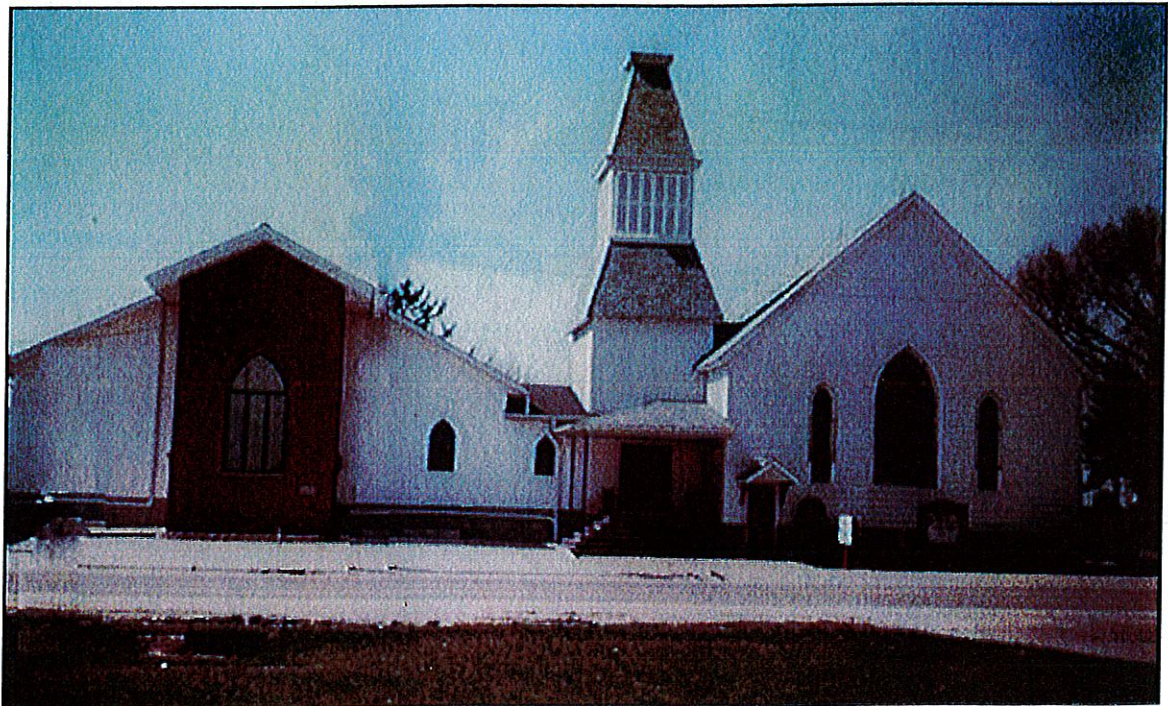


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*The  
Chimes*

*April 2026 Church News*



# Seward Congregational Church Chimes April Announcements

**DIACONATE:** Will meet on April 8, at 1:30 p.m.

**TRUSTEE'S:** The Trustee's will meet on April 15, at 6:30 p.m.

**WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP:** Women's Fellowship will meet Tuesday, April 21 at 9:00am in Fellowship Hall.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY:** Service will be April 2, at 6:30 p.m.

**PULPIT FILL:** On April 5, Pastor Chris Hoff, April 12, Hudson Insko, April 19, Bob Freedlund. April 26 Kirsten Hollister

**PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE:** Will meet on Sunday April 12 following the service.

**COMMUNITY BRIDAL SHOWER:** There will be a Community Bridal shower for Katie Asche on Thursday, April 23rd at 6:30 pm, in Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

**The Board of Trustees is looking for a person to assume the role of Treasurer. This job is a paid position responsible for paying church invoices, managing payroll distribution, and handling required legal filings. Please get in touch with Char Remer (815-315-3455) if interested.**

**The Board of Trustees is looking for a church member to assist with the Financial Investment team. This person is responsible for reviewing church investments with Investment Agents and promoting financial stability for our members. Please get in touch with Maury Daubs at 815 262 8307 if interested.**

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

## MONTHLY SUMMARY

	<b>February</b>	<b>Monthly Budget \$6,856.25</b>
		<b>January -February</b>
General Fund	Income \$4,079.00	\$11,183.00
	Expense \$8,793.71	\$17,758.62

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

April 4- Richard Remer  
Laura West (Remer)  
12-Julie Fry  
14-Keith Long  
19-Colton Asche

April 8 Richard & Tari Woods  
20-Mark & Barb Klinger

## **March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Diaconate minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 1:30pm by Teresa Gobeli. In addition to Teresa, those present were Bev Hilton, Bev Weerda, Delores Poppen and Karleen Merchant. Barb Daubs was in attendance via phone.

Karleen opened with prayer.

Minutes of February meeting were read by Karleen. A correction of March meeting date from the 4<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> was noted. Delores made motion to accept minutes; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bev H. Motion carried.

Bev Weerda reported that there is \$753.39 in checking account. Karleen motioned to accept; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Barb. Report approved.

### **Old Business**

Greeters are filled through March 29<sup>th</sup>. We will have an April sign up sheet printed to put in narthex.

Shut in logs for February were reviewed. All are pleased with the Chambers visits.

We have guest speakers/pastors for pulpit fill through May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Community Lenten soup supper at Seward on March 25<sup>th</sup> beginning at 5:30 is set. Worship follows at 6:30pm.

Bev H. has ordered the palms for Palm Sunday.

Karleen will handle getting Easter lilies a few days before Maundy Thursday. We will set up the lily cross after the Maundy Thursday service, which will begin at 6:30pm. Karleen will get a reader and a volunteer to distribute communion that evening.

No one has volunteered for acolyte or bell ringing yet. If any youth are interested, contact a Diaconate member.

### **New Business**

We had a request to help a family who are facing financial difficulty, due to loss of employment. Bev H. made motion to purchase Walmart gift card; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Karleen. Motion carried.

After short discussion, it was decided that our summer worship again this year, will begin at 9:00am. That will start on May 17<sup>th</sup> this year, instead of in June, as in years past.

Mother's Day is May 10<sup>th</sup>. That is also promotion Sunday. We have an assortment of gifts to distribute to mothers.

Bev W. made motion to adjourn at 2:17pm; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Delores. Motion carried.

**Next meeting Wed. April 8<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm.**

# April 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Maundy Thursday 6:30 p.m	3	4
5 Easter Potluck Breakfast 8 a.m. Worship 9 a.m.	6	7	8 Diaconate 1:30 p.m.	9	10	11
12 Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Fellowship following the service	13	14	15  Trustees 6:30 p.m.	16	17	18
19 Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Fellowship following the service	20	21 Women's Fellowship 9 a.m.	22	23 Community shower for Katie Asche 6:30 p.m.	24	25
26 Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Fellowship following the service	27	28	29	30		

## PRAYER

To those who take no time to pray

Or don't know what to say

Remember there's a comfort near

If you but learn to pray.

No matter where you're at

Or what crisis does appear,

There's strength and promises untold

In the words of silent prayer.

A prayer- what is a prayer?

Support- a staff and rod.

A reaching out in search of help

A link 'tween you and God.

Not only pray in times of need

Or when in deep despair,

But thank God always for all the things

Just tell it all in prayer.

So talk to God all times

He's always at your side.

Alone you never bear your cross

If you but talk to God.

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## April Sunday School News

The children will be singing at the easter Sunday service. Two great songs:

My Best Friend and Because.

We will be having our annual breakfast on Easter Sunday, so will not be having any Sunday school that day. However, we will be presenting the Easter story to the children on Palm Sunday.

### April Sunday School Lessons

April 12 - Pharaoh and the Plagues

Memory Verse : Exodus 6:6 "I am the Lord. I will free you from your oppression and will rescue you from your slavery in Egypt".

April 19- The Passover

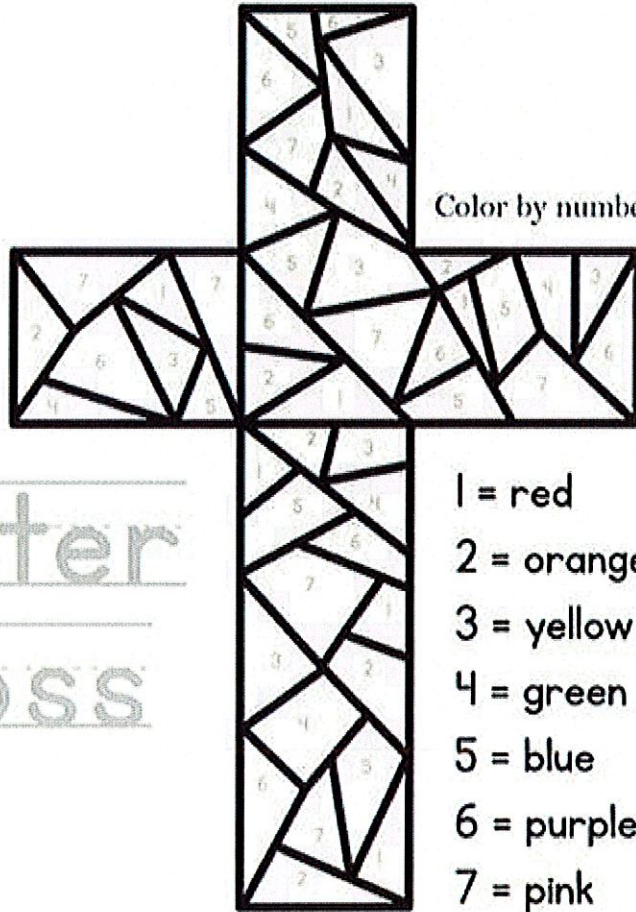
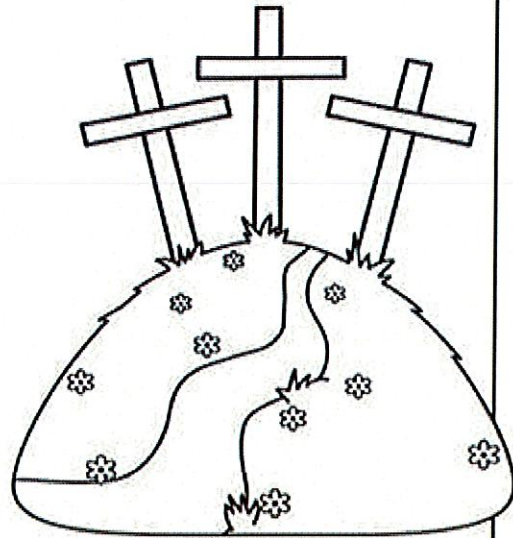
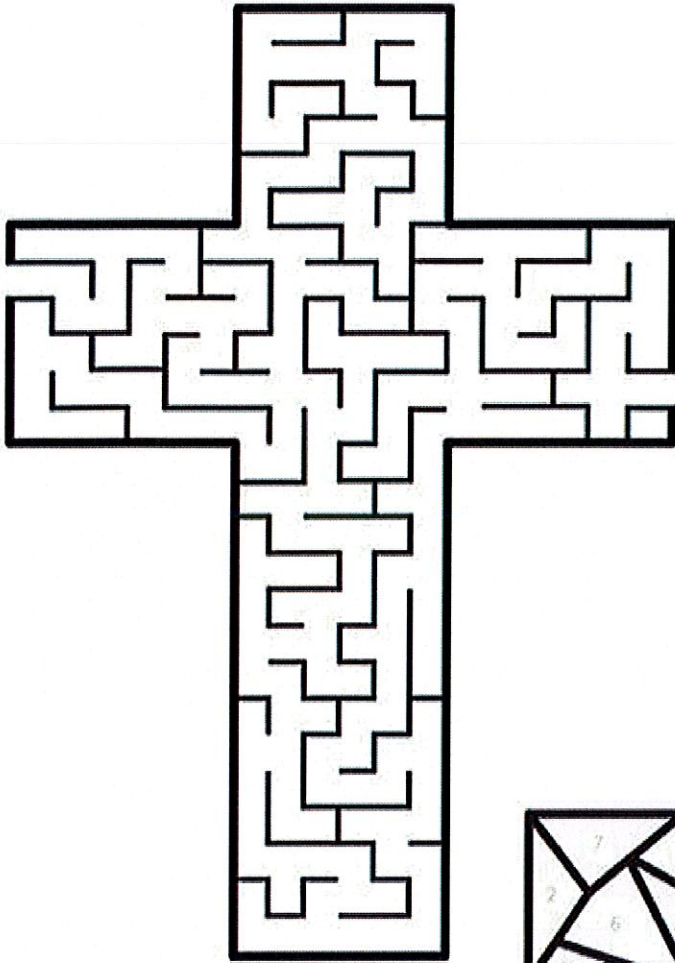
Memory Verse: 1 Corinthians 5:7 "Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed for us.

April 26- Parting the Red Sea

Memory Verse: Exodus 14: 14 The Lord himself will fight for you. Just stay calm.



# Easter Cross Maze



Easter  
cross

