

More Good News

May 2017
Volume 18, #5

May at a Glance

May 2

Session 6:30 PM

May 5 and 6

Garage Sale

May 7

10:30 AM Worship
w/ Communion
Scripts Order due

May 10, 17, 24, 31

Bell Choir Practice 6 PM

May 14

10:30 AM Worship

May 15

Newsletter Deadline

May 17

Prayer Shawl 7 PM

May 21

10:30 Informal Worship

May 23

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

May 29

10:30 AM Worship

From the Pastor's Desk

Practicing Resurrection

“For even if the whole world believed in resurrection, little would change until we began to practice it. We can believe in CPR, but people will remain dead until someone breathes new life into them. And we can tell the world that there is life after death, but the world really seems to be wondering if there is life before death.”

— Shane Claiborne, *The Irresistible Revolution: Living as an Ordinary Radical*

We are now in the Holy season of Easter. Maybe you are thinking that we just celebrated Easter, so now it is time to move on, Yes and No. Yes, we did celebrate Easter, but that doesn't mean the season is over. It is a chance to savor this time of newness and renewal. For instance, as we go for a walk, we might intentionally take notice of the buds on the trees, the flowers sprouting from the ground, and the grass changing to radiant green from dull and lifeless brown. We may notice the geese, the ducks, the bunnies, the birds chirping and the frogs croaking. Our senses are stirred. They are telling us to take notice, wake up and see the glory that surrounds us, appreciating the gift of creation that God has entrusted us with as stewards.

Easter's resurrection, recreation, and renewal, does not stop with an empty tomb. That is just the beginning. There is a rebirth of all of creation. It gives us another chance to extend love, grace, compassion, and forgiveness, because that is what God has already done.

I wonder how the coming weeks will shower you with resurrection, or better yet, I wonder what you will do to practice resurrection. Among the many comforting things is the fact that practice does not imply perfection will be attained, rather practice implies second chances, and third, and fourth, and fifth, etc.

Believe me, practicing resurrection is something for everyone. I won't bore you with the many ways I think we can live out our experience of practicing resurrection. However, I do hope you will share with others how you have been practicing. Practice does not make perfect, it makes you a more authentic mirror of God's love.

Grace to you, and peace,

April



1st Presbyterian Church of Hastings Core Values

- * Moving and engaging worship
- * Openness in decision-making
- * Deep, life-giving relationships
- * Building and 150 year history as part of our identity
- * Serving the community through mission
- * Courage to take risks and the ability to persevere



Garage Sale May 5th and May 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!

Sign-up sheets are on the kiosk. We need your help as well as your stuff! Set up for the sale will be after worship on April 30th. 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 Krispy 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 about ***\$300 in bakery items alone***, so this is an important income producing area for us.

We need mugs to sell with coffee, 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 sale ever!



Scripts Fund-raising Order

It is time for another Scripts order. April will be submitting a paper order on **May 7th**. New participating companies have been added. There are lists and order forms downstairs. Remember each gift card you purchase earns First Presbyterian money.

Hastings Family Services uses over 1,600 paper bags every month. Please consider bringing in your clean paper bags to the Donation Center today!



Spring Bell Practice Schedule

Wednesday May 10th practice at 6:00
Wednesday May 17th practice at 6:00
Wednesday May 24th practice at 6:00
Wednesday May 31st (if needed) practice at 6:00
Sunday June 4th at 9:30 am practice and play

Prayer Shawl Ministry will be meeting on the second Wednesday of each month. Join us on May 10 at 7 PM. If you can't knit or crochet that's okay, join us anyway for a time of fellowship.



Pentecost Offering

June 4th

A gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and also address the needs of at-risk children. 40% of the offering can be retained by individual congregations, while the remaining 60% is used to support Young Adult Volunteers, Ministries with Youth, and Children-at-Risk.



Give toward a more promising future

“For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away . . .” —Acts 2:39

MICHAEL ERDELYI

 **PENTECOST**
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS

THE RECIPE CORNER

Please send your recipes to Becky Tiefenbruck at mrsbect@gmail.com or put them in the newsletter box in the office.

Toffee Butter Crunch

submitted by April Davis Campbell

Butter is a must for top-notch toffee flavor

Ingredients

1/2 cup coarsely chopped toasted almonds or pecans
1 cup butter
1 cup sugar
1 tablespoon light corn syrup
1 teaspoon vanilla
3/4 milk chocolate chips

Directions

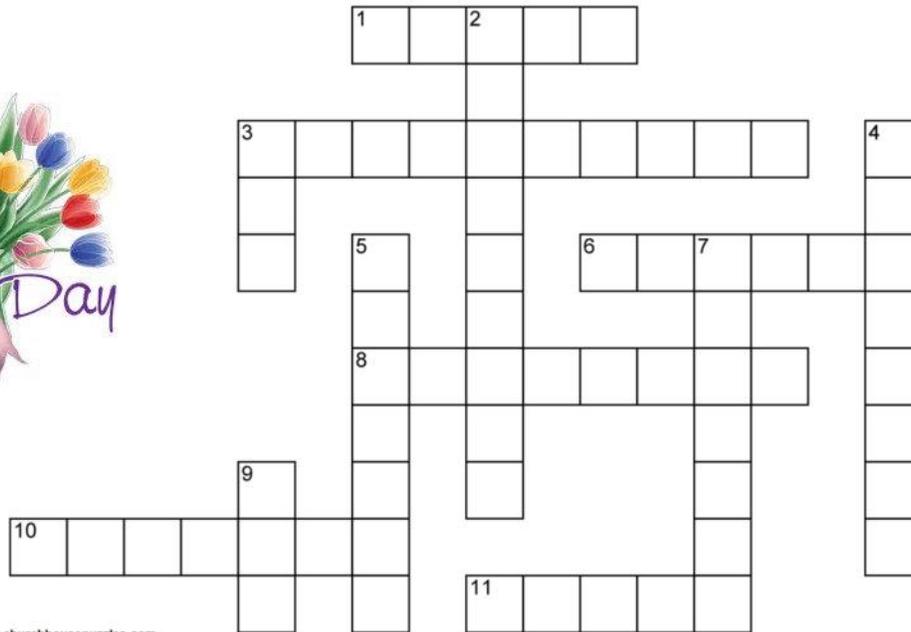
Line a 13 x 9 x 2 inch baking pan with foil, extending foil over edges. Sprinkle the 1/2 cup coarsely chopped nuts in pan. Butter sides of a heavy 2 quart saucepan. In saucepan, melt butter. Add sugar, corn syrup and 3 tablespoons *water*. Cook and stir over medium-high heat to boiling.

Clip candy thermometer to pan. Cook and stir over medium heat to 290 degrees, soft-crack stage (about 15 minutes). Watch carefully after 280 degrees to prevent scorching. Remove saucepan from heat; remove thermometer. Add vanilla. Pour mixture into prepared pan. Let stand 5 minutes or until firm; sprinkle with chocolate chips. Let stand 1 to 2 minutes. When softened, spread chocolate over mixture. Sprinkle with nuts. Chill until firm. Lift candy out of pan; break into pieces. Store lightly covered.

Makes about 1 1/2 pounds (48 servings)

Mother's Day

Matt 19:19 Honour thy father and thy mother...



www.churchhousepuzzles.com

ACROSS

- 1 Where did you get the information to honor your mother?
- 3 This is a special day to do things for your mother
- 6 If your mom drinks this you can make it for her
- 8 Tell your Mother this for the being the best mom in the world
- 10 Color one of these and give it to your mom
- 11 Tell this person thank you for the mom that you have been blessed with

DOWN

- 2 You should try making this for you mom
- 3 This is the name of the person who gave birth to you
- 4 Give your mom a break and do this for her so she can have the day off
- 5 What book of the Bible has the scripture about honoring your mother?
- 7 This is something you can pick and give to your mother for Mother's day.
- 9 This should be the first thing you do when you see your mom.

WORD BANK: Bible, breakfast, cleaning, coffee, flowers, hug, jesus, matthew, mom, mothersday, picture, thankyou.

Moments of Awareness

Helen Lowrie Marshall

So much of life we all pass by
With heedless ear and careless eye.
Bent with our cares we plod along,
Blind to the beauty, deaf to the song.

But moments there are when we pause to rest
And turn our eyes from the goal's far crest.
We become aware of the wayside flowers,
And sense God's hand in this world of ours.

We hear a refrain, see a rainbow's end,
Or we look into the heart of a friend.
We feel at one with mankind. We share
His griefs and glories, joy and care.

The sun flecks gold through the sheltering trees,
And we shoulder our burdens with twice the ease.
Peace and content and a world that sings
The moment of true awareness brings.



Isn't Life Glorious

Helen Lowrie Marshall

Isn't life glorious! Isn't it grand!
Here — take it — hold it right in your hand;
Squeeze every drop of it into your soul,
Drink of the joy of it, sun-sweet and whole!
Laugh with the love of it, burst into song!
Scatter its richness as you stride along!
Isn't life splendid — and isn't it great
We can always start living — it's never too late!

Bible Readings This Month

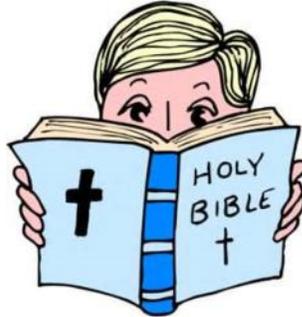
May 7

Acts 2: 42-47

Ps. 23

1 Peter: 2: 19-35

John 10: 1-10



May 14

Acts 7: 55-60

Ps. 31: 1-5, 15-16

1 Peter: 2-10

John 14: 1-14

May 21

Acts 17: 22-31

Ps. 66: 8-20

1 Peter 3: 13-22

John 14: 15-21

May 28

Acts 1: 6-14

Ps. 68: 1-10, 32-35

1 Peter 4: 12-14; 5: 6-11

John 17: 1-11

May 2017 Servers

	Greeters	Ushers	Lay Leaders
May 7	Rashes	Brenda Reiter	Marcia Rash
May 14	Kristin Blevins	Christians	Marcia Caneff
May 21	Informal Worship	Humes	Becky Tiefenbruck
May 28	Blumeyers	Browns	Karen Altpeter

Session Minutes for March 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 March 7, 2017.

The meeting began at 6:30 PM when Moderator Reverend Dr. April Davis Campbell lit the Christ Candle to remind us that we are called to serve Christ's church here in Hastings and the world. Her meditation referred to Romans 12:13 Contribute to the needs of the saints, practice hospitality. In the related story, hospitality and love overcame fear and the pastries helped.

Elders Present:

Class of 2017: Grant Tiefenbruck, Dave Hume

Class of 2018: Dennis Brown, Mary Crawmer

Class of 2019: Brenda Reiter, Karen Altpeter

Also present: Marcia Rash

Clerk's Report: The February Session Minutes were approved as submitted. The minutes from the Annual Meeting of the Congregation were also approved with a humorous correction which remedied the impression that the hard working Session led to 4 deaths in the congregation.

Treasurer's Report: The numbers were only for mid-February.

Foundation Report: The Foundation did not meet. Grant will remind Bob Albright.

Pastor's Report: Helen Ott will be contacted about palm fronds for Palm Sunday. There was a short discussion about a gift for the confirmands. Some sort of celebration for them would be in order. We shall plan to get new T-shirts made for the parade. We'll poll the congregation about participating in Rivertown Days.

March 26 - April will be gone with her boys for Spring break
Pastor April will be in Nebraska again in early April.

Presbytery Meeting: Saturday! Stated clerk of GA will be speaking.

Deacons: Communion change is being contemplated.

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

Committee Reports

Building and Grounds – Dennis – The berm on the parking lot got damaged. What to do?

Fellowship – Brenda – We had 14 people at the Onion Grill for lunch on February 12. A good time was had by all. Going to promote a “green” fellowship hour this Sunday for St. Patrick’s Day. Hastings Tastings on March 28 could also be a group event.

Christian Education – Kaitlin continues to do well. Shannon will be subbing for her this Sunday.

Mission – Mary – Foodshare month promotion. Cash is king these days rather than food donations. The Hastings Ministerial Association is having some friendly competition about supporting Hastings Family Services this month.

Stewardship/Finance – Eisele Flowers will be supplying the flowers for Easter. Orders need to be in by the end of March.

Personnel/Nominating – The candidate we had for treasurer decided to do something else. Dan is still helping us out.

Worship – Checking with Session members for communion servers. The ad for the Easter service needs updating. We’ll run the ad in Prescott, too. Set up for garage sale April 30.

M/S/C to receive the committee reports.

Old Business – None

New Business - None

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

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

There will be a meeting of Session on June 6, 2017 at 6:30 PM at the church.

April closed the meeting with prayer at 7: 35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Grant Tiefenbruck
Clerk of Session



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 	2 Session 6:30 PM	3	4 	5 	6  Leah Hume
7 10:30 AM Worship Scrips due  Helen Ott  John Blumeyer  Heather Rash	8  Isabelle Whipple	9	10 Bell choir 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl 7:00 PM	11  Kristina Pechacek	12	13
14 10:30 AM Worship 	15	16	17 Bell choir 6:00 PM	18  Shannon Stenzel	19	20   Carly Bodick
21 10:30 AM Informal Worship	22	23  Pastor April on KDWA 11AM-12PM	24 Bell choir 6:00 PM	25	26	27
28 10:30 AM Worship	29   Josie Keichier	30  Bob Campbell	31 Bell choir 6:00 PM			