

March 2026 Newsletter

Courage. Perhaps you think of the cowardly lion in *The Wizard of Oz*, and how it was easier to sing about courage than it was to live it. The movie shows how his love for Dorothy was strong enough that it helped him overcome his fears, exhibiting courage.

I thought of myself as a courageous person when I was a teenager, doing a lot of adventurous things I would not dream of doing today. With the wisdom of decades of life experience, I now realize that I was not courageous. I was stupid. I give thanks to God for watching over me when I was too immature and reckless to watch over myself.

Philosophy was my second major in college, and courage is a favorite subject of moral philosophers. The early Greek philosophers named courage as one of the cardinal virtues. I like Aristotle's definition of courage as "the affirmation of one's essential nature in spite of..."

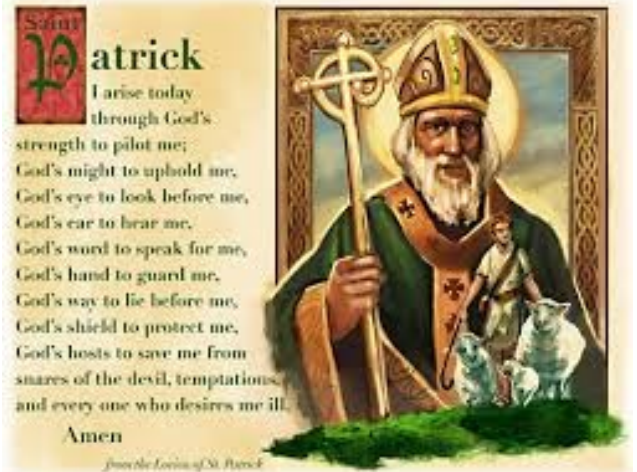
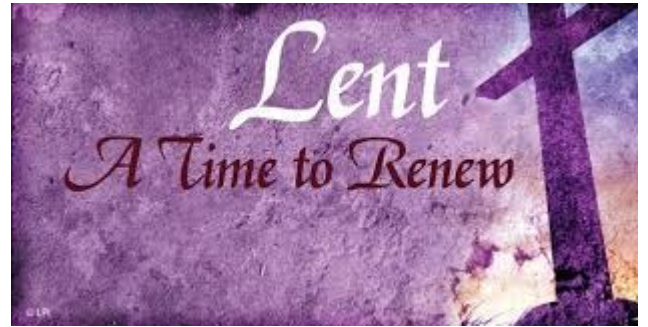
We show our courage when we act "in spite of..." I admire people who work to overcome obstacles and disabilities and accomplish their goals. They find the grit to do great things in spite of forces that might discourage others. I admire people who work for a cause in spite of opposition and social rejection. I admire people who stand on their principles in spite of what it might cost them.

I think our time is a time that calls for courage. Social change has happened more rapidly than we expected. We see some of those changes as good, and others we see as a threat. But we must find a way to live our lives with integrity and hope in spite of the challenges.

Faith is also about courage, about doing things "in spite of..." Our faith grows from the story of Abraham and Sarah, who in spite of having everything going for them in Haran, heard the call from God to journey to another land. They had courage to step out and journey through adventures and misadventures until they obtained the promise. As their descendants, may we step out where courage calls, and journey with God as we are led through changes and foreign terrain until we too find the fruits of our promise.

See you in church....

Loren



**Deadline for April Newsletter
is March 19**



March 3	Gavin Pedersen
March 8	Heather Gransee Matthew Hesar Noreen Schwen
March 11	Norah Hesar
March 16	Sue Alberts
March 18	Rev. Clint Patterson
March 22	Marsha Brigham
March 25	Mike Prenzlou
March 27	Beth Gransee Colin Law
March 28	Jesse Johnson Madison Wilke
March 31	David Gransee



Please pray for: Bill Stromme, Mike & Carol Prenzlou, Bill Kase, Rosemary Horseman, Howard Gransee, Ruth Allen, Joyce Olson, Dick Wolff, Jack Heisermann, Jim Stucky and Dick Hewitt

First Presbyterian Church
507-634-4781
presbykasson@kmtel.com (email)
www.presbykasson.org (website)

<p>Pastor Loren Olson 1875 Cedar Valley Dr NW Owatonna, MN 55060</p>	<p>507-676-3836 presbpastor@kmtel.com Call for anything needed.</p>
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<p>Church Secretary Ann Driver 507-202-1632 508 4th Ave NW Kasson, MN 55944</p>	<p>Church Office Hours My hours can be flexible as needed.</p>
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Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer's Report as of January 31, 2026

Receipts	\$ 4,620.89
Expenses	\$ 7,677.71
Balance	\$ (3,056.82)
Needed weekly	\$ 2,561.78
Needed monthly	\$ 11,101.04

The receipts do NOT include the noncash items, memorials or roof repair.

Session Highlights

February 17, 2026 meeting

- New Session and current Session members were assigned to Committees.
- ♦ A soup supper for Maundy Thursday is being planned thanks to the Deacons.
- ♦ The Men's Easter Breakfast is scheduled for Easter morning at 9:00 following 8:00 worship.
- ♦ Restroom plumbing repairs have been completed. The major shut off valve will need to be replaced possibly in April depending on the weather.
- ♦ March is Food Share month and food and monetary donations will be matched for the Kasson Semcac Food Shelf.

PW CORNER

Greetings all PW,

- ◆ March is upon us with hopefully warmer weather. There is a lot going on this month.
- ◆ There is a Pastor Nominating Committee at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, March 3.
- ◆ Don't forget to set your clock ahead on Sunday, Mar. 8.
- ◆ The PW is trying a new event, 'Games, Fellowship, and Treats (game day) March 11. from 1 - 3 PM. Sounds like fun. The Deacons are setting up a Potluck Dinner after worship service on March 15.
- ◆ The "One Great Hour of Sharing" boxes will be collected Sunday, March 22. There will be info in your bulletins and in the back of the sanctuary.
- ◆ Our church IS NOT delivering Meals on Wheels. The next time we deliver is April 6-10. If you would like to volunteer for this duty, please contact Sharon Law at 507-775-6643. A big THANK YOU to all who help with this project, and a huge THANK YOU to Sharon for organizing all the volunteers. There is no PW event scheduled for March so we will look forward to April for hopefully some type of activity.
- ◆ Please pray for: Bill Stromme, Mike & Carol Prenzlów, Bill Kase, Rosemary Horseman, Howard Gransee, Ruth Allen, Joyce Olson, Dick Wolff, Jack Heisermann, Jim Stucky and Dick Hewitt prayers for renewed health and strength.
- ◆ The Worship Committee is once again organizing the Easter Memorial Garden Please sign up ASAP before March 16. The sign up sheet is on the kitchen bulletin board with the attached payment envelope.
- ◆ Please remember to pay your per capita. This year the amount is \$43.75 per member. The church is responsible for the amount whether members pay or not. Thank you for contributing.
- ◆ Calling all males young and old! The Men's Easter Breakfast will be on Easter Sunday, April 5 at 9:00 AM following the 8:00 AM Easter worship service. Sign up sheets for supplies and groceries will be posted. Please see Aaron Wilke or Steve Johnson for more information or to volunteer.
- ◆ We all know that March 17th is when St. Patrick's Day is celebrated. This is also called the Day of the Festival of St. Patrick, a cultural and religious celebration. March 17th is the traditional death date of Saint Patrick, the foremost patron saint of Ireland. That date is the commemoration of the arrival of Christianity in Ireland in the early 17th century. We all know that if you are Irish, it is traditional to wear green, attend a parade, wear shamrocks, attend mass (in the catholic church), and of course for those who like beer, drinking green beer is another tradition. Actually, you don't have to be Irish to participate in these customs if you think they are fun.



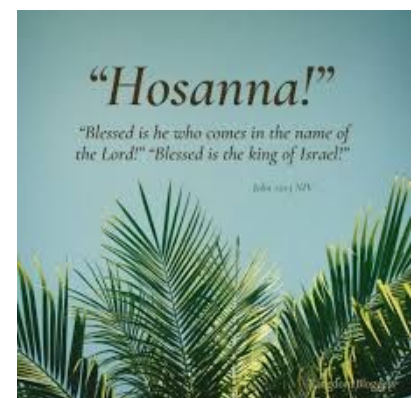
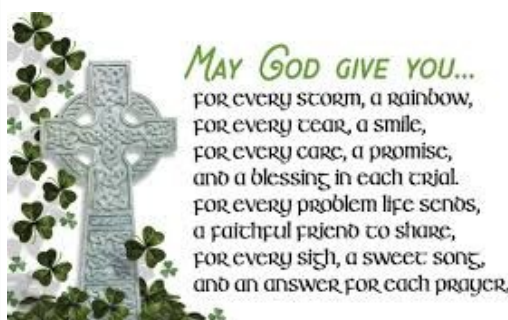
Traditional Irish sayings

What's the craic?	(How are you?)
Ye half eejit ye.	(You're nearly a total fool)
Top o' the mornin' to ya!	(Good day)
Erin go bragh	(Ireland forever)
Stop acting the maggot.	(Stop acting like an idiot)
It's grand.	(Things are fine)

Irish Blessing

May your blessings outnumber the shamrocks that grow. May your days be many and your troubles be few. May all life's passing seasons bring the best to you and yours. May the dreams you hold dearest be those which come true

God bless and protect each and every-



March is the National Nutrition Month

National Nutrition Month® is an annual campaign established in 1973 by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. During the month of March, everyone is invited to learn about making informed food choices and developing healthful eating and physical activity habits. The 2026 theme is “Fuel Your Future”



Week 1: Power Your Day with Nutrition.

- Choose healthful foods from all food groups.
- Alternate your food choices for a variety of nutrients.
- Avoid fad diets that promote unnecessary restrictions.

Week 2: Find Advice Backed by Science.

- Find accurate sources for nutrition information.
- Meet with an RDN who specializes in your unique needs.
- Receive personalized nutrition information from an RDN to meet your health goals

Week 3: Stay Nourished on Any Budget.

- Learn cooking and meal preparation skills that work with the resources you have.
- Locate community resources such as SNAP, WIC and local food banks.
- Advocate for nutrition policies that serve you, your family and community.

Week 4: Feel Good with Healthy Habits.

- Reduce the risk of foodborne illness with home food safety.
- Plan in advance to avoid mealtime stress.
- Include physical activity in ways that work for you.

DON'T FORGET that March is Food Share Month

The MN FoodShare March Campaign helps ensure our food shelves remain stocked during a time of increased demand. Donate in March and make a bigger impact. Through MN FoodShare, every dollar can stretch up to 10 times further — providing critical support when it counts most.

Probably not the most nutritious food for National Nutrition Month

Recipe Corner

Luck o' the Irish

4 (1 ounce) squares unsweetened chocolate	2 cups white sugar
1 cup margarine, softened	3 large eggs
2 ½ teaspoons vanilla extract	1 cup all-purpose flour
4 cups confectioners' sugar	½ cup butter, softened
2 tablespoons milk, or as needed	1 ½ teaspoons peppermint extract
6 drops green food coloring	

1 ⅓ cups semisweet chocolate chips

6 tablespoons butter

1 tablespoon vanilla extract

Preheat oven to 350 degrees, Grease 9x13 baking dish. Melt chocolate in the microwave, stirring every 15 seconds until smooth, cool slightly. In a large bowl, pour in chocolate. Stir in sugar and Margarine til smooth. Beat in eggs one at a time, then stir in vanilla. Pour in baking dish, bake 20 - 25 minutes til done. Cool.

Mint layer - beat conf. sugar and butter til smooth, add milk as needed to get a spreadable consistency. Stir in extract and green food coloring. Spread over cooled brownies. Refrigerate 30 minutes.

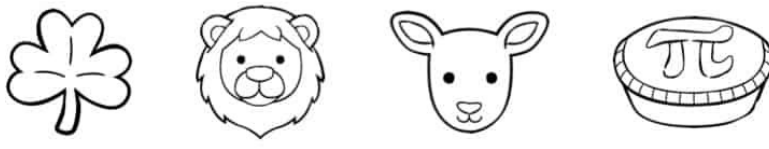




March Word Search

February Kid's Page

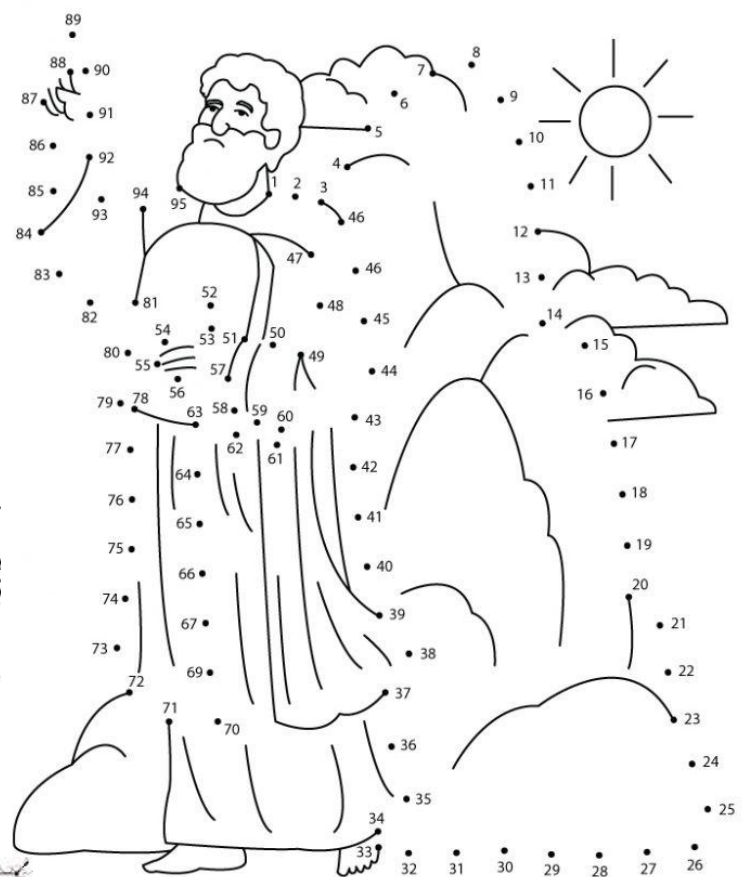
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|--------|---------------|----------------|
| March | Saint Patrick | Robins |
| Spring | Shamrock | Rainbow |
| Lion | Windy | PI Day |
| Lamb | Flowers | Vernal Equinox |

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"
 John 11:25-26

Cast your cares on the LORD and He will sustain you. He will never let the righteous be shaken.



The People Honored Jesus Maze

Help Jesus find His way though the streets of Jerusalem.

MARCH



NO Meals on Wheels
this Month

March

2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Worship @ 10 am 1	2	Pastor Nom. Com Mtg @ 6 pm 3 Total Lunar Eclipse	4	5 No Fellowship Circle	6	7
Worship @ 10 am 8 Daylight Savings Time Spring Forward	9	10	Johnny Appleseed Day 11 Game, Fellowship & Treats 1-3 pm	12	13	14
Worship @ 10 am 15 Potluck after Service Ides of Mar	16	Session 5:30 pm 17 St Patrick's	18	No PW 19	20 First Day of Spring	21
Worship @ 10 am 22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Worship @ 10 am 29 Palm Sunday	30	31				

February Observances & Fun Facts

February 2026 is Observed as

Women's Month
National Nutrition Month

February Birthstone

Aquamarine

February Flower

Daffodil