



# First Church of Christ, Congregational United Church of Christ

## March 2019 Newsletter



### Pastor's Message

For the fourth year in a row, I have come back from the Calvin Institute for Christian Worship's annual Symposium with many ideas for improving worship. In late January, I joined over 1400 people in Grand Rapids for this three-day event filled with worship services, workshops, lectures and great music. In past years, the Symposium led me to change the "reading" of worship into a more dramatic presenting of it, gave ideas on creating new banners and incorporate new types of music in the service. This year was no exception. I have returned with more ideas on improving music, preaching, use of the projector and church organization. Here are a few things going through my mind that you might see in the future.

**Projection** I spent two sessions with Stephen Proctor, a professional projectionist who consults big and small churches as well as contemporary Christian musicians. A few of the worship services included some amazing work using a projector.

*continued on page 2*



### Faith at Home

Lent is almost here! There are lots of ways for people of all ages to engage with Length this year. Take a look, at all of our March activities. Hopefully something will feel just right for you. In February, we focused on relationships. This focus is continuing in March with a new twist. First Church youth are starting to develop relationships with youth from Lowell and Laurence. The goal is for the youth from our three very different and yet similar churches develop meaningful relationships while learning about Christianity from each other. We will do this through spending time together and working on a few collaborative projects together. Exactly where these relationships will go is yet to be determined. So far, the 3 youth ministers have gotten together. We know all three groups have resources and knowledge to share with each other. We also know some programming that will be more meaningful together than it will be separately. This spring the three groups will go to a concert together. We hope this will be a fun and low stress way to start getting to know on another. ~ Kate Byers

### Sunday Worship 10:00 am

**Church Office Phone:** 781-275-7951  
**Church Office Hours:** Monday-Friday 9:00 am-3:00 pm  
**Church Office Email:** fchurchb2@verizon.net  
**Website:** www.firstchurchbedford.org  
**Senior Pastor:** *The Reverend John Castricum*  
cell phone: 857-939-0711  
**Director of Christian Nurture:** *Kate Byers*  
**Music Director:** *Susan Capestro*  
**Church Administrator:** *Debra Zagaeski*

### See Inside for.....

Faith at Home.....	Page 6
Mission Festival .....	Page 3
Music Notes.....	Page 8
Lent & Holy Week.....	Page 4
March Daily Lectionary.....	Page 10
March Calendar.....	Page 11

continued from front page:

Stephen opened the possibility of going beyond powerpoint presentations to using the projector as an art form. He encouraged us to think of using the projector similar to using music – as a way of enhancing the worship experience – providing an environment where God’s presence comes alive and the message is supported in powerful ways.

**Music** A new ecumenical African-American hymnal was debuted at the symposium. In one presentation, several leaders from different African-American denominations introduced their tradition’s contribution to the hymnal. All symposium attendees got a copy of this comprehensive hymnal. I have thoughts of using hymns and anthems from this hymnal next February to celebrate black history month.

Another idea that I learned about and witnessed throughout the worship services involves how hymns are accompanied. Using different instruments and more contemporary and diverse styles to accompany our singing can really breathe new life into old hymns. I have begun meeting with Susan more frequently to go over the music for worship and find ways to make this happen in our Sunday morning worship.

**Preaching** When one of my workshops was canceled, I decided to attend another workshop given by a New Testament professor at Calvin Seminary on the Parables of Jesus. He introduced me to a new method of looking at parables that focused on the culture and traditions of Jesus’ day. His mentor, a scholar named Kenneth Bailey, spent much of his life living with rural peasants in the middle-east, hearing stories and experiencing traditions that have been passed on for hundreds, even thousands of years. From these stories, he gained insights into Jesus’ parables that we have never considered. I have already used some of Bailey’s insights into my Luke sermon series and look forward to using them even more in the weeks to come.

**Church Life and Vitality** Another presenter talked about his work with Christine Pohl, a Christian Ethics professor. Her first book, *Making Room: Recovering Hospitality as a Christian Tradition* would be a great resource for our church as we continue to think about how we fulfill our mission to “Welcome All.”

The speaker actually used her second book, *Living into Community: Cultivating Practices That Sustain Us*. He worked with Pohl on this research and found four basic practices that make churches thrive: Gratitude, Fidelity (keeping promises), Truth-Telling and Hospitality. I will be taking insights from his presentation and Pohl’s book as we discern how to live out our mission.

I look forward to implementing these and other innovations into our worship and life together. I’d love to talk with any of you about these and other insights I got from the Symposium.

~ Pastor John

### **The Goods, Food, and Fun Auction !**

A silent auction with many items/services donated by First Church parishioners will open at the Mission Festival on March 9, and run through March 17. If you have an idea, please contact Betsy Cogliano, [laxmom5@aol.com](mailto:laxmom5@aol.com) or 781-275-9462.

We already have commitments for some of our favorites: Barbecue with the Castricums; Dinner with the Websters; Dark Chocolate Rum Cake; Cheesecake, etc. Dinners are especially popular, but also food of any kind!

**Sunday, March 10th 2:00 a.m.**  
**Spring forward - Daylight Savings Time**  
**Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour!**



# West Virginia Mission Festival

## *A Fun-Filled Event for the Entire Family*

First Church will be holding its 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual West Virginia Mission Festival on Saturday, March 9, 2018. This fun evening benefit will feature Appalachian music and storytelling, a Southern-inspired buffet dinner, cake walk, and a wide variety of children's activities.

**Appalachian Music & Storytelling:** One of the premier highlights of the First Church Mission Festival will be live Appalachian music. This year, we welcome back Tim and Maggie, who were with us for the first festival. Tim and Maggie have spent decades studying and performing Appalachian music. They teach music professionally, work on instruments every day and play music in their spare time. They contribute their time and music to the local scene partly in hope that young people will get involved in music and the arts and find more joy in their lives and their communities. Their instruments are flutes and frets and their arrangements are contrapuntal, line against line, informed by the classic music of past masters. Wherever they play, people are charmed by their wit and compelling melodies. They can often be heard in Southern West Virginia, playing at restaurants, weddings, college programs, open mikes and local festivals.

### Schedule of Events

5:00	Doors Open
5:30 – 6:00	Tim and Maggie play music especially geared toward children
6:00 – 6:30	First Cake walk and storytelling
6:30 – 7:00	Tim and Maggie music set number 2
7:00 – 7:30	Cup cake walk for kids and storytelling
7:30 – 8:00	Tim and Maggie music set number 3
8:00 – 8:30	Cake walk and storytelling
8:30 – 9:00	meet Tim and Maggie in Vestry for questions and an instrument show and tell.



**Cake Walk** A favorite West Virginia tradition! You could have a chance to win a delicious home-made cake – if you land on the right number!

**Children's Activities** will be scheduled in throughout the evening to entertain and delight your young ones.

**Goods and Services Auction** A silent auction with many items/services donated by First Church parishioners will open at the Mission Festival.

**Sweet and Savory Food Sale** First Church members offer their finest baked goods, soups, chili's and other delicious offerings.

**Giving Wall** we will once again feature "The Giving Wall." This is an integral part of our Mission Work that highlights key home improvement projects that are typically undertaken by The Appalachian Folklife Center. Projects available for you to fund will range from \$25 (for a bucket of nails) to \$500 (buy lumber to build a deck). Personal Checks and Credit Cards will be accepted. Receipts will be provided for tax filing purposes.

**Event Fees** \$15 per person or \$40 per family, which includes our "Appalachian dinner."

### Event Proceeds:

All proceeds from the West Virginia Mission Festival will fund First Church's humanitarian mission work in West Virginia. This work has been going on for four years, and supports the work of a growing list of inspiring nonprofit partner organizations in West Virginia, including: Appalachian South Folklife Center, The Wade Center for Children, RiffRaff Arts Collective, Stages Music School for Children. The goal of the Mission Festival is to raise money to help these organizations fight poverty through a wide variety of strategies, including home repairs and improvements, after-school education programs, and art and music programs to inspire young minds.

### Bring a Friend!

Last year, many of the people that attended this wonderful program were faithful parishioners of our congregation. Our goal is to "take it up a notch" this year. Please consider inviting a friend or relative to join you at this year's event. It will be a unique, inspirational and fun-filled event that you will remember for a long time.



## **Beginning of Lent: a New “Water” Wednesday Service**

Pastor John will be using some new ideas he got from the Worship Symposium he attended in January for our “Water Wednesday” service. Join us on **Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>**, for a powerful service marking the start of the Lenten season. We will begin at 6 p.m. with a simple soup and bread dinner in Upper Fellowship Hall, followed by a service at 7:15 p.m. in the Koeble Music Chapel. We will continue our new tradition: instead of the imposition of ashes, we will be marking people with the water of their baptism. Join us for fellowship and an new and innovative service to mark the beginning of Lent.

## **LENT AND HOLY WEEK**

First Church will be observing Lent during the months of March and April, culminating in Holy Week, April 14<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup>. We are pleased to offer everyone the following events. Come to any and all these offerings, and make sure to invite a friend or neighbor.

### **Sundays in Lent**

Pastor John continues his year-long sermon series, *Journey with Luke*. During Lent, he will be focusing on Jesus’ dramatic journey to Jerusalem, where he confronts the religious authorities, suffers, dies and rises again.

### **Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> – Palm/ Passion Sunday**

Join us for a special service that starts with Jesus’ triumphal march into Jerusalem, and ends with his suffering and crucifixion. The service will include the Sunday School children marching in and distributing Palms to the congregation. Pastor John will be offering a dramatic retelling of the story of Jesus’ last week in Jerusalem as recorded in the Gospel of Luke. You will not want to miss this powerful and moving service!

### **Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup> – Maundy Thursday**

After a simple supper at 6:00 p.m., we will be having a 7:15 service. The first part of the service will remember Christ’s last supper with his disciples. The second part of the service will recount the suffering and crucifixion of Jesus, using eight symbols connected with his passion and death. The service will include the extinguishing of candles and the ringing of a bell 33 times, remembering the 33 years Jesus spent on earth.

### **Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup> 3:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. – Good Friday**

This year, we will be offering a new “Stations of the Cross” interactive service. We invite everyone to come to the sanctuary and experience the passion of Jesus in a new and innovative way.

### **Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup> – Easter Sunday**

We will begin our Easter celebration with an ecumenical Easter Service at 6:30 at Fawn Lake. Our traditional Easter Breakfast will be held at 7:15, followed by an Easter Egg Hunt. Finally, come to our 10:00 a.m. service as we joyfully celebrate the resurrection of Jesus.

We hope and pray that each of you will join us this year in our Lenten journey, as we commemorate and remember the events of Jesus’ life, death and resurrection.

## **Making a Difference: *First Church Transforming Lives***

[For those not “connected” to the Internet, we are printing a paper version of a monthly e-newsletter that will be going out to our Constant Contact email list that we are calling “Making a Difference.” We hope you enjoy these stories!]

First Church is making a difference in people's lives, both inside and outside the walls of the church! To highlight some of these stories, we are beginning a "Making a Difference" newsletter. We hope you enjoy these inspiring stories!

*If you have a story to share, please pass it on to Pastor John at [pastorjohn28@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjohn28@gmail.com). Also, let us know what you think of this newsletter - we'd love to hear from you!*

### **Remembering Abby**

*A Story of Welcome and Caring*

The first Sunday after Christmas, we sang "The First Noel" - all six verses! In part, I chose this hymn because it fit so well with message, but I must admit, I also picked it with Abby in mind. Abby passed away a little over a year ago, but in many ways, she is still with us. Abby loved singing hymns, and regularly requested her favorites, including the "The First Noel", "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today" and especially "Morning Has Broken."

Although she was challenged by mental disabilities, her faith was strong. Many times before the service, she would ask me to pray with her about a hard issue she was dealing with. I would say a brief prayer with her and then she would tell me how "therapeutic" church was for her. No matter how bad she was feeling coming in on Sunday morning, church lifted her up by the time she left.

Abby was surrounded by a caring community who would sit with her during church. They, too would pray with her, listen to her and lift her up. So many of us enjoyed sitting, eating and talking with Abby at the special church events, like Wonderful Wednesday, the Turkey Dinner or the Strawberry Festival. Several in the church would take Abby out to lunch after church, which would usually lead to Bedford Farms for a hot fudge Sundae. Abby took great delight in these outings!

When Abby's condition sent her to the hospital, there were many who visited her, sent her cards, prayer shawls and teddy bears. It was during this time we actually got to meet Abby's family. They were surprised to learn how deeply we Abby was embraced by our church. They had no clue of the extent of our church's ministry toward Abby. They were so grateful that Abby found a church family that embraced her with an unconditional love.

When it became clear that Abby was close to death, there were some in church who wanted to come to the hospital and sing her favorite hymns to her. Unfortunately, the staff on the critical care ward said this wouldn't work. Instead a group of us gathered together in the music chapel and sang her three favorite hymns into a smartphone. Pastor John then brought it to Abby and played it close to her ear. Abby immediately lit up and smiled as the music played. Shortly after that, Abby passed away peacefully. It was a very sad yet very profound moment.

Whether they realized it or not, the people who cared for Abby so lovingly made a huge difference in her life. This church gave her a place where she could share her burdens, be lifted up in worship and feel cared for by a community. Through it all, we fulfilled our mission to "Welcome All, Grow in Faith and Joyfully Serve."

## Faith at Home

This year, Lent will focus on children and youth's faith questions. As I said last month, Children are naturally curious and have lots of questions. It starts in toddlerhood with the constant repeating of why and continues with ever increasing levels of sophistication. During Epiphany we are collected questions about God, faith, and the bible. Now we will spend Lent answering the questions. While a lot of this work will happen during children's sermons and Sunday School, we all know good questions rarely lead to easy answers. Instead they tend to create more questions or deeper questions. During my first seminary lecture, Dean Moore said, "I am sure you came to seminary with lots of questions. I don't expect to teach you many of the answers. Instead I hope to teach you how to think deeply about questions and how to ask better questions." In some ways we are taking this approach with our Sunday school kids. Some of their questions have easy answers. We will answer those. Many of their questions don't have simple answers. Instead of providing an insufficient answer, we will encourage kids to think about the questions and help them understand there might not be a right answer. We know our quest to get kids thinking theologically (asking questions about God) will spill over into home life. Your kids will probably ask you questions. So, what do you do with their questions? Do you answer them? Do you dodge them? Do you tell them to ask their Sunday school teachers? Do you google them?

Some questions might have "easy answers." Others are so complicated multiple books were written on the subject. Not only do many of these books easily go over kid's heads, they often conflict with each other. When you get these hard questions, I encourage you not to directly answer the questions. Instead to say something like "that is interesting, what do you think" or "wow that this a big question, where do you think we could look for an answer." The goal is to get the kids thinking and to encourage them to use sources of information about God (scripture, experience, tradition, and community). If you start a conversation, if you point then towards a possible source, if you encourage them to keep questioning you have done your job. ~ Kate Byers

## Church School for 2018-2019

### Nursery

Children zero through five years old are welcome to join Jacob Mock in the nursery at the beginning of worship. They are also welcome to start worship with their family and go to the nursery following Children's time or to remain in worship for the entire service. Parents, you know your kids best. Please do whatever work best for your family and let us know how we can support you in caring for your children.

### PreK-5th Grade

During March children and youth will learn about Lent while also looking at some of the parables found in Luke. Children will study the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the banquet with Simon.

### 6th-12th Grade

During March, youth will think about lent while also working on a micro lending project through KIVA. These lessons will be largely youth lead as the youth track past lending, lend about \$400 to people in need of support, and come up with a way to present their work.

## Blessed to be a Blessing Retreat

The retreat was a wonderful time of growing in faith. I was happy to see so many children and youth interacting with church adults in meaningful ways. One highlight of the weekend was marshmallow chucking. Groups really got into the challenge and figured out some creative ways to chuck a marshmallow. Thank you to everyone who attended and to everyone who helped with planning.

## Programs for our youth: Think Outside Sunday Morning

### Chris Tomlin Concert

On March 30<sup>th</sup>, all 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to go to a Chris Tomlin Concert at the Tsongas Center in Lowell. We will meet at church at 4:15pm to car pool to Christ Church United, UCC for pizza and community building with youth from Lowell and Laurence. After dinner we will walk to the Tsongas Center for the concert. This evening should be fun and relaxed. Youth will have some time to start getting to know each other but the main part of the evening will be a shared experience.

### Middle School and High School

This year our older youth will explore questions central to life and faith, in four units organized around a central event with meetings before and after for learning and reflection. Each unit will be a distinctive focus running for about 4 consecutive weeks. The first few weeks we will meet at church for dinner and programming as we prep for a “big activity.” The third week will be a more time intensive/exciting activity. Our final week will be a wrap up session where we reflect over food on what we have done and learned. Youth and their families are invited to commit to the units that work for them. This year our units are:

#### *Caring for the earth: How are we called to live?*

Leading up to Easter and Earth Day, youth will spend 3 weeks thinking about environmental justice and our church. Youth will be empowered to work on a group selected project to help the congregation live into eco justice. The big event for this unit will be an overnight camping trip in June.

March 17 - Dinner and programming from 6 to 7:45pm  
March 24 - Dinner and programming from 6 to 7:45pm  
April 7 - Dinner and programming from 6 to 7:45pm  
June 21-23 – Camping with a ropes course

#### *Seeking social justice: What are we called to do?*

Our May unit will focus on an overnight trip into Boston with City Reach where youth will work with people experiencing homelessness to serve the homeless community of Boston. The prep meetings will encourage youth to think about homelessness and about mission through relationship.

April 28<sup>th</sup> – Dinner and programming from 6 to 7:45pm  
May 5<sup>th</sup> – Dinner and Programming from 6 to 7:45pm  
May 10-11<sup>th</sup> – Overnight with City Reach/Common Cathedral in Boston  
May 19<sup>th</sup> – Dinner and Programming from 6 to 7:45

Watch for emails and ConCon notices with more specific details!

### **Thank You!**

Thanks to all who helped with the Super Bowl Food sale! It was our most successful food sale to date raising just over \$740. Nurture and Outreach will divide the funds. Outreach will use the funds for a to be determined special project. The nurture funds are going into the youth group's KIVA account. The youth are excited to spend some time this spring focusing on their on-going micro lending project.



## Music Notes

The first Sunday of March is Music Sunday, with choirs, ringers and instrumentalists. The following weekend, Tim (banjo) and Maggie (flute) will be here for the Mission Festival and are likely to join us in Sunday morning worship music. The First Church Men’s Gospel Choir is considering making a comeback on Sunday, March 17.

### March Music Schedule:

- Sunday, March 3 - Music Sunday call times TBA
- Monday, March 4 - Jubilee Ringers rehearsal 7:00 pm
- Thursday, March 7 - Adult Choir rehearsal 7:30 pm
- Sunday, March 10 - Adult Choir mini-rehearsal 9:00 am
- Monday, March 11 - Jubilee Ringers rehearsal 7:00 pm
- Thursday, March 14 - Adult Choir rehearsal 7:30 pm
- Sunday, March 17 - Adult Choir mini-rehearsal 9:00 am
- Monday, March 18 - Jubilee Ringers rehearsal 7:00 pm
- Thursday, March 21 - Adult Choir, no rehearsal 7:30 pm (Wonderful Wednesday week)
- Sunday, March 24 - Adult Choir rehearsal 8:30 am
- Monday, March 25 - Jubilee Ringers rehearsal 7:00 pm
- Thursday, March 28 - Adult Choir rehearsal 7:30 pm
- Sunday, March 31 - Adult Choir mini-rehearsal 9:00 am

-Susan Capestro, Director of Music

### March Deacons Collection Bedford Food Pantry



#### GivePlus Mobile App – A New Way to Give to First Church



Want a more convenient way to give to First Church? Try the GivePlus Smartphone app! Go to either the Apple Store or Google Play Store and search for “give plus church” and install the app. After a quick registering, find “First Church Bedford” on the app and you will be able to make either one-time or revolving payments to First Church. If you have any questions on how this works, please see either John Guetersloh or Pastor John.

### 8:30 Book Group

The Book Group continues to meet in the church Library at 8:30 AM most Sundays. We are continuing to discuss *The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World* by Dalai Lama, Desmond Tutu, and Douglas Carlton Abrams. We are enjoying this book and have had some good discussions. We usually cover one or two chapters each week.

If you have read the book, and are wondering what we talk about, you are welcome to join us, even if it for just one or just a few times. If you have questions, please contact Susan Wingfield ([susanw1@verizon.net](mailto:susanw1@verizon.net) or 781-275-9389).

All are welcome.

### Bible and Bagels and Luke!

Our “Bible and Bagels – and Luke” Bible Study, continues in March on Thursday Mornings from 8 to 9 a.m. at Bruegger Bagels on Great Road. This year, Bible and Bagels will be coordinated with the “Journey with Luke” sermon series during the year. Each session, will be an opportunity to “talk back” about last week’s sermon as well as learning more about the upcoming sermon. We will delve deeper into Luke: his background, his writing style and his faith. This is a drop-in bible study: show up anytime - no prior knowledge of the Bible is necessary. This is a “low stress” Bible Study aimed at those who don’t know much about the Bible, but are curious to learn more. So join us and get your day started right, with a good dose of inspiration. And bring a friend, too!

## Cabinet Notes Summary - January 2019

**Attendees:** John Castricum, Ruth Robinson, John Guetersloh, Nancy Guetersloh, Susan Wingfield, Kelly Woessner, Allyson Prinz, Kate Byers, Terry Gerrish, Carol Jamison

**Pastor John** will be offering new morning meditation beginning in February. 2-3 mornings for 20 minutes. There will be new messages going out via constant contact about the giving campaign and how the church helps to change lives. Church website work needs input from all. Pastor John will be attending the Annual Worship Symposium in Michigan in January. Thanks to Kate Trigg for the donation of sideboard in office area.

**Kate Byers** reported that Nativity Sunday and Christmas all went well. Epiphany Tea went well will hope to encourage greater intergenerational participation. Planning for the all church retreat in February.

**Deacons** report that there are new pew cards, thanks to Kathy Register for the oversight of graphic design and printing. Pastor John got offering envelopes which are in the pews. Passing the plate not working as well as hoped, returning to the poles. Terry got six glass bowls for the rice wafers as old ones are missing. Terry suggests flyers on GivePlus+ in the pews

**Outreach** House of Hope collection gift cards and gifts for a family was successful. Thinking about Cradles to Crayons and House of Hope intergenerational activities. Helping with ESL class tuition. Flatbread Pizza fundraiser 1/29 – only get donation for pizzas. Mission Trip travel fund is beneficiary. Superbowl food sale. Youth will make chili during their lock-in

**Treasurer** Thru December, a big increase in giving. Now \$13k ahead of last year in receipts. Still a deficit, but a narrowing gap at \$14k. Interest from endowments not included in the deficit. Heating system and plumbing repairs have made us go over budget.

### The World is Calling

Our Web site could use your talents. Would you consider working over the next 3-5 months with a small team generating and evaluating ideas for a new site? The objective of the team is to better represent our energy and mission both to people shopping for a church and to be a better resource for the congregation. The team will decide how and how often to meet.

### Morning Meditation Continues

Would you like to start your day out right? Center yourself in God's peace and presence? Why not try meditating with Pastor John? He will be leading a half-hour morning meditation sessions on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesdays at 8:00 a.m., beginning on February 4th. This will include a brief check-in time followed by a 10 to 20 minute opportunity to meditate.

### Friday evening Meditation Group



Meditation, a practice of quieting the mind that can help us achieve greater peace and focus over time, is beneficial for all of us. Meditation reduces stress, improves concentration, increases self-awareness, happiness and acceptance.

It is also a wonderful thing to explore with others.

We meet in the church parlor on the first and third Fridays at 7:30 pm. Come if you want to get started with meditation, if you already have a practice you want to deepen and share, or if you're just curious to learn more about it and what it can mean for you. Drop-ins welcome.

### JFON Offering during Lent

During the season of Lent, The Outreach Board is offering an opportunity for the congregation to support the newest JFON (Justice for Our Neighbors) legal clinic in Lawrence and Lowell. On March 10<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> we will collect a "Noisy Offering". Bring your coins, drop them in the metal bucket and make some noise that will make a difference for our immigrant neighbors living in fear and in need of legal help.

JFON's mission is to **welcome** immigrants with compassion, **provide** quality, no/low cost legal aid, **advocate** for just immigration laws and **educate** immigrants and communities about our nation's immigration system. There will also be a JFON collection jug at coffee hour in the vestry each Sunday beginning on March 10th. We thank you for your support!

## Daily Lectionary Scripture References

### March 2019 (Year C)

<b>Fri., Mar. 1</b> Psalm 99 Deuteronomy 9:6-14 Acts 10:1-8	<b>Mon., Mar. 11</b> Psalm 17 1 Chronicles 21:1-17 1 John 2:1-6	<b>Fri., Mar. 22</b> Psalm 63:1-8 Daniel 12:1-4 Revelation 3:1-6
<b>Sat., Mar. 2</b> Psalm 99 Deuteronomy 9:15-24 Luke 10:21-24	<b>Tues., Mar. 12</b> Psalm 17 Zechariah 3:1-10 2 Peter 2:4-21	<b>Sat., Mar. 23</b> Psalm 63:1-8 Isaiah 5:1-7 Luke 6:43-45
<b>Sun., Mar. 3</b> <i>Transfiguration of the Lord</i> Exodus 34:29-35 Psalm 99 2 Corinthians 3:12—4:2 Luke 9:28-36 [37-43]	<b>Wed., Mar. 13</b> Psalm 17 Job 1:1-22 Luke 21:34—22:6	<b>Sun., Mar. 24</b> <i>Third Sunday in Lent</i> Isaiah 55:1-9 Psalm 63:1-8 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 Luke 13:1-9
<b>Mon., Mar. 4</b> Psalm 35:11-28 Exodus 35:1-29 Acts 10:9-23a	<b>Thurs., Mar. 14</b> Psalm 27 Genesis 13:1-7, 14-18 Philippians 3:2-12	<b>Mon., Mar. 25</b> Psalm 39 Jeremiah 11:1-17 Romans 2:1-11
<b>Tues., Mar. 5</b> Psalm 35:11-28 Ezekiel 1:1—2:1 Acts 10:23b-33	<b>Fri., Mar. 15</b> Psalm 27 Genesis 14:17-24 Philippians 3:17-20	<b>Tues., Mar. 26</b> Psalm 39 Ezekiel 17:1-10 Romans 2:12-16
<b>Wed., Mar. 6</b> <i>Ash Wednesday</i> Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12 Psalm 51:1-17 2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21	<b>Sat., Mar. 16</b> Psalm 27 Psalm 118:26-29 Matthew 23:37-39	<b>Wed., Mar. 27</b> Psalm 39 Numbers 13:17-27 Luke 13:18-21
<b>Thurs., Mar. 7</b> Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 Exodus 5:10-23 Acts 7:30-34	<b>Sun., Mar. 17</b> <i>Second Sunday in Lent</i> Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 Psalm 27 Philippians 3:17—4:1 Luke 13:31-35 or Luke 9:28-36	<b>Thurs., Mar. 28</b> Psalm 32 Joshua 4:1-13 2 Corinthians 4:16—5:5
<b>Fri., Mar. 8</b> Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 Exodus 6:1-13 Acts 7:35-42	<b>Mon., Mar. 18</b> Psalm 105:1-15 [16-41] 42 Exodus 33:1-6 Romans 4:1-12	<b>Fri., Mar. 29</b> Psalm 32 Joshua 4:14-24 2 Corinthians 5:6—15
<b>Sat., Mar. 9</b> Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 John 12:27-36	<b>Tues., Mar. 19</b> Psalm 105:1-15 [16-41] 42 Numbers 14:10b-24 1 Corinthians 10:1-13	<b>Sat., Mar. 30</b> Psalm 32 Exodus 32:7-14 Luke 15:1-10
<b>Sun., Mar. 10</b> <i>First Sunday in Lent</i> Deuteronomy 26:1-11 Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 Romans 10:8b-13 Luke 4:1-13	<b>Wed., Mar. 20</b> Psalm 105:1-15 [16-41] 42 2 Chronicles 20:1-22 Luke 13:22-31	<b>Sun., Mar. 31</b> <i>Fourth Sunday in Lent</i> Joshua 5:9-12 Psalm 32 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
	<b>Thurs., Mar. 21</b> Psalm 63:1-8 Daniel 3:19-30 Revelation 2:8-11	

~ March 2019 ~

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				<b>1</b> Pastor John Day Off 6a AA (UFH) 6:30p AA (Beginner Mtg) (UFH)	<b>2</b> 6a AA (UFH)	<b>3</b> COMMUNION 6a AA (UFH) 8:30a 8:30 Group (Parlor) 10a Worship (Sanctuary) 11:30a Mission Festival Planning Meeting 6:30p Prayer Group (Parlor)
<b>4</b> April Newsletter Deadline 6a AA (UFH) 8a Morning Meditation 7p Jubilee Ringers (Music Room)	<b>5</b> 6a AA (UFH) 8a Morning Meditation 6:45p AA (12 Step Men) (Room 5)	<b>6</b> ASH WEDNESDAY 6a AA (UFH) 7a Men's Group (Vestry) 8a Morning Meditation	<b>7</b> 6a AA (UFH) 8a Bible and Bagels (Bruegger's Great Road) 9a Coffee and Conversation (Bruegger's Great Road) 7:30p AA (UFH)	<b>8</b> Pastor John Day Off 6a AA (UFH) 6:30p AA (Beginner Mtg) (UFH)	<b>9</b> Mission Festival (UFH/LFH/Vestry/Kitchen)  6a AA (UFH)	<b>10</b> FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT 6a AA (UFH) 10a Worship (Sanctuary) 6:30p Prayer Group (Parlor)
<b>11</b> 6a AA (UFH) 8a Morning Meditation 7p Jubilee Ringers (Music Room)	<b>12</b> 6a AA (UFH) 7:30a Women's Fellowship Breakfast (Riverview-Billerica) 8a Morning Meditation 6:45p AA (12 Step Men) (Room 5) 7p Cabinet (Vestry)	<b>13</b> 6a AA (UFH) 7a Men's Group (Vestry) 8a Morning Meditation 7p Outreach (Vestry)	<b>14</b> 6a AA (UFH) 8a Bible and Bagels (Bruegger's Great Road) 9a Coffee and Conversation (Bruegger's Great Road) 7:30p AA (UFH)	<b>15</b> Pastor John Day Off 6a AA (UFH) 6:30p AA (Beginner Mtg) (UFH)	<b>16</b> 6a AA (UFH)	<b>17 St. Patrick's Day</b> SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT 6a AA (UFH) 10a Worship (Sanctuary) 6:30p Prayer Group (Parlor)
<b>18</b> 6a AA (UFH) 8a Morning Meditation ) 7p Jubilee Ringers (Music Room)	<b>19</b> 6a AA (UFH) 8a Morning Meditation 6:45p AA (12 Step Men) (Room 5)	<b>20</b> 6a AA (UFH) 7a Men's Group (Vestry) 8a Morning Meditation 10a Newsletter Folding (Music Room) 6p Wonderful Wednesday (UFH/K/V)	<b>21</b> 6a AA (UFH) 8a Bible and Bagels (Bruegger's Great Road) 9a Coffee and Conversation (Bruegger's Great Road) 7:30p AA (UFH)	<b>22</b> Pastor John Day Off 6a AA (UFH) 6:30p AA (Beginner Mtg) (UFH)	<b>23</b> 6a AA (UFH)	<b>24</b> THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT 6a AA (UFH) 10a Worship (Sanctuary) 6:30p Prayer Group (Parlor)
<b>25</b> 6a AA (UFH) 8a Morning Meditation ) 7p Jubilee Ringers (Music Room)	<b>26</b> 6a AA (UFH) 8a Morning Meditation 6:45p AA (12 Step Men) (Room 5) 7p Women's Fellowship (Vestry)	<b>27</b> 6a AA (UFH) 7a Men's Group (Vestry) 8a Morning Meditation	<b>28</b> 6a AA (UFH) 8a Bible and Bagels (Bruegger's Great Road) 9a Coffee and Conversation (Bruegger's Great Road) 7:30p AA (UFH)	<b>29</b> Pastor John Day Off 6a AA (UFH) 6:30p AA (Beginner Mtg) (UFH)	<b>30</b> 6a AA (UFH)	<b>31</b> FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT 6a AA (UFH) 8:30a 8:30 Group (Parlor) 10a Worship (Sanctuary) 6:30p Prayer Group (Parlor)



~ March Worship ~



March 3, 2019	10:00 am	“Who is Jesus - Really? ”	Luke: 9: 28-36 Rev. John Castricum, Sr. Pastor
March 10, 2019	10:00 am	“Journey with Luke: Woe to You!”	Luke 11: 37-43 Rev. John Castricum, Sr. Pastor
March 17, 2019	10:00 am	“Journey with Luke: Weeping Over Jerusalem”	Luke 19: 41-48 23: 26-41 Rev. John Castricum, Sr. Pastor
March 24, 2019	10:00 am	“Journey with Luke: Giving to Caesar”	Luke 20: 2-26 Rev. John Castricum, Sr. Pastor
March 31, 2019	10:00 am	“Robbing Widows” Rev. John Castricum, Sr. Pastor (dialogue sermon with Terry Gerrish)	Luke 20:45-21: 4

Thank you for your help in publishing our newsletter on time. Our **April** Newsletter deadline is **March 11, 2019** Our next mailing is **March 20, 2019**. Please send you email articles to: fchurchb2@verizon.net. Thank you.

Please let us know if you change your address.  If you do not want to receive newsletters, check this box and mail this page to us at the above address or email the office at fchurchb2@verizon.net.



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