



Good News

MARCH 2023

From the Rector

“My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work.”

-John 4:34

Jesus, on the road to Jerusalem with his disciples, stopped at a well and asked the woman standing there, a Samaritan woman, one deemed “unclean,” for a drink. After engaging with a woman at a well and speaking to her of the “living water” he offered, Jesus, undoubtedly travel-worn, refused the food his disciples offered him, saying that his food was to do the will of his Father and to complete his work.

Even in his darkest times, Jesus was sustained by the love of God, and by his resolve to complete his Father’s work, his own saving work of love, come what may.

“There are always flowers for those who want to see them.”

-Henri Matisse

The artist Henri Matisse, whose life and art provide a backdrop for our online Lenten Devotional this year, “Henri Matisse and the Colors of Lent” began his career as a painter. After his career was well established, he lost some functionality in his hands due to an illness and surgery, and he had to abandon painting altogether. Luckily, Matisse did not let his sudden disability hinder his artistic vision. He began to “paint” with colored paper, which he cut into shapes and arranged to create two- and three-dimensional art pieces that are vibrant in color and evoke energy and emotion.

Even in his darkest times, Matisse found life in his art, his life’s work, which he adapted, allowed to evolve, and pursued with love in “imitation of Christ.”

As we seek to imitate Jesus in our life and work this Lent, we will undoubtedly face challenges that distract us from our Lenten disciplines, and discouragements that sap our energy to walk with Jesus. At such times, let’s remember that we can adapt to changing circumstances, evolve as spiritual beings, and create a work of art by the life we choose to live, regardless.

FROM THE RECTOR (CONT.)

Let's remember that even in our darkest times we can find the strength and consolation we need to persevere, through our Savior who strengthens us by his life, death, and resurrection, and shows us the way to eternal love in him.

"..but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

-John 5:14

Faithfully, Lisa+



UPDATES REQUESTED

A new membership directory will be available this March! Please send any updated contact information (email, phone, address) for you and your family including a new picture to Sherrie at standrewmentor@gmail.com.

MARCH CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

- 10 Connie Schultz
- 13 Pat Grisdale
- 15 Dennis Corbett
- 16 Colleen Garlock
- 16 Ryan Symonds
- 20 Nancy Benes
- 21 Victoria Leitch
- 22 Jill Sankal
- 29 Stephanie Clements

Anniversaries

- 11 Richard Berlan and Andrew Caruso
- 17 Brian and Sheree Sandacz
- 23 Todd and Janna Penkowski





Spring is right around the corner! Get ready for spring planting by ordering flowers from the St. Andrew Spring Flower Sale. The sale includes beautiful flats of hearty annuals, hanging baskets and a wide variety of vegetable plants and herbs. Order forms for the sale are available in the church lobby (Narthex) or online at www.standrewmentor.com.

Last year we tried online ordering - while the service was convenient, it was also expensive. The church paid a 10% fee to use the fundraiser website and customers paid credit card fees. This year we are using a paper form (pick up at the Church) or one that can be downloaded from our website and electronically completed. Simply email the order form to standrewflowersale@gmail.com or mail the form to the church. Pay either by paper check or by using your bank's bill pay service (in most banks this is free). Just add St. Andrew Episcopal Church, 7989 Little Mountain Road, Mentor, Ohio 44060 as a payee and instead of using an account number opt to add a memo - "Spring Flower Sale."

If you ordered last year, an order form will be emailed to you! Return flower orders between March 12th and April 16th and plants will be available for pick up on Friday, May 19th - just in time for Memorial Day planting.

Please share order forms with your family, friends and neighbors! Pick up your flowers on Friday, May 19th between 1 and 6 PM.

Proceeds support St. Andrew ministries. Purchasing flowers does not constitute a "donation" as you receive goods in exchange for money tendered.

IMPORTANT DATES IN MARCH

- 05 Food Pantry 1 - 3 pm
- 14 Food Pantry 1 - 3 pm
- 15 Vestry Meeting 6:30 pm
- 17 St. Patricks Day
- 24 Movie Night 6:30 pm



UPCOMING DATES IN EARLY APRIL

- 02 Palm Sunday
- 02 Food Pantry 1 - 3 pm
- 06 Food Pantry unpack 11 am
- 09 Easter
- 11 Food Pantry 1 - 3 pm

MOVIE NIGHT

Join us for a Lenten movie night on Friday, March 24th at 6:30 pm. We will be watching the movie "All Saints", based on the inspiring true story of Michael Spurlock, an Episcopal priest in Tennessee who starts a farm with a group of Karen (Myanmar) refugees in order to save their church.

We will have pizza, popcorn, and drinks for all!

CHOIR LUNCH

Our choir gathered last month to honor Eunice May and Debbie Pulman on their birthdays! A big Thank You to Kim Herczog for providing the lovely lunch.



St. Andrew's
Choir and
Organist

LOOKING FORWARD

Our Lenten Learning circle has become an Easter Learning circle. It will take place on Wednesday evenings starting on April 19th and finishing on May 10th from 6:30 to 7:40 pm.

We will be discussing the book "The Great Spiritual Migration. How the World's Largest Religion is Seeking a Better Way to Be a Christian" by Brian McLaren and a light dinner will be served.

FLOWER GUILD NEWS

It's time to plan for Easter flowers! The flower guild is collecting for Easter flowers and candles. See the attached form for those willing to donate.

Also, volunteers are needed to help decorate St. Andrew for Palm Sunday (Saturday, April 1st at 1:00 pm) and Easter (Saturday, April 8th at 11:00 am.) No experience necessary – just show up!



A NOTE FROM THE BENCH

Lenten Greetings,

On Ash Wednesday, offered a Henri Nouwen concluded, *O make this*



Rev. Lisa prayer by that *Lord, Lenten*

season different from the other ones. Let me find you again (A Cry for Mercy by Henri Nouwen). She continued to *invite* us to a Lenten practice, to *allow* ourselves to make the journey – and above all – to *try again* this Lent.

There are many symbols of Lent that always seem to resonate with me – journeys, paths, deserts, fasting, praying, alms giving, wilderness – to name a few. But just how do we find the way of Jesus Christ on our spiritual journey?

In his book, *Alleluia is the Song of the Desert*, Lawrence Hart notes that the desert is a place both to *seek*, and to *be sought* by God. Hart says,

The desert is ancient, silent, and spacious. The desert is a place of complete simplicity where life flourishes by seeking only what is necessary. It is thirsty, but waits in timeless patience for the water to fall from frugal clouds, and responds in joyful beauty and flowering gratitude to the lightest of showers. (p.3)

What a wonderful metaphor for the human soul as we enter this Lent, seeking simplicity with thirst, patience and gratitude as we seek God in that desert place, we create in our hearts awaiting – **inviting** – spiritual transformation. In this desert place of our hearts, we also allow ourselves to

embark on a journey of spiritual transformation, knowing that God seeks *us* too.

Hart reminds us that *Lent* can be that desert of the heart where our call is to the inner work of repentance, renunciation, and taking our own spiritual inventory as we prepare for Easter. Hart goes on to remind us that in the heart there is a spiritual longing for self-surrender and for unity with our Creator. This is the *holy nudge* for us to allow ourselves, as Rev. Lisa invited on Ash Wednesday, to be led into our heart desert this Lent strengthened by fasting, love and prayer.

Christian spirituality, notes Hart (p. 11), is answering a call. This Lent, may we *allow* ourselves to be *led* into our heart desert that we create for inner work and spiritual transformation. May we give ourselves time to quiet our hearts, creating a path to the journey of seeking God, and *allowing* ourselves to be sought by God.

This beautiful hymn by Barbara Bridge, based on the lessons appointed for Ash Wednesday, is a song for the journey we will sing together this Lent.

*Now is the acceptable time. Now is the day of salvation.
We are called to become the holiness of God.
Be reconciled with God now!
Receive the grace of God.*

Good News: March 2023

*With fasting and constant prayer,
strengthen ourselves on the journey.
God walks with us day by day;
God is gracious, rich in kindness.*
©2003, by Barbara Bridge, Published by OCP

Books for the journey:

Hart, L. D. (2004). *Alleluia is the song of the desert*. Cambridge, MA: Cowley Publications.

Nouwen, H.M. (2002). *A cry for mercy: Prayers from the Genesee*. New York: Crown Publishing.

Blessings on this Lenten journey,
John Spiesman,
Organist

PRAYER CALENDAR

Let's Pray for Each Other!

Introducing the Prayer Calendar, which will come to you each month in your newsletter. You'll note that there is a parish member designated for each day of the month on the calendar. Please take a moment to pray for that person on the day indicated, whether you know them or not! Prayer blesses the one who prays and the one who receives prayer, so incorporating this prayer calendar into your daily devotions is a win/win situation!

“Prayer is standing in the presence of God with the mind in the heart; that is, at that point of our being where there are no divisions or distinctions and where we are totally one. There God's Spirit dwells and there the great encounter takes place. There heart speaks to heart, because there we stand before the face of the Lord, all-seeing, with us.”

— Henri J.M. Nouwen, *The Way of the Heart: The Spirituality of the Desert Fathers and Mothers*

March 2023 Prayer Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Ted & Kim Herczog (Tim, Ben)	2 Dorothy Hicky	3 Wendell & Abby Hitsley	4 Kathy King
5 Don & Sharon Koehler	6 Kevin & Erin Koehler (Bryson, Dalton, Teagon)	7 Barb Kovacs	8 Tom & Joan Lally	9 Betsy Lee	10 Jake & Victoria Leitch (Addalyn Vernon) Connie Shultz(B)	11 Lis Leitch Richard Berlan & Andrew Caruso (A)
12 Mark Lemieux	13 Myrna Luskin Pat Grisdale(B)	14 William Kenneth Maloney	15 John Marrelli (Meg) Dennis Corbett(B)	16 Eunice May Colleen Garlock(B) Ryan Symonds(B)	17 Sandra Mazelis Brian & Sheree Sandacz(A)	18 Candice McCready
19 Sherrie Miller	20 Laurie Miller Nancy Benes(B)	21 Cliff & Janet Miskimen Victoria Leitch(B)	22 The Rev. Dawson Moorer Jill Sankal(B)	23 William & Meg Nemeth Todd & Janna Penkowski(A)	24 Jenna & David Neuman	25 The Rev. Lisa O'Rear
26 Joe Papaleo	27 Marilyn Pastor	28 Robert & Norma Pattison	29 Randy & Carol Pengov Stephanie Clements(B)	30 Todd & Janna Penkowski (Kevin)	31 Debra Perse	

LECTOR AND VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

Date	Reading	Lector
3/5/2023	Old Testament Psalm Epistle Prayers of the People	Andy Speisman Debbie Pulman Eunice May Brian Sandacz
3/12/2023	Old Testament Psalm Epistle Prayers of the People	Judy Cudnik Brianna Rotz Mary Provins Micki Rotz
3/19/2023	Old Testament Psalm Epistle Prayers of the People	Randy Pengov Nancy Benes Kim Herczog Brian Sandacz
3/26/2023	Old Testament Psalm Epistle Prayers of the People	Ed Bridge Chris Peshek Marybeth Primeau Brianna and Micki Rotz

Volunteer Schedule for March 2023

	Altar Guild	Coffee Hour	Sunday School	Chalice Bearers	Lectors	Acolytes	Ushers/ Greeters	Counters
March 5 <small>The Second Sunday of Lent</small>	Mary Provins, Margaret Sinclair, Brianna Rotz	TBD	TBD	Mary Provins	Andy Spiesman, Debbie Pulman, Eunice May, Brian Sandacz	C-Dona Currutt	Andy Spiesman	Andy Spiesman, Kim Herczog
March 12 <small>The Third Sunday of Lent</small>	Carol & Randy Pengov, Susan Zuber	TBD	TBD	Judy Cudnik	Judy Cudnik, Brianna Rotz, Mary Provins, Micki Rotz	C-	Andy Spiesman	Brian Sandacz, Andy Spiesman
March 19 <small>The Fourth Sunday of Lent</small>	June Webb	TBD	TBD	Mary Provins	Randy Pengov, Nancy Benes, Kim Herczog, Brian Sandacz	C-Dona Currutt	Andy Spiesman	Kim Herczog, Jack Semenik
March 26 <small>The Fifth Sunday of Lent</small>	Mary Provins, Margaret Sinclair, Brianna Rotz	TBD	TBD	Judy Cudnik	Ed Bridge, Chris Peshek, Mary Primeau, Brianna & Micki	C-	Andy Spiesman	June Webb, Brian Sandacz,

+ 10:30 am only lector order= 1st-OT, 2nd-Psalm, 3rd-Epistle, 4th-Prayers of the People
 If you need to reschedule, please make arrangements with someone else and let the office know of the change.
Also, please check for your coffee hour Sunday.

PARISH CALENDAR

10:30 am 2nd & 4th Sunday Online
Worship with music
10:30 am Eucharist Service with Music
& 12 noon Contemporary service every
Sunday

St. Andrew Episcopal Church

7989 Little Mountain Rd
 Mentor, OH 44060
 (440) 255-8842
 standrewmentor@gmail.com

If there is a pastoral emergency, contact The Rev. Lisa O'Rear
Cell: 216-402-9860
Parish Office Hours:
Tuesday-Thursday
9am to Noon
(440) 255-8842

March 2023 Parish Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 8:30-9:30a <i>Fit4Mom's</i> 10:30-12Thai Chi 5 th Grade Arrow of Light 6-7:30p <i>Fit4Mom's</i> 7:30 p <i>McD AA</i>	2 5-6a <i>Fit4Mom's</i> 11:30 a Food Bank Delivery-Need help 8-5Chris-W.R. 7-Choir	3 8:30-9:30a <i>Fit4Mom's</i> 12:15 p AA 7-8:30p <i>Fit4Mom's</i>	4 Ping Pong 10-12Thai Chi 1-4 Recovery Intnl 2-4 Truth & Love
5 10 a Worship Leader's Training 6:30-8a <i>Fit4Mom's</i> 10:30a Eucharist w Music 12noon Contemp Service 1-3 Choice Pantry-Need Help 6-8 Joe & Charlie AA	6 8:30-9:30a <i>Fit4Mom's</i> 6:30 Women in Recovery 7:30 12X12 Little Mountain AA 6-8:30p <i>Fit4Mom's</i>	7 5-6a <i>Fit4Mom's</i> 12:15 AA 6-Den Mtg 7-8 Augustine Flwshp	8 8-5Chris-W.R. 8:30-9:30a <i>Fit4Mom's</i> 10:30-12Thai Chi 6-7:30p <i>Fit4Mom's</i> 7:30 p <i>McD AA</i>	9 5-6a <i>Fit4Mom's</i> 8-5Chris-W.R.	10 8:30-9:30a <i>Fit4Mom's</i> 12:15 p AA 7-8:30p <i>Fit4Mom's</i>	11 Ping Pong 10-12Thai Chi 1-4 Recovery Intnl 2-4 Truth & Love 4-6 Adalyn Bday Party-P.H.
12 6:30-8a <i>Fit4Mom's</i> 10:30a Eucharist w Music Online service 12noon Contemp Service 6-8 Joe & Charlie AA	13 8:30-9:30a <i>Fit4Mom's</i> 6:30 Women in Recovery 7:30 12X12 Little Mountain AA 6-8:30p <i>Fit4Mom's</i>	14 5-6a <i>Fit4Mom's</i> 12:15 AA 1-3 Choice Pantry-Need Help 6-Den Mtg 7-8 Augustine Flwshp	15 8-5Chris-W.R. 8:30-9:30a <i>Fit4Mom's</i> 10:30-12Thai Chi 6-8 Choice Pantry 7:30 p <i>McD AA</i>	16 5-6a <i>Fit4Mom's</i> 8-5Chris-W.R. 11:30 a Food Bank Delivery 7-Choir	17 8:30-9:30a <i>Fit4Mom's</i> 12:15 p AA 7-8:30p <i>Fit4Mom's</i>	18 Ping Pong 10-12Thai Chi 1-4 Recovery Intnl 2-4 Truth & Love
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Easter Flower Donations

The Flower Guild is collecting for Easter flowers and candles during Lent. To donate, please fill out the below form and put in the collection basket or mail to the church office. Please put "Flower Guild" in the memo line of your check.

We are decorating the church for Palm Sunday on Saturday, April 1st from 1:00 pm to 1:00 pm and for Easter on Saturday, April 20th from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm. Additional help is always appreciated!

Given By _____

In Memory of _____

In Memory of Loved Ones

In Thanksgiving (optional for _____)

Amount _____