

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

March 5 – March 13

An Identity on Which We Can Rely

In Luke's gospel, the story of Jesus' temptation comes immediately after his baptism and a lengthy listing of his ancestors. Both help confirm the identity of Jesus as the Messiah and the Son of God. Now Jesus is led into the wilderness, where his identity is put to the test by the devil. The specific temptations are in some ways secondary to the question that introduces two of them. Twice the devil asks, "If you are the Son of God . . ." (Luke 4:3, 9), perhaps implying that the devil believes he knows better than Jesus what it means to be God's Son. But Jesus, "full of the Holy Spirit," is able to stand firm in his identity and deny the devil's attempts to redefine who he is.

In our baptisms, we too are given the identity of God's child, and we are given the presence of the Holy Spirit. Our baptisms do not protect us from temptation, even as Jesus himself endured temptation. However, in our baptisms we are given an identity that can help us endure the temptations and the challenges that our lives are bound to include. Baptism gives us the confidence to trust that our identity is defined by our relationship to God, and not by anything else. In this confidence, we can accept our failures and shortcomings and live boldly in a manner that seeks to emulate Christ's own life.

CELEBRATING GENEROSITY

During this time of social distancing, there are several ways to continue your giving.

-- By mail.

-- By "Simply Giving"- Sign up for weekly or monthly ACH withdrawals. Call the office to get a form.

-- By PayPal- Go to our website home page (www.salemlakemills.com) and scroll to the bottom left- there is a Donate button. Click on that and it will take you to a PayPal or credit card donation page.

-WEEKLY GIVING-

LAST SUNDAY: 2/27/22 \$ 5,090

YEAR-TO-DATE: 2/28/22 \$ 29,752

LAST YEAR: as of 2/28/21 \$ 35,998

DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE: \$ - 6,246

THIS WEEKS TEXTS

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand

Psalms 91:1-2, 9-16

God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways. (Ps. 91:11)

Romans 10:8b-13

If you confess that Jesus is Lord, you will be saved

Luke 4:1-13

The temptation of Jesus in the wilderness for forty days

NEXT WEEKS TEXTS

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

The covenant with Abram and his descendants

Psalms 27

In the day of trouble, God will give me shelter. (Ps. 27:5)

Philippians 3:17--4:1

Our citizenship is in heaven from where we expect a Savior

Luke 13:31-35

I have desired to gather Jerusalem as a hen gathers her brood

Each week we will lift up five church families/members in prayer. We ask that you also remember them in your daily prayers.

THIS WEEK WE WILL PRAY FOR: Rodney & Sandra Harang, Harig Family (Gary, Donna, Matthew, Merrick), Elise Harless, Harmon Family (Douglas, Rhonda, Derek, Jerod), Craig & Cindy Haugsdal

This week the following members will be celebrating their birthdays and we would like to wish them a HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

6-Seth Plater	8-Adam Hengesteg	11-Sheila Berger
7-Bonnie Steffens	10-Willie Skellenger	12-Kit Byars
7-Lydia Bartness	10-Bryker Langfald	12-Matthew Anderson
7- Christina Movick	11-Nicholas Langenbau	12-Samantha Lampman
		12-Emily Brackey

If you have an upcoming birthday and want it to be listed, please call the office to make sure we have your birthday in our records. There are a lot of birthdays missing in our computer system. 641.592.1771



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
 --KIOW Radio 107.3 (Forest City)
 --KIMT TV Channel 3
 Contact Shannon Bruhns at 641-592-5978 / 641-590-1532

Upcoming Blood Drive

Lake Mills Community Blood Drive

Thursday, March 10th

1:00pm-6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall

Appointments Are Required

Text: LIFESERVE to 999-7777 or Call: 800-287-4903

or visit: lifeservebloodcenter.org

BINGO: The Youth & Education board is hosting BINGO on March 13th at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall. All ages are welcome! Rolls, Coffee and Juice will be provided. There will be no faith formation or confirmation that day.

Special Music: Faith Formation Kids will be singing during the 9:00am Worship Service on March 13th.

Memorials Given in February

Norma Thompson--\$990 General Fund, \$25 Cemetery Fund

Ila & Don Grothe--\$50 General Fund

Ila Grothe--\$2,586 General Fund, \$50 Building Fund, \$40 Cemetery Fund

Personal Care Kits: The board of Life & Growth is collecting donations to make Personal Care Kits. Items needed are: bath towels (dark colors, approx. 52x27), 4 oz. bars of soap, toothbrushes in original packaging, sturdy combs and metal nail clippers. Donations can be left in the narthex. Thank you!

WECLA will meet on Thursday, March 17th at 2:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Pastor Joel will lead the Bible Study from the Gather Magazine.

Volunteers Needed: If you are willing to usher, acolyte, read, sing in the liturgical choir or would like to learn how to help with sound, monitors or live stream, please sign-up in the Narthex or call the office 641.592.1771

Pastoral Visits: If you or someone you know would like a visit from Pastor Joel, please call the office to make an appointment. 641.592.1771

Radio Sponsorship: Reserve your special date to sponsor an 8:30am radio broadcast. The service is heard on KLOW (107.3 FM) radio in Forest City and on cable channel 2. Radio sponsorship costs \$83.

(Live Internet Broadcast Sponsorship is available for \$40 per Sunday)

Call the office to reserve your date. 641.592.1771

2022 RADIO BROADCAST DATES AVAILABLE: March 27, May 1, July 17, July 24, July 31, Aug. 7, Aug. 14, Aug. 21, Sept. 18, Oct. 16, Oct. 23, Oct. 30, Nov. 6, Nov. 13, Nov. 27, Dec. 4, Dec. 11, Dec. 25

MIDWEEK LENTEN SOUP, STUDY AND WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

5:30pm – 7:00pm in the Lounge: Beginning March 9 and continuing for the five weeks of Lent there is an opportunity for us to gather together in the lounge for a meal of soup and bread. The soup is being donated by Lunds & Byerlys and our Board of Life and Growth will be providing some hearty loaves of bread.

At 6:00pm: We will continue to meet in the lounge for a conversation about how to be “New and Renewing Members” of Salem. We especially encourage those who would like to become new members to consider attending as well as those who are wanting and willing to accompany us on the journey of becoming new and renewing members.

We are no longer a church of life-long Lutherans who marry Lutherans and have lots of babies who will populate the church of the future. Truth be told many of our members have come from other faith traditions or have grown up without a strong connection to a specific denomination. A now rather old statistic from the Pew Research Center (October 2012) reports one-fifth of the U.S. public and a third of adults under 30 are religiously unaffiliated today. Given the variety of experiences and traditions of many of us, taking time for some renewal seems appropriate in Lent.

In our vision statement we say we long to be, “that Lake Mills place where belonging, healing, healing, growing, and serving are open to all, regardless of background, experience of aptitude.” Can we be that place where true evangelism happens, where people can experience being part of a new and renewing community?

The first resource we will be discussing is a newly revised edition of an ELCA publication called “Honoring Our Neighbors Faith.” It says a lot about who we are that we take the time to learn, and honor the variety of ways our neighbors see God working in their lives and communities of faith and express that in different ways. One of the goals of the ELCA is to “maintain our commitment to being a church deeply engaged in ecumenical dialogue, relationships and partnerships for the sake of Christian unity” (Together in Christ p.9).

The second resource we will be looking at is “Baptized We Live – Lutheranism as A Way of Life”. While honoring our neighbors faith and ecumenical work, there are distinctive ways we practice, teach and live out our lives from a unique Lutheran perspective. This resource though illustration and brief descriptions “avoids defining Lutheranism as primarily a system of doctrines” p.3. and focuses on Lutheranism as a way of “seeing, hearing, teaching, and following.”

Our third resource is the newest publication we will be looking at in this new and renewing membership class. This publication grew out of the ELCA “Living into the Future Task Force” formed in 2010 to discern the “ecology” of the ELCA. Ecology was the term used in Galatians 6 when the Apostle Paul refers to the work of mission and God’s people as, the “household” of God. In that sense the task was to consider, like the first century church, to access and discern our work together to get God’s house in order.

Looking back over 20 years of ministry since the merger of three predecessor bodies in 1988, the taskforce was led by two overarching questions

What is God calling this church to be and do in the future?

What changes are in order to respond most faithfully?

The result was the document we will be reading and discussing, “Called Forward Together in Christ – ELCA Future Directions 2025. It is my hope that together we can further our conversation and commitments to be new and renewing members of Salem living faithfully into our life together, honoring our past as we together discern our future.

7:00pm in the chapel– Whether you attend the Soup & Study or not, to close the day with a Service of Word and Prayer from “*All Creation Sings.*” This Lenten midweek service turns us toward God’s abundance by focusing on five divine attributes drawn from the gospel of Luke and the texts assigned for this season: faithfulness, mercy, compassion, forgiveness and love. Each service is designed for sustained reflection on the gospel in the context of contemplative prayer, readings, silence, and song. This service is designed to unfold slowly with generous use of silence and space to breath, and hopefully within its pattern to draw leaders and worshipers alike closer to experiencing the abundant goodness of God.

Suggested Best Practices for Salem Members

As we continue to experience community spread of Covid-19 and we enter flu season please keep in mind the following recommendations and best practices to protect yourself and others while worshipping here at Salem:

- Monitor your own health – If you are not feeling well or have had a possible exposure to Covid-19, please stay home.
- Wash your hands often; hand sanitizer is available at the west entry doors and in the Narthex. Sharing the peace without contact is preferred and safer for all.
- Cover coughs and sneezes.
- Masking is optional for those who have been vaccinated. Masking is strongly recommended for those not vaccinated. Show respect for all members who choose to wear a mask. Masks are available at the west entry doors and in the Narthex.
- Maintaining distance between yourself and people who don't live in your household provides you better protection from those without symptoms that could spread the virus

Pastor's Schedule

Pastor Joel Guttormson

Monday: Off, but on-call

Tuesday: Off, but on-call (10:00am LMAMA meeting, 2:30pm Pastors Text Study)

Wednesday: Noon-8:00pm (10am Bible Study, 1:30pm Mills Harbour Worship Service, 2:30pm Care Center Worship Service, 5:30pm Soup & Study, 7pm Worship Service)

Thursday: Noon-8pm

Friday: 8am-Noon, 1pm-5pm

Saturday: Noon-8pm (5:30pm Worship Service)

Sunday: 8am-Noon (9am Worship Service)

Secretary

Marci Adeogun

Mon-Thurs 10am-5pm

Fri 10am-4pm

Sat-Sun: Off

SATURDAY 3/5

5:30pm Worship Service-Sanctuary

SUNDAY 3/6

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

10:00am Confirmation-Choir Room

10:00am-10:45am Faith Formation-Chapel

MONDAY 3/7

2:00pm Sons of Norway-Fellowship Hall

2:00pm-4:00pm Clothes Closet is Open

(To schedule a different time, call 641.592.5085)

3:00pm-5:00pm Lake Mills Food Shelf is Open

(101 S Mill, lower level of the Lake Mills Civic Center)

3:15pm Daisies-Room 2

TUESDAY 3/8

9:30am Miriam Circle-Lucy Carlson's Home

10:00am Caregivers Support Group-Lounge

WEDNESDAY 3/9

10:00am Adult Bible Study-Fellowship Hall

1:30pm Communion Worship Service-Mills Harbour

2:30pm Communion Worship Service-Lake Mills Care Center

5:30pm Soup and Study-Library

7:00pm Service of Word & Prayer-Chapel

THURSDAY 3/10

9:00am Fine Arts Meeting-Lounge

1:00pm-6:00pm Community Blood Drive-Fellowship Hall

3:15pm Cadettes-Room 2

SATURDAY 3/12

5:30pm Worship Service-Sanctuary

SUNDAY 3/6

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary

10:00am Bingo-Fellowship Hall (EVERYONE WELCOME!)