

Swea City Days Gone By

5 Years Ago
April 15, 2020

Aslynn Sobolik was excited to see the line of fire trucks heading towards her on Saturday night. The Swea City Fire Department had the privilege of driving around the Easter Bunny for everyone to see. The Easter Bunny waved to everyone as they drove up and down the city streets. To make sure to get everyone's attention, the fire trucks and ambulance had their lights flashing and their sirens going. The event was held due to the town not being able to hold their annual Easter Egg Hunt due to Covid-19 and social distancing...Swea City Quasiquennial Committee has made the difficult decision to postpone the 125th celebration to June of 2021...North Union High School was proud to take part in the @IOWAHAADA #LightUpIA event. The lights were on Friday, April 10 to honor NU students. The lights were left on for one minute of everyday of school they have missed. They stated, "We miss you and hope you're all safe. We can't wait to have you back! #BeAWarrior."

10 Years Ago
April 15, 2015

North Union fifth grade DARE essay winners from the Swea City campus were Meredith Tigges and Elizabeth Harrison. From the Fenton campus, DARE essay winners were Damian

Hastings and Ella Hagebock...Dads, grandads and others enjoyed Donuts for Dads for students at the North Union elementary in Swea City... North Union students helped packed the Valentine Care Packages they sent to soldiers in the Middle East through the Operation Homefront campaign with the Iowa National Guard. Mrs. Paul was able to secure a Thrivent Action Team application to have monies to pay the postage to send the care packages. Pictured holding signs thanking Thrivent were Brianna Schroeder, Courtney Foertsch, Erica Anderson, Alexis Laubenthal, Madie Schiltz, McKenzie Hellman, Jayce Eaton, Cory Tigges and Elizabeth Boyer...North Union Middle School students who are in the Educational Talent Search program traveled to Emmetsburg for a college visit. The visit gave the students a chance to learn more about the college making process.

25 Years Ago
April 12, 2000

Lisa Barslou played in the IA Iowa Coaches Association All Star Game at Mount Mercy in Cedar Rapids. Twenty girls from around the state were split into teams of ten with Lisa being chosen to play on the white team. The teams were then spit into groups of 5 with each group playing 10 minutes per half. Lisa finished the night with 11 points on 4 of 5 shooting

from the field, grabbed six rebounds, dished out three assists and blocked three shots...On April 2, four North Union Pacific railroad cars derailed due to a broken rail on the west edge of Swea City. The boxed cars were loaded with corn from StateLine Coop in Swea City. West Side Inc. out of Cedar Rapids vacuumed the grain out of the rail cars and Hulcher Services Inc. from Des Moines lifted all four cars with a crane and placed them back on the rails...Little Mustang wrestler Joseph Johnson placed sixth at the 105 pound division in the Iowa AAU State Wrestling Championships.

50 Years Ago
April 17, 1975

A newly formed group, the Junior Jaycees, held their first meeting for the purpose of electing officers for the current year. Elected to office were Keith Holm, president; Melvin Peterson, vice president; Arlen Wentworth, secretary-treasurer; Jack Johnson, state director; Roger Krantz and Tom Langbehn, chapter directors...To advance his knowledge and skills necessary amidst the continuous changes in the pharmacy, Jack Van Norman of Swea City, pharmacist, attended the 96th Annual Convention in Des Moines... Reports given at the Music Booster meeting on the financial situation and the purchasing of new choir robes were very favorable. The goal of raising \$1,725 will soon be reached when \$400 or more is raised or contributed...In 1975 Interstate Power Company will have completed its first 50 years of service. The company was incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware on April 18, 1925... Proficiency awards went to these FFA awards were Mike Thompson, Alan

Eisenmann, Ed Payne, Ron Anderson, Bruce Van Berkum, Joe Stevens and John Paul.

70 Years Ago
April 21, 1955

Bill Peach has leased the former Hungerford Garage and now has signed contracts for the Dodge-Plymouth automobile agency. Pech formerly was in the Dahl building west of the Farm Service Station, but has moved to his new location and is doing repair work at the present time. He will soon have a new Dodge on the floor of his display room...Cpl. LeRoy Sanftner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sanftner of Swea City, recently was graduated from the 1st infantry division artillery non-commissioned officer academy in Germany...Town dads ask question of Swea City residents - "Do they want streets blacktopped this year"...Richard Pehrson, student at Iowa State college, Ames, will be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi, scholastic honorary at the college.

Fenton Forwards hold monthly meeting

Fenton Forwards Meeting Agenda Sunday, April 13, 2025 6:30 Lone Rock Presbyterian Church
Call to Order by Vice President Hailee Reutzell
Pledge of Allegiance led by Hannah Whaley
Roll Call- What is your middle name?
11 members present
Treasurer's Report
Business-
1) State 4-H Conference- June 24-26, our club will pay \$100 towards registration fee for
Anyone going. Sign up online, paid after attending.
2) Fair Book- now online. Changes for livestock are noted on first pages. Challenge classes: Photography "Creative Self Portrait" and Foods "Soft Pretzels".
3) April 30- deadline for Hayden

& Ashton to have senior spotlight to extension office.
4) Eartags for bucket calves, prospect and does of cow/calf projects, swine, calves & sheep are to be picked up at extension office before May 9! All livestock except rabbits and poultry need to be ID'd by MAY 15 online! No weigh ins for sheep or goats unless you are doing performance class. New class- home raised sheep if interested. Lotto swine sign up by this Thursday, April 17, market broiler chickens by April 30.
5) Livestock Workshop- Sunday, April 27 at 2:00- great info if showing beef/swine/goats/
Rabbits/poultry
6) Flowerpot Workshop- Monday, May 5 at 5:30 in Wesley- anyone in grades K-12, bring container and purchase flowers to put in

7) Mother's Tea- Sunday, May 4 at 6:30 PM. Sign up for salads, invites, and make favors.
Presentations- Brylie Deim-Washcloth Easter Rabbit Decor
Maisey Bierstedt- History of 4-H
Briley/Kendall Henriksen- Goldendoodle presentation
Taylor Parsons- How to saddle a horse
Addison Peters- Pressed flowers
Hostesses: Briley & Kendall Henriksen and Aubree Sorenson



Area Church Services

These weekly church messages and schedules are contributed by these concerned and responsible citizens and businesses from this area!

DIVINE MERCY CATHOLIC PARISH
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST BANCROFT
ST. JOSEPH WESLEY
ST. CECELIA ALGONA
ST. MICHAEL WHITEMORE
SS. PETER & PAUL WEST BEND CATHOLIC CHURCHES
Wednesday, April 16
8:40 a.m. - Bishop Garrigan School Mass, Algona
4:00 p.m. - Mass at West Bend
Thursday, April 17
8:30 a.m. - Mass at St. Michael, Whittemore
9:00 a.m. - Eucharistic Adoration/Sacrament of Penance, St. Michael's, Whittemore
Friday, April 18
7:00 a.m. - Mass at St. Cecelia, Algona
7:30 a.m. - Sacrament of Penance at St. Cecelia, Algona
Saturday, April 19
3:15 p.m. - Sacrament of Penance at St. Cecelia, Algona
4:15 p.m. - Sacrament of Penance at St. Joseph, Wesley
4:30 p.m. - Mass at St. Cecelia, Algona
5:00 p.m. - Mass at St. Joseph, Wesley
Sunday, April 20
8:00 a.m. - Mass at St. Michael, Whittemore
8:00 a.m. - Mass at St. John the Baptist, Bancroft
10:00 a.m. - Mass at SS. Peter & Paul, West Bend
10:00 a.m. - Mass at St. Cecelia, Algona
Monday, April 21
6:50 a.m. - KC Rosary for Vocations at St. Cecelia's, Algona
7:30 a.m. - Mass at Bishop Garrigan Chapel, Algona
Tuesday, April 22
8:30 a.m. - Mass at St. Joseph, Wesley
9:00 a.m. - Eucharistic Adoration/Sacrament of Penance, St. Joseph, Wesley
4:30 p.m. - Eucharistic Adoration/Sacrament of Penance, St. John, Bancroft
5:30 p.m. - Mass at St. John, Bancroft
Wednesday, April 23
8:40 a.m. - Bishop Garrigan School Mass, Algona
4:00 p.m. - Mass at West Bend
Thursday, April 24
8:30 a.m. - Mass at St. Michael, Whittemore
9:00 a.m. - Eucharistic Adoration/Sacrament of Penance, St. Michael's, Whittemore

BETHANY EVANGELICAL & REFORMED CHURCH
Ledyard, Iowa
Friday, April 18
6:30 p.m. - Good Friday Service at E&R Church, Ledyard
Sunday, April 20
9:00 a.m. - Sunday School
10:00 a.m. - Worship
Wednesday, April 23
After school - Mighty Warriors grades 1-5 meet at Old First Baptist Church, Swea City
6:00 - 8:00 p.m. - Mighty Warriors 6-12 students, Swea City Open Bible Church.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Bancroft, Iowa
Pastor Jim Dewar
Sunday, April 20
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School
10:30 a.m. - In person and Facebook Live Worship Services
6:30 p.m. - In person Sunday Evening Service
Wednesday, April 23
7:30 p.m. - In person evening, Prayer Service

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN
Lakota, Iowa
Pastor Kent Madison
Thursday, April 17
6:30 p.m. - Maundy Thursday Service at Presbyterian Church, Lakota
Friday, April 18
6:30 p.m. - Good Friday Service at E&R Church, Ledyard
Sunday, April 20
8:30 a.m. - Worship

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Lakota, Iowa
Pastor Josh Johanson
Sunday, April 20
8:30 a.m. - Worship Service
9:45 a.m. - Sunday School

ALGONA FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Sunday, April 20
9:00 a.m. - Adult Bible Study - The Wired Word, focus on connecting current events with scripture.
10:15 a.m. - Worship Service followed with fellowship and coffee time
1:00 p.m. - Afternoon group Bible Study "Seeking Him" (contact church for book information)
Monday, April 21
9:00 a.m. - Sunday's Worship Service on AMU Channel 20 and Mediacom Channel 18
Wednesday, April 23
5:15 p.m. - F.R.O.G.s (Fully Rely On God) Elementary Youth Group
6:30 p.m. - W.O.W. (Worship on Wednesday) Service

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Lone Rock, Iowa
Pastor Walter Reemtsma
Thursday, April 17
6:00 p.m. - Maundy Service and light meal
Sunday, April 20
7:00 a.m. - Sunrise Service
9:00 a.m. - Worship Service at Lone Rock

Tuesday, April 22
9:30 a.m. - Prayer Time

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Lone Rock, Iowa
Pastor Duane Miesner
Wednesday, April 16
6:00 - 7:00 p.m. - Midweek & Confirmation Classes
Thursday, April 17
6:30 p.m. - Maundy Thursday Service w/H.C. at St. Luke's
Friday, April 18
6:30 p.m. - Good Friday Tenebrae Service at Immanuel
Sunday, April 20
9:00 a.m. - Worship with Holy Communion
9:45 a.m. - Sunday School
Wednesday, April 23
6:00 - 7:00 p.m. - Midweek & Confirmation Classes

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Swea City, Iowa
Sunday, April 20
9:00 a.m. - Worship
10:00 a.m. - Sunday School
Wednesday, April 23
After school - Mighty Warriors grades 1-5 meet at Old First Baptist Church, Swea City
6:00 - 8:00 p.m. - Mighty Warriors 6-12 students, Swea City Open Bible Church.

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
Pastor David Schultz
Swea City, Iowa
Sunday, April 20
9:00 a.m. - In person services
Wednesday, April 23
After school - Mighty Warriors grades 1-5 meet at Old First Baptist Church, Swea City
6:00 - 8:00 p.m. - Mighty Warriors

6-12 students, Swea City Open Bible Church.

OPEN BIBLE CHURCH
Swea City
Sunday, April 20
10:00 a.m. - Worship Services at church
10:30 a.m. - Service streamed at sweacityopenbible.org
Wednesday, April 23
After school - Mighty Warriors grades 1-5 meet at Old First Baptist Church, Swea City
6:00 - 8:00 p.m. - Mighty Warriors 6-12 students, Swea City Open Bible Church.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
Burt, Iowa
Thursday, April 17
6:00 p.m. - Maundy Thursday Service with communion
Friday, April 18
6:00 p.m. - Good Friday Service
Sunday, April 20
8:30 a.m. - Breakfast
9:30 a.m. - Resurrection Divine Service
Tuesday, April 22
Pastor Nelson in Burt
Wednesday, April 23
6:00 p.m. - Catechesis Midweek Class at Burt
Thursday, April 24
Pastor Dose at Burt
3:00 p.m. - Titonka Care Center

BURT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Pastor Kent Madison
Pastor Walt Reemtsma
Sunday, April 20
10:30 a.m. - Service will be broadcast live on the Burt Presbyterian Church Facebook page
5:30 p.m. - Palm Sunday Service in Burt

Pastor's Message

The Cross and The Empty Tomb

Pastor Jim Dewar - First Baptist Church Bancroft
Today as you read this, we are just a few days away from when we remember Jesus' crucifixion and His resurrection from the dead. When Jesus died on the cross and rose again from the dead, that is the greatest thing to ever happen in history. Nothing tops, nor could it ever top, when Jesus rose from the dead. God through His son Jesus was His plan to reconcile sinners to Himself by grace through faith. Ephesians 2:8 "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast."
In the book of Matthew, we find three times where Jesus is instructing His followers that He would be killed and rise again. Matthew 16:21 "From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day." As we read that verse, we realize that all these things did happen to Jesus. They are recorded for us in the Scripture. In Luke chapter 23 we read where Jesus stood before Pilate and was declared faultless, yet He was handed over to be crucified. Luke 23:33 "And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left." So, Jesus was crucified. We read later in this chapter where He died. Luke 23:46 "And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost." I am reminded of the words in the chorus of the song, "It Was for Me..." "It was for me He cried, for me He died, for me He shed His blood upon the tree. It was for me He came, for me His shame; For me, oh praise His name, it was for me."
In Luke 24 we read of the women coming with the spices to anoint the body of Jesus. When they got there, things were not as they expected. There was something spectacular that had happened, that they had totally forgotten about. What was that? The stone was rolled away, and He was not there, Jesus had risen from the dead. Luke 24:2 "And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre. 3 And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus. 4 And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments: 5 And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead? 6 He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee, 7 Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again. 8 And they remembered his words."
Why did these events have to happen? Why did they happen? The answer to those questions is that it was God's plan. It was His plan to redeem us, to save us, to reconcile us to Himself through the death of His Son, Jesus Christ. That is the only way of salvation. It is the only way of redemption. The only way is through Christ Jesus our Lord. In First Timothy 2:5 we read that He is the mediator? "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;"
In I Corinthians 15:3-4 we read why Jesus died. 3 "For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; 4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures;" Why did Jesus die? He died for our sins, because of our sins. He did what no other man could do. He paid the penalty for our sin; only Jesus could do that.
As we remember Christ's death, burial, and resurrection, remember that Jesus has done exactly as He predicted! It was all God's plan of Salvation. It was because of our sin, the sin that had separated us from God. I pray that you have accepted Christ, God's Son, by faith as your Savior to receive the forgiveness of sins and to be in a right relationship with God. If you have done this, rejoice!
Philippians 4:4 "Rejoice in the Lord always; and again I say, Rejoice." If not, I urge you to come to faith in Jesus Christ and receive the forgiveness only He can give. I trust that you will have a good Easter remembering the sacrifice of Jesus through His crucifixion, His burial and His mighty resurrection from the dead. God bless you. Happy Easter.

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