



# Salem Lutheran Church

We are all God's children reflecting His love

February, 2026

**Pastor**

*Pastor Jerod Freeberg*  
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**Secretary**

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**Financial Secretary**

*Cathy Koolmo*  
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**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**President** - *David Lundin*

**Property**

**Vice Pres** - *Keith Engstrom*

**Stewardship**

**Secretary** - *Beverly Ramey*

**Fellowship & Discipleship**

**Treasurer** - *Kristy Johnson*

**Education & Youth** - *Sarah*

*Johnson*

**Fellowship & Discipleship**—

*Suzanne Hulett*

**Property** - *Jesse Johnson*

**Worship & Music** - *Donovan*

*Erickson*

**Walking Together Into the Season of Reflection**

As the chill of winter lingers, there is a quiet anticipation in the air, a sense that something sacred is about to unfold. In just a few weeks, our community will enter the season of Lent, a time of reflection, renewal, and deepened awareness of God's presence in our lives. It is a season of invitation, invitation to pause, to listen, and to walk more closely with the One who knows us completely and loves us without reserve.

This year, Lent feels especially poignant. As the congregation prepares to step into a new chapter of pastoral leadership, I am reminded that our faith is never meant to be walked alone. Each of us brings our questions, our joys, our burdens that are inter-woven together in hope and trust. There is comfort in knowing that even as leadership changes, the heartbeat of these congregations will continue to be communities committed to love, care, and justice in the ways God calls us to live each day.

In the coming weeks, you will notice opportunities to enter into Lent in a variety of ways: through reflective worship, shared prayers, and moments of quiet contemplation. Each gathering is designed not only to draw our hearts upward but also to draw us closer to one another, reminding us that faith flourishes when it is lived in relationship when we see and are seen, serve and are served, forgive and are forgiven.

I invite you to step into this season intentionally. Come and experience the rhythms of Lent alongside friends and neighbors, and allow yourself to be nourished by scripture, song, and the simple act of gathering. Together, this community will journey through these forty days, not as isolated travelers, but as faithful people walking side by side, learning what it truly means to love God and one another.

As we prepare for this sacred season, I find myself deeply grateful for the privilege of serving with you, for the trust you place in one another, and for the ways God continues to be present in both subtle and profound ways among us. Let us enter this Lent with expectant hearts, ready to encounter the living God in our lives and in our world.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Jerod

# Let's Talk!

**We lift up in prayer:**



WE HOLD UP DeeDee Johnson, Judy Windorski, Sophia Gillson, Sandy Quale's Great Niece, Craig Engstrom, Dani Illg, Lisa Gardner and Laverne Klobuchar's family IN SPECIAL PRAYERS.



**Please sign up for a week of snow shoveling. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the hallway.**

Lent Suppers will be in the Fellowship Hall at Salem on Wednesdays before Lent Services at 6:00 PM. The Sign up sheet will be available on the Northax table beginning this Sunday February 8th to sign up to bring soups, desserts, crackers and milk. The dates are February 25th, Marh 11th, and March 25th!!



## Worship MINISTRY

| DATE   | GREETERS            | LAY READER     | COMMUNION ASST | ALTAR GUILD   |
|--------|---------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| Feb 1  | Wanda Johnson       | Don Erickson   | Don Erickson   | Alaina Norby  |
| Feb 8  | Cindy Johnson       | Gayle Erickson | Don Erickson   | Annie Johnson |
| Feb 15 | Tim & Lana Carlson  | Keith Engstrom | Keith Engstrom | Shirley Illg  |
| Feb 22 | Cole & Lexi Shugren | Don Erickson   | Don Erickson   | Shirley Illg  |
|        |                     |                |                |               |
|        |                     |                |                |               |

**Salem Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting Minutes  
January 14, 2026**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President David Lundin called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

**OPENING PRAYER**

David Lundin provided the opening prayer.

**ROLL CALL**

The following Council Members were present: Executive Committee – Pastor Jerod, Beverly Ramey, David Lundin, Kristy Johnson, and Keith Engstrom. Council Members – Suzanne Hulett, Jesse Johnson, Donovan Erickson and Sarah Johnson. Absent – Brenna Johnson.

**SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORTS**

**SECRETARY REPORT**

The December Meeting Minutes were distributed via email in December and approved by Council on December 15, 2025.

**TREASURER/FINANCIAL REPORT**

The December Financial report was distributed and reviewed. A motion to accept the report was made by Jesse Johnson and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Suzanne Hulett. Motion carried.

**SHALOM FINANCIAL REPORT**

2 Housing requests of \$2790 and snacks for Sparks were processed. There is a pending transportation request received in December. Suzanne read a thank you letter from a recipient.

**PASTOR REPORT:**

Mileage = 45.5 miles turned in. Keith made a motion to reimburse Pastor for mileage with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kristy. Motion carried.

Expenses – 0

13 Sunday and Christmas services conducted from December 17 through January 7<sup>th</sup>.

Pastor Jerod held confirmation on the December 17<sup>th</sup> and January 7<sup>rd</sup>.

Two pastoral care session was held.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Education & Youth - Brenna Johnson and Sarah Johnson**

VBS Theme chosen and the dates are July 29 & 30<sup>th</sup>. A digital copy and a CD will be used.

The second Parent's night out will be Feb 13<sup>th</sup> and will be coordinated by Wendy Linder. The last one had 8 kids and 6 youth participate

**Fellowship & Discipleship – Suzanne Hulett and Beverly Ramey = No report at this time.**

**Property – David Lundin & Jesse Johnson**

Sewing room lights = 2 lights have been replaced with LED bulbs at a cost of \$50. There are a total of 13 units that will need to be replaced at some point. The cost for 13 units will be \$650,

**Stewardship - Keith Engstrom = No report at this time.**

**Worship & Music - Don Erickson = No report at this time.**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Call committee has completed 5 interviews. One person has been chosen and Salem and Siloa councils will each hold a Meet and Greet with the person so we can move on with the next steps.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Annual meeting is January 25<sup>th</sup> after service. Are all reports turned in to Mandy?

Leadership/Committee positions – will be voted on in February. We have 4 positions up for renewal. Brenna Johnson will be done as she is heading off to college. Donovan, Jesse, and Keith are all up for their second term renewal and have agreed to stay on council. We will have one opening but feel we are fine for now.

Audit committee has mentioned they may need more time next year for review. Audit committee consists of Sandy E., Lisa J., and Shirley I.

The only recommendation from the Audit is that the Financial Secretary not sign her own paycheck.

Synod Mission support – no vote needed as this is a budget item. \$2000 will be sent in to Synod for 2025 coverage.

Lenton services were discussed. Ash Wednesday service will be hosted by Siloa this year. Palm Sunday lands on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday and a motion was made by Kristy for Salem and Siloa to each hold their own services on Palm Sunday. Sarah seconded this. Motion passed.

2026 Budget – we reviewed the church budget for next year. The biggest change is the liability and property insurance. Suzanne motioned to approve the budget for presenting to the congregation and Jesse 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion passed.

**FEBRUARY RESPONSIBILITIES – Donovan Erickson**

February meeting is on the 11<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm.

**CLOSING PRAYER – Pastor Jerod**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn by Keith, second by Kristy, motion carried.  
Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| <b>Wednesdays</b> | <b>12 noon Bulletin deadline</b>   |
| <b>January 23</b> | <b>Newsletter articles &amp; volunteer list due to Secretary (3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of month )</b> |
| January 21 & 28   | 8:00 AM Men in Mission at Park Café  |
| January 21        | 6:15 Sparks and Confirmation   |
| January 27        | Bobbin Feeders @ 8:30 am   |
| February 3        | Women’s Breakfast @ 8:30 am  |
| February 4 & 11   | 8:00 AM Men in Mission at Park Café  |
| February 4        | 6:15 Sparks and Confirmation   |
| February 11       | Council Meeting @ 6pm  |
| February 13       | Parent’s Night Out   |
| February 18       | Ash Wednesday = Siloa will host.   |

Respectfully Submitted,  
Beverly Ramey

**We are all God's children reflecting His Love**

February 13<sup>th</sup> 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM

**Food  
Games  
Fun  
movies**

Drop off  
Children  
3 and up

**PARENT'S  
NIGHT OUT**

Cost: \$20  
Or free will  
Offering

Arts and  
crafts

Salem Lutheran Church  
4638 381<sup>st</sup> Avenue NW  
Dalbo, MN 55017  
763.689.1687

Leave the kids with us for a fun-filled evening while you enjoy a well-deserved break.  
Proceeds will go towards youth programming.



Salem Lutheran Church



[www.salemlutherandalbo.com](http://www.salemlutherandalbo.com)

# February 2026

| Salem Lutheran Church, 4638 381st Avenue NW, Dalbo, MN 55017 763.689.1887             |     |                              |  |                                 |  |                              | Feb 2026 (Central Time - Chicago) |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---|-----|------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Sun   | Mon | Tue                          | Wed  | Thu                             | Fri  | Sat                          | 1                                 | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 10:30am - Worship Service<br>11:30am - Fellowship                                     |     | 8:30am - Women's Breakfast @ | 8am - Men's Breakfast Bible Study<br>10am - admin office hours<br>6:15pm - SPARKS/Confirmation                                 |                                 |  |                              |                                   |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 10:30am - Worship Service<br>11:30am - Congregational Special<br>11:30am - Fellowship |     |                              | 8am - Men's Breakfast Bible Study<br>10am - admin office hours<br>6pm - Council  |                                 | 10am - admin office hours<br>5pm - Parents night out |                              | 8                                 | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| Church anniversary cake<br>10:30am - Worship Service<br>11:30am - Cake                |     | 152nd Salem's anniversary @  | 8am - Men's Breakfast Bible Study<br>10am - admin office hours<br>7pm - Ash Wednesday ( Stoa)                                  |                                 |  | 9am - Ruby's Pantry-New Hope | 15                                | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 10:30am - Worship Service<br>11:30am - Fellowship                                     |     |                              | 8am - Men's Breakfast Bible Study<br>10am - admin office hours<br>6pm - Lent Soup Supper (Salem)<br>7pm - Lent Service (Salem) | 9am - Swede's Breakfast @ Dusty | 10am - admin office hours                            |                              | 22                                | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

A Time for Everything

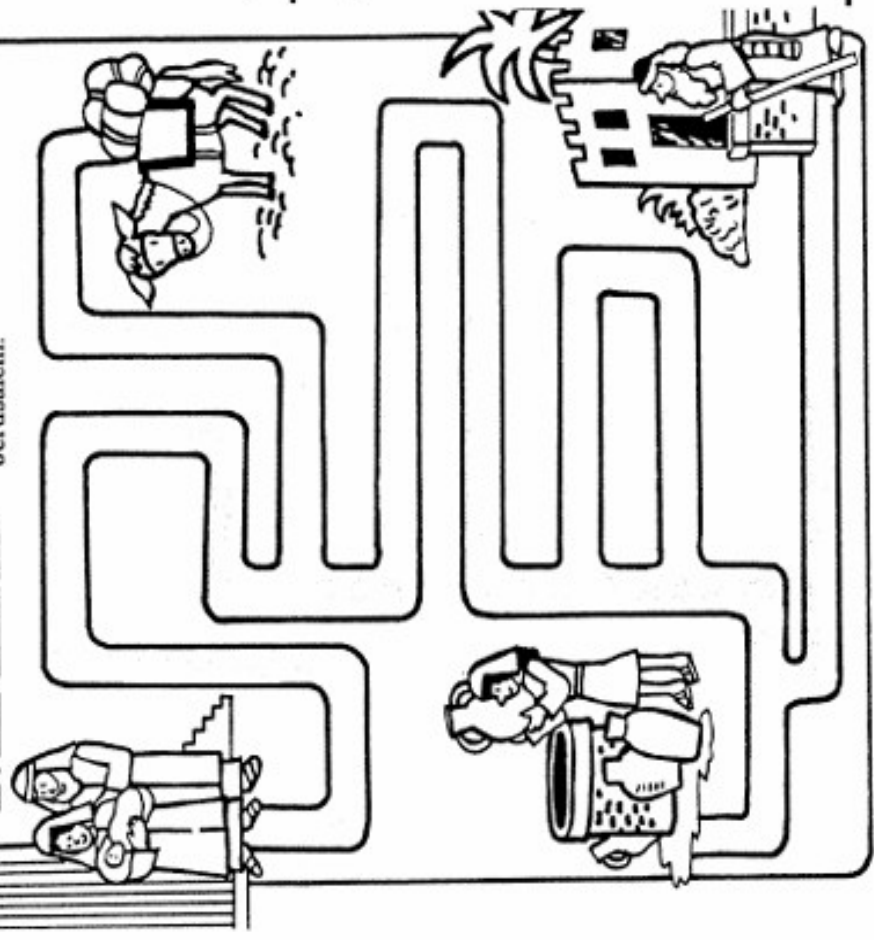
- 3 There is an appointed time for everything  
And there is a time for every event under heaven-
- 2- A time to give birth and a time to die;  
A time to plant and to uproot what is planted.
- 3- A time to kill and a time to heal;  
A time to tear down and a time to build up.
4. A time to weep and a time to laugh;  
A time to mourn and a time to dance;
- 5- A time to throw stones and a time to gather stones;  
A time to embrace and a time to shun embracing.
- 6- A time to search and a time to give up as lost;  
A time to keep and a time to throw away.
- 7- A time to tear apart and a time to sew together;  
A time to be silent and a time to speak.
- 8- A time to love and a time to hate;  
A time for war and a time for peace.



TODAY'S  
GOSPEL  
Luke 2:25-40

# A MAZE

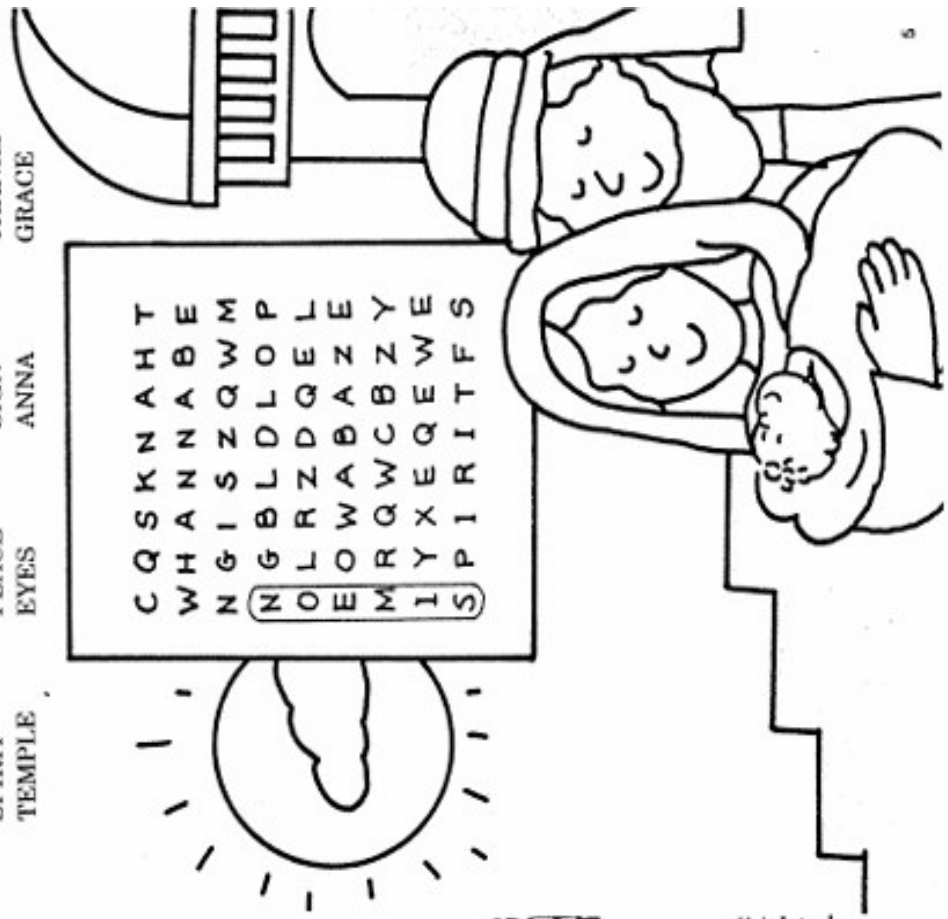
Find the way Simeon went from his house to the temple in Jerusalem.



# WORD SEARCH

Try to find 12 words from today's Gospel story in this puzzle. You may go up or down, from side to side, or diagonally. Circle each word as you find it and mark it off the list. The first one has been done for you.

- SIMEON
- CHILD
- GLORY
- OLD
- SPIRIT
- PEACE
- SIGN
- THANKS
- TEMPLE
- EYES
- ANNA
- GRACE





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**We're on the Web!**  
See us at: [www.salemutherandalbo.com](http://www.salemutherandalbo.com)  
Facebook: Salem Lutheran Church Dalbo