

Lenten Sermon Series

Lent began on Wednesday, **February 17th** at 7pm. We began a Mid-Week Lenten Series entitled: **Places of the Passion**. During this series we will follow in the footsteps of Jesus, contemplating what happened at each place our Savior stood along the path of His Passion for our sake. Each service at 7pm will explore the meaning, history and spiritual inspiration associated with the location highlighted. We will learn things we might not have known as we understand the hard road our Lord took to open heaven for us.

March 10th—Gethsemane

March 17th—The Courtyard

March 24th—Pilate's Judgement Hall

Sunday Sermon Series: When God Doesn't—The Book of Habakkuk

Starting today, **March 7th**, we will begin a four-week series entitled; **When God Doesn't**. In the latter part of Lent we will take an in-depth look at the book of Habakkuk which begins with his complaining and questioning of God whom seems silent and unconcerned for his people. Yet, as God reveals his divine work, Habakkuk must let go of his own expectations and wait patiently for God to fulfill his divine purposes in his timing and ways. In the end, Habakkuk's complaint gives away to a beautiful trust in God that is not based upon the prophet's circumstances.

March 7th—In the Silence—Habakkuk 1:1-4

March 14th—Letting Go of Expectations—Habakkuk 1:5-21

March 21st—The Art of Waiting—Habakkuk 2:2-20

March 28th—Being An Overcomer—Habakkuk 3:16-19

Kingdom Kids, a ZOOM gathering for children and their parents will be offered on several Sunday mornings during Lent. We will learn about the season of Lent and focus on the stories of Jesus' journey to the cross for us. The invitation for the ZOOM meeting time will go out in the congregational emails along with the link to the livestream; the session will begin at 10:00am and end by 10:30 or a little earlier. Denise Wright is looking forward to seeing your children again and the opportunity for them to see each other as well!

GriefShare Info: GriefShare sessions are held on **Mondays** at 7:00pm and **Tuesdays** at 1:30pm through ZOOM only. If you would like to participate or know someone who is grieving, we encourage you to join us. Please contact Denise at Denisedsg@comcast.net or call 717-840-0382 to register and with any questions. We will be more than glad to help you learn how to ZOOM if you have never done it.

Soul Care Info: Soul Care for Women is meeting on **Tuesdays** at 9:30am and **Thursdays** at 7:00pm through ZOOM, for a DVD study on Esther. Please feel welcome to join us; contact Denise Wright to register.

Compassion Center:

On Donation Sunday, **February 28**, we had 7 cars drop off donation items. And over the past two weeks, several members stopped by the Center during working hours to donate items. Thanks for your support for this ministry. The next Donation Sunday will be **April 18**. Donations can always be dropped off at the Center during the week, Tuesday through Friday, from 10am to 2pm.

Giving Envelopes: Giving envelope numbers do not necessarily stay the same from year to year, so please do not use envelopes from 2020 in 2021. If previous ones are used, corrections will need to be made to apply the offering/donation to the correct year. 2021 envelopes are in the narthex in alphabetical order. Thank you.

Journey with Lutheran World Relief for This Lenten Season!

During the season of Lent, beginning the week of **March 7th**, St. John will once again collect personal care items for Lutheran World Relief's Baskets of Promise Kits. The goal is to create 100 kits to send, through LWR, to underprivileged children around the world. The kits will be assembled after Easter on a date to be determined.

Each week, during Lent, the following items will be collected:

- **March 7th**—Bath towels (light weight, dark color, between the sizes 20"X40" and 52"X27"); **and** two or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8-9oz, in original wrapping.
- **March 14th**— One adult-sized toothbrush in its original packaging.
- **March 21st**— One sturdy comb, remove packaging.
- **March 28th**— One metal nail clipper (attached file optional), remove packaging.

Seeking Worship Band Musicians: The worship band will be growing incrementally as we feel it is safe to add more people each week. With that being said, we are looking for musicians who would like to join the band rotation. This is open to all singers and instrumentalists, as we may use specialty instruments alongside the regular band for select services in the future. Those who are interested can contact Brooke LaNasa at brooke.lanasa@gmail.com. If you were in the band previously and did not receive an email, please contact Brooke as well.

Thrivent Financial members:

If you have Choice® Dollars for 2020 available, they must be designated by **March 31, 2021**. The Church ID is 13975.

ONLINE:

1. Go online to the THRIVENT FINANCIAL website at www.Thrivent.com.
2. Log in using your Thrivent User ID and Password or -- if you have not already registered for online account access -- type in your Thrivent member ID number to register.
3. Once in, click on "Membership Overview."
4. Scroll down to Thrivent Choice and click on "Direct Choice Dollars."
5. You will see any available Choice® Dollars displayed. Choose who you want to receive your designation and follow the instructions.
6. Check your account regularly since designations can no longer be made "recurring."

BY PHONE:

1. Call 1-800-THRIVENT (847-4836) and a recording will say, "Briefly, how can I help you today?" Say "Thrivent Choice" and you're on your way.

Thank you for your Choice® Dollars designations. They are very much appreciated and essential during these difficult times.

Easter Flowers: Order forms are available in the Narthex. Please return the completed form and your payment by Monday, **March 8th**, 2021.

Altar Flower Sponsorship:

The 2021 calendar is posted for those interested in sponsoring the altar flowers.

Thank you, St. John family, for your prayers and well wishes after my fall last November and that continued through this new year to help me along the way. I am so grateful and fortunate to be where I am today. I hope to see you all soon! Sharon Mack

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the collection of paper goods for the Northeast Neighborhood Association. We had such an overwhelming response that we needed to make two deliveries. The director and the volunteers were most appreciative. This definitely helps those in need. It is a blessing to be part of such a generous congregation and we thank you for your kindness.