

Living Faith @



Dear Faith Shapers,

Today is 2-22-22 Tuesday! As I sit and write to you about what is coming in the month of March, the wind is blowing and there is ice and snow outside. I long for the warmer spring temperatures—they can't get here fast enough!!

This is an exciting date with many publicity campaigns happening ... big sales, special deals, twin promotions, activities with two-sies, and now, with the weather they have had to be postponed. March brings Ash Wednesday this year so Lent begins but we also have the hope of Easter and the resurrection just around the corner. Stay the course, my friends—

Sue Cira, TEEM
Candidata

Spring time is coming ...

Spring, Spring, Springtime is here!!

Grass is green, and flowers grow.

Birds are singing. Bees are buzzing!

Kites are flying everywhere.

Spring, Spring, Springtime is here!!



**Ash Wednesday
March 2, 2022**



This information is prepared for you by the **Northeastern Iowa Synod Home Life Network** for use by families and local congregations. Like our page on Facebook and our posted resources will appear in your news-feed.

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Spring Activity for families to do together —

As many of you who read these pages know, my grandchildren and I like to participate in art projects and crafts. Sometimes we don't have the end result that we anticipate, but we sure have fun trying!! This particular project is a favorite one that we've done. I hope you enjoy it as much as we do.

Yarn wrapped flowers: materials you need

Brightly Colored Cardstock

Yarn

Jumbo Craft Sticks

Buttons

Glue

Scissors



For the pots you will need paper cups and brown shredded paper

Start by cutting out circles from the cardstock paper - it works best for us to use a glass to draw the circles and then cut them out. Cut some yarn to wrap around each circle in different directions - use glue to fasten the ends to the back. Wrap green yarn around the sticks and glue or tape the ends. Glue or tape the stick to the back of the circle. Cut leaves from green cardstock paper and glue to the back of the stick. Glue a button to the center of the flower head. Fill the cup with brown shredded paper and push the stem down into the cup. Enjoy your flowers!!

As we begin the season of Lent, we enter the time of solemnity and preparation.—

- Some Lenten practices include decorating the church in violet, the color of royalty and repentance.
- This period of repentance is marked by a purposeful turning away from our sin and turning toward Christ for mercy and forgiveness.
- Ash Wednesday begins the observance of Lent. Ashes on the forehead is a sign of penitence. It also serves as a reminder of our mortality.
- During Lent, we forgo using the alleluia, which is a joyous expression of faith in God.
- Fasting is giving up eating at particular meal or time in order to devote that time to prayer and meditation.
- Many churches observe Lent by gathering for midweek services. These additional times of worship and gathering around God's Word help us prepare to observe Holy Week and celebrate Easter.
- Easter invites us into the story of Jesus' sacrificial death and His glorious resurrection. The resurrection of Jesus gives proof that our salvation has been completed and that our hope for eternal life with God is secure.