



CARRILEA'S CORNER

Blessing the Dust For Ash Wednesday

All those days
you felt like dust,
like dirt,
as if all you had to do
was turn your face
toward the wind
and be scattered
to the four corners

or swept away
by the smallest breath
as insubstantial—

did you not know
what the Holy One
can do with dust?

This is the day
we freely say
we are scorched.

This is the hour
we are marked
by what has made it
through the burning.

This is the moment
we ask for the blessing
that lives within
the ancient ashes,
that makes its home
inside the soil of
this sacred earth.

So let us be marked
not for sorrow.
And let us be marked
not for shame.
Let us be marked
not for false humility
or for thinking
we are less
than we are

but for claiming
what God can do
within the dust,
within the dirt,
within the stuff
of which the world
is made
and the stars that blaze
in our bones
and the galaxies that spiral
inside the smudge
we bear.

—Jan Richardson

February 15-21, 2026

February Birthdays

4 - Grady Lippard, Jr.

9 - Janice Comer

10 - LeAnda Barnard

10 - Lydia Comer

14 - Alexander Lee Kudlacek

15 - Patti West

15 - Steve Hughes

18 - Vincent Toups

18 - Linda Marshall

19 - Landon Hayes

19 - Jo Salisbury

19 - Autumn Tilley

29 - Hollace Scanlan

Anniversary

14 - Mike and Gay Shaver

The Mission Board will be "Cultivating Young Minds" by collecting books and money for Speak Life and Live's summer reading camp. The camp is completely free to the kids who participate, and books are available for them to take home and keep. We are asking for donations of money (the cost for the camp is \$150/child), and new or gently used books, beginning reader through young adult levels. Thank you for your generous support of our special offerings!

IREDELL ADULT DAY CENTERS NEEDS BINGO PRIZES AND COFFEE MUGS. IF YOU WANT TO CLEAN OUT YOUR CABINETS, OR HAVE GIFTS OR WHITE ELEPHANTS YOU WANT TO REHOME, BRING THEM TO CHURCH SUNDAY AND PUT THEM ON THE BACK BENCH. THE BINGO PRESENTS DON'T HAVE TO BE COSTLY - THEY OFTEN BUY SOME OF THEM AT THE DOLLAR TREE. CONTACT SHERI COARSEY (704-880-0827) IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS.

ICM NEEDS CEREAL, RAMEN NOODLES, AND MAC-N-CHEESE.

BUDGET

Needed year to date: \$15,268.00

Received year to date: \$13,311.73

UNDER budget: \$1,956.27

Weekly needs: \$2118.00

This Week's Offering: \$465.00



Use this PayPal QR code for easy donations.