

Called to Wonder

Created by Erin Walton

SEASONS

Are you starting to see some signs that the seasons are changing? The trees are losing their leaves, the days are getting shorter... Fall is turning into winter right before our eyes on the calendar. Are you ready for winter?



The church uses a different calendar; it's called a liturgical or a Christian calendar. It has more than just four seasons and the first season in the church calendar is right around the corner. Are you ready?

Seasons of the Liturgical Calendar

Advent

When it starts: 4 Sundays before Christmas
When it ends: Christmas Eve
Theme: Anticipating the birth of the Messiah

Christmas

When it starts: December 25
When it ends: Twelve days later (Jan 6)
Theme: Celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ

Epiphany

When it starts: Jan 6
When it ends: The day before Lent
Theme: Jesus reveals Himself as God

Lent

When it starts: Ash Wednesday
When it ends: The day before Easter
Theme: A time of renewal with Jesus

Easter

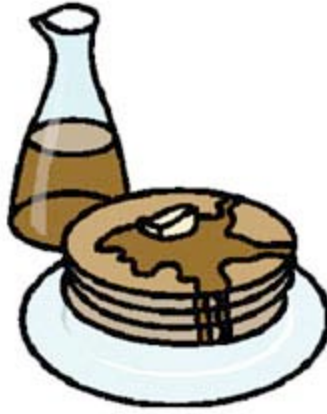
When it starts: Easter Day
When it ends: Pentecost
Theme: Celebrating the resurrection of Christ

Pentecost

When it starts: 50th day after Easter (Pentecost means 50th day)
When it ends: The day before Advent
Theme: Celebrating the gift of the Holy Spirit

Pancake Suppers

Many Christians over the years have developed traditions to help mark the change in the Christian season. For example, some have Pancake Suppers on the Tuesday right before Ash Wednesday (also called Shrove Tuesday) to prepare themselves for the Lenten season which traditionally involves fasting (going without meat!).



Activity

Ask an adult to help you mark all of the Christian seasons on your calendar; when they start and when they end. Plan a special activity or celebration for you and your family to do together to mark each change in season. If you come up with a really good idea; invite people from your church to do it with you!



[© 2006 PRESBYTERIAN RECORD INC.]