



The Church Bell

Salem Lutheran Church
PO Box 136, Longville, MN 56655

Volume 32, Issue 8

Pastor John Monson

August 2011

John Monson, Pastor (Email: pastorjm@arvig.net)

Carol Raines, Secretary/Bookkeeper
Jan Elliott & Eunice Benson, Organists
Charlene Olson, Choir Director

Worship

Sunday: 9:00 a.m.

Office Hours

Monday—Thursday 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
Friday—9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Telephones

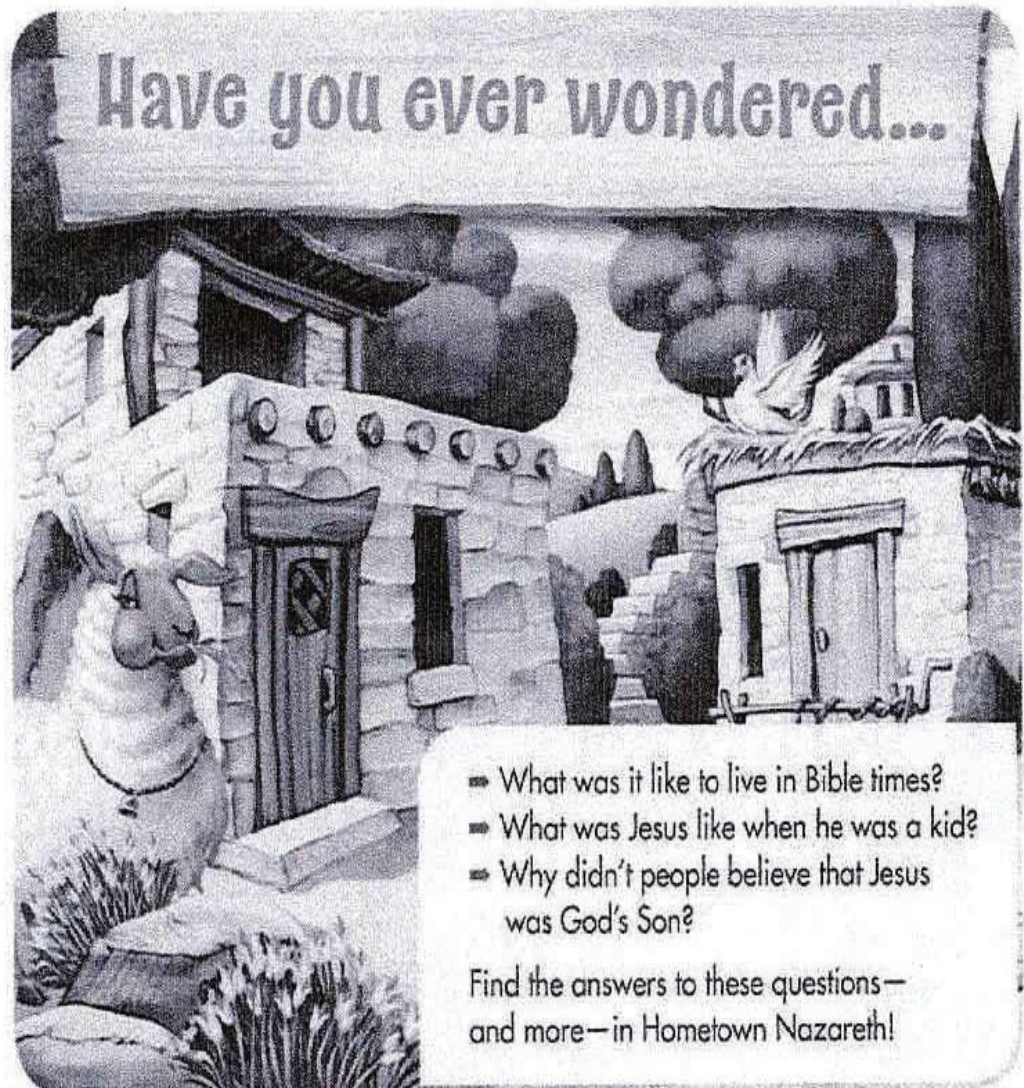
(218) 363-2011 (office)
(218) 363-2253 (kitchen)
(218) 363-9070 (fax)

(218) 682-3092 (Pastor's res.)

Email address: salem@arvig.net

Web: <http://www.salemlongville.org>

Vacation Bible School August 8-12 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.



- What was it like to live in Bible times?
- What was Jesus like when he was a kid?
- Why didn't people believe that Jesus was God's Son?

Find the answers to these questions—
and more—in Hometown Nazareth!

Join us for an exciting Bible times adventure
in Jesus' hometown, Nazareth!

The Lutheran Eagles

Pastor John Monson

“...those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint” (*Isaiah 40:31*).

Salem is home to a family of eagles. At our recent outdoor worship service they and the nearby loons added their voices to ours in the “cathedral of nature.” The eagle sightings on the property have attracted passers-by who often stop in for a closer look.

A few days ago as I turned onto the approach at Salem I was met by this delegation of three eagles who descended on me so suddenly and so closely it startled me. They continued to fly before me in formation to the parking place where, coincidentally, as someone at church pointed out to me, a sign reads, “Protected by American Eagle.” At the end of the short flight the eagle escort came to rest in the nearby grass.

As an eagle cares for its young, so God watches over us. In Scripture the eagle is a metaphor for spiritual renewal.

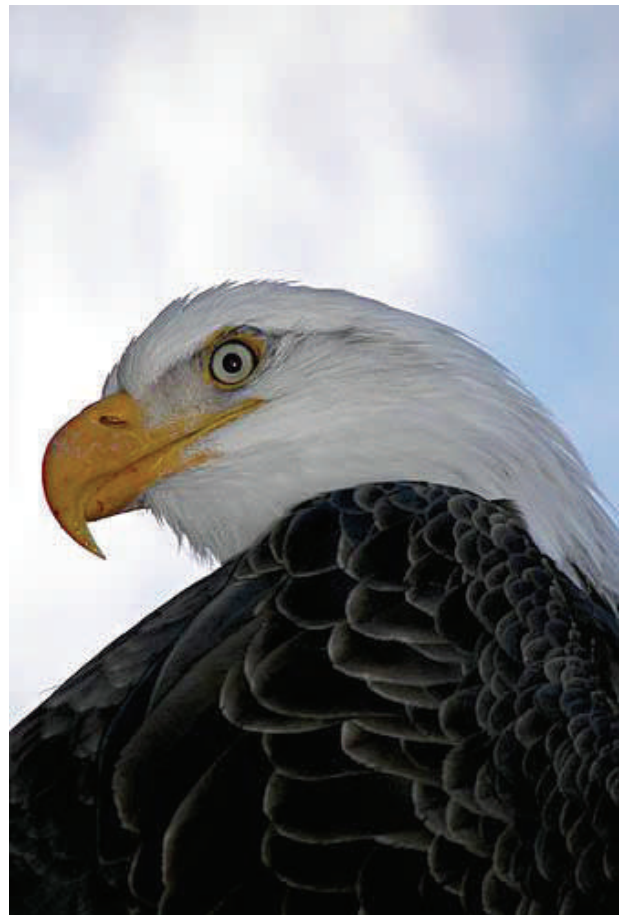
During a thunderstorm accompanied by strong winds, Thea and I walked out on the deck and looked up at the sky. There, high above the winds, we saw two eagles soaring peacefully. When a storm approaches, an eagle will fly to a high perch and wait for the winds to come. When the storm strikes, the eagle spreads its wings to catch the wind so that it can be lifted above the storm. While the storm explodes below, the eagle is gliding above it. The eagle doesn't flee from the turbulence; it rises on the very winds that bring the storm.

There's no escape from adversity. But as we lean into it, trusting in God, we receive God's

power and peace. Isaiah points out that those who wait on God, will renew their strength. They'll “mount up on wings like eagles.” They'll “run and not be weary.” They shall “walk and not faint.”

When we're helpless, when we've lost our grip, and find ourselves at the mercy of the enemies of life, God comes to bear us up and carry us on the strength of God's wings. In letting go, we discover that we're no longer captive, but free.

The eagles teach us to lean on the everlasting arms of God's power and might, and know the peace of trusting God in the midst of the storm.



Office Notes



Salem welcomes people into our congregation as either associate or full members. Please contact the church office for more information. Please notify us also if you would like to be added to our "friends" list and to receive our monthly newsletter online or by email.

CHRIST IN OUR HOME DEVOTIONALS

You may pick up your July, August, September 2011 devotionals from the stand by the entrance. Take one for a friend. We also have *Our Daily Bread* devotionals and *Cass County Maps*.

THANK YOU

Thank you for all the prayers and cards which I have received. Spinal Stenosis is slow to heal but your kindness really hurries it along. Many thanks again.
Norma Stephenson



FUENRAL/MEMORIAL/ GRAVESIDE

Chester Walberg, Jr.
First Lutheran Church,
Pine River, MN
June 28th

Judy Arens
Brenny Funeral Chapel,
Baxter, MN
July 5th

Jeffrey Runions
Riverside Cemetery,
Longville
July 18th

Paul Trom
July 29th

Chuck Ruebling
July 30, 2011

BAPTISMS

Rowen Maccabi Lerom
Malakaie Nelson Milne
July 29th

**"THE LORD IS
MY ROCK,
MY FORTRESS,
AND MY
DELIVERER...."**

2 SAMUEL 22:2

THANK YOU

Thank you to my Salem Family for the special recognition of my 90th birthday. The kind words from Pastor John and Charlene made me feel very humble. To my friends in the choir - the flowers were beautiful for a whole week! Thank you - I love you all for the birthday song.
Yours in Christ, Dorothea

Auction Items

If you have items that you want to give to the church for the annual auction you may come to the office for the key to the storage building. If you need help getting your items to the church please call the church office and someone will come out to pick-up your donation. Thank you!
Property Management

Council Minit-Highlights

July 13, 2011

“Seeking Clarity in Mission and Ministry”

Our Mission Statement:

“Celebrating Christ’s Love Through Hearts That Care and Hands That Share”
A Shared Vision for the Future to Which God Is Calling Us

Columbarium - Lynn Nelson, a member of the Caring Team, made a presentation about a columbarium, perhaps to be placed on the Salem Memorial Walk. She explained that a Columbarium should be self sustaining. She also showed pictures of the Columbarium at St Paul Lutheran Church in Hackensack and Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Nisswa. She asked the council for permission to establish a small committee to do a feasibility study to determine the interest of the members of Salem. A motion was made granting her permission to establish a small committee to do a feasibility study.

Leadership - Because of his leadership style Dennis Johnson was asked to step down as council president. There was a long discussion with several opinions stated. After Johnson said he would not step down a motion was made and passed (yes 5- no 2) removing him as president. After this vote was taken Katie Daudt and Barb McCuskey resigned from the church council and left the meeting.

Pastor John asked to have an objective review of his expense reports. Several names were suggested for this committee.

Anderson presented a building request usage form. The request from the Northland Family Service Center was approved.

Membership - Loeffler reported on the work the membership team is doing on auditing the members' names. This is done annually.

Visioning - The council discussed the upcoming Visioning Session with Scott Jacob. Wednesday, July 27th and Wednesday, August 3rd from 6 - 9 pm both nights. We need to encourage everyone to attend and work the vision for Salem's future.

Pastor's written report highlights:

Membership Audit Report Update - Change in status of FULL members: 4 full members have requested "friends" status; 1 full member has requested "associate" status; 1 full member has requested removal or transfer, 15 full members who live out of the area did not respond or had no known address and are recommended for removal. Total to be removed from FULL members = 21. Four current "associate" members have requested "full" status. Total to be added to FULL membership = 4. Change in status of ASSOCIATE members: 15 associate members have requested "friends" status, 4 "associate" members have requested "full" status, 1 "associate" member has requested removal, and 14 associate members who live out of the area did not respond or have no known address and are recommended for removal. Total to be removed from ASSOCIATE membership = 34. One full member has requested to be an Associate status. Twenty-one "full" members request to remain full members. Thirteen full members who live in the area did not respond or had no known address, are in the process of being contacted personally by the Membership/Evangelism Team. Seven Associate members who live in the area did not respond or had no known address are in the process of being contacted by the Membership/Evangelism Team. Transitional (students, military personnel, homebound, care center residents, imprisoned) "full" and "associate" members (23) are not subject to the current audit.

Council Highlights Cont.

Pictorial Directory Jean Westermann has worked tirelessly on the directory layout pages. Carol is currently organizing the membership directory roster. Everything is being finalized to submit for publication.

Vision Sessions - Wed. July 27th & Wed. Aug 3rd, 6-9 pm each evening at Salem facilitated by Scott Jacob, NEMN Synod. "This will be a multiple part process starting with our gathering on Wed., July 27th where we will have conversation about the cultural, community and congregational realities that we find ourselves in today. We will have interactive discussion regarding our call to live our daily lives as disciples of Jesus Christ and focus upon ways that we can personally grow in the Marks of Discipleship. We will gather again on Wed., Aug 3rd for engaging in conversation and creating an action plan for the mission and ministry of Salem."

**Worship & Fellowship- July 17th - Outdoor Communion Worship Service;
July 30th Memorial Service for Chuck Ruebling at 2 pm;
July 31st Minnesota Teen Challenge Choir;**

Saturday, Aug. 6th Rachel Waterhouse & David Moline Wedding. I have the honor of officiating at the wedding of Mark & Rebecca's daughter, Rachel, and her fiancé on August 6th in Duluth. The family appreciates your prayers as they anticipate this joyful event.

Wedding Policy Booklet. Wedding Coordinators (Dawn Hicok and Michelle Cribb) and I met on Monday, July 11th to begin the process of updating the current "Wedding Policy" booklet (last revised in 2007). Among the needed changes are policies regarding outdoor weddings at the gazebo. The proposed changes will be presented to Council for approval later this summer or early fall.

VBS ("hometown Nazareth" - where Jesus was a kid. August 8-12, 9 to 11 am. Kay Ferris and her volunteer team are enthused about summer VBS. There is plenty of room for more volunteers.

Via de Cristo Weekends at Grace Lutheran Church, Ada, MN. Men's weekend in July 14-17; Women's weekend is July 21-24. Jean Westermann and Cheryl Crosby are serving on team for the Women's weekend.

Stewardship - Consecration Sunday. I met with Pastor Rod Anderson on Thursday, July 7th. Leadership Dinner for the Consecration Sunday leadership team, Council members, staff, and all spouses is Sunday August 7th. Consecration Sunday is August 21st at 9: a.m. with a catered dinner following the worship service.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Anderson, Secretary

BUDGET REQUESTS

Reminder to committees and organizations at Salem: Please submit budget requests to the Church Council by Wednesday, August 10th.

Mortgage Update	
Beg. Mortgage Balance	\$ 8,469.25
June payments:	
Principal	\$ 1,619.42
Interest	40.58
Mortgage Balance 6-30-11	\$ 6,849.83

Dear members of Salem,

At the July 13, 2011 Church Council meeting, Council members voiced their ongoing concerns about Dennis Johnson's leadership as Council President leading to a vote asking him to step down from the position. This very difficult decision came as the result of escalating polarization developing within Council over the past several months. Following the 5 to 2 vote, Katie Daudt and Barb McCuskey announced their resignations from Council. Barb Anderson has agreed to serve as interim President.

While we recognize that not all may agree with this action, we believe this to be the best decision for our congregation. Citing his dissatisfaction with the direction President Johnson has attempted to lead our Council these past months and the ongoing negativity this has spawned, Council member Dick Loeffler has informed us, with deep regrets, of his intention to resign in the coming days. We are saddened by the premature loss of several Council leaders (leaving us with 5 remaining members, most of whose terms will expire with the election of new council members in September), yet are hopeful that as new leaders emerge, sensing God's call to serve, our Council will live out its calling with renewed enthusiasm and that Salem will rise up with unity of vision and greater commitment to our common mission as sisters and brothers in Christ.

We express our thanks to all who have served on Council this past year, recognizing the experience and gifts which they have offered in the service of our congregation. We are grateful for their continued involvement in the mission of Salem.

As those elected by our congregation to these positions of leadership, we take seriously the charge from this congregation to serve to the glory of our Lord and for the benefit of Salem Lutheran Church and its mission to the world.

Yours in Christ,

Barbara Anderson
Interim President, Salem Church Council

We have received requests to publish letters of resignation in "The Church Bell."
This has not been Salem's practice.

Barbara Anderson,
Council President



August's Special People



Altar Guild

- 1 Jean Thomas
- 3 Sharon Fischer
- 3 Dennis Hagen
- 3 Kathy Callies
- 4 Nancy Loren
- 5 Tim Marr
- 7 Judy Czeck
- 10 Joan Alley
- 11 Zachary Semmler
- 14 Virgil Pofahl
- 14 James Stewart
- 14 Jamey Gross
- 14 Dick Loeffler
- 15 Pat Schwerin
- 16 Sandre Strausser
- 17 Traci Wicks
- 19 Barb McCuskey
- 20 Tina Digre
- 20 Toni Monson
- 20 Joy Mills
- 21 Grant Frazee
- 21 Mary Kay Googins
- 23 Todd Wheeler
- 23 Robert Helling
- 25 Gary Hockett
- 27 Ava Welk
- 28 John Weins
- 28 Doris Nelson
- 28 Elsie Hagen
- 29 Jerry Westermann
- 30 Chad Frazee
- 30 Todd Elison
- 31 Nichole Dehn
- 31 Bob Kohanek
- 31 Don Eide



- 2 Dale and Dee Hillstrom
- 2 Norma and Frank Stephenson
- 2 Vic & Karna Rinke
- 3 Jim and Martha Limburg
- 3 Eugene and Vallory Wallman
- 4 Paul and Joan Sifford
- 5 Skip & Terry Rosen
- 7 Doug and Alicia Burgers
- 7 Gary and Judy Ginder
- 9 Robert and Rosemary Berg
- 11 John and Judy Bogard
- 13 Glen and Joan Reinke
- 15 Doug and Cheryl Crosby
- 15 Stephen and Renate Henriksen
- 17 Mark and Barb Nordstrom
- 19 Dan and Sara Holmdahl
- 24 James and Laurie Daudt
- 26 John and Thea Monson
- 26 Jamey and Rachel Gross
- 28 Wally and Shari Pretzer
- 28 Craig and Amy Johnson

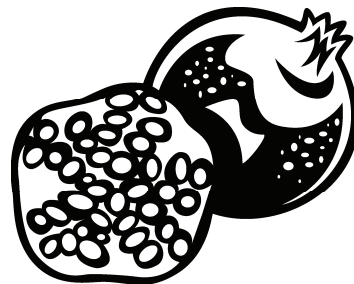
Eileen Higgins, Chair
 Idelle Eide, Doris Schmidt,
 Norma Jansen, Julia Jones,
 Evelyn Pflugshaupt and
 Marilynn Jass

Ushers

Karen Nelson (363-3456)

**Salem Lutheran
 Church Cookbooks**
 are still on sale in the office
 now \$8.00 or 2 for \$15.00
 They make great
 gifts!



POMEGRANATE

Because the pomegranate has an abundance of seeds, the fruit is used to represent hope and future life. It also symbolizes the many believers who are individual members of the universal Christian church.

Martha Circle**RESCHEDULED** - Thursday, August 4th

Meet at Marilyn's at 9:30 a.m.

Hostess: Marilyn Lilyquist

Ruth Circle

Thursday, August 11th

1:00 p.m. at Salem

Hostess: Dorothea Felton

**"The Road Map to Heart Health"
Thursday, Aug. 18th at Salem at 5:30 p.m.**

There are 3 key steps to take on the road to having a healthy heart. The first involves understanding your level of risk for having a heart attack. The second step focuses on the important things you can do to prevent yourself from becoming at risk for heart disease. This means simply living a heart healthy lifestyle - something you can do today. And the third step is to manage your risk.

Join Minneapolis Heart Institute - Brainerd Lakes cardiologist, Dr. Peter Stokman as he discusses the impact of lifestyle on cardiovascular health. Dr. Stokman will also discuss controllable and uncontrollable risk factors, nutrition, exercise and advances in cardiac screening. Are you driving in a heart healthy direction? Come join the discussion. Light dinner served. There is no charge to attend.

To RSVP, call Sarah at 218-545-4447 or email her at speters@cuyunamed.org

Sponsored by: Longville Lakes Clinic, Cuyuna Regional Medical Center and Minneapolis Heart Institute - Brainerd Lakes



**The Synod
Journey
2012
National
Youth
Gathering,
New Orleans, LA
July 13-23**



Any teenager going into ninth, tenth, eleventh or twelfth grade or having just graduated from high school at the time of the Gathering is eligible to register as part of a congregational group. All registrants should be members or guests of ELCA congregations. Registration for The Synod Journey is limited to 450 participants. Registration opens September 19, 2011 and closes September 30, 2011 - or when full. Registrations will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis. For more information call the church office or Pastor John.

AUGUST RED HAT LUNCHEON

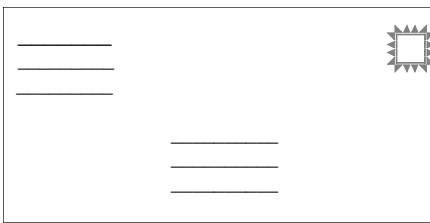
August 9th at Huddles in Whipholt at 12:30 p.m.

Menu: Order from menu

Reservations needed by August 5th

Call: Bev Egan - 363-2686 or

Mary Jane Lewis - 363-2591



Please Save Your Stamps

Did you receive a letter or card today? Did it have a regular postage stamp on it? Did you know it is valuable?

Used stamps are collected and sent to a church in Washington, DC where they are sent for processing in hospitals and other centers. Here they are removed from the paper, sorted, packaged and sold to collectors. This provides an income, and for some it's a therapy. From one epileptic hospital in Germany, we received a report that there were enough stamps processed to care for 4 nurses in Africa for 1 year.

Carefully tear, or cut, the stamp from the envelope leaving about 1/4 to 1/2 inch (at least) and place them in the collection pail on the shelf by the mailboxes. This spring 8 pounds were sent out for which we received a thank you. Please let's fill that pail often. Thank you. Dorothea Felton, Coordinator

The Sevenfold Blessing of the Tithe

1. It blesses the **heart** by making it receptive to God's will.
2. It blesses the **life** by lifting it to a higher plane of grace.
3. It blesses the **hands** by making them willing to do God's work.
4. It blesses the **mind** by giving it the satisfaction of doing the right thing.
5. It blesses the **nine-tenths** that remains because God has been honored.
6. It blesses the **individual** by giving him a part in God's worldwide program of work.
7. It blesses the **church** by enabling it to carry out a greater ministry.

Taking the Long Way

It's human nature to look for shortcuts. We want the quickest, surest route to our destination. Delays, detours and dead ends are frustrating and discouraging.

Consider this: "When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although that was nearer... God led the people by the roundabout way of the wilderness toward the Red Sea." (Exodus 13:17-18, NRSV). The Red Sea looked like a fatal wrong turn, but God was protecting the Israelites. He had a plan in place to lead them to the promised land.

When God seems to prefer delays and detours in your life, keep in mind that the long way just might be better

The Right Road

My Lord God,
 I have no idea where I am going.
 I do not see the road ahead of me.
 I cannot know for certain where it will end.
 Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that
 I am following your will does not mean that I am
 actually doing so.
 But I believe that the desire to please you does, in fact,
 please you.
 And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing.
 I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire.
 And I know that if I do this, you will lead me by the right
 road, though I may know nothing about it.
 Therefore will I trust you always, though I may seem to be
 lost and in the shadow of death.
 I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will
 never leave me to face my perils alone.

Thomas Merton

HERO Sandwich

To celebrate the Bible's many heroes, make this sandwich for a picnic.

What you need:

- An adult to help
- Shredded lettuce
- Olive oil and vinegar
- Seasonings (salt, pepper, oregano)
- Italian crusty bread (six inches per person)
- Mayonnaise
- Sliced meat
- Sliced cheese
- Sliced tomato
- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Toothpicks
- Tape



What you do:

1. Drizzle shredded lettuce with oil and vinegar; sprinkle with seasonings.
2. Cut bread in half length-wise and spread mayo on both halves.
3. On bottom half, layer meats, cheese, tomato and lettuce.
4. Top with other half of bread. Cut in half.
5. Cut paper into small triangles. Write your favorite Bible heroes' names on them.
6. Tape the triangles to toothpicks to make pennants. Stick in sandwich halves. Enjoy!



action packed faith

The greatest "super men" who ever lived put their faith into action.

Directions: Match each Bible character to the correct description.

- | | |
|----------|--|
| Noah | 1. This disciple wrote a gospel, recounting many events in Jesus' life. |
| Stephen | 2. This man responded to God's commands, including the order to move. God made many promises to this man and his descendants. |
| Abraham | 3. This man was eager to rebuild Jerusalem. He helped the people protect their city, reminding them that God was on their side. |
| Luke | 4. This man, who became king of Judah at a young age, obeyed God's laws and helped people repent. |
| Nehemiah | 5. God saved this honest, hard-working man from destruction by having him build a place of safety for his family and every kind of creature. |
| Josiah | 6. This man stood by God's Word, showing strength of character even when faced with persecution and death. |

On the lines below, write your name and describe how you're a "hero" for God. What are some ways you put your faith into action?

Name: _____

Answers: Noah 5, Stephen 6, Abraham 2, Luke 1, Nehemiah 3, Josiah 4.

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
	1 1:00 p.m. Busy Needles	2 9:00 a.m. (co-ed) Bone Building 4:00 p.m. PMLT 6:00-9:00 p.m. Longville Comm. Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m. VBS Planning Meeting	3 8:00 a.m. Men's Renewal 5:00 p.m. Choir 6-9:00 p.m. Visioning Session with Scott Jacob	4 9:30 a.m. Rescheduled Martha Circle at Marilyn Lilyquist's 5:30-8:30 p.m. Community Choir Rehearsal	5 9:00 a.m. (co-ed) Bone Building 7:00 p.m. Community Choir Summer Concert	6 10:00 am Long Lake Property Owners Assoc. An- nual Meeting 4:30 p.m. Rachel Waterhouse & David Moline Wedding at Duluth 5:30 p.m. Picnic 6:30 p.m. Woman Lake Assoc. An- nual Meeting
7 9:00 a.m. Communion Worship 10:15 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship 6:30 p.m. Stewardship's Leadership Dinner at Chase on the Lake, Walker	8 1:00 p.m. Busy Needles	9 9:00 a.m. (co-ed) Bone Building 6:00 p.m. Membership Team	10 8:00 a.m. Men's Renewal 6:30 p.m. Choir 7:30 p.m. Council	11 9:00 a.m. Chaplain's Meeting 1:00 p.m. Ruth Circle	12 9:00 a.m. (co-ed) Bone Building	13
Vacation Bible School 9:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m.						
14 Amy & Adams 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship 12:00 Noon Salem Auction	15 9:00 a.m. Music Planning 1:00 p.m. Busy Needles	16 9:00 a.m. Bone Building	17 8:00 a.m. Men's Renewal 5:00 p.m. Smorgasbord	18 9:00 a.m. Caring Community 5-7:30 p.m. Dinner with a Doc	19 9:00 a.m. co-ed) Bone Building	20
21 Consecration Sunday 9:00 a.m. Communion Worship 10:15 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship	22 1:00 p.m. Busy Needles	23 9:00 a.m. (co-ed) Bone Building	24 8:00 a.m. Men's Renewal 6:30 p.m. Choir	25	26 9:00 a.m. Bone Building	27 Tony Slagle and Michelle Modin Wedding
28 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship	29 1:00 p.m. Busy Needles	30 9:00 a.m. (co-ed) Bone Building 2:30 p.m. Executive Committee	31 8:00 a.m. Men's Renewal 6:30 p.m. Choir			



Smorgasbord

Smorgasbord

Wednesday, August 17th
Starting at 5:00 p.m.

Please come
and bring your friends!

Adults \$9.00
Children (4-10) \$4.00
Under 3 - Free

Watch for the sign-up sheets to
bring food & to help.



1340 County Road 5
P.O. Box 136
Longville, MN 56655

Non-Profit Organization
US Postage **PAID**
Permit #4
LONGVILLE MN 56655

Address Service Requested

Prepared especially for:

