



The challenges of life are very real, and some of them can bring feelings of despair, discouragement, and despondency.

I have observed that if you fuel those feelings, if you allow them to take root in your mind, they become as tangible as a heavy object you carry through your days.

One of the most powerful things you can do to push back on those feelings is to give thanks to the Lord.

I am not asking you to deny the challenges; I am telling you that if you accept the despair, the discouragement and the despondency, they will overwhelm you and even own you.

But if you will push back and thank Him for the measure of faith you have, for the blessings He has given you, and for your trust in Him to guide you to a happier future, then you can break the hold of that heaviness over your life.

Gratitude creates more gratitude, and you will find yourself recognizing more and more reasons to be thankful.

We all need to be more thankful.

Colossians 2:6-7 says "just as you have received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in Him, rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness."

Prayer: Heavenly Father,
I lift my voice in thanks to You and raise my hands to You in praise. When downcast, help me turn my faith and heart to You.

Strengthen my faith, Lord. I give You glory, honor, and thanksgiving, for You are worthy.

In Jesus Name, Amen

Pastor John Britsch



Ash Wednesday

March 2, 2022



Ash Wednesday Service March 2nd at Noon First Presbyterian Church "Church Without Wall" Join us at noon on Wednesday,

March 2nd for an outdoor worship service in the pavilion at First Presbyterian Church. We will begin the season of Lent in a worshipful spirit of prayer and repentance, and we will impose ashes.. This is an ecumenical service co-hosted by St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Grace Episcopal Church, First Presbyterian Church, and First United Methodist Church.



Leadership Council

March 14
6:30pm



Easter Lilies

The Worship Committee will be providing Easter Lilies for the Easter Sunday Service. If you would like to purchase one to honor or remember someone, please fill out a form or call the church office. Forms are located in the church narthex. The price for each lily is \$10.00.

Deadline is April 10



L. I. F. F. T.

*Ladies in Faith and Fellowship
Together*

March 15 @ 2:00pm



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH-HOPE-LOVE IN ACTION

Meeting & Light Meal
March 21 @ 6:00pm



Lent & Ash Wednesday

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday, and ends on Holy Saturday. In Holy Scripture, the number forty is symbolic of periods of testing and purification. It is related to the period of time spent in the Ark of Noah, the period spent by the Hebrew people wandering in the desert on their way to the Promised Land after the Exodus, and the time Jesus was in the wilderness of temptation after his baptism.

The word Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *lencten*, which means "spring." The Lenten season of the Christian year is a preparation for the celebration of Easter and new life in Christ. Historically, Lent began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by converts. It later became a time of penance and preparation for all Christians.

Why begin Lent with the imposition of ashes? In ancient times, slaves were branded with a mark on the forehead to show the world that they were not their own, but belonged to another. Over the centuries, the early Christians adopted and transformed this practice as a way to begin the season of Lent. With ashes, symbolic of repentance and purification, they would mark the forehead of each Christian with a cross, as a way of saying to all the world: "I am not my own; I belong to Christ."

This rite in which we participate tonight is not intended as a show of piety, but rather a form of corporate prayer in bodily form and act. It is an outward sign of your inner commitment to draw closer to Christ during this season. You may leave the ashes on as long as you wish, or remove them as you leave. May we all observe a holy Lent!

Financial Information February 2022



Revenues:
\$6,586.74

Expenditures:
\$6,889.03

Children & Youth Sunday School Volunteers!

Anyone interested please meet with Wanda & Sarah Ritchea after church on March 6.



March Worship Volunteer Schedule



Date	Worship Leader	Liturgist	Ushers	Children's Sermon
3-6-2022	Pastor Smith	Tom Cheatham	Sue Halbert Dorothy Brown	
3-13-2022	Earl O'Connor	Sarah Ritchea	Mildred & Stayton Weldon	Colette Barth
3-20-2022	Pastor Smith	Colette Barth	Bobby & Charla Jones	Sarah Ritchea
3-27-2022	Tom Cheatham	Earl O'Connor	Mildred & Stayton Weldon	Rev. Wanda Ritchea

MARCH

Birthdays

Belle Clint	7 th
Amy Prince	13 th
Lynn Haferkamp	13 th
Jan Wilson	14 th
Gail James	14 th
Donna Cox	30 th
Dorothy Brown	31 st

C.A.M.A.L. House
Collection for March:

Complete Pancake Mix (Just add water)



First United Methodist Church
211 W. Clinton Street
Cairo, TX 72954

