

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

September 18 – 24

Love or Money?

A rich landowner tells his unsatisfactory manager he's going to fire him. We don't know how long the employee had to clear his desk, but apparently it was long enough to win friends and influence the people who had accounts with his boss. The manager called them in and reduced their debt. When the boss heard about it, for some reason he didn't call his lawyer but sat back and laughed in admiration.

How could Jesus tell a story where the main character is a crook? Why did the boss commend the bad manager? What is Jesus trying to tell us? This parable can be difficult for us to interpret. One possibility: Dr. Audrey West, in the 2004 Lutheran Woman Today Bible study, described a parable as a story about something ordinary, with a surprise or twist that leads us to experience reality in a new way, so that it may even transform our daily living. The surprise in this parable is not the manager's self-serving behavior, as we've seen for ourselves in some corporate accounting scandals in the news. The surprise is the boss showing mercy.

Does this boss remind you of someone? Maybe the landowner in another parable who pays a full day's wage to farm workers who spent barely one hour in the vineyard? The father running out to welcome a shamed and destitute, long-lost son? Or someone who's been in the news lately? Is there any way that he reminds you of God?

In God's economy, people matter more than profits. The prophet (first reading), the psalmist, and Jesus, telling the parable, agree on this. The epistle writer adds a prayer for "a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity" for everyone, boss and beggar alike.

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:** Randy and Christina Movick, Kelly and Hazel Myers, Suzanne Myli, Justin, candida, Liah and Anthony Naser, Katy Naumann



THIS WEEKS TEXTS	NEXT WEEKS TEXTS
Amos 8:4-7	Amos 6:1a, 4-7
Psalms 113	Psalms 146
1 Timothy 2:1-7	1 Timothy 6:6-19
Luke 16:1-13	Luke 16:19-31

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-Kalen Hanson	21-Linda Helgeson	23-Nicholas Barrett
19-Cymantha Bendickson	21-Laura Knudtson	23-Michael Hamilton
19-Grant Brekken	22-Kevin Sprecher	23-Peyton Severson
20-Tucker Koch	22-Morgan Christian	23-Megan Pederson
20-Brad Rogstad	22-Ashley Brackey	24-Bennett Eaton
		24-Reece Helgeson

-WEEKLY GIVING-

LAST SUNDAY: 9/11/22 \$ 2,016
YEAR-TO-DATE: 9/12/22 \$ 150,165
LAST YEAR: as of 9/12/21 \$ 162,256
DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE: \$ - 12,091

Council Minutes: Council President Shannon Bruhns will be out of town Sunday, Sept. 25th when Council Minutes are normally included in the announcements and discussed at Coffee Fellowship, she has requested that this be moved out to Sunday, Oct. 2nd. Thank you for your understanding!

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)



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 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!



September 18th there will be no coffee fellowship Sunday, Sept. 18th due to Rally Sunday celebration after worship.

September 25th Faith Formation will begin at 10am with a gathering in the Chapel. Confirmation will begin at 10am with a gathering in the Sanctuary for students and parents.

Hand Bell Choir: Any interested hand bell ringers out there wanting to learn how to play bells or refreshing your skills at ringing? We hope to get a group of at least 6 people to practice on either Sunday mornings at 8:00 AM before the service or Wednesday evenings. Mark Nelson, an experienced bell ringer from Forest City, has agreed to lead us in whatever support we need. The first practice will be Sunday September 18 at 8:00AM in the choir room. We're hoping to play in church on Sunday October 16 which would give us 5 rehearsals before and on that date. If we get enough participation there would be an opportunity to play maybe once in November, once in December, and Christmas Eve. If interested in participating in this very special music ministry please contact Nancy Guttormson (641-596-0686).





Card shower: Violet Kvale will be celebrating her 90th Birthday on October 7th. If you would like to send her a card, please use the address listed below. They ask that you do not send any gifts, but please share a memory.

Valerie Kvale
803 Hwy 69 South
Twin Lakes, MN 56089

Locked Doors: Beginning Sunday, Sept. 18th a member of the Board of Property and Management will be responsible for opening the North entrance door, the South entrance door, the alleyway door (to the kitchen) and the 3 Narthex doors that are not on the time lock system, by 8:00 am on Sunday mornings. There will be a contact list posted at these entrances to call one of the members of the board, should the door(s) be locked when entry is needed. The board member that unlocks these doors is also responsible for re-locking them post worship. Shannon Bruhns - Board of Property and Management facilitator.

Volunteers Need: 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!!!

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.

Noisy Offering is being collected September 25th - October 23rd for the Good Samaritan Ministry here at Salem. This ministry has helped individuals with rent/groceries/fuel, among other critical needs. This ministry follows Jesus' teachings to love one another. Thank you for your contributions!

Middle School Lock-In is back this year! October 21-22 at the UNI Wellness/Recreation Center in Cedar Falls. The Lock-In will begin 7pm Friday and end at 6am Saturday. Middle school students registered in Confirmation, ages 12 – 15, are invited to attend. This year's "Emerge" theme will feature worship, music, group activity, pizza and snacks, and a variety of recreational activities, including swimming, rock wall climbing, games, movies, and more.

The lock-in is sponsored by ThreeHouse Collaborative Campus Ministries and is open to youth from their partner churches and the three ELCA synods in Iowa.

EARLYBIRD REGISTRATION If registered by Oct. 1, the cost to attend is \$45 per youth, which includes a T-shirt. After that date, the fee is \$60. Registrations will be not accepted after Oct. 14. Registration materials can be downloaded at www.neiasynod.org.

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

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

Salem Office: 641.592.1771

Mon-Tues: 10am-5pm, Wed: 1pm-5pm, Thurs: 10am-5pm, Fri: 10am-4pm



Congregational Birthday Party: The Board of Life and Growth invites everyone to a Congregational Birthday Party on October 16th in the Fellowship Hall, right after worship. This is to honor all of our members birthdays! Grab a cupcake and punch and sit at your birth month table. There will be birthday games and prizes too! Everyone is welcome! It will be fun for all ages!!!

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, 5:45pm Worship/Music Meeting)

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

Sat: 10am-Noon (service prep)

Sun: 8am-Noon (9am Worship Service, 10am Confirmation)





Rally

SUNDAY

SUNDAY 9/18

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary

10:00am Rally Sunday Celebration!!!! -Church lawn

(Fellowship Hall-back up location if weather does not allow us to be outside)

MONDAY 9/19

Duraclean Carpets in 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-Lounge

WEDNESDAY 9/21

10:00am Adult Bible Study-Fellowship Hall

3:15pm Brownies-Room 2

6:00pm Property Board Meeting-Fellowship Hall

THURSDAY 9/22

1:00pm Mills Harbour Bible Study

3:15pm Juniors-Room 2

5:45pm Worship & Music Board Meeting-Fellowship Hall

SUNDAY 9/25

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

10:00am Parent/Student Confirmation Meeting-Sanctuary

10:00am-10:45am Faith Formation-Chapel