



# Salem Lutheran Church OUTREACH

## June 2016

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

**Sundays:**

**9:00 a.m.** Traditional Worship Service

**10:00 a.m.** Coffee Fellowship—Fellowship Hall

**Wednesdays:**

**6:00 p.m.** Casual Worship Service—Chapel

*Prepare to . . .*



*. . . for Christ's sake*

**Pastor Joel Guttormson**

703.581.4672 ~ joelguttormson@gmail.com

**Pastor Melinda McCluskey**

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**Helen Rice, Church Secretary**

641.592.1771 ~ salem@wctatel.net

**Ruth Sheldon, Organist**

641.592.0184

**Ashley Hoffman, Communications Director**

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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.

### Message from Pastor Joel Guttormson



“LETS GET ON BOARD!”

In these first months of summer I hope to share with you a series of articles under this theme, “let’s get on board!” As I shared with you last month, I really do believe God has great plans for us at Salem (Jeremiah 18:11). Surely God has a great and hopeful future planned for us. We just have to “get on board” pray, listen, worship, have open conversations and participate in those plans!

Why the theme, “let’s get on board” as we discern what God is calling us to at Salem Lutheran Church in Lake Mills? Ships have a symbolic history in the life of the church. And I have a fascination with boats! We have a family story that my sir name is Islandic. My ancestor “Guttorm” was a Viking boat builder and I am Guttorm’s-son hence the name Guttormson.

Boats have been a part of my life almost from birth. When I was two years old my father wanted a fishing boat and my mother said he shouldn’t buy himself a boat because they couldn’t afford it. So my father bought me one for my second birthday and my mother was not amused. We ended up spending a lot of time, my dad and I, out fishing in that boat over the years.

The picture of the boat above is a gift my grandfather gave to me when I was six years old. The boat was a gift his father made for him when Grandpa Joe was away at school at the Brufat Academy in Portland, North Dakota. Along with the boat, I have a postcard he wrote to his brother Alfred in February of 1909 while he was attending Redwing Seminary at the time. Come to my office some time and I’ll show my boat and the postcard. I have always cherished this gift and have taken care of it. It’s more than a toy or artifact from my past. It has become a symbol of my heritage.

Grandpa Joe and Uncle Alfred both attended schools originally founded by the Haugean Synod. As my Great-grandfather was making the boat, my grandfather was away at boarding school. Grandpa Joe writes to my Uncle Alfred about their dad building the boat during the North Dakota winter of 1909. In the post card Joe promises to take his brother Alfred for a sail in the spring. Grandpa Joe gave me the boat one spring day shortly before

he died after telling me we would sail it with me in the farm pond. I'm not sure if it has yet to be sailed in the century since it was built. Redwing Seminary merged to become Luther Seminary and Bruflat Academy merged to become Concordia College, my alma matter. Somehow this ship has taken on the story of my past.

The ship was a metaphor for the early Christian church as well. "The ship was an ancient Christian symbol of the Church tossed on the sea of disbelief, worldliness, and persecution but finally reaching safe harbor with its cargo of human souls. It was also a great symbol during times when Christians needed to disguise the cross, since the ship mast forms a cross in many of its depictions. In Christian tradition, in which earthly life was seen as a pilgrimage, the ship of the church transports the faithful through the seas of the world to the heavenly home." <http://www.jesuswalk.com/christian-symbols/ship.htm> accessed 2-9- 16.)

Thinking of the church as metaphor allows us to rethink some of the biblical stories; Noah's Ark – Better get in the boat (Genesis 7:15-19), Jonah and the whale – travel by boat or in the belly of a fish! (Jonah 1-2), The boat caught in a storm – Jesus calms the seas (Luke 8:22-15), A storm and shipwreck – leads to evangelism (Acts 27:22-25). In the bible boats, like churches, encounter many of the same periods of tumultuousness and calm, sometimes its smooth sailing and sometimes not.

There is also nautical language that can inform our life in the church or on the ship. Someone needs to plot the course. Sometimes there is a call for all hands on deck. Someone is there to show us the ropes. We might be told not to rock the boat, or jump ship. Our prayer is that will be mostly smooth sailing. And our invitation is to all...come on board.

There are also a number of hymns that lift up this nautical theme for life in the church and I'll share more of them in the months to come. Here is one of my favorites and a prayer for the journey. "Jesus, Savior, pilot me, over life's tempestuous sea; unknown waves before me roll, hiding rock and treach'rous shoal; chart and compass come from thee. Jesus, Savior, pilot me.

Shalom  
Pastor Joel

## Update from the Council

May 9, 2016

President Scott Hagenson called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Members present were Scott Hagenson, Brad Evenson, Deb Throne, Bruce Adams, Roy Kvale, Wayne VanVeldhuizen, Stephanie Steffens, Willie Skelenger, Steve Nelson, Ashley Hoffman, Associate Pastor Melinda McCluskey, and Pastor Joel Guttormson. Pastor Joel began the meeting with devotions. Last month's meeting minutes were reviewed. It was moved by Steve and seconded by Roy to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. All approved.

**Secretary's Report:** No report.

**Treasurer's Report:** In lieu of the treasurer's absence, Scott referred to the written report. The checking account balance is \$45,759.18. Income for April was \$26,587.02 and expenses were \$26,950.61.

**Financial Secretary's Report:** Giving for April was \$28,942. Total giving through April 30 was \$91,867 which is up from this time last year by \$132. It was moved by Wayne and seconded by Brad to accept the financial reports. All approved.

**Board of Worship and Music:** Sixty-four worship surveys were returned. Fifty-three percent of the responses like having one service. Many people have indicated they like having a voice within the congregation. The board is still discussing whether Salem will offer one or two services on Sunday mornings. Attendance is growing. An outdoor service will not be offered this summer unless individuals volunteer to commit to this type of service. It is possible that a special service will be held during July Jubilee. The extra keyboard was donated to the music department of LMCS. The frequency of communion will be discussed in the future.

**Board of Stewardship and Social Ministry:** No official meeting to date. The committee is taking a little time to get to know each other and allowing Pastor Joel to get acquainted with our members.

**Board of Education:** The confirmation class were confirmed. The 7th grade class helped with the Faith Statement Night dinner. Confirmation gowns have been put away for the year, but the board is looking for better storage. Also the silk carnations need to be refreshed. This will be done for next year's confirmation class. Vacation Bible School will be June 8, 9, 13 & 14. The program will be held at Salem the evening of the 14th . Salem is responsible for providing snacks.

**Board of Youth:** In lieu of board representation, Scott reported that blankets will be ordered for Salem's 2016 high school graduates. A letter will be sent with a follow-up phone call to each graduate to ask him or her to attend the service on Salem Recognition Day. The board is looking into sponsoring a pie/ice cream social this summer.

**Board of Life and Growth:** Willie reported that the meal is being planned for Sunday's Installation Service. Service groups are now determined; there are 13 groups. This is a work-in-progress system. A letter will be drafted and will be sent out in the near future. Leaders will be chosen for each of the 13 groups and a meeting will be held with each leader to explain the group's duties. The board refers to this system as a "Time and Talent Sheet in Action!" The board hopes to bring the groups to the Council for approval in September 2016.

**Board of Property and Management:** Steve reported that the choir loft is being reviewed for remodeling. Bids will be received for the two large rooms in the east education wing for window replacements. Steve has another conference table available and asked if Salem is interested in placing this table in the lounge. Stephanie mentioned that the youth lounge would be a nice room for an extra meeting room to house this table. She moved to place the table in the youth lounge. It was seconded by Brad. All approved.

**Lead Pastor's Report:** Pastor Joel has met with many community and board members of Lake Mills and Salem. Confirmation has been exciting and fun. He meets with Lake Mills area pastors on Tuesday May 10. Installation is coming up this week. He is looking forward to all the

## **Update from the Council continued**

upcoming events.

**Associate Pastor's Report:** Pastor Melinda submitted a written report of her pastoral acts for April. Salem member Caitlin Porter is hoping Salem can help sponsor her summer mission work in Colorado. To allow more details to be gathered for this request, Council will table this matter at next month's meeting.

**Communication Director's Report:** Ashley report that the Salem website has been updated. Obituaries are now being added to the website. Lyle & OrLoue Thomson are going to be helping with this for the future. Pastor Joel and Ashley met to update the Pastor's corner. Pictures have been added and the photo gallery has been updated. Facebook updates are being posted daily. Ashley reported the digital sign software is not user-friendly, so she has not had time to begin using this. Council asked her to research options of more user-friendly operating software and to report back. It was moved by Stephanie and seconded by Bruce to accept the above reports. All approved.

**Old Business:** Once all revenue and expenses have been determined, Deb will provide a final report on the library remodel.

**New Business:** There were no visitors. Northeast Iowa Synod voting delegates attending the conference in June are Willie Skellenger, Sharon Johnson, and Pat Young. Al Skellenger will be the alternate in the event one of the female voters cannot attend. Bruce moved to accept these voters and seconded by Al. All approved. Casey Shaw is learning the Sunday presentation software from Carol Abbey. Brad is talking with some youth to help learn the sound system basics. The cemetery board is in discussion of building a Cemetery Wall/Columbarium and will report back to the council. Stephanie moved and Willie seconded to accept Ashley Hoffman as the Salem Communication Director. All approved. Scott asked that Council advertise for a grant-writing assistant to help with any project-based grants. Roy moved and Steve seconded. All approved. Council members were asked to help with Sunday's installation service. Scott will solicit help from council members as needed. Council

determined to use monthly contributions specifically designated to “Building” be used to help pay for monthly building expenses. It was moved by Bruce and seconded by Brad to accept Joel & Nancy Guttormson as new members of Salem. In addition, Wayne moved to accept Brett Gardner’s request to transfer his membership to St. James Lutheran Church in Crystal, MN. This was seconded by Stephanie. All approved. Scott mentioned that the Salem float will need to be re-freshed for the July Jubilee parade. He will discuss with Brook about recruiting students to walk alongside it in the parade. This will be added to the June agenda. It was moved by Bruce and seconded by Steve to adjourn the meeting. All approved. We closed the meeting with the Lord’s Prayer. The next regular council meeting will be June 13.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Throne

**SALEM RECORDS MAY 2016**

**Memorials:**

Darlene Madson: Mission Quilters \$2085,  
World Hunger \$50, Cemetery \$30, Altar  
Guild \$25, Library Project \$25, Good  
Samaritan \$20, Youth for Christ \$20

JoAnn Hanna Butcher: Library Project  
\$250

**Funerals:**

Darlene Madson

**New Members:**

Joel and Nancy Guttormson

**Transfer:**

Brett Gardner

## **June Prayer Families**

### **June 5**

Melanie Wirth, Ryan Wirth, Alan Wubben, Lauren Wubben, Mark Wubben, Michael Wubben, Ruth Yegge, Brenda Young

### **June 12**

David/Patricia Young, Kurtis Young, Allan/Melanie Zabel, Andrew Zabel, Joshua Zabel, Robert/Fern Zabel, Brian Zitterkopf

### **June 18**

Donald/Faye Aamodt, Elaine Aamodt, Cassie Aasgaard, Richard/Karen Aasgaard, Jennie Aasland, Carol Abbey, Drake Abbey, Valeda Abbey

### **June 26**

Carrie Acheson Family, Bruce Adams, Christopher Adams Family, Donald Adams, Jerry Adams, Justin Adams, Timothy Adams, Christopher Alphs

**Reserve your special date to sponsor the 2016 8:30 a.m. worship service broadcast on KLOW (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 2016 is \$83.**

**Available dates are:**

**July 10**

**October 16,23**

**November 6, 20**

**December 4, 11**

## June Volunteers

### Sunday 9:00 Worship

- 5** Communion Servers: Kathy Chose, Linda Helgeson  
Reader: Jan Belica  
Ushers: Dave Anderson, Rolly Moe, Al Sterrenberg
- 12** Reader: Doug Harmon  
Ushers: Craig and Cindy Haugsdal
- 19** Communion Servers: Bruce Adams, Jan Belica  
Reader: Pam Brackey  
Ushers: Craig and Cindy Haugsdal
- 26** Reader: Jackson Rice  
Ushers: Bruce and Dolly Gregor

## SALEM WOMEN of the ELCA

### Altar Guild

Tuesday, June 7, 7:00 p.m.

### Mission Quilters

Monday, June 13 1:00 p.m.

### WELCA Meeting

Thursday, June 16, 2:00 p.m.

Hostess: Rhoda Circle

Program: Miriam Circle

### Altar Guild for June

Sharon Casey, Gloria Kvale

### Communion Schedule

Sundays, June 5 & 19

Wednesdays, June 8 & 15

### Mills Harbour & LMCC

Wednesday, June 29

### Lake Mills Care Center

Birthdays: Hannah Circle

Program: Elizabeth Circle





*Wings of HOsPicE*  
*Memorial &*  
*Butterfly Release*



Hospice of North Iowa invites you to remember your loved one(s) or honor those living at our *Wings of HOsPicE Memorial & Butterfly Release*

Saturday, June 18, 2016  
1:00 p.m.

Hospice of North Iowa Serenity Garden  
(Located behind the Muse Norris Inpatient Unit)  
232 2nd Street SE  
Mason City, Iowa

Please join us for a **memorial service, butterfly release, refreshments, music and fellowship** with other families, staff and volunteers. Names of those you wish to remember and honor will be read at this event and listed in the program. (Please note, publication of your loved one's name in the program is not automatic and must be requested. In addition, names are not continued from year to year and must be requested annually.)

Your donation\* to the *Wings of HOsPicE Memorial & Butterfly Release* will help extend hospice care to others so they can live the last months of their lives with dignity and hope.

Please join us for this special event by helping us remember and honor those who have made a difference in your life with your special gift for the *Wings of HOsPicE Memorial & Butterfly Release*. \*A donation is not required to participate in this service.



Pastor Joel Guttormson was installed as lead pastor on Sunday, May 15th followed by a potluck. Pictured at left is Pastor Melinda, Bishop Steve Brackett and Pastor Joel. Pictured above is Pastor Joel with his wife, Nancy, son Eric and his wife Andrea, and their son Odin. Welcome Pastor Joel!



By the grace of God  
and the call of the church

Aleese M. Baldwin  
will be ordained  
to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament  
in Christ's one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church

on Monday, the twentieth of June  
in the year of our Lord  
two thousand and sixteen  
at six-thirty in the evening

at Mount Calvary Lutheran Church  
503 Schmidt Avenue  
Rothschild, Wisconsin

the Reverend Michael Burke  
Bishop of the Southeastern Iowa Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, presiding.

Your prayers and presence are requested.  
All ordained, consecrated and commissioned  
ministers are invited to process.  
The color of the day is red.

## **GOOD SAMARITAN CHILDREN'S CLOTHING CLOSET**



The Children's Clothing Closet was started approximately four years ago by the Good Samaritan Committee. It is intended to provide clothing, shoes and undergarments for elementary age children in need. The closet is available by appointment with school nurse, Joan Krull (592-0089) and it is also open three times throughout the school year, during conferences. The closet is currently in need of socks and underwear, for both boys and girls, of all sizes. Donations can be dropped off in either the church office or the nurse's office at the school. Thank you to everyone that has helped to make this so successful!

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## **Care Giver's Support Group**

**Tuesday, June 14 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.

## **MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES**

### **SALEM GOOD SAMARITAN MINISTRY**

We continue to accept new socks and new underwear as well as gently used pants and shirts for elementary aged children.

### **PRAYER CHAIN MINISTRY**

The Prayer Chain Ministry is a network of people who are committed to prayer and will take action of behalf of others. If you will pray for those in need, sign up to be notified either by email or phone. If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, call the office and the prayer requests will go right out, via email and phone. All requests will be confidential among the prayer chain ministry. Call Helen at the office (592-1771) with requests.

### **PRAYER SHAWL**

A prayer shawl is for anyone in need of prayer, hope, comfort and love of a community. Prayer shawls, hand knit or crocheted by Salem Members, are available in the narthex for you to wrap someone in need. There is also a Prayer Book. You may sign the name of someone you take the shawl for and they will be included in our weekly prayers of the church.

**5-CENT BOTTLES AND CANS CAN BE RETURNED TO THE RECYCLING CONTAINER AT THE SOUTH END OF THE ALLEY.** Bottles and cans should be rinsed and then placed in plastic bags (either garbage bags or grocery sacks). Funds are split between the Education and Youth Boards.

**DAVID'S SUPER FOODS AND BILLS GROCEY RECEIPTS, KEMPS MILK TOPS, POP TABS, CAPBELL SOUP LABELS AND EYE GLASSES** may be left on top of the coat rack in the west hall of the Education unit. Please do not roll up grocery receipts.

## Meet the Council...

For the next several months, the Salem Outreach will feature an article on each of the members of the council. This will be a great opportunity for the congregation to get to know our council a little better. This month, we are featuring President, Scott Hagenson.

Scott was a member of Bethany Lutheran Church in Thompson for thirty-four years, and became a member of Salem twelve years ago. Since joining Salem, Scott has served on the Board of Education for two years and was Salem's Council Vice President for two years before being elected as President in 2016.

Scott is married to Shelley, who is a dental hygienist at Dr. Johnson's office in Lake Mills. They have two boys, Peter and Sam. Peter lives and works in Sherrill, IA and Sam is completing seventh grade at Lake Mills Community School.

Scott has worked for the City of Lake Mills for the last thirteen years as the line department supervisor. He previously worked for Heartland Power as a Lineman for twelve years, and before that, was a paramedic for Boone County Hospital for two years.

Scott has been a member of the Lake Mills Fire Department for the last seventeen years and is currently serving as the 1st Assistant Chief. Prior to his service in Lake Mills, he was on the Thompson Fire Department for ten years. He also served on the Iowa Fireman's Association Board of Directors representing 15,000 members for seven years, one year of which he was president.

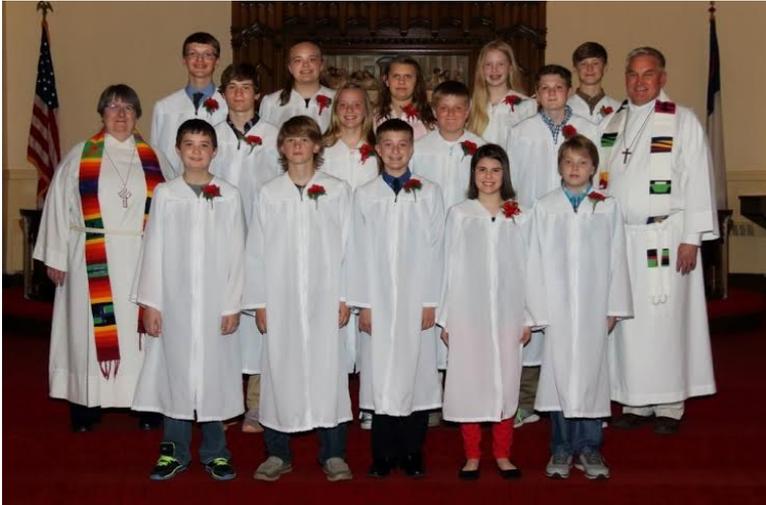
"With the arrival of Pastor Joel, I see so many good things in Salem's future. We have many great members that are willing to pitch in and help whenever needed. The library project is proof that members want to see Salem progress and improve. We have had so many people step up and help with the labor and donations of money that the project has only cost Salem about \$4000.00 from the general fund. The church now has two really nice meeting rooms that can be used year round."

Continued...

Scott's hope for the next two years at Salem is that the council can look to the future and position Salem well with great staff. And also address the buildings as they age, bringing a plan to the congregation for approval, that makes Salem efficient for years to come.

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### Confirmation: May 1st, 2016



Bennett Eaton, Andrew Fjelstad, Mason Fritz, Katelyn Groe, Megan Groe, Tyler Helgeson, Madison Holtan, Ryan Knudtson, Chance Levine, Hope Levine, Nathaniel Lorenson, Grace Okland, Jackson Rice and Elijah Stene

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ELCA colleges and universities have a helpful website-

**[www.whygolutheran.org](http://www.whygolutheran.org)**— for students and parents as they embark on the college search process. On the site, the families can...

- \*Learn more about the Lutheran college experience
  - \*Read about the distinctive features of a Lutheran liberal arts education
  - \*Complete one simple form to request college information from individual institutions
-



The 7th grade confirmation class is pictured above with the 101 health care kits that they helped prepare with the help of Sue Langerud for Lutheran World Relief.

In May, WELCA sent the following items to Lutheran World Relief...

- 109 Quilts
- 103 Health Care Kits
- 20 Baby Care Kits
- 5 School Kits

# Summer of Service <sup>2016</sup>

NORTHWESTERN COLLEGE - CAMPUS MINISTRY

**Caitlin Porter**  
Denver | Mile High Ministries  
May 31–July 31

*I am getting cross-cultural ministry training and experience while serving with a collection of organizations that minister in Denver's urban communities.*



**Pray**

- ... I serve, grow and am used by God.
- ... I form relationships and am able to reflect Christ to those I meet.
- ... I am brave and bold and have an open and compassionate heart.
- ... I am patient and willing to learn.

## A Message from LSI

Happy Father's Day!

Many of the boys and young men that Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) serves in our residential programs have never had a positive male role model in their lives.

Recently, at a gathering of mentors and mentees, a few of these children introduced their mentors to each other. When a boy from Beloit spoke, you could hear the quiet pride in his voice.

"This is Josh," he said simply. "And he's the mentor I've always wanted."

As you celebrate Father's Day with your family or by remembering someone who served as a father figure or mentor for you, remember what you have to give to others around you: a word of encouragement, a listening ear or the gift of your time and presence. You may be surprised how much it means.

You provide all these things and more through your support of LSI. Thank you for responding to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service!

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



**Salem Lutheran Church**

401 South Lake Street

Lake Mills, IA 50450

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. Postage

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