A PUBLICATION OF COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WEST FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA. ORGANIZED APRIL 1, 1928

COMMUNITY UNITARY AND ALL

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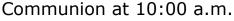
WELCOME!

Community Presbyterian Church extends a special invitation for you to attend



worship services this Lenten Season. You may do this in person or online at <u>cpcwf.org</u>.

- April 10 -- Palm Sunday at 10:00 a.m. followed by an Easter Egg Hunt for kids, aged PreK through 5th grade
- April 14 -- Maundy Thursday with Communion at 7:00 p.m.
- April 15 -- Good Friday at 7:00 p.m. April 17 -- Easter Sunday with





IT'S TIME FOR A RUMMAGE SALE

Setup: Friday, April 22 Sale: Saturday, April 23

Since 2002, this has been an important fund-

raiser for the church. In recent years, proceeds from this sale have gone to paying down the mortgage, purchasing tables, painting supplies, supplies for the AED (Defibrillator), and more.

Donated items can be brought to the southwest door of the Veteran's Memorial Arena (which is the delivery entrance to West Fargo High School) any time after 1:30 p.m. and until 7:00 p.m. on Friday, April 22. If you are unable to deliver donated items, we will gladly pick them up. If you have electronic or computer equip-(Continued on page 5)



PONDERINGS FROM PASTOR CATHIE

April, 2022

"This is my prayer for all of you: that your love might become even more rich with knowledge and all kinds of insight. May the

grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen." (Philippians 1:2 & 9)

Dear friends, it is time for pondering again. A month ago, we were covered with snow on the street and on the sidewalk. We were shoveling and wishing it was spring. One of our wishes came true on Sunday, March 20, 2022. It was Spring! By the time you receive your "Community Call" we anticipate that most of the snow will have melted away. We can foresee green grass growing and there may be some early flowers to enjoy.

This year Holy Week occurs April 10 through Easter Day (April 17). Here (Continued on page 2)

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are some things going on at Community Presbyterian Church during Holy Week: On Palm/Passion Sunday, we remember the excitement expressed by the crowd as they wave palm branches for Jesus. But something happens that day. The shouts of praise change to de-

manding Jesus' crucifixion. Later Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. Then soldiers the wove а crown of thorns and put it on Jesus' head (John 19:1-2). Jesus was crucified between two others. As Christians, we acknowledge that reality calls for our recognition of both the palms and the passion.

Maundy Thursday refers to Jesus as he spoke with his disciples, saying that he would only be with them a short time. He told them that they would not be able to come with him. Then Jesus said, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another." (John 13:34) The word Maundy comes from a Latin word, *mandatum*, meaning command. Maundy Thursday represents the new commandments Jesus gave his disciples.

In John 13:14 Jesus had washed the feet of the disciples, much to the chagrin of Peter. Jesus said, "So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet." Maundy Thursday is a combination of the two commandments from Jesus: Love one another and wash one another's feet. In our world we are more likely to follow Jesus' commandment to love one another than to let someone wash our feet. Take some time to think about our resistance to Jesus' commandments.

Good Friday is observed on the Friday before Easter. It is a time of mourning and remembrance of Christ's crucifixion and death. Sanctuaries are bare; candles are extinguished, and a cross is draped in black. It is one of the most important days for Christians, a time to reflect on the teaching of Jesus and our own life.

Three days later, we celebrate Easter Sunday. The 40 days are over. It is a time to recognize the resurrection of Jesus. "But on the first day of the week, at

early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body," Luke 24:1-3. As you celebrate Easter this year, take some time to contemplate what Jesus' resurrection means to you. Hallelujah. Christ has risen!

Please keep Charlie Elhard and Erika Matzke in your prayers as they are preparing for their confirmation on May 1st.

Grace and Peace, Pastor Cathie

SPRING 2022 PRESBYTERY MEETING Presbytery of the Northern Plains will meet Saturday, April 2, 2022, at the Gilby Presbyterian Church in Gilby, North Dakota from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This

will be a hybrid meeting with a Zoom option. If you would like to attend, you may <u>RSVP here</u>. For more information, go to

https://

www.northernplainspresbytery.com/ presbytery-meeting.



Here it comes... Hoppin' down the bunny trail Hippity Hoppity



Hippity Hoppity, Easter's on its way!

Anyone, preschool through fifth grade, hop on down to the <u>sanctuary front after</u> worship on Sunday, April 10, for some Easter fun! We will start with an Easter story followed by an Easter Egg Hunt!

MARCH CLERK'S CORNER



The regular meeting of the Session was held on Wednes-

day, March 16, 2022, at 7:00 p.m in the narthex. Elders present were Melissa Engebretson, Kevin Galt, Yvonne Hummel, Carrie Leopold, Cheryl Montgomery, and Gayle Thostenson. Moderator -Cathie Bishop and Treasurer - Carolyn Meester were present. Clerk of Session -Becky DeJong, Laurie Elhard, Bob Kozojed, and Adam Montgomery were present via Zoom.

The meeting was opened with devotions and prayer by Bob Kozojed.

Consent Agenda:

- a. Approval of the minutes of February 16, 2022
- b. next Session meeting Wednesday, April 20, 2022

c. Moderator's Report:

- Feb. 17 Met with pastors at 1st Presbyterian, Fargo.
- Feb. 17 Uploaded items for worship.
- Feb. 18 Newsletter items were provided for newsletter.
- Feb. 22 Bell Practice
- Feb. 23 Confirmation
- Feb. 24 Uploaded items for worship.
- Feb. 28 Met with the family of Denis Olson at West Funeral Home regarding funeral.
- March 1 Funeral for Lowell Wiese at West Funeral Home
- March 1 Bells Practice
- March 2 Ash Wednesday service
- March 4 Uploaded items for worship.
- March 5 Funeral for Denis Olson with burial March 9
- March 8 Bell Practice
- March 9 Confirmation
- March 10 Gayle Thostenson and I met with Jenni Hummel for Deacon training.
- March 14 Meeting regarding blood drive
- March 15 Bell Practice

- March 16 Session meeting
- d. Clerk's report -
- i. 48 served communion on Sunday, March 6, 2022.
- ii. The Presbytery meeting will be held in Gilby, ND on April 2, 2022 via Hybrid-Zoom.

Discussion was held regarding streaming options for remote church use. Google Meets, TEAMS, and Zoom were compared. Further comparisons will be made before a decision is made. The church will apply for membership with TechSoup which is a company that supports nonprofits, charities, and libraries by providing access to donations and discounts on software, hardware, and services from major companies.

The elders to help serve communion on April 3, 2022 will be Laurie Elhard, Adam Montgomery, and Cheryl Montgomery. Elders to serve communion on Maundy Thursday, April 14, 2022, will be Adam Montgomery, Cheryl Montgomery, and Bob Kozojed. Elders to serve communion on Easter Sunday, April 17, 2022, will be Kevin Galt, Bob Kozojed, and Gayle Thostenson.

The financial report was read, discussed, and received.

The Session will meet with the confirmation class on Wednesday, April 20, at 7:00 p.m.

The Garden Club would like to move the garden to a different location on the west side of our church. The Trustees will work with the Garden Club in choosing a new location.

Discussion was held regarding the value of the countless number of volunteers that CPC has. God's work could not be done without them. Thank you for serving faithfully.

Carrie Leopold would like to form a Diversity and Inclusion committee. Be looking for more information on this committee.

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Committee reports:

Christian Education: On Sunday, March 20th, we will be presenting Bibles to our 3rd graders, Colton Misheski and Bella Bahls (We will be mailing Bella's Bible.). On Palm Sunday we will be conducting an Easter Egg hunt for our younger Sunday School students. The older students will be hiding the goodies. Palms have been ordered for our traditional "waving of the palms." It was decided to present our graduating seniors with keychains with the Jeremiah 29:11 scripture engraved. - Kevin Galt

Deacons: Pastor Cathie and I met with new Deacon, Jenni Hummel, to provide communion and Deacon training and assign care lists. The larger group will meet later in the month to work on Spring care packages. - Gayle Thostenson

Mission: We are currently doing the March Match for the Dorothy Day food pantry. For April we will be focusing on One Great Hour of Sharing. We will be collecting donations for Presbyterian emergency relief for Ukraine. - Carrie Leopold

Personnel: Cheryl Montgomery started working last week as our new office administrator. Welcome and thank you, Cheryl! - Adam Montgomery

Service & Fellowship: The committee discussed and will be drafting a letter to send to the congregation about the service groups to inform them about their group, service dates, and volunteer opportunities that are available. We discussed some upcoming activities we may want to do as well as next steps for our vendor show. The committee is scheduling a Vitality committee meeting Monday, April 11, at 6:00 p.m. They are asking to try to have someone from every committee present at this meeting. We would like to have printed activities/announcements available after the service. - Melissa Engebretson

Stewardship: An audit of the books is scheduled for April 9, 2022. On March 29, 2022 the Presbyterian Foundation will be holding a workshop on planned giving and ways to increase participation and tithing. - Yvonne Hummel

Trustees: Ermina, from I & E Cleaning, has given us notice. Her company will no longer be cleaning our church after the weekend of March 25th. In communications with Ermina, she has stated that she needs to focus on her health and appreciates our willingness to work with her. She is closing her business. Trustees have discussed the situation and will pursue other options.

The sump pumps have been checked, and they are in good working order. The fire inspection report was good. Our insurance policy is current and upto-date. - Bob Kozojed

Worship: The Worship Committee met on 3/3/22. We will be moving forward with the installing a shelf in the back of the sanctuary where a pillar candle will be placed. The candle would be lit 20 to 30 minutes before the worship service and would be used to light the candlelighters' wicks. Once the candlelighters' wicks are lit, the larger candle would be snuffed out and the flame would be used to light the other candles at the front of the sanctuary. At the end of service, the process would be reversed.

In addition, the committee is coming up with a list of hymns that will be prerecorded, this will allow us to use them if we have a Sunday in which we have no pianist. The PowerPoint during service was discussed, and the committee has ideas for improvement in this area. Additional individuals are being asked to join the committee. - Laurie Elhard Meeting closed with prayer by Moderator

Cathie Bishop at 9:12 p.m. Respectfully submitted, Becky DeJong



(Continued from page 1) IT'S TIME FOR A RUMMAGE SALE

ment to donate, please get them to Andrew Thostenson



by April 17 so he can properly recondition them. (Note: tube televisions and exercise equipment <u>cannot</u> be sold.)

We need help (men and women) moving tables, setting up, pricing, accepting payments, wrangling rummage, and tearing down. Your help in any and all of these endeavors will be greatly appreciated.

- Loading tables into pickups— Friday 12:30 p.m. at the church
- Table and rummage setup—Friday 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Veterans Arena.
- Rummage sale—Saturday from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Sale tear down and move tables back to the church - Saturday from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

If you have rummage or logistical questions, contact Andrew Thostenson at 701-492-0630 or <u>atqtet@far.midco.net</u>.



LOOKING FOR SERVICE GROUP LEADERS

We are excited to have our service groups back

up and running! To help make these groups successful we are looking for leaders/co-leaders for groups 1, 2, and 4. If you have interest in leading one of these groups, please contact Melissa Engebretson (701-866-8767 or <u>melissa-</u> v32@mnid.org).

REMINDER TO RETURNING SNOWBIRDS



Please inform our church office (office@cpcwf.org or 282-4135), regarding the time you will return home so you won't miss any CPC mailings.

APRIL DATES TO REMEMBER

BIRTHDAYS

- 4-1 Susan Gross4-2 Becky DeJong
- Molly Nelson
- 4-3 Rylan Keller
- 4-4 Ryder Matzke
- 4-5 Veril Larson
- 4-6 Brent Talley
- 4-14 Cathy Birrenkott
- 4-15 Lucas Misheski
- 4-18 Chris Shone
- 4-19 Amanda Keller
- 4-20 Lynn Hummel
- 4-21 Sawyer Krueger
- 4-23 Zaryn Hansen Ellie Strand
- 4-24 Alex Misheski
- 4-25 Audrey Binger
- 4-27 Tim Håger Andrew Thostenson
- 4-29 Brooklyn Keller
- 4-30 Carolyn Talley

ANNIVERSARIES

- 4-2-77 Greg and Carol Sterup
- 4-9-88 Dwight and Lisa Steffen
- 4-11-15 Aaron and Brianne Hass
- 4-13-68 Denny and Carol Braaten
- 4-21-79 Larry and Vicki Peihl
- 4-30-66 Larry and Uneva Dobrinz

SUNDAY SCHOOL CALENDAR

SUNDAY SCHOOL School classes on Easter other important Sunday School dates and times in the May Community Call.

PRAYER CHAIN

Sharing our needs and concerns in prayer with our church family brings us closer to one another and lightens

our load. If you have a prayer joy or concern, please contact Gayle Thostenson (<u>atgtet@far.midco.net</u> or 492-0630). To have your name added to the prayer request e-list, just let Gayle know.



CRYSTAL SPRINGS YOUTH RETREAT

We have exciting news! The Youth Connection Team of CPC's Presbyterian region will once again be hosting a



Spring Retreat for grades 6-12. What's more, CPC's Mission Committee has agreed to pay the costs of attending for all who wish to attend from Community Presbyterian Church of West Fargo.

Plans are also in the making to provide rides to and from the retreat based near Medina, ND. Kevin Galt is willing to trade his pickup for someone's vehicle equipped for more passengers for a couple days so that he can deliver youth to and from the retreat. If you're willing to make the trade, just let Kevin know.

Have your youth grab a friend and sign up to attend. Additionally, if you'd like to attend yourself as a chaperone, let Kevin Galt know.

Here are some details:

What: Reckless Love— Crystal Springs Youth Retreat <u>https://</u> <u>www.northernplainspresbytery.com/</u> youth-connection

When: April 22-24, 2022 Registration starts at 7 p.m. Friday, 4/22 Departure at Noon on Sunday, 4/24

Cost: \$0 because CPC Missions will pay Youth may wish to bring spending money for travel to and from retreat.

Why Attend:

A weekend full of fun, making new friends, and learning in your faith! Get outside of your comfort zone to enjoy fun games, outdoor adventures, and a great time with God!

Registration Deadline: April 9 Registration form is attached and linked below;

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SYNOD SCHOOL: EXPERIENCING BELONGING

"...so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually, we are members one of another." Romans 12:5



What does it mean to be a part of the body of Christ and to belong to one another? In the spirit of Christ's community, at Synod School 2022, we will walk through biblical experiences of belonging. Exploring the communities we find membership within, we will discover how we can belong to one another and to Christ more fully.

In its 68th year, Synod of Lakes and Prairies' Synod School will be held at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa on July 24-29. It is a learning and personal enrichment experience for people of all ages. Seeking to create an environment of hospitality, healing, and hope, the week is designed for laity and clergy, and individuals and families with classes and activities for adults, youth, and children. The week includes acclaimed worship leaders, convocation speakers, and an artist in residence. Scholarships are available.

Come...

- to participate in a unique experience of Christian community as we worship, study, play, and live together;
- to grow in faith through action, relationships, and a centering of the spirit;
- for continuing education, for a special family experience, or for individual growth;
- to take it all in, then return home to share and serve.

For more information, go to

https://lakesandprairies.org/engagingleaders/synod-school/

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APRIL MISSION FOCUS

Our mission focus for April is One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS), our Presbyterian denomination-wide Len-



ten offering. Usually, the offering to OGHS is divided between Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA), Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self Development of People. Currently, PDA is involved in humanitarian work around the conflict in the Ukraine. For this reason, the Mission Committee voted to designate our entire offering this year to PDA, for use with refugees from Ukraine.

The worldwide average for support of refugees is \$35 per person per week. We would like to offer this level of support to 50 people from Ukraine. That would be a total offering of \$1,750. This is about the amount we raised last year to purchase a farm bundle.

Thank you for your support.

What follows is an article off the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance website that informed our decision:

We are grateful for the outpouring of prayers and calls from congregations and individuals asking how they can As the violence continues, the help. number of people being displaced internally and fleeing to neighboring countries increases by the day. And in the midst of the chaos, there are sibling churches and ecumenical partners who are already providing assistance with basic items for survival. Our first priority as PDA is to provide funding to these partners on the ground. While the scale of this crisis is new, receiving refugees from Ukraine and other countries in Central and Eastern Europe is not, which means we have trusted, established partners with the knowledge and expertise to carry out this important work.

We are hearing that the reformed churches in Ukraine and the region are also feeling called to join in the humanitarian response. PDA, therefore, anticipates that our response will include both financial and technical assistance as the network of faith communities providing humanitarian assistance grows in the months ahead.

As we pray for an end to this violence, we ask the U.S. Government and our European allies to make a commitment to the Ukrainian people for a peaceful solution. We don't know how long it will take, but we know that they will need help with the rebuilding of their country so that those who are fleeing now may one day return home safely.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



CPC is in need of the part of

Do you feel confident to read in public? You could be a liturgist.

Do you embrace technology? Sound board might be waiting for you.

Can you stay focused during worship (and not distracted by the wonderful music, prayers and other Sunday service commotion)? PowerPoint operator is in your wheelhouse.

Volunteering to do something new and putting yourself out there can be stressful and scary, but the Worship Committee is here to support you. Training will be provided, and we will help you grow into the position of your choosing. The first step is to pray about which position you are being called to try. Once you have it narrowed down, reach out to Laurie Elhard, Worship Committee Liaison, to get the ball rolling.

Laurie Elhard 701-388-9090



YEAR-TO-DATE GIVING UPDATE 2-28-2022

General Operating budget 2022: \$144,805.00 Monthly needed to meet budget: \$12,067.00

Total Giving February \$ 11,553.00 Total Expenses February \$ 12,681.61

Per Capita amount for 2022 is \$48.00 for each confirmed member. Please mark on your check or envelope you are contributing to Per Capita. Total assessment for 2022 is \$6,912.00.

In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'

Acts 20:35

PRESBYTERIAN SQUARES: WEIRD BIBLE STORIES WE NEVER HEARD IN SUNDAY SCHOOL

A study just for you through your email!

Wow, can it really be April? It was a long winter! There will be one more email Bible study coming out in April regarding our Weird Bible stories. I hope you have enjoyed the stories. Anyone still interested in reading any of them please let Vicki know at vrpeihl@gmail.com.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer and I look forward to starting back up in the fall in person with a topic yet to be determined. God bless!



SENIOR SUNDAY

Sometime in May, we will recognize graduating high school seniors: Zoe Elhard, Stacy Leopold, Alex Misheski, and Parker Nelson. If you know of other graduating seniors affiliated with Community Presbyterian Church, please contact Kevin Galt as soon as possible.





- April 3:5th Sunday in LentFaith: Philippians 3:4b-14April 10:Palm SundayHumility: Philippians 2:5-11April 14:Maundy Thursday:1 Corinthians 11:23-26April 15:Good Friday:
- John 18:1-19:42
- April 17: Easter Sunday
- April 24: Victory: 1 Corinthians 15:19-26 2nd Sunday of Easter
- Revelation: Rev. 1:4-8



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please have items submitted to the CPC office by Wednesday for display in Sunday's bulletin or slide announcements. You can reach the church office by emailing <u>office@cpcwf.org</u>, by calling 701-282-4135, or by stopping in at the church and greeting them personally. Thank you!

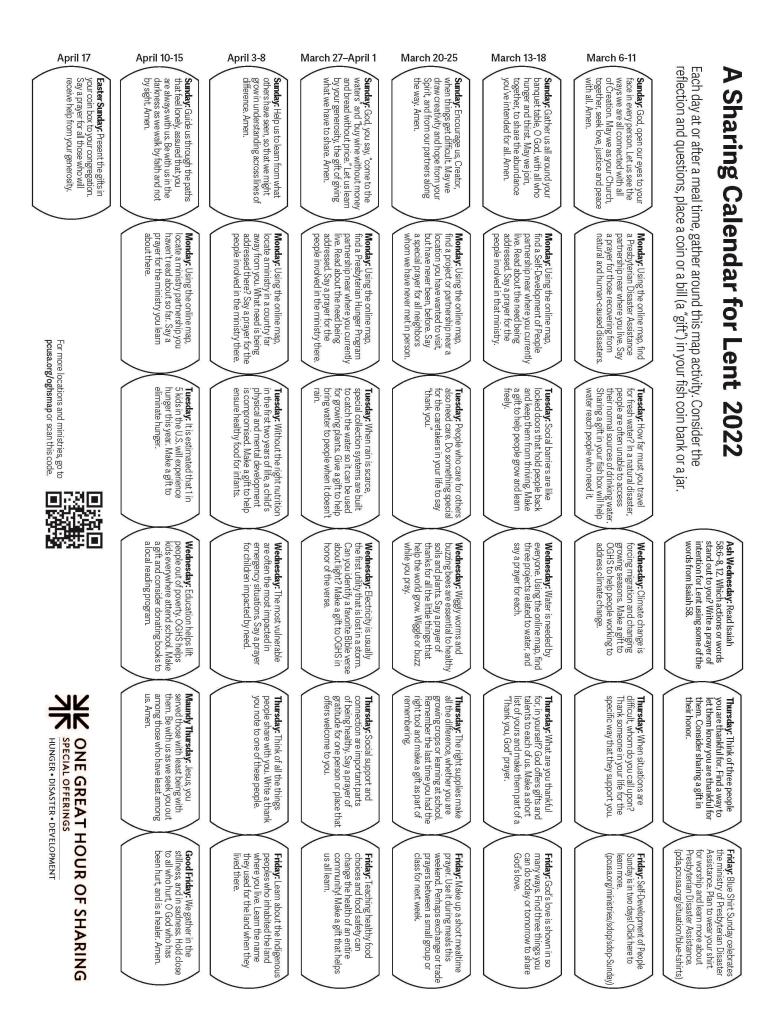
DEACONS

If anyone in the congregation is hospitalized or needs a visit, please contact the Dea-



cons. If anyone in the congregation would like home communion, please contact Gayle Thostenson.

Lise Alves Linda Bishop	[C] 701-412-8689 [H] 701-282-8515 [C] 701-200-1818
Jenni Hummel Dawn Larson Boots Misheski Dixon Moorhead	[C] 701-371-7640 [C] 701-261-9609 [C] 701-388-7160 [H] 701-277-1414 [C] 701-200-9709
Gayle Thostenson, Se	ession Liaison [H] 701-492-0630 [C] 701-412-6387
May's Comn deadline Thursday,	will be



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<u>Head Usher</u> s: Apri	l – Brent & Car	i Talley, May - Adar	April - Brent & Cari Talley, May - Adam Montgomery, June - Jack Smith	:k Smith	_	2 Presbytery At Gilby, ND
3 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m.	4	5 Bell Choir practice at CPC 6:30 p.m.	<u>6</u>	7 PW Card Group 1 p.m. Worship Com. 7:00 p.m.	Ø	Q
10 Palm Sunday	11 Vitality Committee 6 :00 n m	12 Ladies Circle 12:30 p.m. Lunch 1 n m R Study	13 Prayer time 9:30 a.m. Christian Ed	14 PW Card Group 1 p.m.	15	16
Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Easter Eggstravaganza to Follow in Sanctuary	S & F Committee 7:00 p.m.	 I p.m. b. study Missions 6 p.m. Bell Choir practice at CPC 6:30 p.m. 	Christian Ed. 6:00 p.m. Confirmation 6 p.m. Trustees 7:00 p.m.	Maundy Thursday Worship 7:00 p.m.	<i>Good</i> <i>Friday</i> Worship 7:00 p.m.	
Happy Easter!	18	19	20 Session with	21 Newsletter is due Today!!!		23 PM Rummage
NO Sunday School Worship 10:00 a.m.		Bell Choir practice at CPC 6:30 p.m.	Confirmation class 7:00 p.m.	Pw Card Group 1 p.m.	Set-up Crystal Spring:	Set-up Sale Crystal Springs Youth Retreat
	25	26	27	28 PW Card Group 1 p.m.	29	30
Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m.		Bell Choir practice at CPC 6:30 p.m.		Deacons 6:30 p.m.		
**************************************	*************** ents: Monday - TOPS; Satur	** <u>May newsletter</u> through Friday — P day & Sunday aftern	***************************** <u>May newsletter deadline: April 21</u> ************************************	<u>ril 21</u> ******************** ellowship hall; Revival Movement Worldwide	***** wide	

APRIL 2022