

MARCH 2017

Worshiping God With Joy.

Serving Others.

Embracing All.



From the Pastor ...

I write this article on Ash Wednesday (yes, I'm late again – the article was due a couple of weeks ago!). As I dressed to come into the office this morning, I put on a black outfit – pants, jacket, shoes. It was a little depressing – a downer on what promised yet again to be a Spring-like day – but appropriate for the occasion. Ash Wednesday, the first day of the six-week period we call Lent is, after all, about death.

Fearing I might look a little too much like the grim reaper, I brightened things up with a yellow, floral scarf. I might have been able to stave off somber for the moment, but eventually that scarf would come off. Because you can't avoid it forever – death stares us in the eye. (And I didn't want to shock anyone attending that evening's service!) The ashes of Ash Wednesday – let's face it – are the mark of death. We carry it with us wherever we go. But let's try to make lemonade out of lemons here: rather than a presence only at the end of our lives, death can become a companion along each step, heightening our awareness of life's beauty and calling us toward living more fully.

Okay, enough of the 'Debbie-downer' talk for now. Our focus might be on the dark side during Lent, but we're never without the 'bright side' of Christ. We need a walk on the dark-side in order to fully appreciate coming into the brilliant light of Christ. I especially like that the Sundays during Lent aren't counted as part of the 40-day Lenten journey – we are not called to a long period of sacrifice, challenge and gloom – no reprieve in sight - because we have these Sunday time-outs which are always a celebration of the resurrection.

We are a resurrection people. That's the bottom line – that's the journey's beginning and end. We begin Lent with death and we end Lent with a joyous celebration of the resurrection life of Easter. It's a beautiful mystery, it's a gracious gift. And while Lent may begin and end, our walk with Christ never ends as we are promised that we will live forever. Don't try to figure it out – don't try to be all rational and logical about it – just believe and rejoice! And maybe as I keep in mind that resurrection joy, I'll just tuck that yellow floral scarf in my pocket tonight and keep its brightness close by. No one's ever called me a rebel. I'm not one to buck the system so to speak. But tonight I'll take a walk on the wild side and rebel against death and choose to affirm life.

Blessings on your Lenten path this year – may it be a rewarding and meaningful time of self-discovery and growth, of renewed commitment and deeper understanding. I look forward to celebrating the resurrection with you each Sunday as we journey together toward that great celebration of Easter.

Pastor Kathi



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS

**DON'T FORGET TO TURN YOUR
CLOCKS AHEAD ONE HOUR**

SATURDAY, MARCH 11 – 2:00 A.M.

Worship at Ogden – March

Sunday, March 5 – 1st Sunday in Lent

9:00 a.m.	Chancel Choir
9:20 a.m.	Chimes Ensemble
10:00 a.m.	Worship
10:15 a.m.	Sunday School
11:00 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship
11:15 a.m.	Deacons
11:15 a.m.	Youth Music

Sunday, March 12 – 2nd Sunday in Lent

9:00 a.m.	Chancel Choir
10:00 a.m.	Worship
10:15 a.m.	Sunday School
11:00 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship
11:15 a.m.	Youth Music
11:30 a.m.	Worship & Music Committee

Sunday, March 19 – 3rd Sunday in Lent

9:00 a.m.	Chancel Choir
10:00 a.m.	Worship
10:15 a.m.	Sunday School
11:00 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship
11:15 a.m.	Youth Music

Sunday, March 26 – 4th Sunday in Lent

9:30 a.m.	Chancel Choir
10:00 a.m.	Worship
10:15 a.m.	Sunday School
11:00 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship
11:15 a.m.	Youth Music



Question to Consider *As You Begin Your Lenten Journey*

“We live in a world governed by GPS systems. At any given moment, we can know our coordinates. We’ve abandoned the sacred art of getting lost and of the discoveries we make when we stray from the marked path.”

- Christine Valters Paintner, PhD

The Soul of a Pilgrim: Eight Practices for the Journey Within

What happens when we have to rely on our inner compass?

Ash Wednesday Service – March 1 – 7:30 p.m.

Ash Wednesday marks the first day of the season of Lent, which begins 40 days prior to Easter (Sundays are not included in the count). Lent is a time when many Christians prepare for Easter by observing a period of fasting, repentance, moderation and spiritual discipline. However you choose to observe Lent, begin it with your church community on March 1, 7:30 p.m., at our Ash Wednesday service, which includes the imposition of ashes. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Kathi.



Lent begins on March 1, Ash Wednesday. Throughout the month of March, a Lenten Bible Study/Discussion Group will be held at 10:30 a.m. on the Tuesdays of March 7, 14, 21 and 28 in the Library. Come as you are able - there is no need to commit to attend all of the discussions. **IF** there are three or more people desiring to meet in the evening, which I know is more convenient to those who work, we can try to schedule a group for then too. Contact Pastor Kathi if you have any questions.



Fasting and Feasting

There are two Christian approaches to Lent—one, is to give up something you enjoy (like chocolate). The other, is to take on a behavior that makes your faith life richer—also known as a spiritual discipline.

Christians have often denied themselves some pleasure in the hopes of thanking Jesus for his suffering. For many people this practice lasts no more than the 40 days of Lent.

If we **focus instead** on Fasting and Feasting in our attitudes, a spiritual practice you start during Lent can turn into a life-long habit of blessing. This Lent why not determine your own area of Fasting and Feasting as a way of building on Lent for life.

What will be your fast? What will be your feast?

Fast from judgment, Feast on compassion

Fast from greed, Feast on sharing

Fast from scarcity, Feast on abundance

Fast from fear, Feast on peace

Fast from lies, Feast on truth

Fast from gossip, Feast on praise

Fast from anxiety, Feast on patience

Fast from evil, Feast on kindness

Fast from apathy, Feast on engagement

Fast from discontent, Feast on gratitude

Fast from noise, Feast on silence

Fast from discouragement, Feast on hope

Fast from hatred, Feast on love

What will be your Fast? What will be you Feast?

- Ann Kristin Haldors Fontaine



One Great Hour of Sharing

is a Christian effort to empower those in need, provide water, supply food, and give relief from disasters.

Around the world, and even within the United States, people are food insecure, lack access to clean water, sanitation, a good education, and opportunity. Each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) serves to help change the lives of people living in these challenging situations. OGHS provides us a way to share God's love with our neighbors – far and near – in need.

As Presbyterians have for many, many years, this Lent Ogden Memorial will participate in OGHS. We will begin this offering on Sunday, March 12, and continue through ***Palm Sunday, April 9, at which time we will collect and dedicate the offering.*** Envelopes and/or coin boxes (banks) will be provided on the 12th and as needed thereafter.

This is a chance to make a real difference in the world – and in people’s lives. It’s also a chance to experience how giving opens your heart to God’s work in your own life. So I hope you will make a serious commitment to join Ogden Memorial and Christians all across the country in opening your hearts to witness tangibly to the abundant love of God through One Great Hour of Sharing. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Sophia Hannay, Chair of Mission and Outreach



Easter Flowers

It is time once again to order Easter flowers for the sanctuary. As we have done in the past, you have the choice between white lilies, yellow daffodils and tulips in assorted colors – all at \$12 each.

Look for the sign-up sheet in the narthex. The deadline for ordering is Sunday, April 2.



♪ NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC ♪

Many thanks to **Chancel (Adult) Choir, Chimers** and our **Youth Musicians** for adding beautifully to services in February. March details are in the monthly calendar, but of special note:

- **Chimes Ensemble** adds to the first Sunday of this month, March 5.
- **Chancel Choir** is set to sing every Sunday this month. Jazz singer Kristen Lee Sergeant sings with the group on Sunday, March 12, and also adds a solo to our service.
- **Youth Musicians** rehearse after *most* services and ideally – based on participants’ schedules – will add to worship in the coming weeks.
- And, looking ahead, please mark your calendars for our special **Palm Sunday** service on April 9, **Maundy Thursday** evening service on April 13, as well as **Easter Sunday** on April 16.



YOUTH and KIDS GROUPS

Fellowship events are in the works for our Middle & High School students as well as younger kids. More details will be shared soon.



Please mark your calendar for **Friday, March 24, 7:30 p.m.** when jazz vocalist **Kristen Lee Sergeant** returns with her jazz combo.

The evening features jazz standards and surprises, including selections from the Great American Songbook and Sergeant's recent CD, "Inside/Out" (Whaling City Sound). "Inside/Out" was selected as *DOWNBEAT*'s Editors' Pick with Bobby Reed describing her vocals as "buttery or deliciously tart and impressive in this solid debut already yielding gems." Grammy winning journalist Bob Blumenthal writes: "some vocalists aspire to be jazz singers, others claim the mantle but fall short. The lucky few, like Kristen Lee Sergeant, meet the challenge and merit the title." And Jay Edwards – *WCLK Atlanta* says "Sergeant takes your breath away as an effervescent spirit whose superb phrasing injects the lyrics with new life." *The Boston Globe* has called her "especially entertaining."

Sergeant began her performance journey as a musical and dramatic stage actress, but quickly became enamored with jazz upon her arrival in New York City. She began a regular gig as a big band singer and eventually found her way to smaller ensembles. Inspired by iconic singers as Marilyn Maye, Carmen McRae, Shirley Horne and Rosemary Clooney on recordings, she's found an approach to communicating with the audience and her band that is entirely her own. In addition to Birdland, Kristen has been heard at NYC's Le Cirque Cafe, Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola, The Iridium, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Joe's Pub, The New York Public Library, Zinc Bar, Tomi Jazz and more. She was the winner of the NY Jazz Arts Forum Jazz Vocal Competition in 2014.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS...for March 24

Come and celebrate Spring, enjoy good food, fellowship and great music at our next POTLUCK SUPPER being held on March 24, 5:30 p.m. The evening continues with the 7:30 p.m. Concert on Main featuring jazz vocalist Kristen Lee Sergeant and her jazz combo.

So...bring your favorite dish to share. Dessert, beverages and rolls will be provided. Come on out and help support our fellowship and outreach efforts. Please contact June if you have any questions about this event.

If you need a ride to the dinner/concert please let us know and we will do our best to make sure you can attend.

News From Session

At its February meeting, the Session:

- Had an extensive discussion with our realtor and a surveyor/engineer regarding plans for the Coleman lot;
- Decided to permit the Montessori Children's Academy to use the old nursery room, where the school recently repaired some water damage;
- Discussed new regulation for the use of church facilities by outside groups;
- Renewed Ogden's Covenant with The Reverend Kathi Heath, for 2017;
- Discussed how we might keep Ogden's website current.

MISSION-OF-THE-MONTH MARCH MADNESS!!

Our Mission-of-the-Month will benefit two local organizations:

- St. Hubert's Animal Shelter: *Collection of paper towel rolls*
- Early Childhood Learning Center (ECLC): *Collection of 'Box Tops for Education'* (each box top is worth 10 cents) which can be found on a number of grocery items and household products (flyers listing such products are available in the narthex by the collection box) *AND pull tabs/rings off cans (soda, etc.)*.

Plastic boxes appropriately labeled for deposit of these items will be in the narthex. Deposits will be received throughout March.

Get your friends and family involved. These are easy ways to help others, including our furry friends. If you have any questions, please contact Sophia Hannay at 973-635-0456 or soffmh@gmail.com.

Thank you for your support of these two worthy organizations and of Ogden's mission efforts.



Please take time out from your busy schedules to remember the March birthdays listed below. Send a card or make a phone call. Your greetings will be appreciated by all! If you have not seen your name on the lists, please call the church office so that we can update our files with your birth date. We promise not to print the year in the "Birthday Corner."

David Molino Dunn	8
Andrew Mansfield	14
Bob Crescas	15
Henry Hung	27
Mark Knoll	29



Let Us Pray...

Let us pray for our members...Marcia Casais, Becky Jarvis, Martha Kiff, Alice Loeser, Barbara Molitor

Let us pray for...

Kevin Boettger	nephew of Pat Hammeke
Gina Cocchiaro-Hoang family	friends of Cindy Parlavecchio
Kathy Dixon	sister-in-law of Marcia Casais
Ed Dunn	great-uncle of Casey Molino Dunn
Josh Fernandez	12 year old neighbor of the Roos family
Auriel Gonzales	mother of Sandy Roos

James Guishard	friend of Janice and Balcom Parcels
Paul Horgan	friend of the Crescas family
Marie LaPena	friend of Mariclaire Miller
Darlene LaRue	friend of Allan and Gail Paradise
Patricia Maher	friend of Marcia Casais
Denny Mayer	friend of Marcia Casais
Ron McBride	uncle of Cheryl Conklin
The Mears family	our missionaries in Haiti
Charles Molino	uncle of Casey Molino Dunn
Clark and Jean Paradise	parents of Allan Paradise
Dennis Paradise	brother of Allan Paradise
Steve Raas	friend of Bob and Colette Crescas
The Roche family	neighbors of Marcia Casais
Gloria Rodgers	cousin of Ginnie Trowbridge
Charlie Roussel	son-in-law of June Jeannette
Kathy Scotton and family	friends of the Knolls
Laurie Sheppard	friend of Cindy Parlavecchio
Frank Squindo	son of Janice Parcels
Mark Squindo	son of Janice Parcels
Joe Wallwork and family	father of Tom Paradise's fiancé Julie

Let us pray for those serving our Country...Scott Armstrong, James
Glendening, Morgan Glendening, Robert Traver, Doug Verblaauw.