
SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

August 18 - 24

You're Invited

Today Jesus invites us to a meal. It is an extraordinary invitation to do an ordinary thing: form bonds of love and community through shared food and drink. Like Wisdom inviting us to the feast of insight (Prov. 9:1-6), Jesus' invitation to share in the meal of his body and blood teaches us about the breadth and depth of God's love and about God's desire for us to abide in that love (John 6:56).

Jesus' audience asks a reasonable question: "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" (John 6:52). Jesus' answer doesn't really address the question; instead, he reiterates that he is the true bread from heaven, the true source of eternal life. This must have been off-putting to his listeners. Eat flesh? Drink blood? And yet, here we find a profoundly grace-filled invitation—abide in me—and a promise: through this meal I abide in you. We are invited to not only join Jesus at the table, but to be at home in the love of God, knowing that Christ makes his home in our hearts and lives too. So come: eat, and get to know God.

THIS WEEKS TEXTS

Proverbs 9:1-6

Psalms 34:9-14

Ephesians 5:15-20

John 6:51-58



NEXT WEEKS TEXTS

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

Psalms 34:15-22

Ephesians 6:10-20

John 6:56-69

Noisy Offering: We all have seen the devastation that flooding has brought to many of the communities of northwestern Iowa. This quarter we will be designating our "Noisy Offering" to those affected by the floods. Donations will be sent to the Clay County Community Foundation Disaster Recovery Fund. This collection will end August 25.

Each week we will lift up five church families/ members in prayer.
THIS WEEK WE WILL PRAY FOR: Kevin and Amy Sprecher, Sean Smalley,
Kyle Sprecher, Wayne and Arlene Sprecher, Jeffrey, Megan and Alayna
Steele, Steve and Sue Steele

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

18-Kelly Dahle	20-Samaria Weisenborn	22-Melanie Zabel
19-Tana Hengesteg	21-Rebecca Sletten	24-Isabelle Schoonover

-WEEKLY GIVING-

LAST SUNDAY: 8/11/24: \$ 3,760

YEAR-TO-DATE: 8/14/24: \$ 126,037

LAST YEAR: as of 8/14/23: \$ 115,657

DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE: \$ 10,380

Last Weeks Attendance

52

Tuckpointing/Steeple Project Update: Total received as of 8/14/24 **\$165,837**
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!

Retired Senior Volunteer Program: Reading Buddy pairs one volunteer to one
student to read and practice literacy skills. The program at Lake Mills Elementary
currently serves kindergarten and 1st grade students. Volunteers typically served
one day per week for approximately an hour. Teachers provide all the necessary
materials. The volunteer reads, works on slight words, literacy games, etc. and
helps the student form a positive relationship around reading and also becomes
a trusted, caring adult in their life. Lake Mills hopes to add MORE classrooms this
year, so please tell a friend! To sign up, please call 641-422-4304 or visit
www.niacc.edu/rsvp to enroll. All volunteers will be provided orientation and
training in Lake Mills so they feel confident and ready to help students have a
successful experience.

Understanding Grief and Loss Support Group is an adult support group that will provide grief education and support to individuals who've experienced the death of a family member or friend. This group is sponsored by MercyOne North Iowa Hospice. The next scheduled group is: 5 Monday evenings; Sept. 30th – Oct. 28th 5:30 - 7:00 PM in the MercyOne North Iowa Hospice Conference Room (232 2nd St SE, Mason City). There is no charge for this group, but space is limited. Call 641-428-6267 to register.

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. 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. 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.

“One Year to Live” Men’s Retreat: Registration is now open for this event. The retreat is set for Nov. 1-3 at Camp Ewalu, Strawberry Point. The retreat is an opportunity for men of all ages to rethink how they set their priorities & discover how God has equipped them to live. It is led by lay members and presented by Lutheran Men in Mission, in partnership with the NEIA Synod & Camp Ewalu. Cost is \$175 for those who register by Oct. 7. After that date, the rate is \$200, due by Oct. 21. Lodging, six meals and materials are included. To download the brochure/ registration form and to register online, visit www.neiasynod.org/oysl

A Gathering Of Faithful Men will be held Sept. 28th at Hosanna Lutheran Church in Mankato. This year’s special guest is Michael Franzese. He is an American former mobster who was a caporegime in the Colombo crime family. He went from the Godfather to God the Father. There will be music, ministry and breakfast. Tickets are \$25. Space is limited so call 800-810-5559 or go online to KinshipRadio.org to register beginning Mon. August 26th at 8am.

Confirmation: On Wednesday August 28th at 6:00 pm, 7th and 8th grade Students & Parents will meet in the Sanctuary for Confirmation Orientation with Pastor Melinda and a member of the board of Music and Worship. Classes will be held in the Choir Room beginning on Wednesday, Sept 4th.

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 hardship 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:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">*One box of 16 or 24 crayons*Four 70-sheet notebooks of wide or college-ruled paper approximately 8"x10¹/₂", no loose-leaf paper*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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">*Five ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band*One pencil sharpener*One eraser*One 30-centimeter ruler, or ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other*Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band
---	---

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-few backpack-style bag pattern and tips for purchasing pre-made bags.

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

Many activities are scheduled for Sunday, September 8 th !

- Rally Sunday where everyone is invited to the south lawn after worship for food and games. The Stewardship Board will provide a meal for everyone, and The Youth Board will have games for the kiddos!
- Blessing of the Backpacks for students of all ages to bring a backpack to worship to receive blessings as a new school year begins!
- Installation of Faith Formation instructors and helpers during worship. We recognize the time and effort put into the Faith Formation program and appreciate all the volunteers that help nourish and grow the faith of our youth.
- Mission Quilters will display quilts in the sanctuary. As we enjoy the beauty and handiwork of these quilts, let's remember that they get sent around the world to be used as a warm blanket or perhaps as a baby carrier. They are used as market displays or maybe sacks. These quilts are a wonderful reminder that someone far away cares for them.

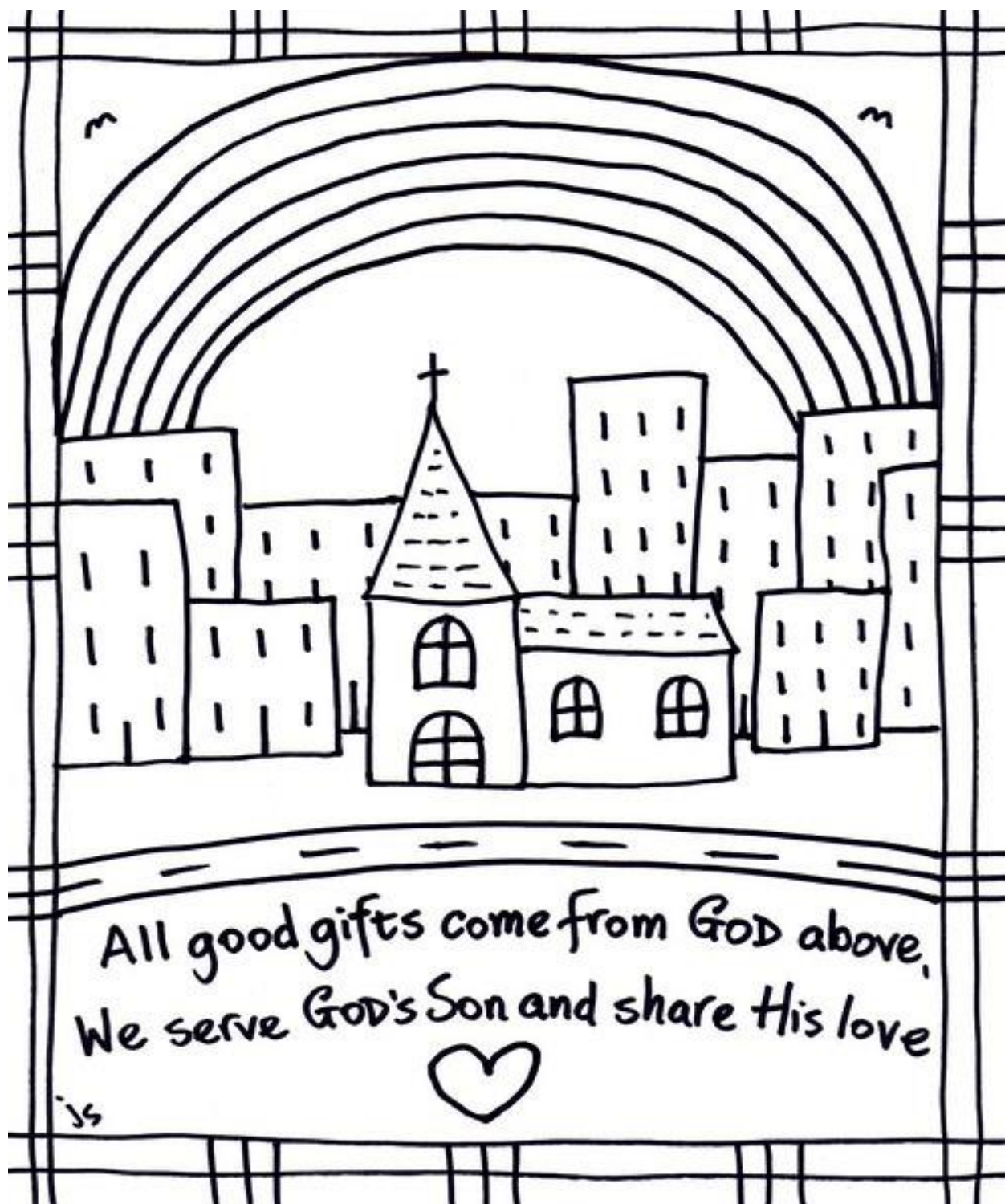
Global Church Together Festival: August 24, 2024 at Trinity Lutheran Church, Mason City. All congregation members are invited to experience and discover God's work in the world during this festival. This event will feature a guest keynote presenter, workshops, "World of 100" global simulation activity, global music, worship and lunch featuring global flavors. The event is from 9:00am to 4:30pm with registration beginning at 8:30am. The keynote speaker will be the Rev. Dr. Themba Mkhabela, ELCA regional representative for Southern Africa. He will share how ELCA accompaniment works in Namibia and talk about some of the related projects that the ELCA supports. The Rev. Dr. Winston Persaud Winston will preach at the worship service, with Pastor Hope Johnson presiding. Choose 3 workshops from the following: Hungarian cooking, Young adults in global mission, The Lutheran church in Hungary, Namibia yesterday and today, Make your own 7 stranded Roma bracelet, Global music sing/play along, The art of hospitality given & received. Register at: www.neiasynod.org Cost to attend is \$10 per person. Questions? Call the synod office at 319-352-1414. Those who register before Aug. 16 will receive a passport that will help create a visual representation of the world as if it were made up of 100 people. Those who register after Aug. 16 will be active observers.

WE ♥

SALEM

LUTHERAN

CHURCH



All good gifts come from God above,
We serve God's Son and share His love



ALL ARE INVITED TO STAY FOR FELLOWSHIP

SUNDAY 8/18

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

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

MONDAY 8/19

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 8/21

10:00am Bible Study-CANCELED

SUNDAY 8/18

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary (Pastor Ken Jensen)

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)

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

(Hours subject to change. Feel free to call the office to ensure its open.)