



CROSSROADS NEWSLETTER

In the holy season of Lent, we prepare ourselves to follow Jesus through his journey of faithfulness, sacrifice, and a re-made life. This preparation involves giving into a holy process of fasting from our own needs and being filled with God's desires for us like prayer, contemplation, study, and service. The start of Lent is a moment for initiating faithful change to become more of what God has in mind for us.

As John Ballenger describes it: "If we cannot name the difference God is making in our living, then we should return to our friends and to God with what we say we believe, and ask for help writing it on our hearts so we can live it out, so that those who would ask, 'And where is that God of yours?' could look to our living and know." Lent could be understood as returning to our community and God with what we say we believe, and asking for help writing it on our hearts.

This Lent we have a number of opportunities to write our faith on our hearts again, and I invite you to consider any or all of them.

**LENTEN DEVOTIONAL BOOK:** Geoff has put together this truly wonderful book "Journey to the Cross" of scripture, prayer, and contemplation during our Lenten journeys. [Click here](#) to download a copy, or pick one up in the atrium.

**BEHOLD WPC'S LATEST ART PROJECT: STATIONS OF THE CROSS** in the church atrium. We are such a blessed community of artists! Many have thoughtfully and powerfully rendered the 14 stations of the cross in visual art, and each piece invites us into a deeper journey through the story.

**READ THE GOSPELS DURING LENT!** Read the 4 Gospels! [Click here](#) to sign up and receive a daily email with scripture, prayer, and supporting materials.

**STUDY WITH DR. JIM PAPANDREA, FROM HOUSE CHURCHES TO HIERARCHY** The early church was heavily invested in being remade to follow Christ. Dr. Papandrea, a popular professor at Garrett Seminary, follows the early followers of Jesus through the formation of the institution known as the Christian Church. The first lecture was last Sunday, but you can still join the class and [catch up on this installment by video!](#) [Click here](#) if you would like to sign up for the class and join in.

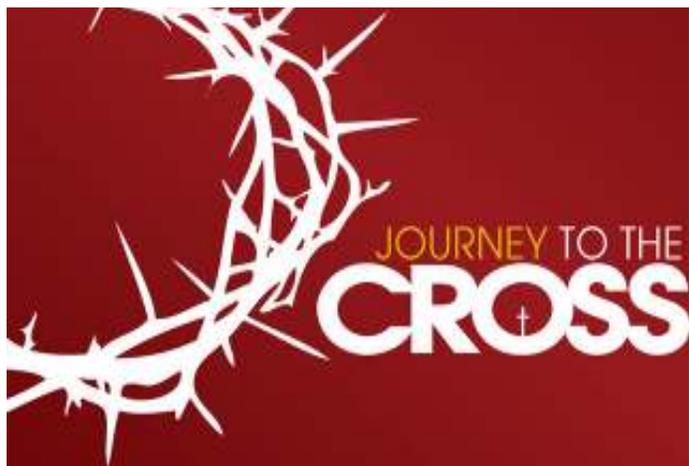
I hope you will let yourself be guided into disciplines for being remade this holy season. May the blessings of Lent's holy journey enter, challenge, and inspire your life!

In peace,



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## LENT 2014

### Throughout Lent

Stations of the Cross Exhibit

Interact with stations of the cross created by WPC artists

### Wednesday Worship

Wednesday, March 19 @ 7pm

Psalms of Lament and Hope, featuring Brenda Turner

Wednesday, April 2 @ 7pm

Alternative/Interactive Worship, led by Pastor Adam

### Holy Week

April 13-April 20

#### Palm Sunday

April 13 @ 9:45am

#### Maundy Thursday

April 17 @ 6:30pm

#### Good Friday

April 18 @ 12pm and 7:30pm

#### Easter Sunday

April 20 @ 9:00am and 11:00am

## Social Media Sunday #wpcworship

A few weeks ago, we participated in a unique experiment during worship, where we sought to explore the connections of social media and worship. Many of our young people, and folks of all ages, found ways to actively engage the worship service through the use of technology, social media and their smartphones! Read more about Social Media Sunday on page 7.



## Field Day Re-instituted

After many years, an all-Church "Field Day" is being re-introduced. It is an opportunity for our entire Church family to come together on a Saturday morning to do spruce-up, clean-up and straighten-up projects around the church property. All are invited, including teenagers, to come and lend a hand. The date is Saturday April 12th starting with coffee, juice and rolls at 9am, and ending at 12pm sharp. Projects that are simple and doable (and worth doing) will be assigned that morning and any necessary supplies (rags, cleaning materials, etc.) will be provided.

Field Days were a Church tradition in the mid-70's and the old-timers among us will remember them as fun and good-fellowship events.

A sign-up sheet will appear in the Atrium in the next few weeks, and there will be an sign-up online as well. Or just show up!



Come join us April 12th for a well-spent morning!



March 2014

# Highlights

## Women's Retreat

March 14-16

### *Naming and Claiming God's Gifts*

Eaglewood Resort & Spa

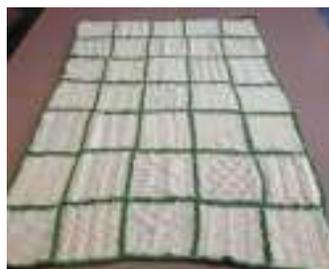
Itasca, IL

The Women's Retreat beckons you to a time of fellowship and renewal of spirit and body. Speakers Kathy McNair and Marj Steiner will lead a program sure to calm your whirl-weary soul. During your free time, the Eaglewood Spa and fitness center stands ready to help you refresh and re-center. Registration materials are available in the church office and on our website. For information and enrollment materials contact retreat coordinator, Carol Fessler at [cafessler@aol.com](mailto:cafessler@aol.com)



## Great Purl Afghan Won!

The Great Purl Afghan was won by our member Ro Miller! And, Family Promise will receive \$658.20 in ticket sales from a variety of donors, many from WPC. Thanks go to our wonderful knitters! This is a beautiful white and green trimmed afghan and we are grateful that someone we know will enjoy it! The Great Purl Stoles and Lap robes continue to be given out to those who need comfort. Member Joan Lippe, now living in Minnesota made many of them and they are greatly appreciated!



## Coming Soon: Tavern Talks

We've hinted that something new was going to be coming to WPC, and we are excited that we will be launching Tavern Talks in the near future.

Our first Tavern Talks will be held at Meier's Tavern on Lake Avenue. Tavern Talks is a different opportunity than both Theology on Tap and The Corkscrew Club. Tavern Talks is described as "**drinks and conversations about spirituality and life.**" This is an opportunity open to both men and women, and will be a more focused time for conversation about some of life's big questions. Some possible topics that we could cover at Tavern Talks might be about reading the Bible, pluralism, sexuality and faith, social justice, the problem of evil, faith and money, politics and faith, doubt as faith and many more!

It is our hope that anyone could feel comfortable inviting a friend to Tavern Talks, as it is a very casual conversation in an inviting setting, about things that matter.

This is also an opportunity that we at WPC have to take our faith beyond the walls of the church—to go where people are, and to create a safe, public space for conversations that many people are interested in having, whether they're active members of a faith community or not.

Adam has facilitated similar groups where he has had Christians, Jews, Muslims, atheists and others, all joining in a really engaging conversation. Stay tuned for more information in the coming months!



March 2014

# Worship & Music

## Lent 2014: Journey to the Cross

*Geoff Duffy*

*Director of Music, Associate Director of Worship*



*The Arrest of Jesus by Emily Marshall*

There is an old legend that says, after the death and resurrection of Jesus, his mother Mary would often walk the way her son had walked on his last journey to the cross, pausing here and there to recall some happening on that journey. From these walks grew the early Christian practice of walking the *Via Dolorosa* in Jerusalem, a

tradition that continues to this day.

When they returned home, pilgrims to Jerusalem talked about their experiences and soon many people began erecting “stations” of the cross on the walls of their own churches so worshippers could make the journey whenever they wished. Over time, the number of stations became fixed at fourteen, including four stations depicting events that are not found in scripture

(the three falls of Jesus and the legend of Veronica’s veil). In recent times, Christians of all traditions have been re-discovering this ancient devotional practice. Many churches now include the fourteen scriptural stations that you can see in our atrium this Lent.



*The Trial of Jesus by Lauren Holly*

For Lent this year, we invited artists from our congregation to create depictions of each of the stops along the journey to hang in our atrium. Jesus’ own journey to the cross did not take place down some sacred street; rather, his journey is what made each step, each cobblestone, sacred and filled with the Divine. This is why we have decided to not hang the stations in the sanctuary. By experiencing them in our atrium, outside our “sacred space”, we recognize that every place is an opportunity for an encounter with Christ along our own journey of faith.



*The Burial by Sophie Cue*

## Pick Up Your Devotional Booklet

Our devotional booklet for this Lent, “Journey to the Cross,” focuses on the four gospel accounts of the Passion of Christ. Along with art and meditations, it will help us re-discover the most central story of our faith. You can pick them up in the atrium.

## Wednesday Worship in Lent

**March 19 @ 7pm - Psalms of Lament & Healing**

Come experience a beautiful service of psalms, featuring Brenda Turner, our soprano soloist.

**April 2 @ 7pm - Alternative/Interactive Worship**

Pastor Adam will be leading a contemplative Lenten service filled with ancient/new ways of worshiping. If you are interested in helping with this service, please get in contact with Adam.



## Become a Sunday School Teacher...With your Family!

*Member Elizabeth Probst recently shared her thoughts on being a Sunday School Teacher with her sons:*

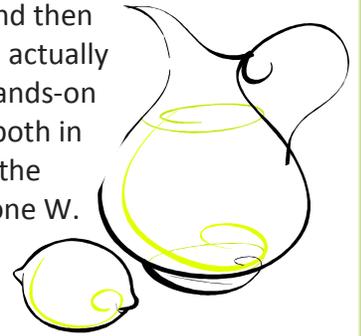
"My sons and I have been teaching Sunday School at WPC together for many, many years. It began when our youngest was about 4 or 5 years old and was too shy to go to class on his own. I started going with him and helping out the teachers and before long, I was the teacher! It was a lot easier than I thought and actually became a fun family activity. I would give each of the boys something to do in class.....lead the prayer, read the bible verse, help with an activity....something simple, but it made them feel great to be helping out and gave them confidence presenting in front of others. It was a wonderful excuse to do some fun activities together....making sock puppets, putting on a play, baking cookies, doing a science experiment. I didn't always know the Bible lesson that we were supposed to teach, so the boys and I would learn it (and teach it) together. My sons are 17 and 24 now and we have many fond memories of teaching together at WPC. So, if you are thinking of teaching Sunday school, I urge you to give it a try. And bring your kids with you; you'll make some wonderful memories together!"

## 2014 3rd Grade Sacrament Class



## Amazing Results!

Sunday School Children were asked to increase the one dollar "talent" they received six weeks ago as part of the unit lesson on stewardship and The Parable of the Talents: the Master and the Three Servants." Our students brought back their stories of what they did to increase their gifts for God and over \$215.00! Thank you parents for making this happen with your child and children. Wonderful, thoughtful things come when we allow children to learn and then to experience ways they can actually do the lesson theme! This hands-on learning had great rewards both in terms of money donated to the LemonAid Fund in Sierra Leone W. Africa, but also for the children who participated.



*"I came to Family Promise. I met really nice people"*

*-Anna Jean Lower*

*"I decided to shovel the snow. I think it makes in safer for my family to walk to and from the car and I thought it would help my mom because we have such a big family!"*

*-Charlotte Kelly*

*"I went to A Just Harvest with my dad. We wore an apron and handed out dessert. I met some new people."*

*-Matt Lower*

*"I decided to help my family walk my dog, Abby. My dog needs a lot of exercise because she has been inside a lot of the winter. We found a home for our other dog, Bentley, so she has been kind of sad. I think walking Abby and paying attention to her helps life her spirits!"*

*-Lucy Kelly*

*"I was a good steward of my dollar. I grew the amount by helping Mom fold clothes and by giving some Christmas money my grandma gave me."*

*-Avery Reis*



## Junior High Game Night

We had a great evening out with some of our junior high youth last month. We had a Junior High Game Night, played a lot of get-to-know-you games, had ice cream at Homer's and got to sneak in some bowling that night as well. We look forward to doing more activities for our junior high youth and continuing to grow that part of our youth ministry program here at WPC.

## CUBA2014 Fundraisers

We had a great Mardi Gras themed Pancake Breakfast earlier this month and raised over \$900 to go toward the CUBA2014 trip. A lot of youth and families came to help, and I want to thank all that put in time in the kitchen and bought and donated food for the event.



**On May 4, we are going to be holding our largest fundraiser for the CUBA2014 trip.** Please mark that date on your calendar.

There are going to be some raffle items you won't want to miss, a live auctioneer, a fabulous silent auction, good food and more! It will be after worship on May 4.



## Youth Schedule for March

Below is a schedule for our youth group activities for March - please plan to attend these great opportunities for developing good friendships and deepening your faith.

**March 9:** Youth Group @ 7pm

**March 16:** Youth Group @ 7pm

**March 30:** Youth Movie Night at WPC @ 7pm



## Youth Movie Night

For anyone who is sticking around for Spring Break, we are going to be having a Youth Movie Night at the church on Sunday, March 30. Come join us at 7pm and bring a treat to share with those who are there.

## Youth Lounge is CLEAN

A special thanks to all the youth (and parents and leaders) who helped out with our Youth Lounge Cleanup. We did some great work organizing and going through stuff and helping to get it ready for our current group of youth to take some ownership over the space and make it their own. Stay tuned for the details about *Phase 2*.





March 2014

# Social Media Sunday



## Social Media Sunday

Many of you were here to participate in Social Media Sunday last month. WPC took part in an experiment about finding ways to connect social media and technology with our morning worship service.

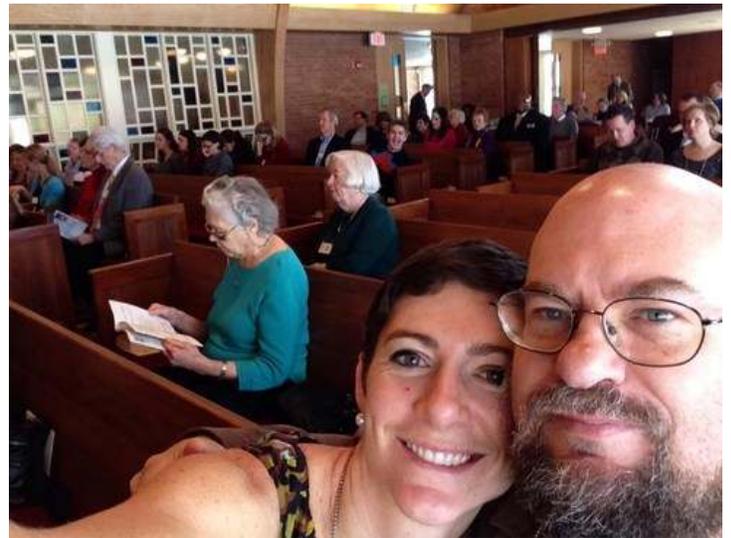
We think it was quite successful and many of our young people said it helped them to be even more engaged in the worship service and more connected with what was going on.

We encouraged people to check in on Facebook or Foursquare and let their family and friends online know they were at WPC for worship. We provided an opportunity for interaction with David's sermon online and posed questions for people to respond to. We asked that people share prayers for the Prayers of the People on Twitter or Facebook. And many people live-tweeted the service & shared photos and updates with their own social networks to help others get a sense of what worship at WPC looks and feels like.

We know that everyone has varying degrees of comfort with seeing smartphones and other technology out and being used during worship, and so we will take all of that into consideration while planning our worship together. But it was a helpful way to gage the interest of WPC members and friends in social media. Thank you for being willing to go along on this grand adventure with us.

If you want to see an archive of posts and photos from the #wpcworship Social Media Sunday, you can go [here](#):

<http://storify.com/WinnetkaPres/social-media-sunday/>



Ryan MusicMaker Meadors

Hope. Hope that no matter how bad life gets, no matter what happens, Good still has his hands in me and is working for my good and the good of all. :)

9 DAYS AGO



# March 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b> 8am Chicago Presbytery LEAD Event 8am Men's Group 6pm Dinner for 80
<b>2</b> 9:45am Worship & Sunday School 11am Fellowship <i>Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser</i>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 10am Staff Meeting 7:30pm AA Meeting	<b>5</b> ASH WEDNESDAY 9:30am Women's Bible Study 9:30am Naomi's Circle 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service	<b>6</b> 9:30am LifeTalk at Caribou Coffee 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>7</b> 8:00pm AA Meeting	<b>8</b> 8am Men's Group
<b>9</b> 9:45am Worship & Sunday School 11am Fellowship 7pm Youth Group	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 10am Staff Meeting 7:30pm AA Meeting	<b>12</b> 9:30am Women's Bible Study 9:30am Naomi's Circle	<b>13</b> 9:30am LifeTalk at Caribou Coffee 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>14</b> 8:00pm AA Meeting <i>Women's' Retreat</i>	<b>15</b> 8am Men's Group <i>Women's Retreat</i>
<b>16</b> 9:45am Worship & Sunday School 11am Fellowship <b>WPC Annual Meeting</b> 7pm: Youth Group	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 10am Staff Meeting 7:30pm AA Meeting	<b>19</b> 9:30am Women's Bible Study 9:30am Naomi's Circle	<b>20</b> 9:30am LifeTalk at Caribou Coffee 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>21</b> 8:00pm AA Meeting	<b>22</b> 8am Men's Group
<b>23</b> 9:45am Worship & Sunday School 11am Fellowship	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 10am Staff Meeting 7:30pm AA Meeting	<b>26</b> 9:30am Women's Bible Study 9:30am Naomi's Circle	<b>27</b> 9:30am LifeTalk at Caribou Coffee 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>28</b> 8:00pm AA Meeting	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 9:45am Worship & Sunday School 11am Fellowship 7:00pm Youth Movie Night	<b>31</b>					



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