

# April

## Here and Now

April 2022

Volume 69, Issue 4

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### PASTOR LEANNE'S MESSAGE: "MUD"

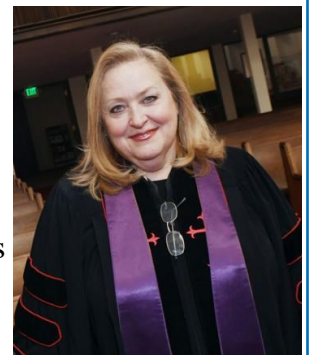
The end of February, into March, has to be the most unattractive season on earth. Thankfully, all the snow is melting; the few existing places where snow was piled by winter plows have lost their sparkling, fluffy white goodness. They are now mounts of dirty ice, gray and black containing whatever the street plows dug up with them. The trees are barren, black against a gray sky to which I look for some sign of sun. And, the world around me is decidedly lacking the color green – anywhere. I have yet to spot a tiny sprout of anything working its way up from the wintered earth. What I see, everywhere, is mud – lots and lots of mud.

One would be forgiven for thinking that this is a time of year in which nothing happens; hope stalls as a beautiful day of inviting temperatures is followed by a dismal day of wind, gray and, yes, mud. And yet, as every gardener knows, although the season seems barren, fruitless and dormant, important things are happening in the world around us, and the warmth and light of coming spring invite the world to open us to color and joy and leave the mud behind. The season of mud is a necessary part of the process of life and nature. Mud is not the depressing gray of winter past, it is the palate upon which Spring will write her beauty as April showers come to like a regularly scheduled alarm clock sounding forth to awaken the earth.

So too is it spiritually, when in keeping with the seasons of our souls, all we can see is mud. The mud that looks like lethargy, telling us to rest and relax, the mud that looks like good things lost, reminding us of times of greater energy and happier gains. There are many ties in our walk with God when we long for the green of vision and beauty of guidance, we long for the colors of fulfilled plans and realized dreams.

That is why we must remember: we need the season of mud. Underneath all of our longings and impatience with our gray seasons, God is stirring, working, creating, making something out of the gray and heading us toward our destined encounter with beauty. (If God can form humans out of dirt, just think what God can do with our dormant times!)

Easter is coming, spring is on its way, and the mud will continue following its prescribed course until it produces good. So it is with us. God has a plan for us, and it is obviously fruitful times, and times of mud, God is at work.



## CCC NEWS- CACFP WEEK 3/14-3/18

What is CACFP Week?

CACFP stands for Child and Adult Food Program. The First Presbyterian Child Care Center (FPCCC) has been participating with the CACFP, providing healthy and nutritious meals, since 1995.

CACFP Week is a national education and information campaign sponsored annually the third week of March by the National CACFP Sponsors Association. The campaign is designed to raise awareness of how the USDA's Child and Adult Care Food Program works to combat hunger. The CACFP brings healthy foods to tables across the country for children in child care centers, homes, and afterschool programs as well as adults in day care.

The website below contains several fun activity pages for your child to enjoy.

<https://www.cacfp.org/assets/pdf/2022+SS+CACFP+Week+Activity+Pages+cacfp.org/>

### How Do You CACFP Snack?

This year the FPCCC decided to take part in the Social Media Challenge for a chance to win \$100! These pictures show one of the fun foods our cook, Eileen, prepared for the children as we celebrated the week.



\*\* Croissant - Crabs \*\*

Sample recipe: Telly's Tasty Plum Salsa

Total Time  
10 minutes + 2 hours  
Serving Size - 1/2 cup  
Servings - 8

#### Ingredients

- 2 cups tomatoes, diced
  - 1/2 cup onion, finely diced
  - 2 cups plums, pitted and diced
  - 1 tsp lime juice
  - 8 sprigs cilantro (optional)
- Salt and pepper to taste

#### Directions

Mix all ingredients together in a bowl. Cover and refrigerate at least two hours.

Serve 1/2 cup for lunch or supper. This salsa pairs nicely with grilled or baked chicken or fish.

This recipe created in partnership with  
Sesame Street in Communities.

**Needs list for the FPCCC: Powdered dishwasher detergent and bleach**



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - FAMILY FUN NIGHT

FRIDAY, APRIL 22ND

7:00 - 9:00PM

(MORE INFORMATION TO COME)

## WANONA'S "MEDICINE"

One Easter, a father was teaching his son to drive when out of nowhere a rabbit jumped on the road. Slamming on the breaks, the son said, "I nearly ruined Easter! I almost ran over the Easter Bunny." His father replied, "It's okay son—you missed it by a hare."



Why should you never show Easter eggs a scary movie?  
They're all a little chicken!

**Q: What day does an Easter egg hate the most?**

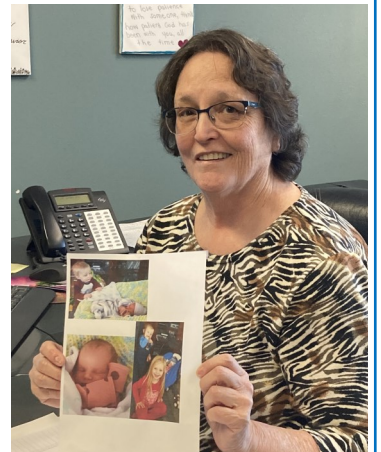
**A: Fry-day**

## FROM OUR PARISH NURSE - WANONA

Happy April everyone. I don't know about you but I am looking forward to the springtime. Animals having babies, flower's budding out and spring showers. I wanted to thank you all for your prayers and positive thoughts for my friend and granddaughter. Your prayers were very meaningful to me and my family and friend. Things are looking up. I am so blessed for this faith family!

I plan to have a **blood pressure clinic** on **Sunday April 24<sup>th</sup>** in the conference room from 9-10 am and 11 am - noon. Everyone is welcome!

I just wanted everyone to know I have two gait belts in the cupboard where the first aid kits and usher supplies are. If someone falls or needs assistance to get up after a fall please use them. When used properly, the belt protects the care recipient from falling and also protects the caregiver from injuring his or her back as they lift or move the care recipient. **A gait belt is usually 1-½ to 4 inches wide, and 54-60 inches long.** The belt is made out of canvas, nylon, or leather with a buckle at one end. Gait belts help prevent injury to the helper and the victim.



**BRING**



## ***“A Word with Wanona”***

I would like to introduce Carol Thompson. She is First Presbyterian Church’s Financial Assistant. She has been such a delight to work with. Carol grew up on a farm northwest of Hazelton or 35 miles south of Bismarck. She has a sister who is a year and a day younger than her. Fun fact, if there wasn’t a leap year in 1968, they would have been born on the same day. On the farm they had many jobs such as feeding animals, pulling weeds, and mowing, etc. “I learned early in life not to tell mom and dad I was bored.” They were very good at finding something for us to do. Her first paying job was babysitting. She spent her junior and senior summers watching three girls, a six-week old, 2yrs and 8yrs. Carol graduated from Hazelton-Moffit High School. Her graduating class had 15 graduates (3 were foreign exchange students).



Carol attended Interstate Business College and graduated with an accounting certificate. She met her husband, Bruce, in the early 90’s. A friend was dating one of Bruce’s classmates. They were friends a few years prior to dating. They will be celebrating their 19<sup>th</sup> anniversary in October! Carol’s Goals: She said she is gearing up for retirement... The plans are: 1. Retire in five years. The stock market needs to shape up for this to happen. 2. Spend the winters someplace warm. “Our plan is to travel to a different place each year and rent for a few months. I haven’t traveled a lot and would like to see the east coast in the fall, Statue of

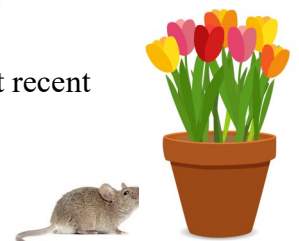


Liberty, Grand Canyon. Bruce would like to tour the baseball and football stadiums.” She believes you need to have a purpose in retirement, so her plan is to do Meals on Wheels. This will give her some flexibility and give her a purpose.



Carol’s most memorable life event is the birth of her great-nephew, Landen. He was born seven years ago on Valentine’s Day. He is smart, handsome and tall. Bruce measured him last week. He is 4’ 8”. She says “I am going to be the short one in the Thompson family now!” When asked what she is grateful for? She said the simple things: family, friends, health, roof over my head, time spent with my mom and sister. It is the little things that make life great. Carol has many heroes. When you work in assisted living you meet remarkable people. Nursing, kitchen, housekeeping, activities, administrative, and maintenance employees all work together as a team to care for the residents. She had a lot of “Shining Stars” at Edgewood. Carol’s most recent funny story is her flowerpot story. Last spring, she purchased flowers

for her flowerpots. She potted them and put them out on the porch. One night frost was in the forecast. She grabbed her pots and brought them into the house. That weekend she put them back outside. However, everything that came in did not go back out. They woke up at 4 a.m. with an odd noise in the kitchen. Bruce went to investigate, he found a mouse on the counter trying to get into his M&M bag (hence the odd noise). “Now, you get to picture us in our pjs, holding brooms, chasing this mouse around. It hid in the end tables, behind the entertainment center, behind furniture... how can something that little, be that fast?” Finally, we had enough. We set some traps and went to bed. About 15 minutes later, we heard a “snap”. From now on when the forecast calls for frost, Carol will cover her plants and leave them outside!

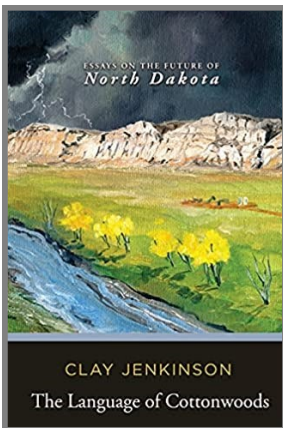


Her dad’s aunt always encouraged them to go to church. Carol attended the Hazelton Presbyterian Church. She attended Good News, Vacation Bible School and participated in the children’s church programs. She still has the Bible she received when she was teenager. Thank you Carol for sharing your life journey.

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING** (OGHS) connects us with people finding their voice and accessing their God-given power, and is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together to work for a better world by advancing the causes of justice, resilience and sustainability. During Lent we celebrate that God connects with us through Jesus’ resurrection and connects us with those “who have the least” – that is how *Matthew 25* puts it – and that’s what One Great Hour of Sharing is all about.

The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) Program is actively involved in committing resources to assist in providing needed supplies and treatment for Ukrainian refugees that have fled their country to Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and other countries in Eastern Europe. This year’s OGHS program will provide much needed resources to the PDA to continue its work providing humanitarian services.

Special envelopes will be available in the pew racks for your contribution to the One Great Hour of Sharing. If you are paying by check make the check out to the First Presbyterian Church and write One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) on the memo line of your check. ~ Resource/Management Committee



**BOOK CLUB-**

**(DATE CHANGED)**

The new Book Club selection is **”The Language of Cottonwoods”** by Clay Jenkinson. Juanita Hocking has brought in several to sign out, the sheet is once again in the office. They plan to meet on Thursday **April 21st at 1:30pm** in the Parlor.

**Easter Memorials**

Each Easter we offer the opportunity to give donations in memory of loved ones. Monies from these memorials are directed to the Deacon’s *Gift of Giving* program which supports the work of the Deacons and provides assistance to people in need. If you would like to make such a donation, please provide the following information by **Wednesday, April 6th** to the church office by phone 223-6091 or email at [firstpresbyterian@fpcbismarck.com](mailto:firstpresbyterian@fpcbismarck.com).

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

Amt \_\_\_\_\_

Donations should be made in cash or a check payable to ‘First Presbyterian Church’ with *Gift of Giving* indicated in the memo line. All memorials will be listed in the Easter Sunday bulletin (without amounts).



## THE HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

thanks the following members (Lynn Dodge, Gary and Jan Gilchrist, Audre Goll, Jim Rambo, Joe Satrom, Neva Carlisle (not pictured), and Kathy Wachter) who volunteered with "The Banquet" on February 26th. Over 170

delicious meals were prepared at a cost of \$2.14 This outreach ministry is possible with your prayers, financial donations and willingness to serve others.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Next Banquet - Thursday, October 20, 2022 at the new location (Dream Center at 1805 Park Ave.)



## Christian Education -

The Middle School/High School (Presbyteens) have been staying busy on Wednesday evenings. About 6-10 youth learned how to knit in February, and how to make fleece tie blankets, with the help of Maren Stokka and Jan Gilchrist, in March. We have the teens open with reciting "The Lord's Prayer" in unison and attempt to work in a short Bible lesson as time allows. On March 16th a few of the teens and 4 adults took the 6 grocery bags of fixings for soup, collected at Souper Bowl Feb.13th to the Heaven's Helper's Soup Cafe. Mark Meier, director led the group on an interesting tour as well as discussed and answered our many questions. We hope this may spark some interest in our youth for volunteer opportunities in their futures! Many thanks to the congregation for their generous donation of \$476.01 cash, also collected Souper Bowl Sunday, via the Sunday School children. A check was sent to the Heaven's Helper's Soup Cafe for this amount, and accepted with much appreciation! Our PAC kids are also staying busy on Wednesday evenings with a Bible lesson and games at the church, under the leadership of Mark Jensen and Marete Farver.

After completing the Fleece Tie Blankets they were donated to  
Heaven's Helper's Closet (701), on Main Street.



**Our Youth Working on Tie Blankets -- Sophie Svihovec & Ruth Jensen**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The Christian Education Committee** is asking for bags of small, individually wrapped candy to be used for the Easter Egg Hunt on Palm Sunday April 10, 2022. The candy will need to be at the church office by Sunday, April 3, 2022.



### Boy Scout Troop 6

The Easter Lilies ordered from the Boy Scouts will be delivered to the church on **Sunday April 10th.**

There will be ***NO SUNDAY SCHOOL*** on Easter Sunday, April 17, 2022



There will be ***NO ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL*** on Palm Sunday, April 10th  
Or Easter Sunday, April 17th

Our church has not had active circles for a number of years. However, circle 3 has continued to meet as a study group. We do a Bible study suggested by Presbyterian Women from the general assembly of PCUSA. We pay for our own study books, and meet the first Saturday of each month September – May, at 9:30. All women in the church are welcome. If you are interested, please call JoAnn Hodny at 701-400-9689, or Neva Carlisle at 701-426-6690. We have studied many women in the Bible, Job, and the Ten Commandments as a few examples. We order our books the end of May, please contact us by May 15<sup>th</sup> if you wish to participate.



**Circle 3**

*Thank You* On behalf of the *Christian Education Committee* and the youth of our church, we would like to thank *Rusty Bender* for volunteering to direct the youth choir for the youth service *May 8, 2022.*

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

We are pleased to announce the availability of a limited number of scholarships for our church community. To be eligible for consideration to receive a scholarship, a student must be an active member of First Presbyterian Church of Bismarck or must have been an active participant in the life of the church for at least three years. Students at any level of study beyond high school are eligible to receive a scholarship award. Students are eligible to receive a scholarship for a maximum of four years: the years do not need to be consecutive. Graduate students may apply for scholarships, providing they are within the four-year maximum. Applications are available in the Narthex and for download from the front page of the church website at [www.fpcbismarck.com](http://www.fpcbismarck.com). The deadline to apply is May 13, 2022.

## Crystal Springs Retreat - April 22-24 6th -12th grade youth with friends are Welcome!



Crystal Springs Retreat is a great time for our Presbyterian Youth to meet other youth, discuss their faith and have some fun! The weekend will consist of awesome fun together, as well as time in worship, bible study and small group devotions. There is no fee - our youth are sponsored by the church. Please pick up a registration form, in the church office, fill out and return to Marete Farver c/o First Presbyterian Church by **April 9th!**

## HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

First Presbyterian Church will again be collecting canned and non-perishable food items to assist the Emergency Food Pantry in their service to our Bismarck-Mandan community. **Please bring your items to the church anytime in April and place them in the donation box located in the Narthex. One item makes a difference.**

*Items needed: canned fruit, oatmeal & cereal, canned tuna/chicken, canned meats, chili, macaroni & cheese, vegetables (corn, green beans, peas, mixed), pork & beans/other beans, jell-o, ramen noodles, hamburger helper, tea/coffee/hot chocolate, pancake mix & syrup.*



Thank you to those who donated gloves, handwarmers, and other winter gear to Ministry on the Margins in February. Because of your generosity, 34 pairs of gloves and 69 pairs of handwarmers were delivered to MOTM. Providing warmth for over 100 people during some of the coldest days of the year. Your thoughtfulness is always appreciated. ~ Hospitality Committee



### \* Suzuki Spring Recital \*

Monday May 2nd, 2022

6:00pm

At First Presbyterian Church

Everyone Welcome!



## Date Change:

Our church family celebration for our 2022 Graduates has been changed to **Sunday May 29th!** There will be a reception following the 10:00am service.

Reminder: Graduates please bring your cap and gown to this special celebration.





## SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

March 22, 2022

### CLERK'S REPORT

The death of Violet Ruff on March 10 was reported. Membership is 344.

### FINANCIAL REPORT

Total Income YTD Actual	\$85,797	Budget	\$62,334
Total Expense YTD Actual	\$104,429	Budget	\$112,009
NET Income	-\$18,631	Budget	-\$49,676
Unrestricted General Fund	\$276,766		

### MODERATOR'S REPORT

Pastor Leanne thanked the Re-opening Committee, office staff and musicians for their work the past months. Monitoring COVID numbers continues. Committees were reminded to advertise their activities.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrative and Personnel—Membership rolls are being reviewed.

Hospitality—There will be a church family fun night on April 22, 7-9pm.

Proclamation—Christian Education—Rusty Bender will direct the youth choir. Triennium will not be held this year.

Worship and Music—Anniversary Committee will be meeting soon. Jamestown Choir offering was over \$1,400. Thursday Tenebrae Service is being planned for April 14.

Property and Equipment—By next month, lighting in the Narthex will be uniform with the same LED lights. It was noted that one CCC room was too warm and needs adjustment.

Resource Management—Committee will work with Hospitality regarding updated Time and Talent survey, which could coincide with an updated photo directory possibly this fall.

Board of Deacons—Prayer cards and pencils will return to the pews along with the attendance pads.

Child Care Center Board—The center has received \$15,000 in stabilization grants since December and \$10,000 health and safety grant which will be used for new flooring in one room and two portable sinks. They will have a table at the BSC Career Fair hoping to attract employees.

### NEW BUSINESS

Jim Skaret will be a Commissioner to Presbytery meeting April 2 in Gilby. It will be a hybrid meeting. Session approved the Parish Nurse, Wanona Goetz, holding a Health Fair in September and selling tacos, to raise money for the Parish Nurse Fund.

Alice Nix, Clerk of Session



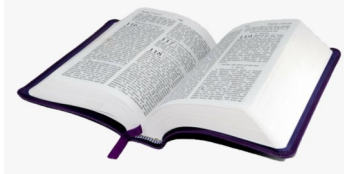
**BIRTHDAYS**

**APRIL**

Rosemary Hill	1st
Sydney Henrikson	4th
Fred Larson	4th
Becky Mahlum	6th
Donna Richter	6th
John Richter	9th
Peggy Hoge	11th
Jodi Bjornson	13th
Seth Peterson	16th
Steve Adair	19th
Violet Spitzer	19th
John Dixon	23rd
Georgene Lantz	23rd
Ed Murphy	24th
Audrey Simmons	26th
Anna Bitz	28th
Gail Christianson	30th

**ANNIVERSARIES**

**BILL & LAURA JENSEN 21ST**



**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
**OPPORTUNITY**

Have you ever read the entire Bible, clear through? The Adult Sunday School class is aiming to do that, and you are invited to join us. A reading schedule is available at the front desk. Then, every Sunday afternoon at 1:30, all who desire will be meeting by zoom to discuss what we read, ask questions and reflect on the reading. If you would like to be on that zoom list, please email Pastor Leanne at [lsm609@aol.com](mailto:lsm609@aol.com), and she will add you to the list!

*Please let us know if we've made a mistake or omission or if you would prefer not to have your special day published.*

*~ Thank you ~*

**First Presbyterian Church**

**214 East Thayer Ave.**

**Bismarck, ND 58501**

**Phone: 701-223-6091**

[firstpresbyterian@fpcbismarck.com](mailto:firstpresbyterian@fpcbismarck.com)

[www.fpcbismarck.com](http://www.fpcbismarck.com)

**Sunday Worship: 10:00 am**

**Office Hours: 8:00 am - 4:30 pm**



**Pastor**

*Rev. Dr. Leanne Simmons*

**Finance Assistant**

*Carol Thompson*

**Administrative Assistant**

*Maureen Chrest*

**Parish Nurse**

*Wanona Goetz*

**Youth Ministry Assistant**

*Marete Snortland Farver*

**Organists**

*Arvy Smith & Gail Snustad*

**Choir Director**

*Debi Rogers*

**Handbell Ensemble Director**

*Lael Hoerauf*

**Maintenance Manager**

*Tony Bartole*

**Membership Services**

*Judy Lentz*

**Child Care Center Director**

*Shawn Stettner*

**Child Care Center Asst Director**

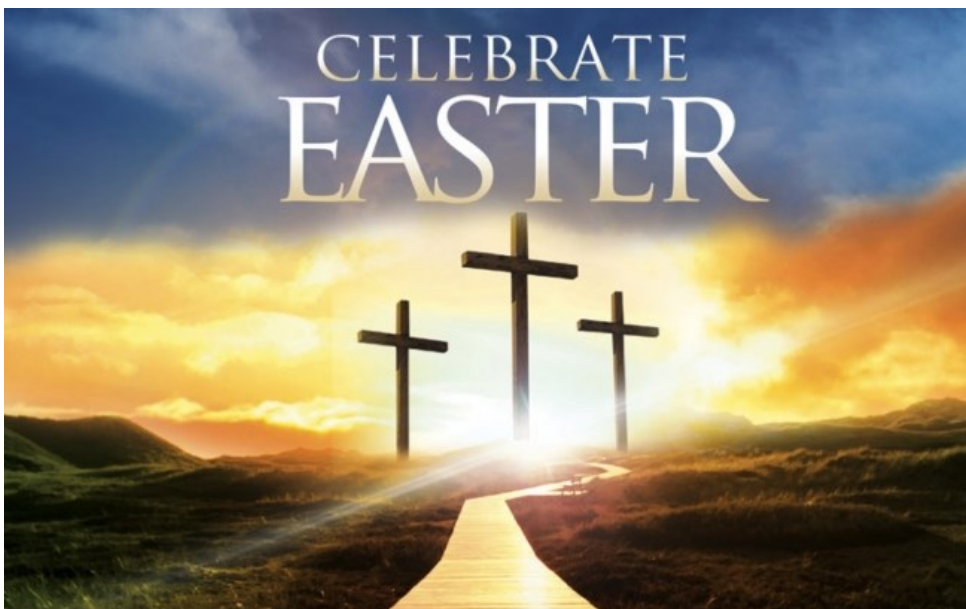
*Vanessa Hein*

**Nursery**

*Mary Jones*

**Christian Ed Interns**

*Sophie Svihovec & Mark Jensen*



# APRIL

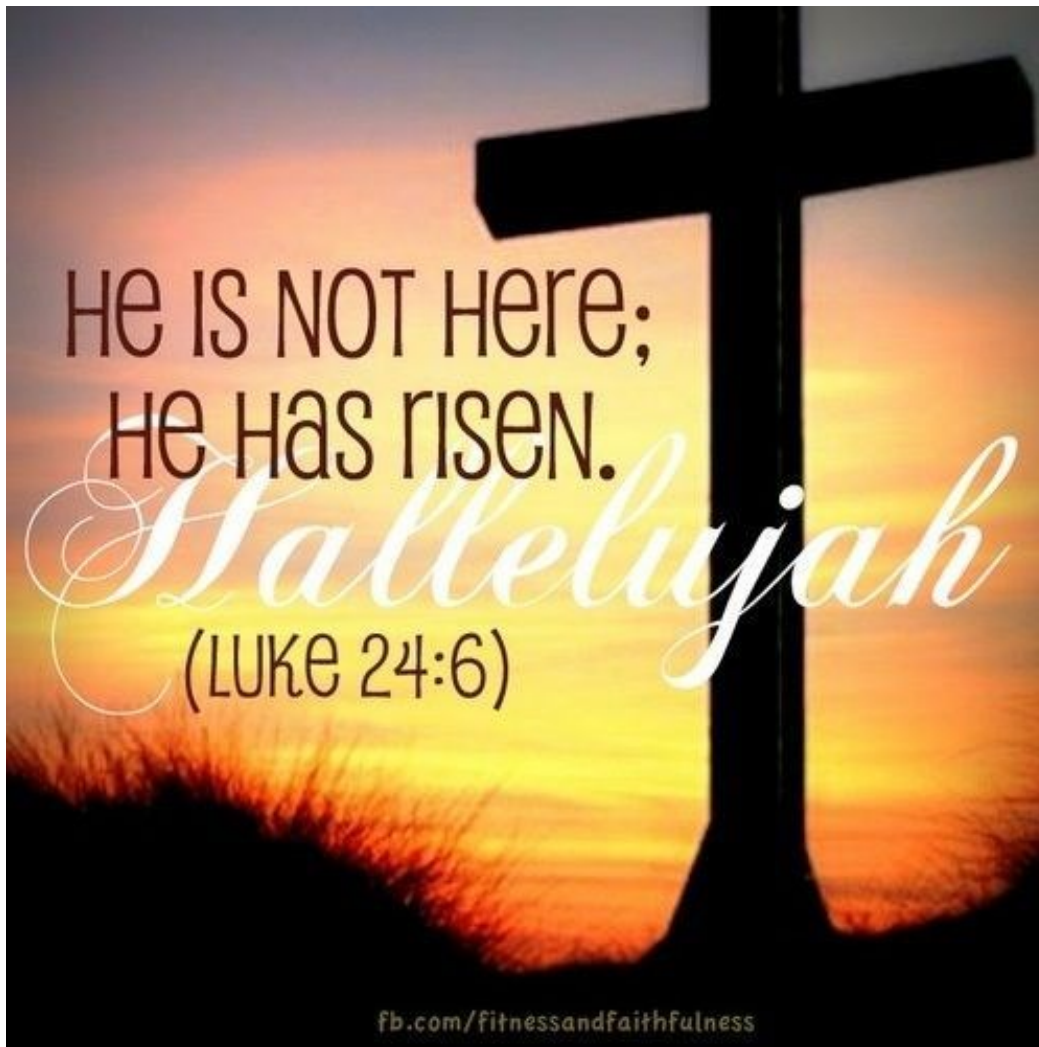
# 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 9:30 am Circle 3 Meeting
3 10:00 am Worship 1:30 pm ZOOM Adult SS	4 10:00 am Exercise 1-4:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:30 pm Suzuki 6:30 pm Scouts 7:00 pm Chr. Ed.	5 5:45 pm Prop & Equip 6:30 pm Lay Pastors	6 5:45 pm PAC/Teens 6:30 pm W.C. 7:30 pm Choir	7 11:00 am Exercise Class (Last Class for Summer)	8	9
10 10:00 am Worship NO Adult SS  PALM SUNDAY	11 5:30 pm Suzuki 5:30 pm W & M- Zoom 6:30 pm Scouts	12 5:30 pm CCC Board	13 5:45 pm PAC/Teens NO W. Chimes 7:30 pm Choir	14 NO Hospitality 7:30PM MAUNDY THURS. SERVICE	15 NO SCHOOL OFFICE CLOSED  GOOD FRIDAY	16
17 10:00 am Worship NO Sunday School NO Adult SS  EASTER SUNDAY	18 NO SCHOOL Noon -Resource Management 1-4:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:00 pm Admin. Personnel 5:30 pm Suzuki 6:30 pm Scouts	19	20 5:45 pm PAC/Teens 6:30 pm W.C. 7:30 pm Choir	21 1:30 pm Book Club in Parlor 6:00 pm Hospitality 7:00 pm Deacons	22 CRYSTAL SPRINGS  FAMILY FUN NIGHT ! 7:00-9:00 PM	23 YOUTH RETREAT 4/22-4/24
24 10:00 am Worship 9-Noon-BP Clinic 1:30 pm ZOOM Adult SS	25 5:30 pm Suzuki 6:30 pm Scouts	26 6:00 pm Session	27 5:45 pm PAC/Teens 6:30 pm W.C. 7:30 pm Choir	28 WANONA OUT	29 OF TOWN >	30 > -- May 1st >

**FAMILY NEWS**

THOUGHTS & PRAYERS FOR THE FAMILY OF VIOLETTE “VI” RUFF.

**THANK YOU** TO THOSE OF YOU SENDING CARDS TO SUSAN SHAFER - *MAKE NOTE*  
HER NEW ADDRESS IS: 3709 GAIL CIRCLE SE MANDAN, ND 58554



**EVENTS IN EARLY MAY:**

Monday, May 2nd - Suzuki Spring Recital  
Sunday, May 8th - Youth Sunday  
Sunday, May 15th - Child Care Appreciation Day