

THE *Celebration!* CONNECTION!!

MARCH
2026

Together in Community
GROWING IN FAITH THIS LENTEN SEASON



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From the Pastor...

Happy Lent!

For forty days we try to learn something new, miss something old, and change some habits. Unfortunately, even as Easter eggs are turned into deviled eggs, a lot of our Lenten habits can get “deviled” as well.

Yet Lent should not be an Ash Wednesday grind. What if instead of thinking about “getting through” Lent we look at these next forty days as a journey towards a miraculous destination – Easter Sunday.

And doesn't everybody like to go on a road trip every now and then? What do you “like” about your annual journey to Jerusalem? What makes the Lenten trip to that empty tomb so awesome?

It might be difficult to come up with a “like list” now-a-days.

Our culture doesn’t seem to like “like.”

I mean, all you have to do is listen to the news or surf a few websites and Facebook or the like to discover that commenting on what you “like” is not part of our twenty-first century communication culture. Instead, it is all too easy to find thousands of “hate sites.” There are sites dedicated to hating political parties, to hating politicians, to hating religious preferences, to hating religious leaders, to hating racial groups, to hating the rich, to hating the poor. There are sites devoted to hating a certain individual, and sites devoted to hating whole countries.

Hate is an easy sell. Vitriol is, shall we say, a “sustainable substance.”

And THAT is a great tragedy.

William Allen White (1868-1944) was one of the greatest journalists of his time. He was also known for his constant and clever defense of the honor of his native state: Kansas. During a banquet at which Mr. White was the principal speaker, the Master of Ceremonies was from Missouri. In introducing Mr. White, he said he was reminded of the little girl who was told by her parents that the family was leaving Missouri and moving to Kansas.

Whereupon the little girl looked up at the sky and said, “Goodbye God! We’re moving to Kansas.”

When Mr. White got up to speak, he said the story was true, but the emphasis was wrong. What the little girl really said wasn’t “Goodbye God! We’re moving to Kansas” but “Good! By God, we’re moving to Kansas.”

It’s time to move from “Goodbye God!” to “Good! By God.”

Officially it is almost Spring. But there are still a lot of dark mornings, snow days, and cold, wet nights before “Spring” is actually sprung. The switch to Daylight Saving Time on March 8 just means more morning blackness for those who already have big time winter. But Daylight-Saving Time is still a sign that Spring, that new season of life, is coming. Don’t allow the “DST” blahs get you down. Take those darkened mornings as a sign of a new day that is fast approaching. Lent, and too early Daylight Savings Time, is the signal to our souls that something miraculous is on the way.

Let us celebrate Lent as a season of “like.” There is plenty in the world that is frightening and possibly going wrong. But during Lent we have a long-distance, focused view of the ultimate “right.” From Adam to Jesus.

From death to eternal life. From inescapable sin to the free gift of eternal life.

So, what’s not to “like” about Lent?

Lent is a beautiful time of growth and opportunity. It’s prime time for the rediscovery of everything that makes life meaningful and good. After all, Jesus did not offer himself on the cross to offer us a life of nastiness, backstabbing, hatemongering, and subsistence. What awaits us at the end of Lent is Jesus’ gift of new life, a life that is filled with “awesomeness” in its very everydayness. The journey of Lent is an everyday journey among everyday things and everyday holiness. It is the journey Jesus took to Jerusalem and to the cross in faithful obedience to an “Awesome God.”

So, my family in the faith, here’s to an “awesome Lent!”

And, of course, see you in church!!!

Pastor Fogle

Celebration!

**LIVE
STREAM**

March 1st

Steve and Andrea Kolhoff

March 8th

Available for Sponsorship

March 15th

The Lair Family

March 22nd

The Hardy Family

March 29th

Steve and Andrea Kolhoff

**SPONSOR A SUNDAY
LIVESTREAM SERVICE. \$15**

WAYS TO SPONSOR

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Reminders, notices, and Comments!!

ALTAR FLOWERS

DURING THE SEASON OF LENT, NO FLOWERS WILL BE PLACED ON THE ALTAR AS WE OBSERVE THIS SOLEMN TIME OF PRAYER AND REFLECTION. WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE JOY OF EASTER, WHEN BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS WILL RETURN TO CELEBRATE THE RESURRECTION.



DAYLIGHT
SAVING TIME
BEGINS ON
SUNDAY,
MARCH 8TH!

Let's be social



Colossians 3:14

— 'And over all these virtues
put on love...'

Happy Pie Day!



March 14th

LATE HAVE I LOVED
YOU, O BEAUTY EVER
ANCIENT, EVER NEW..."

- ST. AUGUSTINE



Seen and Thankful

AS A CHURCH FAMILY, WE ARE CONTINUALLY BLESSED BY THE FAITHFULNESS WITHIN OUR CONGREGATION. WHOLE FAMILIES SERVE SIDE BY SIDE, AND INDIVIDUALS FAITHFULLY GIVE OF THEIR TIME AND TALENTS. TOGETHER, YOU ENSURE THAT EVERYTHING RUNS SMOOTHLY — OFTEN IN WAYS THAT GO UNSEEN. FROM THE SMALLEST DETAILS TO THE LARGEST RESPONSIBILITIES, YOUR EFFORTS STRENGTHEN THIS CHURCH IN COUNTLESS WAYS.

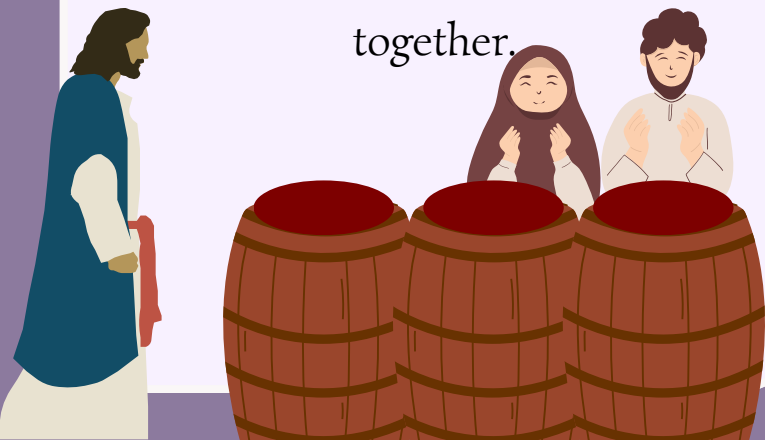
PLEASE KNOW THAT YOU ARE SEEN. YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE, AND YOUR DEDICATION TRULY MATTERS. SCRIPTURE REMINDS US, “LET US NOT GROW WEARY OF DOING GOOD” (GALATIANS 6:9), AND WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE MANY WAYS YOU LIVE THIS OUT EACH DAY.

WITH SPRING FAST APPROACHING, WE LOOK FORWARD WITH EXCITEMENT TO ALL THAT GOD WILL CONTINUE TO DO IN AND THROUGH OUR CHURCH FAMILY.

THANK YOU FOR BEING SUCH A VITAL PART OF THIS MINISTRY.

March Sunday School Theme: Wedding at Cana

This month in Sunday School, we are heading to a wedding celebration! Our students will hear how Jesus performed His very first miracle, turning water into wine, and discover what this amazing moment shows us about who He is. We cannot wait to learn and celebrate together.

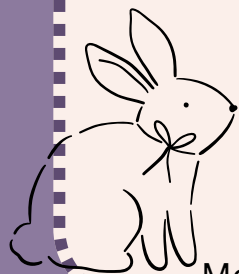


Easter Basket Ministry

Many of our members are unable to attend worship and miss their church family.

On Sunday, March 29, immediately after the service, we will assemble Easter baskets to remind them they are loved and remembered.

Please keep this ministry in your prayers.



More details coming soon!

SILENT AUCTION IS COMING!

Get ready for one of our favorite community events! Our Silent Auction officially kicks off on **March 1st**, and we can't wait to see the creativity our members bring.

We invite you to donate a themed basket — big or small, simple or spectacular — every contribution makes a difference! Bidding will open on **March 1st** and continue through **March 29th**, so there will be plenty of time to browse, bid, and maybe even win something wonderful.



THIS SPECIAL EVENT IS A JOINT EFFORT OF OUR OUTREACH TEAM AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE, WORKING TOGETHER TO SUPPORT AN IMPORTANT CAUSE. ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARD REPLENISHING OUR CHURCH'S ENDOWMENT FUND, WHICH HAS BEEN SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED FOLLOWING MAJOR REPAIRS TO THE CHURCH BUILDING AND PARKING LOT. LET'S COME TOGETHER IN GENEROSITY AND FUN AS WE SUPPORT THE FUTURE OF OUR CHURCH HOME. START PLANNING YOUR BASKETS — AND GET READY TO BID!

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

God's Name, God's Promise

The shepherd stands, watching a fire blaze within a dry bush, without destroying it. Out of the bush, a voice calls his name: "Moses, Moses!" Hearing this, the shepherd replies:

"Here I am." Telling him to come no closer and to remove his sandals on this holy ground, the mysterious voice declares: "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." As Moses stands on this holy ground, he hears God speak again from within the fire, saying: "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey..." (Exodus 3: 4-8a). Moses asks what he should say when the Israelites ask him for the name of the God of their ancestors. God responds: "I AM WHO I AM."

God directs Moses to tell the people: "I AM, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you: This is my name forever, and this is my title for all generations" (Exodus 3:13-15).

A more accurate translation of "I AM"—God' Jesus takes God's name and promise, joining in the whispers of that holy fire, when he declares: "I am the bread of life" (John 6:35), "I am the light of the world" (John 8:12), "I am the gate for the sheep"

(John 10:7), "I am the good shepherd" (John 10:11), "I am the resurrection and the life" (John 11:25), "I am the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6), and "I am the true vine" (John 15:1). What is Jesus telling us when he says "I am" — echoing God's holy name and promise?

Where do we find ourselves in God's holy name and promise?

The Women's Bible study group will meet on Wednesday, March 18 at 1:00 pm. All women are welcome to attend.

Pill Bottles Collection

We are collecting empty pill bottles until the end of March for Matthew 25 Ministries. Only prescription pill bottles are needed. They need to be cleaned out and the label removed. (Goo Gone might help with that) Place your donations in the big pill bottle container under the mailboxes.

Crafty Connections

LOOKING FOR A CREATIVE WAY TO CONNECT WITH OTHERS? CRAFTY CONNECTIONS IS THE PERFECT PLACE TO BRING YOUR CURRENT PROJECT, SHARE IDEAS, AND ENJOY TIME TOGETHER IN A RELAXED AND WELCOMING SETTING.

WE MEET TWICE A MONTH:

- SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH AT 7:00PM –MARCH 9TH
- LAST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 10:00AM – MARCH 25TH

BRING WHATEVER CRAFT YOU'RE WORKING ON—KNITTING, CROCHET, QUILTING, PAINTING, SCRAPBOOKING, OR ANYTHING ELSE. WE'D LOVE TO SEE YOUR CREATIONS AND HEAR ABOUT YOUR PROJECTS!

WHETHER YOU'RE A SEASONED CRAFTER OR JUST LOOKING TO TRY SOMETHING NEW, ALL ARE WELCOME. IT'S A GREAT WAY TO UNWIND, GET INSPIRED, AND ENJOY ONE ANOTHER'S COMPANY. COME CRAFT, CHAT, AND CONNECT—WE'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU WITH US!



Days for Girls

ONGOING COLLECTION



The Women of the ELCA continue with their ongoing support for Days For Girls. They are collecting supplies for feminine hygiene kits that go to girls in developing countries.

They are in need of:

- 100% cotton flannel and quilting fabric
- 100% cotton washcloths
- Underwear (briefs), colors, if possible
- Girls sizes- 8,10,12, or 14
- Women's sizes- 6,7,8
- Travel size bars of soap

*Spring arrives on
March 20th!*



We are collecting non-perishable food items for the First United Methodist Food Pantry. Please bring one item such as canned goods, pasta, rice, cereal, peanut butter, or soup. Donations may be placed in the bins across from the office.

March 8th is our next Bring One Sunday. Monetary donations may be made by check to First United Methodist Food Pantry. Questions may be directed to Greg or Gloria Tapper at 734-427-1142.

Bring one Sunday

BRING A FRIEND

March 15th

We invite you to bring family, a friend, coworker, neighbor or **ANYONE!** to church with you. It's a simple way to share God's love and the joy of our church family. Sometimes, all it takes is an invitation. Let's open our hearts and our doors—someone may be waiting to be asked.



March Birthdays!

- 1 Dave Evancho
- 2 Tina Truskowski
- 4 Greg Tapper
- 5 Linda Krall
- 6 Lisa Albert
- 9 Kathy Groff
- 12 Luan Purcell
- 13 Dave Preston
- 13 Kristina Reid
- 14 Cheryl Evancho
- 17 Brian Goodykoontz
- 21 Gladys Seeger
- 22 Pat Patzer
- 23 Steven Barone
- 24 Jon Call
- 25 Bill Albert
- 30 Lily Szczembara

March Anniversaries!

- 18 Dave and Cheryl Evancho
- 19 Gregg and Diane Droste

WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

- Joseph Polzin
- Donna Polzin
- Christine Josiah

THIS MONTH'S ROTATING MEMBER PRAYERS:

March 1st

- Leo and Sandy Albert
- Micheal Albert
- Robin Albert
- Steven Albert

March 15th

- Larry and Esther Bowers
- Scott and Cheryl Bowker
- Dennis Bramigk
- Andrew Brown

March 29th

- Jon and Karen Call
- Catherine Carter
- Gail Christopherson
- Robert Clisch

March 8th

- Jane Alder
- Kelly and Steven Barone
- Mike and Linda Bierbaum
- Michael Bierbaum Jr.

March 22nd

- Randy and Jill Brown
- Megan Brown
- John Busquaert
- Janet Buck

MARCH DAILY DEVOTIONALS

Sunday, March 1st
Second Sunday in Lent
Genesis 12:1-4a
Psalms 121
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
John 3:1-17

Monday, March 2nd
Psalm 128
Numbers 21:4-9
Hebrews 3:1-6

Tuesday, March 3rd
Psalm 128
Isaiah 65:17-25
Romans 4:6-13

Wednesday, March 4th
Psalm 128
Ezekiel 36:22-32
John 7:53-8:11

Thursday, March 5th
Psalm 95
Exodus 16:1-8
Colossians 1:15-23

Friday, March 6th
Psalm 95
Exodus 16:9-21
Ephesians 2:11-22

Saturday, March 7th
Psalm 95
Exodus 16:27-35
John 4:1-6

Sunday, March 8th
Third Sunday in Lent
Exodus 17:1-7
Psalms 95
Romans 5:1-11
John 4:5-42

Monday, March 9th
Psalm 81
Genesis 24:1-27
2 John 1-13

Tuesday, March 10th
Psalm 81
Genesis 29:1-14
1 Corinthians 10:1-4

Wednesday, March 11th
Psalm 81
Exodus 34:1-9, 27-28
Matthew 18:10-14

Thursday, March 12th
Psalm 121
Isaiah 51:1-3
2 Timothy 1:3-7

Friday, March 13th
Psalm 121
Micah 7:18-20
Romans 3:21-31

Saturday, March 14th
Psalm 121
Isaiah 51:4-8
Luke 7:1-10

Sunday, March 15th
Fourth Sunday in Lent
Genesis 12:1-4a
Psalms 121
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
John 3:1-17

Monday, March 16th
Psalm 128
Numbers 21:4-9
Hebrews 3:1-6

Tuesday, March 17th
Psalm 128
Isaiah 65:17-25
Romans 4:6-13

Wednesday, March 18th
Psalm 128
Ezekiel 36:22-32
John 7:53-8:11

Thursday, March 19th
Psalm 95
Exodus 16:1-8
Colossians 1:15-23

Friday, March 20th
Psalm 95
Exodus 16:9-21
Ephesians 2:11-22

Saturday, March 21st
Psalm 95
Exodus 16:27-35
John 4:1-6

Sunday, March 22nd
Fifth Sunday in Lent
Exodus 17:1-7
Psalms 95
Romans 5:1-11
John 4:5-42

Monday, March 23rd
Psalm 81
Genesis 24:1-27
2 John 1-13

Tuesday, March 24th
Psalm 81
Genesis 29:1-14
1 Corinthians 10:1-4

Wednesday, March 25th
Psalm 81
Exodus 34:1-9, 27-28
Matthew 18:10-14

Thursday, March 26th
Psalm 121
Isaiah 51:1-3
2 Timothy 1:3-7

Friday, March 27th
Psalm 121
Micah 7:18-20
Romans 3:21-31

Saturday, March 28th
Psalm 121
Isaiah 51:4-8
Luke 7:1-10

Sunday, March 29th
Palm Sunday
Genesis 12:1-4a
Psalms 121
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
John 3:1-17

Monday, March 30th
Psalm 128
Numbers 21:4-9
Hebrews 3:1-6

Tuesday, March 31st
Psalm 128
Isaiah 65:17-25
Romans 4:6-13

MARCH 2026

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 PASTORS UNBIRTHDAY 10AM WORSHIP 11:15AM FELLOWSHIP HOUR	2 5:00PM AA MEETING 5:30PM MARTIAL ARTS	3 6:45PM SCOUTS	4 6:45PM CUB SCOUTS 7:00PM ADULT BIBLE STUDY (ZOOM)	5 9:30AM QUILTERS 6:00PM BELL CHIOR 7:00PM VOCAL CHIOR	6	7 CUB SCOUTS PINEWOOD DERBY 2:00 - 5:00PM
8 BRING ONE SUNDAY 10AM WORSHIP 11:10AM KIDS ZONE 11:15AM FELLOWSHIP HOUR	9 10AM W/ELCA MEETING 5:00PM AA MEETING 5:30PM MARTIAL ARTS 7PM CRAFT CONNECTIONS 7PM PROPERTY MEETING	10 4PM COUNCIL EXECUTIVE MEETING 6:45PM SCOUTS	11 6:45PM CUB SCOUTS 7:00PM ADULT BIBLE STUDY (ZOOM)	12 9:30AM QUILTERS 6:00PM BELL CHIOR 7:00PM VOCAL CHIOR	13	14 8:30AM MEN'S MINISTRY 10:30AM FINANCE TEAM MEETING 3:00PM TI539 EAGLE SCOUT COURT OF AWARDS  4:00PM HSOJ
15 BRING A FRIEND 10AM WORSHIP 11:10AM KIDS ZONE 11:15AM FELLOWSHIP HOUR	16 5:00PM AA MEETING 5:30PM MARTIAL ARTS	17 BRIAN'S BIRTHDAY 6:30PM COUNCIL 6:45PM SCOUTS ST. PATRICKS'S DAY	18 1PM WOMAN'S BIBLE STUDY 6:45PM CUB SCOUTS 7:00PM ADULT BIBLE STUDY (ZOOM)	19 9:30AM QUILTERS 6:00PM BELL CHIOR 7:00PM VOCAL CHIOR	20 FIRST DAY OF SPRING	21 GLADYS SEEGER'S FUNERAL FAMILY 10:00AM SERVICE 11:00AM
22 10AM WORSHIP 11:10AM KIDS ZONE 11:15AM FELLOWSHIP HOUR	23 5:00PM AA MEETING 5:30PM MARTIAL ARTS 7PM T6695 COMMITTEE MEETING	24 6:45PM SCOUTS	25 10AM CRAFTY CONNECTIONS 6:45PM CUB SCOUTS 7:00PM ADULT BIBLE STUDY (ZOOM)	26 9:30AM QUILTERS 6:00PM BELL CHIOR 7:00PM VOCAL CHIOR	27	28 8:30AM MEN'S MINISTRY 4:00PM HSOJ
29 PALM SUNDAY 10AM WORSHIP 11:10AM KIDS ZONE 11:15AM FELLOWSHIP HOUR EASTER BASKET MINISTRY AFTER SERVICE	30 5:00PM AA MEETING 5:30PM MARTIAL ARTS	31 6:45PM SCOUTS				

MARCH SUNDAY SERVANTS

	March 1st	March 8th	March 15th	March 22nd	March 29th
Assisting Ministers	George Evalt	Robert Clisch	Steven Prinz	Jane Alder	George Evalt
Communion Assistants	Rick Reed	Luareen Preston	George Evalt	Stew Isreal	Cindy Sweier
Ushers	Chris Wommer Bruno Wommer	Cindy Sweier Larry Hartsell	Rick Reed Cliff Switzer	Kristina Wommer Arne Wommer	Mike Bierbaum Charlie Lair
Greeter	Luan Purcell	Tina Reid	Michelle Lair	Carole Gregg	Charlie Tennant
Acolytes	Arne Wommer	Rowan Hardy	Charleigh Truskowski	Bruno Wommer	Belle Gray
Flagon Bearers	Kristina Wommer	Susuan Hardy	Chuck Truskowski	Chris Wommer	Tina Truskowski
Altar Guild	Carol Gregg Sally Evalt Jodi Reed	Georgia Hartsell Gregg Tapper Gloria Tapper	Heather Fogle Katie Frank Jodi Reed	Lauren Preston Luan Purcell Carole Hakala	Marge Ross Robert Clisch Janet Clisch

PRAYING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

If you would like someone on the prayer list, please fill out a connection card and place their name on prayer sheets located in the Welcoming Area. After two weeks, names will be either taken off or put on the continuous listed prayers, but not read aloud in church. Members will have a written reminder of who to pray for in the weekly newsletter.

Ongoing prayers for members that are ill/homebound:

Grace Bryngelson; Jon and Karen Call; Julia Gardner; Kathy Groff; Carole Knapp; Eva Miner; Carol Noonan; Mark Roffi; Theo Pritz

New prayers for People who are ill or homebound:

Ed Klousterhaus
Judy Youvon
Dee Wheeler
Doris Reece
Mark Pendleton
Margo Pendleton
Doris Reece

Kathy Groff
Chris Roberts
Chris Wommer
Kevin Kraushaur
Lois Zilka
Connie Pino
Phil Sweier

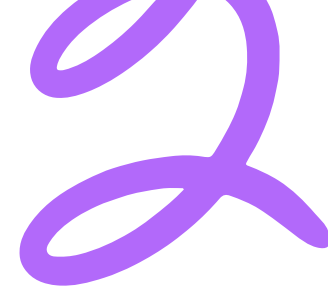
Prayers for families and friends with special needs: Elizabeth Reed; Kamira F; Beth Albanice

People impacted by lack of food and medication
People affected by persecution and conflict
People and their families who are struggling with mental illness or addictions

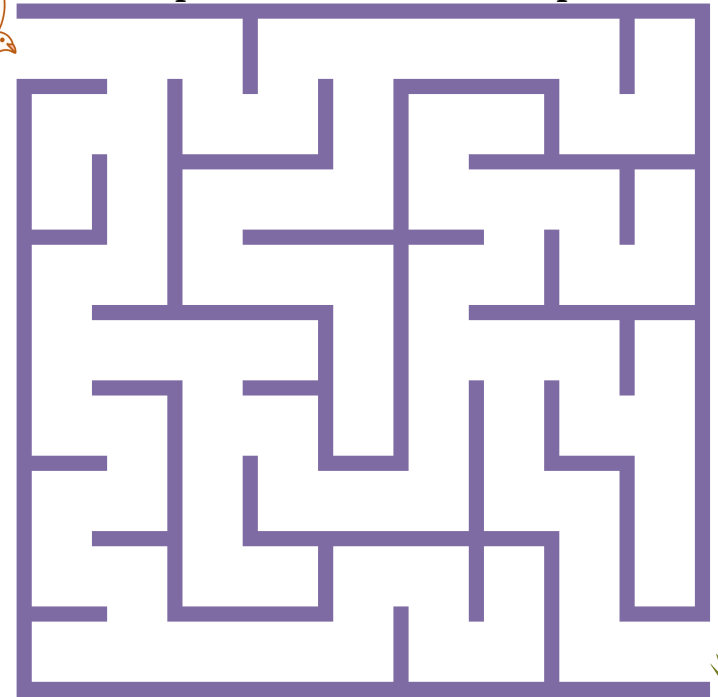
Those who are serving our country especially:
Ian Bramigk (Army), Trevor Danielson (Coast Guard), Calvin Heim (Air Force), Ryan Loyd (Air Force), Tyler Miller (Army)



Kids Corner!



Help the dove find the palm!



DINGBATS


KING KING

🔥 CANDLE 🔥

EVER EVER THURSDAY EVER EVER

READ READ READ IT READ READ READ READ

EACK

 BOARD

Celebration Lutheran Church
39375 Joy Road,
Westland, MI 48185

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