

New Covenant UMC Newsletter

February 2021

Words from Pastor Althea V Jackson

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Dear friends and family,

By the time you read this letter, there will be changes and transitions that we have experienced. By the time you read this letter there will be those among us who are grieving because our political aspirations will elicit emotional reaction. Some will be mourning, some will be dancing. all of us need a pause.

Finance Corner

Revelation 21:5 Behold I make all things new

I first would thank everyone who gave last year with their time, talent, prayers and tithes. We are grateful to all Let's remember as this new year begins, We serve a God that makes all things new.

Let us thank God for this and look forward to what God has in store for us.

Diane Rousseau

My spirits need moments of rest from the emotional rollercoaster of life in the second decade of the 21st century.

So, what now?

We were hoping 2021 would be a less stressful year than 2020. Past events prove there is still work to do. The question becomes what work will we do? What part of this enormous task of healing will we take up?

Will God's people continue to focus on spreading the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus As God's children, we must look our faults and failure straight in the eye. Then we must ask our Lord for forgiveness. There are battle scars on our souls we have acknowledged. There are some we have been too afraid or too ashamed to admit to. We

must let God heal the wounds.

Then we have to be bold I'm brave I let go of what has been. We need to say goodbye to normal as we have known it for the last 300 years. This does not mean that we do not cherish those moments of tenderness those moments of kindness and compassion. Those moments need to be honored. But we must face the fact life as we have known it will not be like it was before. We are moving forward in faith.

So, we have to be bold We have to be brave. We also must seek God's face to find the how's and what we must say and do to move on. What will be the next steps?

We as Christians know our first step is already is always to pray. We need to know what the Savior

wants from each of us. And we need to agree to follow

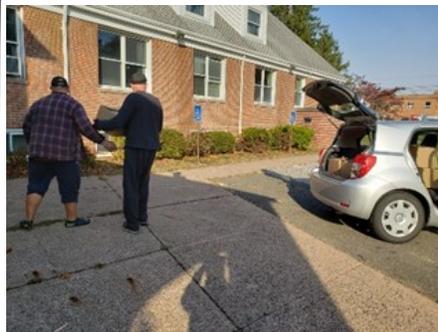
him no matter where it leads us. Jeremiah speaks overtime where God says to his people, I know my plans for you, and they are good plans for you they are plans that will prosper you and bring you peace.

I am ready for some peace. I am ready to take up the tasks the King of Kings will lay to our hands. Will you join me? We can get through this together when we dare to love as Christ loves us.

Be well my beloved brothers and sisters in Christ. Be blessed brother and sister. Be ready to answer God's call.

Always your sister in Christ,

Pastor Althea



Delivering monthly food boxes.

4 cars and drivers needed at 9:30am every 3rd Monday.

People waiting to pick-up To-Go Dinners every Tuesday and Thursday at 5 Pm.

Greeters needed.



CALENDAR

Sunday Worship on Zoom weekly	10am
Feb 7 Wesley Covenant Service	
Wed Feb 3 last class "One Faithful Promise" on Zoom	5pm
Feb 24 New Study to Start. Topic TBA	
Every Tuesday & Thursday To Go Dinners	5-5:45 pm
Tues Feb 16 Ashes to Go	4-5pm
Thur Feb 18 Finance Com. on Zoom	7pm
Sat Feb 20 Trustees Com on Zoom	10am
Monday Feb 15 Food box delivery	8:30 am To 1pm
Sat Feb 27 Council Meeting on Zoom	10am

ZOOM LINKS

Sunday Worship

<https://zoom.us/j/94840127856>

For audio only, Dial

1 929 205 6099

Meeting ID: 948 4012 7856

Wednesday Study

<https://zoom.us/j/93281675267>

or Dial 1 929 205 6099
Meeting ID: 932 8167 5267

Committee Mtgs

Link will be sent by Chair or you can contact Chair

Lent Begins Wednesday February 17,

Just as we set aside time to spiritually prepare for Christmas Day, it makes sense to set aside time to prepare for Easter Sunday. Lent is a time that offers us an opportunity to come to terms with the human condition we may spend the rest of the year running from and it brings our need for a Savior to the forefront. Like [Advent](#), Lent is a time to open the doors of our hearts a little wider and understand our Lord a little deeper, so that when Good Friday and eventually Easter comes, it is not just another day at church but an opportunity to receive the overflowing of graces God has to offer.

According to [40acts.org](https://www.40acts.org), "While Advent is a celebration and a time of great anticipation, Lent is more frequently seen as a time of solemn observance and preparation for the celebration of the death and resurrection of Jesus at Easter. From its start on [Ash Wednesday](#) until its conclusion on Easter Sunday, Lent has been a traditional time for fasting or giving something up or abstinence. Just as we carefully prepare for events in our personal lives, as a wedding, or birthday; at commencement Lent invites us to make our minds and hearts ready for remembering Jesus' life, death, and body resurrection."

The use of ashes as a **sign of mortality and repentance** has a long history in Jewish and Christian worship, and the Imposition of Ashes can be a powerful nonverbal and experiential way of participating in the call to repentance and reconciliation. This practice is the historic focus of Ash Wednesday observance and gave the day its name. ([umc.org](https://www.umc.org))

Ashes to Go

Drive thru or walk-up imposition of ashes

Tuesday February 16, 2021 from 4-5pm.

Pastor Althea will be out in the parking lot with mask and gloves on at the corner of the building near the ramp.

If arriving by car, you must stay in the car, all passengers receiving ashes must wear a mask, and stay in the car. Please drive up to where Pastor Althea is waiting, roll down window(s), and exit the parking lot after the imposition of ashes.

If arriving on foot, you must wear a mask and stay 6 feet from others while waiting. Once ashes are placed, please step back.

Wesley Covenant Service

The heart of the service, focused in the Covenant Prayer, requires people to commit themselves to God.

The Covenant Prayer describes missional life devoted to following Jesus and serving as Christ's representative in the world he loves and is working to redeem. It tells us that being a Christian is more a way of life than a system of beliefs. The Covenant Prayer describes the Jesus way of self-giving and self-emptying love.

This way of living and loving is possible only in a community centered in the life and mission of the crucified and risen Jesus Christ. Wesley and the early Methodists annually prayed the Covenant Prayer.

#GET
VACCINATED

FOR OUR
COMMUNITIES
FAMILIES
FUTURE

February
Newsletter Deadline
December 25, 2020

Send articles to Deb
Glasse at
glasse50@comcast.net



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