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Salem Lutheran Church

OUTREACH

October 2015

LABEL

We invite you to join us for our weekly Worship Services:

Sundays:

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service

9:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship - Fellowship Hall

9:35 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service

Wednesdays:

6:00 p.m. Casual Worship Service— Fellowship Hall

Prepare to . . .



. . . for Christ's sake

Pastor Peter Soli

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Pastor Melinda McCluskey

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MISSION

Salem Lutheran Church members have known and now extend to others the invitation from Jesus Christ to know him and his gifts of forgiveness, hope, peace, and purpose. Our desire is to be a welcoming place in service to the Lord who has welcomed us. We seek to grow in our faith through meaningful worship and study. We seek to share the gifts of Christ, both as individuals who reach out in love to our families, our community, our workplaces, and our world, and also as a congregation reaching out with meaningful and supportive services and programming to people of all ages. We seek to be servants, following the example of our Lord Jesus, who said that the greatest life is not the one lived simply for itself, but for the benefit of others.

Salem Lutheran Church
401 South Lake Street
Lake Mills, IA 50450

Message from Pastor Peter Soli



Turning the Negative into a Positive

By Pr. Peter Soli

In our sermon series on the Ten Commandments, we have come to what is called the second table of the law. These are commandments four through ten.

While the first three commandments focused on our relationship with God, all of these commandments center on our relationship with each other.

With the exception of the fourth commandment (Honor your father and mother...), all of these commandments are expressed in the negative. They begin with words, “You shall not...” As such, each commandment identifies those things that people do that destroy relationships and prohibits them. We are not to kill, commit adultery, steal, bear false witness, or covet. They instruct us to never do any of these things.

Frank and Ernest



Distributed from www.thecomics.com.

When I teach these commandments, I have found it is important to identify those positive things we are to do. For example, we can reason that if we are not to kill then we should help and befriend our neighbor. If we don't commit adultery, then we should lead a pure and decent life as well as to show love and honor to our spouse.

Martin Luther in the Small Catechism clearly identifies the positive actions that should be taken in each of these commandments that prohibit the negative actions. As followers of Jesus, we have been given two simple commandments: Love God and Love Neighbor. Love is always more than refraining from acting in a negative and hurtful manner. Love is about acting in a positive and helpful way.

This month, as we focus on the second table of the law, I hope we can discover, along with the prohibitions, the many positive ways to nurture and build relationships with each other.

A Message from LSI (cont)

Things fell apart for Sophia during seventh grade. Her grades slipped and she started acting out. A rocky home life didn't help matters. Sophia spent the next five years in and out of treatment centers, shelter care and foster care, and eventually she was placed at LSI's Bremwood Residential Treatment Center in Waverly.

“I didn't have a lot of family support, so Bremwood became my family,” she said. “They built up my self-esteem as much as they could when I didn't have any.”

“Before Bremwood, I didn't care about wanting to be successful or happy or stable,” she added. “I would self-harm multiple times a day with anything I could find. I'm doing better with it, but it's still a struggle sometimes.”

Sophia completed treatment at Bremwood, and she is now attending community college with plans to eventually study social work and business. LSI staff are so proud of Sophia – she was named “Student of the Year” at her GED graduation ceremony this past spring!

Did you know that Salem Lutheran Church has an AED (Automated External Defibrillator)? In November Linda Tweeten and Rhonda Harmon will be teaching a basic class on the use of the AED. This is an opportunity to learn how an AED can save a life. Basic information will be presented on how to operate this device in an emergency situation if no certified medical personnel are on site. Please note that this is not a certification course. Details will be in the November newsletter.

A Message from LSI

Warming Hearts with God's Love and a Good Pair of Mittens

Far too often, there are children who arrive at LSI's Beloit and Bremwood Residential Treatment Centers with almost nothing in their possession. And for children or youth who have been in the foster care system, it's not uncommon for them to arrive with everything they own in a single garbage bag.

We give thanks for Iowa congregations because you faithfully respond to these needs, year after year! As winter approaches, LSI relies on your loving support to meet the demand for hats, coats, gloves and mittens for children and youth at Beloit and Bremwood. And if you've ever been a child, had a child or known a child, then you also know it doesn't hurt to have a few extra pairs around!

Your church has likely received or will soon be receiving a letter inviting you to participate in LSI's coats and mittens appeal. If you would like more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at deborah.whitford@LSIowa.org.

LSI is proud to be an affiliated social ministry organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Learn more at www.LSIowa.org and www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

A Fresh Start for Sophia

Sophia is funny, creative, brave and smart. But in junior high, she heard none of those words from her peers. Instead, when she was 12, a classmate said to her, "Why are you still alive? I wish you were dead."

That's when she started cutting herself.

"Other kids at school threatened me on a daily basis, and the teachers didn't do anything to stop it," said Sophia, now 18. "I didn't want to walk home by myself after awhile."



Keep Your Fork

A Dessert Making Contest

Sunday, October 25 from 2-4 pm

Salem Lutheran will be celebrating the culmination of the Starting Strong Appeal with a dessert-making contest. Its name, "Keep Your Fork," comes from the story of a woman's dying wish. When she was lying in her casket, she wanted a fork in her hand.

When asked why, she said, "At the end of a meal, when the table is being cleared I knew that when told to 'keep your fork' this meant there would be a delicious dessert coming. At my funeral, I want people to know that the best is yet to come."

The dessert-making contest is for all of Lake Mills and the surround area. Contestants will be vying for cash prizes which will be awarded in each of the three divisions: Junior Division (under the age of 18), Senior Division (70 and older), and the Open Division (all ages). First place winner will receive \$100; second place - \$50; and third place - \$25.

The public is invited to come to Salem's Fellowship Hall to view the judging and sample the desserts; enjoy a variety of live entertainment; feast on a dessert bar provided by Salem cooks; bid on contestants' desserts and recipes; and cheer the winners at the awards program. A free-will donation will be received at the door.

Contestants will be asked to make two identical desserts for the event. One will be tasted and judged, the other (along with the recipe) will be offered to the public in a silent auction. The auction will conclude at 3:30 and the highest bidder will be awarded the dessert.

Judges for the contest are being solicited at this time. There will be three judges for each of the divisions. One of the judges will be a recognized expert cook/chef. The other judges will be local and area 'celebrities.' Musicians and entertainers are also being recruited at this time. Be sure to watch for a complete list of musicians and judges.

To enter the contest, pick up an entry form at church or enter online at www.salemlutheran.com. There is no entry fee but all contestants must be approved prior to entering the contest.

Update from the Council

Council Minutes September 14, 2015

President Harris Honsey called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Members present were Harris Honsey, Scott Hagenson, Mike Swenson, Yvonne Beenken, Wayne VanVeldhuizen, Keith Johnson, Tami Alphs, Al Skellenger, and Pastor Soli. Pastor Soli opened the meeting with devotions. It was moved by Scott and seconded by Al to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. All approved.

Secretary's Report: No correspondence.

Treasurer's Report: Mike reported a checkbook balance at the end of August of \$34,075.74. Income for August was \$31,913.81 and expenses were \$26,540.25. **Financial Secretary's Report:** Deb submitted a written report concerning the Starting Strong Appeal. As of August 31, \$28,535 has been pledged leaving us \$3,465 short of our \$32,000 goal.

Call Committee Report: Pastor Soli reported that the Committee met last week and continue consulting with Stephen Brackett at the Synod office. They have interviewed one candidate. They plan to conduct an interview with a second candidate as soon as it can be arranged.

Board of Worship and Music: No report.

Board of Stewardship and Social Ministry: Keith and Wayne reported that they plan a temple talk to update the congregation on the Starting Strong Appeal. They are also planning a fundraiser for October 25, Reformation Sunday.

Board of Education: No report.

Board of Youth: Pastor Soli reported a very successful Fifth Quarter event for middle school was held on September 11 after the football game.

Board of Life and Growth: Tami reported that they continue to organize the service groups.

Board of Property and Management: No report. Harris reported that tuck pointing will soon be needed on the church building. Scott will check into this. A yard light is needed on the east side of the church for the firepit area. It was moved by Keith and seconded by Tami to accept these reports. All approved.

God's Work, Our Hands – A Lutheran Service Project



On September 13th, Salem members joined together with member of the One-In-Christ Lutheran Parish for various projects. Lutherans across the United States took on projects that serve their communities.

This summer, the fellowship hall was the dining room for over 5,120 meals prepared and served to children in Lake Mills. Now that school has started, and the summer food program has come to a close, it was time to give the room a thorough cleaning.

The second project was a building a fire pit for the 5th quarter events. Following home football games, youth are invited to gather around a fire for food, fellowship and fun. The Junior High events are held at Salem and the Senior High events are held at Winnebago.

You may have noticed that the courtyard was also cleaned on that same Sunday. The weeds were pulled, cement was swept and toys were relocated to kids who will enjoy them!

Thank you to everyone who joined up for this Sunday of Service!



God's Work, Our Hands – A Lutheran Service Project



Update from the Council (cont)

Lead Pastor's Report: Pastor Soli reported that his performance review has been completed. It was conducted by Harris, Keith, and Deb. He has found some musicians for the Contemporary Service but hopes to expand this group. Confirmation classes have started with thirty-four students. Eight parents have agreed to help. Classes meet on Wednesdays, pizza served at 5:00 and study at 5:30.

Associate Pastor's Report: Pastor Melinda submitted a written report detailing her pastoral acts for August. She also attended the LMCS Welcome Back Breakfast.

Her performance review has not been done yet but will take place soon.

Old Business: Harris reported on the God's Work/Our Hands Project held on September 13 at Salem. Carpets were cleaned in the Fellowship Hall. The firepit work was completed and the courtyard cleaned. Play equipment in the courtyard from the former preschool was disposed of but not thrown away.

New Business: There were no visitors. It was moved by Mike and seconded by Scott to approved the transfers of Chuck and Jennifer McGrady to Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Buffalo Center and Melissa Schulz to First Lutheran Church in St. Ansgar. All approved. It was moved by Keith and seconded by Mike to remove Greg Belica from membership. All approved. A motion to adjourn was made by Al and seconded by Mike. All approved. The next regular Council meeting will be October 12. We closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted ,
Yvonne Beenken

SALEM RECORDS for September:

Memorials:
 Danny Brackey
 Sunday School \$25, Good Samaritan \$10
 Youth for Christ \$10, Altar Guild \$5

Funerals:
 Danny Brackey, Beverly Smithe

No Baptisms

No Weddings

Transfers:
 Chuck & Jennifer McGrady, Melissa Schulz

Removed from Membership:
 Greg Belica



I have incredible news! The ELCA Malaria Campaign just reached its fundraising goal of \$15 million! Thank you for being a part of this monumental milestone and helping us protect countless lives from this preventable, treatable disease. **We couldn't have done it without you!**

Five years ago ELCA members, congregations and synods came together, dreamed big with our Lutheran companion churches and partners, and set out to raise \$15 million for malaria programming. **Today we celebrate all that we have accomplished together.**

Working with our Lutheran companions and partners in 13 African countries, we have brought about lasting change. But our work is not over. While the ELCA Malaria Campaign will officially come to an end on Jan. 31, 2016, our commitment to ending deaths from this disease will not. In the coming years, support to our companions and partners to address malaria will come through gifts to ELCA World Hunger, which has a long history of supporting health-related work.

Without you, none of this would have been possible. Thank you for your prayers, your partnership and your generosity.

Together in Christ's service,

Christina

Christina Jackson-Skelton
Executive Director, Mission Advancement
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Ministry Opportunities

Care Giver's Support Group

Tuesday, October 13 at 10:00 a.m. in the Lounge

This meeting is open to anyone who is caring for a person with any type of chronic illness. There is no fee — you do not have to sign up to come, you are not obligated to anyone. For more information call Rachel at 641.530.5577.

We are looking for volunteers to help run the video equipment for the contemporary service. You will be trained! Please let us know if you are interested!



Reserve your special date to sponsor the **2013 8:30 a.m. worship service broadcast on KIOW (107.3 FM) radio in Forest City.** The service can also be heard at 8:30 a.m. on cable channel 2.

Call the office to reserve your dates.

Cost for 2015 is \$83.

Salem Sages Event

Join us from 6 to 8 p.m. around Salem's new fire pit behind the church Friday, October 16 for an evening of fun, and song by the fire. Autumn evenings are made for sitting around the fire and enjoying the company of friends. The church will provide the makings for s'mores, roasting sticks and beverages. Keep your eyes and ears open for more details.



*Come and join in for
Smoke fun!*

Ministry Opportunities

Prayer Families

October 4

Merlin/Marietta Norris, Monty Nyguard, Wayne/Judy Nyguard, Heidi Obermeyer Family, Melissa Odom Family, Heather Oakland Family, Lloyd/Margaret Oakland Family, Evans Olmsted, James/Candy Olsen Family, Leslie Olsen

October 11

Ryan Olsen, Arlie/Joan Olsen, Chuck/Kimberly Olson, Harlan/Sandra Olson, Jack Olson, Katie Olson, Keith Olson, Kessa Olson, Kevin Olson, Marge Olson

October 18

Roger/Amy Olson, Trinity Olson, Tyler Olson, Christopher Oltman, Richard/Nancy Oltman, Scott Oltman, Kari Osheim, Frank/JoAnn Ostby, Chelsey Ostrander Family, Jeremy/Andrea Ostrander Family

October 25

Dale/Marilyn Otto, Arlen/Shirley Pals, Randy Pals, Marcia Pedersen, Robert Pedersen, Allan/Marilyn Pederson, Gary/Cindy Pederson, Jeff/Erin Pederson, Megan Pederson, Rachel Pederson Family



SALEM WOMEN of the ELCA

Altar Guild for October

Tuesday, September 6, 7:00 p.m.

Mission Quilters

Monday, October 12, 1:00 p.m.

WELCA Meeting

Thursday, October 15, 2:00 p.m.

Hostess: Martha Circle

Program: Sarah Circle

Altar Guild for October

Sharon Johnson

Pat Thorson

Communion Schedule

Sundays, October 4 & 18

Wednesdays, October 2 & 21

Mills Harbour & LMCC

Wednesday, October 28

Lake Mills Care Center

Birthday Gifts: Rhoda Circle

Program: Miriam Circle

Starting Strong Goal \$32,000



As of August 31, \$28,535 has been pledged leaving us \$3465 short of our \$32,000 goal.



The Seventh and Eighth Grade Confirmation students will be taking up a "Noisy Offering" this morning. In addition to our usual tithes and offering, the students will be collecting offerings of bills and coins in white cans identified for the ELCA Walk for Water campaign.

This year students attending the LSC Middle School Lock-in October 9-10 at the University of Northern Iowa will be exploring world hunger and the need for clean drinking water. Each congregation is being invited to support the youth in raising funds for clean water. The Salem Confirmation Class goal is to raise \$150. Drop your "spare change" into a Walk-for-Water can and delight in the loud, joyful clinking of coins!