



February 18, 2020



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This week at St. Andrew's



Parable from the Pastor



Lent 2020 begins Wednesday, February 26 with the Ash Wednesday service at Noon at St. Andrews. Lent is the 40 day season between Ash Wednesday and Good Friday/Holy Saturday and provides an opportunity to quieten our minds and heart of the anxiety and fear that so often pervades our lives. Lent helps us consider our lives through a deeper spiritual lens and frees us from our ill-fated "obsession with ourselves." (Brueggemann, Walter. *A Way other than Our Own*. Presbyterian Publishing.) Lent provides an opportunity to remove our spiritual blinders that keep us hidden from God. The Lenten season at St. Andrew's offers a variety of options to deepen our spiritual practices: ***The sermons during each Sunday of Lent will carry the theme "Practicing New Habits of Spiritual Formation."** Since our lives are dictated by productive and destructive habits, how might the use of spiritual disciplines become regular habits? ***Our Lenten Bible Study on Mondays in March at 2:00 – 3:30 PM at St. Andrews** provides an opportunity to practice developing the spiritual disciplines of prayer, scripture reading, contemplation, etc. A labyrinth will be available for one of our studies. Dr. Paul Galbreath's new Lenten book, *Elemental, A Journey through Lent with the Earth* will be given to each participant and Dr. Galbreath will join us on a video call for one of our studies. We cannot truly appreciate the significance of the Easter celebration unless we take advantage of the season of examination that precedes it. Please join us for all opportunities of deepening and developing new spiritual habits.



AGM ON FEB 23

The Annual General Meeting (following worship) is an opportunity to celebrate and honour what has happened at St. Andrew's in the past year. Our AGM is also an opportunity for St. Andrew's to continue moving forward in mission and with a shared vision for 2020.



Coming up soon Lenten Bible Study



"Practicing New Habbits of Spiritual Formation" will use lenten passages to highlight forming a deeper walk with Christ through prayer, journaling, meditation, fasting, and more. The study will be on Monday's during Lent at 2:00 PM.



Did you know?



Ballet Victoria will be starting a special new dance class for people with Parkinson's Disease starting in March. These classes will take place on Tuesdays at 12:30 pm so please don't plan on using the Lecture Room between noon and 1:45 on Tuesdays!



- The session of St. Andrew's is called to meet tonight at 7:00 pm in the Kirk Hall. Please pray for the ruling and teaching elders who will attend tonight's meeting.
- Today our thrift shop volunteers will have the shop open from 10:00 am until noon
- The Wednesday ESL group meets tomorrow at 10:00 am
- The church is open for viewing from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm and for quiet meditation from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm on Thursday

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FEBRUARY IS PWS&D MONTH



Presbyterian World Service and Development is how the Presbyterian Church in Canada serves vulnerable communities around the world. This month we raise funds and reflect on those enduring poverty, hunger and injustice and inspire action here in Canada to make change happen around the world.

Did you know?

The Taizé Community is an ecumenical monastic community in France that is known for contemplative worship with music and prayer. You don't have to go to France to experience this worship style, there will be a service in the style of Taizé at 6:00 pm, February 21, at the Lutheran Church of the Cross, 3787 Cedar Hill Road

The final Sunday following Epiphany, and before Lent, is Transfiguration Sunday. All three of the synoptic gospels tell a story of Peter, James, and John accompanying Jesus to the top of a holy mountain. There, before their eyes, Jesus is transfigured or transformed into a dazzling brightness.



We turn to embrace the rising Sun.

The fire that burns brilliantly in the morning sky.
Its glow gleams in the growing earth and glistens in sea and sky.

We turn to embrace the dazzling Son.

May His fire burn in our hearts.

May His glow gleam through our actions and glisten in our love for others. Amen.

—a prayer for Transfiguration Sunday
by Alydia Smith



The Transfiguration a painting by Armando Alemdar

February 23rd

Worship Information

Exodus 24:12-18

Matthew 17:1-9

Theme: Change (Transfiguration Sunday)

Favourite Hymn: Lord, the light of your love is shining

Reader: Sheelagh G.

Coffee: Session

Ash Wednesday Service

February 26 at noon

Lent helps us to prepare for Easter in the way that Advent helps us to prepare for Christmas.

Come and begin the Lenten journey on Ash Wednesday

