



# The Church Bell

Salem Lutheran Church  
PO Box 136, Longville, MN 56655

Volume 31, Issue 3

Pastor John Monson

March 2010

John Monson, Pastor (Email: [pastorjm@arvig.net](mailto:pastorjm@arvig.net))  
Rebecca Waterhouse, Ministry Associate (Email: [rwaterhouse@arvig.net](mailto:rwaterhouse@arvig.net))  
Sharon Fischer, Sec./News. Editor & Carol Raines, Sec./Bkpr.  
Jan Elliott & Eunice Benson, Organists  
Charlene Olson, Choir Director

Telephones  
(218) 363-2011 (office)  
(218) 363-2253 (kitchen)  
(218) 363-9070 (fax)  
(218) 682-3092 (Pastor's res.)  
Email address: [salem@arvig.net](mailto:salem@arvig.net)  
Web: <http://www.salemlongville.org>

Worship  
Sunday: 9:00 a.m. winter months  
8:00 & 10:00 a.m. Memorial—Labor Day  
Office Hours  
Monday—Friday 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

## March is Minnesota FoodShare Month

The Minnesota FoodShare initiative, created 28 years ago, helps raise awareness and donations of nonperishable food items and dollars for communities across the state. This year's campaign runs from March 1 to April 2.

During this campaign, cash and in-kind donations allow the Longville Area Food Shelf to receive a financial allocation from Minnesota FoodShare. This financial support represents a large portion of the Longville Area Food Shelf's budget. Donations of food and dollars must be received by April 3rd to be counted toward Minnesota FoodShare. For every dollar raised locally and received through the Minnesota FoodShare allotment our food shelf is able to purchase three dollars worth of food through the Second Harvest Food Bank in Grand Rapids.

The Longville Area Food Shelf is also participating in the Feinstein Challenge, which divides \$1 million among participating food shelves nationwide. Money received by the Longville Area Food Shelf between March 1 and April 30 is eligible to be counted. These donations allow our food shelf to leverage the additional dollars for purchasing items through Second Harvest Food Bank.

Last year our food shelf served 4,079 people who needed help. In the past Salem members have been very generous with their time and money. We want to thank you for all that you have done to help the Longville Area Food Shelf and we are looking forward to your continued support.

Stacy and Barb



**In March your cash donations nearly triple in value!**

# “Homosexuality, Bible and Ministry”

## Pastor John Monson

*“For this reason God gave them up to degrading passions. Their women exchanged natural intercourse for unnatural, and in the same way also the men, giving up natural intercourse with women, were consumed with passion for one another. Men committed shameless acts with men and received in their own persons the due penalty for their error” (Romans 1:26-27).*

One of the benefits of the homosexuality debate is that it has sparked renewed interest in Bible Study. While the topic of same-sex conduct is far from the prime concern of Scripture given the fact that very few passages address it, and that Jesus Himself doesn’t address same-sex conduct at all, the interest in exploring biblical studies is encouraging. The greatest commandments, Jesus teaches, are to love God and love your neighbor. These guide our life together as Christians and serve as the larger context for interpreting the whole of the Bible.

On Monday, January 25th twenty-five participants gathered at Salem for respectful, heartfelt, personal sharing regarding the ELCA’s ministry policy actions. (*A make-up session is being planned for those unable to attend.*) There were genuine disagreements, not over biblical authority, but with respect to interpretation. In spite of our differing views we recognized that we are all seeking to be faithful to God and Christian teaching. We all want to be true to Scripture and who we are in the body of Christ.

Passages often considered in a discussion of same-sex conduct include Gen. 19, Judges 19, Lev. 18 & 20, 1 Cor. 6, 1 Tim. 1, and Romans 1. These passages describe sexual abuse (gang rape), promiscuity, and male prostitution. One could argue that there is nothing in Scripture specifically addressing relationships in which genuine love is expressed between committed consenting adults in a same-sex relationship. It is for this reason as well as the awareness that the Bible does not address homosexuality (a 19th century word) as it relates to sexual orientation, and the fact that Jesus is silent on the matter of same-sex conduct, that the ELCA’s ministry policy allows for “publicly accountable, lifelong, monogamous same-gender relationships.” The ELCA has also acted to respect the views of all who oppose such relationships. No church will ever be required to call a person in a “publicly accountable, lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationship” to serve as pastor, nor will pastors be required to bless same-sex unions.

Any study of specific Biblical passages must be examined in context and with the entire biblical witness in mind. It is important not only to understand the words, but

also the message, the point the author is making. “If your hand or your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away...if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out and throw it away...” (Matt. 18:8-9). While some actually espouse a literal reading of the aforementioned passage and other texts, a closer reading which addresses not the words but the meaning is crucial!

Romans 1:26-27 is often at the center of the debate. Here Paul makes a clear statement about same-sex behavior. Paul describes “degrading passions” and being “consumed with passion for one another.” It is noted that Paul speaks of actions which are heavy with unbridled lust (not love). Lustful, promiscuous behavior is not God’s intention for either heterosexual or homosexual relationships. Exploitation on any level is wrong.

“Natural” and “unnatural” are terms which describe the cultural or conventional traditions of Paul’s time, but not necessarily biological make-up. Biblical understandings developed out of ignorance surrounding reproductive biology. “Spilling of semen” for non-procreative purposes (including same-sex male acts), according to the Old Testament, was comparable to abortion or murder, punishable by execution. The full knowledge of ovulation and the female’s role was not comprehended.

Paul lived in a pre-scientific world in which genetic, biological, hormonal, and psychosexual factors which contribute to sexual orientation were not available to him. How could they be? We now know that there is more to human sexuality than organs.

When we realize that many allowable biblical practices are condemned today (prostitution, polygamy, levirate marriage, sex with slaves, concubinage, treatment of women as property, young marriages, etc.), and many prohibited biblical practices are allowed today (remarriage after divorce, intercourse during menstruation, cross-breeding of animals, interracial marriage, hybrid farming, etc.), it seems obvious that a transformation of thought and conduct is a good thing.

Walter Wink states, “There is no reason to think that when the biblical writers condemned same-sex activity that they had in mind people who are homosexually oriented who want to live in committed unions of Christian love and fidelity” (*Homosexuality and the Bible*).

The love ethic of Jesus calls us to respect the “bound conscience” of one another, not being judgmental of our differing views and the journey each of us is on.

# 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.

## Church Bell Information

The Church Council takes their job very seriously. One of the jobs they have is to watch over the finances of the church. Pastor John is the spiritual leader and the council is the bricks and mortar, educational, and financial leader.

The Council is looking at several ways to be more financially responsible. One thing they looked at is the cost of mailing the Church Bell.

The cost of the bulk mail stamp and postage for the year comes to about \$1,000-\$1,200. With this in mind the Council has decided not to mail the Church Bell out.

The Church Bell will be printed and placed in the congregation mail boxes, it will be available by e-mail or on line. There will be extra copies available in the kiosk. If these options are not available to you, you can make arrangements with the secretary in the church office to have the newsletter mailed to you.

Barbara Anderson, Council President

## CHRIST IN OUR HOME DEVOTIONALS

You may pick up your February, March 2010 devotionals from the stand by the entrance. Take one for a friend. Also we have *Our Daily Bread* devotionals and **Cass County Maps**.



## Retirement

I am retiring as of the end of February. I have served Salem for going on (12) years. I will miss working with all of you. I intend to sing with the choir and become active in a circle.

Thank you! Sharon Fischer

## From the Church Council

In an effort to keep the congregation more involved and up to date, the Council has decided to make a change in the council meeting minutes. Today we are launching "Minit-Highlights"! This name reflects that this is a "mini" review that can be read in a "minute of time." After the council has approved the minutes at the next council meeting a full copy of the minutes will be available at the church office.

We are also including highlights of the Staff and Liaison Reports. These highlights will include excerpts from the reports. If anyone wishes to review the minutes of any committee please contact the chair of that committee directly.

We hope you enjoy this new format. Please let a council member know what you think of the Minit-Highlights and the committee highlights.

Barbara Anderson

## Acolyte Schedule



*"We light these candles to remind us that in worship Jesus is present with His light and life."*

### Sunday, March 7

9:00 a.m. *Traditions/Communion*  
Zachary and Andrea Semmler

### Wednesday, March 10

7:00 p.m. *Lenten Service*  
Felicia Murtley and Tia Lilyquist

### Sunday, March 14

9:00 a.m. *Traditions*  
Justin Wicks and Zachary Nornberg

### Sunday, March 21

9:00 a.m. *Praise Connection/Communion*  
Evan and Tyler Daudt

### Wednesday, March 24

7:00 p.m. *Lenten Service*  
Grace Gilsrud and Tia Lilyquist

### Sunday, March 28

9:00 a.m. *Traditions*  
Hayley Hol and Amanda Mix

*(At "Praise Connection Services" acolytes will NOT be wearing albs. On communion Sundays acolytes have the added duty of assisting the servers at each table with the pottery grape juice chalice. If you have any conflicts with any of these assignments, please substitute with someone else, and notify the church office.)*

## COLLEGE UPDATE

Christina Herheim is working and also attending college in Lincoln, NE for business management.



March 14

Set your clocks ahead 1 hour

# Council Minit-Highlights

February 10, 2010

## “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

**Salem Cemetery Committee Update** – Harold Burley and Ron Wiehle provided a summary of actions taken since 2007 to secure certification from the State of Minnesota and recorded deeds for the cemetery property. Through exhaustive detail for legal search of parcel ownership, notifications, research of Cass County Land recordings, physical and certified survey work, new cemetery plot plans have been certified and received to continue cemetery operations. The total cost for securing state certification through all of the legal assistance and land survey work was \$3,816.97. The cemetery plot plan shows seventy-six (76) sites as occupied with one-hundred-seventy-six (176) sites available within the two-hundred-forty-eight (248) developed gravesites at the facility. Other committee members assisting with this work include Darold Daudt, Jim Ballenthin and Bob Alley. Burley reported it is necessary to evaluate the current use of the Salem’s signage monument that has fallen into disrepair. Burley recommended that the existing cemetery committee be disbanded. Following discussion, a motion, the cemetery committee to be abolished, Harold Burley and Ron Wiehle will serve as non-paid Cemetery Sextons for renewable one-year terms working in conjunction with the Property Management Committee. MOTION: Alley/Strausser/passed. A written review of cemetery operations will be conducted by the Cemetery Sextons and submitted to the council annually in August of each year. MOTION: Alley/Aagard/passed.

### Old Business

**Constitution Work Update** – Alley directed the conversation regarding the needs for updating the current constitution using the ELCA Model Constitution with modifications. Following discussion and review of both documents, the current constitution was found to be an earlier version of the ELCA model and with some deletions, minor modifications and the order of the contents being arranged in this new format the desired results would be achieved. A motion, the 2009 ELCA Model Constitution be the working document outline. From the current document, removing the existing by-law additions (continuing resolutions) from the body of the document creating a new separate chapter as contained in the draft outline, updating minor modifications and deletions as necessary to conform with existing congregational stipulations. MOTION: Alley/Aagard/passed.

**Personnel Changes for Council, Office Staff and Custodial** – Anderson asked that the following motions be made on the recommendations of the executive committee. The council accept the resignation of Sharon Fischer from her position of office secretary effective February 28, 2010. In recognition of her (12) twelve years of faithful service, she will be honored during the 10:00 a.m. coffee hour following worship service on Sunday, February 21, 2010. MOTION: Joiner/Daudt/passed. The council provide Sharon Fischer a \$100.00 gift card in recognition of her many years of faithful service to Pastor Monson and our congregation. MOTION: Alley/Daudt/passed. The council accept the appointment of Carol Raines to the full time position of office secretary in a 90 day trial period at her current salary effective March 1, 2010. MOTION: Anderson/Daudt/passed. The council accept the resignation of Carol Raines from her current (20) hour position as a Custodian effective March 1, 2010. MOTION: Trampe/Aagard/passed. The council accept Joan Kickhafer, Custodian, with an increase in hours from near 20 hours to less than 40 hours at her current salary effective March 1, 2010. MOTION: Joiner/Trampe/passed. The council to accept the resignation of Garold Digre as a member of the council effective Immediately as stipulated in his written request received by our council president. MOTION: Trampe/Aagard/passed.

**Council Retreat February 20** – The council retreat will be held on this date between the hours of 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. here at Salem.

## Highlights of Staff and Council Liaison Reports

### Pastor John Monson’s Report (excerpts)

**Stewardship** – The Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program will be the focus of the council retreat to be held on February 20<sup>th</sup> here at Salem. Guest speaker, Pastor Scott Jacob, of the NEMN Synod will present and explain the beneficial use of the Herb Miller Stewardship Program initiatives. Salem’s Future Facility Development may be aided by obtaining rural development grants made available for community facilities, website [www.rurdev.usda.gov/mn](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mn). **Education** – A second Homosexuality, Bible and Ministry, time for conversation and learning session will be held in the near future.

## Council Highlights Cont.

The curriculum for the Wise as Serpents Program for our teens is being adapted for a retreat setting for early this summer. **Worship** – Plans are being made for the mid-week Lenten Series with the Longville Community Church. Teen Challenge Choir will be at Salem on February 28<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m. service. (Florescent green insert distributed in February Church Bell). The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual NEMN ELCA Men’s Retreat, February 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> with Professor Rolf Jacobson and Bishop Thomas Aitken, will be held at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Baxter, MN. The focus of the program will be “how the Bible comes alive as we read it.” **Synod Assembly Delegates** – Salem delegates are needed for the 2010 Synod Assembly at Cragun’s Conference Center near Brainerd, Friday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> through Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup>.

### Financial Secretary’s Report – Don Waldera

Our “snowbirds” on February 7<sup>th</sup> demonstrated their commitment to support our mission here at Salem as we received \$2,916.00 giving contributions in the mail compared to the \$2,979.00 received in the offering plate.

### Youth and Family Ministry Team - Rebecca Waterhouse (excerpts)

**Souper Bowl of Caring** - Sandre Strausser announced the collection taken on February 7<sup>th</sup> totaled \$538.89, with the Colts receiving \$242.24 and the Saints taking the lead with \$296.65. On the advice of Stacy Miller, we will wait to donate our giant check to the Longville Food shelf until March, as donations to the “shelf” are then TRIPLED. IMO our congregation is lovely-even more generous than last year!!! **Food Drop in Remer Elementary** – Preparations will be made this month on February 12<sup>th</sup>. Mary Wilke, Principal, reported children receiving free and reduced meal plans are up 68% from last year!! **Education for Our Kids** – (14) attendees participated in Sunday School on February 7<sup>th</sup> in grades 3-6 with Amber Nornberg providing leadership assistance. Our consistency in holding the class at this time is one of the reasons this ministry is growing. Our friends at Wounded Knee are being included in our Sunday School Lessons. Jennifer Rowland, our contact person for Wounded Knee communicated that there were “no Christian symbols” on the reservation. Our kids are making “toolboxes” one to keep and one to send to Wounded Knee. **Confirmation** – Relationship building continues with a planned sleepover to be held on Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup>. Our youth will leave Salem at 3:30 p.m. to go bowling in Grand Rapids, then return to Salem for fun, games and movies. Our youth will continue to attend basketball games, dance performances and hopefully a snowmobile race. We will continue working on **giving our kids a big voice in how they would conduct a worship service**, with the possibility we can incorporate our ideas for role modeling to our Wounded Knee friends, *what better place to start than with out kids!!!* **Upcoming Events** – Vacation Bible School’s theme this year will be “EGYPT”. A TWINS GAME trip is being planned for this Spring. New Orleans 2010 will be the site for the next Youth Gathering for ages 15–18, we will do a lot of fundraising events to help offset the individual expenses. A Saturday evening through Sunday event is being planned by parents of our youth to “listen to and address the concerns of parents and our youth”. Our youth will honor Sharon Fischer on February 21<sup>st</sup> for her first-rate support and coverage of youth church publications. Youth Sunday is February 28<sup>th</sup>, the Teen Challenge Choir will be visiting us, please wear your 4:20 shirts, **thank you Ginger Minske! Thank you to Carol Fox for the generous donations to Salem’s Youth to attend Summer Camps.**

### Property Management Team – Dave Trampe (excerpts)

Parking light repair work was completed requiring the replacement of (9) nine HP Sodium bulbs at a total cost of \$355.00. Wiehle, Joiner and Trampe expended a lot of time and estimated 400 miles driven with out-of-pocket expenses for gas to obtain supplies, to obtain and return rental equipment. Crow Wing Power Company monthly electrical costs have increased about \$58.00 per day above the 2009 actual expenses. Bids received to replace worn carpet in the facility have been obtained. A bid for total replacement of all carpeting was received in the amount of \$35,275.00.

# Treasurer's Report 1-1-10 to 1-31-10

**General Fund**

Amount Pledged for 2010	<u>\$ 120,082.</u>
Amount Pledges Received to 1-31	5,917.
Non-Pledged Contributions Received	<u>4,298.</u>
Total Contributions to 1-31	\$ 10,215.
Beginning Balance 1-1-10	199.
Total Expenses to 1-31	\$ (20,459).
End Bal Gen Fund 1-31-2010	\$ (10,045).

**Debt Retirement**

Amount Pledged for 2010	<u>\$ 13,422.</u>
Amount Pledges Received to 1-31	675.
Non-Pledged Contributions Received	<u>1,228.</u>
Total Contributions to 1-31	\$ 1,903.
Beginning Balance 1-1-10	\$ 7,314.
Total Expenses to 1-31	\$ (2,314).
End Bal Debt Ret Fund 1-31-2010	\$ 6,903.

**SALEM VISION ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

About 10 people attended the visioning meeting on Feb 11. Many interesting ideas were presented and it was exciting and enjoyable, contemplating the multitude of ideas that could be implemented that would facilitate the needs of the congregation, ranging from the youth to the elderly. We adjourned after 1 and 1/4 hours with many visions still not on the table! We plan to meet again in mid April to add to the visions and perhaps begin prioritizing the needs of the congregation. If you don't see what should be given consideration on the following list, you should come to the April meeting and share your ideas.

- 1) Stated that there is a list somewhere that, another group did the same kind of brainstorming, several years ago. That needs to be located or recalled.
- 2) Is Salem growing? Is the area growing and is there a real need for additional expenditures?
- 3) An informal meeting room or fellowship hall, separate from Soderberg Hall.
- 4) Some type of elder living housing. Apartments, duplexes, etc. that could provide a less isolated, reduced maintenance living situation. Medical supervision etc..
- 5) Acquire 1 to 5 lots between the church and Hwy. 5
- 6) Add a driveway into the parking lot, for safety sake, near the southeast end of the parking lot.
- 7) A bus or van for youth trips or driving people to church who can no longer drive themselves.
- 8) A larger space for the choir, piano and organ. The music area is far too crowded. A balcony with elevator?
- 9) A second entrance, perhaps by the end of Soderberg hall, opposite the kitchen end.
- 10) More meeting rooms to accommodate 20 or more people.
- 11) A small, nicer Chapel, large enough for 30 to 50 people, that could better accommodate small weddings or larger funeral families.
- 12) Another office for church staff. . . Also a small kitchen area to accommodate the wing with a sink, a refrigerator, a microwave?
- 13) The need for more storage.

**Mortgage Update**

Beg. Mortgage Balance	\$ 38,605.10
January payments:	
Principal	\$ 1,475.10
Add. Principal	654.06
Interest	184.90
Mortgage Balance	\$ 36,475.94
January 31, 2010	

None of these ideas are cheap or simple and I know of a couple things that are not on the list as of yet. None of the 13 items are ridiculous or beyond our careful consideration. Let the committee members or church council members hear from you regarding any of your feelings.

## **SALEM MEMORIAL GROUNDS:**

My proposal is for two memorial parks on the campus of Salem Lutheran Church

### **Entrance Memorial**

One could be a reflection pool area developed parallel to the church entrance and extending northeast toward the storage buildings. This area is currently in a natural and undeveloped state. This area has the potential to be truly inspirational in its beauty, if it is well-planned and properly funded. The pond could be excavated and formally landscaped to be a focal point. This site would require a perpetuated memorial fund. A permanent monument with an ongoing list of benefactors would be included in the memorial park plan for this and the second site.

I would suggest that a minimum of \$20,000 be accrued in a memorial fund before development begins. Because the location of this site will be very public, due to its location at the church entrance, the entrance memorial should be very polished in appearance.

### **Red Pine Retreat (Garden/Rest)**

The second park area could be the acreage east of the church extending to the surrounding marsh. The most notable feature is the stand of 50 to 100 year old Norway (red) pines scattered throughout the tract. A walking trail was roughed in during the summer of 2009. The trail consists of several high ground loops.

God's majestic work has already been done. All that is needed is a few trail improvements that would add accessibility. Grading, paving, signage, seeding and seating areas would be the priorities in this park-like setting.

Memorials that fulfill any of the trail improvements would be given in the name of those who want to be remembered in such a peaceful setting.

All future memorials in memory of loved ones would be limited to one or both of these sites. The two park areas lend themselves to two distinctly different moods. One would be very public, polished and a place of celebration. The other, a more secluded site, would be quiet, private and more natural.

Each park or garden, if adopted, would need substantial contributions to fund each endeavor. The goal will be to create a planned course of action that contributes to God's creation in a systematic, coordinated fashion.

Dave Trampe, Property Management

## **PROJECTION SYSTEM TASK FORCE**

One of Salem's approved special gift projects is large screen projection to be installed in our assembly worship space. The purpose is to enhance worship and other events through visual projection. We live in a visually oriented society. Visuals, we have been told, can hold an audience's attention up to 30 times longer. Also, an audience retains 3 times the amount of information for up to 10 times longer than with audio alone. As designated giving to Salem's assembly room projection system continues to grow, it is time to organize a task team to meet with projection system consultants to determine the best design for Salem. If you have an interest in being engaged at Salem through the creative potential of media projection, please contact Pastor John. No technical expertise required.

## Via de Cristo Weekends

Men	April 15-18	Calvary Lutheran Church
Women	April 22-25	2508 Washington Ave SE, Bemidji, MN
Men	Oct. 21-24	Faith Lutheran Church
Women	Oct. 28-31	127 2nd Ave E, West Fargo, ND

### Quilting Party — March

Plan to come to the Quilting Party every Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to about 3:30 p.m. There is good fellowship and a good feeling that you are helping missions warm the unfortunate with Quilts. Remember to bring a dish to pass for the noon lunch (optional). See you there.

The Quilting Party

### Martha Circle

Meets Wednesday,  
March 3, 2010  
9:30 a.m. at Salem Lutheran

### Ruth Circle

Meets Thursday, March 11, 2010  
at 1:00 p.m. after Quilting

### Rebekah Circle

See you in the fall

**LSS Caregiver Respite Program.** Are you looking for a way to share your gifts with others? We have caregivers in your area who need a break from the 24/7 responsibilities of caring for a person 60 years of age and older. The LSS Caregiver Respite Program is seeking volunteers to provide short-term, non-medical care while the caregiver runs errands or just takes a much needed break. Volunteer training sessions will be offered in March at convenient locations in Cass County, Thursday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at Hope Lutheran Church in Walker; Tuesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at First Lutheran Church in Pine River or Tuesday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at Salem Lutheran Church in Longville. Interested volunteers only need to attend one session Pre-registration is requested. If you have time to share with others, please contact Iva Thielges, LSS Respite Coordinator by calling (218) 616-0669 or (218) 732-7451 or email [iva.thielges@lssmn.org](mailto:iva.thielges@lssmn.org). *Caregivers Need Care Too.*

**The AmeriCorps Legacy Corps**, through Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota, is seeking caring, committed individuals age 18 and older willing to spend an average of 10 hours a week providing volunteer respite care and companionship to the elderly in your area. The program is a one-year commitment, beginning April 1<sup>st</sup>, with benefits including a monthly living allowance of \$200, eligibility for a \$1,250 educational award and the satisfaction of making a difference in your community. If you are interested, please contact Iva Thielges, LSS Respite Coordinator by calling (218) 616-0669 or (218) 732-7451 or email at [iva.thielges@lssmn.org](mailto:iva.thielges@lssmn.org).

Iva Thielges  
Respite Coordinator, Cass and Wadena Counties

### The Gift That Keeps on Giving

Show your love with the gift of a Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend, then bring that love into the rest of your lives. A Lutheran Marriage Encounter weekend includes two nights in a comfortable hotel and five delicious meals from Friday at 7:00 p.m. to Sunday at 5:00 p.m. Four presenting couples, including a Lutheran clergy couple, give a series of presentations followed by questions the couples discuss in the privacy of their hotel room. The next Lutheran Encounter Weekends in Minnesota are :

March 19-21 in Brooklyn Center

April 16-18 in Duluth and April 30-May 2 in Alexandria.

Please register a month in advance. For more information, contact Dick & Judy Dehnel at 952-432-3105, Pete & Phyllis McMahan at 763-561-1575 or visit [www.godlovesmarriage.org](http://www.godlovesmarriage.org).

# March's Special People

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- 1 Larry Nelson
- 2 James Limburg
- 3 Shane Emerson
- 4 Cerissa Johnson
- 4 Brandon Herheim
- 4 Stacy Miller
- 9 Cheryl Kampa
- 10 Richard Olsen
- 11 Rachel Gross
- 11 Dorothy Weaver
- 13 Emma Mix
- 14 Alicia Burgers
- 14 Darold Moore
- 15 James Daudt
- 15 Jenny Nordstrom
- 17 Glen Reinke
- 18 Alice Moe
- 19 Patty Lange
- 19 Joanne Ellefson
- 21 Beverly Baldwin
- 21 David Felton
- 22 T. Frank Daudt
- 22 Sara Kopca
- 22 Steven Halver
- 22 Mark Nordstrom
- 23 Evan Foss
- 23 Ron Lund
- 24 Gene Drum
- 24 Stan Hawkinson
- 24 Ed Olson
- 25 Joan Kickhafer
- 25 Hilma Oestreich
- 25 Roger Zwart
- 26 Megan Halver
- 26 Don Waldera
- 26 Dennis Zuelke
- 28 Tena Johnson
- 29 Ginny Muller
- 30 Dave Cribb
- 31 Jan Elliott
- 31 Paul Trom



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

## Usher



Ralph Schmidt 363-3326

## Happy Anniversary!

- 1 Nicole and Josh Dehn
- 6 Reg & Kathy Callies
- 7 Marvin and Brenda Imholte
- 13 Dale and Sonja Foss
- 16 Bob and Ginny Muller
- 19 Larry & Doris Nelson
- 23 John and Marilyn Holmer
- 26 Dick and Sandy Pullen

**St. Patrick's Day**  
 March 17

**First Day of Spring**  
 Saturday, March 20



## Emergency Weather Announcements

For notice of Salem's weather-related cancellations and postponements please tune to:

- KLIZ 107.5 (Walker)
- KLKS 104.3 (Breezy Point)
- KTIG 102.7 (Pequot Lakes)
- KBLB 93.3 (Brainerd)
- WJYJ 106.7 FM (Brainerd)
- KSAX or (Alexandria)
- KCCO television (Alexandria)



## WHEEL

A rotating wheel symbolizes God's divine force. Wheels with flames shooting out often portray God's throne, based on Ezekiel's vision (see 1:1-18). Some artists also show a burning wheel when God sends Adam and Eve out of the Garden of Eden

**RED HAT MAMAS**



Ladies ....

The Red Hat Society (fun) luncheon will be held on Tuesday, March 9th at the Dancing Fire Restaurant, Northern Lights Casino at 12:30 p.m.

Menu: Order off menu.

Call: Bev Egan 363-2686 & Mary Jane Lewis at 363-2591 by Friday, March 5th to register.

**Carpool:** Meet at Salem at 12:00 noon



**SALES**

You can pre-order your copy of the Salem Cookbook. Ask a committee member for an Advanced Sales Coupon form. The forms are also available in the office. The Cookbook is \$10.00 and has all those favorite recipes that everyone loves.

Pamela Edwards  
Barbara Anderson  
Cheryl Crosby

**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



***Soup & Sandwich*** at 6:00 p.m.

Host church provides soup (bring your own sandwich)

***Ecumenical Lenten Services***

“Our Providing God” Rev. John Monson  
Wednesday, March 3rd at 7:00 p.m.  
**at Longville Community Church**

“Praying in the Belly of the Fish” Rev. Duane Brown  
Wednesday, March 10th at 7:00 p.m.  
**at Salem Lutheran Church**

“The God of the Second Chance” Rev. John Monson  
Wednesday, March 17th 7:00 p.m.  
**at Longville Community Church**

“About Face” Rev. Duane Brown  
Wednesday, March 24th at 7:00 p.m.  
**at Salem Lutheran Church**

**Plugged In Online**

Parents and grand-parents can look at this site to get a review of movies, videos, TV episodes, songs & games before you watch them. The entertainment industry ratings only tell you so much. Plugged In goes deeper, and dives into specific content and the meaning behind it.

Go to: [www.pluggedin.com](http://www.pluggedin.com)

# DIRT CUPS


Make this easy snack for your family or your friends at Sunday school. As you eat it, celebrate the miracles God brings in the spring.

**What you need:**

- 2 cups milk
- 1 (4-serving size) box of chocolate instant pudding
- 1 (8 oz.) tub of frozen whipped topping, thawed
- 1 (16 oz.) package Oreo cookies, crushed
- 8 (9 oz.) plastic cups
- gummy worms and frogs
- plastic flowers (optional)

**What you do:**

1. Mix milk and pudding in a large bowl. Beat with a whisk until well blended. Let stand 5 minutes.
2. Add whipped topping and half of the crushed Oreos.
3. Place 1 tablespoon crushed Oreos in each cup. Fill cups <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> full with pudding.
4. Top with remaining crushed Oreos.
5. Chill at least 1 hour or until ready to serve.
6. Decorate with gummy worms and/or frogs.
7. Place the stem end of the plastic flower into the center of the pudding dessert.



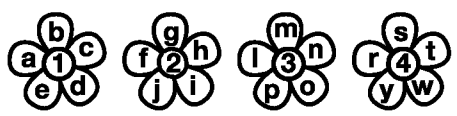
*God's teaching is like....*

In Deuteronomy, Moses' words to the children of Israel remind us of spring, which brings growth and new life.


---

Use the flower code below to fill in the blanks, revealing Deuteronomy 32:2, NIV.


CODE




"Let my teaching fall like \_\_\_\_\_




and my words descend like \_\_\_\_\_,




like \_\_\_\_\_




\_\_\_\_\_




like abundant \_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_



Answers: rain, dew, showers on new grass, rain on tender plants

## Definition of a Christian


A Christian is:

- A **mind** through which Christ thinks.
- A **heart** through which Christ loves.
- A **voice** through which Christ speaks.
- A **hand** through which Christ helps.

**2010 LONGVILLE AREA  
COMMUNITY LENTEN SERIES**



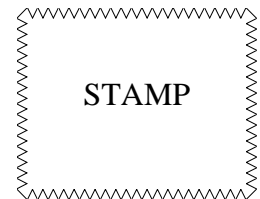
*“The Sign of Jonah”*

<b>DATE</b>	<b>Ash. Wed. 2/17</b>	<b>Wed. 2/24</b>	<b>Wed. 3/3</b>	<b>Wed. 3/10</b>	<b>Wed. 3/17</b>	<b>Wed. 3/24</b>	<b>Holy Week</b>
<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>all churches</b>	<b>Salem Lutheran</b>	<b>Comm. Church</b>	<b>Salem Lutheran</b>	<b>Comm. Church</b>	<b>Salem Lutheran</b>	<b>all churches</b>
<b>PREACHER</b>	<b>all pastors</b>	<b>Duane Brown</b>	<b>John Monson</b>	<b>Duane Brown</b>	<b>John Monson</b>	<b>Duane Brown</b>	<b>all pastors</b>
<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>God is calling</b>	<b>Saved in the storm</b>	<b>Our providing God</b>	<b>Praying in the belly of the fish</b>	<b>The God of the second chance</b>	<b>About face</b>	

**All services begin at 7:00 p.m. preceded by soup & sandwich at 6:00 p.m.  
(excluding Ash Wednesday and Holy Week) at the host church. Soup is provided  
by the host church. Bring your own sandwich.**



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



Prepared especially for: