



# Salem Lutheran Church OUTREACH August 2018

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

### Sunday:

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service

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

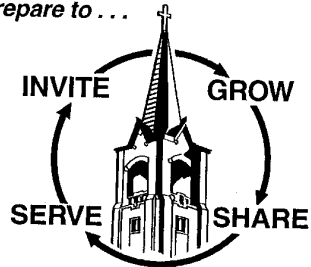
9:45 a.m. Faith Formation– Chapel

10:30 a.m. Outdoor Worship Service

### Saturday:

5:30 p.m. Casual Worship

Prepare to . . .



. . . for Christ's sake

**Pastor Joel Guttormson**  
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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.

## *A Message from Pastor Joel Guttormson...*

You will find in this newsletter and in the Sunday bulletin an opportunity to give to Lutheran Social Services in the month of September offering relief to those affected by recent tornados in Iowa. I am learning that Salem's members are generous givers when needs arise and we make it known you're your contributions can make a difference. I confess I forget to reflect and give thanks for your continued giving. Through your generosity Salem has been able to make a difference in many lives through the quilting, personal health kits and school kits projects, the Good Gifts – God's global barnyard program at Christmas and again in preparation for the Gathering, the many memorials and designated gifts, in addition to giving to Salem's general fund. Thank you for your generosity.

Our last quarter's Noisy Offering for summer youth programing, the Youth Gathering Fundraisers and Enduring Gifts contributions amounted to gifts of just over \$7,000. This granted the opportunity for four of our youth and two adult chaperones, to join with One-in-Christ pastors and seven youth attending the ELCA Youth Gathering, experiencing how "This Changes Everything." God's calling, love, grace and hope is real and evident in Jesus who changes everything. Yes, there was controversy about some of the music and choice of speakers. But, Abby Holtan shared upon her return how life changing the experience can be. Our youth can hear stories that really speak to the reality of some of what many youth encounter in their daily lives, among their peers and in their communities.

One may be persuaded by some blogs, websites or social media posts, that these events lead our youth astray. But as a mother, Abby appreciated the honesty that speakers shared a gospel message about challenges and issues our children often feel they have to face in shame, silence or alone. I have attended four gatherings and my experience is that the personal testimonies of presenters and bible study leaders reach into the places youth find themselves – when not in church – and offering them God's grace, love, hope countering much of the negativity they encounter and the opportunity to discover their calling and true identity as baptized children of God. Our youth came home from the ELCA Gathering inspired by the music, the speakers, and their day of service following the devastation of hurricane Harvey. They were

truly amazed by the closing worship and Holy Communion with 30,000 others and thankful to have spent the week with their peers and chaperones; grateful to our congregation allowing them this opportunity. Where else can 30,000 youth spend upwards of twelve hours a day – three to six of that in worship and bible study – and a good remainder of the rest in fellowship, service and Christian community? What other expression of Lutheranism can transform a major metropolitan community by their enthusiastic, life-giving presence?

Closer to home, 102 Lake Mills community youth spent four days learning about the story of Daniel at VBS at Winnebago Lutheran Church. For four days they learned through song, story, skits, crafts and games the daily themes that: When things change...God is with you, When you need help...God is with you, When you're afraid...God is with you, When you're lonely....God is with you, When you're thankful...God is with you. At the closing program and ice cream social at Salem the sanctuary was filled with the joy of our community children singing and acting out the story to grateful parents, grandparents, family and friends.

Our Community July Jubilee Day Camp offered five days of activities for twenty K-5th grade youth, offered up by three staff from EWALU Camp and Retreat Center. Jared had served as a counselor for three summers, Matthew for two and for Avery, it was her first year. Combined they had eight years of camp experience at EWALU as campers before serving as counselors. That's fourteen years of combined experience. Their age, experience, compassion and love of Jesus and connections they make with our youth is truly a unique opportunity; different than what any other secular summer camp can offer. Again songs, games, skits, crafts and opening and closing worship connects the gospel and teaches through participation the gospel and God's story in a truly unique and personal way.

Seventeen of our youth will be attending one of the four Summer Camps here in Iowa and Southern Minnesota yet this summer, Good Earth, Okoboji, Riverside or EWALU. Their experience, much like the other camp experiences Salem has offered this year, offers opportunities to grow in faith and experience Christian Community that truly transforms lives.

\$7,000 sounds like a lot of money to spend in the three months of summer

programming for VBS, the Youth Gathering, Day Camp and seventeen camp scholarships. But if you stop to do the math, number of youth who have attended one of these events and the hours of participation we have conservatively offered 1,403 hours of faith formation over the summer! That is truly amazing and transformative.

We sometimes worry about budgets and buildings, dwindling attendance, shortages of pastors and lay leadership and we forget that God is still very much in our midst and is very much active in calling us to be church in so many ways we often overlook. So, thank you all for the generosity, prayerful support, and hands on volunteering that has allowed so many of our youth – 180 in all - experience church in unique ways this summer. You made it possible! Thank you!

Shalom, Pastor Joel

### *A Message from Pastor Melinda McCluskey...*

#### **Taking Care with Dementia**

##### **Five How-to Tips for Visiting a Person with Dementia**

About five million Americans have Alzheimer's disease, the most common form of dementia. The disease affects thought, language and memory. You may have a family member with dementia, or you may know someone in your congregation or community. You may be the caregiver, or you may want to help someone who is a caregiver. Understanding the nature of the disease will help you look after a loved one, a caregiver, or yourself.

**1. Learn to "speak dementia."** Language shifts with the disease, and a person with dementia may generate conversational language even in the severe stage but have more trouble understanding. Avoid using the verbal shorthand friends and coworkers readily understand. You might say, "I know you like the social stuff," and the person with dementia does not understand what the "social stuff" is. Consider what language sounds like from the perspective of someone who is losing ability.

**2. Sift questions carefully.** "Are you ready for the holiday?" The person with dementia may not even know what time of year it is. "What did you have for lunch?" Short-term memory loss will make this question impossible.

“Remember? I said I was coming back.” No, the person does not remember. Many people with dementia will feel they “should” be able to answer, and the inability to do so causes emotional distress. Craft conversation around the current activity. “Would you like to go for a walk?” “Shall we have a cup of coffee?”

**3. Provide orientation hooks.** A visit with someone with dementia will go more smoothly if you subtly help the person orient to the moment. “It’s a sunny day for the middle of January.” “I’m Jane from church, and I enjoy coming to see you on Fridays.” “It’s almost time for lunch. Are you hungry?”

**4. Be invitational.** As the disease progresses, even the simplest decisions can be overwhelming. Rather than asking, “What do you feel like having for lunch?” say, “I’ll make us some tuna sandwiches.” Rather than, “What would you like to do this afternoon?” say, “I brought this photo album to look at together.”

**5. Be patient.** Mental processing for many people slows as part of aging, and dementia in any form slows cognitive responses. As you make conversation, avoid filling every bit of silence. The person with dementia may be trying to form a response, a process which is disrupted by more language coming too fast. Even finding shoes and getting ready to leave the room can take longer, though the person is capable of the task without the stress of being rushed. If your visit wakes someone from a nap, allow time for the person to rouse. Offer a glass of water rather than a rush of language.

(Susan Martins Miller learned these lessons firsthand in the process of losing her father to Alzheimer’s disease and caring for her late mother. This article was featured in the Fall 2016: Health Ministry Matters print issue.)

### SALEM RECORDS July

#### Memorials:

Arlene Fosness– General Fund \$10

## *Salem’s Mission and Vision*

We are God forgiven and mission driven.

**As God’s people...we desire to be that Lake Mills place where belonging, healing, growing, serving and believing are open to all, regardless of background, experience or aptitude. Central to this is that we are a forgiving, mission-driven community, which means we all want to have an impact, shaped by the love of Christ to serve all others.**

Belonging means:

**...that we all belong! We all have a place! We all fit!**

Healing means:

**...that we all have brokenness and are in need of wholeness. God’s Word, the Bread of Life, and so much more, helps us to take these important steps forward.**

Growing means:

**...we are designed by God to change, to grow, to evolve. We are committed to that process for everyone who is open to it!**

Serving means:

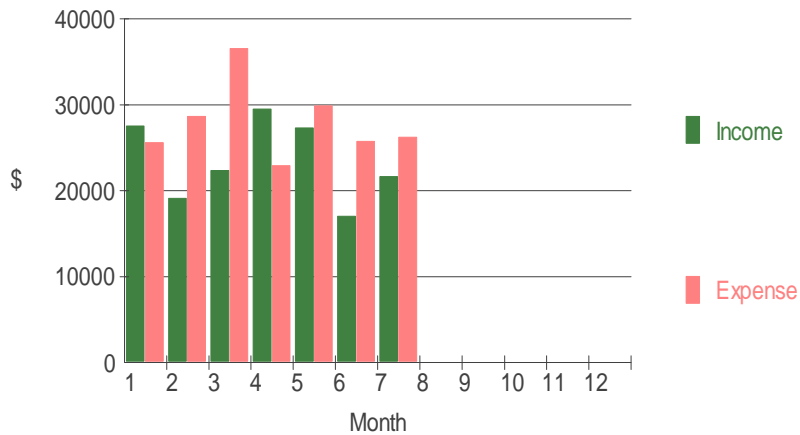
**...that Jesus made clear that being a servant was central to being a disciple. Therefore, we see that everyone who is a follower is a servant, as well.**

Believing means:

**...that faith and not works is central to our life. Simple, and yet profound trust in the promise of forgiveness and mercy, and the presence of the Spirit, guides us in all we do.**

This vision and mission statement will be proposed to be voted on at our next annual meeting!

*Summer Financial Needs:* Remember, whether you are at worship or on vacation, Salem still needs to keep working! **We need \$6,500-\$7,000 per week every month to meet our expenses.**



### *Summer Food Service Program*

#### **Summer Food and Fun**

Serving Monday– Friday at 11am in Salem’s Fellowship Hall

The Summer Food Service Program was established to ensure that all children continue to receive nutritious meals when school is not in session .

These free meals meet federal nutrition guidelines and are provided to all children in a qualifying area. All children/youth, infant thru 18 years old can eat at Salem Lutheran for free.

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**Would you like to receive special announcements from Salem via text?**

Salem is offering a new service to keep our members informed!

## *Noisy Offering For Lutheran Services In Iowa (LSI) in September.*

Start saving your change! Noisy Offering Canisters will be given out on September 8-9 at the Saturday and Sunday worship services. Our collection to provide RELIEF TO FAMILIES IMPACTED BY CENTRAL IOWA TORNADOES September 29 – 30 at the Saturday and Sunday worship services.

The Stewardship, Life and Growth Board will be offering a second giving opportunity to collect funds for Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI). LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America).

Beginning in the mid 1800's, Lutheran pioneers of German, Swedish and Norwegian descent established orphanages, schools and welfare societies for those in need. In 1963, a number of these agencies merged to become Lutheran Social Services of Iowa. In 1998 three predecessor Lutheran denominations merged to become the ELCA and LSI became an affiliated ministry with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Through generous giving in 2017, LSI was able to provide 174,562 hours empowering people with disabilities, make 15,238 home visits to families with infants, toddlers, and Preschoolers, offer 13,307 therapy sessions for children, families, and adults, and expend 13,407 hours helping children and families build skills for anger management.

On July 19, tornadoes struck Marshalltown, Pella and Bondurant in Central Iowa, causing significant property destruction. Please consider joining our Stewardship, Life and Growth team in supporting individuals and families whose lives are not the same today as they were before the storms hit. As many struggle to recover and repair the items and places they held dear, let us lift them up in prayer and in care.

We can make a difference. Collect change for our Noisy Offering the last Sunday in September. Donate online at [LSIowa.org/DisasterRelief](http://LSIowa.org/DisasterRelief) and select "2018 Iowa Tornado Relief" To mail your gift, see the address on the next page of this newsletter.

### *Monday Mornings on Lake Street*

Weekly Monday morning coffee will be held from 8am-10am In the Salem lounge.

Coffee and rolls will be available for freewill donation.

Stop by and visit, have a cup of coffee, tea or hot chocolate and a goodie, and visit with new and old friends.

Coffees are open to the community!

### *THANK YOU FROM THE STAFF OF EWALU*

Dear Congregation,

Thank you all so much for the love and hospitality we received throughout our week here at Lake Mills, Iowa. God’s love is apparent and present within the congregation and the youth of the church, and I thank you for setting such a positive example for younger generations. I hope to be able to experience the same opportunity next summer!

Blessings,

Matthew, Jared and Avery



### *Relief To Families Impacted By Central Iowa Tornadoes*

On July 19, tornadoes struck Marshalltown, Pella, and Bondurant in Central Iowa, causing significant property destruction.

Marshalltown and Pella were struck by EF-3 tornadoes, with winds reaching up to 144 miles per hour. These were the strongest storms experienced in Iowa since 2015. Bondurant was struck by an EF-2 tornado. Governor Kim Reynolds issued a disaster proclamation for the tornado areas.

By the grace of God, no lives were lost, although at least 50 people were injured. The damage to businesses (including a hospital and city buildings), homes, and vehicles is extensive. Many families have been displaced.

The Statewide Lutheran Disaster Response Team (a partnership of LSI and the three Iowa synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) is mobilizing in support of Iowans impacted by these devastating tornadoes.

Please consider donating today to support individuals and families whose lives are not the same today as they were before the storms hit. As many struggle to recover and repair the items and places they held dear, let us lift them up in prayer and in care.

Donate online at [LSIowa.org/DisasterRelief](http://LSIowa.org/DisasterRelief) and select “2018 Iowa Tornado Relief.”

To mail your gift, please write “2018 Iowa Tornado Relief” in the memo line of the check and mail to:

Lutheran Services in Iowa

Attn: 2018 Iowa Tornado Relief

106 16th St. SW

Waverly, IA 50677

## *Lutheran World Relief School Kits*

Education is important for any community, especially where poverty or disaster has limited the options for young people to reach their potential. School kits contain essential supplies to help children, and in some cases adults, continue their learning despite the hardships they face. And that learning leads to a better life for them, their families and their communities.

Include the following in each kit:

Four 70 sheet notebooks of wide or college ruled paper, approximately 8 1/2 x 10, no loose leaf paper

One 30 centimeter ruler, or ruler with centimeter and inches

One pencil sharpener

One blunt scissors

One eraser

Five unsharpened #2 pencils, secured with a band

Five ballpoint pens (no gel ink), secured with a band

One box of 16 or 24 crayons

Shopping lists and backpacks are available in the narthex

Do not add items or leave out any of the items listed. All items should be new and in good condition. Remove any excess packaging, pack all items in the bag and close. Do not enclose the kit or any of it's contents in a plastic bag. Place kits in the box in the narthex.



**Have you made a donation through GIVE + TEXT? You can make weekly offerings, respond to special appeals, or set up a recurring donation by sending a text to 1.641.832.5367.**

With GIVE + TEXT, you can conveniently give to the church even when you are away or don't have cash or checks with you. It is simple and secure.

It takes just minutes to sign up and support the church. So, we hope you will try this easy, modern way to give.

**Stop by the church office for help setting it up on your cell phone.**

**Thank you for your continued generosity.**

**Reserve your special date to sponsor the 2018 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 2019 dates.**  
**Cost for 2018 is \$83.**

We also have a sponsorship program for the live internet broadcast of the 8:30am worship service. Sponsorship is available for \$40 per Sunday. Call the office to reserve your dates.

*Salem Women of the ELCA*

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 33

**Altar Guild**

August 7th at 7pm

**Altar Guild for August**

Pat Thorson

JoAnn Villa

**Communion Schedule**

Sundays, August 5th and 19th  
(8:30)

Sundays, August 5th, 12th, 19th  
and 26th (10:30)

Saturdays, August 4th and 18th

**Mission Quilters**

August 13th at 1pm

**Mills Harbour & LMCC**

Wednesday, August 29th

**WELCA Meeting**

No meeting in August

**Birthdays:** Grace Circle

**Program:** Ruth Circle

*August Worship Schedule*

**Saturdays:**

Casual worship at 5:30 pm in the lounge

**Sundays:**

Traditional service at 8:30am in the sanctuary

Coffee fellowship at 9:30am in the fellowship hall

Outdoor worship service at 10:30am on the south lawn  
(weather permitting)

**Salem Lutheran Church**

401 South Lake Street

Lake Mills, IA 50450

**Address Service Requested**

LABEL