Hunger; started planning for stewardship drive utilizing resources from the Synod website, including efforts to encourage congregation members to share time and talents with Salem.

Board of Property and Management: No report was submitted.

Board of Youth: Marci provided a written report: Confirmation kick-off (boating/dinner Clear Lake) went well and confirmation classes have resumed on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm; Blessing of the backpacks and Rally Sunday games on September 8 went well; provided a summary of upcoming events – 3rd grade Bible classes (October 13 & 20), Bible Sunday for 3rd graders and 4 y.o. (October 27), Trunk or Treat (October 27), Faith Formation Christmas program (December 15), Christmas caroling (December 18); will need volunteers to host trunks/provide treats for Trunk or Treat.

Pastoral Care Support:

Pastor's Report: None.

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

Old Business:

- A. Call Committee Report – Shannon reported that the Salem Ministry Site Profile (MSP) expires this month (valid for 1 year). The call committee will need to review and update the MSP. Shannon shared the existing MSP with council and reviewed the process the call committee went through to prepare the MSP document with the aid of Pastor Lanny. The NEIA Synod offers coaching for congregations that are in the transitional call process. During times of pastoral change, congregations often experience uncertainty, discouragement, and anxiety. Utilizing coaching can turn these transitional periods into opportunities for growth and revitalization. Shannon requested the support of the council to schedule a coaching consultation with the call committee at no charge. The consultation would focus on exploring the model of coaching and discerning if coaching session(s) could benefit Salem during this prolonged call process. Coaching could also help Salem to continue to work through issues that cause division among the congregation. Delane commented that perhaps Salem should consider leaving the ELCA. Cindy moved that Shannon schedule an exploratory Consultation with the call committee, seconded by Dan. All approved.
- B. Capital Project Updates
 - a. South Steeple Project – no update
 - b. Education Wing Roof repairs – no update
 - c. Bell Tower removal/repair – no update

New Business:

- A. 2025 Council/Board Openings – Shannon shared the ballot for 2025. The nominating committee will be contacting members to fill the openings.
- B. New Members – None
- C. Transfers/statistical adjustments – None
- D. Next meeting will be held Thursday, October 10, 2024, at 6:30 pm in the Salem library.

Dan moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Mary. All approved. The meeting was adjourned. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, Cindy Haugsdal

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/oysl

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.

ALL ARE INVITED DOWNSTAIRS AFTER WORSHIP FOR FELLOWSHIP

SUNDAY 10/6

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

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

10:00am Faith Formation-Chapel

MONDAY 10/7

2:00pm Sons of Norway-Fellowship Hall

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

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

WEDNESDAY 10/9

6:00pm Confirmation Class-Choir Room

THURSDAY 10/10

6:30pm Church Council Meeting-Library

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

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.

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