
SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 3 - 9

Clearing a Path to Worship

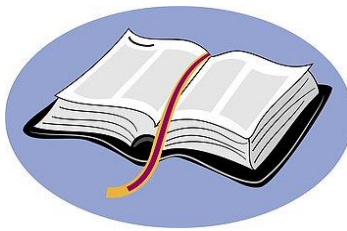
In the gospel for today, Jesus discovers that the temple has been turned from a place of worship into a marketplace. The predominance of the selling of animals and the exchanging of money for profit overshadow what is supposed to be the main activity in the temple, worshiping God. The vendors and moneychangers seem to be more interested in serving their own interests and greedily filling their purses with coins than in serving God and God's people. Instead of helping people worship God, they are getting in the way. The commercialization of worship means that those who cannot afford the costs are unable to offer their worship to God, and money becomes a god more valued than the God to whom the temple was dedicated.

Jesus finds this situation unacceptable. The first commandment clearly states, "You shall have no other gods before me" (Exod. 20:3). Jesus will not allow anything, especially money, to be given more devotion than God. In addition, Jesus' purpose in coming to earth was to take away the barriers between humans and God, so that all people might be reconciled to God through him.

John's gospel is unique among the four gospels in that it places the story of Jesus clearing the temple at the beginning, rather than the end, of Jesus' ministry. This placement shows how John's gospel emphasizes that Jesus has come to replace the temple. No longer will God's presence be confined to a place, the temple, but instead, God's presence is now embodied in the person of Jesus. Jesus welcomes all to him, and erects no barriers or limits on who can be his follower.

THIS WEEKS TEXTS

Exodus 20:1-17
Psalm 19
1 Corinthians 1:18-25
John 2:13-22



NEXT WEEKS TEXTS

Numbers 21:4-9
Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22
Ephesians 2:1-10
John 3:14-21

Each week we will lift up five church families/members in prayer.
THIS WEEK WE WILL PRAY FOR: Roy Kvale, Shirley Kvale, Violet Kvale, Bob & Linda Lair, Shawn, Pamela and Amanda Lampman

This week the following members will be celebrating their birthdays and we would like to wish them a **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!** Please call the office if you have an upcoming birthday, to ensure we have it in our records. 641.592.1771

3-Allen Mannes
4-Larry Rice

4-Michael Colby
4-Brian Helgeson

5-Mark Brackey
5-Hayden Iverson
7-Bonnie Steffens

-WEEKLY GIVING-

LAST SUNDAY 2/25/24: \$ 2,909
YEAR-TO-DATE: 2/28/24 \$ 31,109
LAST YEAR: as of 2/28/23 \$ 28,717
DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE: \$ **2,392**

-Last Weeks Attendance-
65

Tuckpointing/Steeple Project Update: Total received as of 2/28/24 **\$160,762**
Total available balance as of 1/31/24 **\$53,814.32** All contributions towards this project are greatly appreciated! Please remember to note the "Steeple Project" when submitting your contribution. Thank you!

Memorials Given in January and February:

Martin & Mabel Lande--\$250 General Fund
Adrian Halvorson--\$25 Building Maintenance, \$200 Cemetery Fund

Personal Care Kits: The Board of Life & Growth is collecting donations to make Personal Care Kits. Items needed are: bath towels (dark colors, approx. 52x27), 4 oz. bars of soap, toothbrushes in original packaging, sturdy combs and metal nail clippers. Donations can be left in the narthex. Thank you!

Snowtubing/Skiing Event: On March 3rd has been **cancelled** due to warm weather forecast.

Goodies: The Board of Youth is asking for donations of goodies for their bake sale fundraiser on March 10th. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex and on the table across from the chapel. Please have them wrapped or pre-packaged and in the Narthex by 9:00am on March 10th. Thank you!

Easter Flowers: If you would like to order Easter Flowers, please fill out an order form, found in the Narthex, and place it in the offering plate or return it to the office by Sunday, **March 10th**. Following Easter Sunday Service all flowers may be taken by those who sponsored them. Flowers available to order are: Easter Lilies (\$21) Tulips (\$17) Hyacinths (\$17) Daffodils (\$17) Hydrangeas (\$31).

Noisy Offering: The Stewardship Committee would like to announce our first Noisy Offering campaign of the year. We will be supporting the Good Samaritan Ministries. This campaign will begin Sunday, March 3rd and continue until Sunday, March 31st. Good Samaritan Ministries, or Good Sam was created to assist people in need in emergency situations. In the past Good Sam has helped with housing emergencies, medical issues, and situations relating to abuse and domestic violence. If you or someone you know is in need please contact Marci in the Salem office. Please keep the people this program helps in your prayers.

Celebrating Generosity: Thank you for your support of ministry at Salem!

Go Green—Go Paperless by giving in one of the following ways...

-- Give through PayPal or Card by going to the bottom of www.salemlakemills.com

-- **Give automatically through the Simply Giving Program.** Sign up for monthly or weekly ACH withdrawals. Call the office to have a form sent to you or stop by the office. We also have forms in the Narthex. Please return forms to the office.

(We are charged a much lower service fee through the Simply Giving Program)

North Iowa Hospice Volunteer Training will be on Thursdays-March 28, April 4 and April 11 from 9:30am to 4:00pm at Mercyone North Iowa Hospice located at 232 2nd St SE in Mason City. Pre-registration is due by Thursday March 21. There is a limited , call 641-428-6236 to register.

Thrivent Choice Dollars: To the Salem members with Thrivent financial products, the deadline to designate your Thrivent Choice Dollars is approaching. Here are the deadlines to designate your dollars: By Mail: Must be received by **March 17** to guarantee designation. By Phone: **March 28** (before Easter weekend / Good Friday. Online: **March 31**. **In the past this has meant thousands of dollars, at no cost to you, to help with projects at Salem and we ask that you please continue to support this valuable program. Thank you!**

Bake Sale Fundraiser: The Youth Board is hosting a Bake Sale Fundraiser on Sun. March 10th in the Narthex, after the worship service. The funds raised will go towards Faith Formation & Confirmation events, activities, snacks and supplies. Make sure to check it out! Free will offering.

Easter Egg Candy: The Board of Youth is asking for donations of candy that can put into plastic Easter eggs, for our Faith Formation Easter egg hunt. Donations can be left in the tote across from the office until March 21st. Thank you!

Lake Mills Community Blood Drive: Thursday, March 21 in the Fellowship Hall. 1:00pm-6:00pm. Appointments Are Encouraged. Text: LIFESERVE to 999-7777 or Call: 800-287-4903 or visit: lifeservebloodcenter.org **Did you know** that 1 in 7 people entering a hospital will need a blood transfusion? Most people wake up on the day of their transfusion not knowing or realizing that they will need blood that day - and that it will come from a volunteer blood donor - that could be you. Are you ready to donate and do your part to save lives?

Summer Camps: Reminder to sign up your children for summer camps before the early bird deadlines! Check out the camp websites for more information. In the past, the Enduring Gift Committee has helped to pay the remaining balances, after parents make the down payment, so after you have registered your child and paid the deposit, forward your receipt email from camp to the Salem office. Salem@wctatel.net If you have any questions call 592-1771.

Worship Volunteers Needed: If you are willing to usher, acolyte, read or sing in the liturgical choir, please sign up in the Narthex. If you would like to learn how to help with sound, monitors or live stream, call the office. Thank you!

A Day For Women: Kinship Radio presents their 15th annual “A Day for Women” on Sat. April 13th at Hosanna Lutheran Church in Mankato. This year’s Special Guest is Ginny Owens. She has spent the past two decades sharing her heart with listeners and readers as a singer/songwriter, author, teacher and advocate. There will be music, ministry, lunch and mini-sessions. Space is limited to call 800-810-5559 or go online to KinshipRadio.org to register beginning Monday, March 18th at 8:00am. Cost is \$40, doors open at 7:15am, starts at 8:30am.

Volunteers Needed: The Youth Board is making weekly plans for music, games, crafts & activities, **BUT.....we NEED** your help to make Faith Formation a success. Please consider donating your time to supervise and interact with the children of Salem. No planning, experience or training needed. Just pick a date that works with your schedule and sign up on the bulletin board across from the chapel. Thank you to everyone that is helping to create memories for these children.

Salem’s Clothes Closet is open every Monday from 2:00-4:00pm; and can be accessed at the south entrance. Clothes, shoes, socks, boots, coats, jackets and a few other kids’ items are available for free. We also accept donations; please make sure donations are folded and have no holes, tears or stains. Donations can be left inside the south entrance anytime.

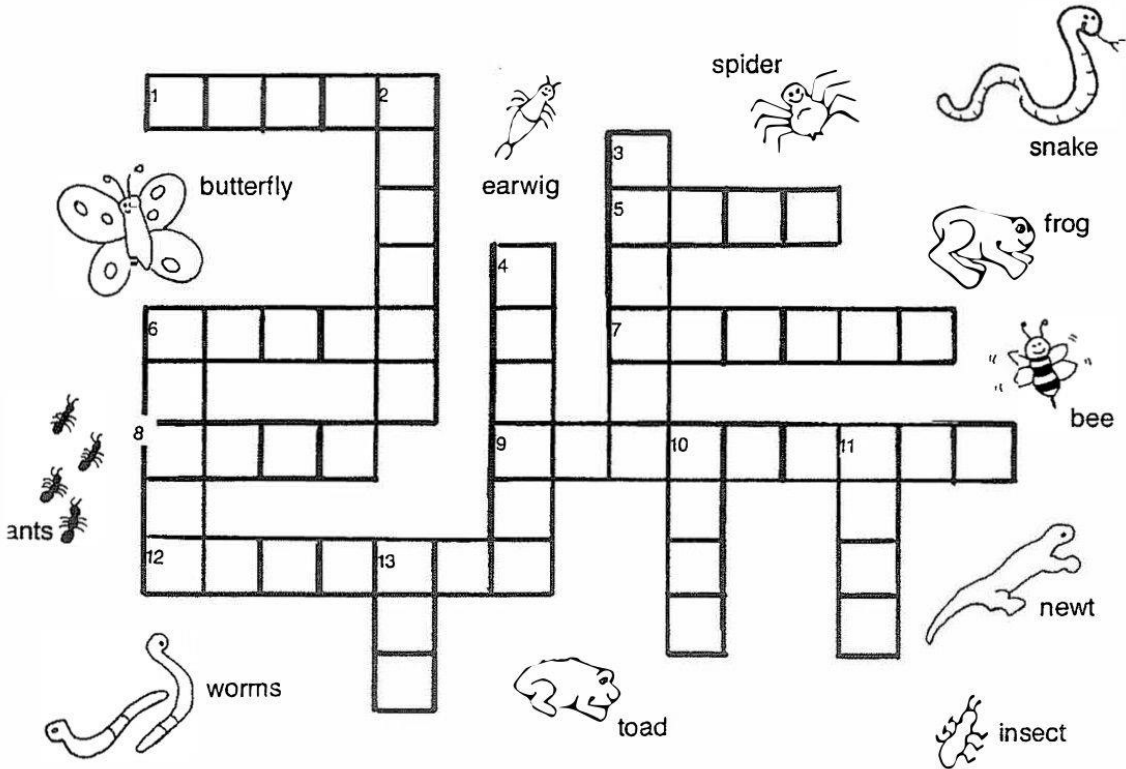


The Lake Mills Food Shelf is open 2:30-5:00pm every Monday and can be accessed at the south entrance. The only criteria for eligibility is to reside within the Lake Mills School District. Anyone in need of food when the food shelf is not open, please feel free to call and leave a message at 641-592-1771 and someone will call back. Donations can be left inside the south entrance anytime.

Live Stream Sponsorship: Call the office to reserve your date. Cost is \$40.

Dates available: Feb 25. Mar 17, 24, 31. May 5. June 30. July 14, 21. Aug 4, 11, 25. Sept 1. Oct 20. Nov 17, 24. Dec 29

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

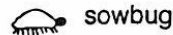


ACROSS

1. They wriggle all around, in the ground.
5. Another word for salamander is _____.
6. A long, scaly reptile with no legs is a _____.
7. It hides in cracks and crevices, but not in your ear.
8. Little insects that live in little cities are _____.
9. A beautiful insect with colorful wings is a _____.
12. _____ fly away home . . . (Its true name is ladybird beetle.)

DOWN

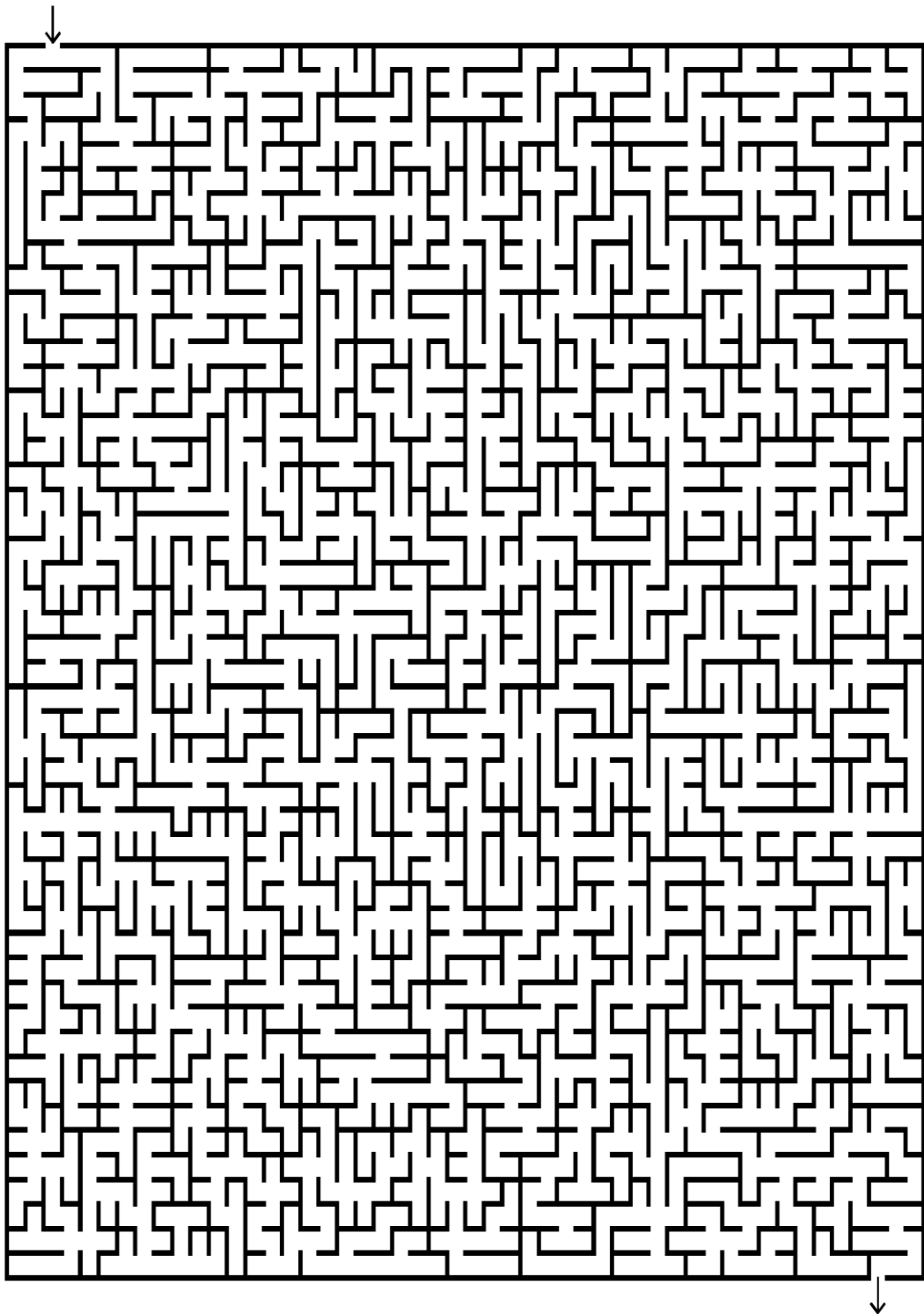
2. It has 2 body parts and 8 legs.
3. They have 3 body parts and 6 legs.
4. It's also called a roly-polly or a wood louse.
6. They have only one foot and move slowly.
10. It's bumpy but it doesn't give you warts.
11. It's slippery and wet. It can jump high.
13. A _____ makes honey for you and me.



sowbug



ladybug



Please Join Us Downstairs For Fellowship After The Service

SUNDAY 3/3

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary (Pastor Judith Wozniak)

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

10:00am Faith Formation-Chapel

10:00am First Communion Class-Lounge

MONDAY 3/4

2:00pm Sons of Norway-Fellowship Hall

2:00pm-4:00pm Salem's Clothes Closet is OPEN

2:30pm-5:00pm Lake Mills Food Shelf is OPEN

TUESDAY 3/5

5:30pm Altar Guild Meeting-Salem Library

WEDNESDAY 3/6

10:00am Bible Study-Choir Room

6:00pm Confirmation Class-Choir Room

THURSDAY 3/7

9:30am Grace Circle-Salem Library

9:30am Ruth Circle-Mills Harbour

SUNDAY 3/10

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary (Pastor Ken Jensen)

9:30am-10:30am Bake Sale Fundraiser-Narthex

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

10:00am Faith Formation-Chapel

10:00am First Communion Class-Lounge

Salem Office: 641.592.1771 (Marci)

Monday: 11am-5pm, Tuesday: 11am-2pm, Wednesday-Friday 11am-5pm

(Hours subject to change. You are welcome to call ahead to ensure the office is open)