

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COUNCIL MINUTES

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

November 27 – December 3

Turn On. Tune In. Wake Up!

In the 1960's people were urged to turn on, tune in, and drop out—to leave the material world behind in favor of an alternate reality. In today's gospel, Jesus also urges us to tune into an alternative to the material world, one he called the coming of the Son of Man. In Jesus' person, the dominion of God comes into the world, and the risen Christ continues to give us abundant signs of its presence. Jesus commands his followers not to drop out of the world, but to be on the lookout for him in it.

Christians await the second coming of Christ, the *parousia*, when we believe we will experience God's reign in its fullness. In the meantime, we live, in the words of some theologians, "already, but not yet." We look for glimpses of the dominion in the here and now. The season of Advent, and today's readings, are designed to help turn us on to the excitement and anticipation of God's reign in our lives and tune in to the infinite opportunities we have to participate in it. In other words, they want to wake us up!

St. Paul exhorts us in today's second reading to lead lives of faithful obedience until the final day. He also challenges us to participate in God's dominion in the here and now, calling us to wake from sleep, to "put on Christ." Eyes wide open and wrapped in Christ, we are called to a new day. Isaiah describes his own vision: gathered by God, learning and teaching God's ways, walking in God's paths, beating swords into ploughshares and spears to pruning hooks. Wide-awake, active, and ready for encounters with Jesus, we may find God's dominion when and where we least expect it.

THIS WEEKS TEXTS

Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalm 122

Romans 13:11-14

Matthew 24:36-44

**NEXT WEEKS TEXTS**

Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

Romans 15:4-13

Matthew 3:1-12

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

THIS WEEK WE WILL PRAY FOR: David & Mary Peterson, Frances Peterson, Ila Peterson, Jason Peterson, Jessica Peterson

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

27-Darlene Banwart

29-Genavonne Fjelstad

2-Cassidy Cox

27-Kelsi Odom

30-Darrel Davidson

3-Rebecca Beery

27-Elaine Helgeson

1-Larry Voldahl

3-Kathy Henderson

28-Spencer Jensen

2-Connie Sabin

3-Holly Aukes

28-Courtney Bloomingdale

2-Christine Budach

-WEEKLY GIVING-**LAST SUNDAY:** 11/20/22 \$ 1,958**YEAR-TO-DATE:** 11/21/22 \$ 184,494**LAST YEAR:** as of 11/21/21 \$ 205,517**DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE:** \$ - 21,023

Mission Quilters had another great year thanks to your contributions and time. In 2022 they sent a total of 212 quilts, 123 health kits, 145 school kits and 95 baby care kits to Lutheran World Relief. They also sent 31 quilts to Mason City Salvation Army.

Live Stream Sponsorship: Call the office to reserve your special date. Cost is \$40.

2023 Dates available: Jan. 1, Jan. 15, Jan. 22, Jan. 29, March 12, March 26, April 16, April 30, May 7, June 11, June 18, July 9, July 16, July 23, July 30, Aug. 6, Aug. 13, Aug. 20, Sept. 3, Sept. 17, Oct. 8, Oct. 15, Oct. 22, Oct. 29, Nov. 5, Nov. 12, Nov. 19, Dec. 10, Dec. 31

TUCKPOINTING PROJECT UPDATE

Total received as of 11/24/2022

\$11,920

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



SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TO ELECT CALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

This meeting will be held Sunday, December 4th at 10:00am in the Sanctuary.

A quorum of 30 members must be met in order to hold this meeting.

Please attend this meeting as we continue to plan for Salem's future!!

The following Salem members have agreed to be on the Call Committee:

Kathy Chose, Bruce Adams, Dennis Madson, Spenser Brackey, Chike Ikefuama, Larry Rice, Shannon Bruhns

Fellowship Breakfast is scheduled for Friday, December 2nd; 8:00am – 10:00am in the lounge, across from the office. Everyone is welcome! Breakfast will be served until the food runs out or 10:00am, whichever comes sooner. Breakfast is free. Donations collected will go towards youth activities.

Cookie Donations: The Board of Youth & Education is hosting a Christmas Party in the fellowship Hall on Sunday December 18th, after the Christmas Program. We are looking for cookie donations to be served at this event. Please sign up in the Narthex or call the office if you are willing to donate. All donations need to be in the fellowship hall by 8:15am that day. Thank you!

Lake Mills Clothes For Kids: *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 in the Narthex. For electronic sign-up go to: tinyurl.com/LMClothesForKids 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.** *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*

Toys for Tots: There is a donation box across from the Chapel if anyone would like to make a donation. Toys are to be new and unwrapped. The last day to donate will be Sunday, **December 11th.**

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. Thank you!

Collections: We collect 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.

Updates: If your phone number or address has changed and you forgot to notify the church, please contact Marci in the office and let her know so that she can update your information before printing the annual yearbook. It is important to let the office know your current information so that you can be reached.

Salem Office: 641.592.1771

Mon-Tues: 10am-5pm

Wed: 10am-1pm

Thurs: Closed

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)

Thurs: Noon-8pm (1pm Mills Harbour Bible Study)

Fri: 8am-Noon, 1pm-5pm (8am-10am Breakfast)

Sat: 10am-Noon (service prep)

Sun: 8am-Noon (9am Worship)

Salem Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 3, 2022 – 6:30 pm

President Shannon Bruhns called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Members present: Drake Abbey, Marci Adeogun, Shannon Bruhns, Sue Langerud, Sondra Nelson, Mary Peterson, Cindy Haugsdal and Pastor Joel Guttormson.

Absent: Al Skellenger

Guest: Bishop Kevin Jones

Pastor Joel did not attend the first part of the meeting that was led by Bishop Kevin Jones regarding the Call Process.

Bishop Jones led us in devotions and prayer.

Special Topic Presentation: *Call Process Pilot Program – Bishop Jones will be working with Salem as the representative from the NEIA Synod and shared recommended best practices for the call process. This includes reviewing the Salem Constitutional Guidelines for calling a Pastor. He reviewed important things to consider when selecting the call committee including the size (recommended 6-12 members), diversity and representation (should be a cross section of the membership), Election process (vote to accept membership at a congregational meeting), and the recommended qualities of the committee (supportive of Salem and the community as well as the doctrines of the Lutheran faith). Once the membership is accepted by the congregation, Bishop Jones will meet with the Call committee and instruct them in preparing a Ministry Site Profile.

Bishop Jones left the meeting and Pastor Joel joined the meeting.

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

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

Communication and correspondence – 2 anonymous gifts of \$50 each was received and deposited in the general fund.

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

Total income for October 2022 \$20,043.61 (5 Sunday month)

Total Expenses for October 2022 \$18,799.94 (Income less expense \$1,243.67)

Checking account balance (10/31/2022) \$42,333.77

CD's at FTSB (9/30/2022) Reserves \$26,014.17/Ness Estate \$3,230.02

CD at MBT (9/30/2022) Ness Estate \$52,215.45

Drake transferred \$7,430.52 from the Ness Estate for annual withdrawal to General Fund. He renewed the remaining funds in the CD for 6 months.

Financial Secretary's report: Sondra provided a written and verbal report

2022 YTD total offerings (10/31/2022) \$174,958

2021 YTD total offerings (9/28/2021) \$192,496

Sondra reported that a total of \$627.41 was raised for the Good Samaritan Fund through Noisy offerings collected from September 25 – October 23, 2022.

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

Board Reports

Board of Worship and Music: Mary provided a written and verbal report: A welcome message has been added to the hymn boards; Bell choir will have special music November 6 and again in December; Bibles were handed out to 4-year-olds and 3rd graders on 10/30/2022; Thanksgiving Eve service will be held in the Chapel; Faith Formation Christmas program will be 12/18/2022; December special music was discussed; Christmas decorating plans and ordering poinsettias was discussed.

Board of Life & Growth: Sue provided a written and verbal report: The board will be making Chrismons 11/9/2022; All 5 1st graders have prayer pen pals; Samaritans Shoe Boxes are due 11/16/2022; Decorating the sanctuary scheduled for 11/26/2022 at 9:00 am; Looking into singers for July Jubilee Songfest.

Board of Stewardship and Social Ministry: No report/AI was absent.

Board of Property and Management: Shannon provided a written and verbal report: Boiler violation – inspection (clear violation and annual) will be

11/16/2022 with Dan in attendance; no chapel updates; Grinnell Insurance – Shannon arranging with someone to provide AED training; Janitorial responsibilities – Barb has been using a different cleanser for toilets and sinks that is removing rust; Bell Tower – Signed quote and invoice forms mailed to Pajic Tuckpointing with tentative plans to begin work in Spring 2023, with option to move out to June if funding not met by Spring; City of LM water usage report found that water ran for 7 hours on one specific date, Janitor not on site that day, no reason why water was on and then shut off; Donated Wall art will be hung in the Fellowship Hall rather than the Narthex; Discussed a “Congregational Work Day” – date pending.

Board of Youth: Jen and Marci provided a written report. Marci led discussion of items in the report that included: Confirmation students attended the UNI Lock-in and went on a field trip to Waverly, Iowa in October; 9 students registered for a Riverside Retreat in November; WELCA made a contribution to pay part of the registration fees and the Youth Activities Fund paid the balance; Trunk or Treat attracted a large turnout expressed appreciation for all who donated baked goods and volunteers who decorated their trunks and passed out goodies; Confirmation students will be participating in a food drive on 11/9/2022; Faith Formation is working on the Christmas Program that will be presented on 12/18/2022 at 9:00 Services; working on plans for a Christmas Party and Christmas Caroling – details not yet finalized.

Pastor Report – Complete Pastor reports are available for review in the church office.

Lead Pastor’s Report: Pastor Joel shared a written report that included Pastoral acts in October and accounting for vacation and continuing education days/Sundays used and planned. Additional topics in his report included:

- UNI Lock-in – Pastor attended along with 4 confirmands and Jill Budach.
- Funeral arrangement Issues – Pastor Joel and Pastors Bill, Randy and Ryan Henkel of Emmons met with the Mittelstadt Funeral home staff regarding the changing culture surrounding funeral arrangements and logistics in providing pastoral/congregational/funeral director care.

- Bible Sunday – Pastor Joel has suggested returning to gifting Bibles to 4-year-olds at Rally Sunday and continue gifting Bibles to the 4th Graders on Reformation Sunday. Noted with thanks that Megan Ritter assisted with 3 weeks of instruction for 4th graders and parents in preparation.
- Food Drive – Confirmation students will partner with One Christ to canvas the Lake Mills community soliciting food items for the Community Food Pantry.
- Chess Club – Pastor Joel will be a volunteer for the Chess Club at the LM School on Tuesdays from 3-4:00 pm.

Mary moved to approve Board/Pastor reports, seconded by Sondra. All approved.

Pastor Joel left the meeting following his report.

Old Business:

- A. Constitution (Continued)
 - a. Review ELCA Model Constitution and Guidelines –
- B. ELCA Northeastern Iowa Synod *Call Process Pilot Program
 - a. Bishop Kevin Jones attended the meeting and shared recommended best practices for developing a call committee. (*See Special Topic at the beginning of minutes)

New Business:

- A. 2023 Annual Meeting
 - a. January 22, 2023, at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary
 - b. Alternate date January 29, 2023
- B. Nominating Committee – Committee met 11/2/2022 and began calling and recruiting to fill open positions. There are some boards that will have the entire board that has completed their term so there is a need consider some adjustments to avoid this in the future.
- C. 2023 Budget

- a. Drake is working on the 2023 Budget. Board Chairs will be notified by Marci as to YTD income and expenses. Board chairs should send budget proposals for 2023 to Drake by December 1, 2022.
- D. Approved Capital Project – Tuckpointing
 - a. Dedicated Account for \$65k – Board of Stewardship will be meeting next week to finalize the letter to members requesting donations to the Capital Project – Tuckpointing.
- E. New members – None.
- F. Transfers/statistical adjustments – None.
- G. Next meeting will be held Thursday, December 8, 2022, at 6:30 pm in the library.

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

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Haugsdal

Thanksgiving Trivia

Question: How many turkeys do Americans prepare each Thanksgiving?

Answer: About 46 million (and an additional 22 million for Christmas)

Question: What professional football team has played almost every Thanksgiving since 1934? Answer: The Detroit Lions

Question: What city is home to the oldest Thanksgiving parade?

Answer: Philadelphia

Question: What did President Calvin Coolidge famously receive as a Thanksgiving gift? Answer: A live raccoon

Question: How much pumpkin pie do Americans eat every Thanksgiving?

Answer: About 50 million

Question: Who was the first President to pardon a turkey?

Answer: John F. Kennedy

Question: Which President first ordered a national day of Thanksgiving?

Answer: George Washington

Question: What Native American tribe celebrated the first Thanksgiving with the Pilgrims? Answer: The Wampanoag

Question: When was the first Turkey Trot? Answer: 1896

Question: Where was the first Turkey Trot? Answer: Buffalo, New York

Question: What happens at Cole's Hill in Plymouth, Massachusetts every Thanksgiving? Answer: A "National Day of Mourning" for Native Americans who died at the hand or plague of European settlers

Question: True or false: The Pilgrims referred to themselves as "Pilgrims."
Answer: False. They called themselves "Separatists."

Question: What was the first official act of legislation by the Pilgrims?
Answer: On November 11, 1620, the Mayflower Compact was written and signed by the male Pilgrims and passengers of the Mayflower laying the groundwork for the first government.

Question: When was the first Thanksgiving football game? Answer: 1876

Question: When was the first Thanksgiving Day Parade? Answer: In 1924 (400 Macy employees marched from Covent Ave. to 145th St. in New York City with animals from the Central Park Zoo)

Question: What year did the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade first have balloons? Answer: 1928

Question: How many people participate in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade each year now? Answer: About 8,000

Question: On average, how many people attend the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade each year now? Answer: About 3.5 million

Question: According to the Guinness Book of World Records, how much does the heaviest turkey on record weigh? Answer: 86 pounds

Question: How much does the average Thanksgiving turkey weigh?
Answer: About 15 pounds

Question: A full grown turkey has about how many feathers? Answer: 3,500

Question: What meat is the most popular alternative to turkey on Thanksgiving?
Answer: Ham

Question: How long is the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade route?
Answer: 2.5 miles

Question: When did the Mayflower officially depart England for America? Answer: September 6, 1620

Question: How was the Mayflower's voyage from England to America?
Answer: 66 days

Question: How many passengers were on the Mayflower? Answer: 102

Question: How many Pilgrims survived the first winter in America?
Answer: About half

Question: Which food was ever-present at the first Thanksgiving but is seldom eaten at Thanksgiving now? Answer: Seafood

Question: How many people attended the first Thanksgiving? Answer: 50 remaining colonists (only 5 were women) and roughly 90 Wampanoag tribesmen

Question: How long did the first Thanksgiving last? Answer: 3 days

All are invited downstairs after the worship service for fellowship, coffee and a sweet treat.

SUNDAY 11/27

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary
10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

MONDAY 11/28

1:00pm-4:00pm Mission Quilters-Fellowship Hall
2:00pm-4:00pm Clothes Closet is OPEN (To schedule a different time, call 592.5085)
2:30pm-5:00pm Lake Mills Food Shelf is OPEN (101 S. Mill St.)

WEDNESDAY 11/30

10:00am Adult Bible Study-Fellowship Hall
3:15pm Cadettes & HS-Room 2
7:00pm Handbell Practice-Choir Room

THURSDAY 12/1

9:30am Grace Circle-Ruth Sheldon's Home
10:00am Ruth Circle Bible Study-Faye Aamodt's Home
11:00am Ruth Circle Lunch-Teluwut
11:30am Sarah Circle-Teluwut
1:00pm Mills Harbour Bible Study
3:15pm Juniors-Room 2

FRIDAY 12/2

8:00am-10:00am-Fellowship Breakfast-Lounge

SUNDAY 12/4

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary
10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall
10:00am Faith Formation-Chapel
10:00am Confirmation-Youth Room