

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

August 14 – August 20

The Reality of Division

Throughout the Gospel of Luke, Jesus calls on his hearers to turn their hearts away from greed and instead to generosity, to turn away from anxious self-preservation and instead to faithful self-giving. But such practice rubs against humanity's deepest-seated sin, so conflict is born out of Jesus' peace-filled activity. Jesus' words and actions had already pitted him against the religious leaders and will lead him to the cross. Now, in today's gospel, Jesus speaks to the reality of that division.

His words unsettle us, yet they are spoken for a reason. In the reading from Jeremiah, God challenges the prophets who dole out lies and deceit and asks, how long until they turn their hearts back to me? This is a question of compassion and yearning for a restored relationship. Likewise, although Jesus' words are incendiary and speak of broken relationships, they are meant to prompt the people's faithful response: to lay aside anxiety and greed and to turn their hearts to the treasures of God's promised kingdom, where Christ takes division upon himself on the cross.

While fully aware of the realities of conflict and division, we are to live as hopeful people, praying fervently for God's compassion and for the restoration of right relationships.

THIS WEEKS TEXTS

[Jeremiah 23:23-29](#)

[Psalm 82](#)

[Hebrews 11:29--12:2](#)

[Luke 12:49-56](#)

NEXT WEEKS TEXTS

[Isaiah 58:9b-14](#)

[Psalm 103:1-8](#)

[Hebrews 12:18-29](#)

[Luke 13:10-17](#)

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:** Jessi Mary, Lindsay and Griffin McCord, Kevin, Michelle and Laurie McDonald, Stacy Diekhuis, James & Jackie McGrady, Lori and Curran McLaughlin

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

14-Alexandria Hanson-Brandsoy	16-Dawn Ramaker	18-Kiley Flo
16-Walker Pederson	17-Olivia Schoonover	19-Tanya Hengesteg
16-Gary Nelson	18-Kelly Dahle	20-Samaria Weisenborn

-WEEKLY GIVING-

LAST SUNDAY: 8/7/22 \$ 4,547
YEAR-TO-DATE: 8/9/22 \$ 117,033
LAST YEAR: as of 8/9/21 \$ 140,499
DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE: \$ - 23,466

Memorial Service for Owen Solomonson will be at 2pm on August 19th. The family asks that everyone attending wear a mask and observe social distancing.

Results of Blood Drive on July 14th: Total Donors 34, Lives Saved 117

Hospice Volunteer Training: MercyOnce North Iowa Hospice is a non-profit organization, in need of men and women who want to serve patients and families in our local communities. The application process allows you to select the types of activities you would like to help with. The classes are free of charge and open to the public. MercyOne North Iowa Hospice Volunteer Training will be Thursdays, September 15 & 22 from 9:30am to 4:00pm at First United Methodist Church, 119 South Georgia Ave, Mason City, IA. (Across from the hospice office) Registration is required by Monday, Sept. 12th. To register, call 1-800-297-4719 and ask for Steph.

Live Stream Sponsorship: Call the office to reserve your special date. The cost is \$40 per Sunday. **2022 Dates available:** Aug. 21, Oct. 16, Oct. 30, Nov. 6, Nov. 13, Nov. 27, Dec. 11

Collections: We collect used stamps, pop tabs, eye glasses and receipts from David's Marketplace. The WELCA group receives 1 tenth of 1% of all receipts collected. This can really add up and help. They ask that receipts do not get rolled up. Collection baskets are in the Narthex.

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

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



Salem Office: 641.592.1771

Mon-Wed: 10am-5pm

Thurs: Closed

Fri: 10am-4pm

Pastor Joel Guttormson

Mon: Off, but on-call

Tues: 10am-Noon, 1pm-5pm (2:30pm Text Study)

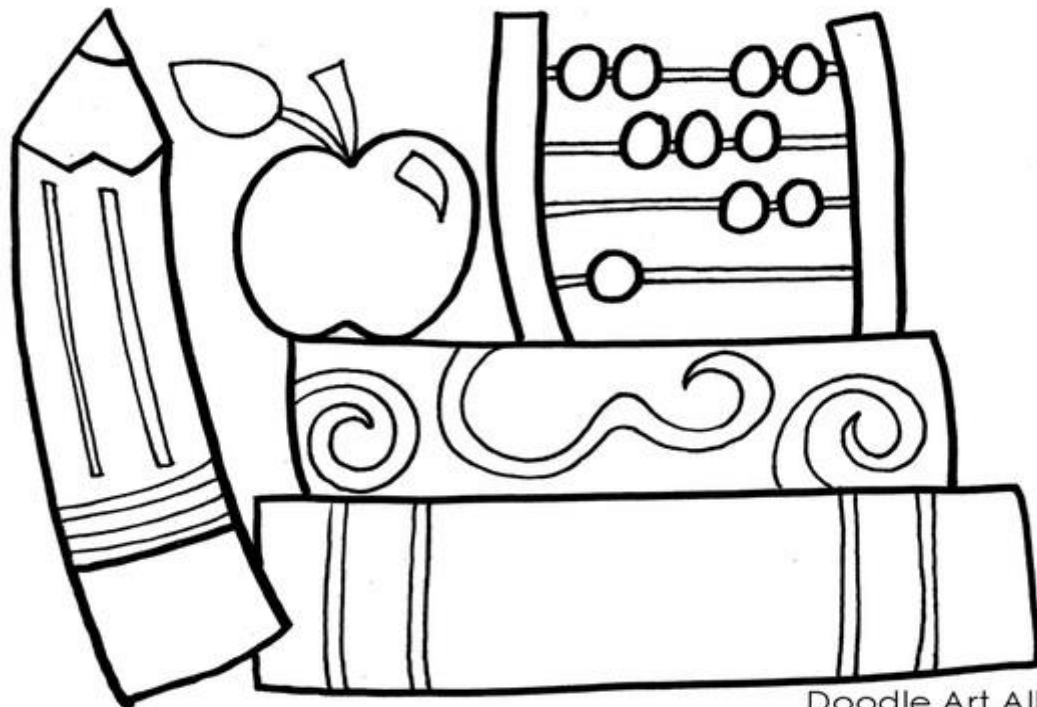
Wed: Noon-8:00pm (10am Adult Bible Study)

Thurs: Noon-8pm (1pm Mills Harbour Bible Study, 3pm Life/Growth Meeting)

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

Sat: 10am-Noon (service prep)

Sun: 8am-NOON (9am Worship Service, 10:30am New & Renewing Member class & lunch)



School Kits: Education is important for any community, especially where poverty or disaster has limited the options for young people to reach their potential. School Kits contain essential supplies to help children—and in some cases, adults—continue their learning despite the hardships they face. And that learning leads to a better life for them, their families and their communities.

Salem will be collecting School Kits and supplies to make the kits. Donations can be left in the Narthex.

INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN EACH FABRIC KIT:

*Four 70-sheet notebooks of wide or college-ruled paper approximately 8"x 10¹/₂";no loose-leaf paper.

*One 30-centimeter ruler, or ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other

*Five ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band

*Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band

*One box of 16 or 24 crayons

*One pencil sharpener

*One eraser

*One 30-centimeter ruler, or ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other

*One blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)

*One sturdy drawstring backpack-style cloth bag approximately 14"x 17" with shoulder straps (no standard backpacks); recommended fabric include heavy cotton, canvas, denim or twill



Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed. All items should be new and in good condition. Remove any excess packaging, pack all items in the bag and close. Do not enclose the kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.

Visit lwr.org/beinvolved and click on School Kits or call 800.597.5972 for an easy-sew backpack-style bag pattern and tips for purchasing pre-made bags.

NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERSHIP CLASSES

There will be another opportunity to participate in a New and Renewing Membership Class in August. Classes will be offered Sunday, **August 14 and 21 from 10:30 – 11:30** in the chapel. A lunch will be served following the classes in the lounge.

Three ELCA publications will be used for our discussion, “Honoring Our Neighbors Faith,” “Baptized We Live: Lutheranism as a way of life,” and “Called Forward Together in Christ: ELCA Future Directions 2015.” These three documents provide a roadmap of sorts helping us discern together how Lutherans are similar to other Christian traditions and yet distinct in some significant and important ways. “ELCA Strategic Directions 2025 tells the story of the church we are becoming – a church that is confident about who we are in Christ and what God is calling us to do. The directions are presented in three parts: 1. The ELCA – who we are; 2. What unites us as a Church; and 3. Our goals and priorities” (p.4 Together in Christ).

That the ELCA has a document entitled “Honoring Our Neighbors Faith” says a lot about how we view ecumenical partners in our denomination. “Baptized We Live” provides a look at our Lutheran heritage as a way of “seeing, hearing, teaching and following,” that both grounds us and sets us apart from others. “Together in Christ,” boldly envisions a future church that is connected, thriving, relevant, relational, vocational, welcoming, ecumenical, well-governed, and sustainable.

Why attend a new and renewing membership classes? Past attendees learned that we all come from differing backgrounds and have different faith stories, and that’s okay, in fact it’s an asset to a healthy, diverse, dynamic congregation. We give thanks for the stories of “lifelong Lutherans” who can share our cultural roots. We also want to invite, hear from, and welcome to the conversation those who have come from other faith traditions or spiritual paths. It’s also important for new and renewing members to get to know each other and have a common aspiration, that Salem’s mission and ministry makes a difference in Lake Mills and beyond.

The milestones of baptism, faith formation, first communion, affirmation of baptism, weddings and funerals and all other celebrations that make up the life and ministry of people in this place can only continue with the commitment of active new and renewing members. As a new and renewing member, honoring our individual and collective past, keeping our baptismal and affirmation of baptism calling is a lifelong gift of grace and commitment:

- to live among God's faithful people,
- to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
- to proclaim the good news of God in Christ Jesus
- and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

Whether a life-long, seasoned, new, discerning, or questioning person, this class offers an opportunity for conversations about why membership at Salem matters. If you know someone who is new or inactive participating in new and renewing membership classes is an opportunity to join in the conversation. For those who attend the classes and desire to become "Confirmed" members of Salem, their names will be brought to the Church Council for a vote on September 8. A new and renewing member reception is scheduled for Rally Sunday, September 18th.

Copies of the three resources used for class discussion and a sign-up sheet are in the Narthex. Please sign up or call the church office if you plan to attend so we can have enough books and know how much food to prepare for the lunch following the class. We hope to see you there!



SUNDAY 8/14

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

10:30am New & Renewing Membership Class-Chapel/Lunch to follow-Lounge

MONDAY 8/15

11:00am-12:00pm Free lunch for Youth-Fellowship Hall

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

(To schedule a different time, call 641.592.5085)

2:30pm-5:00pm Lake Mills Food Shelf is OPEN (101 S. Mill St.)

6:30pm Quilt Club-Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY 8/16

11:00am-12:00pm Free lunch for Youth-Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY 8/17

10:00am Adult Bible Study-Choir Room

11:00am-12:00pm Free lunch for Youth-Fellowship Hall

THURSDAY 8/18 (office closed)

11:00am-12:00pm Free lunch for Youth-Fellowship Hall

1:00pm Mills Harbour Bible Study

3:00pm Life & Growth Board Meeting-Fellowship Hall

FRIDAY 8/19

11:00am-12:00pm Free lunch for Youth-Fellowship Hall

2:00pm Owen Solomonson Memorial-Sanctuary

SATURDAY 8/20

10:00am-3:00pm Fellowship Hall Reserved For A Private Party

SUNDAY 8/21

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary (Blessing of the backpacks)

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

10:30am New & Renewing Membership Class-Chapel/Lunch to follow-Lounge