



The Journal

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 68

FEBRUARY, 2008

FIVE PRACTICES FOR LENT

What are you giving up for Lent? Have you heard that question yet this year? I have and it always makes me a little uncomfortable. I would like to answer that I am giving up some extra weight (that would be helpful), cigarettes (that would be easy), loose lips (that would be a challenge), ice cream and popcorn (that is not likely). So I usually say something like, "that is not my way of observing Lent".

I would like to offer you a different opportunity, one that I will covenant to join you in practicing. During Lent our Wednesday and Sunday Bible Studies will engage in dialogue with the book written by our own Bishop Robert Schnase titled, "*Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*". Bishop Schnase's thesis is that if a church is fruitful in making disciples who make a difference it will be practicing 1) radical hospitality, 2) passionate worship, 3) intentional faith development, 4) risk-taking mission and service, and 5) extravagant generosity.

My preaching during Lent will also focus on those five practices. You can pick up a copy of the book for your family in the sanctuary overflow and prepare for worship. The sermons will be a little different from my normal practice, I will ask you to participate a lot more than I usually do, so be prepared to share.

So for Lent this year I am going to try to give up luke-warm hospitality, apathy in worship, haphazard growth in my faith, service designed to keep me in my comfort zone, and stinginess. Will you join me?

Roger

P.S. Susan and I are taking a few days off from February 15-21. We will be going to see Dane and Anne at Steven's Point, WI, weather permitting. Thanks for keeping us in your prayers.

The church has received a check from Fidelity Investments with no name attached with it. If you know something about this donation, please call the church office.

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FEBRUARY GREETERS

(8:30) Worship

February 3 - Glenn & Rebecca Nix

February 10 - Bobby Hearnese

February 17 - John & Pam Barrett

February 24 - Tripp Logan

(10:45) Worship

February 3 - Mac & Anita McInnis

February 10 - Marty & Pat Williams

February 17 - Taylor & Julie Burke

February 24 - Jane Jackson

Our Ash Wednesday service will be February 6 at 5:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. It will be a service of Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes.

FEBRUARY IS AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

Every year we are invited to celebrate the unique history of our African American sisters and brothers during the month of February. This year we will sing “*Lift Every Voice and Sing*” (The Black National Anthem) in worship and from time to time hear of the African American scholars, musicians, athletes, military leaders, business persons and farmers who have blessed this nation and our community. I give thanks for the privilege that has been mine to know and work with African Americans in this community. (RNJ)

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

February 3 is SUPER BOWL Sunday and it is also **SOUPER BOWL** Sunday. In the spirit of excitement and celebration as the NFL crowns its champion, we celebrate by making a difference in our community as we help provide food for those who are hungry. Last year over \$8,000,000 in cash and canned goods were collected on SOUPER BOWL Sunday around our nation. Our gift to the Charleston Ministerial Alliance Food Pantry last year was \$203 (including the Outreach Offering). It would be great to top that.

Gifts of canned goods will also go to our food pantry. (RNJ)

UMYF MEETS IN FEBRUARY

UMYF will meet on Sunday, Feb. 10, 5:30pm in the Family Life Center. We will get a report from the 11 persons from our church who went to WOW, begin planning for a Youth Sunday when youth will lead worship, and hear more about EXPOLOSION (the SE District Youth Lock-in, Feb. 29-Mar.1), and talk about the possibility of participating in a Mission Trip this summer.

On Feb. 24 the UMYF will participate in the all-church bowling and pizza party from 5-7pm at the Charleston Bowling Alley.

Jr and Sr. High Sunday School and Confirmation Class continues to meet at 9:30am each Sunday. (RNJ)

AN INVITATION TO JOIN IN PRAYER

Will you join me in a time of prayer each Tuesday from 12:15-12:45pm in the Church Sanctuary? For Lent this year I will observe that prayer time and I am contemplating fasting through that meal (the word of the Lord has not been clear to me on that yet). I plan to pray for those on our prayer list, for my family, for each of the families from this church, for the other churches in Charleston, for the United Methodist Churches in Missouri and around the world, for peace, justice, hope, and mutual respect. Some days I may walk the halls, go into the different rooms and pray for the people and activities involved in that space. You may have some prayer ideas that you would like to share. We will begin on Tuesday, Feb. 12, 12:15-12:45pm in the Sanctuary. Come and join me. (RNJ)

ALL-CHURCH BOWLING/PIZZA PARTY

Everyone is invited to an all-church Bowling/Pizza Party Sunday, February 24 from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. at the Miss. County Bowling Lanes. The church will pay for the cost of bowling & pizza. Everyone will need to bring money for their own drink. Come join in the fun & fellowship.

BIBLE STUDIES IN LENT

During Lent our Bible Studies will continue to meet on Sunday nights at 7pm and on Wednesday mornings at 9pm in the church library beginning on Feb. 10. They will be one hour in length and will focus on the Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations as written by Bishop Robert Schnase. Will you consider investing an hour a week (giving up an hour of other pursuits) in this practice of intentional faith development? (RNJ)

BURNING OUR MORTGAGE

Sunday, April 13, 2008, was selected by our Administrative Council as the date to celebrate the burning of our mortgage. It will be a great day of celebration. Bishop Schnase is not able to be with us on that day but sent his congratulations on this accomplishment. Our District Superintendent, David Norbury will preach and celebrate with us. Our schedule on that day will be Sunday School at 9am, worship at 10am and a full dinner after worship. Put April 13 on your calendar and plan to celebrate with us. (RNJ)

OPPORTUNITIES TO VOLUNTEER

Work with the food pantry to pick up food at the Boothheel Food Bank, Bring it to the Charleston Food Pantry and help with the distribution.

Residents Encounter Christ: volunteer up to two weekends a year in this program at

SECC that is similar to Walk to Emmaus.

Deliver meals on Wheels for the Nutrition Center

Pack seeds for HOPE SEEDS on Thursday mornings.

Read with students at Hearn Elementary School.

Visit residents at Charleston Manor

Knit or crochet Prayer Shawls

VIM team – form one from our church or go with a team from another church

CHURCH CAMPS FOR SUMMER 2008

The schedule for our summer Church Camps is now available in the Church Office. There are camps for students as young as third grade and as close as Blue Mountain Camp near Fredricktown. Costs vary by length and type of camp. Our church helps pay for the cost of the camp.

Gifts to our camping fund are always accepted in the church office. They help with summer camps, mission trips for students, confirmation camp, WOW and other youth events that are held out of town. (RNJ)

To the kind ladies of the Prayer Shawl services of the United Methodist Church

Dear friends,

I cannot begin to tell you how much I have enjoyed your lovely gift every day of this long cold winter. Nor have I seen a prettier garment.

I miss seeing all of you in our class. My son, Dan and Maureen take very good care of me.

All my love, Peggy Joslyn

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*Open Hearts, Open
Minds, Open Doors*

*MAKING
DISCIPLES*

*

*MAKING
A DIFFERENCE*

www.umccharleston.org



**Scripture (from the lectionary) and Sermon Titles for February
(Titles subject to change daily) (Worship at 8:30 & 10:45pm; Sunday
School 9:30am)**

Sunday, February 3, **The Service of Holy Communion**
“When God Shows Up”

Exodus 24:12-18, Psalm 99, 2 Peter 1:16-21, Matthew 17:1-9

LENT BEGINS

Wednesday, Feb. 6, 5:30pm, **Ash Wednesday Service**

A service of Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes
“So That No Fault May Be Found with our Ministry”

Sunday, February 10, **“Radical Hospitality: Even Enemies?”**

Genesis@15-17, 3:1-7, Psalm 32, Romans 5:12-19, Matthew 4:1-11

Sunday, February 17, **Jim Moreton, Mission to Mexico**

Psalm 121, Genesis 12:1-4a, Romans 4:1-5, 13-17, John 3:1-17

Sunday, February 24, **“Intentional Faith Development: Growth or
Atrophy”**

Psalm 95, Exodus 17:1-17, Romans 5:1-11, John 4:4-42

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 - Lyndsey Keener
- 2 - Becky Tinsley
- 4 - Matthew Austin
- 5 - John Moxley, Perry Harper, Phyllis Halliday, Samantha Stack & Zach Fraley
- 6 - Stotts Burnett & Dearth Goodin
- 7 - Emily McClain
- 8 - David Moxley & James Naile
- 9 - Mary Hough, Missy Ward Knight & Ryan Logan
- 10 - Ethan Hurley
- 11 - Jayne Ann Millings & Paula Waggener
- 12 - David McDowell & Robert DeField
- 13 - Bruce DeField, Eleanor Moxley, John Story & Roger Jespersen
- 14 - Marian Moxley, Nicole Pike & Lillie Suggs
- 16 - Monroe Black & Gary McClain
- 17 - Kathy Schonleben
- 18 - Beverly French, Chris Starr, Hampton French & Vergil Eaton
- 19 - Shelby Story & Anna O’Neal
- 21 - Cade Coon, Kim French, Bennett Logan & Amelia Logan
- 22 - John Burke
- 23 - Frances Brewer, Jane Ellis Griggs & Leon Land
- 24 - Daniel White
- 27 - Lyla Latham & Sandie Harper
- 28 - Joe Pickard & Brent Naile

SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY

NURSERY:

February 3 - Samantha Stack
February 10 - Madeline Burke
February 17 - Natalie Brewer
February 24 - Jettie Kate Brink

ACOLYTES:

(8:30) February 3 - Camille Brewer & Conner Dugan
February 10 - Natalie Brewer
February 17 - Caroline Burke
February 24 - Courtney Beth Jones
(10:45) February 3 - Mari McNeary
February 10 - Maggie McNeary
February 17 & 24 - Wilson McNeary

COMMUNION SERVERS:

(8:30) Bobby Hearnese, Annette Robertson & Brittany Stack
(10:45) Jack & Bettina Moxley & Christy Foley

HEAD USER: Wilson McNeary