**Announcements**

**Special Thanks:** Special Thanks to Jane & Gary Gramkow for placing the flowers in the sanctuary during the month of February.

**W.O.C. Meeting:** The Women of the Church will plan to meet on Sunday, March 17th, following our worship service.

**Coffee Hour:** We are looking for 2 more volunteers to bring 2 dozen goodies for Coffee Hour on Sun., March 17th. Please sign the sheet in the Narthex if you are able to help.

**FCA Spring Banquet:** Save the Date! This will be held on Sunday, April 7th at 6PM at the Menno City/School Auditorium. Our guest speaker will be Coach John Stiegelmeier, former SDSU Jacks Football Coach! Please **RSVP** to the Church Office or Text Ivory Wintersteen @ (605) 680-2595 if you are planning to attend. We are excited to have Coach Stiegelmeier as our speaker!

**M/O Community Easter Cantata:** Anyone high school age or older is encouraged to participate! Martin Sieverding will be directing and Kay Smidt will be the accompanist. Practices are as follows @ 7:30 PM:

Monday, March 4th @ Zion Reformed Church

Monday, March 11th @ Grace Lutheran Church

Monday, March 18th @ Salem Reformed Church

Thursday, March 21st @ Salem Reformed Church

Concert is Palm Sunday, March 24th @ 7:00 PM at Salem Reformed!

**Upcoming Lenten Services**

**Wednesday, March 13th @ 7 PM**

**Maundy Thursday, March 28th @ 7 PM**  (w/Holy Communion)

PRAYER CONCERNS AND JOYS OF SALEM REFORMED CHURCH

**\*Pat Pommerville,** as she is scheduled for knee replacement surgery this coming Friday.

**\*Julie Crick,** as she recovers from a broken pelvis.

**\*Metha Hess,** as she recovers from a recent hospital stay.

**\*Kobee Sherman,** the young man from Viborg who is battling cancer. Prayers for strength and healing as he continues on with chemo.

**\***We pray for all of our **Care Center Residents and Assisted Living Residents** as well as the **Staff**who work so hard in caring for them.

**\*Todd Heckenlaible, \*Larry Klaudt, \*Jan Nebelsick, \*Jackie Scott**, **\*Bruce Kunze, \*Eloise Hora**(Baby)**, \*Dustin Christensen, \*Kobee Sherman,**as these individuals are in various stages in their battle against cancer and/or other health struggles.  We praise the Lord for His Power that is mightily at work within each one, and giving them strength!

**\*Travis Gramkow**(U.S. Navy - Virginia), **\*Aaron Helgerson**(U.S. Navy - Rhode Island), **\*Katie (Schultz) Paulsen**(U.S. Air Force - Texas),**Patrick Ireland**(U.S. Army Chaplain - Ft. Bliss, TX), **Tyler J. Brandt**(U.S. Army - Georgia), **\*Logan Schmidt**(U.S. Navy - Ft. Travis, CA), **\*Troy Heckenlaible, Derek Fischer, Dan Wonnenberg, Katie Huber, Trevor Bertsch, Chad Boettcher**(Army National Guard), **\*Lee Heckenlaible, Carmen Taylor, Brett Andersen, Evan Wintersteen**(Air National Guard), **\*Travis Brandt, \*Jayme Schaaf**(U.S. Army)**, \*Jake Haider**(U.S. Army - Florida),  **\*Alex Olson** (U.S. Navy),**\*Alex Ulmer**(U.S. Marines), **Cameron Christensen** (U.S. Army - Belgium, Germany) **- we pray for God's protection over all who serve in our Military!**

***“The Father’s Pruning Tool”***

**Text: John 15:1-10**

**Lenten Series:** Working Through John 15

**I. REVIEW - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ IN THE VINE**

 **John 15:4 –**

 **Remain/Abide:** This word is repeated \_\_\_ x’s in Vs. 4-10

 **A. STAY CONNECTED THROUGH HIS \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**John 15:7**

 **B. STAY CONNECTED IN \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ FELLOWSHIP**

 **WITH OTHER BELIEVERS!**

**John 15:5; Hebrews 10:25 –**

 **C. STAY CONNECTED THROUGH \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ !**

 **John 15:9,10**

**II. THE FATHER’S \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ TOOL**

 **John 15:2b AMP – *“and every branch that continues***

 ***to bear fruit, He \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ prunes, so that it will***

***bear more fruit [even richer and finer fruit].”***

**A. WHAT IS THE FATHER’S PRUNING TOOL?**

 **1) HIS \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ !**

 **John 15:3, 7a; Hebrews 4:12**

**NOTE:** We must \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with the Word! **I Thess. 5:13**

 **2) HE USES \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , SITUATIONS, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 **Prov. 27:17**

**III. WHAT NEEDS TO BE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ?**

 **A. THE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ OF THE FLESH**

 **Gal. 5:19-21**

 **1) We must be willing to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . . . .**

 **2) We must be willing to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with it . . . .**

**NOTE:** The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ must step in and do His work of pruning in our lives! Because He’s MEAN? \_\_\_\_\_ ! But because He \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ you!