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Salem Lutheran Church
401 South Lake Street
Lake Mills, IA 50450

LABEL



Salem Lutheran Church

OUTREACH

June 2015

We invite you to join us for our weekly Worship Services:

Sundays:

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service

9:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship - Fellowship Hall

10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service – South Lawn (Weather Permitting)

Wednesdays:

6:00 p.m. Casual Worship Service– Fellowship Hall

Prepare to . . .



. . . for Christ's sake

Pastor Peter Soli

507.369.6303

Peter.Soli@DialogWorks.org

Pastor Melinda McCluskey

563.581.9965

melindamcmc@gmail.com

Ruth Sheldon, Organist

641.927.4671

Janelle Gilbertson, Communications Director

janelle.gilbertson@yahoo.com

MISSION

Salem Lutheran Church members have known and now extend to others the invitation from Jesus Christ to know him and his gifts of forgiveness, hope, peace, and purpose. Our desire is to be a welcoming place in service to the Lord who has welcomed us. We seek to grow in our faith through meaningful worship and study. We seek to share the gifts of Christ, both as individuals who reach out in love to our families, our community, our workplaces, and our world, and also as a congregation reaching out with meaningful and supportive services and programming to people of all ages. We seek to be servants, following the example of our Lord Jesus, who said that the greatest life is not the one lived simply for itself, but for the benefit of others.

Message from Pastor Peter Soli**Vision and Leadership**

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12:2

On Sunday, April 26th Salem leaders wrestled with the question, “What future is God calling the people of Salem Lutheran to create together?” Answers to this question sprouted in the fertile soil of their imaginations and a garden full of dreams and plans took



root. A picture of Salem’s future would feature a congregation that is welcoming where relationships are strong and growing; where leaders are committed and engaged; where fiscal management is trustworthy and responsible; where young families are actively involved; where worship is inspirational, spirit-filled. Leaders imagine Salem united and caring for the community, with active study groups, and with a “state-of-the-art” facility.

These leaders realize that this vision and the dreams they dared to dream won’t just happen. As a matter of fact, they identified several possible roadblocks to achieving this vision. Some roadblocks have to do with an uncertainty about the future. Uncertainty makes planning more difficult, especially in the area of finance and facility. Related to uncertainty is the need for clarity in the areas of duties/roles/responsibilities of leadership positions; expectations around the work of the pastor; and for a comprehensive plan for the church building. Leaders named overlapping schedules (conflicts in scheduling even on Sunday mornings) and the difficulty in securing people’s commitments and in-

A Message from LSI (cont)

faced violence and persecution from the military government.

“When I came to the U.S., I had never been in a city,” he said. “In Burma, we lived in a village with mountains. In my mind I thought if I go to a big city, my life will be changed, or I will get more opportunities.”

Ya Di immediately wanted to go to high school when he arrived in Iowa, but he was too old. He instead began pursuing his education through other opportunities, including work readiness classes with LSI’s Refugee Community Services.

Through the five-week class at LSI, Ya Di learned about filling out job applications, interviewing and even the importance of a firm handshake. By meeting other students, he also started to feel more at home in his new community.

After graduating from LSI’s class, Ya Di received and accepted a job offer. He now works full-time, and he also takes English as a Second Language (ESL) and welding classes at Des Moines Area Community College.

“If I get a GED, I can continue to get more education and go to college,” he said. “It’s the first happy goal for me, the first step for me.”

He said he hopes to someday share education with others in his home country.

“My dream is to be a teacher. I will continue my education to get a diploma and also care for my family.”

A Message from LSI

World Refugee Day

World Refugee Day is held annually on June 20 to honor the resilience of millions of people around the world who are forcibly displaced. Through your help, LSI provides extended support services in the Des Moines area for people of refugee status who have been resettled to Iowa. These families and individuals bring with them unique talents and dreams, including skills in a field well known to us in Iowa—agriculture! Many people of refugee status grew up in agricultural communities in their home countries and desire to become farmers once again. LSI's Global Greens program helps reconnect people with the land and empowers market farmers to sell their local, sustainably grown food. Join us at LSI's Global Greens Farmers' Market on Saturdays, May through October, at LSI's Des Moines campus (3200 University Ave). For details, visit www.LSIowa.org/globalgreens.

LSI is proud to be an affiliated social ministry organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Learn more at www.LSIowa.org and www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

Ya Di's Dream

Ya Di has a selfless dream: he hopes that by changing his life he can change the lives of others. He arrived in Des Moines with his parents and siblings one year ago as a refugee from Burma (Myanmar), a country where ethnic minorities have

Message from Pastor Peter Soli (cont)

involvement in church activities as factors blocking Salem from moving towards its vision.

God has blessed Salem Lutheran with leaders who are thoughtful, courageous, and committed to the work of the church. At the April retreat these leaders brainstormed actions which would deal with roadblocks and move the congregation in the direction God is calling. At the May Council members considered the different directions which grew out of the retreat and named the following four as important priorities:

Reconnecting and welcoming: this is a key component in revitalizing and building relationships. It involves efforts to reach out, make positive connections, communication, and the like.

Preparing leaders for transition: this is part of preparing and planning for Salem's future. It includes helping leaders have clear, concise job descriptions, mentoring new leaders, and continuing to plan for and develop leadership.

Tending church finance and giving: this is also part of preparing and planning for Salem's future. This involves fiscal management (being clear on wants and needs), growing healthy stewardship, financial communication and education.

Involving young families in church and providing youth activity and involvement: these two related actions are considered a crucial part of engaging and involving the congregation. Specific actions involve Sunday morning worship and programming, mentoring, and youth and family programming/activities.

As I reflect on these plans for Salem, I am hopeful. The vision for the future is positive and I believe reflects God's leading. The identification of the roadblocks is an acknowledgement of the challenges ahead. The priorities will help Salem to continue to recover and be strengthened. Of course, playing into all of this, will be the search for Salem's lead pastor. As the Call Committee does this important work, these plans help inform their search and will assist a candidate for the position in discerning his or her fitness for the call. I look forward to being a part of the beginnings of some of these efforts.

Update from the Council

Council Minutes---May 11, 2015

President Harris Honsey called the meeting to order at 5:30. Members present were Harris Honsey, Scott Hagenson, Mike Swenson, Deb Throne, Yvonne Beenken, Keith Johnson, Wayne VanVeldhuizen, Tami Alphs, Janelle Gilbertson, Al Skellenger, and Pastor Soli. Cindy Haugsdal was also present, representing the Call Committee. Pastor Soli opened the meeting with devotions. It was moved by Scott and seconded by Keith to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. All approved.

Secretary's Report: Letters of appreciation were received from Lutheran World Relief and the family of LuVerne Bredeson. Correspondence was also received from Orloue Thompson concerning payroll processing.

Treasurer's Report: Mike reported a checking account balance of \$23,286.64. Income for April was \$32,960.94 and expenses were \$34,754.98. He and Helen have become more comfortable with the new accounting program, Shepherd's Staff, and it seems to be working well. It was moved by Wayne and seconded by Tami to accept this report. All approved.

Financial Secretary's Report: Deb reported that she is also working on the new system but will be using it and the previous system for a few more months to insure accuracy. She noted that it works well with the Simply Giving program. When time allows, she will work on documentation of how to use Shepherd's Staff for anyone using it in the future. It was moved by Mike with a seconded by Tami to accept this report. All approved.

Call Committee Report: Cindy reported that they met on May 4 and will continue to meet weekly through May. They have begun to complete the ministry site profile with different sections being assigned to individual members of the Call Committee. Council members also completed sections of the profile. The committee will also use information from the Let's Talk sessions and the Visioning Retreat Report.

Board of Worship and Music: Al reported that they are working on defining the roles of the readers, servers, and ushers. They are also considering how to fill the vacancy left by the departure of Bill Georgia.

Looking for a good home!



The Salem parade float is looking for a new home. It is sitting on a small trailer and fits through a 7' garage door. If you are able to store the float, please call the office. If you have questions, please call Janelle Gilbertson at 641.590.2986.

"Tell Us" Game

Idea: Use some vacation time to engage in conversation to help kids tell their story of faith.

Supplies:

- This list of conversational topics
- A bag of M&M's, skittles, or colored disks (if you don't want to use food.)



Here is How: Take turns drawing a M&M or disk from the bag. Answer the question according to the color you chose.

Tell Us:

- Red Tell about something that happened yesterday
- Blue Tell about something you cannot live without
- Brown Tell a story about something that happened in church
- Green Tell a Bible story you learned in Sunday School
- Orange Tell about something you want to do
- Yellow Tell a story about the funniest thing you ever saw or heard.

Upcoming Events! Mark your calendars!

Vacation Bible School

Monday, June 8th – Thurs., June 11th

9:00am-11:30am at Winnebago Lutheran

Thursday Program

6:00pm at Salem Lutheran Ice Cream to follow



Registration Forms are on the table outside the Chapel.

Volunteers make this VBS program possible. If you would be willing to help, please contact a member of the Board of Education! Thank you!

Summer Vacation Ideas

Northeastern Iowa is a treasure trove of fun things to do! We all know that, But there are ways to explore some of those gems and connect it to our stories of faith Here are a few! Visit The Bily Clocks in Spillville. There you will find beautiful carvings of clocks as well as the story of Antonin Dvorak' who wrote "American Quartette" when he visited there in 1873. Visit the smallest church in Fort Atkinson. Visit Luther College and the Vesterheim Museum in Decorah to learn about the early Immigrants. When you are in Waverly stop in and say hello to the staff at the NEIA Synod office, visit Wartburg College. Stop for popcorn from the Popcorn Man in Iowa Falls. Visit the rock that looks like a Steamboat in Steamboat Rock. Visit the campsEWALU, Riverside, Shalom, or Okobojo are all good choices. Ride the Carousel in Story City. Visit Music Man Square in Mason City. Visit Dubuque-Stop by Wartburg Seminary. Visit St Luke Methodist Church where you will see Tiffany stained glass windows. Follow in the footsteps of Laura Ingles Wilder in Burr Oak or visit the former home of a governor in Claremont. Visit the church that inspired a song in Nashua. And so much more

PARISH EVENT CANCELLED



Minnesota Twins vs. Chicago Cubs

Saturday, June 20th



you will be refunded your money if you signed up.

Update from the Council (cont)

Board of Stewardship and Social Ministry: No report.

Board of Education: Janelle reported that the Sunday School has closed out another successful year. They are considering some kind of education programs for Wednesday evenings this summer. Vacation Bible school will be held June 8-11. The closing program will be held at Salem. Pastor Melinda has been working on the plans for VBS.

Board of Youth: Pastor Soli reported in Karla's absence. The confirmation students have an outing planned to Mankato on May 16. They are also preparing for Graduation.

Board of Life and Growth: Tami requested a re-evaluation of the purpose of this board and a better definition of their purpose. They will plan a reception for Bill Georgia's retirement.

Board of Property and Management: No report.

Lead Pastor's Report: Pastor Soli submitted written reports from the Visioning Retreat and went over them with the Council. He would

Congregational Meeting– June 7th



Please make plans to come to the congregational meeting on June 7th in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30am. During this call process, council has been investigating the option of purchasing a parsonage. As potential pastors look at coming to Salem, the need of purchasing a home in our community may deter them from

even looking to serve in our congregation. Council is looking for the approval to leave the option of purchasing a parsonage open.

As we move forward in the call process, if the council feels the parsonage would be beneficial, there would be information distributed and the congregation would need to approve the purchase.

Update from the Council (cont)

like to also bring this information to the congregation. He asked the Council to consider tasks that are urgent versus those that are important. He and Pastor Melinda continue to coordinate their schedules to always have a pastor available.

Associate Pastor's Report: Pastor Melinda submitted a written report of her activities in April including funerals, a baptism, home visits and service at Mills Harbor and the Care Center. She will be on vacation May 18-28 and June 20-25.

Communication Director's Report: Janelle reported that the electronic sign is still not working correctly. Our Facebook page has 266 fans. In May, the reconciliation article by Pastor Soli received the highest number of visits, about 400. Keith moved to accept the above reports and Scott seconded. All approved.

Old Business: There was no old business.

New Business: There were no visitors. One of our former pastors, Pastor DuWayne Dalen, will be celebrating the 55th anniversary of his ordination on June 7 at Trinity Church in Mason City. Bill Georgia will be retiring as Contemporary Music Director at the end of May. He has served the Salem congregation for 15 years. We will celebrate his contributions on May 31 with a Farewell Worship at the 10:30 service. A congregational meeting will be held on June 7. There will be votes on the ministry site profile and on the issue of buying a parsonage. The Call Committee is working on the profile. Extensive discussion was held on the question of owning a parsonage but no action was taken. A new storage site needs to be found for the Salem Church Float. Pastor Soli's contract with Salem will expire in July. It will need to be renewed at that time if no permanent pastor has been hired. It was moved by Wayne, with a second by Tami, to approve the transfer of Paul and Lori (Johnson) Mason to Parkersburg United Methodist Church. All approved. A motion to adjourn was made by Scott and seconded by Keith. All approved. A special meeting of the Council will be held on June 1 at 6:30 to discuss the ministry site profile. The next regular meeting will be June 8. We closed the meeting with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Yvonne Beenken



The LifeServe Blood Center held a blood drive at Salem May 12, 2015. There were 27 donors. Next Blood Drive will be held at Salem Tuesday, July 14, 1:00 – 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

Current Blood Needs

Critical Needs: Less Than 2 Day Supply O Negative AB Negative	Urgent Needs: 2-3 Day Supply AB Positive
	General Needs: 4-5 Day Supply O Positive A Positive A Negative B Positive B Negative

Did you know?

Salem Mission Quilters just sent their largest shipment ever to Albert Lea on May 16th. Steve Iverson filled his pickup and Sue Langerud took the overflow in hers. The shipment included:

200 Health Kits
28 Baby Kits
101 Quilts

Also, 5 quilts were sent to Bible Camps for their Quilt Auctions. 13 quilts were sent to the Mason City Salvation Army.

The next project will be School Kits. Watch for more information as these items become available in stores this summer!

**The new audio visual system is up and running!**

We have started a sponsorship program for the live internet broadcast of the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Sponsorship is available for \$40 per Sunday. At this time most Sundays in 2015 are available for sponsorship. Call the office to reserve a date. [641.592.1771](tel:641.592.1771)

Highlights from May



Senior Choir

Board of Youth presented Amelia Even-son, LMHS Graduate, with a blanket.



Confirmation Students

Update from the Call Committee

Informational Meeting

The call committee in finishing the Ministry Site Profile. There will be an informational meeting on Wednesday, June 3rd at 7:00pm (following worship). Those in attendance will receive a copy of the profile and have the opportunity for conversation with Call Committee members.

Our congregation will vote on the Ministry Site Profile on the following Sunday (June 7th).

LMAMA would like to thank the congregations from area churches for their generous support with donations of food for the Postal Services "Stamp Out Hunger" Food Drive on Saturday, May 9th. A total of 1,380 pounds of food was

collected by letter carriers and Boy Scouts and delivered to the LM Food Shelf.



SALEM RECORDS for May:

BAPTISMS:

Lillian Jean Brackey

TRANSFERS

Paul & Lori Mason

Upcoming Celebrations!**Bill Georgia is Retiring**

Bill Georgia has been a staple at our Contemporary Worship service since the fall of 2000. He has played with many different musicians and has worked with numerous Pastors here at Salem.

After visiting family, they plan to settle in Florida, near their youngest daughter, Emily.

We will celebrate Bill's time with Salem at our 10:30 worship service on May 31st. Following worship,

there will be a reception in the fellowship hall. Please come and wish Bill well on his new adventure and thank him for his time with us at Salem.

Open House for Pastor Merlin & Marietta Norris

Rev Merlin & Marietta Norris will be honored with an Open House Birthday Celebration on June 14th from 2:00-4:00pm at the Salem Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall. They request no gifts, please. Rev. Merlin will celebrate his

80th birthday June 15th and Marietta will celebrate her 79th birthday on July 16th. Cards may be sent to them at: Rev Merlin and Marietta Norris, 207 South 7th Ave West, Lake Mills, IA 50450.

Ministry Opportunities**Care Giver's Support Group**

Next meeting is Tuesday, June 9, 10:00 a.m. in Salem's Lounge

This meeting is open to anyone who is caring for a person with any type of chronic illness. There is no fee — you do not have to sign up to come,

you are not obligated to anyone. For more information call Rachel at 641.530.5577.

We are looking for volunteers to help run the video equipment for the contemporary service. You will be trained! Please let us know if you are interested!



Reserve your special date to sponsor the 2013 8:30 a.m. worship service broadcast on KIOW (107.3 FM) radio in Forest City.

The service can also be heard at 8:30 a.m. on cable channel 2.

Call the office to reserve your dates.

Cost for 2015 is \$83.

Dates available for 2015:

Oct 18, Nov 1, 29, Dec 6, 13, 27

New Stephen Ministers Commissioned

Since the first part of January, we have had five of your Brothers and Sisters in Christ meeting for Stephen Ministry training. They have received over forty hours of training through reading, lecture, practicing skills through roll playing, group discussions. They are now prepared and excited to be a Stephen Minister, bringing Christ alongside people who may be hurting at the moment. If you or you know someone who could use someone to walk alongside them for a while, please contact Pastor Randy at 641-590-0727. Stephen Ministry is shared ministry between One in Christ, Our Savior's and Salem.



Steve Peterson and Medara Winter were installed at Salem on May 20th.

Ministry Opportunities**Prayer Families****June 7**

Lisa Johnson, Marita Johnson, Mylan/Lois Johnson, Rick/Christine Johnson, Sharon Johnson, Toni Johnson, David Jordon, Nathaniel Jordon, Rhoda Jutting, Earl Juveland

June 14

Roger/Carol Juveland, Linda Kane, Michael Kane Family, Charlene Keltner, Lynne Keough, John Kilen, Joyce Kilen, Beverly King, Courtney Kingland, David/Deb Kingland

June 21

James/Virginia Kingland, Dan Kirschbaum Family, Kim Kirschbaum Family, Avah Klebsch, Bernice Kloster, Chad/Kelly Kloster Family, Derald/Joan Kloster, Leila Kloster, Andrew/Jennie Knudtson, Cleone Knudtson

June 28

Donald/Nancy Knudtson, Evelyn Knudtson, Kerby/Karen Knudtson, Kevin Knudtson, Michael/Kathy Knudtson, Dana/Tonja Knudtson, Joel/Jennifer Koch, Bernard Jr/RoAnn Kofron, Chelsey Kopp, Denise Korn



Please make sure we are good neighbors to the St.

James Catholic church. With worship at similar times, please make sure you are not parking in their parking lot. Thank you in advance!

SALEM WOMEN of the ELCA**Altar Guild for June**

Tuesday, June 2, 7:00 p.m.

Mission Quilters

Monday, June 15, 1:00 p.m.

WELCA Meeting

Thursday, June 18, 2:00 p.m.

Hostess: Rhoda Circle

Program: Sarah Circle

Altar Guild for June

Marilyn Hoffman

Gloria Kvale

Communion Schedule

Sundays, June 7 & 21

Wednesdays, June 10 & 24

Mills Harbour & LMCC

Wednesday, June 24th

Lake Mills Care Center

Birthday Gifts: Hannah Circle

Program: Elizabeth Circle

Pastor Dalen's 55th Anniversary of Ordination

Rev DuWayne Dalen is celebrating the 55th anniversary of his ordination on June 7, 2015 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Mason City, Iowa. There will be an outdoor worship (weather permitting) at 9:00 am which will include a time of recognition. Pastor Dalen served as Salem's Senior Pastor 1975-1995.

If you have any special memories or stories that you would be willing to share, please send them to LouAnn Rossler at louann.rossler@trinity-mc.org. If you would like to send a personal note, their home address is Rev. Du Wayne and Joan Dalen, 350 Sumac Road, Mason City, IA 50401-2574.



Summer is an exciting time for children to enjoy time with friends, a week at camp, a family vacation, or time at the pool. But for many children who receive free and reduced-price meals at school, summer can mean

hunger. Just as learning does not end when school lets out, neither does a child's need for good nutrition.

The Summer Food Service Program, administered by the Iowa Department of Education, provides nutritious meals and snacks to children in low-income areas during the summer months. LMAMA is a proud sponsor to bring the program back to Lake Mills for the 3rd summer.

If you would like to help, Salem Lutheran members are asked to help serve on Tuesdays throughout the summer. Please contact Janelle at 641-590-2986 or janelle.gilbertson@yahoo.com if you are willing to serve. Thank you for helping to make this program a success!