

### St. Peter's Lutheran Church

# Parish



March 2019

418 East Sumner Street Northfield, MN 55057

507.645.8252

www.northfieldstp.org

Church office hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Worship

Sundays 9:00 a.m. Wednesdays 6:15 p.m.

### Staff

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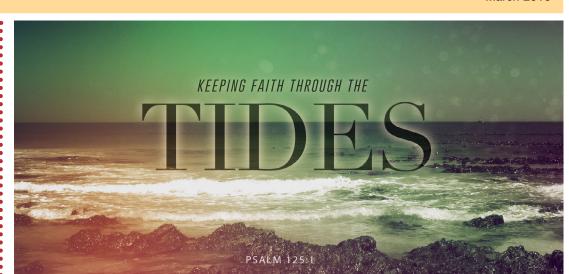
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# From Pastor David

Dear Saints of St. Peter's,

"You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it rests in you." - St. Augustine

A relationship with, and an experience of God is our deepest longing. We long for God's love and grace. We desire God's peace. We know ourselves to be out of touch or distanced from God, and we yearn to be in communion with God

For many of us, Lent is the season when we especially focus on our relationship with God. It is a time of reflection, reorientation, and renewal. We're beginning to sense that spring is around the corner, and just as spring sprouts new life, so we desire new spiritual growth. Psalm 51:10 encapsulates Lent: "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me."

No one lives a pain-free life. We all experience disappointment and failure. We make mistakes. And, our dreams fail to materialize. Again from Psalm 51, "my sin is ever before me." We recognize that we have drifted

away from God, and we seek God's presence. Lent is a time to reboot.

I invite you to utilize a number of spiritual practices this season of Lent. First off, make worship a priority. We worship on Sunday mornings at 9:00 and Wednesday evenings at 6:15. The theme for our Wednesday evening Lenten worship services is "Perfect Love Casts Out Fear."

Throughout the Bible, God greets people—Moses, Mary, shepherds, Peter—with "Do not be afraid." We are afraid of many things-diseases, natural disasters, climate change, immigrants, financial collapse.... And the Gospel promise is that God is with us.

On Ash Wednesday (March 6) we are marked with a cross with the reminder that we are dust and to dust we shall return.

We also have a small 2019 Lenten devotional, *Lasting Hope*, with daily devotions based on the Psalms from Ash Wednesday through Easter morning. The Psalms are some of the finest words in scripture to read devotionally as they honestly express our hopes, dreams, fears, and failures. Our Sunday services will utilize this devotional. See article on page 5.

Finally, I invite you to consider going on a 40-Day Journey with Parker Palmer. Palmer is a contemporary contemplative Christian within the Quaker tradition. He is also a Carleton graduate. Each day's reading has a short reading from Palmer along with a biblical text, a psalm fragment, questions to reflect upon, and an invitation to both journal and meditate in silence. We have a dozen copies. Beth Vivant and I are working on scheduling opportunities for those participating in this 40-Day Journey to gather together and share their experiences with others.

It requires intentionality and time to tend to our relationship with God. In a world where our worth is measured by how busy we are, I invite you to slow down, breathe deeply, and be filled with Jesus' love and grace. Our restless hearts will not rest till they rest in God, nor will God rest till God resides in our hearts.

May Christ bring you peace, renewal, hope, and new life.

- Pastor David

# March & April Worship Leaders

Thank you, volunteers! If you are unable to assist on the date assigned, please change with someone else on the list and contact the church office so that the bulletin can be updated: **(507) 645-8252** 

Date	Time	Ushers	Reader	Comm. Setup	Comm. Servers	Hospitality
March 3	9:00 a.m.	Joyce Mokoff Borris Mokoff Debra Boyum David Boyum	Arnie Witt	Bill Bleckwehl	Phil Olson Dan Hagen Shari Hagen	Joan Paulson Mavis Bell Richard DeBeau Doris Welke
March 10	9:00 a.m.	Connie Albers Mark Albers Carmen Sevcik Gary Stein	Scott Bergemann			Sheila Roehrick Shirley Shaft Lorraine Lemke Reinhold Lemke
March 17	9:00 a.m.	Faith Bergemann Scott Bergemann Diane Boyum Neale Thompson	Phyllis Swanson	Nancy Solberg	Sheryl Kleppe Jolene Manzey Ginny Paulson	Les Lundell Norma Lundell Mary Franzen Ruth McCarty Lorraine Rovig
March 24	9:00 a.m.	Diane Peterson Gary Peterson Phil Olson JoAnne Olson	Shari Hagen			Patti Baker Connie Albers Mark Albers Kristen Dennison
March 31	9:00 a.m.	Lorraine Lemke Reinhold Lemke Evonne Clay Mary Franzen	Larry DeBoer			Diane Boyum Mary Bleckwehl Lyle Gunderson Nancy Gunderson
April 7	9:00 a.m.	Bruce Christians Carol Irwin Ruth McCarty Mary Bleckwehl	Neale Thompson	Brian Peterson	Michon Weeks Patrick Bougie Carmen Sevcik	Doris Hill Eldon Hill Evonne Clay Marilyn Finneseth
Palm Sunday April 14	9:00 a.m.	Dennis Hahn Janet Hahn Bette Lee Linda Blaisdell	Richard DeBeau	Mary Peterson	Claire Hill Nancy Solberg Laura Gilligan	Al Croone Eleanor Croone Kathie Westlund Ramona Pumper
Easter Sunday	7:00 a.m.	Our	Easter Breakfast will be served between services, 7:30 am until 9:00 am			
April 21	9:00 a.m.	A sign-				
April 28	9:00 a.m.	Mike Eaves Beth Eaves Jolene Manzey Sheryl Kleppe	Bill Bleckwehl			Janet Hahn Dennis Hahn Jayne Hager Dee Carmen Sevcik



### Women's Circles

LW Quilters
Fridays, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
at 8:30 a.m.

Women's Fellowship Fridays, March 1 & 15 at 8:00 a.m.

New Spirit Circle
Monday, March 11
at 10:00 a.m.

Hannah Circle Tuesday, March 12 at 9:00 a.m.

Eve Circle Monday, March 18 at 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 19 at 2:00 p.m.



All singles, men and women, are welcome for lunch with the SOLOs at 12:15 pm:

Monday, March 11 at St. Peter's

Bring a bag lunch and watch the movie, *Amazing Grace* 

Questions? Call: Hazel Peterson **(645-9276)** Phyllis Swanson **(645-4231)** 

# March Events & Birthdays

Triaich Events & Bhithays								
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
If your birthday we please contact the and we will add your dat	Church Office your birthday abase.	6:15 p.m. 7:45 a.m. Breakfast Club 6:45 p.m.		. Supper . Worship Band . Worship . Confirmation/SPY . Worship Choir	8:00 am Women's Fellowship, The Tavern 8:30 am LUV Quilters Happy Birthday Lexie Estrem Laurel Martinson	Happy Birthday  Lynn Palan Olivia Prescott		
3 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Coffee & Fellowship 10:10 am Gospel of Luke: 2 of 6, Fireside Room 10:10 am Sunday School	4 3:15 pm BeFrienders 6:00 pm BeFriender Training Happy Birthday Connor Triplett	5 9:00 am Staff Meeting 7:00 pm Ministry Teams Happy Birthday Paul Hallcock	ASH WEDNESDAY Regular Wednesday Programming, plus: 11:00 am Future Faith, Fireside Room NOON Ash Wed Worship Happy Birthday Rowan Boisvert Ashlynn Sabyan MEAL: Soup Supper	7 7:00 am Table Talk, The Tavern 8:00 am BGs 2:30 pm Thursday's Table 7:00 pm Faith on Tap Froggy Bottoms Happy Birthday Scott Bergemann Bennett Buske Lynn Fossom Will Valek	8 8:30 am LUV Quilters  Happy Birthday  Madison Carr Andrea Stowe Jessica Sevcik	5:30 pm Sons of Norway  Happy Birthday  Susie Fischer Duane Meliza Courtney Sevcik		
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS: Spring Forward! 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Coffee & Fellowship w/ Community Connection: "Face It" presentation on depression & suicide 10:10 am Sunday School  Happy Birthday  James Herreid	1 10:00 am New Spirit Cir 12:15 pm SOLOS 6:00 pm BeFrienders training 6:00 pm Girl Scouts Happy Birthday Shelly Jandro	9:00 am Hannah Circle 9:00 am Staff Meeting 7:00 pm Church Council  Happy Birthday  William Quinnell	Regular Wednesday Programming, plus: 11:00 am Future Faith, Fireside Room  Happy Birthday  Amy Gunderson Wayne Hallcock  MEAL: Soup Supper	1 4 7:00 am Table Talk, The Tavern 7:00 pm Canton of Nordleigh meeting	APRIL NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 8:00 am Women's Fellowship 8:30 am LUV Quilters Happy Birthday Sandra Bremer Barb Meyer Emily Verlinich	Happy Birthday Eleanora Schmitz		
7:30 am Sharing & Caring Hands 9:00 am Worship, Children sing 10:00 am Coffee & Fellowship 10:10 am Gospel of Luke: 3 of 6 10:10 am Sunday School  Happy Birthday  Lynn Hutton Pat Picha Jenna Stowe	6:00 pm BeFrienders training 6:30 pm Eve Circle Happy Birthday Tyler Peterson	9:00 am Staff Meeting 11:30 am NRC Lunch w/ Pastor David 2:00 pm Rachel Circle  Happy Birthday  Nancy Gunderson Caitlin Truax Kathie Westlund	Regular Wednesday Programming, plus: 11:00 am Future Faith, Fireside Room Happy Birthday Sean Pumper MEAL: Soup Supper	7:00 am Table Talk, The Tavern 7:00 pm Faith on Tap, Froggy Bottoms  Happy Birthday  Jim Fransen Alex Randall Devon Seeley Robbie Swenson	8:30 am LUV Quilters  Happy Birthday  John Hallcock Jim Jessen Shirley Shaft	23 Happy Birthday Eric Behrens Stewart Shaft		
9:00 am Worship 10:10 am Upside Down Intergenerational Ed  Happy Birthday  Dennis Berry Carol Behrens Daryl Knudsen	25 6:00 pm BeFrienders training Happy Birthday Aaron Bridley Dolly Roush	26 9:00 am Staff Meeting	27 11:00 am Future Faith, Fireside Room 4:30 pm Jubilee Bells 5:30 pm Supper 5:45 pm Worship Band 6:15 pm Worship 7:00 pm Worship Choir	28 7:00 am Table Talk, The Tavern Happy Birthday Doc Dewar Gregory Johnson	29 8:30 am LUV Quilters  Happy Birthday  Jackson Caton Maggie Kuntz  MEAL: Baked Potato Bar	30 Happy Birthday Emily Lieske		
9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Coffee & Fellowship 10:10 am Gospel of Luke: 4 of 6 10:10 am Sunday School 10:10 am First Communion Class  Happy Birthday  John Finger Celena Witt			*Northfield School District Spring Break this week  Happy Birthday  Carmen Sevcik  MEAL: Soup Supper					

## Faith Formation Team

Team meeting will be on March 5 at 7:00 pm, concurrent with all the church committees.

# Special Lenten Resource

Feast on This... a devotional written just for families to use around the table. This collection of five minute devotions is written by Faith Formation people from our area and beyond.

Copies will be available by Ash Wednesday. Take one per household please.

### Be-Frienders

A new training course is underway! We are very pleased to be adding BeFrienders to the Northfield community. If you, or someone you know, could use a listening ear, please call Julie or Pastor David and we'll find someone to BeFriend you. We can even get someone from Bethel or St. Dominic's if you wish to share with someone from outside of St. Peter's.

Not sure this is for you? Our new BeFrienders will be doing internships after Easter - you can give it a try, and also help someone practice their new skills!

# News from Upstairs

by Julie Klock, Faith Formation

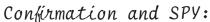
### Schedule Changes:

March events will follow normal schedules with the following exceptions:

- March 6 Ash Wednesday worship will take place at noon and 6:15pm
- March 10 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME CHANGE (our times are the same but you have to remember change your clock!) SPRING FORWARD!
- March 27 all confirmation students are excused from worship and rehearsal/class for spring break. And no S.P.Y.

### Sunday School:

Kids will sing in worship on March 17. This will be their first public singing with Ms. Greta! Sunday School & Upside Down will continue as scheduled through spring break.



(St. Peter's Youth)

During Lent (March 6-April 21) **Confirmation students** are expected to worship weekly. After worship we will be rehearsing various projects for Holy Week. Everyone is excused on March 27 because of spring break.

The special event for March is **bowling and ice cream** on March 1. Julie will be in touch with all the details. This event is open to **High School Students** and their friends only. SPY will meet after worship weekly except March 27.

### Upside Down:

**Your Kingdom Come** - our March Upside Down - will be held on **March 24th**. We'll be taking a look at some kingdom parables to learn about how God's dream for us compares to our reality.

### No School Day Camp:

Northfield school district's **quarter-end teacher workshop day** is on **April 1**! In keeping with April Fool's Day, there will be a lot of surprises, including some very fun projects in the kitchen!

Camp is open to students in Kinder-Fifth Grades. Friends and cousins are welcome. \$25/child or \$45/family. Regular schedule of **7:45 am - 4:45 pm** but call if you need an accommodation and we'll try to help!

### Summer Programs:

· Vacation Bible School:

TO MARS & BEYOND will be held **June 10-13** at St. John's Lutheran. Online registration is on our website! Volunteers to work with children, help with snacks, and prepping crafts are in high demand. Can you help?

#### Good Earth Village Day Camp:

Good Earth to provide Day Camp for all elementary students will be the first full week of August (8-12). Camp will run all day, 8 am - 4:30 pm, for \$65/ student. Sibling discounts will apply. Camp days include worship, games, snacks, Bible study, crafts, and quiet time. It's hard to explain how such a low tech, laid back kind of camp can enchant the campers, but it happens every year. Registration is open.



## Minnesota FoodShare



The month of March is FoodShare month. Please bring donations of canned, dried, and non-perishable goods to St. Peter's and see how much we can collect! There is a shopping card in the narthex near the fireplace where we for your items. At the end of the month the donations will go to the Northfield Community Action Center.

## Lasting Hope

Focusing on the Psalms, this year's Lenten devotional book explores the hopes we have and receive from God. On Sundays, March 10-April 7, the sermon text will be the assigned Psalm. Listed below are the Psalms and the theme for the day. You are invited as well to pick up a copy of the devotional in the narthex—large print versions are available.

March 10	Psalm 91	Hope for God's presence
March 17	Psalm 27	Hope for music

March 24 Psalm 63 Hope for love

March 31 Psalm 32 Hope for forgiveness

**April 7** Psalm 126 Hope for joy

# Music Notes

by Mary Kay Bougie, Coordinator of Music

#### "Now is the winter of our discontent"

As I sit here at home watching it snow on yet another Wednesday, the 3rd of the last 4 Wednesday nights with church cancelled, this quote from Shakespeare's Richard III seems apropos.

"Now is the winter of our discontent." One explanation of this quote is that we have reached the depth of our unhappiness and that better times are ahead! I can't help but parallel this thought as we Christians are about to begin our journey through Lent.

There is a Lenten hymn I would like you to take a look at from our hymnal. The text and music are written by Marty Haugen, who hails from Wanamingo, MN. The hymn is titled, *Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery* (ELW#334).

#### Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery

1 Tree of Life and awesome myst'ry, in your death we are reborn; though you die in all of hist'ry, still you rise with ev'ry morn, still you rise with ev'ry morn.

- 2 We remember truth once spoken, love passed on through act and word; ev'ry person lost and broken wears the body of our Lord, wears the body of our Lord.
- 3 Christ, you lead and we shall follow, stumbling though our steps may be; one with you in joy and sorrow, we the river, you the sea, we the river, you the sea.

### For each week of Lent, Haugen offers a varying fourth verse:

#### Lent 1

From the dawning of creation you have loved us as your own; stay with us through all temptation, make us turn to you alone.

#### Lent 2

In our call to be a blessing, may we be a blessing true; may we live and die confessing Christ as Lord of all we do.

#### Lent 3

Living Water of salvation, be the fountain of each soul; springing up in new creation, flow in us and make us whole.

#### Lent 4

Give us eyes to see you clearly; make us children of your light. Give us hearts to live more nearly as your gospel shining bright.

#### Lent 5

God of all our fear and sorrow, God who lives beyond our death, hold us close through each tomorrow, love as near as ev'ry breath.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Text © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. Reprinted with permission through OneLicense.net

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It is a beautiful hymn, haunting with a meaning-filled text. I found a youtube video which you may enjoy hearing. It is a bell choir's arrangement of this hymn, incorporating a violin solo:

https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=yNbKcglfX0U

or look up title, Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery MSPC.

Here's to wandering mindfully through and out of the discontentment of this season – to the celebrated victory of Easter, about 50 days from now!

#### One last note:

We will be offering special music at each Wednesday evening Lenten service.

The worship choir members have signed up for various groupings and anthems – you will hear a different mix of people each week!

# Rachel Circle Serving Cupcakes

On Tuesday, March 19 our Rachel Circle will be serving cupcakes for the March birthdays at the Northfield Retirement Center. 2:30 pm.



# Help Wanted!

The **LUV Quilters** have been meeting weekly except February 8. The good turnout has provided 36 finished quilts and some unfinished ones as of February 15. Because of this good production **we need more flat sheets** - any size. Fitted sheets can be used if they are queen or king size.

Also needed is cash to purchase batting. It is purchased in 60 yard rolls at a cost of \$107 each. This is enough for about 26 quilts at \$4.13 per quilt. We will be happy to receive donations in any amount. You may use pew envelopes and write "quilters" on them, and put in the offering plate. Checks should be payable to "St. Peter's LUV Quilters."

We will acknowledge gifts of \$50 or more as the donation is not to St. Peter's Church and will not appear on your church statement.

# Paper Bag Lunch Must be Good for the Soul

Whether it's leftovers, your favorite bacon sandwich, or something special packed by a loved one, it doesn't matter who you are... there is a certain excitement for the noon hour to arrive when you have a bag lunch from home.

Twice in March you have a chance to do just that. On Ash Wednesday, March 6 at noon, bring a bag lunch to eat, followed by a mid-day Ash Wednesday worship service. Don't worry, if you can't make it at noon, there will still be Ash Wednesday worship at the regular Wednesday evening time of 6:15.

Then on Monday, March 11, The SOLOS group will be holding their monthly lunch gathering - this time - at St. Peter's with a bag lunch and the movie, *Amazing Grace*. All single Men and Women are welcome to gather at 12:15 pm.

# Great Reflections February 3 for St. Peter's

by Phyllis Swanson



John Mark & Dawn Nielsen

An unexpected surprise guest attended St. Peter's Reflections forum February third. The forum attendees welcomed Professor John Mark Nielsen, remembering him when his dad, very well loved pastor Rev. John Nielsen, served St. Peter's from 1953 to 1962!

Professor John Mark Nielsen introduced his wife, Dawn and gave warm-hearted greetings from his parents, John and Elizabeth Nielsen, now in their 90s and living in Nebraska, who remember their time at St. Peter's as a "great privelege." John Mark commented that his parents would have loved to have been able to visit St. Peter's during our 125th celebration. They remember with gratitude the growth in love and unity at St. Peter's, culminating in the dedication of the "new" church on Sumner Street April 10, 1960!

Forum attendees also enjoyed the humor and "surprise" recollections from speakers Andy and Marnie Berkvam, Shirley Shaft, Bill Bleckwehl, Laura Gilligan, and Phyllis Finger - interspersed with Pastor Neale Thompson's inspiring comments about the eight Bible verses from the anniversary booklet.

I, as editor, presented Evonne Clay and Phyllis Finger with a complimentary anniversary booklet for St. Peter's archives. They were instrumental in the creation of the History and Heritage Cabinet in the narthex - in celebration of St. Peter's 115th anniversary. The archives are in a locked drawer in the cabinet.

Above all, I want us to remember the 125th anniversary booklet's theme from I Thessalonians 5:11 "Therefore, encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing!"



# Council Highlights

February 18, 2019 • 7:00 p.m.

**Present:** Bougie, C. Hill, S. Hill, Kleppe, Lee, Picha, Sillanpa, Weeks

**Agenda:** adoption of the Agenda

**Introductions:** New members of the Church Council were welcomed and the group participated in activities to help learn about one another (meaning behind your name, introduce your partner).

**Devotions:** Pastor David read a story from Exodus about Moses and the burning bush.

**Meeting Minutes** from January 15 were approved.

#### **Reports:**

- New Council Secretary: Amy Sillanpa was voted in as secretary (nominated by Kleppe and seconded by Lee all voted yes).
- Sunday services: The Council had a discussion about the change to one service at 9am and whether to continue with one service or return to two services. Ultimately due to the low attendance at the 10:45am service most Sundays, the Council determined that it would be in the best interest of the congregation to continue with one service on Sundays. Pastor David explained that congregations typically consider adding an additional service when 85% of the church is full. Unfortunately we are not seeing that type of attendance on Sundays. The Council also discussed whether the 9am start time was the best time to start. After discussing alternative ideas, the Council determined that 9am is the best time to have the church service. (Motion to keep the one service schedule at 9am was made by Lee and second by Bougie all voted yes.)
- Sunday School start time: The idea of having a 10 minute transition time in between the church service and the start of Sunday School was brought up by Sillanpa. Teachers and kids who attend church need a little time to get to Sunday School so they don't have to leave before the service ends. Kids who don't attend church are showing up before teachers are able to get to the classroom. Kids who attend church are showing up late for the 10am start time. Pastor David will talk to Julie about start time of Sunday School and let her decide what will work best.
- Sabbatical Leave Policy: The Synod recommends congregations offer their Pastors sabbaticals. St. Peter's Lutheran Church follows this recommendation but does not have a written policy. We will request other congregation's sabbatical policies in order to write our own. This will be put on the March agenda.
- Church Refurbishing project: The Council had a discussion about the request to provide cushions in the pews. Various options were discussed. The Council determined that individual cushions would be sufficient (Motion to move forward with individual cushions and for the CRC committee to take care of it was made by Kleppe and Lee seconded it all voted yes.)
- Council retreat: The Council will be going on their annual retreat in March. The Council chose March 16 at Mount Olivet. Members should meet at 8am at St. Peter's Church to car-pool there together. The retreat is scheduled for 9am-3pm. Main agenda item will be to determine how best to cover things while Pastor David is on sabbatical.
- Offering pick up schedule: The Council passed around a sign up to for depositing church offering into the safe on Sundays.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m. and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting is March 12 at 7pm in the Fireside Room, St. Peters Lutheran Church. Council members should read the Introduction and Chapter One of "The Mission Table" book. Submitted by Amy Sillanpa, Secretary

#### FEB. 26 STAFF MEETING FOLLOW UP:

We will try moving the start time of Sunday School and education to 10:10 am on Sunday mornings to allow for transition time between worship and education. End times will shift by 10 minutes as well.





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**Bette Lee** frbelee@gmail.com

Sheryl Kleppe skkleppe@gmail.com



### Sick? Hospitalized?

Please contact the Church Office if you would like a visit from Pastor Weeks.

(507) 645-8252

Or visit www.northfieldstp.org/ prayers-and-announcements



St. Peter's Lutheran Church 418 East Sumner Street Northfield, Minnesota 55057

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### Return Service Requested

Please contact the Church Office if you've moved or if you would like to be removed from our mailing list.

(507) 645-8252

### April Publication Deadline March **15**

You may email information to terrawierson@northfieldstp.org



A ministry request form is now on our website at www.northfieldstp.org, under the ministry tab.



Ash Wednesday

March 6 at 6:15 pm

Soup Supper at 5:30 pm

bring a bag lunch at NOON with worship to follow.



Lenten
Evening Prayer
"Perfect Love Casts Out Fear"

Wednesday evenings March 13 - April 10 at 6:15 pm Soup suppers, prior to worship, at 5:30

- Maundy Thursday & Good Friday services are April 18 & 19 -