



Return Service Requested

7020 Cass Street
Omaha, NE 68132-2601

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit #105
Omaha, Nebraska

BREAD

7020 Cass Street Omaha, NE 68132 (402)556-6262 www.fumcomaha.org



February 2013

Worship Schedule

Sundays
8:30 & 10:50 a.m., Sanctuary

Taizé Worship
Saturday, February 2
5:00 p.m., Mead Chapel

Pastors:
Jane Florence, Senior
Debra McKnight, Associate

"We are a United Methodist congregation of all sexual orientations and gender identities making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. We stand in solidarity with Reconciling Ministry Network working against injustice and discrimination through peace and justice."

BREAD is published once monthly.
Submit your articles by the 15th of each month to Roberta.Coss@fumcomaha.org.
Copies of BREAD are available in the printed version mailed to your home or found around the church building, the electronic version e-mailed to the address you provide, or the electronic version on the church's website.

In this Issue...

Book Review.....	2
Celebration of Soulful Healing.....	3
VIM Gourmet Dinner.....	4
Souper Bowl Sunday.....	5
Ash Wednesday Services.....	6
From Debra's Desk.....	7

Staff Extensions & E-mail Addresses:

1002.....Pastor.....	Jane.Florence@fumcomaha.org
1006.....Pastor.....	Debra.McKnight@fumcomaha.org
1001.....Office Administrator.....	Roberta.Coss@fumcomaha.org
1005.....Youth Coordinator/Membership.....	Becky.Jones@fumcomaha.org
1021.....Music Ministries Director.....	Mark.Kurtz@fumcomaha.org
1003.....Finance Manager.....	Ed.Pearce@fumcomaha.org
1010.....Building Manager.....	Steve.Nehrig@fumcomaha.org
1008.....Dir of Children's & Comm Programming.....	Barrett.Scroggs@fumcomaha.org
1004.....Director of Adult Education.....	Mary.Spurgeon@fumcomaha.org
1009.....Rainbow Factory Preschool Director.....	Linda.Thompson@fumcomaha.org
.....Urban Abbey Manager (Jim Dias).....	UrbanAbbey@fumcomaha.org
.....Music Associate.....	Marie.Meyers@fumcomaha.org
.....Mins w/Cognitively Impaired & Healing Arts.....	Sue.Rood@fumcomaha.org



I bow my knees before the Divine,
from whom every family in heaven
and on earth takes its name.
I pray that,
according to the riches of God's glory,
God may grant that we may be strengthened in our inner being
with power through God's Spirit,
and that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith,
as we are being rooted and grounded in love.

I pray that we may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints,
what is the breadth and length and height and depth,
and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge,
so that we may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to the Holy One,
who by the power at work within us
is able to accomplish abundantly far
more than all we can ask or imagine,
to God be the glory in the church
and in Christ Jesus
to all generations,
forever and ever.
Amen.

adapted from Ephesians 3:16-20



Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Friday & Sunday, 8:30 a.m.-12:00 noon
Closed Saturday

Faith Community Nurse: Jan Dixon, 402-571-4076
Community Counselor: Becky Herber, 402-354-6891, ext. 21

Urban Abbey website: www.UrbanAbbeyOmaha.com

Altar^e the World

We are progressive Christians
who believe we can make a Difference
who strive to live the example of Love
who gather in Community of Support
who work for Justice and Peace

Join us for Worship
Sunday mornings 8:30 and 10:50
And for Dialogue
Sunday mornings 9:35

Welcoming

Attendance for January 2013

	Total Attendance	First Time Visitors
12/23/12	368	5
12/24/12	720	27
12/30/12	300	5
1/6/13	407	3
1/13/13	380	3
1/20/13	336	6
1/27/13	will be posted in March issue	



Cary Hall Renovation Project

The Shine Forth capital campaign was a great success with \$1,300,000 pledged over the next three years for the project.

After campaign results were known, a Church Conference held on De-

ember 11, 2012 authorized the Building Committee to work with the architect to develop detailed plans and specifications and to secure a reliable and detailed estimate of costs for Phase I of the preliminary plan presented to the congregation in August 2012. The Building Committee then met with the architect on January 8 to plan next steps.

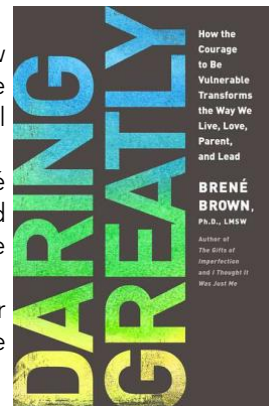
A timeline for development of the detail plans and cost estimates is now being prepared and options for sequencing of the construction work are being considered. The Building Committee and the architect are scheduled to meet again on January 30. If you have questions or comments regarding the project, feel free to contact either of the Building Committee co-chairs: Barb Bredthauer, 402-496-3211 or Larry Jensen, 402-468-4915.

Thursday, February 21 Book Review

This is our first review for the new year and we're pleased to announce that the Rev. Debra McKnight will share with us!

The book, **Daring Greatly**, by Brené Brown explores our vulnerability and how we relate to one another. The author says, "Courage is our value".

Please join us for coffee in the Parlor at 10:00 a.m. All are welcome. We look forward to seeing you!



From the Library Shelf...

"A Big-Enough God" by Sara Maitland is a work employing wit, erudition, and a playful style to open a way to a bold, risky, and inclusive spirituality.

"William Wilberforce: A Biography" by Stephen Tompkins tells the story of Great Britain's 20-year struggle to abolish slavery: in the 1780s around 40,000 slaves a year were taken from Africa on the notorious "Middle Passage" to the Caribbean. Wilberforce was a parliamentarian who spent his life to change this system.

You can find these and MANY more books in the Adult Library (room 107) and in the Gathering Place.



Noah's Ark Library—

This is the children's library located directly across from Cary Hall in the north education wing.

If you've checked out a book or other media that needs to be returned, the blue bin right outside the door can be used for that purpose and is there all the time!

Questions can be answered best by Kathy England at 402-292-1312 or volunteermomke@cox.net.



We are open for business @ 1026 Jackson Street in the Old Market

Coffee Shop Hours:

Monday-Friday, 6:30 am-10:30 pm
Saturday, 8:00 am-10:30 pm
Sunday, 8:00 am-5:00 pm

Manager: Jim Dias
402-898-7600

UrbanAbbey@fumcomaha.org

Project Interfaith presents "Speed Dialogue" at Urban Abbey.

Thursday, January 31—5:30-7:30 p.m. One of our most popular programs is back! Where can you engage in a series of fun, fast-paced conversations about belief, identity, and culture while meeting lots of new people? Join us for our next Speed Dialogue Event, a dynamic program filled with connection and discussion. Community members of all ages, beliefs, and backgrounds are welcome and encouraged to attend. You do not need to be a part of a particular religious tradition or belief system to participate. This program is part of Project Interfaith's "Zest: Casual Conversations to Freshen the Mind," series which is generously underwritten by The Apogee Group, Inc. Register <http://speeddialogue.eventbrite.com/>

Mercy & Justice



The FUMC Committee for Horizons of Faith Invites You to Horizons of Faith 2013 featuring Brian McLaren



Brian McLaren will appear at here on March 8-10, as speaker for the Horizons of Faith 2013 lectures. The event is titled, *Why Did Jesus, Moses, the Buddha, and Mohammed Cross the Road? Christian Identity in a Multi-Faith World.*

In two previous articles, you have been introduced to Brian McLaren and told a bit about his life and experiences. You have been given a peek at the perspective from which he views Christianity and the relationship to the world that a follower of Jesus is asked to have. When he comes to us in March, he will scrutinize a particular relationship with which a great many followers of Jesus are confronted today. It is one which can spark feelings of anxiety and tension within each person who considers herself to be a follower of Jesus.

The two challenging questions that Mr. McLaren will address that are especially relevant to our time and the citizens of the City of Omaha are:

- ◇ Can you be a committed Christian without having to condemn or convert people of other faiths?
- ◇ Is it possible to affirm other religious traditions without watering down your own?

In answering these questions, he will turn careful eyes to a fresh examination of issues of historical, doctrinal, liturgical and missional importance to Christians.

Perhaps you have attended Horizons of Faith in the past, and have considered inviting a friend to a Horizons of Faith weekend, but feared the presentation might be too theoretical or theological for a someone without a great deal of religious education and background to appreciate and absorb. If so, *this is the year to extend that invitation.* If you have never attended, you are especially invited this year.

The event begins Friday night, March 8 and continues through Saturday and Mr. McLaren will preach on Sunday morning and speak during the Education Hour. Registration is required for Friday night and Saturday. Event brochures are available around the church building. You may also access the complete brochure and registration form and find additional information about our presenter with a link to his website on the church website at www.fumcomaha.org and www.Horizonsofffaith.com. Registrations postmarked by February 22 are \$45.00 and \$65.00 thereafter. We look forward to having you join us!

Horizons of Faith is a weekend event of progressive Christian education instituted to lend hope, courage, and deeper understanding to the lives of faith seekers.

Mary Spurgeon—Horizons of Faith Committee



Rev. Debra McKnight

"From Debra's Desk..."

During the month of February we will celebrate the folks who are helping us make a big difference for local non-profits in Omaha—our volunteers. Our Abbey team of volunteers devote countless hours to the care of people who walk in looking for

that perfect cup of coffee and a good conversation. They take care of the big things like dishes and floors, they mix and mingle, they write notes of thanksgiving and they let people know that we care when someone shares some bad news over the coffee bar. With their help we have been able to raise over \$13,248 in donations for local non-profit partners in 2012. This doubles our Mercy and Justice budget as a faith community and has invited other folks into our ministries. People have a share in our giving to places like Together Inc. and PFLAG even if it is only one latte at a time. In the past year, our volunteers have given over \$6,000 in time and Beansmith coffee has given well over \$3,800 in coffee for a cause.

I'm asking you to make that count even more. We need you to set the course for new goals and new giving. We need you to consider who you can invite for coffee this week and next week too. Consider hosting a tea tasting or a coffee cupping event with us for friends, family and co-workers. We are ahead of our plans but we want to move further, we want to reach the goals of true sustainability. I am confident that with your help we can make that happen. I refuse to believe that we would have to stop giving 10% of our sales to local non-profits like Youth Emergency Service or Habitat for Humanity in order to do more serious advertising. We are not just a coffee shop. We are a faith community and I am betting on you—each of you. Invite your book groups, your professional societies and the folks that live down the street to try us out. Tell them how folks drinking coffee one month helped three people access immigration lawyers through Justice for our Neighbors. Ask your co-workers if they want tea time that contributes to making hundreds of free HIV tests available through Nebraska AIDS Project. Let your coffee pick someone else up by feeding our neighbors at Pearl Pantry all month long. If you need help with the details—the who, what, when and where the best parking is at different times of the day—your Abbey Staff members are ready.

This is a different type of "evangelism." You don't need to ask anyone if they have been saved all you have to ask is if they like coffee or tea. You don't have to ask anyone about eternal destinations all you have to ask is would they be open to helping someone right here and now. And if they are looking for a faith community that cares about making a difference...GREAT! We can help with that too!

Debra



Be sure to "Like" us

**First United Methodist Church-Omaha; The Kids Zone @ First Church
First United Methodist Church-Omaha Youth; Urban Abbey Omaha**

Inspiring

Worship Assistants for February

February 3—Souper Bowl Sunday

Lectionary: Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6;
1 Corinthians 13:1-13; Luke 4:21-30

Worship Scripture: Acts 4:1-4

Coffee Servers: Youth

Ushers:

8:30—Bruce & Dottie Deines (Head), Rosemary Hroch,
Jean Wilmoth

10:50—Michael Gordon (Head), John Freeman,
Harlan Sayles, Shirley Ward

February 10

Lectionary: Exodus 34:29-35; Psalm 99;
2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2; Luke 9:28-36 (37-43)

Worship Scripture: Acts 5:12-16

Coffee Servers: Mark Darby

Scripture Readers:

8:30—Nancy Coziahr

10:50—Paul Ing

Ushers:

8:30—Bruce & Dottie Deines (Head), Rosemary Hroch,
Jean Wilmoth

10:50—Kevin Graham (Head), Ken Jones, Matt Morton,
Mark Schulze

February 17—First Sunday in Lent

Lectionary: Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16;
Romans 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13

Worship Scripture: Acts 8

Coffee Servers: Ron Alexander & Carmen Burr

Ushers:

8:30—Bruce & Dottie Deines (Head), Rosemary Hroch,
Jean Wilmoth

10:50—Emogene Whitten (Head), Paul Gadzikowski,
Paul Ing, Daryl Traster

February 24

Lectionary: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27;
Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-35

Worship Scripture: Acts 9

Coffee Servers: NEEDED

Scripture Readers:

8:30—Alan Dappen

10:50—Marylin Stewart

Ushers:

8:30—Bruce & Dottie Deines (Head), Rosemary Hroch,
Jean Wilmoth

10:50—Jean Keeney (Head), Jim Keeney,
Rosemary Opbroek, Judy Torrens



February 13

12:00 p.m., Mead Chapel

7:00 p.m., Sanctuary



February 13

12:00 p.m.

Spirituality

February is Heart Month

Know the risk factors for heart disease that you can control.

- High Cholesterol—Know your numbers. A simple blood test can show if your blood cholesterol level is desirable, borderline-high or high.
- High Blood Pressure. Have your blood pressure checked each time you visit your doctor or at church once a month on the third Sunday.
- Physical inactivity. Get up and get moving. Regular physical activity helps reduce your risk of heart attack, heart disease and stroke.
- Obesity. This is a health issue. Obesity is a major health problem for all Americans.
- Diabetes. Have your glucose levels checked regularly.

Stay Healthy take care of your heart. For more information contact: Jan Dixon, Faith Community Nurse, 402-571-4076

—Health Ministries

Teddy Bears for Ted E. Bear Hollow

The teddy bears for Ted E. Bear Hollow are returning on February 17 and 24. Watch for bears on sale and bring them to the Gathering Place.



Due to health concerns for the recipients, we **must** have new bears. The new bears are given to children who are grieving the loss of someone they loved.

Thank you for continuing to support this mission.

—Suzanne Morgan and Lucy Wood



Mark Your Calendar
for an Afternoon Away—

A Gift You Can Give to Yourself

The Fourth Annual Celebration of
Soulful Healing

Sunday, February 10

1:00-4:30 p.m.

Healing is so much more than going to a doctor or taking a pill. Healing involves the body, mind and spirit in a holistic blend of science and spirituality. This is the reason that the Healing Arts Team will offer this opportunity to ignite and honor the energy, and draw forth the power within for healing and wholeness for self and all of creation.

Adults, teens, and children alike will have the opportunity to explore a variety of healing experiences and spiritual disciplines designed to develop the body, mind, spirit connection. For example, we will offer experiences with yoga, breath work, zumba, healing touch and much more. Watch our website, www.fumcomaha.org, and the weekly Announcing for more details.

Red Cross Blood Drive

February is Heart month, not to mention Valentine's Day and it's a short month! The theme is red. And time for another Red Cross Blood Drive on **Sunday, February 24**. This may be the last drive at FUMC for a while as we will be starting into the reconstruction of Cary Hall soon.

While it is easy to forget our commitment to this program because folks are often still cleaning up from Christmas, there is no stopping the need for blood for accidents, illnesses, organ transplants and any number of other needs for blood—red or white cells and/or plasma. The need is always there so the supply must always be available.

We will be set up as before in Cary Hall to register and donate. Whoops, can't forget the refreshment area so you can replace the fluid you have given. All together the time is about 1 hour. Not much to save a life, is it? We will start with sign-ins at 8:00 and go until 1:00 p.m. doing about 6 an hour. Our goal is 30 donors. Find a time that will fit your schedule and plan to sign up early in the Gathering Place any Sunday in February or call me, Kathy England, 402-292-1312. If you aren't sure of your schedule please feel free to walk in on the 24th.

Remember February is heart month. Share your heart and blood this month. It is a gift that only you can give and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

—The Health Ministries Committee



Taizé Services

Taizé worship is an invitation to listen and to open hearts and minds to the Divine Presence. It is prayer.

Taizé services are inspired by the Taizé ecumenical monastic community in France in the small village of Burgundy. The community was founded by Brother Roger Schutz during the Second World War.

Each Taizé service is unique but common characteristics include a period of silence, the use of candles and the meditative weaving together of readings, prayer and music.

Taizé services are held on the first Saturday of each month at 5:00 p.m. in Mead Chapel. All are welcome!

Supporting

Please remember in prayer these members of Our Church Family

For Continued Healing: Betty Alderman, Dean Barnett, Judy Bornholdt, Roger Burns, Dick Burroughs, Phyllis Burroughs, Milo Cowdery, Milton Davison, Betty Dorr, Terri Elliot-Mason, Kathy England, Laura England-Biggs, Leah Gadzakowski, Ella Gerber, Charlie Gould, Garnet Hafer, Paul Halverson, John Hansen, Gladys Haskett, Audrey Heavrin, Jim Horrocks, Daline Jensen, Eileen Johnson, Jean Keeney, Bev Lobo, Deborah Mabry-Strong, Mildred Mattson, Norm Miller, Bonnie Morehead, Marv Morgan, Suzanne Morgan, Ella Muntz, Cheryl Nelson, Helen Nipper, Elna Peirce, Dorothy Pennington, Arlene Peterson, Victoria Peterson, Dale Seyl, Laura Seyl, Mary Ellen Shuler, Ed Schwenk, Carol Windrum, Jack Wright

Sympathies to: Ann Thomasset on the death of her mother, January 5; Susan Morse on the death of her father-in-law January 4; Becky Jones on the death of her sister, Melissa Waldrop, January 2; Pat Lovitt on the death of her father, December 18.

Celebration of the Baptism of: Emma Marion Strupp, daughter of Kathryn & Derrick Strupp, January 6.

Celebration of the Birth of: Theodore Patrick born to Linda Thompson's daughter and son-in-law, January 10.

Please let the church office know if you are hospitalized or if there has been a family loss.



Prayer Requests

Submit your prayer requests to Marilyn Stewart at MarilynS@aol.com or call the church office at 402-556-6262 x1001.

Please follow these brief guidelines when submitting a request for the Prayer Chain:

- A. Use names without describing the need. Give the first or full name and relationship—friend, brother/sister, spouse/partner, parent, child, etc.
- B. Give a brief statement of need—illness, grief, crisis
- C. Get permission from the person to be listed on the Prayer Chain before contacting Marilyn or the church



Together, Inc. thanks us for our monthly donation. To find out more about Together, Inc., go to their website at www.TogetherOmaha.org.

"Thank you for the beautiful poinsettia plant delivered to our door at home recently!" James & Gloria Schlichtemier and David Schlichtemier

Deepest thanks to the strong, sturdy lumberjacks and their assistants, that helped wrestle down the 7 1/2', 9', and 12' trees in the Sanctuary and return them to storage. That includes: Mike Ramsey, Mike, Rhonda & Michele Rosenthal, Jon Kemling, Chris Stone, and Michael Gordon. (Hope any sore muscles have healed. Steve Nehrig was delighted with your accomplishment.) The elves failed us this year in "hanging the greens". (They were probably busy up North.) Fortunately, Jon Kemling, Mike Ramsey, Jim Dias, Becky Jones and her merry band of young people, and the Dreher and Kazmierski families stepped in to save the day! Apologies if any names of helpers were omitted. Please know that all your help was greatly appreciated. Without it, the whole congregation would not have enjoyed the wonderful decorations. —Mary Spurgeon

A "Shine Forth" Story

In the recent Shine Forth campaign, we were asked to reflect on sacrificial giving and on what we might do without over the next three years. Money we might spend on ourselves could then be committed to the renovation of the east end of our building. Daniel Graham, 8-year-old son of Kevin and Deirdre, took sacrificial giving to a new level. Here's his story.

While Daniel earns a little money doing extra chores around the house, his basic income is his \$2 weekly allowance. Daniel has always given a tithe of his income to the church. In fact, he decided that he would give \$50 to the church's operating budget for 2013, over 20% of his allowance. Additionally he wanted to give to the Shine Forth project. But how would Daniel manage to give even more than his regular tithe over the next three years? Daniel wrote; "I figured out how much three Lego sets cost and through that I figured out how much I would give." That came to \$50 for each of the three years.

Why was this so important to Daniel? He explains it in his own words. "I donated to the Shine Forth campaign because I felt it was important to give to this special cause. I think that anyone can give no matter how young. I also think that this is a very important cause and it will affect a lot of people. If you can donate I think you should. Everyone who donates will make a big difference."

Thank you Daniel!

Volunteers in Mission (VIM) Gourmet Dinner Saturday, February 23 is our 22nd Annual VIM Gourmet Dinner in Cary Hall at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are on sale now in the Gathering Place!!

The Menu: Butternut Squash Soup, Pork Loin Roast, Long Grain and Wild Rice, Mixed Greens Salad, Green Vegetable, Rolls, Dessert.

Questions?????: Mike & Rhonda Rosenthal, 402-572-6208 or Bruce & Dottie Deines, 402-330-8169.

Faith Studies@First

What's going on in the Kids Zone?

Join us each Sunday morning at 9:35 for Hosanna Choir and other creative activities upstairs in the Kids Zone (room 208). Parents, be sure your child arrives at 9:35 so that we have plenty of time for fun and learning.



Youth Update

February 3: Youth host "Souper" Bowl Sunday and the Gathering Place Coffee—Once a year, the youth collect monetary and can donations to go to Pearl Pantry. It coincides with the Super Bowl where millions of dollars are spent on commercials. What if that money was spent for the hungry?!? What a world of difference that would make. Also, our Youth will be your host/hostess for the Gathering Place coffee. This is just a way to say "thank you" to all who make this possible and to let you know we think that it is important, too! Look for the Youth on February 3!

Adult Classes

These classes meet Sunday mornings at the church in the room listed at 9:35 unless otherwise noted.

All are welcome to any class.

Boomers +/- —If it is too big a topic that your heart has drawn, join this class as they explore the theme, *The Cosmos and Our Faith Journey*. The perspective will be broad and the conversation lively! This class meets on the Stage.

Connections—You know that passage of scripture that is read during each worship service right before the preacher preaches? Have you noticed how she refers back to that passage in her sermon? Have you ever been astonished to discover that those ancient words actually were relevant to your life today? This month, members of Connections will have the opportunity to offer their own reflections on, and enter into, conversations about those scriptures. Millennial and GenXers mostly make up this group, but anyone is welcome. They meet in the Parlor.

FaithLinks—Each week a new, stand-alone topic from a current event or contemporary problem is explored within the context of the Christian Faith. You, your viewpoint, and opinion are welcome to this intergenerational class. Find them in room 111.

Galileans—The first three Sundays in February, Joel Walker, a Chaplin and convert to United Methodism, will teach the history, doctrine and theology, and the policies and organization of the United Methodist Church. If you

are new to United Methodism, or a long time member with questions, or you just plain don't know about these topics and would like to, please join the Galileans for these presentations. The last Sunday in February and the First Sunday in March, Mary Spurgeon will lead a Lenten study. Watch Announcing for more details. This class meets in room 112.

Explorers—This class reads and talks about books. This month they begin *Why Did Jesus, Moses, the Buddha, and Mohammed Cross the Road?* by Brian McLaren. Mr. McLaren is the speaker for the Horizons of Faith lecture event, here at FUMC, March 8-10. If you would like to join them for the study of the Brian McLaren book, contact Mary Spurgeon, 402-566-6262 X 1004. This group will welcome you in room 108.

Centering Prayer—This prayer time begins with 10 minutes of fellowship, followed by a 20-minute sit in silence, closing with The Lord's Prayer. This sacred time is set aside for you to be present in each moment, and to willingly consent for the Divine to work within you, in community with others who are doing the same. This is a contemporary form of an ancient spiritual practice. All are welcome in Mead Chapel at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday. Another Centering Prayer time is offered the 2nd & 4th Thursdays monthly at 6:15 p.m., also in Mead Chapel.

Sophia's Path—is a group of women (but men are welcome!) meeting weekly to learn, reflect, support one another and grow together, meeting on Wednesdays, 9:30-11:30 a.m. in room 111. They are currently reading *The Untethered Soul*, by Michael Singer. **Childcare is provided in room 105.** Come join them! Questions? Contact Maria Walker at mariawalker@yahoo.com.

Continuing to Live the Questions Class—Led by the Rev. Dr. Jane Florence—topics are on progressive theology and are discussion based. Questions are welcomed and encouraged. This class meets on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays monthly at 6:30 p.m. in room 113. **This class will resume on February 6**, with a DVD-assisted study entitled *Emerging Voices, Emerging Church*. It explores faith, fear, the experience of God, Jesus, power, the Bible, spiritual practice and transformation through the lenses and words of Spong, Crossan, Borg, Rohr, Chittister, and Taylor. Got questions about any of those topics? You've got a safe place and great company—both virtual and actual—in which to explore them.

Lectionary Bible Studies are small groups that delve into the background, context, and meaning of weekly scriptures chosen for focus in common by many Christian denominations. See the weekly calendar for meeting times and places.