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# SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

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## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COUNCIL MINUTES

**April 7 - 13**

### **Wounded Resurrection Power Restores Community**

Jesus' resurrection confronts the sadness and loneliness of Thomas's doubt. Many people in congregations left last Sunday's celebration of the resurrection with feelings similar to those of Thomas. Somehow, Thomas was not in the right place at the right time to see Jesus show up in the flesh. No doubt, people in the pews can relate to Thomas's missed opportunity. Perhaps they were unable to attend a family Easter gathering. Maybe a bunch of friends had box seats to the hottest game in town, and they were not able to afford one. Maybe a chemo treatment interrupted an opportunity for career advancement. Human beings are endlessly plagued with feelings of not fully belonging to the group, and they desire a savior to use magical power to restore perfection.

Time and again, the disciples seek a messiah who overwhelms them and the world with crushing military might and magical cures. Today, the power of the resurrection is most realized in the real, deep wounds of Jesus' own body. Without those wounds and the real sacrifice that God made on the cross, Thomas's faith would always be hobbled by his overwhelming doubt. Yet people still ask: how can God's reality of overflowing love and life confront and transform our parched world and wounded bodies?

Jesus makes faith happen today by breathing the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and blessing them with peace. He shows Thomas and all God's people that the life-changing resurrection embraces the wounds all people carry. God the Creator's peace, Jesus' wounds, and the breath of the Holy Spirit lead Thomas to believe that Jesus was raised from the dead. Then, Thomas trusts God to care for his body and his life. Just like Jesus' ministry prior to the cross, Jesus reaches for the outsider and restores Thomas to his place in the community.

## THIS WEEKS TEXTS

Acts 4:32-35

Psalms 133

1 John 1:1--2:2

John 20:19-31



## NEXT WEEKS TEXTS

Acts 3:12-19

Psalms 4

1 John 3:1-7

Luke 24:36b-48

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

**THIS WEEK WE WILL PRAY FOR:** Dale Mehus, Barbara Miller, Dennis Miller, Jeff and Jaci Miller, Wayne and Mildred Miller

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

7-Bradley Freeman

7-Emily Severson

10-Kjerstin Mosby

7-Kalli Budach

7-Annette Hanson

11-Travis Manley

7-Jan Belica

10-Joshua Zabel

11-Jackson Bloomingdale

12-Jacob Tweeten

## -WEEKLY GIVING-

**LAST SUNDAY 3/31/24:** \$ 5,502

**YEAR-TO-DATE: 3/27/24:** \$ 57,706

**LAST YEAR: as of 3/27/23:** \$ 48,965

**DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE:** \$ 8,741

## -Last Weeks Attendance-

215

**Tuckpointing/Steeple Project Update:** Total received as of 4/3/24 **\$161,212**

Total available balance as of 2/29/24 **\$54,064.32** All contributions towards this project are greatly appreciated! Please remember to note the "Steeple Project" when submitting your contribution. 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](http://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. We also have forms in the Narthex. Please return forms to the office.

**(We are charged a much lower service fee through the Simply Giving Program)**

**Living Waters Cluster Women's Spring Salad Luncheon:** Saturday, April 13th at Our Savior's Lutheran Church (2502 Jefferson Ave. Mason City—Just off 19th). Speaker Nancy Jewell (Executive Director & Founder of Freedom Inn His Grace Ministry) will speak about Beacon Hope Shines Here! Coffee-8:30am, Meeting-9:00, Speaker-9:30, then the salad luncheon. Please call Nancy Nielsen at 641-420-6562 for reservations before April 10th.

**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.

**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!

**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.

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**Volunteers Needed** for Worship and Faith Formation. If you are willing to usher, acolyte, read or sing in the liturgical choir, please sign up in the Narthex. If you would like to learn how to help with sound, monitors or live stream, call the office. If you are willing to help with Faith Formation, please sign up on the bulletin board across from the chapel. No planning or experience needed. Youth Board leaders do all the planning.

**Noisy Offering Update:** The total collected for the Good Samaritan Ministry was \$579.21 Thank you to everyone that made a donation!

**Devotionals:** There are copies of the April/May/June devotionals in the Narthex and by the south entrance. Feel free to take one.

**Blood Drive Results** from March 21st: 27 Eligible Donors, 31 Units collected, Up to 93 lives saved or sustained!

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**Summer Camps:** Reminder to sign up your children for summer camps before the early bird deadlines! Check out the camp websites for more information. In the past, the Enduring Gift Committee has helped to pay the remaining balances, after parents make the down payment, so after you have registered your child and paid the deposit, forward your receipt email from camp to the Salem office. [Salem@wctatel.net](mailto:Salem@wctatel.net) If you have any questions call 592-1771.

**A Day For Women:** Kinship Radio presents their 15th annual “A Day for Women” on Sat. April 13th at Hosanna Lutheran Church in Mankato. This year’s Special Guest is Ginny Owens. She has spent the past two decades sharing her heart with listeners and readers as a singer/songwriter, author, teacher and advocate. There will be music, ministry, lunch and mini-sessions. Space is limited to call 800-810-5559 or go online to KinshipRadio.org to register beginning Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am. Cost is \$40, doors open at 7:15am, starts at 8:30am.

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

**Dates available:** July 14, 21. Aug 4, 11, 25. Sep 1. Oct 20. Nov 17, 24. Dec 29

**Salem Office: 592.1771** M 11-2 & 3-5, T 8:30-10:30 & 3-5, Wed & Th 9-5, Fri 11-5 (Hours subject to change. You are welcome to call ahead to ensure the office is open)

# Salem Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 14, 2024 – 6:30 pm

President Shannon Bruhns called the meeting to order.

Members present: Marci Prescott, Delane Behr, Shannon Bruhns, Doug Bruhns, Laura Gardner, Sondra Nelson, Mary Peterson, Dan Rice, Mike Swenson, Cindy Haugsdal.

Shannon opened the meeting with devotions and prayer.

**Secretary's Report:** February Minutes were available for review. There were no additions or corrections.

Laura moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Doug. All approved.

Communication and correspondence – received 3 anonymous donations of \$50 each, \$150 deposited into the general fund; Salem has received requests from LMCS After Prom Committee for a donation and LM Chamber Development Corp for July Jubilee sponsorship opportunity. Marci moved to provide donations in the same amount as 2023 for both requests, seconded by Mike. All approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Doug provided a written and verbal report.

Total income for February 2024 \$18,236.00

Total Expenses for February 2024 \$5,203.88 (Income less expense \$13,032.12)  
(This includes a -\$8,099.54 accounting adjustment related to distributions out of dedicated accounts).

Checking account balance (02/29/2024) \$91,331.20

FTSB/Tuckpointing account balance (02/29/2024) \$54,064.32

CD's at FTSB (02/29/2024) Reserves \$26,014.17

CD at MBT (02/29/2024) Ness Estate \$48,334.93

**Financial Secretary's report:** Laura provided a written report.

2023 YTD total offerings (02/28/2024) \$31,109

2022 YTD total offerings (02/28/2023) \$28,717

Mike moved to accept Treasurer and Financial reports, seconded by Mary. All approved.

## **Board Reports**

**Enduring Gift Fund:** 2024 1st quarter report is due in April.

**Board of Worship and Music:** Mary provided a written and verbal report: Flower orders for Easter Sunday are being ordered through Three Oaks; Kids are singing on April 28<sup>th</sup>; Brady Kurtz and Bruce Adams are providing special music on Easter Sunday; Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday plans reviewed; Pastor supply completed through May; reviewing assigned tasks for the Worship Coordinator.

**Board of Life & Growth:** Sondra provided a written and verbal report: Lenten daily devotional/prayer guides are available to congregation; looking for new ways to encourage growth of Salem.

**Board of Stewardship and Social Ministry:** Doug provided a verbal report: Working on the Congregational Barbecue the end of April; Noisy offering currently being collected for the Good Samaritan Fund.

**Board of Property and Management:** Mike provided a verbal report: Mike left a message for Young Construction to provide an update on scheduling work on the south steeple; Met with Ken Kaiser Restoration from Des Moines to discuss restoring the bell tower vs removal; Status of plans/bids to remove Bell tower with Dave Randall and Jared Beenken are still pending.

**Board of Youth:** Marci provided a written and verbal report: Snow tubing/skiing event cancelled due to warm weather; 5<sup>th</sup> grade students and families First communion classes on 3/3, 3/10 and 3/24 with Welcome to the Table Meal/First communion on Maundy Thursday on 3/28; Easter Egg hunt scheduled for 3/24, asking for donations for candy to fill the eggs; Last day of Faith Formation will be on 4/28 with the kids singing and a spring clean up service project; Last day of confirmation class will be 5/1 with a pizza party on 5/8; Graduation gifts have

been ordered for Salem Seniors; still need volunteers to help with Faith Formations with a sign up sheet on the bulletin board across from the chapel.

**Pastoral Care Support:** None.

**Pastor's Report:** None.

Mary moved to accept board reports, seconded by Doug. All approved.

**Old Business:**

- A. Call Committee Report – There has been no new information or candidates to interview. Mike asked if we could check with other ELCA synods for candidates to interview, Shannon will investigate this.
- B. Capital Project Update
  - a. South Steeple Project – see Board of Property and Management report.
  - b. Remit Invoice – Dave Randall Construction submitted billing for time, mileage and supplies for his work looking into the Bell tower building project. Mike will review these bills and discuss with Dave.
- C. Summer Feeding Program Update – Status for this summer is pending due to funding issues.

**New Business:**

- A. Pastor Randy Baldwin/LMAMA have asked to have LMCS Baccalaureate service at Salem on Wednesday, May 15 at 7:00 pm. Delane moved that Salem host this service as asked, seconded by Laura. All approved.
- B. Adrian Curtis Halvorson Estate Donation to Salem – Salem has been notified by the estate of former member, Adrian Curtis Halvorson, that Salem is a beneficiary to funds from the estate that will be designated to the Cemetery Endowment Fund and Building, Repair and Maintenance Fund. Adrian was the brother to Janet Vinson and Orloue Thomson. Salem is extremely grateful for this memorial giving which will be published upon receipt.
- C. New members – None
- D. Transfers/statistical adjustments – Susan Smith requested transfer to Zion

Lutheran Church in Clear Lake, Iowa. Marci moved to accept transfer, seconded by Sondra. All approved.

E. Next meeting will be held Thursday, April 11, 2024, at 6:30 pm in the Salem library.

Mike moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Doug. All approved. The meeting was adjourned.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Haugsdal

## **ALL ARE INVITED DOWNSTAIRS FOR FELLOWSHIP AFTER THE SERVICE**

### **SUNDAY 4/7**

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

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

10:00am Faith Formation-Choir Room

### **MONDAY 4/8**

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

### **TUESDAY 4/9**

8:30am-10:00am Larson's Retiree Coffee-Salem Library

### **WEDNESDAY 4/10**

10:00am Bible Study-Choir Room

6:00pm Confirmation-Choir Room

### **THURSDAY 4/11**

9:30am-11:30am Fine Arts Guild-Lounge

6:30pm Church Council Meeting-Salem Library

### **SUNDAY 4/14**

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

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

10:00am Faith Formation-Choir Room