



# The Church Bell

Salem Lutheran Church

PO Box 136, Longville, MN 56655

Volume 30, Issue 5

Pastor John Monson

May 2009

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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)  
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(218) 363-9070 (fax)  
(218) 682-3092 (Pastor's res.)  
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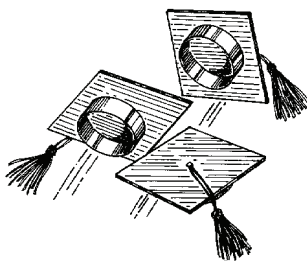
## You Are Invited to the All Church Birthday Party



### Birthdays

**Sunday  
May 3rd 2009  
after worship**

Sit at the table  
of the month you were born.



## Congratulations to the 2009 Salem Graduates

Savannah Daudt  
Tina Digre



## First Communion

## Welcome to the Table!

Sunday, May 3rd

Trent Mix  
Amanda Mix  
Hayley Hol  
Logan Gross  
Felicia Murtley  
Tia Lilyquist



# The Marathon

## Pastor John Monson

*Surely you know that many runners take part in a race, but only one of them wins the prize. Run, then, in such a way as to win the prize. Every athlete in training submits to strict discipline, in order to be crowned with a wreath that will not last; but we do it for one that will last forever.”*

(1 Corinthians 9:24-25/GNB)

Track and field. Even today I get a nauseous feeling as I recall those days from high school. My brother had been a distance runner and when I came into the upper grades my coach thought I would have the same potential. At every track meet I was entered in the same two events—the high jump and the half mile run. The 880 yd. dash (hardly a dash) twice around the track brings back memories of extreme exhaustion, my legs were as lead, my mouth as cotton, holding my side gasping for air and, finally, after staggering deliriously about, complete collapse on the field. I sometimes wonder why I did it. Perhaps it was not out of love for the sport but rather to please the coach and as a way of keeping in condition for football and basketball.

But I don't only think of the pain. I remember the time we broke the school record in the medley relay and won the meet. I remember the cheers of my teammates and the fans as I made that last turn of the half miler and started my “kick” even though by that time I was never in the competition for first place if even a place at all.

Do you remember the story of the tortoise and the hare? In that historic race there was no doubt at the beginning about what the outcome would be. The hare would win. Logically, it could be no other way. The hare darted off taking the lead—a BIG lead—and was soon out of sight. After a while the hare became bored and paused for a nap. Meanwhile, the tortoise at a turtle's pace passed by the sleeping hare and went on to win. This is more than a story. It is a parable of life.

A long time ago in baptism I was entered in a race. There was excitement in the beginning. My parents, sponsors and pastor were there at the start to cheer me on with all of their hopes and dreams.

Later, in young adulthood and confirmation I gave expression to my own promises, resolutions, objectives and intentions in this race I was running. There is often excitement in beginning something new. In the beginning there is anticipation. There is an excitement that compels us, for example, to buy a book and yet it may sit on our shelves for months before we ever read it; or we may begin to read it and become distracted. Usually it isn't until later on that we encounter discouragement or become discontented.

Paul, the Apostle, makes the point that you, I and every Christian are in a race. It's a race in which there is more at stake than a perishable wreath (ribbon, medal or even a trophy). It is a race for an imperishable wreath, “one that will last forever” (1 Cor. 9:25b). In this race EVERYTHING is at stake!

In one of His parables Jesus told the story of a man and his two sons (Matthew 21:28ff). The father asked each of them to go and work in his vineyard. The one said, “I will not go!” but afterward he changed his mind and went. The other son responded, “I'll go!” but he didn't go. As we live out our hopes and plans we may discover that we're like the second son in this parable or like the hare in the race. Our vision was not as clear as it might have been. We find ourselves falling short of our intentions. I'm reminded of a commercial that I've heard on TV advertising good mental health: “...sometimes the road seems too long and the finish line just too far away.” At those times the race becomes a real challenge and all of our promises and preparations are put to the test. Are we committed to reaching the goal?

The race we are in is not over. It's a race that necessitates keeping in shape—exercising our faith in Christian community, service, worship, and a good diet of study and prayer just as much as any good athlete disciplines his/her body at every opportunity.—All this because it is a privilege to be a member of the team, the Coach is trustworthy, and the goal is life itself. Good Running!



## Salem Council Highlights

April 8, 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

**Property Management Team** – Dave Trampe reported that a new American flag has been ordered. He and his committee are looking into a new lawn mower. A representative from the John Deere dealer in Baxter came and looked at the Swisher Mower and will give the church \$1500.00 trade in toward a John Deere.

The council discussed the gas smell in the building. The Property Management Team will look into this problem.

**Synod Assembly** – The council approved a \$100.00 offering from Salem to the Synod Assembly. Bob and Joan Alley are the delegates from Salem to the Synod Assembly.

**Service Time Committee** - The Service Time Committee presented its findings to the church council. After a very long and thorough discussion the council decided to continue with worship services at 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. One service will be traditional and one service will be contemporary.

**Contemporary Service** – Pastor John reported that a Contemporary Worship Transition Team has been formed. This team is made up of Cheryl Crosby, Julia Jones, Barbara Anderson and Pastor John and Rebecca Waterhouse (advisory members). The team will oversee the contemporary services to make sure each contemporary service has the musicians needed. It is also recommended by this team that the musician in charge of the service receive the salary budgeted for the Jubilee Coordinator’s position. For example, if someone were playing the piano that person would receive the pay for the day. The council approved this recommendation.

**Volunteer Coordinator Position** - The council started a discussion about a volunteer coordinator at Salem.

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)





# National Day of Prayer

May 7, 2009 from 12 noon to 1:00 p.m.  
St. Edward's Catholic Church

The National Day of Prayer is an annual observance held on the first Thursday of May, inviting people of all faiths to pray for the nation. It was created in 1952 by a joint resolution of the United States Congress, and signed into law by President Harry S. Truman. The NDP Task Force is a privately funded organization whose purpose is to encourage participation on the National Day of Prayer. It exists to communicate with every individual the need for personal repentance and prayer, to create appropriate materials, and to mobilize the Christian community to intercede for America's leaders and its families. The Task Force represents a **Judeo Christian** expression of the national observance, based on our understanding that this country was birthed in prayer and in reverence for the God of the Bible.

## Summer Service Times

Last fall members of the congregation asked our church council to consider having one service during the summer rather than two.

The council appointed a committee to research the issue and make a recommendation to the council. The council was then to make a decision.

Sounds like a simple thing to do but members' feelings are very strong both for one service and for two, and for other options too.

The committee and the council wrestled with issues at length. Really wrestled with it! It was painful and difficult. The committee and the council all received well written, articulate letters and e-mails from good church people both for one service and for two. Some wanted us to consider three services (adding a Saturday evening or a midweek service). Some even suggested a 7:00 a.m. service and another wanted an 11:00 a.m. service.

In the end the decision had to be based of "what is best for the church and its mission". What realistically will give people the greatest opportunity for congregational growth? What realistically will give the greatest number of people the opportunity to hear the gospel, to worship, and to participate in Christian fellowship?

So, the decision was made to provide two worship services again this summer, one at 8:00 a.m. and one at 10:00 a.m.

The door is not completely closed on this issue and we will continue to discuss the options for future years.

We want to take this opportunity to thank all the people who sent letters, e-mails and talked to council members to make their thought heard. We also want to thank the committee who worked hard.

Salem Lutheran Council

## Treasurer's Report



### General Fund

Beginning Balance March.1, 09	\$ (806.32)
Income for March	14,244.00
Expenses for March	14,452.25
Ending Balance March 31, 09	\$(1014.57)



### Mortgage Update

Beg. Mortgage Balance	\$ 58,728.09
March payments:	
Principal	\$ 1,378.59
Add. Principal	42.44
Interest	281.41
Mortgage Balance	\$ 57,307.06
March 31, 2009	

## May's Special People



- 2 Bonnie Hockett
- 2 Christina Herheim
- 3 Terri Moes
- 3 Katie Daudt
- 6 Ken Zoller
- 7 Dwayne Waldera
- 8 Marilyn Lilyquist
- 8 Mary Schmid
- 8 Becky Nordstrom
- 10 Sharon Smitten
- 10 Alyson Wicks
- 11 Norris Krause
- 12 Jeffrey Case
- 12 Verda Scheele
- 12 Karlo Schultz
- 15 Robert Kopca
- 15 Shelly Raines
- 17 Sonja Foss
- 17 Vicki Poole
- 18 Jennette Lewis
- 18 JJ Welk
- 18 Vallory Wallman
- 19 Kristine Struck
- 20 Wanita Frazer
- 20 Arnie Ohnstad
- 20 Marlene Cook
- 20 Steve Ekholm
- 22 Francis Smith
- 22 Tayler Emerson
- 22 Lukas Emerson
- 23 Herb Krause
- 25 John Bogard
- 25 Boe Antonson
- 25 Beth Hardinger (Raines)
- 26 Cindi Becker
- 26 Scott Raines
- 27 David Halver
- 28 Gloria Larson
- 31 Jean Westermann
- 31 Carol Zahn



### MAY

Marilyn Sjodin (Chair)  
 Stacy Miller, Evelyn Burley,  
 Judy Johnson, Karen Nelson,  
 Margit Tormondsen & Kathy Callies

## Happy Anniversary

- 5 Ron and Margit Tormondsen
- 6 Tim and Denise Wolter
- 8 JJ and Jill Welk
- 9 Dennis & Liz Pinz
- 10 Steve and Jane Ekholm
- 12 Garold and Joyce Digre
- 16 Bill and Stacy Miller
- 16 Ken and Mary Jo Schleif
- 25 Wayne and Darlene Simons
- 25 Tim & Beth Hardinger
- 26 Omer and Hilma Oestreich
- 26 Rusty and Billie Jo Lilyquist
- 30 Robert and Mary Kopca

### Ushers



George & Dianne Black  
 363-3126



May 10, 2009



### Descending Dove

The descending dove is a symbol of the Holy Spirit. "As soon as Jesus was baptized, he . . . saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove" (Matthew 3:16, NIV). The three-rayed nimbus around the dove's head identifies the Spirit as a member of the Trinity. A dove shown without the nimbus is a symbol of peace.



**RED HAT MAMAS**

Ladies ....

The Red Hat Society (fun) luncheon will be held on Tuesday, May 12th at 12:30 p.m. at the Fireside Restaurant on Hwy 200.

Menu: Chef's Surprise!

Call Bev Egan 363-2686 or Mary Jane Lewis 363-2591 by Friday, May 8th to register.

Car pool from Salem at 11:30 a.m.

**Relay For Life - June 19, 2009**

The Burley Bunch will be taking part in Relay for Life at the Pine River-Backus High School Track. This is an event to celebrate survivorship and to honor those who have died.

The money is used for Research, Education & Service. There is a 24 hour access to the American Cancer Society at 1-800-ACS-2345 and [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org).

The opening ceremony will begin at 7:00 p.m. There will be a silent auction, good food, etc. At dusk the luminary ceremony will begin with the lighting of the memorial candles. Your donation to the American Cancer Society does make a difference. There is HOPE so we must fight back.

Evelyn Burley & Sandy Roscoe

**Co-Educational Bone Building**

Tuesdays & Fridays  
9:00 a.m. Bone Building  
*Everyone Welcome!*

**Auction 2009**

August 9, 2009

Contact Person for the Auction Pick-up is:

**Jim Joiner 682-2256**

Please—No Hide A Beds or Mattresses

**PENTECOST**



On May 31, Christians around the world will celebrate the Day of Pentecost. It's often remembered as the church's birthday. Before Jesus ascended into heaven, he promised that the Holy Spirit would come upon those who believed in his resurrection.

Three thousand people were gathered in Jerusalem when the Spirit came upon them. They were so touched by the Holy Spirit that they began to worship regularly, especially on Sundays, the day of Christ's resurrection.

To symbolize the "tongues, as of fire" (Acts 2:3, NRSV) that came upon the people present at Pentecost, liturgical churches display the color red in their worship services on Pentecost Sunday. Many people attending worship wear red on that day.

**Thank You**

Thank you Ron & Diane Wiehle for making the quiet book stand & quiet bags for our youth. It is a beautiful project that will be enjoyed by our children.



## Women's Convention

*June 5—6 Duluth*

Registrations must be sent in by May 2nd. All women who want to attend call Ginger Minske at 363-3175 or email at [vrn@arvig.net](mailto:vrn@arvig.net) Convention fees will be paid for those attending.

All those attending say it is a wonderful experience. The great abundance of love from the Women of the ELCA is evident wherever you go.

### Martha Circle/Bible Study

(note time change)

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

at 7:00 p.m. at Karen Nelson's  
5078 Kings Trail NE, Longville

Hostess: Karen Nelson

### Ruth Circle/Bible Study

Thursday, May 14, 2009

1:00 p.m. at Salem

Hostess: Evelyn Burley

### Rebekah Circle/Bible Study

Thursday, May 28, 2009

6:30 p.m. at Salem



**Women of the ELCA booklets are available  
from the table by the office.**



## Coffee Drive



The Fellowship Committee is conducting a COFFEE DRIVE. You may donate the coffee of your choice, whether you get Free Trade Coffee or cans from the local store. All will be appreciated.



**Bible Camp**

**BIBLE CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS:** Campers are registering for summer sessions. Your help with scholarships would be greatly appreciated. Make checks payable to Salem with "Bible Camp Scholarships" on the memo line. Thank you!

NOTE: The Women's Group gives \$50 to each student who applies.

Contact Bev Bixby, Treasurer

Rejoice IN THE  
**LORD!**



2009 Easter Sunrise Service — Signing the Lord's Prayer

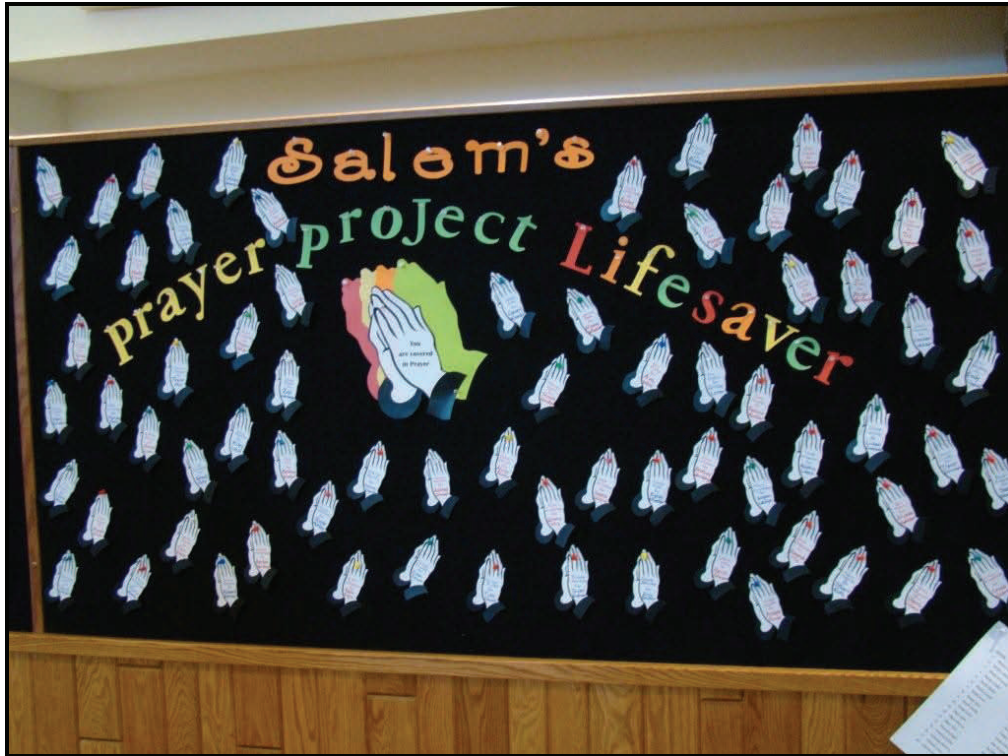


## Bread For The World

Thanks to all the people who participated in the offering of letters March 29. As far as I know 17 people wrote letters to Sen. Amy Klobuchar and to Rep. James Oberstar. Thus, a total of 34 letters were sent. Because of security concerns it can take 2-4 weeks for the letters to arrive. The emphasis this year is to encourage our legislators to streamline and rework our nations' foreign assistance programs so they are more efficient. This will reduce waste and get more help to people who really need it. Bread For The World is a Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad.



I am again registered to ride in the MS 150 bicycle ride June 13-14. This is a 150-mile ride from Duluth to St. Paul. The purpose is to raise money to find a cure for Multiple Sclerosis. If any of you are willing to help sponsor me I will appreciate it. I pay all my own expenses for the ride so whatever you donate goes directly to the MS Society for research and help for MS victims. Make checks payable to the MS Society. You can see me in church or send to: Lawrence Nelson, 2426 N Long Lake Dr NW, Backus, MN 56435. Last year with the 50% match from my sister's company I raised \$1710. Thanks in advance for your support.



The 6 Year Anniversary for Prayer Project Lifesaver was celebrated on April 26, 2009



Easter Breakfast 2009

# Thanks

FOR YOUR EXAMPLE

Mother's Day is a great opportunity to thank your mother, grandmother or any other woman who has been a wonderful example in your life. Make and give this craft to show how much you appreciate these special women.

**What you need:**

- An empty, glass, wide-mouthed jar (no lid needed)
- Acrylic craft paints (several different spring colors)
- Votive candle (optional)
- Flowers (optional)
- Small candies (optional)

**What you do:**

1. Make sure your glass jar is clean and dry.
2. Dip your pointer finger into one of the paint colors.
3. Using your finger as a stamp, make about five prints in a circle on the outside of your jar. These will be your flower petals. (Hint: Hold your jar by placing your hand inside it. Then you can turn the jar easily without messing up the wet paint.)
4. Dip your finger into another color and make a fingerprint in the center of your petals.
5. Make as many flowers as you want, using different fingers or your thumb to make different-sized petals.
6. Present this beautiful gift to a special woman this Mother's Day. There are many ways to use it:
  - Place a votive candle inside to make a candleholder.
  - Fill it with water and place flowers inside to make a vase.
  - Fill it with small candies to make a candy jar.



# A legacy of faith

You're blessed when you have a mother, a grandmother or any relative or friend who passes down a strong faith to you. In the Bible, Timothy was influenced by his grandmother and mother.

Complete 2 Timothy 1:5 (NIV) below by filling in the blanks with the correct vowel.

**VOWELS: 1 = a 2 = e 3 = i 4 = o 5 = u**

"\_ h \_ v \_ b \_ \_ n r \_ m \_ nd \_ d \_ f  
 3 1 2 2 2 3 2 4  
 y \_ \_ r s \_ nc \_ r \_ f \_ \_ th, wh \_ ch  
 4 5 3 2 2 1 3 3  
 f \_ rst l \_ v \_ d \_ n y \_ \_ r gr \_ ndm \_ th \_ r  
 3 3 2 3 4 5 1 4 2  
 L \_ \_ s \_ nd \_ n y \_ \_ r m \_ th \_ r  
 4 3 1 3 4 5 4 2  
 \_ \_ n \_ c \_ \_ nd, \_ \_ m p \_ rs \_ \_ d \_ d,  
 2 5 3 2 1 3 1 2 5 1 2  
 n \_ w l \_ v \_ s \_ n y \_ \_ \_ ls \_ ."  
 4 3 2 3 4 5 1 4

2 TIMOTHY 1:5 (NIV)

Answer: "I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also."

Happy  Mother's Day "All My Time"

A mother of 13 children was asked, "How in the world do you have time to care for 13?" "Well," she replied, "when I had only one child, it took all my time; what more can 13 do?"

# Memorial Day



Monday, May 25, 2009 at 9:30 a.m.  
Memorial Day Observance Program at Longville Elementary School



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

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



Prepared especially for: