

LIFE TOGETHER This Week

Week of March 1, 2021 Vol 48 Real Faith For Real Life



Just Mercy Film Discussion

The film "Just Mercy" is based on the true story of young lawyer Bryan Stevenson and his history-making battle for justice. After graduating from Harvard, Bryan headed to Alabama to defend those wrongly condemned or who were not afforded proper representation, with the support of local advocate Eva

Ansley. One of his first and most incendiary cases is that of Walter McMillian, who in 1987 was sentenced to die for the notorious murder of an 18-year-old girl, despite a preponderance of evidence proving his innocence.

We invite you all to watch (or re-watch) the film "Just Mercy" when it is convenient for you, then join our discussion group to share your thoughts on the film's subjects and their repercussions on today's world.

For more information on the film and a list of ways you can watch it, go to: https://www.justmercyfilm.com/. The film is available at many of our local libraries for free/minimal cost. We will meet by Zoom with a link to come.

Date: Thursday, March 11; to help with logistics, please sign up by March 7 if you are able.

Time: 7-8:30 pm

Sign up here: Just Mercy

So, Why Have This Discussion?

Throughout his ministry Jesus engaged the real personal and societal concerns of his day, and called his followers to do the same. Many of those concerns related to justice and mercy for the poor and the oppressed. In fact, in the Gospel of Luke Jesus begins his public ministry in a synagogue in Nazareth, where he stands up and reads these words from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah: "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." (Luke 4:16-19)

Discussions like this one on the movie "Just Mercy" give us a chance to come together as the Church and engage the real issues of justice and mercy in our world today. They offer us a safe, authentic space to explore our faith through meaningful study and conversation. It is an opportunity to grow in faith as followers of Christ – both in the ways that we understand our faith and in the ways that we take up our cross and live it out each day.

This is the Way of Christ, blessings on the journey, Pastor Bruce



Phone a Friend

Do you remember the game show that allowed you to "phone a friend" if you needed some help coming up with the correct answer? Phoning a friend is a great way to stay connected. It can be a depressing and lonely time. But "phone a friend" is something you can do to bring a little cheer and a

smile into someone's life—even your own?

One caring member of our church is picking up the phone each day of Lent to do just that. They plan to randomly pick a name from our directory to call. Maybe they know the person and maybe they don't know them—yet. They just want to call and say "Hi!", ask how they are and share some care. Would you like to join in? If phoning isn't your bag, how about an email or even a note delivered by the postal carriers?

Our congregation is filled with good people with interesting stories. We're not talking over coffee and donuts these days but there are still ways to connect.







Letting Go During Lent

In the past we have been taught that one of the practices of Lent is to give something up. Some say the practice teaches us that when we sacrifice and suffer in the sacrifice we find a deeper understanding of our faith and our Lord.

What if we look at it a different way this Lent? What if we decide to "Let Go" of something that is preventing us from being who God created us to be? What if we let go of attitudes and behaviors that prevent us from working, living, and loving the way God intended?

Join us for worship on the Sundays in Lent when we will be exploring:

Letting Go of Being Perfect – Feb 21
Letting Go of Anger and Resentment – Feb 28
Letting Go of Doubt – March 7
Letting Go of Worry – March 14
Letting Go of Shame and Guilt – March 21
(If you missed one of these services, you can watch them here: Sermon)

Stay Tuned for More During Lent...

We are working on a Communion service video and an evening prayer service video for you to watch at home. Keep an eye on this newsletter and our website for more information coming soon!

Spiritual Practices for Leaning into Faith during Lent

Ever wondered if there were some practical, concrete ways to grow spiritually? Good news! There most certainly are.

Christianity is a wonderfully practical religion. At its heart and soul, it is a way of life. Jesus had a lot to say about how to live, and to live abundantly.

"Spiritual practices" are specific activities that we can do to deepen our relationship with God and to become more aware of the presence of God's Spirit in us and around us. If we make these practices a part of our life, they can help us to grow saner, stronger, wiser and kinder as human beings in this world.

In this season of Lent we created some simple tutorials on a handful of basic Christian spiritual practices: Lectio Divina, Centering Prayer, the Jesus Prayer, Walking Prayer, and Fasting 2-point-oh.

Each Wednesday at noon, go to our <u>website</u>, or tune in to our <u>Youtube channel</u> to see the tutorial for the week.

It has been said that we become what we practice repeatedly. Lent is a good time to lean in and practice our faith. Blessings!

Palm Sunday: Palm Distribution & Children's Good Friday Service/Easter Candy Hunt in a Box!

On March 28, Palm Sunday, we will be handing out Palms in the FPLC parking lot! In addition, you can pick up your "Children's Good Friday Service in a Box." This is designed for our preschool and elementary kids. This Easter box



tells the amazing story of Holy Week with an enclosed booklet and interactive Easter candy "hunt." Stay tuned for the times!



Bread of Healing Vaccination Help Needed

The Bread of Healing Ministries health clinic at Cross Lutheran Church is administering Covid

vaccines to eligible people in the community surrounding their church. They are recruiting people to help. If you are willing to volunteer please go to their information and sign up page at Bread of Healing Vaccination Help.





Starts Tonight!

Lenten Small Groups

Can You Drink The Cup? By Henri Nouwen

In this book, author Henri Nouwen uses the cup as a metaphor to articulate basics of the spiritual life. Nouwen draws stories from his own life and ministry to tell the story of the cup as the story of our lives too.

Dates: Every other Monday; March 8 & 22 via Zoom

Time: 10 – 11:30 am

How to get the book: "Can You Drink the Cup?" is available at Amazon, \$1.50 used to \$11.65 new, and at Christianbook.com, new for \$11.66.

Reliving the Passion by Walter Wangerin, Jr.

During Lent the Wednesday Night Women's Group will experience this daily devotional book in which the reader participates dramatically in Holy Week. We crucify and are crucified, are condemned and redeemed. This powerful mixing of devotion, imagination, and intellect makes Lent come alive as never before.

The book will be used as their daily devotion, and the study will be offered every week, with each person attending as available. They will look at the devotions of the previous week and share what these devotions have meant to them, any questions they might have and how they can live out what they've learned.

Dates: Every Wednesday; March 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31

Time: 6:30 – 8 pm

How to get the book: "Reliving the Passion" is available at Amazon in paperback, from \$3 – \$11.25.

To Register for either of the above studies: Call the church office; 414-352-8990. For questions, contact Ruth at: schmidtyruth@aol.com or 262-424-3344.

Small Group: King David

This study is open to all!

We will be using a book written by Ralph F. Wilson called *Life of David—Discipleship Lessons from 1 & 2 Samuel*. This is published through the "Jesus Walk Bible Study Series". There is also a companion PDF with very helpful chronological notes, maps, genealogy charts and small group study questions for you to download. Please download the PDF and order the book so you have it by the start of our King David study on Monday, March 1st.

To download the PDF:

http://www.jesuswalk.com/david/david-lesson-handouts.pdf

To Order the Book:

http://www.jesuswalk.com/books/david.htm

The link provides options to order the book at Amazon or Barnes & Noble (hard copy or Kindle).

Date: Monday, March 1, then every other Monday for 6 additional weeks.

Time: 7 – 8:30 pm

Location: Zoom; link will be sent out closer to the date

Contact: Lori Lorenz; lorenzlh92@gmail.com

Di Do

Dinner Fellowship

Do you have a great recipe that feeds a group? How about doubling that? You'll have a great meal for yourself AND you can

take the meal to the men at Serenity Inns so they have a filling, delicious meal too! Volunteers can eat with the men or you may drop off dinner due to Covid-19. They follow Covid-19 protocols if you choose to stay to eat. Not a cook? No problem—order out and have it delivered to them or get takeout and take it to Serenity.

Serenity Inns provides a safe home for men in Milwaukee to recover from their addiction to drugs or alcohol. FPLC volunteers provide 3 dinners a month for the residents. To sign up and learn more about the Covid-19 protocols click **Make a Meal**. Meals on Fridays are especially needed! Have questions? Lorraine Buehler, FPLC member & long-time Serenity Inns volunteer can help! Email Lorraine at Icbuehler@cs.com.





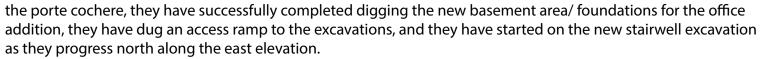


This week has been our busiest so far, by far—there is much to share! Here's what we've completed this past week:

Cornerstone Plumbing spent some time working on the new waste and vent piping in the area of the new restrooms

adjacent to the lobby. Work also continued this week on demo of existing supply piping and coring of existing concrete and masonry walls ahead of new piping installation.

D & L Grading –has been running about 10 trucks a day hauling spoils from our new excavations. They have completed digging the column pads for



Design Build Fire Protection continued their work on the first floor as they focused their work within the areas of Fellowship Hall and the lobby.

JC Building Systems delivered and installed temporary shoring below the Memorial Chapel and have assisted with select demo projects as well.

Northern Concrete has begun mobilizing on site this week and have delivered their wall panels, footing materials, equipment, and they took delivery of the large order of rebar that will be used in the footings and walls.



North Shore Engineering has been out to the site several times this week to assist in layout and staking of the new additions.

Pure Mechanical continued work this week as they fabricated, delivered, and began installing new ductwork in the he lobby and new 1st floor restrooms. Work also has begun in the lower-level on layout and installation of new ductwork in the area of the Sunday school rooms.

Infant Massage

Learn to connect and bond with your baby through the power of Infant Massage. This one hour class is a wonderful way for parents and their babies age birth to 6 months old to connect. Please be prepared to Zoom—all you need is yourself in comfy clothes, your baby(s) and a blanket.

You'll be taught the head-to-toe infant massage techniques that parents need to comfort, reduce irritability, help baby sleep faster and sleep longer, and to overall connect with baby in a positive loving touch in this one hour complementary class. Please contact Angie Biersach, FPLC member, parent, and certified infant massage instructor at 414-207-2808 or angiebiersach@gmail.com to RSVP for the class.

Dates: March 19 Time: 2 – 3 pm Fee: No charge

Instructor: Angie Biersach, MA, CCLS, CFLE, CIMI; angiebiersach@gmail.com or 414-207-2808



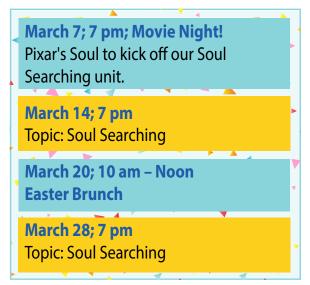




High School Youth Group

Zoom Meeting Link:

https://iu.zoom.us/j/82011382985



Feel free to contact Stephanie with any guestions at stephanie@foxpointchurch.org.

Gathering

Volunteer At The Gathering!

The Gathering is committed to serving their guests, even during Covid-19. They've adjusted their methods of sanitizing, preparing & distributing food to ensure safety. They need your help!

If you are healthy and willing, they'd love to have your help packaging bag lunches. This is a great opportunity for Confirmation students to give to their community.

The FPLC dates fill up quickly but check for cancellations: <u>FPLC Volunteer Dates</u>.

If these dates are full, volunteer on dates that aren't specifically for FPLC by going to their website: <u>Community Volunteer</u>.

Confirmation

Service Opportunities

Did you know you can come up with your own service project in addition to/instead of the ones offered through FPLC? You can! Have an idea? Run it by Pr. Bruce! 414-352-8990 or Pastorbruce@foxpointchurch.org.

If you are looking for information on opportunities through church, click **HERE**. Check occasionally as we try to put new opportunities here as they come up.

Confirmation Workshops

4: March 2 / 3

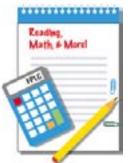
5: March 9 /10

6: April 13 / 14

7: April 20 / 21

8: April 27 / 28

For more detailed information, see our website: Confirmation.



Summer Tutors Needed

We have all read about how kids are falling behind academically this year, especially those children from lower income neighborhoods. If you would like to be a part of the solution we are partnering with All People's Church for a 12 week tutoring program this summer. We need adults and teenagers age 12 and up.

The tutoring will take place at Holy Acres, the picnic table area across the street from the All Peoples Church building. In-person is a better option for kids who are Zoomed out, for kids without reliable technology and also for the students who just do not learn well via Zoom. Students and tutors can easily sit at the tables and be safely distanced and it allows All Peoples' staff to safely monitor tutoring activities.

The tutoring would include, but isn't limited to:

- 8-12 year olds who need reading support
- · High school students who need math help

Please contact FPLC member Debbie McGregor, 414-405-1558 or Mrs.Debbie.Mcgregor@gmail.com with any questions or to volunteer.

- Age/Grade if you are a student
- Subject(s) you can tutor
- Availability (if you know this early)





PRAYER LIST All in The Family

We will see you again on Sunday, March 7 for a virtual Sunday Service!

If you or your family need anything we can help you with, call the office at 414-352-8990 or email church@foxpointchurch.org!

Carlynn Alt Bernie Cameron Chad John Chamberlain Jane D. Pr. Dan

Dana Deb Sheila Dlugi Doreen Cammy Endres

John Endres

Erin Jessie Etheridge Lu Farwig

Rick Frank Gene Jerry Gildner Joan Gildner Lori Heinrich **Steve Heronemus** Elnamae Heyman

Jack Charlie James Jan Jim Joan **Don Jones** Julia

Barbara Kuehn Pat Lawless

Ken Lein Leslie Alison LoCoco

Lynn Mary **Andy Meser**

Michael Ned Bill Nell **Robert Palmer**

Perry

Wendy Randazzo Riley **Grace Root** Geoff Rose Suzy Shaw

Peter Stauber Stephen Teri Tim

Brenda Trier Rev. Dr. Wayne R. Viereck Zuza

Military

Alex Cooper David Grant lan Matthew **Taylor**

Praver Requests

Now you can make a prayer request through our website. Click **Prayer Requests** to submit a form or submit a request through email—church@ foxpointchurch.org.



"5 for Faith" is our fun, fast, familyoriented online Sunday School. Each week we offer five 5-minute activities to help grow your family's faith. Do

one activity or try them all! You can find "5 for Faith" on our website. Or click the Fox Point Kids graphic!



On our "Kids and Youth" page you can find our new "Little Foxes" videos! The target age for these videos is pre-kindergarten. New videos are released each week and include

a song, story, craft, and activity for children to follow along. Click the Little Foxes graphic.



Monday Food Drives When: Every Monday

Time: 10 am – 2 pm

Location: The cart is outside the

church office!

PLEASE, no glass jars! We need

nutritional, non-perishable foods, diapers, personal care products & hand

crank can openers.

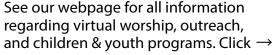
Bags Needed Again!

Cross Lutheran's food pantry is in need of grocery bags with handles. They only want bags with handles and would prefer paper bags.

Bags can be left in our food

donation carts on Mondays from 9 am - 2 pm.







Bags

Needed!



Good Morning!

"Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you." — Colossians 3:13

Lent allows me to focus on what I'm truly lacking in my own spiritual journey. In our home we are not argumentative, but my attitudes about politics lack grace, wisdom and silence. It's like a Do- si- do from a Square dance; we disagree at a waltz tempo that quickly escalates into a foot stomping country line dance! Then we realize our arrogance and small-mindedness, ask forgiveness and apologize to a slow dance. Forgiveness can be meandering like the South Carolina low country stream in this picture, lots of twists and turns requiring compassion and tolerance by us, with God's extravagant love and mercy as our guide.

"Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven." - Luke 6:37

As we walk with Jesus in these next weeks, I reflect on His perfect life spent in acts of forgiveness and how that might turn me away from my own stubborn and tenacious grip on earthly and blinding absolutes. A story that comes to mind is about an adulterous woman about to be stoned who was scorned by church leaders. Her sin was forgiven by God, never to be recalled. Jesus' death and resurrection was not only for this woman; anyone who accepts Him as their Redeemer can receive complete forgiveness and eternal life. What an amazing Savior! Now it becomes our responsibility and gift to pay it forward with our brothers and sisters.

Jesus stood up and said to her," Woman, where are they, Has no one condemned you? "She said," No one, Lord." And Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more." – John 8:10-11

Loving Father, thank you for the devoted caring of your perfect heart. We may not always understand the "whys" of what goes on in our lives or this world, so we ask for the kind of quiet understanding you possess. Please help us to live authentically in your love and grace and to forgive as you have forgiven us. We offer you our praise for each day of splendor that you afford us on this beautiful planet and we thank you for bringing us together this morning. Bless our helpers, those who make our lives better and survivable during this pandemic. Keep all of us close to you forever.

Let's walk with Him in forgiveness this week. - Mary