
SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 1 - 7

Don't Wait for the Kingdom—See It

As Advent begins, we look forward to the celebration of Jesus' first coming to the world in the light of a text that promises his final coming. We, like the gospel writer, Luke, live in the time between these two "advents" of Jesus. Today's gospel gives us guidance on how to live faithfully as we wait for Jesus to return. However, in this in-between time, it is easy for us to become distracted and lose sight of the promises of Jesus. Daily tasks and routines can lull us into apathy. Ease and success can allow us to ignore our spiritual needs. Struggles, setbacks, and disappointments can cause us to lose hope and fall into despair. But Jesus tells us we should not feel beaten down or defeated by the struggles of this world, but instead "stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near" (Luke 21:28).

Jesus goes on to say that there will be signs, signs of new life and growth, such as the sprouting of a leaf on a fig tree in the summertime. These signs are perceptible to us here and now. These signs help us know that God's kingdom is coming. In fact, they remind us that in Jesus, God's kingdom has already come near, and Jesus words will not pass away until this kingdom has fully come. We should live with our eyes focused on today's signs that demonstrate God's reign and trust that Jesus' redemption of the world will one day be complete.

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!

THIS WEEKS TEXTS

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Psalms 25:1-10

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Luke 21:25-36

NEXT WEEKS TEXTS

Malachi 3:1-4

Luke 1:68-79

Philippians 1:3-11

Luke 3:1-6

Each week we will lift up five church families/ members in prayer. THIS WEEK WE WILL PRAY FOR: David Anderson, Gordon & Denise Anderson, Rita Anderson, Steven & Leanna Anderson, Wade, Samantha, Alexis and Mya Anderson and Kaylie Sylvara

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

2-Connie Sabin	2-Cassidy Cox	5-David Hanson
2-Christine Budach	3-Kathy Henderson	7-Rachel Groe

-WEEKLY GIVING-

LAST SUNDAY: 11/24/24: \$ 6,737
YEAR-TO-DATE: 11/26/24: \$ 181,700
LAST YEAR: as of 11/26/23: \$ 173,011
DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE: \$ 8,689

Last Weeks Attendance
82

Tuckpointing/Steeple Project Update: Total received as of 11/4/24 **\$ 168,107**
Total available balance as of 10/31/24 **\$60,699.32** All contributions towards this project are greatly appreciated! Please remember to note the “Steeple Project” in the memo when submitting your contribution. Thank you!

Christmas Program: Our Faith Formation kiddos will present their Christmas Program on **Sun. Dec. 15th** during the 9:00am service with a **Birthday Party for Jesus** in the Fellowship Hall after the program. **Everyone is Welcome!**

Poinsettias: If anyone would like to share a poinsettia with Salem for Christmas, we welcome you do so. If you plan to bring one in honor of or in memory of someone, please let Marci know and we will include it in the bulletin.

Live Stream Sponsorship: Dates available 2025: Jan 19, 26, Feb 9, 16, 23, March 9, 16, 23, 30, May 4, June 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 a live stream broadcast. 641.592.1771 Thank you!

The winter arrangement at the main church entrance has been donated by Kathy Chose and her family in loving memory of Mark.

Memorials Given In November:

Wayne Sprecher: \$25 Cemetery Fund

Sylvia Heimdal: \$460 Steeple Fund

Roxy Sabin Rasmussen: \$310 Steeple Fund (Given in September)

Christmas Caroling: Please join the Salem Confirmation Students for Christmas Caroling. It's fun to share Christmas cheer with others and as always, the more the merrier! Everyone is invited and welcome to join in. Lyrics will be provided. We will meet at **5:30pm on Wed., Dec. 18th**, in the Fellowship Hall and then car-pool to the care center, assisted living and other community members' homes. Dress warm and bring a flashlight if you have one. After caroling we will gather for hot chocolate and goodies in the Fellowship Hall. If you would like to join us, please call the office so we can plan ahead (if we have enough people, we can split into 2 groups, and make a route for each group to follow). If you know of someone who needs some Christmas cheer, please call the office. 592-1771

LAKE MILLS CLOTHES FOR KIDS 2024: *Donations will be distributed throughout the Lake Mills Community School District to children ages birth to 18.*

What to do: Pick a Christmas Tag (with a child's needs/sizes on it) from the tree here at Salem, (or electronic sign-up) then purchase the items on the tag, wrap in one box, attach the original tag to the gift, and deliver it to the Salem office by **Friday, Dec. 13th**. For electronic sign-up go to: tinyurl.com/LMClothesForKids Monetary donations are accepted at FTSB and MBT Banks of Lake Mills. 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.

Salem Office: 592.1771 Hours change weekly. This week...Mon: 10am-2pm, Tues: 10am-5pm, Wed: 10am-2pm, Thurs: 11am-5pm, Fri: 10am-2pm. (Hours subject to change. Feel free to call the office to ensure it's open.) Find us on Facebook: Salem Lake Mills or visit www.salemlakemills.com

ALL ARE INVITED DOWNSTAIRS AFTER THE SERVICE FOR SALEM'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY BRUNCH AND PROGRAM

SUNDAY 12/1

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary (Pastor Ken Jensen & Pastor Steve Brackett)

10:00am Brunch & Program for Salem's 150th Anniversary-Fellowship Hall

MONDAY 12/2

12:00pm 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

TUESDAY 12/3

11:00am Miriam Circle-Teluwut

5:30pm Altar Guild Meeting-Library

WEDNESDAY 12/4

10:00am Bible Study-Choir Room

6:00pm Confirmation Class-Choir Room

THURSDAY 12/5

9:30am Ruth Circle-Mills Harbour

11:00am Grace Circle-Teluwut

SUNDAY 12/8

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

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

10:00am Faith Formation-Chapel

Goodies: The Board of Youth is asking for donations of goodies for the Christmas Carolers to enjoy, along with hot chocolate after Caroling on Wed, Dec. 18th. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Please have them in the Fellowship Hall by 6:30pm.

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. Forms are in the Narthex. Return forms to the office.

(We are charged a much lower service fee through the Simply Giving Program)