

March 15, 2020
The Third Sunday in Lent

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Book of Forgiving, the Fourfold Path for Healing Ourselves and Our World Come learn the "Fourfold Path of Forgiveness" in our Lenten Sunday School Series in the Adult Education room at 10 am. We will look at video interviews of Bishop Tutu by Bill Moyers, as well as studying *The Book of Forgiving* for those who want to delve deeply into this series. Books are available in the church office for \$10.

Wednesday Evenings in Lent Our theme for the Wednesday Night Lenten program this year is "Art and Saints of Italy." Wednesday program is 5:30 evening prayer, 6 pm supper, and 6:30 program. March 18 – The Rev. Brian Sullivan, a UGA Art Major and former Rector of Incarnations Highlands, will discuss the Artistic Works of "The Fall," "Annunciation," and "Last Supper." March 25 – The Special Churches of Florence.

Easter lily offering envelopes are located in each pew. Please clearly print applicable information, enclose check or cash, and place the envelope in the alms basin no later than Sunday, April 14. The suggested offering is \$10.

Lectionary Bible Study The class meets on Tuesdays at 11 am to 'read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest' the lessons for the upcoming Sunday.

Bazaar Barn is open on Fridays 10 am -2 pm through the winter and spring! Sharon is looking for volunteers on Fridays to arrange furniture, keep the furniture & barn clean, and sell items! Whether you can only help for one day or on a more regular basis, please text or call Sharon at (864)710-9316.

Health Precautions We have had a good week in Lent with worship and other regular activities, and we remain attentive to issues around COVID-19. We want you and everyone healthy, faithful, and wise. Worship is also central to what we do as children of God and followers of Christ, so worship continues at Good Shepherd with the following things in mind and in practice.

- The most important way to minimize the spread of infectious diseases is for people who have symptoms, such as fever, upset stomach, or frequent coughing or sneezing, to stay home and to seek medical attention as symptoms warrant. If you are sick, let us know. We want to help you as we can – not just with prayer but with active steps like getting medicines, groceries and the like. We can work together for wellness.
- If you have underlying health issues, please be careful at all times. If you would prefer home communion or alternative prayer and worship, please let Rob know.
- New this week and going forward for a season: we will stop passing the plates at the offertory. Instead have the plates stationary in the church at the back for people to put their offerings in the plate...thus germs are not passed as the plates are. Please have your offering ready when you enter the church. The acolyte will still present the plates at the offertory. Any contribution can also be mailed to the church.
- Again this week, we ask people to forgo handshakes and hugs 'for a season' and give nods or verbal greetings at the peace and in the receiving line.
- Please know that the Church universal has recognized, from the earliest of days that communion in one kind (bread only) is sufficient to receive all of the grace of Christ. So, here at Good Shepherd, we will offer the bread and the wine of communion, but receiving in one

kind (bread only) is fully acceptable. Simply cross your arms after receiving the bread, and the chalice bearer will know.

- at communion, we use the silver chalice for better sanitation and ask people to be very careful when receiving communion not to touch the chalice or the wine with hands and/or fingers when intincting (dipping) the wafer.
- also at communion, receive the wafer with your finger tips, not in your palm.
- We will be cleaning surfaces at the church regularly –like the altar rail and pews, door handles and countertops.
- Food servers at all occasions will be washing hands, wearing gloves and using tongs.
- Wash hands regularly for 20 seconds (and instead of counting, you might say Lord's Prayer instead). Washing hands or using hand sanitizer is one of the best ways to minimize the spread of germs. By every scientific measure, we are much more likely to catch a virus from shaking someone's hands than from the common cup in the traditional method.

We also want to 1) combat fear with knowledge in order to encourage preparedness and decrease stigma, and 2) God's compassion and care to those in our communities who are affected. Nobody wants to get sick or get others sick, so please be mindful and compassionate about the potential spread of all illnesses. If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the church and express them. And please keep those affected by disease and those treating and testing people in your prayers.

We pray for our friends and family on our extended prayer list: Charlotte Couch, Buddy Pollak, Michael Perling, Sue Harrington, Jim Cole, Laurie Jacobs, Kyle Haines, Steve Castellaw, Pete Roth, Jennifer Galef Talik, Cindy Murphy, Daryn Ramos, Mary Ellen Klinger, Rob Deakin, George McCarthy, Frank Baker, Janie Elliott, Robin Connelly, George Henry, Pat Pearce, Ann Christine Marco, Jamie Elliot, Laney Bixby, Michael Stinson, Marty Beatty, Leslie Fleniken, Chris Rowe, Ed Kennedy, Carolyn Coor, Sam Singleton, Lisa Brown, Bill Leete, Trevor Howard, Grace Freeman, Avary Andrews, Tom Brooks, Jeff Deelee, Olin Hargrove, Nancy Rice, Allie Schiele, Julie Wiegand. If you would like to add someone to the prayer list contact Ellen at 743-2359 or goodshepadmin@frontier.com.

In the prayers of the people today, we pray for: The Community Table. Their mission is to provide nutritious meals to our neighbors in need in a welcoming environment. If you are interested in knowing more, please speak to Fr. Rob, Janie Crews, or a member of the Outreach committee.

THANKSGIVINGS & REMEMBRANCES

We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays this week: (15) Brien Peterkin, Linda Quick; (17) Sallie Peterkin, Robert Johnson, Bill Kenny; (19) Ann Hoyerman; (21) Jim Manley.

We give thanks for those celebrating an anniversary this week: (3/17) Thomas & Pamela Stires; (3/19) Bob & Millie Lathan.

If your birthday or anniversary is missing please contact Ellen at 743-2359. If you would like to offer flowers for a loved one the following dates are available: Apr 19 & 26.