
SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

September 29 – October 5

Don't Try to Stop God

In Mark 9:38-50 the disciples—at least John—are upset because they saw somebody, not a disciple, “casting out demons” in Jesus’ name. Here John sounds strikingly similar to the Pharisees, who became upset when someone out of their control, Jesus, healed a person on the sabbath (Mark 3:1-6). A common tendency among religious leaders seems to be uneasiness with God acting in ways that are outside of the expected channels and outside of their control.

Throughout Mark’s gospel we are reminded that God’s activity and power are not controlled by or limited to established religious institutions. This point is made clear in the opening verses of the gospel. Mark doesn’t begin the story of the “good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God” (Mark 1:1) in Jerusalem, where one might expect the story of a holy person to start. Instead, the beginning of Mark’s gospel takes us to the wilderness, a place often associated with the absence of God’s presence. But it is precisely in the wilderness where we find John, proclaiming that “the kingdom of God has come near” (Mark 1:15).

There was a sense in Jesus’ time that God could or would only be present in the temple, and that God’s activity was determined by the actions of the religious leaders. We have the same temptation today. We often think of what happens in the church building as God’s activity, but forget that God is also present and acting in the world outside the church. We often think of Christians doing God’s work, but neglect to notice the ways in which non-Christians are also active in doing things that help to bring God’s kingdom near. Jesus’ response to his disciple’s consternation about the fact that someone who is not a disciple is casting out demons in Jesus’ name is an important instruction to us as well. We shouldn’t stop someone who is doing God’s will and bringing God’s kingdom near, just because they aren’t a part of our group. In fact, we may even want to learn more about what they are doing, and join them!

THIS WEEKS TEXTS

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29
Psalm 19:7-14
James 5:13-20
Mark 9:38-50



NEXT WEEKS TEXTS

Genesis 2:18-24
Psalm 8
Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12
Mark 10:2-16

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

THIS WEEK WE WILL PRAY FOR:

Arlin & Pat Thorson, Craig Thorson, Darrin, Amanda and Laurra Thorson, Kim, Darin and Tre Thorson, Todd, Jill and Dalton Thorson

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

29-Barb Brackey

1-Jadyn Hengesteg

3-Samuel Hagenson

29-Janet Chiu

2-Knox Ritter

4-Thea Hoffman

-WEEKLY GIVING-

LAST SUNDAY: 9/22/24: \$ 1,502

YEAR-TO-DATE: 9/24/24: \$ 142,550

LAST YEAR: as of 9/24/23: \$ 133,405

DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE: \$ 9,145

Last Weeks Attendance

67

Tuckpointing/Steeple Project Update: Total received as of 9/24/24 **\$166,647**
Total available balance as of 8/30/24 **\$59,139.32** 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!

Council Minutes: Council President Shannon Bruhns is out of town Sunday, September 29th when Council Minutes would have been included in the bulletin announcements and then be discussed at Coffee Fellowship. Because of this absence, she has requested that Council Minutes be published Sunday, Oct. 6th. Thank you for your understanding!

Prayer Pen Pals: The Board of Life & Growth is seeking Prayer Pen Pals for 1st graders. This includes sending a letter to a 1st grader and keeping them in your prayers. If you would be willing to do this, please contact Sue Langerud. 641.568.3620

Devotionals: New devotionals for October/November/December have been placed in the Narthex and at the south entrance. Please feel free to take one.

Faith Formation Volunteers Needed: The Youth Board is making weekly plans for music, activities, games and crafts, BUT...we need YOUR HELP to make this year a success! Please consider donating your time to supervise and interact with our children. There is a signup sheet on the bulletin across from the chapel. No planning or experience necessary, a youth board member will be leading.

WELCA Church Bazaar: We have received an invitation to the WELCA Church Bazaar at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Manly IA. There will be baked goods, including lefse, basket/quilt donations, breakfast, crafts, garden goodies, mugs & cookbooks. Saturday, October 5th; 8:30am -11:00am. (248 W. Walnut St)

Fall Recharge: Sign up for a super fun weekend that like a whole week of camp smashed into 40 hours! High energy worship, games, free time, small group time and awesome food! \$95 per person. Dates: October 18-19 for grades 3-6, November 8-9 for grades 6-9, November 22-24 for grades 9-12. Find friends from your school/church to be in a cabin with and register online. Check the Faith Formation bulletin board by the Pastor's offices to scan the QR code or go to riversidelbc.org

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)**

ALL ARE INVITED DOWNSTAIRS AFTER WORSHIP FOR FELLOWSHIP

SUNDAY 9/29

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

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

10:00am Faith Formation-Chapel

MONDAY 9/30

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

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

TUESDAY 10/1

9:30am Miriam Circle-Library

5:30pm Altar Guild Meeting-Library

WEDNESDAY 10/2

10:00am Bible Study-Choir Room

6:00pm Confirmation Class-Choir Room

THURSDAY 10/3

9:30am Grace Circle-Library

9:30am Ruth Circle-Mills Harbour

SUNDAY 10/6

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

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

10:00am Faith Formation-Chapel

Live Stream Sponsorship: Dates available 2024: Oct 20. Nov 24. Dec 29.

Dates available 2025: Jan 5, 19, 26, Feb 9, 16, 23, March 9, 16, 23, 30, April 20, May 4, June 8, 15, 29, July 6, 13, 20, 27, Aug 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Sept 14, Oct 5, 12, 19, 26, Nov 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Dec 7, 28. Cost is \$40. Call the office to sponsor.

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

(Hours subject to change. Feel free to call the office to ensure it's open.)

Visit us at www.salemlakemills.com or Facebook: Search Salem Lake Mills