

# The Missive

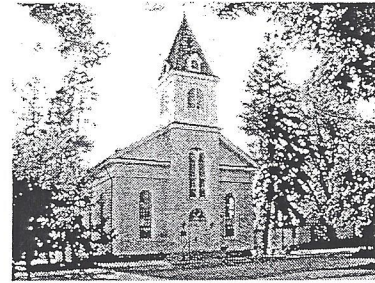
## April 2014

### First Presbyterian Church

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#### *"The Best Time of Year"*

*I have very little in common with Rogers Hornsby. He was born in 1896 in Texas, I was born more than sixty years later in Colorado. He is considered to be the greatest right-handed hitter in baseball history, I once hit a double in Little League when the shortstop missed the ball. He played in the Major Leagues for the St. Louis Cardinals, Boston Braves, Chicago Cubs, and St. Louis Browns; sometimes when I have a good dream I find myself playing ball for the Cubs. He was notoriously hard to get along with; I on the other hand, am the nicest person any of my staff has had the pleasure of working for (isn't that right guys? . . . guys? . . . anyone there?). Rogers never smoked, took a drink, played cards, or went to the movies (bad for the batter's eyesight); I have been known to do three out of four of those things. But Rogers once said, "People ask me what I do in the winter when there is no baseball. I'll tell you what I do. I stare out the window and wait for spring." Me too! See, I knew Rogers and I are so much alike!*

*Isn't this the best time of year? Don't you just love spring? I know it's a little harder this year with those piles of snow in the yard, but the signs are abundant, spring is here? The Cubs open against Pittsburgh on Monday, we are deep in the midst of NCAA basketball, the bird feeder needs to be refilled every three days, and I'm sure crocuses and daffodils are getting ready to pop out any day now. What could be better? That's why for me it makes so much sense that Easter happens in the spring. All those goofy symbols of Easter in our culture—eggs, bunnies, chicks, that plastic grass that goes in the Easter baskets—are all symbols of new life. And that's what we celebrate at Easter. The time of waiting is over, the tomb is empty, he is risen! He is alive and so are we. This is the season of newness and of renewal.*

*On Easter Sunday we always begin our day with a sunrise service in the church's Memorial Garden at 7:00. That's not just because it is a pretty place to be or that we want to remember those of our fellowship who have died. We meet there because that where the women first heard the good news from the angel and that's where Mary met the risen Jesus, in a cemetery. It is so we can see clearly as the sun rises in the east the words on the east-facing plaque "In the sure and certain hope of the resurrection." Spring is here, Easter is here. It's time to stop staring out the window and come back to life. Isn't this the best time of year?*

*Grace and Peace,*

*Mark*

## HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday

April 13, 9:45 a.m.

*Hot Cross Buns served*

Maundy Thursday Service

April 17, 7:00 p.m.

Community Good Friday Service

April 18, 1:00 p.m.

**Yorkville Community Church**

Easter Sunrise Service

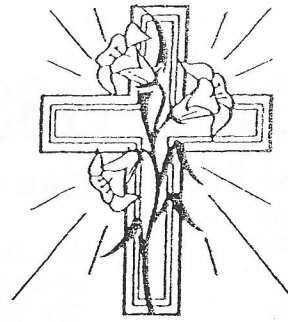
April 20, 7:00 a.m.

*Breakfast hosted by the Deacons*

*8:00 a.m. in the GPR*

Easter Service

April 20, 9:45 a.m.



Bring a breakfast dish to pass and make sure to find your way to the Gull Prairie Room following the Sunrise service. We have our annual Easter breakfast, hosted by the Deacons. Just bring something to share and they'll do the rest!

# MissionS

## One Great Hour of Sharing

For many years Richland Presbyterians have helped to fill the world with love by donating to  
**One Great Hour of Sharing.**

Through our offerings, our church has a long tradition of helping children and adults around the world. Many projects are funded through

**One Great Hour of Sharing,**

a program in existence for over 50 years. Every year millions of Christians from many denominations show their love through donations to assist in feeding the hungry, healing the sick, and offering peace and hope to people in distress.

Human needs as simple as safe drinking water are made available to areas where the water supply is a threat to life and health. Refugees are offered basic needs such as food, shelter, and medical care in times of disaster and dislocation from their homes. The funds also provide many kinds of education, including literacy classes, agricultural and vocational training.

Please join other Presbyterians and Christians in sharing the support of these essential programs and by helping to fill the world with love. This year April 20th is the Sunday designated for the annual support of this most valuable program. Prayerfully consider your stewardship offerings and include

**One Great Hour of Sharing**

as a part of your contributions this year. An envelope has been provided in this newsletter, and one will be available during worship on the 20th for your convenience. Thank you.

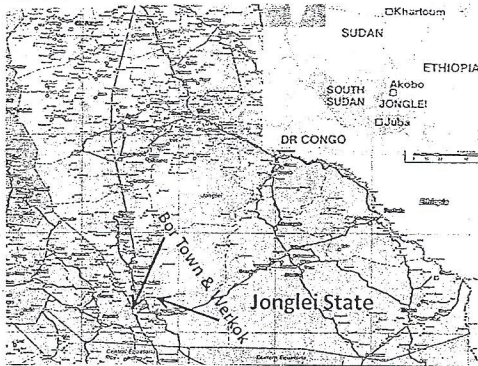
Your Mission Committee

Deng's brother, Abraham, sent these pictures to Mary Lou Cazars when he returned to Boston from Kenya last month.

Mary Lou also included part of an article written on March 18, describing some of the very disturbing things happening where our brother Deng had hoped to work.



Jacob - Deng and Abraham's "little" teenage brother,  
Deng,  
Martha Lou - their mother,  
Abraham, and Abraham's son, Thon, Jr.



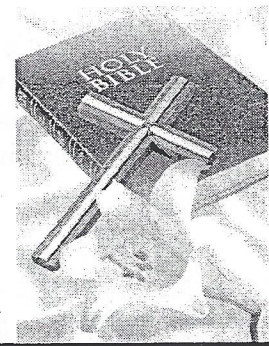
Abraham holding his son, Thon Jr., his wife Tabitha, and daughter Monica Lou, from a relationship when he was in refugee camp in Kenya years ago. Monica lives with Martha Lou & Tabitha in Kenya.

"South Sudan's relationship with the United Nations has plummeted to an unprecedented low as authorities have beaten U.N. personnel and relief workers, forcibly searched their vehicles, and organized public demonstrations demonizing the world body as an enemy of the fledgling African nation, according to a confidential internal report obtained by Foreign Policy.

South Sudanese forces have also routinely stopped U.N. convoys transporting food, medicines, and other humanitarian goods, and in many cases, beat the truck drivers, according to the report. In one case, explosive experts from the U.N. Mine Action Service (UNMAS), were prevented by South Sudanese and Ugandan government forces from clearing bombs from an area south of Bor.

Relations between the U.N. and the South Sudanese government have been tense for well over a year, but they have markedly deteriorated since the world's youngest independent country erupted into civil war in December 2013."

# April 2014



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 10:00 Connected Threads 1:30 Office Staff	2 1:00 PW Meeting	3 9:00 Bible Study 7:00 Chancel Choir 7:00 Cub Scouts	4	5
6 9:45 Worship - Communion No Sunday School or Tribe or Youth Choir	7 4:00 Care Team	8 10:00 Connected Threads	9 1:00 Women's Book Club at Lib's 7:00 Session	10 12:00 Older Bunch for Lunch at New Hope Church 6:00 Deacons 7:00 Chancel Choir	11	12
13 <i>Palm Sunday</i> 9:45 Worship - 2 cents-a-meal No Sunday School 11:00 Youth Choir 11:30 Tribe 3:00 VGA—Laughing Waters	14 6:00 Boy Scouts	15 9:00 Women's Bible Study 10:00 Connected Threads 1:30 Office Staff 7:00 Women's Bible Study	16 7:00 Committee Meetings	17 <i>Maundy Thursday</i> 9:00 Bible Study 7:00 Cub Scouts 7:00 Maundy Thursday Service 7:30 Chancel Choir	18 <i>Good Friday</i> 1:00 Good Friday Service at Yorkville Community Church	19
20 <i>Easter</i> 7:00 Sunrise Service 8:00 Breakfast 9:45 Worship 10:15 Easter Egg-stravaganza for pre-school - high school, downstairs after "time with the children"	21  Office Closed  4:00 Care Team 6:00 Boy Scouts	22 10:00 Connected Threads	23	24 9:00 Bible Study 7:00 Chancel Choir 7:00 Cub Pack Mtg.	25	26 4:00ish Tribe ~ Kids-n-Boxes
27 9:45 Worship 11:10 Sunday School 12:00 Youth Choir	28 11:30-12:30 2:30-3:30 Lion's Club Vision testing for children downstairs 6:00 Boy Scouts	29 10:00 Connected Threads 11:30-12:30 2:30-3:30 Lion's Club Vision testing for kids downstairs 10-5 & 6-8 RUMMAGE SET UP	30 10-5 & 6-8 RUMMAGE SET UP			



# Presbyterian Women

*PW meets the 1st Wednesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. in the church,  
The next meeting is April 2nd. EVERY WOMAN is welcome.*

## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

### *Revelations*

We meet every third Tuesday at  
9:00 a.m. OR 7:00 p.m.  
We welcome any to join us!

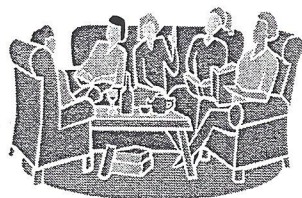


## Women's Book Club

Lib Wittwer is hosting the next Book Club discussion  
on April 9th at 1:00.

"Killing Jesus" by Bill O'Reilly

If you've never been part of this, or any book club, we  
welcome you to give us a try! 156 S. Lake Doster.  
Call Lib at 685-6190 with any questions.



Look for the Rummage Sale page in this Missive.

We're having it a little bit later than usual—May 2 & 3—  
and the set-up times have changed-10-5 & 6-8.

What hasn't changed is our need for helpers, all week for set  
up, during the sale days, and most especially for clean up!

**PW PURPOSE:** Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible Study, to support the mission of the church worldwide, to work for justice and peace and to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (USA) and witnesses to the promise of God's Kingdom.

# 2014 Birthday Offering



*Presbyterian Women*

In 1922, to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Woman's Auxiliary (PCUS), it was decided that an offering should be made for a definite cause. That year, Hallie Paxson Winsborough, superintendent of women's work, visited Miss Dowd's School for Girls in Kochi, Japan. She challenged members of the Woman's Auxiliary to give one penny for each year of their lives (or a dollar if a woman preferred not to reveal her age) as a birthday gift to the school. The tradition continued when the Woman's Auxiliary became Presbyterian Women (PCUSA) in 1988. The offerings have enabled a long succession of new and often innovative mission projects throughout the world.

While the projects and donation amounts have changed, Presbyterian Women's commitment to improving the lives of others has not. We continue to need broad, consistent support from Presbyterian women, men and others in the area in order to continue funding mission projects like the one selected for 2014. Our goal for 2014 is \$500,000.

This year we will answer the call to show Jesus' love to the world, offering our prayers and financial support to Blue Corn Mothers Alliance in Albuquerque, New Mexico. This organization offers a range of services for Native American women who have experienced domestic violence. Through a Birthday Offering grant, Blue Corn Mothers' advocacy center will operate five days a week (rather than just one), providing crisis intervention; health, counseling and education services; and referrals for legal and shelter services.

Research shows that Native American women are more likely to experience intimate partner violence than non-Native women. More than one in three Native women will be raped in her life, and 39% of Native women experience domestic violence in some form. At least 70% of the violent incidents and a full 86% of reported rapes are perpetrated by non-Native people, suggesting they are taking advantage of the reservation's lack of jurisdiction over non-native people.\*

Thank you for your faithfulness in giving and your ongoing prayers for women struggling with domestic violence! As you have been blessed, so may you bless others.

Do not forsake me, O Lord.

**APRIL 27 ~ BIRTHDAY OFFERING**

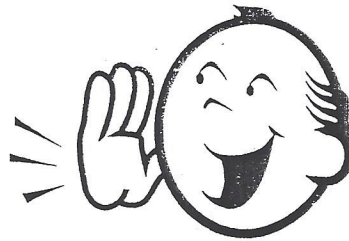
\*From the National Inst. of Justice, Centers for Disease Control, *Suffolk University Law Review*, and the Bureau of Justice.

*Do not*

*forsake me,*

*O Lord.*

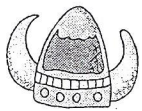
IT'S TIME!!  
Open up the attic,  
break thru the basement ...



## RUMMAGE SALE!!!



SPRING CLEANING!! Our weather has been very inspirational for that activity, and maybe you have at least been in the sorting mode. As a place to unload your unwanted (but still good) items, don't forget our Rummage Sale, which will take place May 2nd, 9 to 3 and 5 to 7, and May 3rd, 9 to 11:30.



Set up will take place on Monday evening, April 28th, and your contributions can be brought any day after that (thru Thursday, and before 5:00 if possible!). The sign-up sheet for workers is posted on the bulletin board in the Gull Prairie Room on the PW Board.

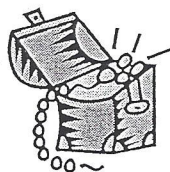
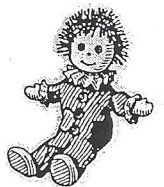


We will need people to help sort and price all week long. The sale begins Friday morning, so we need salespeople here at 8:30 a.m. to greet our line-up of customers. On Friday evening and Saturday morning, the cost for whatever can be stuffed into a grocery bag, is \$2 and \$1, respectively.

Then a crew of workers can come in about 11:30 Saturday morning and help dismantle the sale and pack up the unsold goods (we really need help with this part), which go to a charitable cause.

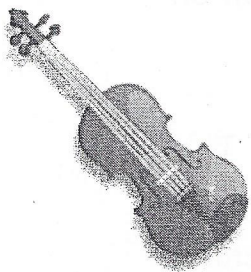


NEW SET-UP AND BRING IN TIMES  
Tue, Wed, Thur ~ 10 to 5 & 6 to 8



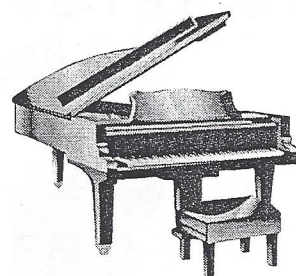
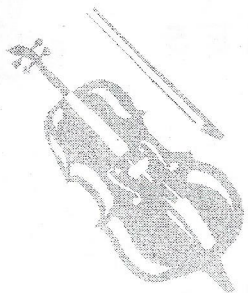
VILLAGE GREEN ARTS  
PRESENTS

# LAUGHING WATERS



Sunday, April 13, 3:00

Free Reception Tea \* Freewill Offering



*Musica Sacrae* Larry Myland

## Music for a Spring Day

Even before the glorious Day of Resurrection, music will ring throughout the church during this season of Lent.

In addition to the wonderful voice of our Chancel Choir that we depend on every week, Village Green Arts will host a very special event on Sunday, April 13. We will feature the debut performance of the **Laughing Waters Piano Quartet**; that means this will be the inaugural performance of this group; the very first time they will have appeared together, anywhere. We are honored that they chose Village Green Arts for their debut appearance.

If you've never heard a piano quartet, you deserve to have the experience. Such a group is made up of violin, viola, cello and, of course, piano. You can probably already hear in your mind's ear the rich warmth of this winning combination of instruments.

Please plan to attend the debut performance of the Laughing Waters Piano Quartet on Sunday, April 13, here in the church at 3 p.m. As always, there will be a reception after the program so you can meet and talk with the members of the ensemble.

Most people plan on being in church on Easter as a matter of course, but the service this year promises to be even more regal than it normally is. The **Thornapple Brass Quintet** will be here in force to play much of the service music and to join the organ in leading the hymns. In case you missed their recent Village Green Arts performance here at the church, here's your chance to hear them in a worship service in which you actually get to sing along with them yourself. This will be a thrilling service to the Lord. Be here to add your heart and voice.

Village Green Arts  
Laughing Waters Piano Quartet  
Sunday, April 13, 3 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 20  
Worship Service 9:45 a.m.  
The Thornapple Brass Quintet

# Announcements



Many of you have very kindly asked about Vicky, and many may wonder why she is still on the prayer list. As you may know, in May 2012, she was diagnosed with thyroid cancer. After having her thyroid removed, she received a radioactive iodine treatment. This treatment heals for 6-12 months. In October last year, she had a full body scan and the cancer was GONE! However, the thyroid globulin levels in her blood were still too high. This could mean that she still has either healthy or cancerous cells in her body and the doctors wanted both gone. So, she had another radioactive iodine treatment. She will have to wait another 6-12 months. At that time, we hope to hear that she is cancer free. We'll let you know! Thank you for your prayers.

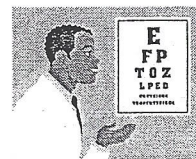
Larry and Barb Langshaw



Thank you so much for your cards, prayers, and support during my mom's illness and passing. Jerry and I appreciate everyone's care.

Janet Petersen

The Lion's Club will once again be having vision tests available for children. April 28th and 29th, downstairs in the Sunday school hall. 11:30 to 12:30 and 2:30 to 3:30, both days. Keep looking for more specific information on the bulletin board!



**NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
**APRIL 6th, 13th, 20th**

# April Volunteer Assignments

	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Coffee</u>	<u>Nursery Help</u>
6	Gauthier	↑	LaLonde Monk	Alspach
13	Hodgson	Polzin	Becker Carlson	Bryer
20	Stasevich	Brundage	Wank Webb	Odor
27	Steely	↓ Barton	E & M Davis Weigel	Hart

## Serving Communion

*Please remember that only ordained elders and deacons should serve communion.*

### April 6

Ed Calkins  
Sandy Carahaly  
Ed Davis  
Caelan Deater  
Dave Deater  
Ruth Dwoinen  
Hoyt Fonger  
Janet Fonger  
Kay Hutchinson

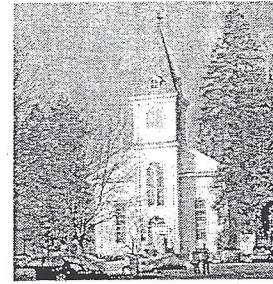
### May 4

Gary Gibson  
Joyce Gibson  
Caroline Gray  
Anna Gross  
Rod Gross  
Lynn Hittle  
Byron Hodgson  
Bill Hubbard  
Joyce Hubbard

### June 1

Kalli Inman  
Larry Irey  
Kay Irey  
Brenda Jones  
Bob Jones  
Karen Kendall  
Tom Kendall  
Greg Keusch  
Leslie Keusch

*We rely on many members and friends to help Sundays run smoothly and be a good worship experience for those attending our church. If for some reason you are not able to help on the day originally selected, please find a replacement or someone to trade with, and let the church office know. The yearly list of volunteers can be found at [www.fpcrich.com](http://www.fpcrich.com), under "Living the Faith", then "volunteer schedule". Or call Julie for a list of names. Thank you!*



## Reminder from the Finance Committee

First Presbyterian Congregation,

Your 2014 pledge to our annual operating budget and building fund was very meaningful. Pledges are the primary means of raising funds for First Presbyterian. We typically have not posted reminders about pledges in the past, but we have encountered a revenue shortfall over the last three months. Much of this shortfall can be attributed to the harsh winter weather and lower attendance on Sundays. **Our goal is to "CATCH UP" on our pledges and giving during April.**

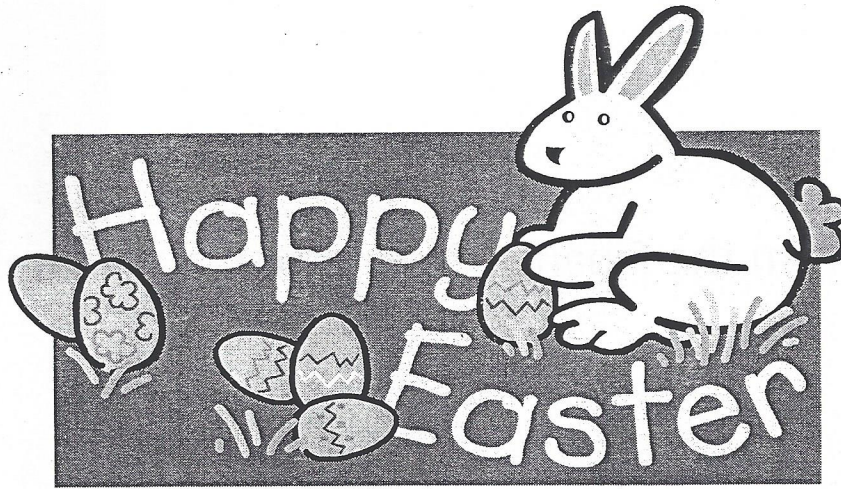
We are posting this announcement as a pledge payment reminder. We hope you will give during the next service offering or by sending your offering directly to the church. You can also help by returning your Per Capita Apportionment Envelope (\$25.27/member of your household).

Thank you again for your wonderful generosity and for being an important part of the congregation. We appreciate your assistance in fulfilling your pledge by giving regularly.

Regards,

Ken Sunden

Dave Butler



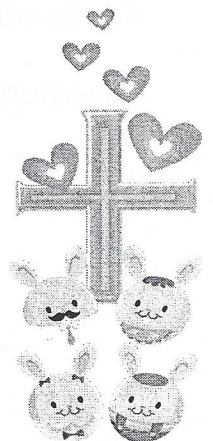
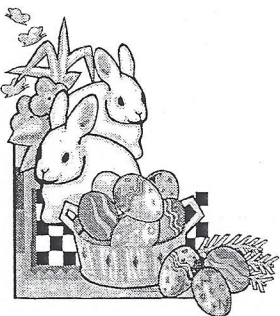
Join us for the EGGSTRAVAGANZA!!  
Easter Stories, Crafts, and Snacks!

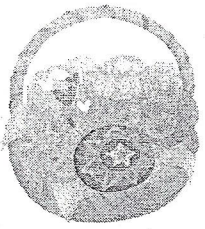
When: Easter Sunday, April 20th  
during Children's Worship & Choir

Where: Sunday School classrooms

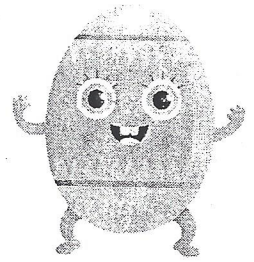
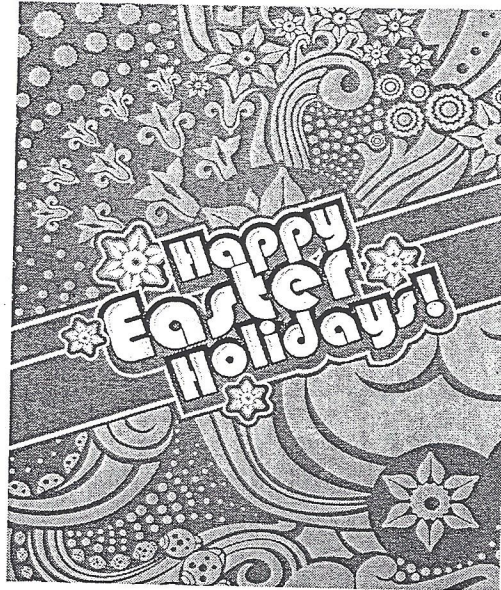
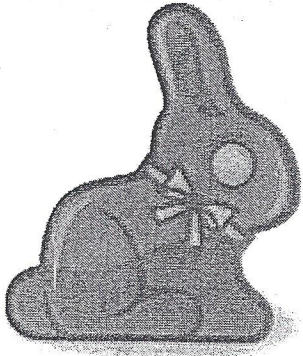
See YOU at the  
Eggstravaganza!!!

This is for ALL kids.  
Preschool ~ high school



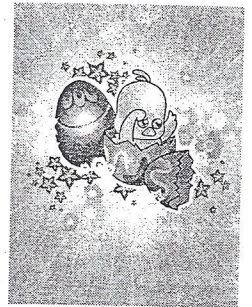


# April



# Tribe

6th-8th Junior High  
9th-12th Senior High

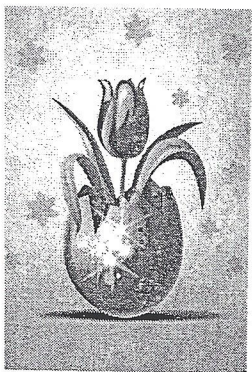


UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED, TRIBE BEGINS  
AT 12:00 WITH LUNCH AT THE CHURCH.

April is a short month for Tribe, as we don't  
have any on the 6th or the 20th.

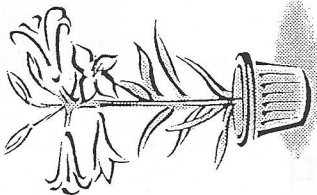
April 13th at 11:15, we are planning  
Youth Sunday so we need EVERYONE  
here!!!

April 26th (Saturday) we're having  
KIDS-N-BOXES!! We'll start that  
afternoon, spend the night, wake up  
for breakfast and church!



*Parents and friends, please remember to sign up for Tribe lunches!!  
We need to feed these wonderful kids before they go out and have FUN!!*

# Remembrance Lilies



The Altar Guild is once again offering an opportunity for you to remember someone or something dear to you by ordering one lily per household (multiple names can be given for one plant) which will be used to help create an environment of praise and thanksgiving in our church on Easter Sunday. Your remembrance will be noted in the bulletin and you are free to take your lily with you after the worship service.

The price per lily is \$13.50. The orders must be in no later than April 4th.

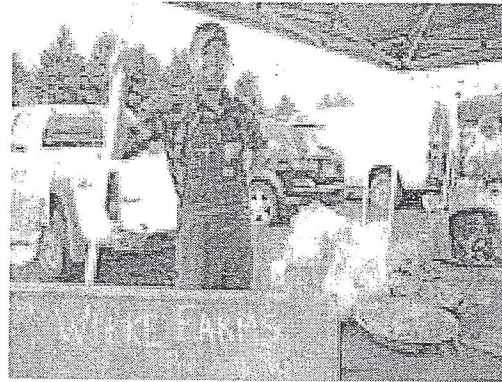
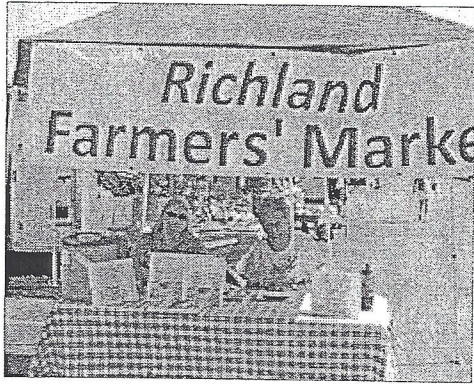
Orders may be given to Julie in the office. Thank you for participating!

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Person(s) or event being remembered \_\_\_\_\_



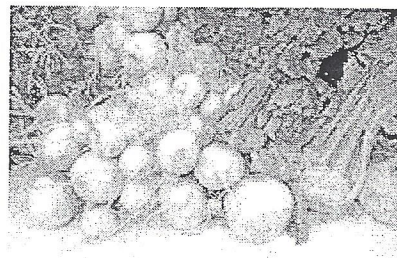
# Coming In May ...



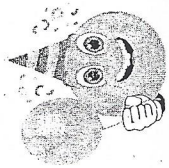
The Richland Farmers' Market, a mission of the First Presbyterian Church, in its 7th year of operation, and is located on the grounds of the Gull Lake Middle School (former High School; 9550 East M-89, Richland, MI 49083), The market will be open Wednesday afternoons (3:00-6:00 p.m.), May 21st to October 15th. Vendors set up in a small parking lot behind the Gull Lake Middle School, which can be reached by turning south into the school complex at the stoplight. There is access to restroom facilities on-site in the middle school building, but no running water or electricity.

The goals of the market are threefold: 1) to be a profitable outlet for local farmers and craft vendors, 2) to create a gathering spot and opportunity for social interactions for Richland area residents, and 3) to provide a predictable, ample selection and variety of high quality fresh, locally-grown produce and crafts for customers.

We are a proud partner of the Michigan Farmers Market Association (MIFMA) and the Food Assistance Partnership. We will again be accepting Bridge Cards at the market; come on out and use your cards for fresh, local, healthy food.



# April



## Birthdays

1	Jay Hoorn
2	Claire Stupica
3	Julie Howard
3	Aaron LaLonde
3	Stephanie Wank
4	Kay Hutchinson
4	Robert Monk
5	Ken Barts
5	Rob Carpenter
5	Kalli Inman
5	Heather Moseley
5	Charlotte Slezak
5	Jennifer Spengler
5	Sara Wieber
6	Jason Courtney
7	Breat Miller
7	Gary Schott
7	Irissa Wyckoff
8	Sharon Rothenberg
9	Evelyn Cramer
9	Tyler Moseley
9	Katie Welser
10	CJ Hoorn
10	Rob Kubiak
11	Emily Myland Walters
11	Jim Vantine
11	Jacob Wolf
12	Corey Connell
12	Emma Gay
12	Michelle Greve
12	Jacob White
13	Barb Fox
13	Nancy Lynch
13	Nathan Schrauben
14	Tim Brundage
14	Mary Ellen Bryer
15	Zip Fiordalis
15	George Lindenberg
16	Judy Bakker
16	Christy Connell
16	Molly Danielssen
17	Karen Kendall
17	John Urban
18	Steve Allen

20	Ronda Schaadt
21	Terry Carpenter
21	Beth Carrington
21	Scott MacRitchie
21	Karalea Rothenberg Jasiak
22	Phyllis Leiter
22	David McConnell
22	Sarah Nott
22	Gail Venner
22	Nancy Wright
22	Rick Wynsma
23	Liam MacRitchie
24	Jacqueline Brignall
25	Caelan Deater
26	Will McWhorter
27	Brendan Hope
27	John Meyer
27	Linda Pollock
27	Paul Reinhart
29	Sophia Carahaly
30	Tom Kendall
30	Kelene Monk Rogers
30	Matt Pausch



## & Anniversaries

3	Phyllis & Fred Davis ~ 38
3	Bill & Joyce Hubbard ~ 27
4	Kalli & Steve Inman ~ 27
5	Larry & Sue Myland ~ 39
10	Marilyn & Bob Steely ~ 32
12	Allen & Jennifer Stupica ~ 29
21	Jane and Bob Morrow ~ 31
22	Marlene & Dave McConnell ~ 54
25	Deb & Mark Fisher ~ 27



First Presbyterian Church  
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Richland, MI 49083

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