

THE PEW & PULPIT

Newsletter



Season of Lent

This month we begin a new season in the Christian calendar. On February 14th, we observe Ash Wednesday as the beginning of the Lenten season. Lent is a period of 40 days (excluding Sundays) leading up to Easter Sunday. It symbolically represents the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the wilderness, enduring temptation and preparing for His ministry. During this time, we are called to follow in His footsteps, examining our lives, and seeking a deeper connection with God.

The primary focus of Lent is on repentance and self-reflection. It is a time to acknowledge our shortcomings, our sins, and the areas of our lives where we have fallen short of God's expectations. Through sincere repentance, we open ourselves to God's forgiveness and grace, allowing Him to transform our hearts and lives.

Fasting and abstinence are common practices during Lent. By giving up certain luxuries or indulgences, we create space in our lives to focus on our relationship with God. This act of self-denial reminds us of Jesus' sacrifice and helps us develop discipline and self-control.

Prayer and meditation play a vital role during Lent. By setting aside dedicated time for prayer, we deepen our connection with God and seek His guidance and strength.

It is an opportunity to listen to His voice, align our will with His, and grow in our faith, as we prepare our hearts to fully embrace the joy and hope of Easter.

My prayer is that this Lenten season will be a time of deep reflection, spiritual renewal, and a strengthening of our faith. Let us journey together, supporting and encouraging one another as we seek to grow closer to God.

Grace and Peace,
Brian

Worship Preview

February 11
Silence

Luke 9:28-36

February 14
Ash Wednesday
A Time for Sifting

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17
Mark 8:27-38

February 18
Interruptions

Mark 1:40-45





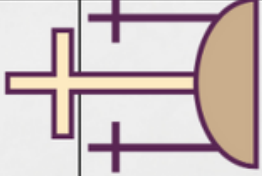

February 25
An Interruption
from Above

Mark 2:1-12



FEBRUARY 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
04 5th Sunday after the Epiphany 8:45am & 11am: Worship 10am: Sunday School 12:15pm: GOAL Meeting 12:30-1:30pm: Handbells (Sanctuary)	05 6:30pm - AA (Parlor) 	06 10am - Miriam's Rascals Woodlands at Furman #1208	07 9:30 - 11:30am - Mission Circle (Parlor)  7 - 8 pm - Choir	08 9:30am - 12:30pm - Swamp Rabbit Quilt Guild (Gym) 5:30pm - 7:30pm - Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 6:30pm - AA (Parlor)	09 5:00pm - 7:30pm - Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 6:30pm - AA (Parlor)	10
11 Transfiguration Sunday 8:45am & 11am: Worship 10am: Sunday School 12p-2p: UMYF Souper Bowl 12:15pm: Mind Health Support Team (Parlor) 12:30-1:30pm: Handbells (Sanctuary) 5pm: TRUMPETS Rehearsal (Chapel)	12 6:30pm - AA (Parlor)	13 10am - Miriam's Rascals Woodlands at Furman #1208 10am - Share and Care Chronic Pain Support Group (Parlor) 6-7:30pm - Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper (Parlor) 	14 11am - Prayer Team (Parlor) 9pm: Ash Wednesday Service 	15 12pm - Forever 55 (Parlor) 5:00pm - 7:30pm - Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 6:30pm - AA (Parlor)	16	17
18 1st Sunday in Lent 8:45am & 11am: Worship 10am: Sunday School 12:30-1:30pm: Handbells (Sanctuary) 2:30 - 5:30pm: Stephen Ministry (FH11, ED 105) 5pm: TRUMPETS Rehearsal (Chapel)	19 church office closed 9a - 1p: UMYF Volunteering at Project Host (9th - 12th grade) 6:30pm - AA (Parlor)	20 10am - Miriam's Rascals Woodlands at Furman #1208	21 7 - 8 pm - Choir	22 5:00pm - 7:30pm - Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 6:30pm - AA (Parlor)	23 UMYF & Counselors Asbury Hills Hands & Feet Retreat 	24 UMYF & Counselors Asbury Hills Hands & Feet Retreat 
25 2nd Sunday in Lent 8:45am & 11am: Worship 10am: Sunday School 12pm: Furman Students Lunch 12:30-1:30pm: Handbells (Sanctuary) 5pm: TRUMPETS Rehearsal (Chapel) 5-6:30pm: UMYF	26 6:30pm - AA (Parlor)	27 10am - Miriam's Rascals Woodlands at Furman #1208	28 7 - 8 pm - Choir	29 5:30pm - 7:30pm - Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 6:30pm - AA (Parlor)	29	30



Birthdays

- 1 Rebecca Lunny
- 2 Chet Lusk
- 2 Miki Golden
- 2 Dara Forrester
- 2 Benjamin Ballenger
- 2 Jonathan Ballenger
- 2 Eva Moore
- 3 Elaine Renn
- 3 George Ott
- 3 Susan Snipes
- 3 Harrison Longest
- 4 Walker Auman
- 5 Luanne Beller
- 6 Giles Cisson
- 7 Mike Kellelt
- 7 Hayes Longest
- 8 Billy Hollis
- 8 Don Pavlina
- 8 Bill Pilz,
- 8 Ann Della Valle
- 8 Kierstin Bowen
- 8 Harper Rohrbaugh
- 10 Georgia Harrison
- 11 Blake Reynolds
- 12 Jim Lunny
- 13 Pat Barnes
- 15 Allison Roberts
- 16 Noelle Price
- 16 Taylor Loftis
- 17 Kyle Longest
- 17 Banks McDaniel
- 18 Weston Catron
- 19 Tyler Strange
- 19 Ava Strange
- 19 Addison Banks
- 20 Michael Horvath
- 21 Rob Reynolds
- 21 Brenda Schmitt
- 22 Richard Goodall
- 22 Jan Paxton
- 22 Pat Norris
- 22 Suzy Roberts
- 23 Mellisa Bane
- 23 Ellie Hughes
- 24 Anthony Turner
- 26 Lucille Stark
- 26 Linda Wedmore
- 28 Linda Wooters
- 28 Dan Batson
- 28 Alison uman
- 29 Tammie Lord





Anniversaries



- 2 Glenda and John Kavanagh
- 8 Curtis and Janice McClure
- 14 Kate and Kyle Wilson
- 19 Carol and Judson Ayers
- 19 Naomi and Chip Downing
- 20 Linda Anderson, Bob Palmer
- 20 Ashley and Anthony Turner
- 26 Jean and Russ Hughes
- 27 Renee and Dan Batson