



April at a Glance

April 2

9:30 AM Bell Practice
10:30 AM Worship
w/ Communion

April 4

Session 6:30 PM

April 5, 12, 19 and 26

Bible Study w/light meal
6 - 7 PM

April 9

Palm Sunday

9:30 AM Bell Practice & Play
10:30 AM Worship
Confirmation Sunday

April 13

Maunday Thursday

Worship 7 PM

April 14

Good Friday

Ecumenical Service at SEAS

April 15

Newsletter Deadline

April 16

Easter Sunday

9:30 AM Bell Practice & Play
10:30 AM Worship

April 25

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

April 30

10:30 Informal Worship

More Good News

April 2017
Volume 18, #4

From the Pastor's Desk

At the March 11, 2017 meeting of the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area it was announced that our congregation received a grant award of \$19,000.

Our project helps us to meet the changing demographics of Hastings and connect with the resurgence of energy, vitality, and life. The project starts with a pebble being tossed into a pond and the ripples that are created from that pebble drift out to the larger community. The first ring or ripple in the pond (part of the project) involves a congregational study surrounding communion using Henri Nouwen's book *Can You Drink the Cup?* We will engage in a four week book study and discussion of Communion and its significance in our corporate and personal lives. As a culmination of the communion study, during informal worship we will have Liturgical Artist Dawn Carlson Conn join the community of faith for an afternoon of guided fabric painting and we will create sanctuary paraments (communion cloth, pulpit parament and pastor's stole) and a banner for the fellowship hall. As a connectional church the fabric represents us in communion with God, brothers and sisters in Christ, former members and new future members.

The second ring or ripple in the concentric circle is offering Holy Yoga to the congregation and the broader community. On multiple occasions there has been feedback that while people like yoga, they are missing a spiritual connection to God. "When we can distance ourselves from the daily grind and find peace in worshipping with the entirety of our being, we find ourselves in the flow of His Magnificence and in the midst of His grace," (Instructor Training packet)." There is no one in Hastings or the surrounding communities (Vermillion, Red Wing, Hampton, Prescott, Rosemount, or Cottage Grove) who offers Holy Yoga, which is an opportunity to connect with other members in the broader community (potentially unchurched), physically connect with your body through a good workout, and deepen a

relationship with God. Offering Holy Yoga to Hastings will not only bring people in the doors, but also encourage visitors to wonder what other new and meaningful things First Presbyterian Church in Hastings, Minnesota is doing, as well as, what is the Presbyterian Church USA doing. Holy Yoga is being the hands and feet of Christ in Hastings, but hopefully drawing in new members also.

The third ring of the concentric circle is to engage the musical side of people's souls through creation of a contract musician-in-residence which facilitates a music program and a meal initiative. This opportunity would feed people's bodies, minds and spirits through the connection of special music in worship on Sunday mornings and then a Wednesday evening music and a meal. This would be a monthly offering with different music each month, the connection being between the Sunday morning worship and Wednesday evening community fellowship. Different themes will include, but are not limited to; barber shop quartet, jazz, gospel choir, bluegrass, bell choir, The Tune-Ups, Redpath, Dang Ol' Tri' Ole, Banjo and the Bear. This could definitely be a dimension that the community comes to look forward to: getting to hear inspiring music, physically being fed and meeting new people. Music can soothe the soul and draw people closer to God. This musical dimension invites the congregation and the community to find peace and comfort with new and different music. Once again, this will draw people into the church but also create a space wherein in they can ask what other interesting ministries and missions is this body of faith involved in.

This congregation participated in the Ministry in a Changing World initiative, which was well received in terms of participation and enthusiasm, to reflect on the needs of the church, as well as how to better serve one another outside the walls of the church.

If this project is a success it will yield more regular visitors and members which will enable the music portion to become self-sustaining. One time costs include the book study, liturgical artist expenses, Holy Yoga training, and refurbishment of the sign. There is energy and excitement for this proposal from the pastor and the session to help with the success of this project.

The entirety of this project considers both the needs of this congregation but the vision and future of Hastings, MN and how the Presbyterian Church USA can strengthen and broaden its presence and the mission of Jesus Christ in the world today.

Grace and Peace

April





Dear Friends,

Thank you doesn't begin to convey the depth of the gratitude we felt by your presence, kind words, hugs, gifts and great love, following the death of our son, Karl. It is very humbling to be cared for so well at a time when you are so vulnerable. This church may be a small band, but the size of your heart is beyond measure. I am honored to be one of you.

Karen A.

Virginia Krier has moved to a care facility in Northfield. If you would like to send her a card, please send it care of her daughter:

Katie Jo Overby

29698 Gerlach Way

Cannon Falls, MN 55009-9227



Join us each Wednesday evening in April, from 6 - 7 PM, as we continue to explore the stories from the New Testament. We will begin each session with a light supper. We look forward to seeing you there.



**Holy Week
& Easter**

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MAUNDY
Thursday
SERVICE

7 PM Worship



5 PM ecumenical
service at St.
Elizabeth Ann Seton
Catholic Church



9:30 Easter Breakfast
10:30 Worship
w/Communion



IT'S GARAGE SALE TIME!!!!

Garage Sale ~ May 5th and 6th

Garage Sale Time is HERE! You can bring items to the church NOW. Put them in the old youth room. If you have friends or family members that have things they'd like to donate, we'll happily sell their stuff, too!

We will set up the room after informal worship on April 30th. We are part of the City Wide Sale that will occur on May 5 and 6.

Sign-up sheets are on the kiosk. We need your help as well as your stuff! We especially need help pricing things on Wednesday and Thursday. Hours are 4-8, Wednesday; 1-4, 4-8 on Thursday. Sale hours are 8-5 on Friday, and 8-close on Saturday.

Bring baked goods on the day of the sale. Breads, cookies, brownies, Rice Krispie and other bars are our best sellers. If you feel the need to bring a layer cake or a pie, we'll sell that, too. Last year we did ***\$500 in bakery items alone***, so this is an important income producing area for us.

We need mugs to sell with coffee, as well as plastic and paper bags for bagging purchased items and for the bag sale. Tools and jewelry have been good for us, but so have books, toys and CD's. If it's clean and in good condition, we'll put it up for sale.

We know many of you have supplied us with lots of goodies in previous years. If you are cleaned out at your house, check with others you know who may have an item or two they're looking to get rid of. We have become known for the variety, quality and quantity of our merchandise, so we really need a good supply. We're depending on everyone to make this our best garage sales ever!



Handbells

Double Delight: Celebrate Spring with Handbell Harmonies Bells of the Bluffs Handbell Ensemble to partner with Twin Cities Bronze for spring concerts.

Two leading area handbell ensembles are pairing up to present an exciting spring concert series. Bells of the Bluffs Handbell Ensemble and Twin Cities Bronze will combine for two April concerts in Red Wing and Hopkins that promise to deliver an incredible musical experience.

The identical concerts will feature each group individually, plus several mass bell ensemble selections, concluding with a memorable rendition of the “Hallelujah Chorus.” Bells of the Bluffs numbers will include several compositions that bring out the unique sounds of the group’s five octaves of handbells and chimes.

Choose either Sunday concert (or both!) for a doubly delightful musical experience:

April 2, 2017, 4:00 p.m.

First Lutheran Church, 615 West 5th Street, Red Wing, Minnesota

April 30, 2017, 7:00 p.m.

Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 715 Minnetonka Mills Road, Hopkins, Minnesota

Bells of the Bluffs is devoted to igniting passion in handbells. The 14-member ensemble, under the direction of Marilee Anderson, is a community handbell ensemble based in Red Wing, Minn. Bells of the Bluffs includes ringers from east-central and southeast Minnesota, western Wisconsin and the Twin Cities metro area. To learn more about Bells of the Bluffs events, sign up for the group’s newsletter or suggest a concert location, visit bellsofthebluffs.org and find them on Facebook and YouTube.

Twin Cities Bronze is a premier ensemble of advanced ringers from the Twin Cities metro area. The ensemble is known for its energetic and visually appealing performance style. Twin Cities Bronze will travel to Puerto Rico in June for a cultural residency featuring concerts, workshops and educational outreach. Learn more at twincitiesbronze.org.

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.

World's Best Granola

(not my title... that's what it was called when I got the recipe)
submitted by Karen Altpeter

3 cups old-fashioned rolled oats (not quick cooking -- it won't clump together)
1/2 cup brown sugar
1 tsp cinnamon
1/2 tsp baking powder
1/2 tsp salt
1/2 cup coarsely chopped almonds
1/2 cup coarsely chopped pecans
1/4 cup canola oil
1/2 tsp vanilla
2 egg whites, slightly beaten
1/2 cup raisins or other dried fruit

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line rimmed baking sheet with parchment paper or spray with non-stick spray.

In large mixing bowl, combine oats, brown sugar, cinnamon, baking powder, salt, almonds and pecans. In small bowl, stir together oil, vanilla and egg whites. Add to dry ingredients. Toss well.

Spread mixture evenly on prepared baking sheet. Bake for 25 to 30 minutes or until golden brown. Cool completely. Stir in raisins. Store in airtight container.

Variations: Substitute 1/4 cup pure maple syrup and 1/4 cup honey for brown sugar. Combine with liquid ingredients before tossing with dry ingredients



Easter Story

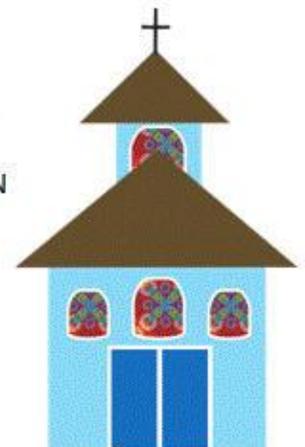
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APOSTLES
BETRAYAL
CAVE
CHURCH
CROSS
CROWN
CRUCIFIXION
DISCIPLES
FAITH
GOOD FRIDAY

JESUS CHRIST
JUDAS
LAMB
LAST SUPPER
LENT
MARY
MIRACLE
PASSOVER
PENANCE
PENTECOST

PRAYER
REDEMPTION
REJOICE
RESURRECTION
RISEN
SAVIOR
SON
THORNS
TOMB



Bells Of Easter Hymn



The bells of Easter sweetly peal:
"Christ is risen! Christ is risen!"
They chime the hope He doth reveal,
This joyful Easter day.
The Lord of Life hath gone on high;
Christ is risen! Christ is risen!
"Rejoice," with swelling notes they cry!
"Rejoice, rejoice!" they say.

Refrain

*Shines the glorious heav'nly portal!
Angel songs we almost hear!
O the joy of life immortal.
When in glory we appear.
O the joy of life immortal.
When in glory we appear.*

The shining Easter angels say:
"Christ is risen! Christ is risen!
Come, see the place where Jesus lay,
He's ris'n: He is not here.
No longer held in death's embrace;
Christ is risen! Christ is risen!
Ye shall behold Him face to face,
In glory to appear."

Refrain

Repeat the tidings far and wide!
"Christ is risen! Christ is risen!"
No longer Christ the crucified,
But Christ the mighty King.
For us exalted evermore;
Christ is risen! Christ is risen!
While the heav'nly hosts our Lord adore,
Let all creation sing!

Refrain

Bible Readings This Month

April 2

Ezek. 37: 1-14
 Ps. 130
 Rom. 8: 6-11
 John 11: 1-45

April 10

Palm Sunday

Palms: Matt. 21: 1-11
 Ps. 118: 1-2, 19-29
Passion: Isa. 50: 4-9a
 Ps. 31: 9-16
 Phil. 2: 5-11
 Matt. 26: 14-27: 66 or .
 Matt. 27: 11-54

April 16

Easter Sunday

Acts 10: 34-43 or
 Jer. 31: 1-6
 Ps. 118: 1-2, 14-24
 Col: 3: 1-4 or
 Acts 10: 34-43
 John 20: 1-18 or
 Matt. 28: 1-10

April 23

Acts 2: 14a, 22-32
 Ps. 16
 1 Peter 1: 3-9-
 John 20: 19-31



April 30

Acts 2: 14a, 36-41
 Ps. 116: 1-4, 12-19
 1 Peter 1: 17-23
 Luke 24: 13-35

April 2017 Servers			
	Greeters	Ushers	Lay Leaders
April 2	Carlotta Mullins	Tiefenbrucks	Marcia Caneff
April 9	Christians	Judy Becker	Kristin Blevins
April 16	Mary Crawmer	Rashes	Dennis Brown
April 23	Tayson/Wittkopf	Brenda Reiter	Dave Hume
April 30	Informal Worship	Mary Crawmer	Grant Tiefenbruck

A Session Minutes for February 7, 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 February 7, 2017.

The meeting began at 6:30 PM when Reverend Dr. April Davis Campbell lit the Christ Candle to remind us about God's warmth. Grant led the devotion. The devotion was about an article which discussed the use of gratitude as a management tool for our relationships. A related scripture is Hebrews 12:28 Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe. The meeting was then opened with prayer.

Elders Present:

Class of 2017: Grant Tiefenbruck, Dave Hume

Class of 2018: Dennis Brown, Mary Crawmer

Class of 2019: Brenda Reiter

Absent: Karen Altpeter

Also present: Marcia Rash

Clerk's Report: The January Session Minutes were approved as submitted. A review of the Statistical Reports to GA was made. The composition of the Congregation is 22 men, 41 women. The composition of the Session is 3 men, 3 women. All are white, non-Hispanic.

Treasurer's Report: We did make all of the deposits which Marcia was seeking to reconcile the accounts. We are hoping to engage a new bookkeeper, Lilah Emmons. She should look at potential online training, too. The Tithes and Offerings for January were above the budget, but that is probably because some people pay their pledges annually.

Foundation Report: The Foundation did not meet.

Pastor's Report: Confirmation is slotted out. There are several lessons to go. Session will meet with the confirmands on April 2. The confirmation service will be April 9. A letter of gratitude was received from the Mission agency. David Mahakian will be preaching on February 12 and Robert Hamilton will be preaching on February 19. The Pastor's house is a bit unsettled after her time in Nebraska.

Presbytery Meeting: A summary of the meeting will be posted on the kiosk. Ugandan Youth Choir is looking for hosts. Several performances and a free will offering are possible. We suggest that they contact the church in Red Wing. The March 11th meeting will have a speaker from GA. Mary and Brenda were elected as commissioners.

Deacons: No report.

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

Committee Reports

Building and Grounds – Dennis – Kurt Fagnant will be doing his Eagle project soon which will involve some specific tasks around the church. Grant will act as a liaison.

Fellowship – Brenda – An informal group is planning to go out to lunch at Julio and Me (in Hastings) on Sunday, February 12. April will send out an email promoting it.

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

Mission – Mary – Food Share month in March. Cash is the recommended gift.

Stewardship/Finance – Scrips dates are proposed for March 5 and May 7.

Personnel/Nominating – Grant – None

Worship - Ash Wednesday is on March 1. There will be a service with communion. Try for an outdoor worship service at Schaar's Bluff on August 27th. Need to talk about the parade in the near future.

M/S/C to receive the committee reports.

Old Business – None

New Business -

Continuing Ed week for the Pastor at the monastery in May.

Janice Larson has requested to use the church on Monday, May 8 for a recital.

M/S/C for a fee of \$100.

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

There will be a meeting of Session on May 2, 2017 at 6:30 PM

Grant closed the meeting with prayer at 7: 25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Grant Tiefenbruck
Clerk of Session

April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 
2 9:30 AM Bell Choir 10:30 AM Worship	3  David Berger	4 Session 6:30 PM	5 Bible Study 6:00 PM	6	7	8
9  9:30 AM Bell Choir 10:30 AM Worship Confirmation Sunday	10	11	12 Bible Study 6:00 PM	13  7 PM	14  GOOD FRIDAY SEAS 5 PM	15
16  9:30 AM Bell Choir Easter Breakfast 10:30 AM Worship	17  Jason Whipple	18	19 Bible Study 6:00 PM	20	21  Corrine Lewis	22 
23 10:30 AM Worship  Carlotta Mullins	24	25 Pastor April on KDWA 11AM-12PM  Becky Tiefenbruck	26 Bible Study 6:00 PM	27  Ric Most	28	29
30 10:30 AM Informal Worship						



First Presbyterian Church

602 Vermillion Street

Hastings, MN 55033