
SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 4 - 10

God Heals Persons and Communities

When Jesus heals us, we are empowered to serve others. While at first glance it might seem that Jesus' healing of Peter's mother-in-law was self-serving, on further reflection we see the same result in nearly all of his signs and miracles. The object of Jesus' compassion now has new responsibilities. In the very next chapter a paralytic lowered through the ceiling is raised, only to become the center of a religious controversy (Mark 2:3-12), as was the man who lay by the pool of Beth-zatha for thirty-eight years (John 5:2-15). When Jesus calms the storm (Mark 4:35-41) the disciples have to row the rest of the way! Any meaningful encounter with Jesus will result in our being changed, which in turn alters the way we see our relationship to the needs of others and the world.

Hard economic times, natural disasters, and divisive, party strife can make us feel helpless and hopeless, as if we have been abandoned by God. Even the church—local congregations as well as denominations—may feel fear and panic in the face of declining numbers and revenues, loss of loyalty from members, indifference or hostility from the surrounding culture, and internal sniping among factions. The exiled people of Israel in Babylon experienced all of this and more, so our condition is neither unique nor beyond the reach of our God. Isaiah 40:21-31 in the NRSV begins "Have you not known? Have you not heard?" Eugene Peterson, in *The Message*, translates this idea as "Have you not been paying attention? Have you not been listening?" There is some irony indeed that God's church, entrusted with God's salvation history and the gospel, still panics, still doubts and worries, still feels like it is up to us to save the church. We indeed are "clay jars" (2 Cor. 4:7)—carrying the message but not understanding, preaching salvation but not believing that God cares or will act to save. We live Isaiah 40 every day.

THIS WEEKS TEXTS

Isaiah 40:21-31
Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
1 Corinthians 9:16-23
Mark 1:29-39



NEXT WEEKS TEXTS

2 Kings 2:1-12
Psalm 50:1-6
2 Corinthians 4:3-6
Mark 9:2-9

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

THIS WEEK WE WILL PRAY FOR: Carol Juveland, John Kilen, Kimberly Kirschbaum, Dan, Kendall, Riley and Kelsey Kirschbaum, Chad Kloster

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

5-Shawn Helgeson

6-Lois Johnson

9-Helen Rice

5-Roy Kvale

8-Suzanne Myli

9-Nicholas Peterson

6-Daniel Helgeson

8-Delores Hanna

10-Addison Kopp

10-Tasha Swanson

-WEEKLY GIVING-

LAST 2 SUNDAYS 1/28/24: \$ 6,200

YEAR-TO-DATE: 1/29/24 \$ 14,930

LAST YEAR: as of 1/29/23 \$ 14,511

DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE: \$ 419

-Last Weeks Attendance-

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Tuckpointing/Steeple Project Update: Total received as of 1/29/24 **\$160,512**

Total available balance as of 12/29/23 **\$53,544.32** All contributions towards this project are greatly appreciated! Please remember to note the "Steeple Project" when submitting your contribution. 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)

Thrivent Choice Dollars: To those Salem members with Thrivent financial products, the deadline to designate your Thrivent Choice Dollars is approaching. Here are the deadlines to designate your dollars: Online: March 31
By Phone: Thursday, March 28 (before Easter weekend / Good Friday)
By Mail: Must be received by March 17 to guarantee designation.
In the past this has meant thousands of dollars, at no cost to you, to help with projects at Salem and we ask that you please continue to support this valuable program.

Blood Drive Results from January 18th: 42 units collected with 3 first time donors. Up to 126 lives will be saved or sustained with these donations.

Volunteers Needed: The Youth Board is making weekly plans for music, games, crafts & activities, **BUT.....we NEED** your help to make Faith Formation a success. Please consider donating your time to supervise and interact with the children of Salem. No planning, experience or training needed. Just pick a date that works with your schedule and sign up on the bulletin board across from the chapel.

Valentines for Veterans: KCMR Radio and the VA Clinic in Mason City will be distributing Valentine Cards to patients visiting the clinic, as well as at home through their home nurses. They will also be delivered to local nursing homes. Cards can be store-bought or handmade. Envelopes are not necessary. Drop-off: KCMR Radio, 316 N Federal Ave, Mason City. Monday – Friday 8 AM- 3 PM. Deadline: February 7th, 2024

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. Thank you!



Weather Policy: Just a reminder that the weather may not be as friendly this time of year as this snowman! Should there be an emergency schedule change an announcement will be made via the following: --Salem Lutheran Church, Lake Mills Facebook page --KLOW Radio 107.3 (Forest City) --KIMT TV Channel 3 Contact Shannon Bruhns at 641-592-5978 / 641-590-1532

ALL ARE WELCOME DOWNSTAIRS AFTER THE SERVICE FOR FELLOWSHIP

SUNDAY 2/4

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

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

10:00am Faith Formation-Chapel

11:00am Youth Board Meeting-Salem Library

MONDAY 2/5

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

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

TUESDAY 2/6

5:30pm Altar Guild Meeting-Salem Library

WEDNESDAY 2/7

10:00am Bible Study-Choir Room

6:00pm Confirmation Class-Choir Room

6:00pm Call Committee Meeting-Salem Library

THURSDAY 2/8

9:30am Fine Arts Guild-Lounge

6:30pm Church Council Meeting-Salem Library

SUNDAY 2/11

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

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

10:00am Faith Formation-Chapel

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

Dates available: Feb 11, 25. Mar 17, 24, 31. May 5. June 30. July 14, 21. Aug 4, 11, 25. Sept 1. Oct 13, 20. Nov 17, 24. Dec 29

Salem Office: 641.592.1771 (Marci) Mon: 11am-5pm, Tues: Closed, Wed: 9am-1:30pm, Thurs: 11am-6:30pm, Friday: Closed
(Hours subject to change. You are welcome to call ahead to ensure the office is open)