



1. **The Season of Lent** - We are still in it! The word "Lent" means springtime and the season runs from Ash Wednesday (Feb. 25 this year) until Easter Sunday (April 12). This is a great time for "spiritual spring cleaning" and pointing ourselves more directly to the light of Christ. Each Sunday I have been offering through the Children's Time in 11am worship a Lenten story and magnetic puzzle piece for each child K-6. Eventually, the 6 pieces will form the shape of a cross, but let's keep that a secret and let your child discover this on his/her own. Just in case you miss a Sunday, these are available each week at the Information Desk near the elevator. Look for the basket with zip-lock snack baggies. I hope you enjoy and continue to work with your child at home to make the most of this Lenten Season.
2. **Palm Sunday Procession** - Every year our elementary aged children lead in our Palm Sunday worship experience by processing into the 11am worship service waving palm fronds. On Sunday, **April 5**, palm fronds will be brought to them at the close of Sunday School. Their teachers will help them line up in the Children's hallway and Cathy Wallace, Music Team Leader, will lead them into the sanctuary at the appropriate time. The children will march down to the altar and place their palms on the floor near the cross, then sit down for Children's Time. Afterwards, they will find their parents and continue worship as usual. (Parents, you may need to stand so your child can find you, so don't be shy.)
3. **Luncheon & Egg Hunt** - All children, Birth - Grade 6, are invited to bring your families and some food to our Pot Luck Luncheon on Palm Sunday, **April 5**. We will eat in the Fellowship Hall following the 11am worship service. Beverages and paper goods will be provided. After lunch, an egg hunt will occur on the church grounds for children Birth - Grade 3, and a scavenger hunt for children in Grades 4-6. Egg hunters are asked to **bring a dozen plastic eggs filled with treats.**

4. **Join Our Seder Meal** - Children in Grades 1-6 are invited to participate in our annual Seder meal experience. This is a Passover tradition observed by Jesus. It will take place on Maundy Thursday, **April 9**, at 6:45pm in our Fellowship Hall. If you would like to participate, please call the church office at 556-5141 to make reservations. We want to be sure to set a place at the table for you! (Parents, please note that this "meal" is more like a tasting party than a meal. Children will need to eat supper before coming.)
5. **Congratulations** to Megan Harvey and Austin Hidden for participating in the Church Bible Drill on March 18. Good job!
6. **Seeking Shared Care Helpers** - We have five classes of toddlers who need care during our 11am worship service every Sunday. Each class must have 2 adults to ensure safety and security of the children in attendance. Our youth are always eager and ready to help, but their role is to assist the adults in the classroom. Since we use a rotation system, each worker is called upon only six times per year. Our leadership has made this area of service as worker-friendly as possible. Yet, recently, workers have not been showing up for their "shift". This creates a burden not only for other Shared Care workers, but for Sunday School workers as well who find themselves being forced to work another hour beyond their weekly teaching commitment. And, most alarming, it creates safety and security threats for our little ones. Will you join me in prayer asking God for ways we can make this ministry stronger? And, if you are not already serving in this area, would you consider stepping in and lending a hand? I'm open to your offers and suggestions and can be reached at 556-5141 or [jeannebaucom@ncrrbiz.com](mailto:jeannebaucom@ncrrbiz.com).
7. **Coming Next Month . . .** Baby Dedication on May 10, Mother's Day (if you would like to have your child dedicated, please contact Denise Stinson at the church office); Family strawberry pickin' excursion (date TBA); Children's Musical on May 17 at 6pm; Music & Missions Recognition Service on May 20 at 6:30pm; End-of-Year Children's Choir Event on May 30.
8. **Vacation Bible School** - It's coming soon for Age 3 - Grade 6. It will run **June 28-July 2**, and it all begins with a Kick-Off on Saturday, June 27. Plan to join us for the VBS Adventure of a Lifetime: Camp E.D.G.E. This VBS is not your typical stroll through the woods. Based on Psalm 118:14a, it is an action-packed expedition to an extreme adventure camp that teaches kids that their strength and might come from God. Through the experience of VBS your kids will live on the E.D.G.E. - Experiencing and Discovering God Everywhere!

