

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

August 28 – September 3

Radical Love Triumphs

For most of human history wisdom was largely part of an oral tradition. From one generation to the next, wisdom was passed down. These days it sometimes seems that technology has replaced that tradition of shared wisdom. Rather than ask a trusted elder the temptation is to pull out a smartphone and do a quick Internet search. Next thing you know, there it is, wisdom at your fingertips—maybe. Could it be that something is lost in the process? We can find facts online, but virtues like humility, respect of elders, hospitality, servanthood, and peacemaking do not seem to translate as easily in the electronic age. In the gospel reading Jesus takes the time to pass on some ancient-yet-prudent wisdom from the proverbs of Solomon to a crowd of social climbers who obviously were not familiar with such prudence or wisdom.

More significantly Jesus lifts up the mysteriously gracious and life-transforming values of the kingdom of God. Jesus lifts up the humility required to take the lowest seat at the table, never hoping to be invited to a place of greater honor or status. Jesus invites his followers to practice the hospitality that offers a banquet of the finest of foods for people who cannot repay. Jesus invites his followers to embody the kind of radical-yet-relational love of Jesus himself. This radical love is taught by both individuals and congregations. Communities of faith by their practices of generosity and compassion embody the love of Jesus in their communities.

THIS WEEKS TEXTS

[Proverbs 25:6-7](#)

[Psalm 112](#)

[Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16](#)

[Luke 14:1, 7-14](#)

NEXT WEEKS TEXTS

[Deuteronomy 30:15-20](#)

[Psalm 1](#)

[Philemon 1-21](#)

[Luke 14:25-33](#)

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:** Dennis & Sue Miller, Myrna Miller, Wayne & Mildred Miller, Pam Moe, Rollyn Moe

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

28-Amy Kroger	30-Sara Chodur	2-Heidi Obermeyer
28-Chuck Olson	31-Lindsay McCord	2-Sondra Nelson
28-Isaiah Hagen	1-Markus Behr	3-Charles Nelson
29-Jeremy Gilbertson	2-Roger Olson	3-Mark Bjorklund
		3-Scott Helegson

-WEEKLY GIVING-

LAST SUNDAY: 8/14/22 \$ 18,237

YEAR-TO-DATE: 8/15/22 \$ 139,027

LAST YEAR: as of 8/15/21 \$ 147,443

DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE: \$ - 8,416

Pastor's Fellowship Breakfast: Come have breakfast! It's on Pastor Joel! The next Pastor's Fellowship Breakfast is scheduled for Friday, September 2nd; 8:00am – 10:00am in the lounge, across from the office. Everyone is welcome! Breakfast will be served until the food runs out or its 10:00am, whichever comes sooner. Breakfast is free. Donations collected will go towards youth activities.

Join Charles (Doc) Nelson and his family as he celebrates his 100th birthday. Open house Saturday, Sept 3 from 2-3pm at the Truman Helgeson Civic Center.

Food Bank Donations: In Honor of **God's Work Our Hands Sunday (Sept. 11th)**, The Board of Youth & Education invites everyone to bring food bank donations to church, which they will then deliver to the food bank.

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!!!

Rally Sunday! The Board of Youth & Education along with the Stewardship Committee, invite everyone to our Rally Sunday Kickoff Celebration! After worship on September 18th, we will have a picnic, bounce house, dunk tank and lots of games for everyone to enjoy! We welcome all of you to join us in celebrating a new year of Faith Formation with fellowship and fun for all ages!

Faith Formation & Confirmation: Letters, schedules and registration forms have been mailed out. Please complete the registration forms and return them to the office by Sunday, Sept. 18th or as ASAP (if the office is closed, slide under door)

WECLA will meet on Thursday, September 15th at 2:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Pastor Joel will lead the Bible Study from the Gather Magazine.

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.

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 serve one day per week for approximately an hour. Teachers provide all the necessary materials. The volunteers read, works on sight words, literacy games, etc. and helps the student form 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 641-422-4303 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.

Upcoming Blood Drive

Lake Mills Community Blood Drive

Thursday, September 8th; 1:00pm-6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall

Appointments Are Required

Text: LIFESERVE to 999-7777 or Call: 800-287-4903

or visit: lifeservebloodcenter.org

Salem Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes, Thursday, August 18, 2022 – 6:30 pm

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

Members present: Drake Abbey, Marci Adeogun, Shannon Bruhns, Sue Langerud, Sondra Nelson, Al Skellenger, Pastor Joel Guttormson and Cindy Haugsdal.

Absent: Mary Peterson

Pastor Joel led us in devotions and prayer.

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

Drake moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Marci. All approved.

Communication and correspondence – None

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

Total income for July 2022 \$15,623.00

Total Expenses for July 2022 \$19,829.46 (Income less expense -\$4,206.46)

Checking account balance (7/31/2022) \$22,478.01

CD's at FTSB (7/31/2022) Reserves \$26,014.17/Ness Estate \$10,614.41

CD at MBT (7/31/2022) Ness Estate \$52,215.45

Financial Secretary's report: Sondra provided a written and verbal report

2022 YTD total offerings (8/2/2022) \$112,486

2021 YTD total offerings (8/2/2021) \$136,427

Sue moved to accept Treasurer and Financial reports, seconded by Al. All approved.

Board Reports

Board of Worship and Music: Mary was absent and there was no written report.

Shannon shared that the board had met and discussed worship service opportunities for confirmations students/families and they are trying to organize a bell choir.

Board of Life & Growth: Sue provided a verbal report: New and Renewing members classes in August were cancelled due to lack of participants; September 11, God's Work Our Hands with Quilts displayed in the sanctuary; October 16, Birthday Party for all Salem members following the church service.

Board of Stewardship and Social Ministry: Al provided a verbal report. The board will assist with events on Rally Sunday including activities and a meal. They will be working on Stewardship Drive at their next meeting.

Board of Property and Management: Shannon provided a written and verbal report. Discussed unlocking doors not on the lock system and they are setting up a system; South Boulevard work still pending; Plaster damage in the building and causes were reviewed, including the bell tower; discussed potential future uses of the chapel; Boiler violation update work has been completed.

Board of Youth: Jen and Marci provided a written report. Marci led discussion of items in the report that included: Fall and Winter calendars including August 21 – Blessing of the Backpacks; September 11 – God's Work Our Hands – request food bank donations; September 18 – Rally Sunday with carnival games and prizes; September 25 – First Day of Faith Formation & Confirmation Parent/student meeting; October 16 – Youth will sing and Salem Birthday Party afterward; October 30 – 4 year olds and 3rd graders receive bibles; December 18 – Christmas program. Letters and registration forms were sent to Faith Formation families and Confirmation families.

Pastor Report – Complete Pastor reports are available for review in the church office.

Lead Pastor's Report: Pastor Joel shared a written report that included Pastoral acts in July and accounting for vacation and continuing education days/Sundays used and planned. Additional topics in his report included:

- Resources from ELCA Churchwide Assembly – Pastor Joel shared the website for resources available from this year's assembly.
- New and renewing membership classes for August were cancelled due to no participants.
- Pastoral Care in case of emergency – Pastor Joel shared that he was contacted and responded to calls, texts and emails during vacation in July.
- Summer feeding program went well – Pastor gave updates based on the annual State review/audit and Food Inspection. In appreciation for hosting the summer feeding program at Salem, there are funds to shampoo the carpets in the fellowship hall.

- Safe Gatherings – Reminder that Salem follows a “two-person rule” so that our board is using best practices and good sense as we provide programming. Salem continues to encourage all volunteers to receive S.A.F.E Ministry Training as recommended by our Northeastern Iowa Synod. Marci has the link and shared with Board of Youth volunteers.
- Pastor Joel shared information regarding an upcoming wedding and the adjustments with accountability that he has made to support members personal requests for this service.

Drake moved to approve Board/Pastor reports, seconded by Sondra. All approved.

Old Business:

- A. Constitution (Continued)
 - a. Review ELCA Model Constitution and Guidelines – Shannon continues to review and is reaching out to resources at the Synod and is looking for members to participate in the review process.
- B. Member Connection Program – continue development of this program.

New Business:

- A. Develop Strategic Planning Committee – Shannon shared copies of the Salem Visioning Report prepared by Pastor Peter Soli in 2015 based on member input at that time. She requests that council review this information. A future committee will be organized to prepare future strategic planning for Salem.
- B. New members – None.
- C. Transfers/statistical adjustments – William and LaRita Bakken transfer to St. Paul Lutheran Church in Tama, Iowa. Al moved to accept the request for transfer of membership, seconded by Sue. All approved.
- D. Next meeting will be held Thursday, September 8, 2022, at 6:30 pm

Sondra moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Sue. All approved. The meeting was adjourned.

We closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Haugsdal

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

Thank You to the Volunteers that helped with the summer lunch program here at Salem! Your dedication to helping the community is appreciated!

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

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, 6pm Property Meeting)

Thurs: Noon-8pm (1pm Mills Harbour Bible Study)

Fri: 8am-Noon, 1pm-5pm (8am-10am Pastor's Breakfast)

Sat: 10am-Noon (service prep)

Sun: 8am-Noon (9am Worship Service)

Salem Office: 641.592.1771

Mon-Tues: 10am-5pm

Wed: 10am-1:30pm

Thurs: 10am-5pm

Fri: Closed



All are invited downstairs after the worship service for fellowship, coffee and a sweet treat. Fellowship is the perfect opportunity to get to know your fellow Salem members and make connections.

SUNDAY 8/28

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

MONDAY 8/29

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.)

WEDNESDAY 8/31

10:00am Adult Bible Study-Choir Room

6:00pm Property Board Meeting-Fellowship Hall

THURSDAY 9/1

9:30am Sarah Circle-Marilyn Pederson's Home

9:30am Ruth Circle-Phyllis Moen's Home

9:30am Grace Circle-Salem Library

1:00pm Mills Harbour Bible Study

FRIDAY 9/2

8:00am-10:00am Pastor's Fellowship Breakfast-Lounge

5:00pm-7:00pm Sanctuary reserved for Wedding Rehearsal

SATURDAY 9/3

3:00pm-7:00pm Sanctuary reserved for Wedding

SUNDAY 9/4

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall