
SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

May 26 – June 1

Our Amazing Life through Fearsome Death

Holy. Glory. These words in the first reading and psalm testify to awe at God's transcendent sovereignty, fearsome majesty, and infinite mystery. No mortal can see God's face or hear God's voice and live. The fear expressed in these readings is *personal*—a living mortal in awe of the living God. In our age, awe at transcendent mystery tends toward the *impersonal*—at the invisibly small (in physics, quarks and strings) and the unimaginably large (space and time). Does anyone in our age still cultivate the fear of an unmanageable transcendent God, or is the notion too connected to images of a heavenly bully to be useful? Besides, Paul and Jesus each offer a picture of God's immanence. Paul invites us to revel in God's approachability, affirming that we can cry, "Abba! Father!" Jesus proclaims the most famous Bible verse of all, telling of God's great love and desire to save.

But both Jesus and Paul testify that any presumption of easy friendship and comfortable intimacy with the triune God is as out of place now as ever. The immanent God is still the transcendent God! And it is still true: no mortal can see God's face or hear God's voice and live—even if the face and voice belong to Jesus through the Holy Spirit. The life God desires for us is accomplished through Jesus' death—and through our own through baptism. Those deaths are as utterly terrifying as death always is, but with this grace: the death leads to our holy birth from above into a life where "we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him" (Rom. 8:17).

THIS WEEKS TEXTS

Isaiah 6:1-8

Psalms 29

Romans 8:12-17

John 3:1-17



NEXT WEEKS TEXTS

Deuteronomy 5:12-15

Psalms 81:1-10

2 Corinthians 4:5-12

Mark 2:23—3:6

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

THIS WEEK WE WILL PRAY FOR: Roger, Katie, Jack and Amy Olson, Richard & Nancy Oltman, Jerod, Kari, Kaci, Cash and Cullen Osheim, Tyler Olson

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

26-Maddie Mannes

28-Laura Gardner

30-Joa Gilbertson

26-Chike Ikefuama

29-Jason Gilbertson

31-Alec Anderson

27-Craig Shifflett

30-Darlene Gregor

1-Janet Hebrink

-WEEKLY GIVING-

LAST SUNDAY: 5/19/24:

No update due

YEAR-TO-DATE: 5/19/24:

to the financial

LAST YEAR: as of 5/19/23:

secretary not

DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE:

being available

Last Weeks Attendance

106

Tuckpointing/Steeple Project Update: Total received as of 5/14/24 **\$161,357**
Total available balance as of 4/30/24 **\$54,559.32** All contributions towards this project are greatly appreciated! Please remember to note the “Steeple Project” in the memo when submitting your contribution. Thank you!

T-shirts and Sheets: The Mission Quilters are collecting white or light colored cotton T-shirts (new or used). They will use them to make diapers. They are also collecting white cotton sheets (new or used). They will cut them and roll them to make bandages for Global Missions. There is a basket in the Narthex. Thank you!

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



WORSHIP UNDER THE ELM TREE!!!

WHEN: Sunday, June 9th at 9:00 am worship

DETAILS: Pastor Steve Smith presiding

Folding chairs will be available. Please bring a lawn chair if you prefer.

Livestream will not be available.

Worship will be broadcast Facebook live.

In the event of weather, worship will be moved to the Sanctuary.

Coffee Fellowship after worship.

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORSHIPPING TOGETHER UNDER THE
ELM TREE ON THE SOUTH LAWN!!**

Board of Music and Worship

Lutheran World Relief: Another great shipment went to Lutheran World Relief on Saturday, May 18th. We sent 130 quilts, 87 baby care kits and 74 health kits. Thank you to the confirmation kids who assembled the health kits and the girls and ladies who assembled the baby care kits. Many thanks to all the contributions and to the great ladies who made the quilts. Thanks to Steve, Don, Wayne and John for loading them. We will be sending 15 quilts to Mason City's Salvation Army and a few more to the Bible Camp's Auctions. -Mission Quilters

Memorial Day: The Lake Mills Food Shelf and Salem's Clothes Closet will be closed on Monday, May 27th for Memorial Day, they will be open again the following Monday--June 3rd.

The June 1st "C3 Ministry Fair": All congregation members from the North-eastern Iowa Synod are invited to attend the synod's **first Creative Collaborative Congregations (C3) Ministry Fair, June 1, at Wartburg College, Waverly**. This will feature workshops, service opportunities, networking, worship and more **for any and all congregation members to attend**. This year's Ministry Fair replaces the Synod Assembly, which will take place every other year and will meet again in 2025. Everyone will be able to attend 2 workshops in the morning and 2 in the afternoon. The cost to attend is \$50 per person, which includes access to workshops, a box lunch and a welcome packet. Online registration is due by Friday, May 24th. www.neiasynod.org/ministry-fair or call 319-352-1414. **Please contact the Salem office for more information and full details.**

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."

Vacation Bible School Volunteers: Prayerfully consider volunteering to help with VBS--whether one day or all 4 days. June 3-6; 9am-11:30am. Adults or Youth (7th-12th grade) who would like to help in any way, please contact the Parish Office at 641-567-3550. Thank you!

Salem Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 9, 2024 – 6:30 pm

President Shannon Bruhns called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Members present: Shannon Bruhns, Delane Behr, Doug Bruhns, Laura Gardner, Mary Peterson, Marci Prescott, Cindy Haugsdal

Absent: Sondra Nelson, Dan Rice

Shannon started the meeting with devotions and prayer.

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

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

Communication and correspondence – Received 2 anonymous donations for \$50 each, deposited into the general fund.

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

Total income for April 2024 \$16,285.68

Total Expenses for April 2024 \$9,666.11 (Income less expense \$6,619.57)

Checking account balance 4/30/2024) \$110,983.28

Building Project account balance 4/30/2024 \$54,559.32

CD's at FTSB (4/30/2024) Reserves \$26,014.17

CD at MBT (4/30/2024) Ness Estate \$48,334.93

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

2024 YTD total offerings (4/30/2024) \$72,291

2023 YTD total offerings (4/30/2023) \$66,175

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

Board Reports

Enduring Gift Fund report: The next quarterly report (April-June 2024) is due at the July Council meeting.

Board of Worship and Music: Mary provided a written and verbal report: Board met on 5/1/2024; discussed upcoming baptisms, Mother's Day and Graduation Sunday; Planning celebration of the Church birthday with red geraniums on May 19 (members can order and provide in honor or memory); continuing to plan for one outdoor service the second Sunday of each month (June, July, August); discussed special musicians for summer services and use of YouTube videos during services.

Board of Life & Growth: Sondra provided a written report: Board will serve ice cream and cookies following the baccalaureate service on Wednesday, May 15.

Board of Stewardship and Social Ministry: Doug provided a verbal report: 3rd annual Stewardship barbecue was well attended and plan to continue to offer this fellowship opportunity next year.

Board of Property and Management: Mike provided a written and verbal report: Live streaming is now working well; Mike got a quote from Central Lock in Mason City for \$20,000 to add automatic locks on three additional doors, tabled at this time due to cost; Mike has contacted Young Construction regarding steeple shingling, they will be to Salem soon(actual date pending) and take care of the south steeple; Midwest roofing in Mason City will be coming next week to check the flat roof over the Education wing; Monies are being donated to Salem specifically for building improvements to the East side of the Education wing where the LM Food Shelf is located, once received, the board will bring specific plans to the council.

Board of Youth: Marci provided a written and verbal report: The last day of Faith Formation was on April 28 with the kids singing and also did a flower craft project that was taken to the care center for dining table decorations; Confirmation students assembled health care kits and had a pizza party to end the year on May 8; Graduation Sunday will be on May 19 and graduation gifts will be given to Salem seniors; discussed a picnic potluck in late summer; discussed planning for confirmation in the fall and a kickoff event.

Pastoral Care Support: No funerals in the last month, 1 baptism this last month.

Pastor's Report: None

Doug moved to approve Board reports, seconded by Mike. All approved.

Old Business:

- A. Call Committee Report – Nothing new to report, still working on scheduling Bishop Jones or Steve Brackett to come for a visit/forum to update the congregation regarding our call process.
- B. Capital Project Update
 - a. South Steeple Project – See Board of Property and Management report above.
- C. Summer Feeding Program Update – still on hold for this year.

New Business:

- A. Thrivent Choice Dollars Allocation – current balance is approximately \$2500.
- B. Mission Support – We are due to share our mission support plan for 2024 with the Synod. Doug moved to continue with our Mission Support to the Synod at 10% of offerings, seconded by Laura. All approved.
- C. Doug moved to add Church Mutual Insurance Notice of Conditioned Renewal to the agenda, seconded by Mike. All approved. Notice was

reviewed and changes noted. Our policy will be renewed, although the premium amount was not included in this document.

- D. New members – None.
- E. Transfers/statistical adjustments – None
- F. Next meeting will be held Thursday, June 13, 2024 at 6:30 pm in the Salem library.

Doug moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Laura. 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 5/26

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

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

MONDAY 5/27

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

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

2:00pm-5:00pm Lake Mills Food Shelf is CLOSED

WEDNESDAY 5/29

10:00am Bible Study-Choir Room

SATURDAY 6/1

12:00pm-8:00pm Fellowship Hall Reserved for Private Event

SUNDAY 6/2

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

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

2:00pm-5:00pm Fellowship Hall Reserved for Private Event

Salem Office: 592.1771 Mon & Tues 9-5, Wed 9-11:30, 4-6, Thurs 9-5 Fri Closed
(Hours subject to change. You are welcome to call ahead to ensure the office is open)