

Salem Lutheran Church

Bell

February 2026

Rooted in Christ to love, grow & serve



Lent 2026

Ash Wednesday

February 18, 2026 | 6:30pm

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday with the mark of the cross in ashes (made from last year's dried palm branches from Palm Sunday) over the baptismal cross marked on our foreheads with the words, "Beloved child of God. You have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever."

We look into our hearts knowing that we are mortal and finite beings. Ash Wednesday asks us, for at least one night, set aside any shadow of denial we might hide behind and put our faith and trust in Jesus' gracious love, death on the cross, and eternal life. Please join us as we participate in the ancient and profoundly beautiful practice of Ash Wednesday Worship.

Wednesdays in Lent

Bread & Broth Supper & Worship

Wednesday February 25; March 4, 11, 18, 25
5:00pm Salem Fellowship Hall

As was common in the early church...we will eat together as we gather to hear scripture, faith stories, and pray. Faith Stories are expressions of your understanding and experience of God, how this understanding affects your decisions and attitudes in the past and today, and what you would like others to know about your relationship with God.

If you would like to be one of our Faith Story Sharers, please contact Pastor Trish. Everyone is Welcome but typically we hear one Faith Story per evening.

Suppers include soup & bread. **Sign up to bring a FULL crockpot of soup (minimum of 4 needed each Wednesday) or bread** at church or call the church office. Wednesday offerings are designated for the Longville Area Food Shelf as a communal expression of our Faith Story and part of God's passion to help people who are in need in our community.

Lent is about BECOME, DOING & CHANGING whatever it is that is blocking THE FULLNESS OF LIFE in us right now. *Sister Joan Chittister, OSB*

Salem Quilters

Thursdays from 9am to 12pm

January, February, and March

Salem Quilters are picking up their needles to answer God's call to help in the making of quilts for people in need for distribution through Lutheran World Relief and our local community. No quilting or sewing experience needed - we need help cutting material, tying quilts, designing layouts, making and serving and coffee, or whatever is needed that particular day. We have a lot of fun, and everyone is welcome - men and women!

Souper Bowl of Caring

February 8, 2026

In 2025, the cost of a 30-second Super Bowl commercial was approximately 7 million dollars. Help us turn the year's most expensive day of advertisements into the year's most generous day of giving as we **tackle hunger** through the Souper Bowl of Caring challenge. All donations will be given to the Longville Area Food Shelf. Give at any time between now and February 8th by noting on your monies "Souper Bowl of Caring 2026."

Help the Sun Help Our Energy Bills

The Salem Property Team is looking for additional volunteers to help clear snow off the Solar Array panels to keep them operating efficiently. This amounts to a few hours per month when there is snowfall and would be for the remainder of the winter. If you are able to help, please contact Roger Bechtold at 763-498-9114.

Thrivent Financial Choice Dollars

A charitable grant program which allows eligible members to choose where your Choice Dollars go. Call Thrivent Financial 800-847-4836 and when prompted say "Thrivent Choice" or visit www.thriventchoice. If Choice Dollars are not designated by you, Thrivent will make the decision regarding where the monies go.

Thank you to all who have already designated their Choice Dollars to Salem. Questions, contact Doris Schmidt, Mark or Pat Wrucke, or Linda Bechtold

1st Sunday of the Month

ELCA World Hunger Noisy Offering

Bring or give whatever change you have in your pockets, purse, or piggy bank and throw it in the buckets during the welcome at worship!

January Total was \$103.59

THANK YOU!

Salem Endowment Legacy & Education Scholarship Funds

Generosity and giving aren't confined to Christmas, birthdays, or anniversaries. Give any time of the year with a gift that gives back and 'pays it forward' with a gift to "Salem's Endowment Legacy" or "Education Scholarship Funds."

Longville Area Food Shelf

The Food Shelf is in need of **FUNDS** and **HELP** serving people experiencing food insecurity and hunger. Join us Wednesdays from 9a to 3p - or whatever time you can give. To contribute financially, you can give directly to the Longville Area Food Shelf: P.O. Box 308, Longville, MN 56655, or designate your donation through Salem, memo: LAFS.

Confirmation & Youth

Sundays from 4pm - 6pm
All 7th - 12th Grade Students welcome

Sunday School - February 8

11am - 1:30pm
February's Theme: 1 Corinthians 13 "LOVE!"
Lunch Provided!
All 4 year old - 6th Students welcome

Salem Community Meal

Wednesday, February 11th | 5pm - 6pm
No Cost | Donations Appreciated
Menu: Beef Stroganoff, green beans, dinner roll and dessert.
Everyone is welcome!

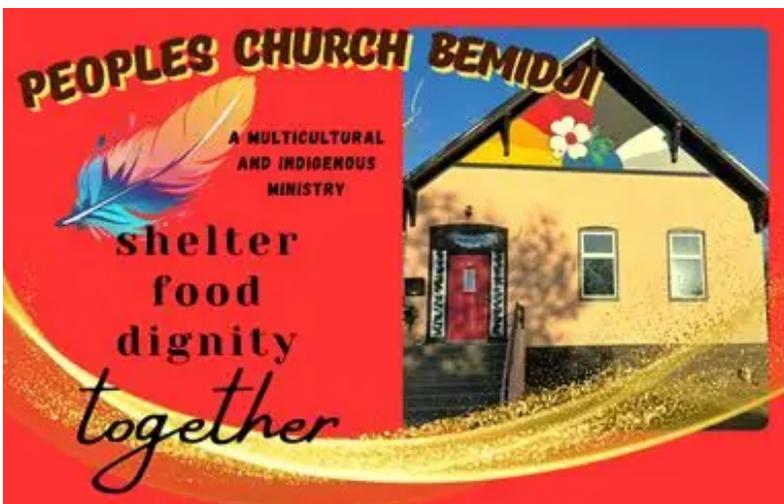
AARP Free Tax Preparation

Assistance at Salem for Longville area residents **Tuesdays beginning February 10th 8:30am - 1pm**. No walk-ins! For appointments call Ron at 218-675-6532

Inclement Weather Cancelations

Check Salem's website or tune to:
KLIZ 107.5 (Brainerd)
KTIG 102.7 (Pequot Lakes)
KBLB 93.3 (Brainerd) or call Pastor Trish (320-248-9479)

Peoples Church Campaign



The People's Church in Bemidji was recently renovated to better serve their guests. They are now able to not only provide more sleeping shelter to people experiencing homelessness but continue providing a hot meal at night and in the morning. However, in order to continue meeting the needs of their guests, they need our help. Their kitchen must meet Commercial guidelines as related to the pans and warming serving tables. Watch for more information soon about how we can help this vitally important ministry to a sister congregation as they reach out to some of our most vulnerable neighbors in need.

February Worship Volunteers

February 1 | 4th Sunday of Epiphany

Ushers/Greeters	Greg & Diane Peters
Lay Reader	Keith Lorensen
Bread Servers	Pastor Trish
Wine/Grape Juice	Linda Bechtold
Communion Care	Linda Bechtold
Sound Technician	Egon Overgaard
Video Technicians	Mitch Jorgenson, Doug Williams
Money Counters	Jim Fladmoe, Greg Peters
Fellowship Servers	Fred & Cris Smith

February 8 | 5th Sunday of Epiphany

Ushers/Greeters	Beth Tobiason, Laura Flohaug
Lay Reader	Garny Gaffey
Bread Servers	Pastor Trish
Wine/Grape Juice	Jo Gaffey
Communion Care	Jo Gaffey
Sound Technician	Craig Anderson
Video Technicians	Mitch Jorgenson Egon Overgaard
Money Counters	Don Falls, Garny Gaffey
Fellowship Servers & Treats	Emma, Mitch & Egon

February 15 | Transfiguration of Our Lord

Ushers/Greeters	Barb McCuskey, Doris Schmidt
Lay Reader	Cris Smith
Bread Servers	Pastor Trish
Wine/Grape Juice	Laura Flohaug
Communion Care	Laura Flohaug
Sound Technician	Jim Fladmoe
Video Technician	Mike & Hope Olson
Money Counters	Judy Saxerud, Randy Swanson
Fellowship Servers & Treats	Men's Fellowship

February 22 | First Sunday in Lent

Ushers/Greeters	Roger & Linda Bechtold
Reader	Linda Bechtold
Bread Servers	Pastor Trish
Wine/Grape Juice	Beth Tobiason
Communion Care	Barb McCuskey
Sound Technician	Pat Wrucke
Video Technicians	Ron Stadtherr, Mark Wrucke
Money Counters	Mike Meagher, Mark Wrucke
Fellowship	Flohaug Team

Salem Sunday Supper

Damsite Supper Club

417 Barclay Ave. Pine River, MN 56474

Sign up at church or call the church office. Dutch style dining. Everyone is welcome - it is truly a fun way to make new friends and reconnect with one's we haven't seen for a while.

February Birthdays

1	Shelly Fanth
6	Dawn Gilsrud
6	Kirk Dodds
7	Brenda Mullenmaster
8	Neil Tobiason
10	Dillon Loren
10	Jean Nagorski
11	Fred Smith
12	Bob Alley
12	Barb Nordstrom
13	Rod Mouw
15	Linda Bechtold
16	Toni Drum
17	Scott Wicks
19	Baylor Riendeau
23	Jo Gaffey
24	Gerald Meeks
24	Paige Nornberg
25	Karen Lehmann
25	Mark Houghton
27	Gene Olson
28	Andrea Semmler
28	Trevor Johnson
28	Heidi Johnson
28	Gordon Hess
29	Egon Overgaard

February Anniversaries

17	Chris and Michelle Nornberg
23	Mark and Patty Lange
28	Paul and Gail Hanson

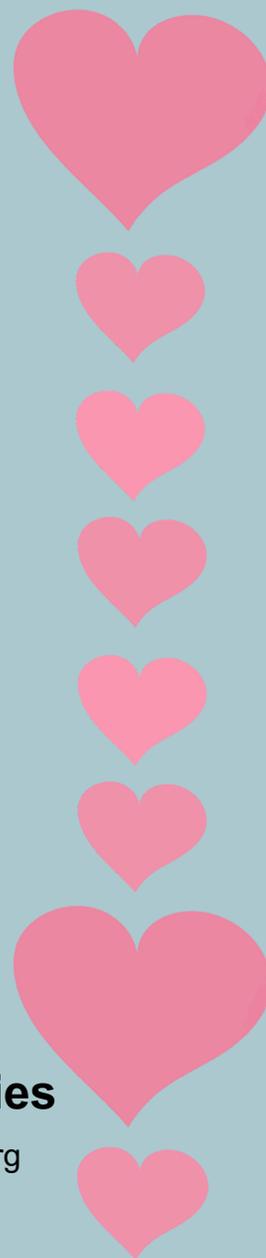
Communion Care Worship Volunteer

This position prepares the bread (defrost and cut in half, place on a plate and cover with a cloth, then place on the altar; and place a few gluten free, vegan crackers on a separate plate and place on the altar. As well as portioning out wine or grape juice in the cups in the silver communion trays).

The sign-up rotation means that a person signs up to be on a rotation, then will be scheduled for Sundays on a rotation basis with the other Communion Care volunteers.

We work with you for as long as you need to feel comfortable doing this solo. If you are scheduled for a Sunday and are not able to be with us, simply switch with one of the other servers or call the church office if it is an emergency situation.

Call the church office today to sign-up and help make our worship services worship-full for our members and guests.



FFBRUY 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 4pm - 6pm Confirmation & Youth Group	2 1pm Busy Needles	3 9am Bone Builders 9:30am Text Study 4pm Faith Formation	4 11am Constitution Update Team	5 9am - Noon Salem Quilters	6 9am Bone Builders 2pm Policy & Procedure Update Team	7 8am Bread Ministry Baking
8 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 11am - 1:30pm Sunday School 4pm - 6pm Confirmation & Youth Group	9 9:30am Men's Bible Sharing 1pm Busy Needles	10 8:30am - 1pm AARP Tax Help 9am Bone Builders 9:30am Text Study 10am Endowment Team 4pm Faith Formation	11 5pm Community Meal	12 9am - Noon Salem Quilters 9:30am Worship Ministry Team (WMT) 3pm Finance Team 4pm Executive Mang. Team (EMT)	13 9am Bone Builders	14
15 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 4pm - 6pm Confirmation & Youth Group	16 1pm Busy Needles	17 8:30am - 1pm AARP Tax Help 9am Bone Builders 9:30am Text Study 4pm Faith Formation	18 6:30pm Ash Wednesday	19 9am - Noon Salem Quilters 4pm Servant Leadership Council (SLC)	20 9am Bone Builders	21
22 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 4pm - 6pm Confirmation & Youth Group 5pm Sunday Supper Damsite Supper Club	23 9:30am Men's Bible Sharing 1pm Busy Needles	24 8:30am - 1pm AARP Tax Help 9am Bone Builders 9:30am Text Study 4pm Faith Formation	25 6:30pm Bread & Broth Lent Worship	26 9am - Noon Salem Quilters	27 9am Bone Builders	28