

Salem Lutheran Church

OUTREACH

March 2015

We invite you to join us for our weekly Worship Services:

Sundays:

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service

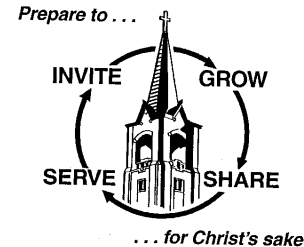
9:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship - Fellowship Hall

10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service - Sanctuary

Wednesdays:

10:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Worship/Bible Study – Chapel

7:15 p.m. Lenten Services – Sanctuary



Pastor Peter Soli

507.369.6303

Peter.Soli@DialogWorks.org

Pastor Melinda McCluskey

563.581.9965

melindamcmc@gmail.com

Bill Georgia, Contemporary Worship Director

bgeorgia@wctatel.net

Ruth Sheldon, Organist

641.927.4671

Janelle Gilbertson, Communications Director

janelle.gilbertson@yahoo.com

MISSION

Salem Lutheran Church members have known and now extend to others the invitation from Jesus Christ to know him and his gifts of forgiveness, hope, peace, and purpose. Our desire is to be a welcoming place in service to the Lord who has welcomed us. We seek to grow in our faith through meaningful [worship and study](#). We seek to share the gifts of Christ, both as individuals who reach out in love to our families, our community, our workplaces, and our world, and also as a congregation reaching out with meaningful and supportive services and programming to people of all ages. We seek to be servants, following the example of our Lord Jesus, who said that the greatest life is not the one lived simply for itself, but for the benefit of others.

From Pastor Melinda: Elders, Sages, Older Adults, Retirees, or Seniors?

"The righteous flourish like the palm tree, and grow like a cedar in Lebanon. They are planted in the house of the Lord; they flourish in the courts of our God. In old age they still produce fruit; they are always green and full of sap,"
Psalm 92:12-14

Images of reaching age sixty-five and spending the rest of one's days in a rocker are no longer relevant or true today. At the beginning of the twentieth century life expectancy was forty to fifty years. Today, if one lives to be sixty-five, the likelihood of living to age eighty-five is high and if you live to eighty-five the chances of making it to ninety-two or beyond is even higher. Today, age sixty-five is no longer a signal of life coming to a close but rather the beginning of a new chapter in one's life.

We as a society have yet to determine a positive response to this growing segment of society. In the past society has deemed aging and old age adults as having little value or worth to give to others. By failing to engage with this segment of the population, our society is losing the insight and wisdom offered by these adults. Those who no longer are concentrating on careers and family are able to reflect back on the past and offer us insight from their experience that can shape our response to issues in our families and society.

Salman Schachter-Shalomi in his book *From Ageing to Sage-ing: A Profound New Vision of Growing Older* suggests that growing older is not a time of decline and separation but rather a time of self-development and growth. Rather he stresses that growing older is a journey to where an elder becomes a messenger of wisdom. With more time on their hands those who have retired from demanding careers can give purpose to their lives by developing their spiritual and contemplative inner lives.

Imagine congregations like Salem playing a vital role in changing the view of society toward older adults by providing intentional ministry by, with, and for older adults. The church can assist older adults in making their later years creative and meaningful; providing spiritual guidance in self-development. The church can plan intergenerational opportunities so that older adults can share their faith experience and learn from younger people.

Back to the opening question: Elders, Sages, Older Adults, Retiree, or Seniors? Words are important; the name given a ministry can create excitement or keep people away. How do you, as you age, view yourself: an elder, a sage, a senior? Give this some thought and let us visit with others as we share a cup of coffee in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, March 15 between worship services. Let us as a church give a positive title to those who have so much wisdom to share.

Volunteer Training - Spring 2015

Hospice of North Iowa will be holding their annual Volunteer Training on:

Tuesdays - March 17, 24 & 31
9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Floyd County Public Health or
1003 Gilbert St
Charles City, Iowa

Tuesdays – May 5, 12 & 19
9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Hospice of North Iowa Center
232 2nd Street SE
Mason City, Iowa

What do volunteers at Hospice of North Iowa do? Volunteers provide companionship by playing cards with a patient each week, or taking a patient on a fishing trip for the last time. Volunteers step in for in-home caregivers, so the caregiver can have peace of mind while finishing essential errands. Volunteers transport loved ones who can no longer drive to a care center, so they can spend time holding their family member's hand. Volunteers bake cookies, make quilts, greet visitors and call homecare patients at home, just to "tuck them in" for the weekend. HNI volunteers do "Whatever it Takes" to provide the best care and comfort experience for patients and families in North Iowa.

The class is free of charge and open to the public. Registration is required and a pre-screening process, including a background check, must be completed before training.

For more information or to register, please call Hospice of North Iowa at 641-428-6246 or email hospiceni@mercyhealth.com.

Thank you... A heartfelt THANK YOU to all who helped in ANY capacity for the Charles City, Hampton & Iowa Falls Tree of Life programs. It takes a team to make it a meaningful success for the bereaved in our communities. I am TRULY BLESSED to work with such AWESOME people!!! God Bless. Autumn Hawver

Save the Date!

Hospice of North Iowa
Salad Luncheon
Friday, April 17, 2015
11:00 – 1:00 p.m.
Location: Immanuel Lutheran Church
246 S Clark Street, Forest City, Iowa



Wings of HOsPicE Memorial & Butterfly Release
Saturday, June 20, 2015
1:00 p.m.
Hospice of North Iowa
Serenity Garden

...
23rd Annual
Hospice of North Iowa Golf Open
Saturday, June 6, 2015
Bear Creek Golf Course,
Forest City, Iowa



...
Camp Greentree
Saturday, September 19, 2015

Details for all of these events will be posted on our website as they become available;
www.hospicenorthiowa.com

Holy Land: ELCA presiding bishop visits companion church

In mid-January, ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton led a delegation to the Holy Land. She met with political and religious leaders in the region and with members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land, an ELCA companion church. See www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/7721.

Africa: ELCA response to Ebola totals \$275,000

With more aid planned the ELCA, working with partners including its companion churches in Liberia and Sierra Leone, has provided \$275,000 in aid for those affected by Ebola. The disease has had a "devastating impact" on the lives of many people, particularly women and children, said Vitaly Vorana, program director for Lutheran Disaster Response.

See www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/7720.

Preventing mosquito nets from being fishing nets

The distribution of mosquito nets through the ELCA Malaria Campaign includes education on their proper use, which helps prevent them from being used as a tool to gather food rather than as a barrier to disease. See www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/ELCAMalariaCampaign/295

Ukraine: Humanitarian assistance helps thousands fleeing conflict

Working with ACT Alliance members Hungarian Interchurch Aid and the Russian Orthodox Church, Lutheran Disaster Response is providing food, water, blankets, diapers and hygiene kits to approximately 20,000 refugees and other people who have fled from the conflict in the Donetsk and Lugansk regions of Ukraine.

www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/ELCALutheranDisasterResponse/287.

Central America: Aid helps work with unaccompanied child immigrants

The ELCA has provided nearly \$400,000 in humanitarian assistance to help support its partners who serve the thousands of unaccompanied minors coming to the United States from Central America.

See www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/7719.

Christian unity week focuses on message of Samaritan woman at the well

Members of the ELCA joined Christians worldwide Jan. 18-25 for the 2015 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. "More than ever, the cause of unity among Christians needs [the Samaritan woman's] kind of courageous witness," said the Rev. Donald McCoid, ELCA director for ecumenical and inter-religious relations.

See www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/NewsBlog/71.

thank you



Thank you to everyone for a wonderful ordination!

One word describes the day, awesome. Thank you to everyone for the prayers throughout the journey to this day.

God is good!

Pastor Melinda

Healing – Getting our life back

The past several weeks I have suffered from a respiratory illness and am grateful that this is my first major respiratory illness in a little over a year. To some that gratitude might seem strange but let me explain. Twenty years ago I dreaded the warm weather because of seasonal allergies and I dreaded winter because it seemed every other month I had a major respiratory illness.

Eventually I was connected with an allergist who was able to provide medications and shots to relieve my allergies. Working with another physician we found treating me with an asthma medication reduced the number of colds I had during the winter. I felt like I got my life back!

I share this because that is how healing works in our lives. Being healed is getting our life back. During this Lenten season we are looking at the many areas of our life in which we yearn for healing. We live in a sin filled and broken world. A world where: guilt, disease, addictions, and broken relationships seem to chisel away at our lives. We are left wondering if we will ever be whole again. In faith we turn to God in prayer seeking healing in our lives and the lives of those we love.

Sometimes the healing takes time. Sometimes the healing is not what we expect. Other times we are overwhelmed by the healing power of God. In the scriptures we read of Jesus' healing of those longing to be made whole. The lepers who get their life back; being allowed contact with loved ones. The blind give sight, the crippled given function to limbs, and the sick healed. Each person who has experience healing in their lives has been given back their life.

Throughout this Lenten season we will come together as a congregation on Wednesday's seeking God's healing presence through prayer. May God's healing presence be known in your life today.

Pastor Melinda

**Salem Lutheran Church
Council Minutes
February 9, 2015**

President Harris Honsey called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Members present were Harris Honsey, Scott Hagenson, Mike Swenson, Yvonne Beenken, Wayne VanVeldhuizen, Tami Alphs, Allison Rice, Al Skellenger, Keith Johnson, Karla Eaton, and Steve Nelson, Pastor Soli and Pastor McCluskey. Pastor Soli opened the meeting with devotions. President Harris Honsey thanked all concerned for help with Pastor Melinda's ordination and installation service and reception afterward. It was moved by Scott and seconded by Tami to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. All approved.

Secretary's Report: There were notes of acknowledgment for financial gifts from Lutheran World Relief and the ELCA.

Treasurer's Report: Mike reported a checking account balance of \$45,655.51. Total income for January was \$21,909.50 and expenses were \$33,939.77. It was moved by Keith and seconded by Tami to accept this report. All approved.

Financial Secretary's Report: No report.

Board of Worship and Music: Al reported that they have not met. There will be a meeting with Ruth Sheldon to discuss her return to playing organ at Salem.

Board of Stewardship and Social Ministry: Keith reported that they have not met.

Board of Education: Allison reported that they have met with Winnebago Church to begin planning for Vacation Bible School. It will be held in June. First Communion classes will start soon. Sunday School continues to go well.

Board of Youth: Karla reported that they have not met. They will begin to plan the Easter breakfast.

Board of Life and Growth: Tami reported that the reception for Pastor Melinda went well. They served about 160 people.

Board of Property and Management: Steve reported that they are concerned with the ice on the sidewalks this winter and will try to find a solution for this. He also had questions regarding locking the doors in the evening and shutting off the lights.

Associate Pastor's Report: Pastor Melinda discussed the visitation list she received from Pastor Norris. She would like to form a committee to help develop an older adult ministry. She will be attending a Rural Ministry Conference in March.

Lead Pastor's Report: Pastor Soli reported on the Communication Director position. This individual will be responsible for the layout and editing of the newsletter, updating the website, maintaining a presence on Facebook for Salem, and news articles for local media. He would recommend Janelle Gilbertson to fill

SALEM WOMEN of the ELCA

Altar Guild for March
Tuesday, March 3, 7:00 p.m.

Mission Quilters
Monday, March 9, 1:00 p.m.

WELCA Meeting
Thursday, March 19, 2:00 p.m.

Hostess: Elizabeth Circle
Program: Martha Circle

Altar Guild for March
Gladys Biehl and Doris Tweed

Communion Schedule
Sundays, March 1, 15, 29
No Wednesday Communion in March

Mills Harbour & LMCC
Wednesday, March 25

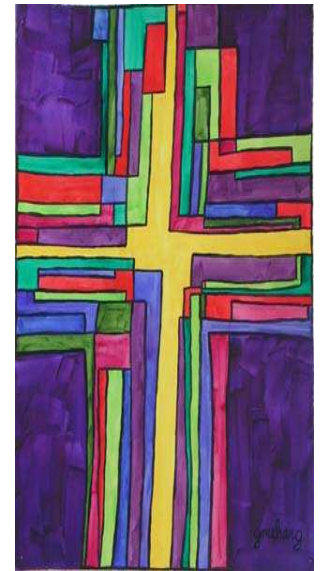
Lake Mills Care Center
Birthday Gifts: Tabitha Circle
Program: Sarah Circle

**World Day of Prayer A Worldwide Movement of Christian Women
Friday, March 6 – 9:00 a.m. at Salem Lutheran Church**

The World Day of Prayer is a worldwide movement of Christian women of many traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year, and who, in many countries, have a continuing relationship in prayer and service.

- It is a movement initiated and carried out by women in more than 170 countries and regions.
- It is a movement symbolized by an annual day of celebration – the first Friday of March – to which all people are welcome.
- It is a movement which brings together women of various races, cultures and traditions in closer fellowship, understanding and action throughout the year.

Through World Day of Prayer, women affirm that prayer and action are inseparable and that both have immeasurable influence in the world. The motto of the World Day of Prayer is "Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action".



Worship Service Opportunity in Lent

Wednesday Morning Worship & Bible Study

Throughout his ministry Jesus offered healing to those suffering from physical and emotional ailments. Join us to study how Jesus offers healing to the broken and sinful world in which we live. This Lenten Season Salem is offering an alternative to the evening Lenten service. Salem will be offering a service at 10:00 a.m. on five Wednesdays: **February 25, and March 4, 11, 18, and 25.** On these Wednesday mornings you are invited to gather in the Chapel for worship, hymns, scripture, prayer, and a Bible Study. This morning worship service will complement the evening service which will take the form of a healing service.

Lent Service Schedule

March 4	7:15 pm	Healing for Anger and Resentment
March 11	7:15 pm	Healing for Disease and Disability
March 18	7:15 pm	Healing for Destructive Habits and Addictions
March 25	7:15 pm	Healing for Broken Relationships
April 2	7:15 pm	Maundy Thursday – First Communion
April 3	7:15 pm	Good Friday Worship

Lent Soup & Sandwich Suppers Served 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

- March 4:** Chicken Tortilla & Tomato Basil Soups
Ham & Beef Sandwiches
- March 11:** Chicken Wild Rice & Vegetable Beef Soups
Ham & Beef Sandwiches
- March 18:** Chili & Broccoli Cheese Soup
Beef & Turkey Sandwiches
- March 25:** Vegetable Beef & Chicken Noodle Soups
Turkey & Ham Sandwiches

that position. The monthly stipend was discussed. It was moved by Allison and seconded by Tami to allow \$200 per month for this position. All approved.

Pastor Soli has been working on a new website for Salem. It will cost \$80/year and is hosted by a host called Weebly. The new email client is Constant Contact and would cost \$153 per year. This would be at a savings over the next 2 years of \$302. We would be able to stream broadcasts through a service called Ustream. This would cost \$1188 per year, a new expense but one that was allowed for in the 2015 budget. We may need to purchase extra equipment for this.

Salem will change its software program from the Church Windows program to the Shepherds Staff program. It will track membership, contributions, has a financial module and a scheduling module but does not have a payroll program. Pastor Soli, Mike, and Helen will work together to set up the new accounts for the bookkeeping and accounting charts. It will be an initial cost of \$1369 for the program and a new Zpay payroll program. After the startup costs it will be about \$545 per year for upgrades and support. This would save us \$1089 over the next two years. It was moved by Mike and seconded by Scott to approve the purchase of the new programs. All approved.

He also reported that the electronic sign board is not functioning

correctly. Repairs to the sign will be covered either by insurance or warranty.

Lenten services will be held on Wednesdays of Lent at 10:30 AM or 7:15 PM. Most of the soup for the evening soup suppers will be provided by Lunds Foods. He has had one joint meeting with the Call Committee and the Transition Team. It was moved by Mike and seconded by Scott to accept the above reports. All approved.

New Business: It was moved by Tami and seconded by Keith to change the position of office administrator from hourly to salaried compensation. This would not change the actual monies paid. All approved.

It was moved by Wayne and seconded by Mike to approve the purchase of a new laptop for use by the music director at \$289 and a new desktop computer for \$289 to be used as a second office computer. All approved.

It was moved by Karla and seconded by Al to approve the transfer of John and Rhonda Nielson to Center Lutheran Church. All approved.

A motion to adjourn was made by Scott with a second by Mike. All approved. We closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer. The next regular Council meeting will be on March 9.

Respectfully submitted
Yvonne Beenken

SALEM RECORDS for FEBRUARY:

FUNERALS:

Alvira Kloster

MEMORIALS:

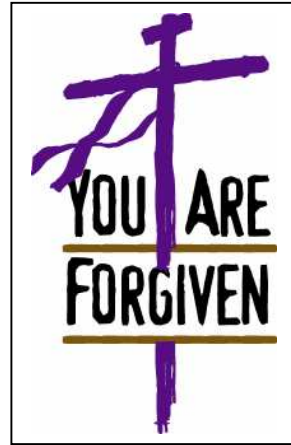
Given by the family of

Don Twito: Sunday School \$220,
Food Shelf \$130, Good Samaritan \$40
Cemetery \$20

Geneva Martinson: Cemetery \$150,
Bible Camp Scholarships \$100

TRANSFERS:

John & Rhonda Nielsen



Stephen Ministry is a ministry of walking along side brothers and sisters in Christ who are hurting from death of a loved one, a divorce, loss of a job, loss of health or any other sudden changes in life. A Stephen Minister has received fifty hours of training to learn how to listen, pray, bring scriptures in order to walk alongside you. If you or someone you know could use a Stephen Minister, please contact Pastor Randy at 641-590-0727. Stephen Ministry is a shared ministry between One in Christ, Our Savior's and Salem.



Did you know?

- Salem has a new website? Check it out at salemlakemills.com
- The 10:30 a.m. worship may be watched live on our website? At the top of the page click "Live Streaming".
- Gladys Biehl & Doris Tweed are on Altar Guild this month?
- Confirmation Youth & their families are serving the Wednesday Soup Suppers?



BASKETS of PROMISE

This Lent we're joining Lutheran World Relief's **Baskets of Promise** campaign. Each week we'll collect a different item that we'll use to assemble **Personal Care Kits** that give people around the world tools to stay healthy in life's most challenging situations.

Our goal is to assemble 175 LWR Kits during Lent.

HERE IS OUR COLLECTION SCHEDULE:

March 1: Bath Towels (Light-weight, dark color, maximum 52" X 27")

March 8: Toothbrushes (Adult size, in original packaging)

March 15: Combs

March 22: Nail Clippers (Metal, attached file optional)

March 29: Bars of Soap

Each week the above items may be placed in the basket in the narthex.



Time to think about Bible Camps!

Registrations forms for area Bible Camps are available on the Education Board table or online at these websites:

www.ewalu.org

www.okoboji.org

www.riversidelbc.org

Salem WELCA will provide scholarship funds to help with camp costs. Contact Pastor Soli with any additional financial needs.

Contact the Salem office if you plan on attending any Camp and register early to take advantage of Camp discounts!

PRAYER FAMILIES

March 1

Reuben/Delores Hanna, Blake Hansen Family, Mike/Gail Hansen, Brian/Krishna Hanson Family, David/Annie Hanson, Dennis/Kathy Hanson, Gene/Julie Hanson Family, Gladys Hanson

March 8

Kevin Hanson, Ray Harang, Rickie Harang, Rod/Sandra Harang, Gary/Donna Harig, Matthew Harig, Merrick Harig, Nick/Elise Harless

March 15

Derek Harmon, Doug/Rhonda Harmon, Jerod/Samantha Harmon, Diana Haugen, Craig/Cindy Haugsdal, Michael/Jaci Haugsdal Family, Travis/Darcy Hauser Family, Keith Hebrink

March 22

Kevin/Janet Hebrink, Kyle Hebrink, Wade Hebrink, Sharon Hegel, Sylvia Heimdahl, Otis Heinicke, Alberta Heiny, Brandon/Kasey Heinz Family

March 29

Brad/Jolene Helgeson Family, Brian Helgeson, Bruce/Connie Helgeson, Chris Helgeson, Dan/Emily Helgeson, David Helgeson, Tim/Devan Helgeson Family, Don/Julie Helgeson



LAKE MILLS FOOD SHELVE

The Food Shelf is open every Monday from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. It is located in the lower level of the Civic Center. If you have any questions contact Pastor Bill Peters, 641.590.2737 or Pastor Doug Domokos, 641.590.3762.

Please remember: Milk, eggs and fresh meat are always in demand and cash donations are appreciated for frozen/refrigerated items.

Items that are in high demand:

Corn, Peas, Carrots, Green Beans
Tuna Helper
Paper Products
Pasta Noodles
Cereal – Hot and Cold
Four, Sugar
Shampoo/Conditioner
Disposable Diapers: sizes 3, 4, 5, 6
Baby Wipes: Unscented

Cash donations are appreciated for items such as: milk, eggs, butter, hamburger, chicken, hot dogs, etc., which is purchased at David's Foods.



Care Giver's Support Group

Next meeting is Tuesday, March 10, 10:00 a.m. in Salem's Lounge

This meeting is open to anyone who is caring for a person with any type of chronic illness. There is no fee — you do not have to sign up to come, you are not obligated to anyone. For more information call Rachel at 641.530.5577.

Let's Talk

Call Committee and Transition Team members are hosting a series of Let's Talk sessions. These sessions have been scheduled at different times, on different days. Find a time that is right for you!

Signup on the clipboards at worship. Signup by calling the office (641.592.1771) or online (www.salemlakemills.com).

Pastor Soli has included more information in the enclosed Interim Newsletter.

Mornings	Afternoons	Evenings
Tues. 3/10—9:30	Sun. 3/8—1:30 & 3:30 Childcare provided	Thurs. 3/5—6:30
Thurs. 3/19—9:30	Sun. 3/15—1:30 & 3:30 Childcare provided	Tues. 3/10—6:30
Tues. 3/24—9:30	Mon. 3/16—1:30	Thurs. 3/12—6:30
	Thurs. 4/9—1:30	Wed. 4/8—7:00



Reserve your special date to sponsor the 2013 8:30 a.m. worship service broadcast on K10W (107.3 FM) radio in Forest City. The service can also be heard at 8:30 a.m. on cable channel 2.

Call the office to reserve your dates.

Cost for 2015 is \$83.

Dates available for 2015:

Feb. 22, March 8, April 19, 26, May 3, 10, 31, July 19, Aug. 30, Oct. 18, Nov. 1, 15, 29, Dec. 6, 13, 27



This group of volunteers gathered in late January to prepare the monthly issue of "The Outreach" for mailing.

Front Row: Sylvia Heimdal, Carole Hagen, Gladys Biehl

Back Row: Pat Thorson, Violet Kvale, Darlene Behr, Ruth Tweeten, Arlys Brackey, Marilyn VanDenBosch, Gloria Kvale

It takes many willing volunteers to make an organization such as Salem work efficiently. These willing workers take care of tasks that must be done but need to be accomplished without cost.

When your current edition of "The Outreach" come to your home it arrives because it is touched by a number of willing folks who take it from Helen's copy machine, put some of it together, place the addresses on each piece and prepares it for the post office.

"The Outreach" is the new name for what was "The Informant" for many years. It was given a new name and a new look last summer and is one of the many efforts by the Church Council to get the word to our members.

Each month approximately 616 copies are run off by Helen on the office copier. This machine prints, gathers and can staple as part of the process. Postal regulations do now allow the newsletter to be stapled. It takes 5 reams of paper. The postage bill is usually in the \$110 range. The Council believes this is money well spent.

Yes, there are deadlines. The process cannot move forward without copy being submitted in a timely manner. It is absolutely necessary that your copy is in the office by the time the issue is being prepared.

Do you or your group have something of interest that could be place in "The Outreach?" Bring it to the office!

Ministry

Prayer Chain Ministry is a network of people who are committed to prayer and will take action on behalf of others. If you will pray for those in need, signup to be notified either by email or phone. If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, call the office and the prayer requests will go right out, via email and phone. All requests will be confidential among the prayer chain ministry.

Call Helen at the office (592-1771) with requests.

Opportunities

A **Prayer Shawl** is for anyone in need of prayer, hope, comfort and love of a community. Prayer Shawls, hand knit or crocheted by Salem members, are available in the narthex for you to wrap someone in need. There is also a Prayer Book. You may sign the name of someone you take the shawl for and they will be included in our weekly prayers of the church.



Worship Ministry for March

The Worship & Music Board is working on Communion Server, Reader and Greeter schedules for the coming year. They will work from previous schedules and the Time & Talent Sheets.

If you have not served in this way previously and would like to volunteer contact the office or Al Skellenger (641.592.2526).

5-CENT BOTTLES AND CANS CAN BE RETURNED TO THE RECYCLING CONTAINER AT THE SOUTH END OF ALLEY. Bottles and cans should be rinsed, and then placed in plastic bags (either garbage bags or grocery sacks). **Funds are split between the Education & Youth Boards.**

David's Super Foods and Bills Grocery receipts, Kemps milk tops, pop tabs, Campbell soup labels and eye glasses may be left in the baskets on top of the coat rack in the west hall of the Education unit. Please do not roll up grocery receipts.

Pop Can Tabs for Ronald McDonald House may be deposited in the container near the pop machine.