

Redeemer News

From Pastor Susan



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In the middle of February, Christians throughout the world will turn to the season of Lent. Lenten rituals, liturgies and traditions vary across forms of Christianity, but most share in common an observance of spiritual pilgrimage – a deepening of our relationship with God. If you would like to do this in community, join us on Wednesday evenings for a simple soup and bread supper followed by an hour-long program entitled **“Cross Words: exploring the last 7 sayings of Jesus from the cross.”** Over these Lenten weeks we will listen to what Jesus most wanted to say to us before leaving this world and reflect on what these passionate, tender, extraordinary expressions may be saying to us today. I can assure you that when we get to Holy Week you will feel connected to Christ far more deeply after engaging this series. See the flyer for more details.

Here's a look at what's happening in terms of worship. Be sure to note that on February 11th we are worshipping at Spring Glen UCC!

- Sunday, February. 4: dialogue sermon between Pastor Susan and our new Youth Ministry Coordinator, Emily McKenna. Come get to know Emily and learn about this new youth ministry of four churches!
- Sunday, February, 11: Worship at Spring Glen UCC at 10:00 + fellowship (1825 Whitney Ave. Hamden)
- Wednesday, February 15: Ash Wednesday worship, 7 PM @ Redeemer
- Sunday, February 18: worship @ Redeemer + NEXT STEPS: Part 5!
- Sunday, February 25: worship @ Redeemer + Bleak midwinter soup share

Blessings,

Pastor Susan

Children's Faith Formation



February 2018

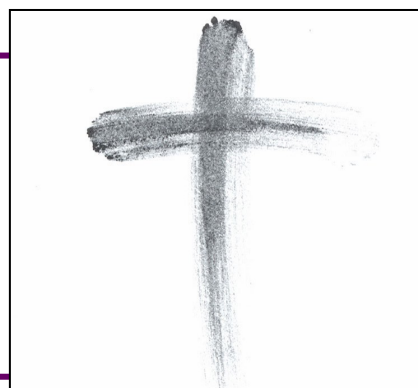
Many of us are settling back into familiar routines after the hustle and bustle of the holidays, and for those of us in Christian communities, this means that Lent is about to start! This year, Ash Wednesday falls on February 14th (Happy Valentine's Day to us!), which marks the official beginning of the liturgical season of Lent. Lent is traditionally described as lasting for forty days, in commemoration of the forty days Jesus spent fasting in the desert, according to the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, before beginning his public ministry. Many of us may have grown up participating in the practice of "giving up" certain luxuries in order to replicate the sacrifice of Jesus Christ's journey into the desert for 40 days. For others, daily devotionals have become an important part of our Lenten prayer practices. However you have observed Lent in the past, I invite you to truly think about how you might mark this time of year.

This year, I will be inviting the children to participate in a Lenten practice that I refer to as "30 Pieces of Silver." In Hebrew culture, thirty pieces of silver was not a lot of money. When Judas Iscariot bargained with the leaders of Israel to betray Jesus, he asked, "What are you willing to give me if I deliver him over to you?" They then counted out for Judas "thirty pieces of silver" (Matthew 26:15). That's all they considered Jesus to be worth! So, although we know that it does not equal a significant amount *financially*, it's *true* significance cannot be measured.

Before Lent begins, every child will receive a small cloth bag. These bags will be used to collect 30 coins (30 pieces of silver) over the course of time between Ash Wednesday and Easter. They will be invited to pick a person, place, world event, etc. to pray for each time they put a coin into their bags in hopes that they will take the time to truly understand the importance of marking this time of the year. On Easter morning, the children will collect the bags and donate the coins to an organization of their choosing. In this way, our Easter donation will be born out of our Lenten prayers.

If this is something you would like to be a part of as well, please let me know! I have plenty of bags! If you can't participate financially, I hope that you will take time to pray for the children of Redeemer as they take part in this important prayer practice.

Jordan Rebholz
Minister for Faith Formation

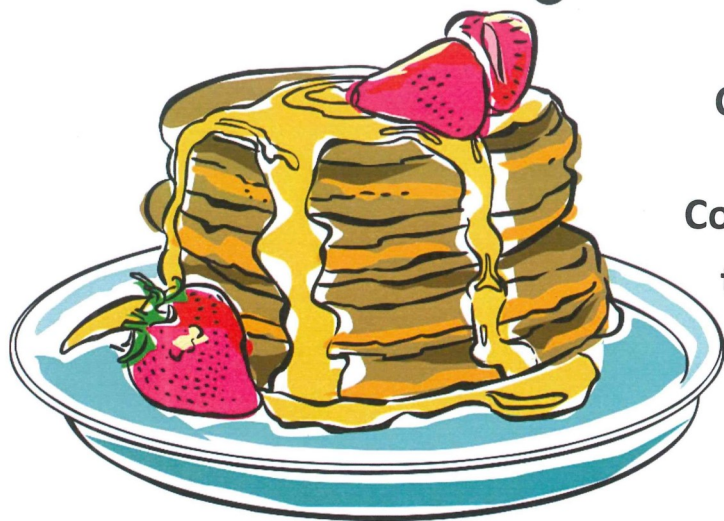


Ash Wednesday Is February 14

Ash Wednesday, marking the beginning of the season of Lent, begins on February 14th this year.

A service of worship with imposition of ashes, for those who desire them, will take place that evening at 7 pm in the sanctuary.

Shrove Tuesday



Tuesday, February 13th

5:30 – 7:00 pm

**Hungry for pancakes and
hungry for God:**

Come join us for a feast of both!

**Come enjoy a time of fellowship on
the last day before Lent begins!**

**We will have
sausage, pancakes and
a toppings bar!**

Co-sponsored by the

Children's Faith Formation and Adult Faith Formation teams

CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

Wednesday night Lenten Program

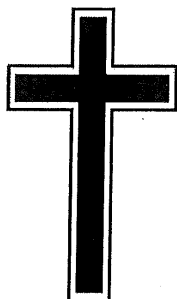
February 21 & 28

(March 7 - help with Abraham's Tent!)

March 14 & 21

Cross-Words:

**Exploring the last 7 words of Jesus
from the cross**



A 4-WEEK PROGRAM TO:

- learn Jesus' last words
- understand what he most wanted to say to us
- hear what he is saying to you today

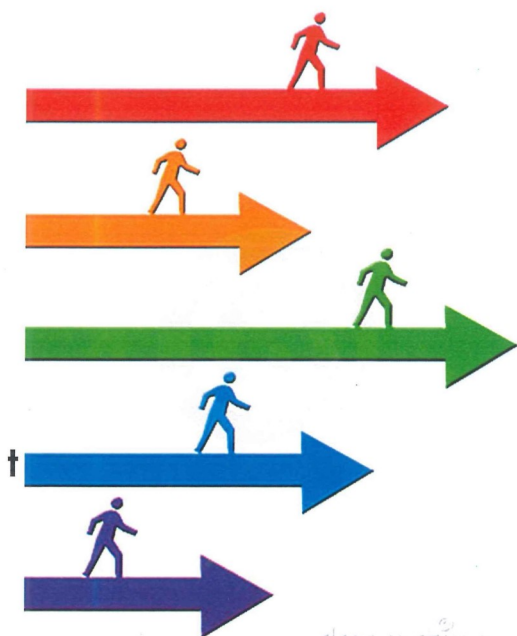
6:15 - Soup, Bread & Fellowship

**6:45 - Program led by Pastor Susan
in the Parlor**

Come for dinner or to the program or for both!

An All-Church Gathering

NEXT STEPS: Part 5!
Sunday, February 18, 2018
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.



Join the process of reviewing the options
 for Redeemer's future through
 discussion,
 taking action steps together,
 and discerning God's call!

Please come, listen and share!

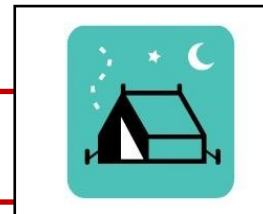
**Lunch & childcare
 will be provided!**



SIGN UP for CAMP at SILVER LAKE

It's time to sign up for Silver Lake --- the UCC summer camp from grades 3 to 12 in Sharon, CT. Scholarships are available. If you don't know about Silver Lake, please talk to Pastor Susan. She would like every child to have this experience! For more information go to: <https://www.silverlakect.org/summercamp>.

The brochure/poster included on this link can also be seen on the Christian Education bulletin board in the hallway leading to the Sterling Room. Take a look at all of the exciting programs available this year!



ABRAHAM'S TENT 2018

February 2018

Church of the Redeemer's hosting week for Abraham's Tent is fast approaching— Evening dinner March 5th - Breakfast March 12th. The Redeemer Outreach/Mission Team is requesting your help to make the week a success for our guests from Columbus House.

Please check out the Volunteer Calendar that is posted on page 7 of this newsletter.

There are several ways for you to help out:

- ♦ Sign up to make an evening meal- *share the responsibility with a friend or friends*
- ♦ Share a meal/be in companionship with our guests- *the food is always amazing*
- ♦ Donate fresh fruit for our guests- *always very appreciated*
- ♦ Make your favorite dessert to share- *what's your specialty? ...yummy, yummy*
- ♦ Donate breakfast items- *the most important meal of the day*
- ♦ Contribute to \$\$ fund for Subway sandwich cards for daily lunches- *preferred by guests*
- ♦ Stay overnight (2 persons/night) with our guests ensuring safety/ security- *very critical*

The Volunteer Calendar will be available on the Outreach/Mission Bulletin Board starting on this Sunday, January 28th- *HOWEVER*- the fastest/best way to sign up and get your preferred slot- is to send a message to Cheryl Bergman at: cmbergman476@gmail.com.

Thank you all so very much for your support.

The Missions Team:

Cheryl Bergman, Roslyn Hamilton and Lorraine Morrissey



Abrahams Tent Volunteer Calendar and Donation sheet

Mon., 3/05/18	Tues., 3/06/18	Wed., 3/07/18	Thurs., 3/08/18	Fri., 3/09/18	Sat., 3/10/18	Sun., 3/11/18
Dinner Preparer(s)	Dinner Preparer(s)	Dinner Preparer(s)	Dinner Preparer(s)	Dinner Preparer(s)	Dinner Preparer(s)	Dinner Preparer(s)
Tonight's Menu is: Tonight's Menu is: Tonight's Menu is: Tonight's Menu is: Tonight's Menu is: Tonight's Menu is:						
Dessert Creator(s) Dessert Creator(s) Dessert Creator(s) Dessert Creator(s) Dessert Creator(s) Dessert Creator(s)						
Tonight's treat is: Tonight's treat is: Tonight's treat is: Tonight's treat is: Tonight's treat is: Tonight's treat is:						
Evening Companions Evening Companions Evening Companions Evening Companions Evening Evening						
6:00 pm - 9:30pm 6:00 pm - 9:30pm 6:00 pm - 9:30pm 6:00 pm - 9:30pm 6:00 pm - 9:30pm 6:00 pm - 9:30pm						
Overnight Friends (9:00 pm-7:00 am)	Overnight Friends (9:00 pm-7:00 am)	Overnight Friends (9:00 pm-7:00 am)	Overnight Friends (9:00 pm-7:00 am)	Overnight Friends (9:00 pm-7:00 am)	Overnight Friends (9:00 pm-7:00 am)	Overnight Friends (9:00 pm-7:00 am)
Breakfast for Tues.	Breakfast for Wed.	Breakfast for Thurs.	Breakfast for Fri.	Breakfast for Sat.	Breakfast for Sun.	Breakfast for Mon.
Subway Lunch Cards	Subway Lunch Cards	Subway Lunch Cards	Subway Lunch Cards	Cards	Cards	Cards
\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20
\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20
\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20
\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20
\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20
\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20
Fresh Fruit			Fresh Fruit		Fresh Fruit	



SUN FEB 4TH - CHILL NIGHT

5:00 - 6:30 PM

at North Haven Congregational Church

28 Church Street - North Haven - CT - 06473

SAT FEB 10TH - DAY OF FUN!

EVENTS ALL DAY

at Spring Glen Church

1825 Whitney Avenue - Hamden - CT - 06517

MAKE SURE TO SIGN UP! (LINK IN E-MAIL)

SUN FEB 18TH - CHILL NIGHT

5:00 - 6:30 PM

at North Haven Congregational Church

SUN FEB 25TH

CHILL NIGHT WITH DINNER

5:00 - 7:00 PM

at North Haven Congregational Church

Youth Group Events in February

**Youth grades
7 -12 are
welcome.**

**Come join in
the fun!**



SAT FEB 10TH - DAY OF FUN!

EVENTS ALL DAY

at Spring Glen Church

1825 Whitney Avenue - Hamden - CT - 06517

MAKE SURE TO SIGN UP! (LINK IN E-MAIL)

SUN FEB 25TH

REQUIRED WORSHIP SUNDAY

at your respective church

CONFIRMATION CLASS

4:00 - 5:00 PM

CHILL NIGHT WITH DINNER

5:00 - 7:00 PM

at North Haven Congregational Church

28 Church Street - North Haven - CT - 06473

VOLUNTEER FOR ABRAHAM'S TENT

CONTACT YOUR CHURCH'S PASTOR FOR SIGN UP INFO!

At Spring Glen

At Redeemer

At United

FEB 24TH

MAR 6TH - MAR 10TH

MAR 23RD

Book Groups in February



Noon Book Group

The Noon Book Group will meet Tuesday, February 13 at 12 Noon in the Phillips Room to discuss *Just Mercy* by Brian Stevenson. The Noon Book Group normally meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. Come join in the discussion and fellowship!

Evening Book Group

The next meeting of the Evening Book Group will be on February 26 at 7:30 to discuss *Radium Girls* by Kate Moore. The location is yet to be determined. The Evening Book Group normally meets on the fourth Tuesday evening of the month at a member's home. All are welcome!

Ushers and Hospitality Servers For February and March

Thank you so much to all who serve as Ushers and Hospitality Servers each Sunday!

Ushers and Hospitality Servers are assigned by their respective teams to serve on a given Sunday. Under Redeemer's hospitality plan two individuals or couples are assigned as hosts and hostesses for a given Sunday. One provides a savory food item and the other a sweet treat. While our office administrator Barbara will continue to send reminders via email each week, this list should serve as a reminder in advance of Sundays that you are assigned.

If you are unavailable on a date you are assigned please try to arrange to exchange dates with someone else and let Barbara know so that she can acknowledge the correct ushers or hosts in the bulletin. This is the usher's or hospitality server's responsibility.

Ushers

Feb 4	Peter and Grace Halsey
Feb 11	Ken Minkema Lori Fast Minkema
Feb 18	Wes and Carol Poling Jon Reed
Feb 25	Brad and Kathy Czepiel Meggie Czepiel
March 4	Roz Hamilton Twila Harper Peggy Strickler
March 11	TBD
March 18	Bob Parker Marilyn Toland
March 25	Doby Hall Courtney Mason

Hospitality Servers

Feb 4	Fran Giffin Grace and Peter Halsey
Feb 11	Worship at Spring Glen
Feb 18	Next Steps Luncheon
Feb 25	Grace and Peter Halsey Ian Skoggard
March 4	Ruth Kaufman Greta Seashore
March 11	Victor Bolden Holly and Paul Berry
March 18	Susan Gooley Barbara Libby
March 25	Grace and Peter Halsey Fran Giffin

February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 7:45 Senior Choir, sanctuary	2	3
4 8:55 Senior Choir, sanctuary 10:00 Worship and Communion 11:15 Children's choirs rehearse 11:30 Adult Faith Formation 11:30 Building Team meeting 5:00 Youth Group Chill Night, North Haven Congregational	5	6 7:30 Leadership Council, Phillips	7	8 7:45 Senior Choir, sanctuary	9	10 Youth Group: Day of Fun, Spring Glen Church
11 10:00 Worship at Spring Glen UCC, 1825 Whitney Ave, Hamden	12	13 12:00 Noon Book Group, Phillips 5:30 Shrove Tuesday Pancake event, Sterling	14 Ash Wednesday 7:00 Worship	15 7:45 Senior Choir, sanctuary	16	17
18 8:55 Senior Choir, sanctuary 10:00 Worship and Sunday school 11:15 Children's Choirs rehearse 11:30 Next Steps: Part 5, Sterling 5:00 Youth Group, Chill Night, North Haven Congregational	19 Presidents Day Church office closed 7:00 Deacons, Phillips	20	21 6:15 Lenten Soup, Bread & Fellowship, Parlor 6:45 Lenten Program, Parlor	22 7:45 Senior Choir, sanctuary	23	24
25 8:55 Senior Choir, sanctuary 10:00 Worship and Sunday school 11:15 Children's Choirs rehearse 11:15 Bleak Mid-Winter Soup Share 5:00 Youth Group Chill Night with Dinner, North Haven Congregational	26 7:30 Evening Book Group, location TBD	27 12:00 Noon Book Group, Phillips	28 6:15 Lenten Soup, Bread & Fellowship, Parlor 6:45 Lenten Program, Parlor			

Church of the Redeemer

**185 Cold Spring Street
New Haven, CT 06511
(203) 787-5711
redeemer@uccredeemer.org**

**The Rev. Susan J. Murtha,
Interim Senior Minister
susanjdarc@gmail.com**



**Jordan Rebholz,
Minister for Faith Formation
Robert Parker, Moderator of the Church
Henry Sykes, Treasurer
Kay Comendul, Clerk
Marguerite Brooks, Director of Music
Julia Blue Raspe, Chancel Choir Director
and Alto Section Leader
Paul Berry, Boys' Choir Director
and Tenor Section Leader
Sarah Reed, Soprano Section Leader
Brian Robinson, Bass Section Leader
Larry Bishop, Organist
Barbara Repetsky, Office Administrator
and Financial Secretary
Collin Morrissey, Security
Lou and Valarie Fanelli, Sextons**

FILM SCREENING: “Life on Parole”

Tuesday, February 6

The Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy at Central Connecticut State University presents a film screening and conversation on “Life on Parole” at Best Video Film & Cultural Center (1842 Whitney Avenue, Hamden) on Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2018. The event starts at 7 PM and is free and open to the public.

“Life On Parole” is a new documentary that looks behind the scenes of Connecticut’s efforts to change the way parole works and reduce the number of people returning to prison. Produced in collaboration with the New York Times, the film follows four former prisoners as they navigate the challenges of their first year on parole. The film will be followed by conversation with former parolees and current criminal justice professionals.