
SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

July 14 – 20

Speaking Truth to Power

Few of us want to hear a hard truth, and perhaps fewer of us want to be the ones called to deliver one. Today's texts remind us that bearing God's word is risky business. King Jereboam exiles the prophet Amos for calling him to account. Herod delivers John the baptizer's head on a platter to his wife, Herodias, to fulfill a promise he never should have made. Speaking truth to power can cost us our lives.

Yet this is exactly what God calls us to do. God's prophets are ordinary people called to deliver an extraordinary message. Listen to the praise Paul heaps on the Ephesians, naming them as God's blessed, God's chosen, and God's adopted children (Eph. 1:3-5). It is the kind of pep talk coaches give their players just before sending them back into the game against a seemingly unbeatable team. Like Amos, who freely confesses his humble background and unlikely credentials, we are sent from worship each week to proclaim God's in-breaking reign to all the powers that profess to rule this world.

Still, beneath the apparent victory of power over truth, there is a hidden story bursting through the seams of this tale. Yes, John the Baptist dies, but the integrity of his witness outshines all of Herod's corrupt court intrigues. Herod himself was drawn to John's preaching, and in the end it is Herod's character that seems most tragic.

Like Herod, we are each challenged to really listen to the challenging voice of God in our day and age, and to turn away from the lures and temptations that attempt to seduce us away from fidelity to God. Through us, God speaks words of peace, love, and faithfulness that challenge the world's violence, hatred, and treachery.

THIS WEEKS TEXTS

Amos 7:7-15
Psalm 85:8-13
Ephesians 1:3-14
Mark 6:14-29



NEXT WEEKS TEXTS

Jeremiah 23:1-6
Psalm 23
Ephesians 2:11-22
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

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

THIS WEEK WE WILL PRAY FOR:

Margaret Rogstad, Robert, Kaleb and Katelyn Rogstad, Roger & Linda Rogstad, Bill & Jean Rondeau, Lynn & Kathleen Rosen

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

15-Nicholas Mosby

16-Jack Olson

19-Marlys Stille

15-Connie Van Veldhuizen

16-Tori Holtan

20-Lory Groe

17-Elizabeth Sprecher

20-Essabel Sauer

-WEEKLY GIVING-

LAST SUNDAY: 7/7/24: \$ 4,618

YEAR-TO-DATE: 7/10/24: \$ 106,788

LAST YEAR: as of 7/10/23: \$ 97,821

DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE: \$ 8,967

Last Weeks Attendance

64

Tuckpointing/Steeple Project Update: Total received as of 7/10/24 **\$162,157**
Total available balance as of 6/28/24 **\$55,159.32** All contributions towards this project are greatly appreciated! Please remember to note the "Steeple Project" in the memo when submitting your contribution. Thank you!

Guest Book: If you are visiting Salem today, we welcome you and invite you to sign our guest book, located in the Narthex, and we hope to see you again!

Upcoming Blood Drive: Thurs. July 18; In the Fellowship Hall 1:30-6:00pm.
Appointments Encouraged. Call: 800-287-4903 or Text: LIFESERVE to 999-7777

Live Stream Sponsorship: Dates avail: Aug 4, 25. Sep 1. Oct 20. Nov 24. Dec 29
Call the office to reserve your date. Cost is \$40

Baptism: We welcome into the family of God through Holy Baptism Cullen John Osheim, son of Jerod & Kari Osheim, brother of Kaci and Cash Osheim. Cullen was baptized on June 29, 2024. His god parents are Mikayla Hanson and Adalyn Castle. Her grandparents are Craig & Cindy Haugsdal and Dave & Becky Osheim

Prayer Chain Ministry is a network of people who are committed to prayer and will take action on behalf of others. If you will pray for those in need, sign-up in the Narthex to be notified by either email, text or phone. If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, call the office and the prayer request will get sent out. If there is no answer, leave a message. All requests will be confidential among the prayer chain ministry. Call the office with prayer requests. Thank you!

Prayer Shawls, hand knit or crocheted by Salem members, are available in the Narthex for you to wrap someone in need. A Prayer Shawl is for anyone in need of prayer, hope, comfort and love of a community. If you would like the person included in the prayer chain, please call the office.

Salem's Clothes Closet is open every Monday from 2:00-4:00pm; and can be accessed at the south entrance. Clothes, shoes, boots, coats, jackets and a few other kids' items are available for free. We also accept donations; please make sure donations are folded and have no holes, tears or stains. Donations can be left inside the south entrance anytime.



The Lake Mills Food Shelf is open 2:00-5:00pm every Monday for anyone in need of additional food. The only criteria for eligibility is to reside within the Lake Mills School District. The Food Shelf is located at Salem and can be accessed at the south entrance. Anyone in need of food when the food shelf is not open, please feel free to call and leave a message at 641-592-1771 and someone will call back.

ALL ARE INVITED TOO STAY FOR FELLOWSHIP

SUNDAY 7/14

9:00am Outdoor Service (Pastor Steve Smith)

10:00am Fellowship-South Lawn

MONDAY 7/15

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

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

6:30pm Quilt Club-Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY 7/17

10:00am Bible Study-Choir Room

THURSDAY 7/18

10:30am Life & Growth Board Meeting-Library

1:30pm-6:00pm Blood Drive-Fellowship Hall

SUNDAY 7/14

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

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

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. 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)

Thank you to everyone that donated to the kids food fund that was used to buy kid friendly food and then donated to the food bank. We appreciate you!

Salem Office: 592.1771 Monday-Friday 9:00am-1:30pm

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