



First Presbyterian Churches of Edgerton and Lismore

THE MESSENGER

Newsletter Month of April 2015

Surprise!

I noticed the other day that most of my socks were wearing thin. Not knowing how to darn them, I put on a clean pair of pajama pants and my slippers and headed out to the local Wal-Mart to see if they had any hot deals on socks.

Standing in the middle of the sock aisle, I suddenly heard an announcement booming from the speakers: **“Attention Wal-Mart shoppers. We are currently offering a free gift for everyone in the store today...a five-inch stainless steel, high quality paring knife. Please make your way to the Seafood department at the end of aisle 2 and receive your free knife.”** My first thought was, “The socks can wait!” It was off to the races.

I girded up my loins and joined a growing horde of people at the end of the aisle around a small booth where a small man with a big voice was carving up a piece of frozen cod like there was no tomorrow. He would stop from time to time and ask questions of the audience, such as, **“Do you like fish?”** and **“Have you ever seen a knife that can do this?”** The crowd was getting bigger by the minute, but although the little man with the booming voice kept carving and talking, he wasn't handing out any knives, and I was sensing this 'free gift' was going to cost me \$19.99. I smelled a scam in the seafood department.

The Gospel is all about real surprises that can totally alter the course of your life. I pray you'll read the following scriptures and experience those gifts firsthand...

‘But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.’ (Romans 5:8)

‘When someone becomes a Christian he becomes a brand new person inside. He is not the same anymore. A new life has begun!’ (2 Corinthians 5:17)

Surprise #1: Knowing that we didn't have a prayer of ever knowing peace with God without him, Jesus loved us so much that he **became** our sin. He became our rebellion. He **became** our lies, our anger, our greed, our lust, our addictions, our backsliding, our wasted time, and our evil thoughts and ways. Jesus **became** all our sin on the cross, in order that God would judge him and not us.

Surprise #2: Jesus' gift of new life is extended to you right now, right where you are. Some are reading these words in prisons, in bars, in hospitals, in nursing homes, in hotels, in newspapers, and at your kitchen table in your pajamas and slippers. It doesn't matter where you are...Jesus is a prayer away.

continued on next page...

Mark Your Calendar

Apr. 2

(E) Maundy Thursday Service

Apr. 3

(E) Maundy Thursday Service

Apr. 9

(E) April Auction 6:00

Apr. 16

(L) PW 7:30

Lismore

9:00 Worship Service

10:00 Sunday School

7:30 Wednesday Choir

Edgerton

9:30 Sunday School

10:30 Worship Service

7:00 Wednesday Women's Bible Study



CELEBRATE

APRIL

- 4 Kelly Kounkel
- 5 Kristin Schultz
- 6 Eric Schultz
- 7 Kresley Fraser
- 8 Reece Gilbertson
- 9 Ken Leinen
- 10 Ann Peterson
- 12 Melissa Goodrich
- 13 Kevin Gengler
- 14 Dean Wieck
- 16 Tony and Anne Haga
- 22 Jennifer Altman
- 26 Zach Hadler
- Sun Mee Top

CHRIST IS RISEN

HE IS RISEN, INDEED

SHARED ANNOUNCEMENTS

EDGERTON APRIL AUCTION

April 9 with a meal at 6 p.m. and auction at 6:30. Session requests that half of the March sale go toward some electronics for the sanctuary and Sunday School.



Surprise continued...

Surprise #3: The new life that Jesus has for you is not a scam. Jesus offers you himself! Jesus will live his life through you from this point on. I urge you not to slip away. There is no greater gift than Him!

Postscript: If you're ever in my neck of the woods, give me a call and I'll make you dinner. I just bought 20 pounds of fish sticks at Wal-Mart. Who needs a knife anyway!!!! Happy spring!

TJV

NEWSLETTER BULLETIN

If you have information for the bulletin or newsletter, please email it to tananoelzwart@hotmail.com. Any other announcements please phone in to 507-920-7890. Thank you.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Arnold Bolluyt
Ann Peterson
Elene Deremo
Charlotte Griffin

EDGERTON

Note: If you can't bring for the Sunday you are assigned, please find a replacement.

Church Cleaning: Volunteers Needed!

FLOWERS APRIL – DONNA HULSTEIN & TRACY HUNTER
FLOWERS MAY- CAROLE ZWART & SANDY KLINGENBERG

USHERS APRIL - BRUCE FRASER & LUCK FEY
USHERS MAY - LLOYD ZWART & GREG MANITZ

Coffee Servers:

April 5 Anne Haga & Sharon Fraser
April 12 Jan Bos & Kristin Schultz
April 19 Sue Fraser & Carrie Gilbertson
April 26 Donna Hulstein & Mary Bolluyt
May 3 Sara Heard & Carole Zwart
May 10 Marcia Landin & Betty Blackmon
May 17 Bev Rickenbough & Jana Pick
May 24 Tracy Hunter & Wendy Evink
May 31 Betty Blackmon & Kendra Hunter

FISH FRY

136 people were served this year for a total of \$1,460. This was an increase of \$215 from last year.

BAPTISM

April 19 baptism of Hank James Petersen, son of Heath and Keri Petersen at worship service.

EASTER SUNDAY

April 5 no Sunday School. Coffee and rolls from 9-10 am. Cantata with and at Reformed church at 9:30, as well as regular worship service at 10:30 am.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

Sunday, April 5 - No Sunday School
YOUTH SUNDAY APRIL 26 ~ JONAH AND THE BIG FISH
Sunday, May 3 - Last Sunday School until September

WORK GROUPS

Work group 1 will work the auction.

Work group 2 will work the High School Senior's breakfast. Pastor Tom will be the speaker.



Check out our website:
www.firstpresbyterianedgerton.weebly.com

Work group 3 will work the Joint Music Sunday and set up and serve the potluck dinner after worship.

MISSION TRIP

James and Kristin Fraser will have the privilege of participating in a mission trip this fall. They will leave in September for a trip that will take them to 11 countries in 11 months. God has a plan for them! Please keep them in your prayers and support them by checking out their mission site: JamesAndKristinFraser.TheWorldRace.org

CIRCLE 2

April 8 Circle #2 at 2 pm at church.

APRIL AUCTION

April 9 with a meal at 6 p.m. and auction at 6:30. Session requests that half of the March sale go toward some electronics for the sanctuary and Sunday School.

FEB INCOME/EXPENSES

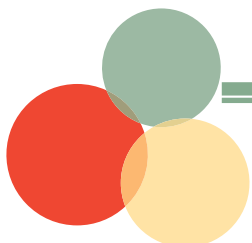
February Church Income: \$4,563.96
February Church Expenses: \$5,355.01
Net Income for February: -\$791.05

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Maundy Thursday candlelight service in the fellowship hall with communion, April 2.

SUNRISE SERVICE

REJOICE! CHRIST IS RISEN. Celebrate the glory of God at the Community Easter Sunrise service on April 5, 2015 at the First Christian Reformed Church in Edgerton. Ministry in Music will begin at 6:55. Rev. Douglas Kuiper, pastor of the Protestant Reformed Church, will be the speaker. Danish rolls, coffee and orange juice will be served after the worship service. An offering will be taken for Hope Haven



So **do not worry** about tomorrow. Let tomorrow worry about itself. Living **FAITHFULLY** is a *large enough* task for **TODAY**. Matthew 6:34

LISMORE

Check out our website:
www.fpclismore.org.



USHERS

April: Tori & Jan Vande Kieft

May: Rod Tweet & Ken Leinen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. We need individuals for janitor duties. There is a new sign up sheet on the bulletin board. Please think about signing up for a month or two.

B. OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD:

We already have a collection box for the 2015 OCC boxes. It's never too early to start thinking about next year. Shop the sales after Christmas!

C. This summer's Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women will be held in Minneapolis! This is a great opportunity for us as this is the closest it will ever be. If you are attending, be sure to get your registration in. If you would

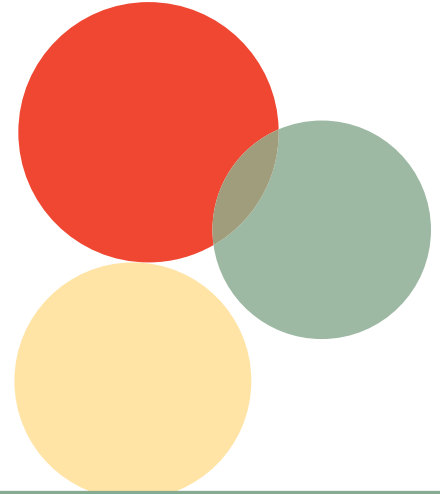
CHOIR

We practice every Wednesday night at 7:30. We always welcome extra singers. If anyone, choir members or not, have favorite songs they would like us to sing, bring those ideas to practice or give to Kathy Knips.

Tentative ending to practice for the summer will be April 29. We will plan to sing during May, so be sure to come to practice in April. We will also be singing for the Park Service in Lismore on August 30.

PW

APRIL meeting: April 16 at 7:30 p.m.
Devotions: Lori
Lesson 4: Joyce



Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, "**WHOM shall I send, and WHO will go for Us?**" Then I said, "**Here am I. Send me!**"



like to go for just one day, they are planning on taking a bus up. Ask if you are interested in this option.

D. Pancake Breakfast

Thanks to everyone who donated and/or helped with the breakfast fundraiser on Saturday, March 28!

E. YOUTH SUNDAY:

Youth Sunday will be on May 10. Please put that on your calendar and plan to attend to support the youth of our church.

Lunch: Lorna

PW Birthday offering (for missions): If anyone wants to contribute to this offering, give it to Kathy K as soon as possible.

YOUTH

Candlelighters:

See candlelighter's list on the bulletin board.

*Please be sure you are in church early on your Sunday. Call someone to sub for you if you will not be there.

Sunday School Schedule:

No classes on Easter Sunday (April 5)
Regular classes each week from April 12-Mother's Day. We will practice part of the hour each Sunday for Youth Sunday, so please be sure you are in attendance.

YOUTH SUNDAY: It will be on Mother's Day, May 10. Please put this on your calendar now.

