
SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 21 - 27

Life Laid Down

How does faith in the risen Christ call one to live? What shape does one's life take?

The readings for this fourth Sunday of Easter are rich in their imagery, and at the center is the image of the Good Shepherd who lays down his life for the sheep. Five times in eight short verses Jesus mentions laying down his life for the sake of the sheep.

The First Letter of John picks up the same theme: "We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?" (1 John 3:16-17). Laying down one's life for another might take many forms, but it at least means this: extending help, as much as you are able, when another is in need.

A friend tells the story of her grandfather, a faithful man who earned a modest income. Each year when tax time rolled around, he was audited. According to tax records he earned so little and gave away so much. The astounded auditors questioned him, wondering why he gave so much of his income to the church. Incredulous, he responded, "You can't outgive God."

The Good Shepherd lays down his life for the sheep, and joined to the risen life of Christ, the lives of the baptized are shaped by generosity and sacrifice. Giving one's life, resources, gifts, or whatever one holds most dear for the sake of another is both a witness to the love we have first been shown and an act of faith. Hearing Jesus' words in this Easter season reminds us that laying down one's life is not an act to be feared; rather, it is an act that defies death, as we trust that, washed in the waters of baptism, we already live in the resurrected life of Christ.

THIS WEEKS TEXTS

Acts 4:5-12

Psalms 23

1 John 3:16-24

John 10:11-18



NEXT WEEKS TEXTS

Acts 8:26-40

Psalms 22:25-31

1 John 4:7-21

John 15:1-8

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

THIS WEEK WE WILL PRAY FOR: Merlin Morgan, Alexander and Nicole Mosby, Jeff Mosby, Nicholas, Kjerstin, Charlotte and Ellianna Mosby, Randy Movick

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

22-Autumn Lauen

24-Janelle Gilbertson

26-Laura Prescott

22-Brooke Bergo

24-Parker Eaton

26-Keaton Wempen

23-Sharon Johnson

25-Dylan Cavett

27-Andrew Dahle

24-Melissa Bjorklund

26-Mya Anderson

27-Pam Moe

27-Layla Davis

-WEEKLY GIVING-

LAST SUNDAY 4/14/24:

No update this

YEAR-TO-DATE: 4/17/24:

week due to the

LAST YEAR: as of 4/17/23:

financial secretary

DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE:

being unavailable

Last Weeks Attendance

69

Tuckpointing/Steeple Project Update:

Total received as of 4/10/24 **\$161,212**

Total available balance as of 3/29/24 **\$54,150.52** All contributions towards this project are greatly appreciated! Please remember to note the "Steeple Project" when submitting your contribution. Thank you!

Save the Dates for Vacation Bible School: Mon. June 3rd—Thur. June 6th, "SCUBA" Diving into friendship with God. Get ready to dive into Fun! Explore God's word in unforgettable ways! New friends, fun snacks, great crafts, incredible music and surprising adventures! Registration forms will come later.

April 28th: Save the date! 1 Day--4 Special Events!

1. Rev. Kristen Corr Rod will be our guest preacher from the Northeast Iowa Synod. Rev. Kristen Corr Rod is the Director for Evangelical Mission. Her primary responsibilities include congregational vitality, new ministry development, synod justice issues and youth and young adult ministries.

2. The Faith Formation **kiddos will be singing** for everyone, one last time, until classes resume in the fall.

3. After worship, the Youth Board invites everyone in the congregation to join the Faith Formation families for a **service project** (Gods Work Our Hands) and pick up trash in the Lake Mills area OR have coffee in the Fellowship Hall. Service project people--meet in front of the Chapel--all supplies provided.

4. At 11:00am, everyone will gather in the Fellowship Hall for our **3rd Annual BBQ Lunch**, hosted by the Stewardship Board.

Items Needed for VBS: *DC/DVD disks.

*Pint plastic jars (like peanut butter jars) with their lids. (CLEAN)

Items can be left at any of the One In Christ Churches.

Vacation Bible School Volunteers: Prayerfully consider volunteering to help with VBS--whether one day or all 4 days. Mon. June 3 – Thurs. June 6. If you would like to help, please contact the Parish Office at 641-567-3550. 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. **(There's a much lower service fee with the Simply Giving Program)**

WELCA Salad Luncheon: Elk Creek Lutheran Church (rural Kensett) has invited us to their WELCA Guest Day on May 16th at 11:00am. Program by Kim Dickey from Global Health Ministries, lunch following the program. Please RSVP by calling 641.845.2580 before May 13th. Leave a message if there is no answer.

ALL ARE INVITED DOWNSTAIRS FOR FELLOWSHIP AFTER THE SERVICE

SUNDAY 4/21

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary (Pastor Judy)

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

10:00am Faith Formation-Choir Room

MONDAY 4/22

1:00pm-4:00pm Mission Quilters-Fellowship Hall

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

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

WEDNESDAY 4/23

10:00am Bible Study-Choir Room

6:00pm Confirmation-Choir Room

THURSDAY 4/24

1:00pm Parkside Apt. Annual Meeting-Salem Library

SUNDAY 4/28

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary (Pastor Judy and Rev. Kristen Corr Rod)

10:00am Service Project-Meet in front of the Chapel

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

11:00am 3rd Annual BBQ Lunch-Fellowship Hall

SWO Annual Gathering: Mark your calendars for the 36th Annual Synodical Women's Gathering set for Sat. June 15th at Redeemer Lutheran, Waverly 8:30am-2:00pm. Registration forms are in the Narthex. There is an option to attend by Zoom as well. Early Bird discount if its postmarked by May 20th. This year's theme will focus on "Rejoice and Renew," based on Philippians 4:4 — 'Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!'"

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

Dates available: Aug 4, 25. Sep 1. Oct 20. Nov 17, 24. Dec 29

Salem Office: 592.1771

Mon: 11:00am-5:00am, Tues: CLOSED, Wed-Friday 11am-5:00pm

(Hours subject to change. You are welcome to call ahead to ensure the office is open)