



It has become the custom of the church to prepare for Easter through a season of penitence, fasting, and prayer. This season of forty days is called Lent and it provided a time when people who had committed serious sins that separated them from the community of faith were remembered into the body of Christ through penitence.

It is easy for each of us to think that this does not apply to us, that we have committed no heinous sin that would require particular expiation, that there are always others who are worse than us. While this may be so, we are all still sinners and recognize that in the words of Christ, "There are none righteous. Not one." Therefore, we all need to come to this season in a spirit of repentance asking for the forgiveness that comes from God alone.

Likewise we mark the season of Lent by the offering of a sacrifice in the same way that Christ fasted and faced temptation for forty days in the wilderness. Some give up sweets or meat, while others take the opposite approach of adding something during lent such as exercise or other positive habits or sacrifice their time and money by giving to a charity or the church. What matters is that each person make a sacrifice that comes from the heart so that he or she may be in some small way empathetic to the sacrifice that God made by coming into the world in the form of Jesus Christ.

Finally, we begin the Lenten season by taking the ashes from last year's palms and imposing them on our foreheads in the shape of a cross to remind us that one day we will, each of us, die. We do this not to depress ourselves but to remind ourselves that, because we will one day die, today we should live.

I invite you therefore, in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, to mark a Holy Lent by self-examination, penitence, prayer, offering of sacrifice, and almsgiving and by remembering that from dust we have come and to dust we shall return, and without God dust we would remain, but through the one that raised Jesus Christ to new life in faith we arise from the ashes to a new life more glorious than before.

Rev. Chris

Manor Talk

A Publication of Fairhill Manor Christian Church

Rev. Chris Stillwell Senior Minister

Rev. Gena Sheller Associate Pastor

Karen Thomas Administrative Assistant

Gene Sheller Congregational Moderator

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> > Jim Cope Choir Director

Sam Johnson Organist

Jody Mullis Pianist

Wray Adams Custodian

Stacy Thomas Wedding Coordinator

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- 1 Vanessa Duchess
- 4 Nyka Rash
- 7 Nicole Fowler
- 8 Chris Lewis
- 9 Dana Hess
- 11 Mallory Jones Jordan Keener
- 12 Jessie Simpson
- 14 James Hritz
- 15 J. Brian Ashmore
- 20 Sandy Harton
- 20 Evelyn Ringer
- 21 Sandy Cope-Yokoyama
- 22 Rev. Pat Donahoo
- 22 Darci Sprowls
- 23 Trenton Shriver
- 24 Ashley Fowler
- 25 Ruth Campbell
- 27 Patty McConnell Anthony Mountain
- 28 Cathy Duchess Adeline Dye Amanda Henry Morgan Swartz Darlene Yater
- 29 Terry Houston
- 30 Maggie Graff
- 31 Debbie Dague



Have you met Sam?

Sam Johnson is FMCC's organist. He and his wife, Kari, live in West Mifflin. If you haven't had the chance, please make sure to say "Hi!" and introduce yourself.

- 1 Russell & Deb Knight
- 15 Matt & Tiffany Shetler
- 17 Jason & Erika Vanatta
- 20 Paul & Sandy Harton



The Community Circle Food Pantry will be packing their Supplemental Food boxes for Easter for April. They are in need of:

- Boxed potatoes (scalloped, au gratin or instant)
- Cake mix/Icing or Brownie mix
- Jello or Pudding
- Green beans
- Corn
- Canned fruit
- Baked beans
- Elbow macaroni
- Egg coloring kit
- Bag of candy for a family

Donations needed by April 10. Thank you for helping to provide Easter Dinner for our neighbors in our community who suffer from food insecurity and help to make this season memorable.

March 2025

3 A 7pm 10 ent Bible tudy 6-7pm ia Zoom A 7pm	4 Dartball @ Laboratory 7pm 11 Dartball @ Home 7pm	5 Ash Wednesday Noon-1pm 5pm-7pm 12 Elders Meeting	6 Choir 6:30pm NA 7:30pm 13 Choir 6:30pm	7	1 Women's Tea 2pm Large Fellowship Hall 8 15
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		5:30pm NA 6:45pm Board Meeting 7pm	NA 7:30pm		
17	18	7 pm 19	20	21	22
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24	25	26		28	29
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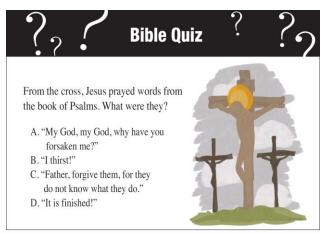
Ash Wednesday Service

Ash Wednesday is March 5 this year. Instead of a service we are offering an interactive experience designed to teach about the meaning and symbolism of the ash. On that day there will be seven stations in which the meaning and symbols of Lent are represented. We invite you to come and go to each station in the sanctuary and spend as much time as you need pondering the questions each one will ask you. When you are done Rev. Chris and Pastor Gena will offer you communion and blessing.

The sermon on Sunday, March 2, will be used to demonstrate this interactive worship experience. We hope you can come anytime between Noon-1pm and 5-7pm on March 5 to receive the ashes of lent and the mercy of Christ. If you cannot make it during those times but want to come, please call the office and we will arrange a time that you can come that day. Our hope is that in further understanding the meaning of the ashes Ash Wednesday and Lent will have even more meaning for you than before.

Daily Text - Lenten Devotional

Pastor Gena is recording audio of this year's Lenten devotional, "Facing Jerusalem: A Lenten Journey with Jesus" by Terri Hord Owens. If you would like to receive a daily text message with that day's recording attached, please sign up in the Narthex or contact the Church Office with the preferred phone number. Due to copyright constraints, these recordings can only be offered to folks in our congregation. Written copies of the devotional are available in the Narthex.



Answer: A (See Matthew 27:46; Mark 15:34; and Psalm 22:1.)

Week of Compassion

This year's noisy offering totaled \$402.93! Thank you to our children for collecting a very heavy and very noisy \$351.93 in coins, and to all who gave to Week of Compassion through this offering. Due to an endowment that covers all administrative expenses, 100% of our giving to Week of Compassion goes directly toward the relief, refugee, and development efforts of partners in the US and around the world. What a wonderful ministry to be a of! Learn more part at weekofcompassion.org.



Because of your faithful giving, 100% of all contributions to Week of Compassion go directly to our partners for relief efforts. In 2024 alone, we distributed over \$3.1 million in grants - both here at home and across the world. We are grateful that our operational costs covered bv the are generosity of our endowment and investment returns. While we do have administrative expenses, we are blessed to be in a position where your donations go entirely toward helping those in need.