

# WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

September 4 – 10

### Freed—From and For

Freedom flows through all the readings this day. Moses reminds the people of Israel they have the freedom to choose between life and prosperity or death and adversity. Ironically, this freedom to choose life comes through the freedom to choose obedience to the commands of God. In other words, Moses tells the people, they are free to choose bondage to God and life or bondage to sin and death. Either way they will be bound to something.

In the second reading Paul reminds Philemon that he—Paul—is not free but is a “prisoner of Christ Jesus.” This is Paul’s linguistic wordplay to help convince Philemon to free his slave Onesimus. Paul reminds Philemon that he has the freedom to hold on to his slave Onesimus and the freedom to grant Onesimus freedom as his brother in Christ.

In the gospel Jesus speaks a challenging word, which resonates in ways that might make modern people a tad uncomfortable. You might phrase it: Do you own your stuff or does your stuff own you? Jesus seems to suggest that our stuff, our possessions, could make it difficult to follow faithfully. It is easy to dismiss this suggestion with a wave of the hand, “Oh, that certainly is not me” — until you start to consider just how much stuff is stored up in our homes and attics and garages (some of the latter with no room for cars).

In Christ, freedom comes from letting go. Freedom comes through giving away and trusting Jesus. In Christ we are free people. Free to choose life, free to choose faithfulness, and free to open our arms wide and receive the free grace of God. This is the God who chooses to never stop loving us.

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:** Ron & Phyllis Moen, Kayla Monaghan, Gale & Phyllis Monson, Dakota Monson, Nancy More



THIS WEEKS TEXTS	NEXT WEEKS TEXTS
Deuteronomy 30:15-20	Exodus 32:7-14
Psalms 1	Psalms 51:1-10
Philemon 1-21	1 Timothy 1:12-17
Luke 14:25-33	Luke 15:1-10

**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

4-Cody Pierce	6-Devan Helgeson	8-Kadence Henderson
4-Scott Westcott	6-Katie Bergan	9-Betsy Byars
5-Andrew Zabel	7-Scott Hagenson	9-Braylon Hanson
5-Paige Adams	7-Ella Stene	9-Jacob Brekken
6-Tanner Jensen	8- Griffin McCord	9-Brian Throne
6-Elizabeth Baird	8-Lis Jamtgaard	10-Kendall Dahle
6-Brianna Butterfield	8-Joni Anderson	10-Daniel White

**-WEEKLY GIVING-**

**LAST SUNDAY:** 8/28/22           \$ 5,635  
**YEAR-TO-DATE:** 8/31/22       \$ 144,662  
**LAST YEAR:** as of 8/31/21      \$ 154,443  
**DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE:**   \$ - 9,781

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



**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



**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.

### **Memorials Given In July & August**

Dennis Hanson      \$30 Cemetery Fund  
 Clarine Steffensen    \$540 General Fund, \$25 Cemetery Fund, \$400 WELCA  
 Owen Solomonson    \$20 General Fund, \$10 Building Fund

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

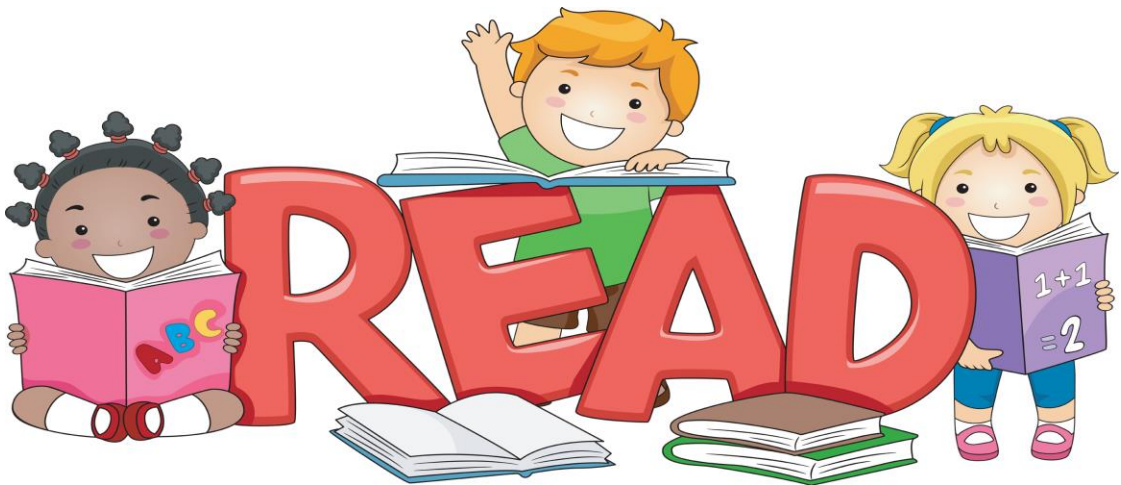
**Volunteers Need:** If you are willing to usher, acolyte, read or sing in the liturgical choir, sign up in the Narthex or call the office. If you would like to learn how to help with sound, monitors or live stream, call the office. Thank you!!!

**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-Thurs: 10am-5pm

Fri: 10am-4pm



**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](http://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](http://lifeservebloodcenter.org)

SAVE A LIFE



**GIVE BLOOD**

**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.

**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).



### **Pastor Joel Guttormson**

Mon: Off, but on-call

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

Wed: Noon-8:00pm (10am Adult Bible Study, 6:30pm Stewardship Meeting)

Thurs: Noon-8pm (1pm Mills Harbour Bible Study, 6:30pm Church Council Meeting)

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

Sat: 10am-Noon (service prep)

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

## **September 2022, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story**

### **Direct Support Professionals Week**

Do you know someone who is a caregiver to a loved one? It is a role that is both demanding and meaningful. During September's National Direct Support Professionals Week, we celebrate all the ways in which professional caregivers help children and adults achieve their goals and build meaningful lives.

One way LSI empowers Iowans is through our Services for People with Disabilities. From 24-hour support to occasional respite care, the LSI team lifts up Iowans with disabilities as they find the confidence and independence they need to thrive in their communities. Through our innovative Host Homes program, caregivers can also become mentors to individuals with disabilities, welcoming them into their private family home where they can receive more one-on-one care and encouragement.

If you would like to learn more about how you can support crucial programming like LSI Services for People with Disabilities, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at [Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org](mailto:Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org) or 563-676-2065.

*Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSI (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at [LSIowa.org](http://LSIowa.org) and [Facebook.com/LSI.Iowa](https://Facebook.com/LSI.Iowa).*

## **A New Home for D.**

D. wanted to become more connected to her community, while still ensuring she could receive the care she needed on a daily basis. Through LSI, D. has been able to enroll in the Host Homes program, which provides 24/7 care for individuals with disabilities and mental illness who thrive in a one-on-one setting instead of a busier group home environment.

D. was able to move into a private family home with her Host Homes mentor, Anita, and they have built a friendship and a shared social life. Anita is there to support D. as she works on her personal goals, while D. is still able to get the care she needs.

Currently, one of D.'s goals is to exercise and become more active in the community, so the duo enjoys shopping and walking around the local mall to stay active. Back at home, the two can work on skills – like hygiene and cooking – that make D. feel more independent and confident.

“I like helping D. and seeing her progress and growth in her daily living,” Anita says. “When you and the person in your care begin living like a family, when they are able to trust you and open up, then you know you’re getting somewhere.”

*\*LSI does not identify the people we serve, except in well-vetted circumstances. The names and some personal details we use in this story have been changed.*

**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 9/4**

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

### **MONDAY 9/5**

12:00pm Sons of Norway-Fellowship Hall

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

(To schedule a different time, call 641.592.5085)

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

### **TUESDAY 9/6**

9:30am Miriam Circle-Salem Library

5:30pm Altar Guild Meeting-Salem Library

### **WEDNESDAY 9/7**

10:00am Adult Bible Study-Choir Room

3:15pm Brownies-Room 2

6:30pm Stewardship Meeting-Salem Library

### **THURSDAY 9/8**

1:00pm-6:00pm Community Blood Drive-Fellowship Hall

1:00pm Mills Harbour Bible Study

3:15pm Juniors-Room 2

6:30pm Church Council Meeting-Choir Room

### **SUNDAY 9/4**

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary (God's Work Our Hands/Quilt Sunday)

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall