

Easter isn't just a Sunday it's a season. One day out of 365 is hardly sufficient to celebrate the great mystery of our faith — that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. Accordingly, the season of Easter lasts seven weeks (a "week of weeks"), spanning the 50 days from the Sunday of the Resurrection to Pentecost Sunday and encompassing the festival of the Ascension of the Lord. The season of Easter is intended to be a joyful time for celebrating the presence of the risen Christ in the church. Of course, Easter really isn't just a season either. In the fullest sense, Easter is a new way of life — in which we are "dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus" (Rom. 6:11), called to "walk in newness of life" (Rom. 6:4).

One way you might experience your faith and encounter Christ is

through the natural world. The cycle of life and death is written into our hearts and bodies. But it is also written into our planet. Everywhere you look, you will see tiny deaths and beautiful risings.

In the Midwest the liturgical year seems to mimic nature. If Lent marches to the dirge of a dead winter, then Easter trumpets spring with tufts of green and hopeful blooms.

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During these sacred 50 days, go outside for a "resurrection walk."

Listen for the birds. Step close to a tree or bush and admire a new bud, or a full-grown blossom, depending on where you live.

In the natural realm you're sure to find something that echoes the reality that from death comes life, and in unveiling that certainty, you can reflect on the greatest hope.

Every year, for fifty days, the church celebrates and rehearses this new way of life in the Season of Easter — as we await its completion in the fullness of Christ's reign.





*Palm Sunday program by the youth and lunch following was awesome. \$223.00 was raised for the youth.

*Senior Breakfast for our graduating senior Taionna Farley-Martin is May 4th at 9:30am in Fellowship Hall

*Sweet Dreams Ministry has delivered 82 beds since we started this ministry

*We serve Warren's Table on May 6th; volunteers are needed contact a committee member if you can help.

*August 10th the Homestead Harmonizers are joining us for the service

*We are looking at some summer projects such as a picnic, ice cream social etc. the Outreach Committee is looking for ideas.

*The next stated meeting will be held on May 19th at 6:45pm



Westminster Guild



Due to church activities etc., Westminster Guild will not meet in May.

Happy Mother's Day!



Ardyth Orwen	3
Sharon Langvardt	9
Bert Wolter	22
Julie Hay	24



Come and join in the celebration! Sr. Breakfast for Taionna Farley-Martin May 4, 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

First Presbyterian will be participating in True North Community VBS St. John's Lutheran Church May 27-29, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Lunch will be served Sign up on St. John's Facebook page, or a registration form is enclosed.

Last Sunday School May 11.



PRAYERS: Ellen Greenwell; Connie Dake; Diane Mayer; and Norma Jean McNamee.

Also: Shannon Fanning; Steve Arneal; Hope Johns (Maxie Arneal's great granddaughter); Imogene Johnson (Connie Dake's sister); Norma Mitschler (Frank's sister); Janet Parde; Alyssa Lock (Kristin Jurgens' granddaughter): Jodee Bolli (Jesse & Betsy's sister-in-law); and Erin Blake.

Our sympathy is with Ellen Greenwell and family on the passing of Bruce on Friday, April 25, in Bellevue. Services Are pending at this time.

Our sympathy is also with Frank and Shirley Mitschler on the passing of Shirley's sister-in-law, Shirlie Brunell, on Thursday, April 24, in Beatrice.

Our sympathy is also with Kristin Jurgens and family and friends of Dorothy Rockemann who passed away Saturday, April 26. Her memorial service will be here at First Church on Tuesday, May 27, at 11:00 a.m.



The next Presbyterian Women's meeting will be May 15th with the business meeting at 9:30 am and Bible Study at 10 am. The lesson will be the 9th chapter; Sustaining

Creation's Health for All.

Renee Jones has accepted the position to be PW Moderator, beginning in September.

The Bible Study for next year will be; Finding Resilience, Joy and Our Identity in Jesus Christ by Rhashell D. Hunter.

The June Birthday Offering Brunch date and time is to be determined.

Interim Moderator Julie Hay



First Church will serve Warren's Table on Tuesday, May 6 at 5:00 p.m. Contact Fran Martin if you are available to help.

The family of Taionna Farley-Martin invites you to join them on May 11 from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Sertoma Cabin at Chautauqua Park to celebrate her high school graduation.

Sweet Breams Bed Ministry

We delivered six beds in April thanks to the efforts of Individual Donors and First Presbyterian Church, Ashley's Homestore, Hope to Dream Foundation, Nebraska Presbyterian Foundation.





Register for Community Vacation Bible School!

Hosted by St. John Lutheran Church, First Christian Church, Centenary United Methodist, First Presbyterian, Holy Cross

MAY 27th-29th from 9 AM - 5 PM each day at St. John Lutheran Church 701 North 6th Street

Lunch and snacks will be provided

Pointing kids to Jesus, a faithful friend we can always trust. He's our True North!

Name
Address
Email Address
Phone number
Register
Participate (preschool - 5th grade)
Volunteer (6th grade - adult)
Grade completed Spring 2025
T-shirt size:
Emergency Contact name and phone number
Allergies
Permission to take photos and/or videos for St. John use:

Yes No