



MARCH 2022

Number 533

Pastor's Page

If you attended worship in person or virtually on Ash Wednesday, you heard me say in my sermon “during Lent, God invites us to slow down.” If you could have been perched on my shoulder this week you would be tempted to say “physician, heal thyself!” I imagine that is true for all of us – or most of us – we know how important it is to slow down, yet we find it so difficult to do because there is so much to do. How can we possibly slow down?

I do understand. Our check lists are long, and our areas of responsibility are large. However, both scripture and the witness of our elders in the faith proclaim that slowing down to spend time with God is the path toward wholeness and joy. Martin Luther said he prayed two hours a day and if he was particularly busy or overwhelmed with things to do – he prayed three hours!





My own struggle with maintaining a robust prayer life is to remember to do it first. If I think I'll do it later – it doesn't happen. A sad commentary on the spiritual life of pastor is that a large percentage of them fail in the daily practice of prayer. They're too busy. It is hard to slow down. Lent can be a God given opportunity to reset our spiritual practices and be renewed by a deeper awareness of our connection to God. Spiritual practices are not doing some sort of magic to get God to come closer – rather it is meaningfully mindful about truth that God is always near, and we are so often oblivious because we are too busy to notice.

I suspect there is another reason we resist slowing down – when we do slow down, when we are attentive to God's presence, we become more aware of the pain in our lives and the pain in the world. If I just stay busy enough, I won't feel isolated, alone, discouraged, or angry. If I just stay busy enough, I won't be overwhelmed by pain all around me: the crisis in Ukraine (O God, have mercy), the ongoing hatefulness in our public life (O Lord, have mercy), the neglect of our nation to combat climate change (O God, have mercy), the needs of those around us (O Lord, have mercy). Whatever is getting in your way of slowing down, let us slow down together this Lent so that we may rest in God's presence and be filled to the brim with God's goodness and love.

May your Lenten Season be a blessing ~ *Pastor Karen*

P.S. A reminder about some of the resources that can help you slow down and thoughtfully engage your spirit with God's Spirit:

- A Lenten Devotional from Full to the Brim with lovely artwork and reflections keyed to the Sunday scripture readings.
- A 'Full to the Brim' a Sanctified Art introspective worksheet to help you clarify your values and set your intentions for the Lenten season.
- Then there is also a Labyrinth meditation for Ash Wednesday from an Illustrated Ministry. One page has a 'finger' labyrinth. A labyrinth is a winding path – no tricks or wrong turns, it is not a maze – there is one way in and one way out. As you wind through toward the center you may consider the things that trouble you or the ways you wound yourself and the world. When you arrive at the center offer all your hurt and brokenness to God to heal. On the outward journey spend some moments in thanksgiving and reflect how you want to take what you have gained with you on your Lenten journey.
- Finally, there is a one-page summary of the Ignatian Examen.

MARCH 2022						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 7 pm Ash Weds service	3 7 pm Bells	4	5
6 LENT 1 10 am Communion	7 10 Bible Study 1 pm Mon. Painters	8	9 11:30 am Lectionary Study	10 7 pm Bells	11	12
13 LENT 2 10 am Worship	14 10 Bible Study 1 pm Mon. Painters	15 7 pm Session Mtg.	16 11:30 am Lectionary Study	17 7 pm Bells	18 3 pm Building Rental	19 3 pm Building Rental
20 LENT 3 10 am Worship	21 10 Bible Study 1 pm Mon. Painters	22	23 11:30 am Lectionary Study	24 1 pm Seniors Who Care 7 pm Bells	25 4 pm Building Rental	26
27 LENT 4 10 am Worship	28 10 Bible Study 1 pm Mon. Painters	29	30	31		

AA Meetings: Tuesday, Thursday and Fridays at Noon.

CORE MINISTRY

Core Ministry focuses on spiritual growth through worship and faith formation opportunities for people at all ages and stages of their journey with Christ.
Elders assigned: David Andersen, Claiborne Walthall

Worship for Lent "Full to the Brim"

1st Sunday in Lent
Communion

Psalm 91 / Luke 4:1-13

Sermon: Full to the Brim – Event in the Desert



2nd Sunday in Lent
Worship

Psalm 27 / Luke 13:31-35

Sermon: Full to the Brim – Under God's Wing



3rd Sunday in Lent

Worship

Psalm 63 / Luke 13:1-9

Sermon: Full to the Brim – You are Worthy



4th Sunday in Lent

Worship

Psalm 32 / Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Sermon: Full to the Brim – Prodigal Grace



Monday Bible Study

Mondays at 10 a.m. Currently they are taking a look at the Book of Thomas. Contact Pam Taft for a Zoom link: Pamtaft73@gmail.com

Lectionary Study

Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m. we discuss scripture readings for the upcoming Sunday. This study is led by Pastor Karen. A Zoom link is sent out in advance.

Christian Education

Church School: March 13 – April



Deacon Mary Greagan is leading DPC's children on a Lenten exploration of transformation with the metaphor of the caterpillar changing into a butterfly.

Adult Study

Watch for an announcement about a Lenten Zoom Watch Party



RPMs

The RPMs are finally taking a mission trip again. The RPMs are headed to New Rochelle, NY in April during spring break. The group will be working with the Fuller Center for Housing of Greater New York City. The Fuller Center's mission is to help provide adequate shelter for all people in need through the New York Metropolitan Area.



YOU CAN HELP MAKE THIS TRIP A REALITY!!! While each family contributes towards the cost of the trip, the remainder of the expenses is covered through fundraising activities, corporate donations and assistance from congregations. **Look for the RPMs as we will be visiting your church soon to tell you more!** To donate please

make your check payable to **"RPM Seniors"**. You can deliver it to the RPM mailbox at the Church Office.

This year we are giving our traditional Grounds for Giving Coffee House a "facelift." Instead of an evening event in March we are moving it to late May in the afternoon after church so that we can hold part of it outdoors on the Delmar Reformed Church patio area. We will still have music from Brian Axford as we have the past few years, light food and desserts and of course our silent auction!

Grounds for Giving Coffeehouse

Sunday, May 22, 2022 | 11:30am-2:00pm

Delmar Reformed Church

Cost: 2 tickets for \$25 / Students \$5.00

While we know the event is after the mission trip we are looking at this as an overall RPMs Youth Group fundraiser to help offset costs for not only the mission trip but also Rise Against Hunger, Sleep in Heavenly Peace and other programs that the RPMs participate in that all have a cost associated with them.

For more information: RPMsYouthGroup@gmail.com or Beth Gould 518-596-2116

CARE MINISTRY

Care Ministry is focused on effectively demonstrating and communicating DPC's core values within our church and out in our community. Being advocates and support for our neighbors near and far through social events, awareness activities, and relief efforts.
Elders assigned: Ravi Bolleddu, Irene Harbison, Lynda Spielman

DEACONS

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

3	Dan Krzykowski
3	Nancy Lynk
4	Mary Fleischut
8	Dan Lewis
9	Prince Bolleddu
10	James Carroll
19	Sue Kilgallon

19	Patrick Carroll
19	Betty Thacher
24	Anne Crawford
27	Kevin Kilgallon
27	Katarina Rees
29	Jack Gajewski
31	Midge Trivers

Zooming with Seniors Who Care

Thursday, March 24 at 1 PM on Zoom

Finding Your Roots: Genealogy 101- Presenter, Dr. Ed Taft



In the past 20 years, there has been a dramatic increase in the availability of information relating to genealogy. The rise of firms offering "genetic testing" is a by-product of the Human Genome project of the 1990's. Locally, there are many sources of information which can provide details on one's own ancestry. We will review, with personal examples, sources which can be accessed without leaving town, and provide examples of the types of information which can be obtained.

When: Thursday, March 24th at 1 PM

Where: Stay warm at home and join us on Zoom for this informative presentation

How: A Zoom link will be sent to you on Wednesday the 23rd.

Congregational Life – Welcoming Ministry

New Members Update



Our church joyously welcomed new members on Sunday, February 27, 2022.

David and Linda Van Deusen were introduced to the congregation by Dan Lewis.



Linda was born and raised in Mountainside, New Jersey and spent each summer with family in the Adirondacks. Most recently, Linda has been teaching Occupational Therapy at Maria College for the past three years. She is retired from the Bethlehem School System where she served as an occupational therapist throughout her career. She has been a piano teacher and currently enjoys yoga, dance, sewing, gardening, and spending time in the Adirondacks.

David was born and raised in Selkirk has also been teaching at Maria College for the past three years. He has leveraged his 38 years at the Director of Information Technology (IT) at the New York State Comptroller's Office to teach a new generation of Business Leaders. Music is a key component of his life; he enjoys guitar and piano playing as well as composition and arranging. He most recently has finished a 60th anniversary documentary about the Dick Van Dyke Show that is currently available on YouTube.

The Van Deusens have participated in many DPC activities including Bible study and the Bells of Praise. You may hear their voices in special music offerings throughout the liturgical year.

Anyone who is interested in becoming a member of our congregation, please contact Pastor Karen Pollan.

Ginny Gajewski, Welcoming Ministry Chair



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

YOU SHALL BE CALLED
REPAIRERS
of the BREACH

— Isaiah 58

Join us

Providing relief from natural disasters,
food for the hungry, and support
for the poor and oppressed.



For more than 70 years, One Great Hour of Sharing has provided us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. In fact, OGHs is the single, largest way Presbyterians come together every year to work toward a better world.

The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

We invite you to participate in in this year's One Great Hour of Sharing special offering collected throughout Lent. Designate your gift for OGHs on your check or use the "Donate" feature on the DPC website, indicating OGHs as the recipient.



03.02.22-
04.17.22



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

Providing **RELIEF**
from natural disasters,
FOOD for the hungry,
and **SUPPORT** for
the poor and oppressed.



MATTHEW 25

SUPPORT MINISTRY

Support Ministry enables the work of the church by faithful stewardship of the church's resources. Elders assigned: Jim Finke, Dave Rees, Bill Storrs



As DPC looks toward the future and slowly coming out of the COVID induced shutdown, we are looking to stage an event on our property on Memorial Day of this year. This event will have the two-pronged goal of providing children in the community with some activities after the traditional town Memorial Day parade and showcasing some of the causes that we support in our efforts to promote social, economic, and environmental justice for all people. It would be akin to a fair.

We are planning on renting some inflatables such as a bounce house and another similar inflatable, as well as providing hotdogs, burgers, veggie burgers, drinks, etc.

The plan is to also invite some of our partners that we've supported over the years to set up booths or informational tables to let parents peruse while their children are enjoying themselves.



This undertaking will need volunteers for both the committee setting up this event as well people that can attend the event and assist with set-up, cooking, cleaning, supervision of inflatables, and break-down.

The committee needs volunteers to help with some of the following:

- Securing inflatables, food, grills.
- Poster design and advertising, placement of flyers throughout the community.
- Brainstorming potential partners to showcase, contacting them for availability, etc.

If you can help contribute some time to this event, please contact the office at office@delmarpres.org or Dave Rees at drees21@verizon.net.

