



REV. JENNIFER SANTER
MISSION COORDINATOR

As I drove to the presbytery office this morning the sun was in my eyes for the first time in a long time. It felt great to have to pull out the sun glasses. I'm hoping the weatherman doesn't let me down with his promise of 70 degrees next week. Even though, spring has rolled in a little slower than I would have liked, I do finally have hope that our long winter is over. I know one day very soon I will look out the window and see trees budding and flowers dancing in the wind. Yes, spring is definitely the season of renewal and re-birth. God knew exactly what he was doing when He put Easter in the springtime.

We enjoy the new beginnings of spring and Easter, but often forget about the deaths and endings that must be gone through to get to the new beginnings. Before the flowers and vegetables in our gardens can sprout up, the seeds they are planted from must die. The new buds cannot come out on the trees without the leaves falling off in the autumn. Easter can't arrive without first walking through Good Friday. We can't experience the exhilaration of the resurrection without the grief of death.

We claim to be a Resurrection and Easter people, but I see many churches that are living in fear of death. It seems all too often that as churches vision for the future they do it through lenses of fear, anxiety, and a scarcity of resources. However, as the people of God we should be looking to the future with faith, hope, and the promise of an abundance of resources. God is able to do great things through His Church. This doesn't mean that we won't experience loss or even death, but it does mean that out of that loss and death God will bring resurrection and a new beginning.

Reading Phyllis Tickle's *The Great Emergence: How Christianity is Changing and Why* over again last week I was reminded that there are two ways that we can look at this challenging time for our churches. We can focus on the decline of the church life and culture that we have known and loved, or we can focus on the fact that we may very likely be on the cutting edge of what God is going to do with the Church over the next five hundred years. When Jesus died on the cross his disciples thought it was all over. How surprised they were on Easter morning to find out it was only beginning. This Easter I hope that we will not only claim to be resurrection people, but that we will live out our calling as Resurrection People.

Have a joyful and blessed Easter.



Resurrection From the Rubble!

Presented by the Haitian Timoun Foundation and
The Resurrection Dance Theatre of Haiti

DELLA RUPERT • OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR • FIRST SIOUX CITY

Wow, What a Night!!

On March 22nd, 31 persons from six Siouxland churches traveled to St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Omaha to see "Resurrection from the Rubble" performed by the Resurrection Dance Theatre of Haiti. The dancers from St. Joseph's Family were fantastic. They bring an enthusiastic message of hope and faith – that through God all things are possible.

We were able to talk with Theatre leaders Michael, Maya, and Bill and to meet and talk with all of the participants. When asked if they were ready for the water treatment system to be installed through Living Waters for the World, the answer was "yes" and "when?"

The system will be installed at Jacmel, where Trinity House is located. Trinity House was only slightly damaged by the earthquake, and the cistern is intact. The cracked walls to the school have been repaired. The soccer field adjacent to Trinity House is now a 'tent city'. Clean, sustainable water is needed for those living in the tent city, for the students at Lekol sen Trinite and their families, as well as for the residents of Trinity House.

One of the dances that was presented on Monday night is called "Change in My Life", and that is what Living Waters for the World - Siouxland is endeavoring to with our partners in Haiti – change lives for the better.

www.htflive.org

That All May Have Life!



REV. RICHARD FRANCIS • CLUSTER #1
 PASTOR, VAIL AND WESTSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES
Confirmation Class sends kits to Church World Service



The joint Confirmation Class of the United Church of Westside and the United Presbyterian Church of Vail has sent 10 Hygiene Kits to Church World Service for distribution to Haiti or Chile.

The class consists of Alyssa Buren,, Millicent Cameron, McKenzie Greve, Katie Grothe, Brandon Hagge, Jon Rosener, and Noah Wittrock. They made and sold Monster Cookies to fund the project. The cookies were a big hit and nearly sold out at the Wednesday evening service where they were first offered.

The class raised a total of \$115, which funded nearly all the supplies for the kits, which include towels, washcloths, soap, and other personal care items. After the items had been purchased, the class spent part of their Confirmation session sorting the items and placing them in ziplock bags for shipment to Church World Service.

Rev. Richard Francis, Pastor of the two churches, teaches the Confirmation Class. They will be Confirmed on Pentecost Sunday, May 23.

THE PRESBYTERY OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
 FRIDAY APRIL 2 AND MONDAY APRIL 5
 FOR THE EASTER HOLIDAY

Kay Lenhart  Presbytery Communications

			Clip and Save	Clip and Save Clip and Save Clip and Save
IOWA COAD CONF	APRIL 13	CHEROKEE, IA	9AM-4PM	
COM	APRIL 13	PRESBYTERY OFFICE	10:00AM	
MISSION COOR TEAM	APRIL 13	PRESBYTERY OFFICE	11:00AM	
MODERATOR TEAM	APRIL 13	PRESBYTERY OFFICE	1:00PM	
MINUTE REVIEW	APRIL 13	PRESBYTERY OFFICE	6:00PM	
SEARCH COMMITTEE	APRIL 19	PRESBYTERY OFFICE	5:30PM	
CPM	APRIL 20	PRESBYTERY OFFICE	9:00AM	
MINUTE REVIEW	APRIL 20	SIoux CITY, IA	6:00PM	
PW SPRING GATHERING	APRIL 22	CHEROKEE, IA	9:00AM	
MINUTE REVIEW	APRIL 24	PRESBYTERIAN CAMP	10:00AM	
JR. HIGH RETREAT	APRIL 30-MAY 1	CAMP ON LAKE OKOBOJI		
COM	MAY 4	PRESBYTERY OFFICE	10:00AM	
PRESBYTERY MEETING	MAY 11	So SIOUX CITY, NE	5:30 PM	
SYNOD PW GATHERING	JUNE 16-19	BUENA VISTA UNIVERSITY		
GENERAL ASSEMBLY	JULY 3-10	MINNEAPOLIS, MN		
TRIENNIAL	JULY 20-24	PURDUE, INDIANA		
SYNOD SCHOOL	JULY 25-30	BUENA VISTA UNIVERSITY		