

**United Parish**  
**801 Main , Box 175**  
**Bottineau, ND 58318**  
**Facebook**  
**We are on the web**  
**www.unitedparishbottineau.com**

**Newsletter News:**

**Send**  
**unitedparishbottineau@gmail.com**

**Deadline for May is April 25th**

**Church office - 228-2800**

**Secretary - 228-8123**

**Pastor's cell 605-870-1453**

**Please let the church know if you have  
a e-mail address**

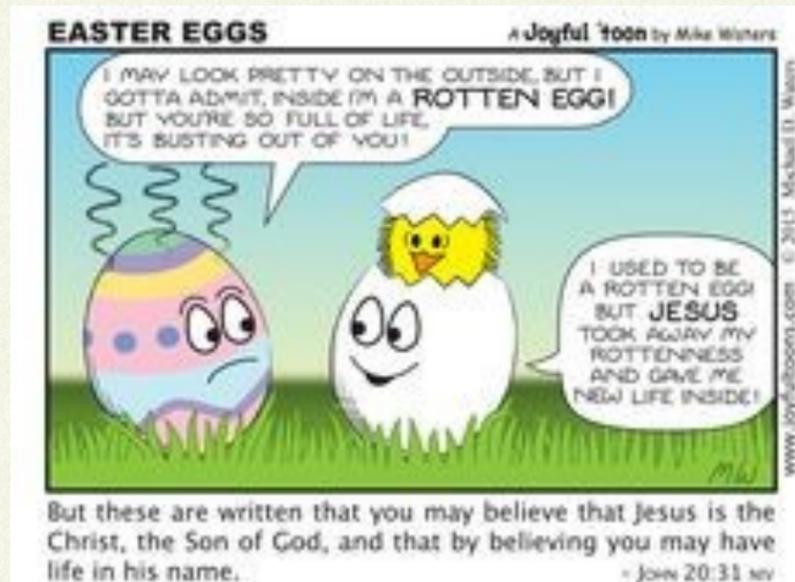
**Pastor Hours are**

**Monday-8:30-12, 1-4:30**

**Tuesday & Thursday 8:30-12,  
Afternoon visitations**

**Wednesday-8:30 -12**

**Fridays off**



**April Birthdays**  
1 – Logan Pewe  
2- Hector Moss  
2 – Ken Bangs  
4 - Cherrille McLean  
8 – Joan Wettlaufer  
13 - Dennis Gravseth  
18 -Kynzie Allard  
23 – Rod Bahn  
26 – Paul Milbrath



**United Parish Building Fund**

Tony Hendricks - Karol Patterson  
Eileen Elrod -Ron & Marsha Martin  
Karol Patterson, Marlys Kippen  
Linda & David Kyle, Mary Lou Reamer

**United Parish Quilters,**

Thank you so much for the two quilts. They will be given to children in foster care.

Thank you!

Northern Prairie Human Service Zone

***Anniversaries***

12 – Peggy & Troy Marsden

# UP BEAT

**MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**  
**UNITED PARISH**  
**APRIL 2022**

The United Parish gave me a beautiful plant in memory of my sister, Eileen Elrod. I treasure it. I want to thank everyone for your words of comfort and concern, your cards and memorial gifts. You have been so very kind. Thank you. Eileen's memorial service will be April 9 in Sparta, North Carolina (NW corner). I plan to leave after worship on April 3, meet my sister, Cheryl, in Sioux Falls that night and then we will drive together. I hope to be back by April 12.

Our Maundy Thursday service will be on April 14 at 7 p.m. The sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated.

Our youth will be serving Easter Breakfast beginning at 8:30 Easter morning, April 17.

**UMC Annual Conference** is June 9-11 in Bismarck. I plan to attend and would welcome a delegate to go with me. A lot is happening within the UMC and, as part of that body, we need to be aware what is happening and help the Conference discern the leading of the Holy Spirit.

**UMC and Presbyterian camping opportunities** are available for this summer. Camps are an important ministry of the church. With young people so tied up with school activities during the school year, camping provides an opportunity for them get away and retreat: to grow in the faith, make new friends, have fun and get close to God through nature. Financial aid is available. Young people are welcome to bring a friend even if they do not belong to the UP. For more information, contact Pastor Beth at the office or 605-870-1453.

**Aid for Ukraine.** The Presbyterian Disaster assistance program and the United Methodist committee on Relief (UMCOR) are providing humanitarian aid for Ukraine and Ukrainian refugees in the surrounding countries. Please support either of these programs because the suffering is immense and will continue for a long time regardless what happens on the battlefield.

## Easter Eggs: What Is the History Behind This Tradition?

Have you ever wondered what eggs have to do with Easter? Why do we dye and hunt for Easter eggs every year? What is the connection between Easter eggs and the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ? Many of us might think Easter eggs and Easter egg hunts are a commercialized form of the Easter celebration. But their roots are deeply embedded in the practices of early Christians in eastern cultures. There is religious significance behind the Easter traditions that we still practice today.

**Why do we have Easter eggs?** Although eggs were a symbol of fertility and rebirth in pagan cultures, Easter eggs were used by early Christians to symbolize parts of the Easter story. Easter eggs represent the empty tomb from which Jesus resurrected.

In early Orthodox churches, Easter eggs were blessed by the priests and distributed to the congregants at the end of Paschal vigil, which is the Saturday before Easter known as Holy Saturday. In some denominations today, Paschal vigil is still observed where a service is held on Saturday morning or night. The service is similar to a Christmas Eve service. During the Paschal vigil, Scripture is read, candles are lit, and baptisms take place. During the service, Easter eggs are handed out to symbolize Jesus' resurrection: The hard shell represents the sealed tomb and the cracking of the egg represents Jesus' resurrection from the dead.

While it might seem like a strange tradition to hand out Easter eggs in a church service, early Christians abstained from eating eggs and meat during Lent, a period of 40 days where Christians fast, repent, and pray to prepare for Easter. Therefore, Easter was the first time Christians could eat eggs.

As a symbol of Jesus' tomb and resurrection, Christians developed different traditions surrounding Easter eggs.

**Why do we dye Easter eggs?** The early Christians of Mesopotamia began the custom of dyeing Easter eggs. Originally, Christians dyed eggs red to represent the blood of Jesus Christ that was shed on the cross. Over time, this tradition spread throughout eastern Orthodox churches and eventually made its way to Catholic and Protestant churches in Europe.

According to Good Housekeeping, early Christian missionaries dyed the eggs different colors to represent different aspects of the Easter story. They used yellow to represent the resurrection, blue to represent love, and red to represent the blood of Christ. Sometimes, the missionaries would paint biblical scenes on the eggs and hide them. This is one of the earliest forms of the Easter egg hunt.

**Why do we hunt for Easter eggs?** Early Christian missionaries hid Easter eggs painted with biblical scenes for children to find. The children would find the Easter eggs and tell the story associated with the paintings. Therefore, early Easter egg hunts helped children learn about the significance of Easter. One of the earliest Easter egg hunts that most resembles the modern Easter egg hunt can be traced to Martin Luther. Martin Luther was a key leader in the Protestant Reformation. During this time, men would hide eggs for women and children to find. The joy the women and children experienced as they found eggs mirrored the joy the women felt when they found Jesus' tomb empty and realized He had risen.

Just like early Easter egg hunts, we hide eggs for children to find. For our modern Easter egg hunts, we hide special goodies inside each egg. Therefore, when children open the Easter eggs to find their surprise inside, they experience

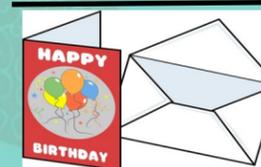
happiness and joy—the same happiness and joy Jesus' followers experienced when they heard the Good News of His resurrection.

### What are other Easter egg traditions?

Every year, the White House hosts their annual Easter Egg Roll. Egg rolling is a symbolic reenactment of the stone rolling away from Christ's tomb. At the White House, children are invited to roll their eggs across the lawn. At the end of the event, the children receive a commemorative wooden egg.

Having its roots in the Greek Orthodox tradition, children across Europe and eastern countries play egg tapping. In its early days, red eggs were cracked together when people exchanged Easter greetings. Eventually, it evolved into a competitive game for children.

The children are given hard-boiled eggs, and they hit each other's eggs against one another. The winner is the child that has an intact egg at the end. The history behind the Easter egg traditions are embedded in the roots of early Christianity. Understanding the different symbols of Easter eggs may give us something new to teach the children in our lives.



Cherrille McLean's birthday is April 4 and her daughter would like her to have a card shower.

Cherrille McLean,  
% Maple View Memory Care  
2805 Elk Drive Apt. #149'  
Minot ND 58701

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9:00 Sunday Sch 9:00 Fellowship 10:00 Worship					1	2
3	4 10:00 Quilters 6:00 Happy Hearts	5	6 2:00 PW 5:30 Lenten Meal 6:30 Worship	7	8	9
10  5:30 Family nite - potluck	11 10:00 Quilters	12	13 2:00 UMW	14 7:00 Maunday Thursday Parish Council	15	16
17 <b>EASTER</b> 8:30 Breakfast 10:00 Worship	18 10:00 Quilters 6:00 Happy Hearts	19	20	21	22	
24	25 10:00 Quilters	26	27	28	29	

