

February 2024 – Newsletter

Lent comes providentially to reawaken us, to shake us from our lethargy.

~Pope Francis

The Power & Promise of Lent

Lent is such an important time in the life of the Christian Church. I was not fortunate enough to grow up in a Church that honored Lent. I did not begin to honor it until later in life. Lent is a 40-day journey from Ash Wednesday leading up to Easter excluding Sundays, because Sundays are considered *celebration days*.

Lent is a time when we as Christians take a long hard look in the mirror. We look in the mirror to discern the following: *Where we have been? Where we are? And where we are going?* We do this discernment work through prayer, personal and group reflection, fasting, small groups (that will take place on Wednesdays), and by reading and listening to Scripture, among other ways. Another thing that Christians do during Lent is to attempt to tackle ongoing issues, addictions, patterns, etc. that keep popping up in their lives.

Furthermore, during Lent this year, as a congregation, we will be taking a journey through the book entitled *Lent in Plain Sight: A Devotion Through Ten Objects* by Jill J. Duffield. We will meet every Wednesday evening in Lent to discuss various aspects of the book.

It is my hope that you will join us for this amazing journey leading to Easter morning.

Pastor Michael

