

# February



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## LENT: A SEASON FOR GIVING UP AND TAKING ON



The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17. Whenever Lent comes around, Christians often say they will try to “give up something” for the season (e.g. certain foods (like chocolate) or certain behaviors (like eating between meals). Others may try to “take on” something for Lent (e.g. certain spiritual practices, or relationship building or re-building among people.) Let me suggest it’s best to find a balance in the giving up and the taking on. Indeed, the two may go hand- in-hand.

**Here are 12 things to consider “giving up” for Lent in order to make room for the “taking on.”\*** Try them and be blessed with a happy and holy Lent. And remember: whatever you choose or however you feel led, know there is no perfect way to “do” Lent. Whatever you do, though, do so with your heart open to receive again and again the grace offered to you and made possible for you on the cross of Christ and on the morning of His resurrection. That, after all, is where this Lenten journey ends.

Peace,  
Pastor Mark

**\*1. Give up Guilt and take on Grace.** Trusting in God’s grace is what sets us apart and laying down guilt helps to focus on grace, remembering, you are loved by Jesus who has forgiven all sins. Today is a new day and the past is behind.

**2. Give up Fear and Take on Courage** – remembering God is on your side and in him you are more than a conqueror.

**3. Give up the Need to Please Others and take on your Desire to Please God.** Practice waking up each day and saying: “I can’t please everyone.” There is only One I need to please – and do this knowing you are already God’s beloved child!

**4. Give up Envy and take on Blessing.** Remind yourself everyday: I am blessed. Your value is not found in possessions, but in your relationship with your Creator God.

**5. Give up Impatience and take on God’s well-timed intervention.** Practice patience and “being still” in spirit knowing that God is with you.

**6. Give up a Sense of Entitlement and take on Service to Others.** Tell yourself that the world does not owe you anything, not does God. Practice living in humility and grace.

**7. Give up Bitterness and Resentment and take on Forgiveness** – Practice “letting go” knowing that the only person you hurt by holding on yourself

**8. Give up Blame and take on Responsibility.** See where you may be “passing the buck” and stop.  
*(Cont’d on p. 2)*

(Cont'd from p. 1)

9. **Give up gossip and negativity and take on understanding and gracious living.** Practice putting the best construction on everything when it comes to other people; and minimize contact with people who are negative and toxic and who enjoy bringing other people down
10. **Give up Comparison and take on Contribution.** Own your unique contribution to make and tell yourself: "there is no one else like me!" and that's a good thing!
11. **Give up Fear of Failure and take on The Joy of Trying.** You don't succeed without experiencing failure. Just remember – succeed or fail, God will meet you there!
12. **Give up Feelings of Unworthiness and take on a "Psalm 139" attitude (verses 13-14):**  
*For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.  
<sup>14</sup> I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.*

\*Borrowed in part from article by Pastor Phil Ressler of the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Old Bridge, NJ

**Please join us for our two Ash Wednesday services this year – on February 17, 2021:**

- **Drive Through Ashes** – 7:00 AM in the church parking lot – Come before work for prayer and receive a blessing with ashes – right in your own car!
- **Evening Prayer Service** with Imposition of Ashes - **6 PM in the sanctuary.**

**ALSO - Join our ZOOM Studies on Thursdays at 6PM. Details to follow.**



## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Christian Ed is in the process of getting our youth programs back up and running!!! We are planning to get the middle school/high school youth group back up and running in February. Jerry and Lindsay will be contacting our youth and families with a date once set. We also plan to get S'more Time with Jesus/Messy Church back up and running. Follow Facebook for more information on the dates and each event.

The youth will be holding their sub sale once again on Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 7th. Orders can be picked up curbside between 1pm and 3pm. They will also be helping the mission committee with collecting nonperishable goods. For every 2 canned goods a bag of snack size chips will be given to go with the sub. The sub sale will support our youth in their faith journey. A retreat our middle school youth is planned for June 22-25 to Massanetta Springs. Thank you to everyone who continues to support our youth and help them group spiritually!



Mission will continue to collect canned goods and nonperishable items through Feb. 14th to help restock the Blessing Box supply as well as share with the Spirit Kitchen for their food drives.

Thank you to everyone who donated old shoes! 24 pairs will be given to Abby to help off-set the cost of her cancer treatments. Her family is working with GotShoes, an organization that will give Abby money for each pair donated then distribute the shoes to those in need all around the world. An additional 12 pairs were dress shoes, not accepted by GotShoes—those will be donated to Hope4Recovery. They are currently collecting all shoes to help raise funds to help those in need of recovery and to educate the public.

**BREAKFAST FOR DINNER**  
**Saturday, February 20th**  
**4:00—5:30pm**  
**Drive up or Delivery**

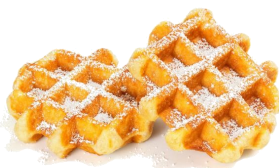
Waffles, Sausage,  
 Egg & Cheese  
 Casserole, & Fruit.  
 Please order by  
 Thursday, February  
 18th by calling or  
 texting Cindi Pruitt  
 443-880-5502.

Please tell us what  
 time you would like to  
 pick-up your dinners  
 or if you would like to  
 have us deliver them  
 to you.

Please share this  
 outreach with anyone  
 you think would  
 benefit from it.



**CHEESY EGG  
 CASSEROLE**

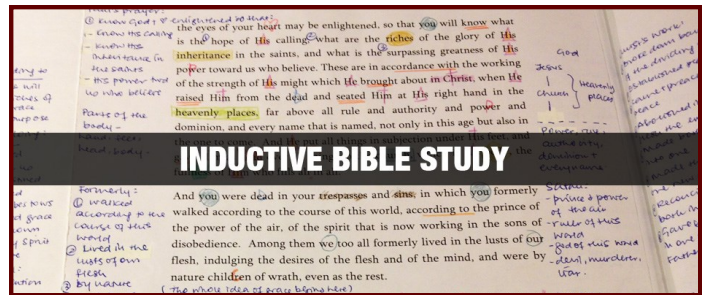


**Spirit Kitchen Weather & Information Line**

**The Spirit Kitchen** located at  
 Stevenson United Methodist  
 Church (123 North Main Street)  
 now has an information line to  
 check on hours of operation/  
 inclement weather closings.  
 The number is **410-726-0020**



**Spiritual Growth!**



**Inductive Bible Study—A Unique Approach to  
 Reading,  
 Studying and Experiencing the Scriptures**

**Where:** Taylor Hall

**When:** Thursdays 6-7:30pm or Fridays 10-11:30am

Friends - all are invited to gather in Taylor Hall – masks on, keeping distance around the tables, please – learning to not only read the Bible, but glean its richest blessings for our lives through this simple, yet powerful way of slowing down and really engaging with the words we read.

Come Buckingham – bring your favorite Bible and your heart wide open for all that God has to say to us in this time and place! And please feel free to bring a family member or friend.



2/1	EVELYN Warren
2/5	LYNNE Murray
2/6	JACOB Cook
2/7	LINDSAY Ashton
2/10	George David
2/12	DOROTHY Timkin THOMAS Truitt
2/14	Rowan Cook
2/16	CATHY Leyden
2/19	MICHAEL Leyden WILLIAM Smith
2/20	ETHAN Cook
2/27	Cade Harsh



2/5	DOUGLAS & SUZANNE Parks
2/9	CHARLES & JOAN Townsend
2/14	TONY & KARLA Davis





## MEAL FOR OUR MISSION

### Two Ways to Give Back!

**Pick Up Your Meal Drop Off Non-Perishable Items to Stock Our Blessing Box and the Spirit Kitchen!**

**(2 items = 1 snack size bag of chips)**

Proceeds from the sale will support our middle school youth trip to:

**"Rooted in Love"**

**Massanetta Springs's\* Summer Conference - July 22-25, 2021**

\*Massanetta's Middle School Conference transforms the faith journey of hundreds of middle schoolers from all around the country. Every aspect of this conference is crafted with middle schoolers in mind. Conference activities like keynote, recreation, encounter groups, and workshops are centered on the theme of the summer.

**\$5 for one 6 inch, made to order sub**

**OR**

**\$9 for one 12 inch, made to order sub**

Sub options include: Turkey, Chicken Salad or American Cold Cut

Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato, Mayo and Mustard optional

**To place your order or for questions please contact Lindsay, Jerry, or Kristin.**

**Lindsay 410-629-1029**

**Pick up from 1pm-3pm Super Bowl Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup>.**

**Payment due at the time of order or at pick-up. Orders due by Tues. Feb. 2nd.**

You can order online as well through this link: [https://buckinghamsubsale.wixsite.com/superbowlsubs?fbclid=IwAR34XJvg7ZQ2T6ddP\\_EWLSFiWZh6h-maKDuoD6q9XDclqX9L\\_BuFhZJ0G9g](https://buckinghamsubsale.wixsite.com/superbowlsubs?fbclid=IwAR34XJvg7ZQ2T6ddP_EWLSFiWZh6h-maKDuoD6q9XDclqX9L_BuFhZJ0G9g)



## *A Note from Historian Lynne Murray*

Richard Jones, our previous custodian, comes from a long line of Buckingham Presbyterian Church members. I remember Richard's parents and siblings attending church services and helping out as needed. Pre-Covid, Richard and his wife Peggy have furnished lunch following church services and entered the chili cooking contest on Family Night dinners. Richard's sister Marylan is my age and, when we were growing up, used to invite me to their big farm to play and have dinner. It seemed to me that Richard was related to everybody; in addition to Marylan I remember sister Achsah and brothers Edwin and Franklin.

The Jones' were very generous with their entertaining and often invited my Grandmother Taylor for Sunday dinner. Gran, known to all as "Miss Mae Taylor," held anyone who fed her in high esteem. And how they fed you! I remember chicken, of course, potatoes, big bowls of veggies, bread and pickles, plus dessert. I recall climbing trees on the Jones farm but that must have been before dinner!

Mrs. Jones' experience in preparing big meals would certainly have made her a mainstay at BPC fundraising dinners. I remember Gran and the ladies of the church serving meals from the area under the stage in Taylor Hall. The wood panels under the front of the stage tilted to form a pass-through where the servers picked up the filled platters. You can just imagine the joy of moving the kitchen out to it's current location, and the subsequent upgrades it has undergone. The Trustees are now endeavoring to bring the kitchen up to commercial standards so we may qualify as a safe venue to again conduct fundraising events.

I love February, my birthday is the 5th, and I will be 80 years old. I wish all the other Aquarians a happy birthday too!

*Happy Trails, Lynne*



**Your Deacons in Action... with help from the Congregational Life Committee!**

Thanks to the Herculean efforts of the Congregational Life Committee the Deacons had a good reason to call and check on our seniors and shut-ins; and we did. The visits were brief but seeing a familiar face and delivering the food was terrific (as you all know the meal was delicious). The seniors we support in the cottages were so thrilled to be remembered and to get a hot meal and dessert delivered to their doorstep. Thanks again, CLC!

We were also able to help two families with their rent. Again, many thanks to all who contribute to the Deacons.

**Thank you  
for  
helping to  
keep Our  
Blessing  
Box Full!**



### **COLLECTING OLD PALMS for ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE**

– It is an ancient practice in the church to burn old palms for making the ashes used in the Ash Wednesday Service. All are invited, then, to bring old palms to church before February 16 and place them in baskets in either Taylor Hall or in the Sanctuary. Thanks!



**Lottie Nickell** received The President's Volunteer Service Award Bronze level in her sophomore year of 2019-2020 at SDHS. In order to earn the Bronze award, a student must have a minimum of 100 volunteer hours during the school year.

Lottie was a member of the Connections Club last year which participates in volunteering with many different types of community organizations. Lottie's favorite organization was working at Coastal Hospice Thrift Store where she enjoyed sorting the items and helping customers. In addition, Lottie visited with residents of The Woodland of Ocean Pines Retirement Home which was a special time. Lottie also enjoyed taking lunch orders downtown for our church bazaar and delivery of them, along with painting and decorating the Sunday school hallway.

Lottie was presented by her teacher with a letter from the White House; signed by the President.



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON



Congratulations on receiving the President's Volunteer Service Award.

On behalf of a grateful Nation, I thank you for your service to your fellow Americans and those most in need. Through your dedicated service, you have ensured the continuation of America's unparalleled commitment to improving the lives of others.

Over this past year, you have served as a model of the American spirit. Your many hours of service have strengthened the bonds of cooperation and trust that bring people together, while helping to address some of the greatest challenges of our time.

One of our Nation's greatest strengths remains the compassion of our everyday citizens, who give so willingly of themselves and their lives for the benefit of others. Each generation of hardworking and kindhearted volunteers helps to write a new chapter of American greatness, and our Nation is proud for your commitment to this honorable tradition.

As we reflect on your many acts of kindness and charity over this past year, our Nation draws inspiration from those who answer the call to help their communities and our Nation. With your continued efforts to build on our Nation's culture of service, America will proudly remain a land of freedom and opportunity for all.

Thank you for your enduring commitment to serving your community and our Nation. I trust that you will continue to work for the betterment of others and an even stronger future for the American people.

Congratulations  
to  
Lottie Nickell  
for receiving the  
**President's  
Volunteer  
Service  
Award!**

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be that of Donald Trump.

























# 2021

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	1 Sharing & Caring 6:30pm 	2 Pastor Hrs. 3-5pm 	3 Pastor Hrs. 1-3pm	4 Bible Study 6-7:30pm 	5 Pastor Hrs. 10am-Noon Bible Study 10-11:30am 	6
7 Souper Bowl of Caring Sub Sale 1-3pm 	8 Sharing & Caring 6:30pm  Cemetery Clean- up—time TBA	9 Pastor Hrs. 3-5pm	10 Pastor Hrs. 1-3pm	11 Bible Study 6-7:30pm 	12 Pastor Hrs. 10am-Noon Bible Study 10-11:30am 	13
14 Transfiguration of the Lord <b>Valentine's Day</b> 	15 Sharing & Caring 6:30pm  	16 Pastor Hrs. 3-5pm Session 6pm 	17 Pastor Hrs. 1-3pm Drive-thru ashes 7am Evening Prayer Service w/ashes 6pm	18 Bible Study 6-7:30pm  Trustee Mtg. 6:30pm with CE & Clerk  <b>meeting</b>	19 Pastor Hrs. 10am-Noon Bible Study 10-11:30am 	20
21 1st Sunday in Lent— Communion—TBA	22 Sharing & Caring 6:30pm 	23 Pastor Hrs. 3-5pm	24 Pastor Hrs. 1-3pm	25 Bible Study 6-7:30pm 	26 Pastor Hrs. 10am-Noon Bible Study 10-11:30am 	27

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## Fun February Facts & Notable Dates

- ⇒ Groundhog Day, which is celebrated on February 2nd, came about because of a German superstition. It was thought that if a hibernating animal cast a shadow on February 2nd, winter would last for another six weeks. If there was no shadow, spring would come early.
- ⇒ On February 10th, 1962, Astronaut John Glen Jr. became the first American to orbit the earth.
- ⇒ The NFL Super Bowl is usually held on the last Sunday in January, but in 2002, it was held in February for the first time.