

MESSENGER March 3, 2022

Lenten Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

I am writing this message on the second day of the 40-day season of Lent, and I want to take this opportunity to share an invitation to the observance of Lenten Discipline that some of you heard last night at the Ash Wednesday service. Additionally, if you have been thinking about something to either give up or take on during Lent, but you haven't decided, below is a list of 40 suggestions that our Lay Leader Jessica Blackburn sent to me last year. Whatever we might decide upon, I pray that Lent will be a time for each of us to grow closer to the Lord and to a greater realization of God's love for each of us.

Peace and blessings,
Pastor David

Invitation to the Observance of Lenten Discipline

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ;
the early Christians observed with great devotion
the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection,
and it became the custom of the Church that before the Easter celebration
there should be a forty-day season of spiritual preparation.
During this season converts to the faith were prepared for Holy baptism.
It was also a time when persons who had committed serious sins
and had separated themselves from the community of faith
were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness,
and restored to participation in the life of the church.
In this way the whole congregation was reminded
of the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ
and the need we all have to renew our faith.
I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church,
to observe a holy Lent;
by self-examination and repentance;
by prayer, fasting, and self-denial;
and by reading and meditating on God's Holy Word
To make a right beginning of repentance,
and as a mark of our mortal nature,
let us now pray before our Creator and Redeemer.

40 Suggestions for Lent

- 1) Give up television and internet for one day
- 2) Genuinely compliment someone who isn't expecting it
- 3) Donate a bag of food to Share The Table
- 4) Pray for good things for someone who has been unkind to you
- 5) Visit an elderly friend or relative who doesn't get many visitors
- 6) Make homemade pretzels, a traditional Lenten food
- 7) Make an almsgiving box and collect change throughout Lent to donate at the end Lent
- 8) Plan a simple meal and talk as a family about how to help the hungry
- 9) Do a craft, piece of art, or creative project that glorifies the Lord
- 10) Ask for forgiveness from someone you have wronged
- 11) Light a candle at church and pray for someone in your life
- 12) Volunteer some of your time to help at church, school, or home
- 13) Clean up a mess that somebody else made (without complaining)
- 14) Memorize a prayer that you don't already know by heart
- 15) Surprise someone by doing a task or chore that they normally do
- 16) Donate a bag of things that are still nice, but that you don't use anymore
- 17) Thank someone who has been a good influence in your life
- 18) Read a Christian book individually or as a family
- 19) Listen to Christian music while doing a task you have been putting off
- 20) Pray for world political and religious leaders
- 21) Do something healthy to take care of the body God gave you
- 22) Clear your mind of other things and sit quietly with God
- 23) Do something to help the Earth
- 24) Watch a religious movie together as a family
- 25) Give up sweets and other snacks for a day
- 26) Read one book of the Bible
- 27) Do a foot washing with your family members
- 28) Surprise someone with a handmade gift
- 29) Do something to make this Lenten season better for someone who needs it
- 30) Pray for peace in your community and in the world
- 31) Eat a vegetarian or vegan diet for one day (or longer)
- 32) Give up complaining for a whole day (or longer)
- 33) Write down 20 things that you are thankful for
- 34) Do something to help someone who is ill
- 35) Encourage someone who is struggling or someone who has been working on a difficult task
- 36) Take a walk and spend time observing the beauty and miracles of God's creation
- 37) Attend an activity or Bible study at church during the week
- 38) Clear 40 things out of your home that you no longer need
- 39) Spend a week reading one of the Gospels in the New Testament
- 40) Spend a day trying to think only of others and doing things that will make their lives better

SCRIPTURE CARD Week of March 7th

Centering Prayer: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Psalm of the Week: Psalm 145

M Ephesians 2:4-10

T Lamentations 3:22-23

W Psalm 51:1-3

T 1 Timothy 1:15-16

F James 2:12-13

S 1 Peter 2:9-10

Key Scripture: Luke 6:36 Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

The United Methodist Women will hold a general meeting Monday, March 7th at 4:00 p.m. in the church sanctuary



LENTEN DEVOTIONALS are available in the narthex. **ONE PER FAMILY PLEASE**





Monday Afternoon Bible Study (MABS) will NOT meet on Monday, March 7. The class will resume on Monday, March 14, 2022 at 2:00.

The new study will use the book, Unafraid: Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times, by Adam Hamilton. The book can be purchased online through Amazon and Thriftbooks.com.

Lenten Morning Prayer

Every Tuesday & Thursday

Beginning: **March 3, 2022** and ending **April 14, 2022**

at ZOOM opens at 7:45 am

Our prayer time together begins at 8:00 am and ends no later than 8:30 am.

All are welcome – Clergy and Laity!



Lenten Morning Prayer ZOOM link

Topic: "Lenten Morning Prayer"

Time: 7:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://nccumc.zoom.us/j/97798161864?pwd=TzIeOHdpRTZwMDByODEzSkw0eHZDQT09>

Meeting ID: 977 9816 1864

Passcode: 331678

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,97798161864#,,,,*331678# US (Washington DC)

+13126266799,,97798161864#,,,,*331678# US (Chicago)

If you have questions, please reach out to Mary Hartsell.

Easter Lily or Hydrangea's



Order forms will be included in the bulletin for anyone wanting to purchase a lily or hydrangea in memory of or honoring a loved one. The cost will be: Lily \$12 / 8" Hydrangea \$25. **Orders are due by: March 27th** and flowers will remain in the sanctuary until Easter Sunday.

Join us in the Sanctuary Mondays beginning 3/07 for open prayer – 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.
All are welcome!



The sign-up list is located on the credenza outside the church office (across from the restrooms). Write your name next to date and who the flowers are honoring or in memory of.



YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS..😊

Hello all,

Happy March to everyone! Hope and pray that each of you are doing well lately. Please see below for the March happenings and updates for your calendars.

***Sunday, Mar. 6th~** Regular Youth group meeting for ***High School Youth** from 5-6:30pm in The Reef (this is a change from the regular schedule since MS youth met 2 times in Feb.)

***Sunday, Mar. 13th~** No Youth group meetings this Sunday due to school Spring Break holiday.

***Sunday, Mar. 20th~** This will be our Youth Sunday for the month of March at the 9:20am Service. Please let me know in what way your youth can serve. We will need- Greeters, Ushers, Scripture reader(s), Helpers in Children's classrooms.

Regular Youth group meeting for Middle School Youth from 5-6:30pm in The Reef.

***Monday, Mar. 21st~** Tentative date for next Youth Council Meeting at 6pm.

***Sunday, Mar. 27th~** Regular Youth group meeting for High School youth from 5-6:30pm in The Reef.

Also, more info. to come out soon about dates, details of summer youth mission trips/activities for MS and HS youth. I will be in touch with all of you about that, thank you! As always, contact me if you should need more details or have questions about anything regarding the above information. 😊

Peace friends,

Jewels Swain
FHUMC Youth Coordinator
910-232-9844



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS...



Important Dates:

March 13th- Jr. Basic

March 27th- Jr. Basic

April 10th Palm Sunday- Jr. Basic and Easter Egg Hunt

April 17th- Easter Sunday! Sunrise service at Sound Side Park 7am.

Church services 9am and 11am

April 24th- Jr. Basic

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

When I pray, I will listen as much as I speak.

The Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.
~Proverbs 2:6 (NRSV)



Members: Joyce Arnette, Judy Beck, Nancy Buckman, Doris Davis; Lanae and Buddy Fowler; *Diane* Geary, Delores Miner, Jenny Mizell, Diane Secary, Paula Smith, Melva Lea Stewart; Jill Strohpaul, Linda Wells, Owen Williams, John (and Lou) Wilson.

Military: Joe Fraley, Andy Harrison, Sgt. Joey Horne, John Modlin, Branden Mooney, Tyler Ray, Anthony Ripley, David Ritz, Alex Harris.

Family and Friends: Jane; Eric Bower; Denise Carton; Mike Fisher and family; Nick Hardison; Sue Heavner; Dan Pearson; Scarlett Swain

And all unnamed persons needing God's peace, comfort, and healing.

With the dawning of each new day, we need courage to take each new step in our walk of faith.

Dear Lord, help us to quiet the chaos in our minds so that we can take the time to hear your voice, accept it, and put into practice what you tell us. Amen.



MARCH	
1ST	Alma Osborn
3rd	Alice Williams
9th	Kent Smith
11th	Jewels Swain
17th	Jency Paliotti
20th	Debbie Sasser
21st	Mike Davis; Cole Frazier; Bonnie Hunter
27th	Marianne Sliwa
28th	Nancy Merlino
29th	Sherry Mewborn; Maris Jordan
30th	Evangeline Schleinkofer
31st	Audrey Audet

*If any new members would like to be added to the Birthday list or if I have missed someone's birthday, please let me know

HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT FAITH HARBOR UMC

Sunday, 3/06

8:00 Communion Service
9:20 Worship Service
11:30 Handbells Quartet
12:15 Handbells Class
5:00 Youth Group "B" (HS)

Monday, 3/07

4:00 UMW General Meeting
6:30 Cub Scout Troop 777
6:30 Leadership Zoom Meeting

Friday, 3/11

8:30 Women's Breakfast, Rm. 6

Tuesday, 3/08

6:00 Companions in Christ

Wednesday, 3/09

10:00 Rainbow Circle
7:00 Easter Music
7:30 Choir

Sunday, 3/13

8:00 Communion Service
9:20 Worship Service
10:30 Companions in Christ, Rm. 6
10:30 JR Basic
12:15 Handbells Choir

Thursday, 3/10

12:00 AA Group Meeting, Rm. 6
5:00 GS Troop #2424 meeting

