



The Church Bell

Salem Lutheran Church

PO Box 136, Longville, MN 56655

Volume 30, Issue 3

Pastor John Monson

March 2009

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

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.

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>



March is Food Share Month

March is Food Share month in the state of Minnesota. This means various programs match your donations to the Longville Area Food Shelf, which just about triples the value. As our needs escalate, so must our awareness of the problems facing our neighbors, friends and even our own families.

Stacy Miller and Barbara Anderson are representatives from Salem Lutheran Church on the Food Shelf Committee. We want to thank you for your generous support to the Food Shelf in the past and are looking forward to your continued support.

We also have a challenge for you! During the second week of March, we challenge you to go to your pantry and/or freezer and make a meal out of what you see. No trips to the grocery store, no exotic ingredients. Maybe even “subbing” one ingredient for another. Maybe you remember a dish from your youth that your Mom made to “stretch” what she had on hand. Try to keep the cost in mind, as the total cost should be about 50 cents per serving! This is what many people face daily, but we can guarantee that their pantries and freezers (if they have one) are not as well stocked as yours.

Lawsuit Settlement

Pastor John Monson

It is a delight to finally report some good news in the long drawn-out legal battle stemming from the 2006 Longville E. coli outbreak. The matter was settled by mediation on February 2nd. The "statement regarding lawsuit" from our attorney, Leatha Wolter, explains the settlement. Leatha, Marshall Lichty, and the legal team at Meagher-Geer represented us well and were highly affirming of our members as they defended us in the 3rd-party litigation launched by Nebraska Beef. Our insurance carrier, Church Mutual, was also extremely responsive to the needs of our congregation.

Most people recognize that Salem did not belong in this lawsuit. Already feeling victimized, the notion that our church was now being blamed seemed grotesquely unfair. The early avalanche of unfortunate and misleading publicity added insult to injury.

News releases about the recent settlement also carry a tone which seem to continue to indict our church and to imply that the illnesses in our community were restricted to Salem. We know that this particular strain of E. coli (0157:H7) reached beyond Salem and infected persons in the community

who did not attend our smorgasbord. This rare and deadly E. coli strain has been listed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as a potential bioterrorist agent. Billions of bacteria can fit on the head of a pin, and only a microscopic amount is necessary to cause illness.

Our Women's Group received high praise from biochemist and food safety expert, Dr. Joellen Feirtag, for surpassing food safety standards. The Minnesota Department of Health also expressed the belief that our Women's Group had appropriately and thoroughly cooked the meatballs served at the smorgasbord. We have the greatest of cooks and food handlers at Salem and Salem's smorgasbords rival the quality and care of any commercial business.

While the harm caused by this food-borne illness cannot be undone, it is a relief to put this chapter behind us and to focus our energies in new directions. Thank you all for your prayers. Special thanks to Joan, Carol, and Connie from our Women's Group who gave depositions, and to our entire Women's Group, Church Council, our secretarial staff, and so many others for the cooperation that resulted in a good outcome.

STATEMENT REGARDING LAWSUIT

On February 2, 2009, the cases commenced by Stan Hawkinson and Eloise Wheeler against Nebraska Beef, Interstate Meats, and Tabaka's Super Valu were settled. As you are aware, Nebraska Beef attempted to shift blame by bringing Salem Lutheran Church into the lawsuit. The cases were settled at no direct cost to Salem Lutheran Church. As is the normal practice in these types of cases, the specific terms of the settlement are confidential.

There has been no admission of liability on the part of Salem Lutheran Church or any of its parishioners. An outside expert from the University of Minnesota, with a Ph.D. in food safety, reviewed this matter and rendered an opinion that Salem Lutheran Church was not negligent in the cooking or the handling of the contaminated beef. Dr. Joellen Feirtag concluded that the Women's Group exceeded the reasonable standard of care in preparing food for the July 2006 smorgasbord.

Salem Lutheran Church is confident that the vigorous defense and expert opinion led to a favorable result that allowed the Church and its parishioners to avoid the burdens and cost of trial.

(from Meagher & Geer, P.L.L.P.)

Office Notes

Salem Welcomes New Members

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 newsletter.

Funeral Service

Phyllis Ade
February 7, 2009

Email Alert

Rebecca Waterhouse is using this email address:
rlwaterhouse@arvig.net
Please contact her at this address!



Friday, March 20, 2009

Christ In Our Home DEVOTIONALS

The daily devotional booklets are available and may be picked up from the rack by the church entrance. Take one for a friend.

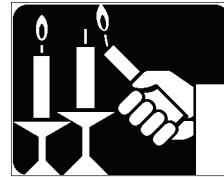
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Financial statements have been mailed. If you don't receive your statement or if you have a question please call Don Waldera at 363-2030.



The first Sunday of each month is "Name Tag Sunday". Wearing name tags will help all of us—and especially newer members—to get to know each other better. THANKS
The Evangelism Committee

Acolyte Schedule



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

Sunday, March 1

9:00 a.m. Traditions/Communion
Tia Lilyquist & Chloe Wolske

Sunday, March 8

9:00 a.m. Traditions
Zach Nornberg & Zach Semmler

Sunday, March 15

9:00 a.m. Jubilee/Communion
Gracie Gilsrud & Hayley Hol

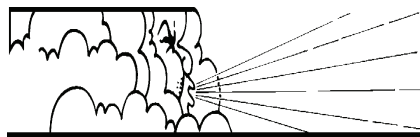
Sunday, March 22

9:00 a.m. Traditions
Jacob Murtley & Shelby Kline

Sunday, March 29

9:00 a.m. Traditions
Chloe Wolske & Justin Wicks

(At "Jubilee 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.)



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)
- WJY 106.7 FM (Brainerd)
- KSAX or (Alexandria)
- KCCO television (Alexandria)

Salem Council Highlights

February 11, 2008

“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

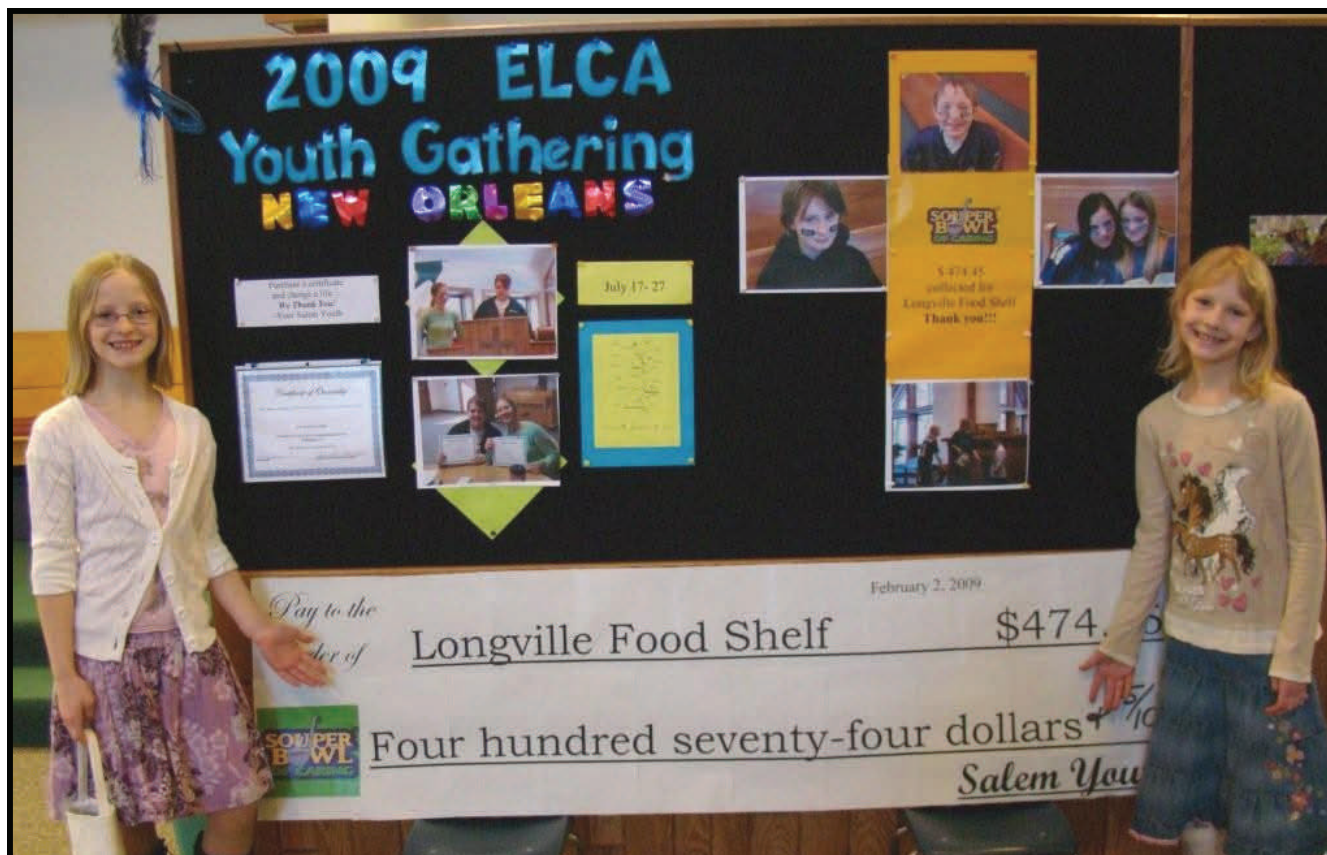
Treasurer –The council approved a \$2,000 payment to the Synod Benevolence.

Pastor’s Report – Anyone interested in representing Salem as a delegate to the Synod Assembly is asked to contact Pastor John. The Synod Assembly convenes Friday, April 24th – Sunday, April 26th and will be held at Cragun’s Conference Center near Brainerd.

Worship Team - The Legacy Choral will be putting on a concert at Salem on April 25th.

Just a note – Because of the ice storms several of the committees’ meetings were canceled or postponed.

We always look forward to feedback from you –
Your council members will be *happy to talk to you* –
Come to the council meetings on the second Wednesday of each month.
Executive Committee, Bob Alley, President (363-2770)



Bulletin Board with Andrea and Alyssa Semmler holding the Souper Bowl banner.

What is Prayer?

If the Bible is our food, then prayer is our air. It's the way by which we draw in the atmosphere of God.

Prayer is rich and varied.

Sometimes we confess our sins in a prayer of penitence.

Sometimes we praise God in worship and thanksgiving.

Sometimes we ask God for help and grace to meet whatever comes our way.

Sometimes we pray for other people.

Sometimes we're quiet, knowing that when we stop clamoring and pleading our case, there comes a sense of God's reply, some intimation of his will, some messages from him to us.

Remember that nothing God can give is comparable to himself. It is God we seek in prayer. Everything else is secondary.

World Down Syndrome Awareness Day

Saturday, March 21, 2009

Lord of Life Lutheran, Baxter, MN

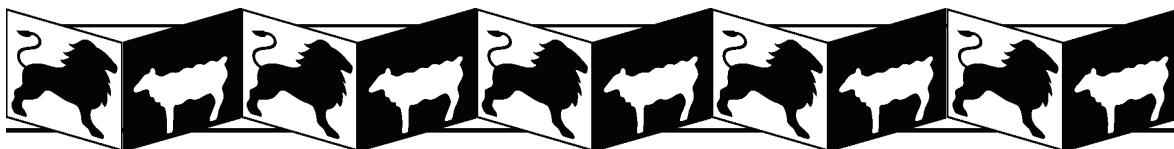
10:00 a.m.—12:00 Noon

Learning about Down Syndrome

On March 21st, 2009, World Down Syndrome Day will mark the 50th anniversary of the publication of Professor Jerome Lejeune's Discovery of the extra copy of chromosome 21 which causes Down Syndrome.

Now known as trisomy-21 because of the third copy of the 21st chromosome, Down Syndrome was first described by the English doctor, John Langdon Down, in 1866 but until Professor Lejeune's publication in 1959, the ultimate cause of Down Syndrome was unknown.

Down Syndrome organizations around the world this year will pay tribute to the pioneering work of Professor Lejeune and celebrate the tremendous advances in the care and social welfare of people with Down Syndrome over the past fifty years.



Treasurer's Report



General Fund

Beginning Balance Dec.1, 08	\$ 3,285.15
Income for December	23,696.37
Expenses for December	16,643.16
Ending Balance Dec. 31, 08	\$10,338.36



Mortgage Update

Beg. Mortgage Balance	\$ 63,444.46
December payments:	
Principal	\$ 1,355.80
Additional Principal	73.24
Interest	304.20
Mortgage Balance	\$ 62,015.42
December 31, 2008	

March's Special People



- 1 Larry Nelson
- 2 James Limburg
- 3 Shane Emerson
- 4 Cerissa Johnson
- 4 Brandon Herheim
- 4 Stacy Miller
- 8 Gordon Holmdahl
- 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



March
 Eileen Higgins, Chair
 Idelle Eide, Doris Schmidt,
 Marilyn Jass, Norma Jansen
 and Evelyn Pflugshaupt



- 1 Nicole and Josh Dehn
- 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



TUESDAY, MARCH 17



Ralph Schmidt
 (363-3326)

VIOLET



The violet, a symbol of humility, is most often used in reference to the Virgin Mary.
 St. Bernard described Mary as “the violet of humility.” The flower is also used to express Christ’s humility in assuming human form.



RED HAT MAMAS

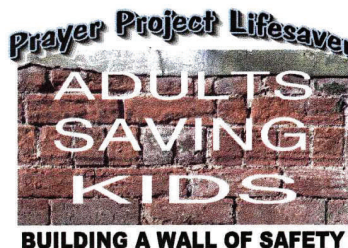
Ladies

The Red Hat Society (fun) luncheon will be held on Tuesday, March 10th at 12:30 p.m. at the Dancing Fire Restaurant, Northern Lights Casino, Walker.

Menu: Chef's Choice for \$12.95, taxes and tip Included.

Call Bev Egan at 363-2686 or Mary Jane Lewis at 363-2591 by Friday, March 6th to register.

Car pool from Salem at 12:00 noon.



ATTENTION
Pray-ers, Youth, Parents

Please mark
April 26, 2009 on your
calendar at 10:00 p.m.

We are going to celebrate our 6th anniversary of Prayer Project Lifesavers. This is a time for the pray-ers and youth to introduce themselves and start or continue building a wonderful relationship.

**Co-Educational
Bone Building & Line Dancing**

Tuesdays & Fridays
9:00 a.m. Bone Building

Everyone Welcome!

Thank You

My surgery was a success. I am now back to near normal. Thank you Salem for all your thoughts and prayers. John Weins



Soup & Sandwich at 6:00 p.m.

Host church provides soup (bring your own sandwich)

Ecumenical Lenten Services

“God’s Law on Stone & Hearts” Rev. John Monson
Wednesday, March 4th at 7:00 p.m.
at Longville Community Church

“The Millstone” Father, Joseph Sirba
Wednesday, March 11th at 7:00 p.m.
at Salem Lutheran Church

“Stumbling Stone & Rock of Salvation” Rev. Duane Brown
Wednesday, March 18th 7:00 p.m.
at St. Edwards Catholic Church

“The Living Stone” Rev. John Monson
Wednesday, March 25th at 7:00 p.m.
at Longville Community Church

“The Foundation Stone” Rev. Duane Brown
Wednesday, April 1st at 7:00 p.m.
at Salem Lutheran Church

(Holy week at each church)

**LENTEN SERVICES
Community “Q” and “A”**

A special feature of this year’s community Lenten services will include a brief time during the service to respond to questions from participants. Each evening questions may be written and placed in the offering plate or question box. The following week a few moments will be taken to respond to as many of these questions as time will allow. Questions may be directed to any of the participating clergy about any topic, such as church customs, teachings, ministry, golf score, etc.



Home Tour Organizer Needed

It’s been fun! I am very willing to train someone.
Thank you, Karen Nelson 363-3456.

Women's Page

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

Please Note!

Martha Circle/Bible Study

Wednesday, March 11, 2009
at 9:00 a.m. at Salem
Hostess: Rozie Plotnik

Ruth Circle/Bible Study

Thursday, March 12, 2009
1:00 p.m. at Salem

Rebekah Circle/Bible Study

Thursday, March 26, 2009
6:30 p.m. at Salem

We INVITE all women to join us.



Lutheran World Relief Coffee Project

We ordered our first order of Equal Exchange products and sold them during the home tour. It was so successful and we ran out of some of the popular coffee and bars. Thank you for helping to support and provide the small farmers a stable income as well as improved social services.

The cost is just what we pay for each product. One church in Sandstone, MN used the coffee for fellowship for one year and kept track of how much money it cost and it was only \$30 more for the whole year compared to the grocery store bought coffee. They felt so good about being able to share their love with those who have so much less and decided to continue to use the Equal Exchange coffee.

We will be selling the coffee and other products 1-2 Sundays a month during fellowship. Anyone willing to help is welcome. Breakfast Blend Coffee Beans, Hazelnut and Toffee Caramel Flavored, Breakfast Blend, Chocolate Bars coming!!! Ginger Minske



2009 ELCA Youth Gathering



Jordan Loren and Caitlin Daudt are selling stock for their trip to New Orleans, LA for the 2009 ELCA Youth Gathering, July 22-26, 2009. Please see them after worship to purchase your stock certificates (\$10 for 10 shares for each certificate). There are 36,650 youth and adults registered for the Gathering.



Make a Good Marriage Great!

No matter how good a marriage is, it can be improved. Even the best marriages can find new meaning and deepened joy on a Lutheran Marriage Encounter weekend, whether married for a short time or for many years.

In a relaxed atmosphere 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. There is no counseling and no group sharing. No one tries to change who you are. You'll spend two nights in a comfortable hotel and enjoy five delicious meals from Friday at 7:00 p.m. to Sunday at 5:00 p.m.

The next Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekends in Minnesota are March 27-29 in Duluth and April 24-26 in Brooklyn Center. Please register a month in advance. For more information, contact Dick & Judy Dehnel at 952-432-3105, Pete & Phyllis McMahon at 763-561-1575 or visit www.godlovesmarriage.org.

ATTENTION! Women of Salem

We now have all of our exciting events posted on a kiosk. Check it out!! It is still a work in progress, but there is lots of information on all four sides!

Each month we will feature a Mission Kit and focus on gathering the items needed for it. This month we will work to get items for the SCHOOL KITS. Stop at the kiosk and pick up a list of items for these kits. You may even have items at home that are just waiting to be brought in and put in the box!

There are a few other projects we are highlighting, too. More Fair Trade coffee is here and will be offered for sale. Any t-shirts that you no longer need or want may be brought in as well. These are made into diapers for the children of Honduras. Patterns are on the Kiosk!
Mary Schmid



Thank You

Thank you to Lorin Neuenfeldt for serving as one of Salem's Thrivent for Lutherans Congregation Coordinators the past many years. Lorin has been very faithful and efficient at reporting volunteer hours and helping Salem to obtain supplemental funds. Because of his expertise Salem was awarded with additional funds from Thrivent in past years. The family of Salem has especially benefitted from Lorin's friendliness, smiles and helpfulness as he worked with us at the many fund-raising events during his tenure. Thank you, Lorin, for your volunteerism!

NOTICE: We are in need of an additional Thrivent for Lutherans Congregational Coordinator to assist Toni Drum and Hilma Oestrich who are our other two coordinators,. Access to a computer and skills to navigate the Thrivent website are all you need! Call Toni at 363-2351 or Hilma at 682-2871 or Mary Schmid, 363-3327 for more information or to volunteer to serve! Thank you!

Warmest Thanks....

to Charlene Olson, Mark Houghton, Eunice Benson, Craig Anderson, Joyce Digre, Sandre Strausser, Robyn Semmler and Salem Youth for a super Souper Bowl Sunday worship!

to Billie Lilyquist, Dawn Gilsrud and Katie Daudt for driving our kids to Midway Bowling in Grand Rapids and to the Levi LaVallee celebration.

to the Prayer Partners of Salem who took the time to join our youth during game time Saturday night.

to the overnights: Dawn Gilsrud, Joyce Digre and Adam Hicok who supervised and fed 14 energetic Salem Youth.

to our caring Salem congregation, many of whom gave generously to the Souper Bowl and consequently to the hungry in Longville.

to those in our church family, the wise and future-minded investors, who purchased stock certificates for Salem youth mission trips.

"He will not forget your work and the love you have shown."
Hebrews 6:10 NIV

Rebecca Waterhouse



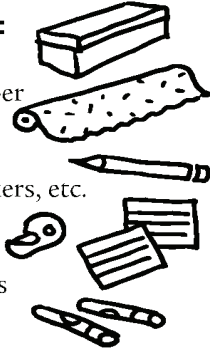
Daylight –Savings Time begins.
March 8, 2009
(set your clocks ahead 1 hour)

PRAYER BOX

Family prayer time is a good habit. Make it fun with this activity for all family members. They can use this special box whenever they have a prayer request.

What you need:

- Shoebox
- Wrapping paper
- Scissors
- Tape
- Stickers, markers, etc. (optional)
- Index cards
- Pencils or pens



What you do:

1. Wrap the shoebox like a present. Be sure to wrap the lid separately so it can be removed.
2. Let the whole family help decorate the box. You can write Bible verses about prayer, draw pictures, glue on pictures or add stickers. Be creative!
3. Put the box in a prominent location of your house. Keep a pile of index cards and pencils or pens near the box.
4. Whenever a family member has a prayer request, he or she can write or draw it on a card and put it inside the box.
5. Family members can share the cards in a prayer circle, or people can take turns praying for all the requests. Throughout the week, family members can check the box for new prayer needs.



A FAMILY OF PRAYER

The book of Acts tells about a man named Cornelius. He was a Roman centurion from Caesarea who worshiped God. Through his encounter with Cornelius, Peter learned that God accepts everyone who fears him and does what is right.

Use the code below to see the example set by Cornelius and his family. Solve the math problems by using the grid. Then use the key to find the letter that matches each answer. Write the letter on the blank.

GRID	
A	B
2	4
C	D
6	5

KEY: a=7 e=8 i=10 o=9 u=11 y=6

"H e _ _ nd _ _ ll h _ s f _ _ m _ _ l _ _
 A+C A+D A+D B+C A+D B+C A+B

w _ _ r _ _ d _ _ v _ _ _ t _ _ nd
 A+C A+C A+C B+D C+D A+D

G _ _ d - f _ _ _ r _ _ ng; h _ _ g _ _ v _ _
 B+D A+C A+D B+C A+C A+D A+C

g _ _ n _ _ r _ _ _ s l _ _ t _ _ t h _ _ s _ _ _ n
 A+C A+C B+D C+D A+B B+D B+D A+C B+C

n _ _ _ d _ _ nd p r _ _ _ _ d t _ _ G _ _ d
 A+C A+C A+D A+B A+C B+D B+D

r _ _ g _ _ l _ _ r l _ _ ." _ _ cts 10:2, NIV
 A+C C+D A+D A+B A+D

Answers: "He and all his family were devout and God-fearing; he gave generously to those in need and prayed to God regularly." Acts 10:2, NIV

HUSH ... HUSH

Seven-year old Kathy tried to quiet her younger brother during a church service. "Hush ... Hush," she warned him. "You're not supposed to talk out loud in church." "Why?" asked the brother. "Who's going to stop me?" Kathy pointed to the rear of the sanctuary. "See those men standing back there? Well, those are the hushers!"

**2009 LONGVILLE AREA
COMMUNITY LENTEN PROGRAM**

"Stones"



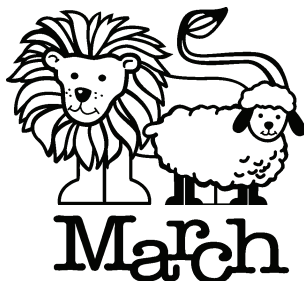
DATE	Ash. Wed. 2/25	Wed. 3/4	Wed. 3/11	Wed. 3/18	Wed. 3/25	Wed. 4/1	Holy Week
LOCATION	all churches	Comm. Church	Salem Lutheran	St. Edwards	Comm. Church	Salem Lutheran	all churches
PREACHER	all pastors	John Monson	Joseph Sirba	Duane Brown	John Monson	Duane Brown	all pastors
TOPIC	Stones of the Covenant	God's law on Stone & Hearts	The Millstone	Stumbling Stone & Rock of Salvation	The Living Stone	The Foundation Stone	

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

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



March

Prepared especially for: