

Letting Go During Lent

In the past we have been taught that one of the practices of Lent is to give something up. In the Middle Ages it was meat and dairy. In our time we usually give up things we love such as chocolate, beer, bourbon or soda. Some say the practice teaches us that when we sacrifice and suffer in the sacrifice we find a deeper understanding of our faith and our Lord.

What if we look at it a different way this Lent? What if we decide to "Let Go" of something that is preventing us from being who God created us to be? What if we let go of attitudes and behaviors that poison our souls? What if we let go of attitudes and behaviors that dizzy our lives so much we lose our way? What if we let go of attitudes and behaviors that prevent us from working, living, and loving the way God intended?

Join us for worship on the Sundays in Lent when we will be exploring:

[Letting Go of Being Perfect](#) – Feb 21 (If you missed this service, you can watch it here: [Sermon](#))

[Letting Go of Anger and Resentment](#) – Feb 28

[Letting Go of Doubt](#) – March 7

[Letting Go of Worry](#) – March 14

[Letting Go of Shame and Guilt](#) – March 21

Spiritual Practices for Leaning into Faith during Lent

Ever wondered if there were some practical, concrete ways to grow spiritually?

Good news! There most certainly are.

Christianity is a wonderfully practical religion. At its heart and soul, it is a way of life – which is a way of living – which is a practical sort of thing. Jesus had a lot to say about how to live, and to live abundantly.

"Spiritual practices" are specific activities that we can do to deepen our relationship with God and to become more aware of the presence of God's Spirit in us and around us. If we make these practices a part of our life, they can help us to grow saner, stronger, wiser and kinder as human beings in this world.

In this season of Lent we will be creating some simple tutorials on a handful of basic Christian spiritual practices: Lectio Divina, Centering Prayer, the Jesus Prayer, Walking Prayer, and Fasting 2-point-oh.

Each Wednesday at noon, go to our website, or tune in to our Youtube channel to see the tutorial for that week.

It has been said that we become what we practice repeatedly. Lent is a good time to lean in and practice our faith. Blessings!

Stay Tuned for More During Lent . . .

We are working on a Communion service video and an evening prayer service video for you to watch at home. Keep an eye on this newsletter and our website for more information coming soon!



Just Mercy Film Discussion

The film "Just Mercy" is based on the true story of young lawyer Bryan Stevenson and his history-making battle for justice. After graduating from Harvard, Bryan headed to Alabama to defend those wrongly condemned or who were not afforded proper representation, with the support of local advocate Eva Ansley. One of his first and most incendiary

cases is that of Walter McMillian, who in 1987 was sentenced to die for the notorious murder of an 18-year-old girl, despite a preponderance of evidence proving his innocence.

We invite you all to watch (or re-watch) the film "Just Mercy" when it is convenient for you, then join our discussion group to share your thoughts on the film's subjects and their repercussions on today's world.

For more information on the film and a list of ways you can watch it, go to: <https://www.justmercyfilm.com/>. The film is available at many of our local libraries for free/minimal cost.

We will meet by Zoom with a link to come.

Date: Thursday, March 11

Time: 7-8:30 pm

Sign up here: [Just Mercy](#)

So, Why Have This Discussion?

Throughout his ministry Jesus engaged the real personal and societal concerns of his day, and called his followers to do the same. Many of those concerns related to justice and mercy for the poor and the oppressed. In fact, in the Gospel of Luke Jesus begins his public ministry in a synagogue in Nazareth, where he stands up and reads these words from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah: "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." (Luke 4:16-19)

Discussions like this one on the movie "Just Mercy" give us a chance to come together as the Church and engage the real issues of justice and mercy in our world today. They offer us a safe, authentic space to explore our faith through meaningful study and conversation. It is an opportunity to grow in faith as followers of Christ – both in the ways that we understand our faith and in the ways that we take up our cross and live it out each day.

This is the Way of Christ, blessings on the journey,
Pastor Bruce

TGIF!

What Are You Doing on Fridays?



Your answer to that question is probably a little different this year than it would have been last year around this time, but we have an idea for you! Try something new! Do you have a great recipe that feeds a group? How about doubling that? You'll have a great meal for yourself AND you can take the meal to the men at Serenity Inns so they have a filling, delicious meal on a Friday night!

Volunteers can eat with the men or you may drop off dinner due to Covid-19. They follow Covid-19 protocols if you choose to stay to eat. Not a cook? No problem—order out and have it delivered to them or get takeout and take it over to Serenity.

To sign up and learn more about the Covid-19 protocols click [Make a Meal](#). Meals on Fridays are especially needed! Have questions? Lorraine Buehler, FPLC member & long-time Serenity Inns volunteer can help! Email Lorraine at lcbuehler@cs.com.



See our webpage for all information regarding virtual worship, outreach, and children & youth programs. Click →



Fox Point Church

Lenten Small Groups

Can You Drink The Cup? By Henri Nouwen

In this book, author Henri Nouwen uses the cup as a metaphor to articulate basics of the spiritual life. Nouwen draws stories from his own life and ministry to tell the story of the cup as the story of our lives too.

Dates: Every other Monday; February 22 March 8 & 22 via Zoom

Time: 10 – 11:30 am

How to get the book: "Can You Drink the Cup?" is available at Amazon, \$1.50 used to \$11.65 new, and at Christianbook.com, new for \$11.66.

Reliving the Passion by Walter Wangerin, Jr.

During Lent the Wednesday Night Women's Group will experience this daily devotional book in which the reader participates dramatically in Holy Week. We crucify and are crucified, are condemned and redeemed. This powerful mixing of devotion, imagination, and intellect makes Lent come alive as never before.

The book will be used as our daily devotion, and the study will be offered every week, with each person attending as available. They will look at the devotions of the previous week and share what these devotions have meant to them, any questions they might have and how they can live out what they've learned.

Dates: Every Wednesday; February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31

Time: 6:30 – 8 pm

How to get the book: "Reliving the Passion" is available at Amazon in paperback, from \$3 – \$11.25.

To Register for either study: Call the church office; 414-352-8990. For questions, contact Ruth at: schmidtyruth@aol.com or 262-424-3344.

Small Group: King David

This study is open to all!

We will be using a book written by Ralph F. Wilson called *Life of David—Discipleship Lessons from 1 & 2 Samuel*. This is published through the "Jesus Walk Bible Study Series". There is also a companion PDF with very helpful chronological notes, maps, genealogy charts and small group study questions for you to download. Please download the PDF and order the book so you have it by the start of our King David study on Monday, March 1st.

To download the PDF:

<http://www.jesuswalk.com/david/david-lesson-handouts.pdf>

To Order the Book:

<http://www.jesuswalk.com/books/david.htm>

The link provides options to order the book at Amazon or Barnes & Noble (hard copy or Kindle)

Date: Monday, March 1, then every other Monday for 6 additional weeks.

Time: 7 – 8:30 pm

Location: Zoom; link will be sent out closer to the date

Contact: Lori Lorenz; lorenzlh92@gmail.com

building faith forward

Construction Update!

Work continues! Major demolition for this phase of the project has been completed (despite the extreme cold!), and we can begin building vs. tearing down—exciting news!

This week we received three new furnaces for the building. A fitting delivery for such a cold week.

If you haven't seen some of the most recent pictures, go to our website: [Pictures](#). If you didn't see the annual meeting video with more pictures and updates, look at this video which was posted on our Facebook page: [Video](#)

Our project superintendent sent this update as well: "This week will be a fun one. The site will be busier than we've had thus far, and each day will get busier as the activity on site grows all week! Lots of men, trucks, and equipment are headed our way."



Phone a Friend

Do you remember the game show that allowed you to "phone a friend" if you needed some help coming up with the correct answer? Phoning a friend is one of a few options we have for staying connected since most of us aren't getting together in person and it's a little bit too cold for socially distanced outdoor meet-ups! Brrrr!

It's been 11 months since we've had in-person church. It can be a depressing and lonely time. But what if "phone a friend" was something you could do to bring a little cheer and a smile into someone's life—even your own?

One caring member of our church is picking up the phone each day of Lent to do just that. They plan to randomly pick a letter of the alphabet then search our directory for a name to call. Maybe they know the person and maybe they don't know them—yet. They just want to call and say "Hi!", ask how they are and share some care.

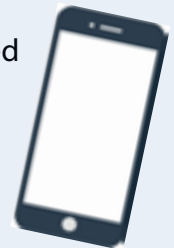
How about it? Would you like to join in? If phoning isn't your bag, how about an email or even a note delivered by the postal carriers?

There are lots of ways to choose the names: pick families your child is in Confirmation with, choir members, people who live in the same town you do, people you don't know, people you miss seeing every Sunday, . . .



Our congregation is filled with good people with interesting stories. We're not talking over coffee and donuts these days but there are still ways to connect.

If you try this and would like to share your experience (anonymously or otherwise), give the office a call. But, what's most important is the connection!





High School Youth Group

Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://iu.zoom.us/j/82011382985>

February 28: Service Day, 12 – 2 pm
Care Packages for Recent Grads!
10510 N Port Washington Rd, Mequon
To Register: [SIGN UP HERE](#)

Feel free to contact Stephanie with any questions at stephanie@foxpointchurch.org.

Volunteer At The Gathering!



The Gathering is committed to serving their guests, even during Covid-19. They've adjusted their methods of sanitizing, preparing & distributing food to ensure safety. They need your help!

If you are healthy and willing, they'd love to have your help packaging bag lunches. This is a great opportunity for Confirmation students to give to their community.

The FPLC dates fill up quickly but check for cancellations: [FPLC Volunteer Dates](#).

If these dates are full, volunteer on dates that aren't specifically for FPLC by going to their website: [Community Volunteer](#).

Confirmation

Service Opportunities

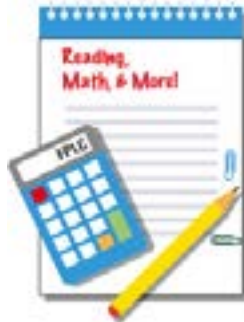
Did you know you can come up with your own service project in addition to/instead of the ones offered through FPLC? You can! Have an idea? Run it by Pr. Bruce! 414-352-8990 or Pastorbruce@foxpointchurch.org.

If you are looking for information on opportunities through church, click [HERE](#). Check occasionally as we try to put new opportunities here as they come up.

Confirmation Workshops

- # 3: February 23 / 24
- # 4: March 2 / 3
- # 5: March 9 / 10
- # 6: April 13 / 14
- # 7: April 20 / 21
- # 8: April 27 / 28

For more detailed information, see our website: [Confirmation](#).



Summer Tutors Needed

We have all read about how kids are falling behind academically this year, especially those children from lower income neighborhoods. If you would like to be a part of the solution we are partnering with All Peoples' Church for a 12 week tutoring program this summer. We need adults and teenagers age 12 and up.

The tutoring will take place at Holy Acres, the picnic table area across the street from the All Peoples Church's building. In-person is a better option for kids who are Zoomed out, for kids without reliable technology and also for the students who just do not learn well via Zoom. Students and tutors can easily sit at the tables and be safely distanced and it allows All Peoples' staff to safely monitor tutoring activities.

The tutoring would include, but isn't limited to:

- 8-12 year olds who need reading support
- High school students who need math help

Please contact FPLC member Debbie McGregor, 414-405-1558 or Mrs.Debbie.Mcgregor@gmail.com with any questions or to volunteer.

- Age/Grade if you are a student
- Subject(s) you can tutor
- Availability (if you know this early)





PRAYER LIST

All in The Family

We will see you again on Sunday, February 28 for a virtual Sunday Service!

If you or your family need anything we can help you with, call the office at 414-352-8990 or email church@foxpointchurch.org!

Carlynn Alt
Bernie
Cameron
Chad
John Chamberlain
Jane D.
Pr. Dan
Dana
Deb
Sheila Dlugi
Doreen
Cammy Endres
John Endres
Erin
Jessie Etheridge
Lu Farwig

Rick Frank
Gene
Jerry Gildner
Joan Gildner
Lori Heinrich
Steve Heronemus
Elnamae Heyman
Jack
Charlie James
Jan
Jim
Joan
Don Jones
Julia
Barbara Kuehn
Pat Lawless

Ken Lein
Leslie
Lynn
Mary
Andy Meser
Margita Meyers
Michael
Ned
Bill Nell
Robert Palmer
Perry
Wendy Randazzo
Riley
Grace Root
Geoff Rose
Suzy Shaw

Peter Stauber
Stephen
Teri
Tim
Brenda Trier
Zuza

Military

Alex
Cooper
David
Grant
Ian
Matthew
Ryan
Taylor

Prayer Requests

Now you can make a prayer request through our website. Click [Prayer Requests](#) to submit a form or submit a request through email—church@foxpointchurch.org.

Congratulations

Pat and Howard Wilkins are thrilled to announce the birth of granddaughter, Maeva Haissy Mahalek born February 18, 2021, to son John & Michelle Mahalek, Whitefish, Montana.

Wesley Scott Landes, son of Kyle and Anna (Buzzard) Landes, was baptized Saturday, February 20.



"5 for Faith" is our fun, fast, family-oriented online Sunday School. Each week we offer five 5-minute activities to help grow your family's faith. Do one activity or try them all! You can find "5 for Faith" on our website. Or click the Fox Point Kids graphic!



On our "Kids and Youth" page you can find our new "Little Foxes" videos! The target age for these videos is pre-kindergarten. New videos are released each week and include a song, story, craft, and activity for children to follow along. Click the Little Foxes graphic.



Monday Food Drives

When: Every Monday

Time: 10 am – 2 pm

Location: The cart is outside the church office!

PLEASE, no glass jars! We need nutritional, non-perishable foods, diapers, personal care products & hand crank can openers.

Bags Needed Again!

Cross Lutheran's food pantry is in need of grocery bags with handles. They only want bags *with handles* and would prefer paper bags.

Bags can be left in our food donation carts on Mondays from 9 am – 2 pm.



FPLC Office Hours
Monday–Thursday from 9 am–2 pm

See our webpage for all information regarding virtual worship, outreach, and children & youth programs. Click →



Fox Point Church



Hello!

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved." – John 3:16-17

Our computers are genius. When we forget, they remember! AOL sent me this reminder: "You may have deleted something you meant to keep. Recover your lost files now!"

Ash Wednesday 15 years ago, I was on a recovery mission. We'd been members of Fox Point but amid busy work schedules and disabling illnesses of our moms we became lost and almost threw away our most precious possessions, our faith and our church. It was in my mood, my attitude at work, and my disinterest, yet I couldn't see it. I was hungry for something, but couldn't identify it. My husband encouraged us to get back to our church roots; then a gentle push from the Holy Spirit and we drove over to FPLC and sat in the chapel.

Pr. Bill told us that salvation and repentance went hand in hand and that God was lovingly reaching out to us personally, on that very cold Ash Wednesday. We needed only to accept His invitation, His son, His grace, for all of us. I felt welcomed. I felt forgiven. I felt mortal. I was home again. With our dear Jo Ann Berdelman warmly greeting us like long lost friends, we knew we were in exactly the right place. God was once again restoring His lost children! Gathered by grace to receive His grace, we now journey together toward the darkened cross on Good Friday and the light on Easter morning.

"Let my prayer rise up like incense before you, the lifting up of my hands as an offering to you."

– Psalm 141

Holy One, these days of Lent unfold before us and invite us to the quiet space where you dwell. Help us to see our own lives through you and to remember that without your grace, mercy, love and forgiveness, our lives would be empty shells, but with you we live in abundance. Continue to remind us of those cherished souls who minister to our souls, our bodies and our daily lives. Let us live in awareness of each precious day we are given and open our hearts to the pure bliss of love for one another. Amen.

Grace and peace be yours this week. – Mary

This devotion, written by FPLC member Mary Buscher, was originally sent by email on February 17.