

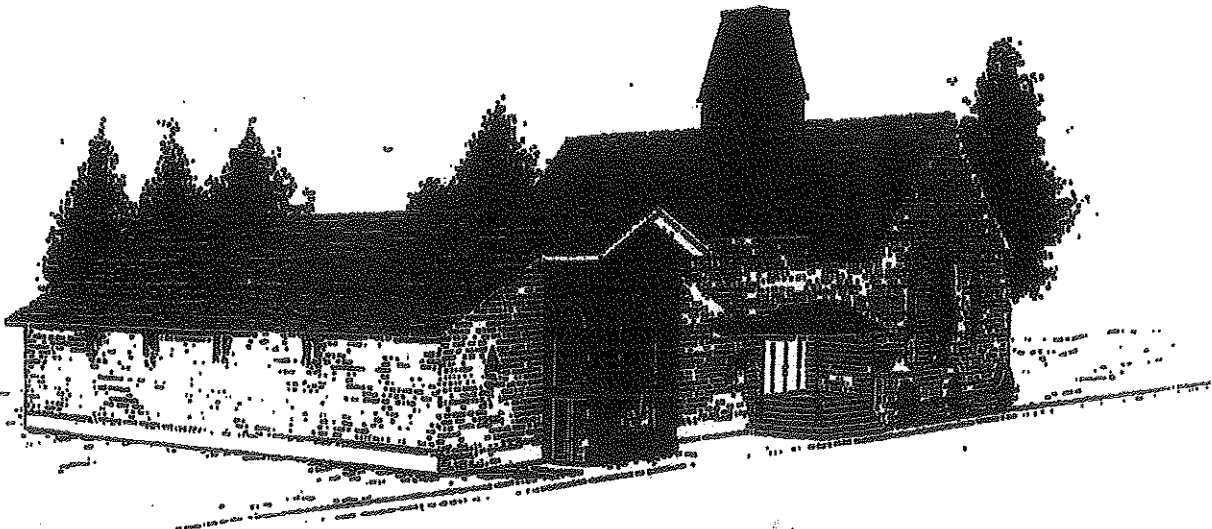
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*The
Chimes*

April Church News



SEWARD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
SEWARD, ILLINOIS

The Cup

Have you ever thought about what Jesus was praying for when He asked the Father to remove the cup? Cathy and I have been reading a book by Gene Edwards called THE DAY I WAS CRUCIFIED. This was written from the perspective of Jesus as if He were telling the story of His crucifixion.

If you recall, Jesus went up on the Mount of Olives to Gethsemane in the final hours before He was betrayed. He had taken the disciples with him and asked them to pray with Him. He then took Peter, James, and John a little farther and asked them to pray while he went a little farther by Himself to spend time with His Father. There He prayed and asked the Father to remove the cup from him if possible. During that time, He said that He wanted the Father's will to be done.

What was the cup He was praying about? What was in that cup? Mr. Edwards imagined this: the cup was full to overflowing, but with what exactly? Scripture said that Jesus sweat great drops of blood while he was praying. He knew that His mission was the cross to provide forgiveness for sins. The great weight that He carried that night was almost more than He could bear, even though He knew that He must face the cross when he came to the earth that He created. Think of the heaviest burden that you have ever carried and how that made you feel. Then imagine the weight of the sins of all the world that Jesus carried and how that burden must have weighed Him down. Mr. Edwards imagined that the cup held all of that weight—the sins of every person ever born. He was the supreme sacrifice for all time since the sacrifices the people had been making for thousands of years just weren't enough. When the time was right, Jesus willingly came into our world to be the perfect sacrifice—once and for all!!

Jesus struggled with this because He was human and at the same time Divine. He knew that He would suffer physically as well as spiritually during this time. Though He knew what the mission was, the physical—or human—side didn't want to have to go through what He knew was coming. No other person had ever—or would ever—carry this burden, only Jesus.

When You think about this, be grateful that our Lord has carried this for us and took our place on that cross to bring redemption for "whosoever will." That "whosoever will" includes you and me—and all who will accept the gift of eternal life!

Thoughts from the desk of Pastor Joel

Announcements

TRUSTEE'S: Will meet on April 20, at 6:30 p.m. We will meet in fellowship hall with social distancing

DIACONATE: Will not meet in April.

MAUNDY THURSDAY: We will have a Maundy Thursday service on April 14 at 7 p.m. with Communion

EASTER SUNDAY: 8 a.m. Breakfast (potluck), 9 a.m. Worship Service

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP: The Women's fellowship will meet on Tuesday April 19, 2022 at 9 a.m.

COMMUNITY POST-WEDDING BRIDAL CARD SHOWER: will be held for Nicole Merchant Bohnenkamp on Saturday, April 30 at 1:30 pm in the church fellowship hall. Nicole and Marcus Bohnenkamp were married on December 1, 2021. Because Nicole will be traveling by air, gift cards or certificates would be preferred. Nicole is also registered on Amazon and Theknot.com. Gifts from those sources should be shipped their Colorado address at: 6454 Silver Mesa Drive # C, Highlands Ranch, CO 80130. Congratulations to the Bohnenkamps!

LENTEN SERVICES: Lenten service will be on Thursday April 7 at Park Hills at 6:30 p.m.

PECATONICA FOOD PANTRY:

REMINDER: All contributions for the CHIMES newsletter are due to the Office by the 3rd Friday of every month.

MONTHLY SUMMARY

Monthly Budget \$6,932.75

	February	January-February
General Fund	Income \$5,980.00	\$10,900.00
	Expense \$ 7,042.28	13,063.91

APRIL BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

April 4- Richard Remer	April 8 Richard & Tari Woods
Laura West (Remer)	20-Mark & Barb Klinger
12-Julie Fry, Pat Lingbeck	
14-Keith Long	
17- Allen Asche	
18-Dorothy Spielman	
19-Colton Asche	

Seward Congregational Church
Board of Trustees Meeting
March 14, 2022

Present: Peggy Whitney, Effie Hoppe, Matt Cowman, Brenda Van Hauen and Pastor Joel.

Absent: Dick Remer, Maury Daubs

The meeting was called to order by Peggy at 10:05am and Joel led us in prayer.

Minutes: The minutes from the February's meeting were read by Matt approved. Motion by Brenda, second by Effie.

Financial Report was given and approved. Motion by Matt, second by Peggy.

Pastor's report: see submitted report

Old Business:

Finances/Safety Review-Tabled in Maury's Absence

Insurance Policy-Tabled for Maury

Sump Pump-Battery is good, but needs to be installed properly. There is a plug/cord missing.

Broken Window-Has been taped temporarily, awaiting repair

Maintenance-Still need to find someone to help, Andy Conover was not interested.

UV Bulbs-Decided they are not needed at this time.

Elevator-Decided against one at this time, as there is almost no need for one. Motion by Effie, second by Peggy.

New Business:

New Round Tables-Would like to get new round tables for the fellowship hall and use the memorial fund to purchase them.

Memorial Fund Committee-We need to find people to form a committee to decide how the memorial fund gets spent.

Parking Blocks-They have been repositioned, but one of the plastic one has been broken already. Should eventually be replaced with a rubber one.

Light Pole-The pole in the parking lot between the parsonage and the church needs to be replaced soon. It is rotting and is not very stable. The guard around the light also needs to be replaced, as it is broken.

Change Trustee Meetings-Moved back to the third Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm

Next meeting will be on April 20, 2022 at 6:30pm

Motion to adjourn was made by Effie, and seconded by Matt. The meeting was adjourned at 11:08am.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Cowman

March 22, 2022 Diaconate Meeting

Chairman Karleen Merchant called the meeting to order at 10:58 A.M. Pastor Joel led us in prayer.

Members present were Jackie Cunningham, Bev Weerda, Karleen Merchant, Shirley Myers, Jennifer Lloyd, Char Remer, Jean Mennenga and Pastor Joel.

Jean read the minutes of the February 15, 2022 meeting. Jennifer made a motion to accept the minutes. Char 2nd the motion. The motion was approved. Bev presented the treasurer's report showing a balance of \$521.88.

Pastor report:

- Gave us a sheet listing home calls, nursing home visits, cards sent, and emails sent.
- Avenue Trio received \$1500 in free will offerings for the weekend revival. Attendants Friday 43, Saturday 42, and Sunday 47.
- July 3rd the Regional Pastor will be here at Seward and will do the service.
- The board decided that Pastor Joel should attend the 4 C's conference on July 19th-22nd in Rhode Island. He will contact Gideon's about doing service on July 25th.

Old Business:

- Thank people for helping at Terry Spielman and Bette Angell luncheon.
- Maury and Barb have volunteered to be in charge of the People Mover at the Winn. Co. Fair.
- Discussed the Ash Wednesday and Lenten Service.
- May 1st Nicole Merchant will do service.
- May 8th the Ollis Family will present a concert.

New Business:

- Communion Sunday March 27th.
- April 10th Palm Sunday. Jean will order small palms.
- April 14th Maundy Thursday service @ 7:00 P.M. with communion. Diaconate will set-up lilies in cross after service. Karleen volunteered to get lilies.
- April 17th Easter Breakfast @ 8:00 A.M. (A sign up sheet will be posted for casseroles, muffins, and rolls)
- April 17th Easter Service @ 9:00 A.M.
- Discussed Mother Day ideas. Shirley volunteered to order.
- June 5th Pentecost Sunday...need to change alter cloth.
- Discussed ideas for inviting visitors and reaching out to new community residents.


The motion for adjournment was made at 11:46 A.M. By Char, seconded by Jennifer.

Our next meeting will be May 3rd or 10th.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Mennenga

April 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 Lenten Service park Hills Winnebago 6:30 p.m.	8	9
10 Palm Sunday	11	12	13	14  MAUNDY THURSDAY Worship service 7 p.m. with communion	15	16
17 Easter Breakfast 8 a.m. Worship Service 9 a.m.	18	19 Women's Fellowship 9 a.m.	20 Trustees 6:30 p.m.	21	22	23
24 Communion	25	26	27	28	29	30