



More Good News

Feb. 2017

Volume 18, #3

March at a Glance

March 1

Ash Wednesday
7 PM Worship

March 5

10:30 AM Worship
w/ Communion
Scripts due

March 8, 15, 22 and 29

Bell Practice 6:00 PM

March 7

Session 6:30 PM

March 8

Prayer Shawl 7:00 PM

March 12

Daylight Savings Time Begins
10:30 AM Worship

March 15

Newsletter Deadline

March 19

10:30 Worship

March 26

10:30 Worship

March 28

Pastor April on KDWA
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

From the Pastor's Desk

Spiritual disciplines are different things to different people. Depending on your state of mind and openness, a spiritual discipline can be especially moving and meaningful. Or a spiritual discipline may feel more like a burden, taking up your time and energy. During this Holy season of Lent, I would like to encourage you to reflect on four inward spiritual disciplines and see if perhaps one is calling to you during these special 40 days.

The season of Lent may be one that is foreign or unfamiliar, or Lent may be well-known to you, in either case, as a refresher let's briefly focus on Lent. What is Lent? Lent is a 40-day period (not including Sundays) of reflection, self-reflection and renewal. It begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on the Saturday before Easter. Why the color purple in the sanctuary? Purple represents penitence and preparation. Can you think of what other liturgical season is purple? Lent is a time when we can wonder and contemplate the Easter story and let its meaning touch our lives.

Four inward spiritual disciplines you could try this Lenten season are meditation, prayer, fasting and study. Meditation is intentionally contemplating, listening to the Word of God, allowing God to transform your life. Jesus meditated on the scriptures, so can we. For example, pick a psalm and repeat it several times slowly and let it move you.

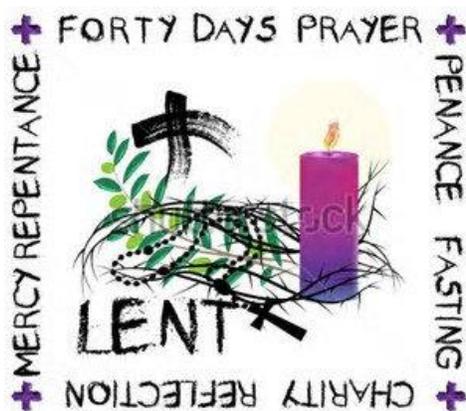
Prayer is a way of communicating with God. Prayer is a conversation, a dialogue; an opportunity to tell God what is happening in your life and then listen. An opportunity to ask for God's help in your life, help in healing hurts of the world (supplication), an opportunity to ask for forgiveness (contrition) and a chance to pray on behalf of others (intercession). Listening and discernment are important, because it is usually in the unexpected times and places that God speaks to you or speaks to you through other people. Prayer can take many forms, as there is no one right way to pray. The most important part of prayer is approaching it with an open and humble heart.

James Earl Massey once said "Fasting is important in Christian experience because it deepens within the whole self a sense of one's dependence upon the strength of God. Fasting is more than an act of abstinence. It is an affirmative act; it is a way of waiting on God; it is an act of surrender." Most typically fasting involves food, but there are other ways to fast. For instance, go on a week long fast from judging other people. Or try a week long fast from self-criticism. Fasting is a way to abstain from something so as to become closer to God.

A final spiritual discipline is study; spend time with scripture in study and devotion. One way to do this is to use a Lenten Devotional like *From Fear to Love Lenten Reflections on the Parable of the Prodigal Son* by Henri Nouwen. Use the devotion in the morning and in the evening, alone or with friends, be present to the words and let them stir you. Of course you could also study using a group Bible study, the lectionary calendar, or the Mission Yearbook, just to name a few. The point is to immerse yourself and reflect on spiritual writings and allow them guide your life.

There are also other spiritual disciplines; these are just four that I thought may be interesting and helpful. I pray this Lenten season of repentance and reflection is a meaningful, challenging and moving journey for you and us all.

Grace to you, and peace,
April





Ash Wednesday Service
March 1st
7 PM

A sign-up sheet for this year's Lenten Devotional will be in the Fellowship Hall. This is a great way to go through Lent, as we prepare our hearts for Easter.

Scrips Fundraiser (easy money!!)



As we plan for holiday, birthdays, weddings, graduations and teacher appreciation, a gift card is a perfect gift and they come in many amounts and many vendors. Scrip orders will again be taken on March 5th. If you are the person who likes to plan ahead, be ready with a gift card to give. Additional information on the Scrip program is available on the kiosk as well as order forms. Marcia Rash or Pastor April can help you with any questions that you may have. It's an easy way to earn \$ for the church without costing you any extra. Checks are made out to the church.

Don't forget to set your clocks ahead when you go to bed on March 11th.



Bell Choir Schedule



Wednesday March 8	6 PM	Practice
Wednesday March 15	6 PM	Practice
Wednesday March 22	6 PM	Practice
Wednesday March 29	6 PM	Practice
Sunday April 2	9:30 AM	Practice
Sunday April 9	9:30 AM	Practice & Play
Sunday April 16	9:30 AM	Practice & Play
Sunday May 7	9:30 AM	Practice
Wednesday May 10	6 PM	Practice
Wednesday May 17	6 PM	Practice
Sunday May 21	9:30 AM	Practice & Play

Garage Sale

It is several months yet to the garage sale, but now is the time to start setting aside items for it. We take almost anything with these limitations: 1) You must sign for larger items. If the item doesn't sell, it costs us to get rid of it; 2) If you would not buy it, do not bring it -- items must be clean, and in relatively good condition. Trash will not sell and again will cost us money to dispose of it. Start thinking now of ways for this to be one of our best garage sale ever! Sale dates are May 5th and 6th.



2017 Per Capita

Per Capita for 2017 is \$33.75 total per member

Please submit to the church by May 1st

THE RECIPE CORNER

In the Recipe Corner, we will be sharing our favorite recipes, but I need your recipes in order to continue this feature. Please send your recipes to Becky Tiefenbruck at mrsbect@gmail.com or put them in the newsletter box in the office.

TWO MINUTE HAWAIIAN PIE

submitted by Becky Tiefenbruck

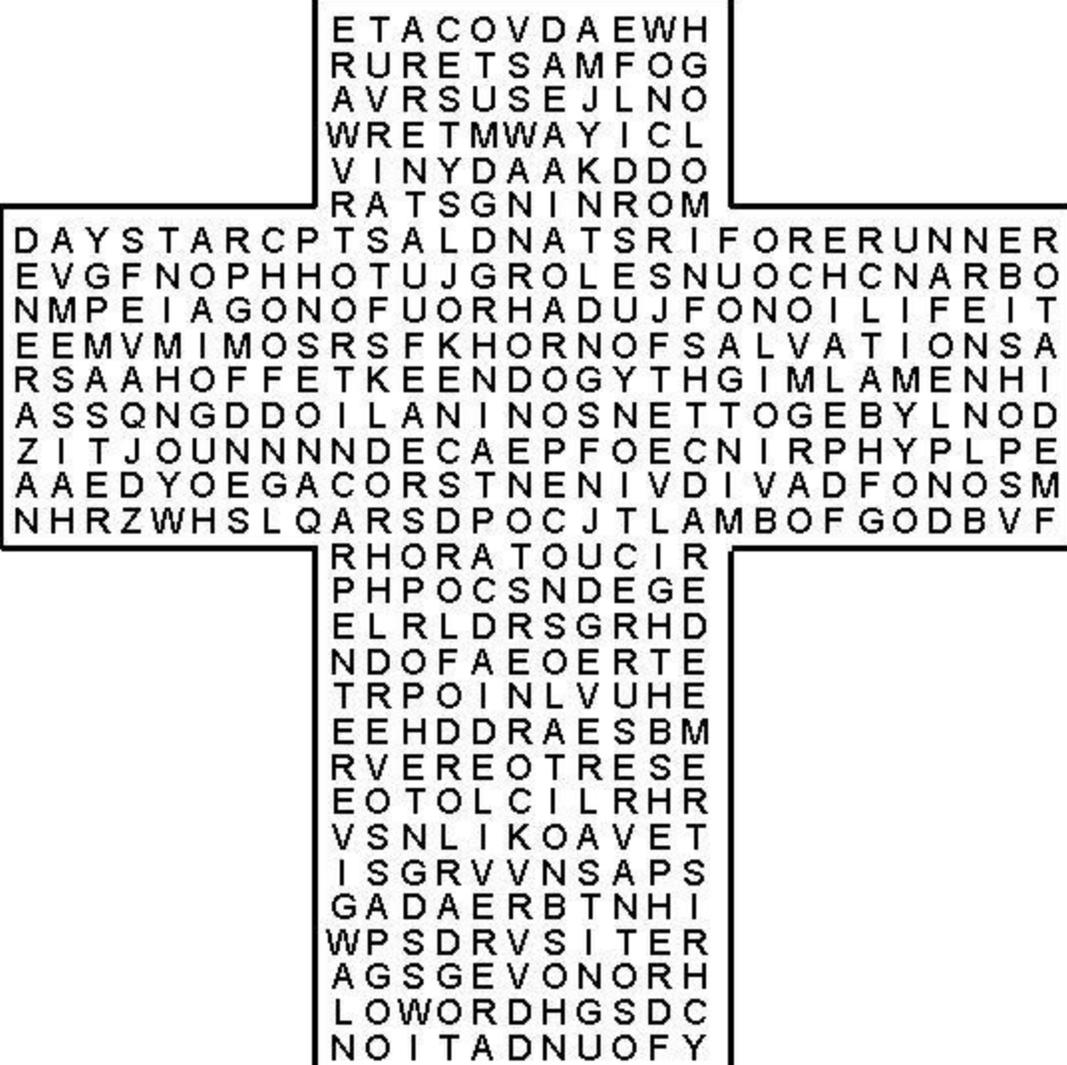
Ingredients:

- 1 (20oz) can crushed pineapple "UNDRAINED"
- 2 boxes instant Jello coconut pudding mix (these only come in small boxes). You can substitute 1 large 6 serving size vanilla if you don't like the coconut flavor.
- 8 oz sour cream
- 1 Extra serving sized graham cracker crust
- 1 (8oz) can pineapple slices
- 8 maraschino cherries (or more if you like them)
- 1/2 cup sweetened flaked, coconut (optional)
- 1 (8oz) container of cool whip, divided

Directions:

1. In a large bowl, combine crushed pineapple 'with' its syrup, dry pudding mix, and sour cream; mix until well combined.
2. Fold in ~1/2 of the container of cool whip.
3. Put mixture into pie crust
4. Top with the rest of the Cool Whip
5. Drain pineapple slices and arrange on top of pie.
6. Sprinkle flaked coconut on top of pineapple (If you don't like it leave it off).
7. Place cherries in center of pineapple rings.
8. Refrigerate several hours and serve

But Whom Do You Say That I AM?



Advocate
 Almighty
 Alpha and Omega
 Amen
 Apostle
 Beloved Son
 Bishop
 Branch
 Bread
 Captain
 Carpenter
 Chosen
 Christ
 Consolation
 Cornerstone
 Counselor
 Day Star
 Deliverer

Door
 Emmanuel
 Everlasting
 Faithful and True
 First and Last
 Forerunner
 Foundation
 Governor
 Head
 High Priest
 Holy and Just One
 Horn of Salvation
 I AM
 Jesus
 Judge
 King
 King of Kings
 Lamb of God

Lawgiver
 Life
 Light
 Lion of Judah
 Lord
 Lord of Lords
 Master
 Master
 Mediator
 Messiah
 Mighty God
 Morning Star
 Nazarene
 Only Begotten Son
 Passover
 Priest
 Prince of Peace
 Prophet

Redeemer
 Resurrection
 Rock
 Savior
 Servant
 Shepherd
 Son of David
 Son of God
 Son of Man
 Vine
 Way
 Wonderful
 Word



Glory Of These Forty Days

Gregory I, Pope, ca. 540-604

The glory of these forty days
We celebrate with songs of praise;
For Christ, by Whom all things were made,
Himself has fasted and has prayed.

Alone and fasting Moses saw
The loving God Who gave the law;
And to Elijah, fasting, came
The steeds and chariots of flame.

So Daniel trained his mystic sight,
Delivered from the lions' might;
And John, the Bridegroom's friend,
became
The herald of Messiah's Name.

Then grant us, Lord, like them to be
Full oft in fast and prayer with Thee;
Our spirits strengthen with Thy grace,
And give us joy to see Thy face.

O Father, Son, and Spirit blest,
To thee be every prayer addressed,
Who art in threefold Name adored,
From age to age, the only Lord.

Bible Readings This Month

March 5

Gen. 2: 15-17; 3: 1-7

Ps. 32

Rom. 5: 12-19

Matt. 4: 1-11

March 12

Gen. 12: 1-4a

Ps. 121

Rom. 4: 1-5, 13-17

John 3: 1-17



March 19

Ex. 17: 1-7

Ps. 95

Rom. 5: 5-11

John 4: 5-42

March 26

1 Sam. 16: 1-13

Ps. 23

Eph. 5: 8-14

John 9: 1-41

March 2017 Servers

	Greeters	Ushers	Lay Leaders
March 5	Tayson/Wittkopf	Browns	Dave Hume
March 12	Becker	Blumeyers	Kristin Blevins
March 19	Christians	Crawmer	Aimee Fagnant
March 26	Informal Worship	Rash	Grant Tiefenbruck

Session Minutes for January 3, 2017

A stated meeting of the Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Hastings, MN was held at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall of the church on January 3, 2017.

The meeting began at 6:30 PM when Reverend Dr. April Davis Campbell lit the Christ Candle to remind us that we are called to a ministry of loving and caring for each other.

Hebrew 11:1 Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Faith is mostly not about you. Jesus talked about ye of little faith. Trying to live bigly causes sins of omission. Faith is a gift from God. Hope is something that we can do. The meeting was then opened with prayer.

Elders Present:

Class of 2016: Brenda Reiter

Class of 2017: Grant Tiefenbruck, Dave Hume

Class of 2018: Dennis Brown

Absent: Marcia Rash, Mary Crawmer, Carlotta Mullins

Clerk's Report: The December Session Minutes were approved as submitted. A review of the membership rolls was made. Grant Tiefenbruck was re-elected Clerk of Session for 2017.

Treasurer's Report: December was a very good month which means that the church finished with more money in the checking account than at the beginning of the year. However, this does include a large infusion of cash from the Foundation.

Foundation Report: The Foundation did not meet. They need to make recommendations for distributions to replenish the cash accounts.

Pastor's Report: The Pastor's Dad is back in Nebraska. She will leave after the annual meeting for her rotation of home care. The caring for her Dad is not without its stresses. She still has much time off that has not been used. The Presbytery Grant application: Pebble in a Pond which consists of three rings: Congregational study of communion during informal worship. After this we shall have an artist lead in preparation of decorations. Second ring: The idea for Holy Yoga is to give a spiritual twist to good things for the body that is not currently available around Hastings. Third ring: Musician in residence to provide music for worship and again on Wednesday evenings. Several different styles of music will be highlighted. Additionally we would refurbish our sign to reach out to the 25,000 people each day who pass by.

Presbytery Meeting: at Kwanzaa Church January 21. Mary was elected commissioner to the January meeting.

Deacons: No report.

M/S/C to receive all of the reports above on the consent agenda.

Committee Reports

Building and Grounds – Dennis – People who use the elevator seem to understand the change.

Fellowship – Brenda – Nothing until warmer weather.

Christian Education – Kaitlin is continuing with Sunday school for the rest of the program year.

Mission – Mary – No report

Stewardship/Finance – Marcia Rash – Budget has been “corrected.”

Personnel/Nominating – **Grant** -Some success! Bob Albright will continue as a Foundation Director and Shannon Stenzel will serve as a Deacon. There are other offers to serve being considered.

Worship - Ash Wednesday March 1 there will be a service.

M/S/C to receive the committee reports.

Old Business – Presbytery grant proposal will be shared for comments. Submission to Presbytery by 1/15/2017.

Annual reports are also due on January 15.

New Business - None

There will be a meeting of Session on February 7, 2017 at 6:30 PM. Grant has devotions

There will be a meeting of Session on March 7, 2017 at 6:30 PM

There will be a meeting of Session on April 4, 2017 at 6:30 PM

April closed the meeting with prayer at 7: 45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Grant Tiefenbruck
Clerk of Session

MARCH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1  ASH WEDNESDAY Service 7 PM		3  Jean Hume	4
5 10:30 Worship w/Communion	6	7 Session 6:30 PM	8 Bell Choir 6 PM Prayer Shawl 7PM  Mary Crawmer  Tim Dymacek	9  Hans Most  Hannah Bodick	10	11
12  Time to Spring Ahead 10:30 Worship  Judy Becker	13	14  Susan Fagnant	15 Bell Choir 6:00 PM	16	17  St. Patrick's Day	18
19 10:30 Worship	20  The First Day Of Spring	21	22 Bell Choir 6:00 PM  Kaitlyn Gustafson	23	24	25  Jesse Ott
26 10:30 InformalWorship  Lee Rash	27	28 Pastor April on KDWA 11am-12pm  Koleta Preece	29 Bell Choir 6:00 PM	30	31	