

# Weekly Newsletter

Published: February 18th, 2022



## FROM THE PASTOR

I can hardly believe it's time for Lent already. This year, we're going to try something a little different for Lent. It can be difficult to get out in the evening for the special services associated with the Lent season. I'd like to make this year's celebrations easily accessible for as many as possible. So, this year we're getting creative.

We will observe Ash Wednesday on Sunday, February 27<sup>th</sup>. I guess Ash Wednesday on a Sunday will be like eating breakfast for dinner. On Sunday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, during our morning service, we will do the things traditionally associated with Ash Wednesday, including confession, repentance, assurance of grace, imposition of ashes and communion. I have planned a way in which we can, hopefully, safely impose ashes in a way that we remember that we are still in the midst of Covid and prevent us from passing germs with the ashes.

Ash Wednesday is a good time to fast. Observing Ash Wednesday on Sunday morning will make it easier to fast before the service. I believe that a fast on Ash Wednesday should be held through the imposition of ashes and broken with communion. If you'd like more information on how to fast on a Holy Day, there is lots of information

online. I will share more thoughts on fasting next week. For Holy Week, we will have services on both Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.

The Maundy Thursday service will be an evening service via Zoom. We will have a communion service. Then, Dr. Allison Schottenstein, a historian and Jewish scholar, will join us to talk about the Jewish celebration of Passover. We remember that Jesus gathered with His Disciples for Passover during which He instituted our practice of communion. Dr. Alley will help us understand Passover and we'll have the opportunity to reflect on how communion is inspired by but different than Passover. If there are specific questions you'd like the answer to about Passover, let me know and I'll make sure Dr. Alley is ready to answer those questions.

On Good Friday, there will be a service offered by the Disciples' Northern Kentucky ministers for our congregations reflecting on the seven last words of Christ spoken as He was dying. Again, this is a good day to observe a fast. Next week, I'll offer some ideas for Lenten practices such as giving up stuff and taking on new practices to grow in faith.

We will have devotional books available for you to take home next Sunday. If you

worship from home or will not be able to make it next Sunday, please let the office know and we'll drop off a devotional book to you or make arrangements for you to pick one up.

As we look to the Lent season, let's plan a season in which we grow in our faith in a way that prepares us for Easter!

Pastor T

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It was wonderful to see folks bringing in their items for our special recycling event this past Sunday. Keep it up!

As a reminder, Hilde will be taking items that Rumpke typically will not recycle and delivering them to the Cincinnati Recycling and Reuse Hub for us. Thank you, Hilde, for taking on this work!

In case you need it, here is a list of items you can bring into the church—dry and clean—to be recycled:

- ⇒ Straws
- ⇒ Styrofoam, including cups
- ⇒ Lids from paper coffee cups
- ⇒ Party cups (for example: solo cups)
- ⇒ Old pens and markers
- ⇒ Plastic tags and twist ties
- ⇒ Batteries
- ⇒ Coffee bags
- ⇒ Produce nets

Rumpke is now accepting plastic and paper cups in their curbside recycling program!

Details available on [Rumpke's Facebook page](#).



## SPECIAL RECYCLING EVENT

TEXT TO GIVE  
Text **WoC**  
to **41444**.



We will be collecting donations for the Week of Compassion giving campaign from February 20th through February 27th. Week of Compassion is the relief, refugee, and development fund of the Disciples of Christ.

When you give, you help rebuild communities recovering from disaster. You also empower farmers to grow new kinds of crops in a changing climate; you support refugees; you empower youth through education, and empower women through vocational opportunities. In so many different ways, your gifts of love have the power to transform lives.

Some ways donations can be made are [online](#) via [Givelify](#) with the message “WoC”, or a check with the memo “WoC”, or via text following the graphic above.

Love is a shelter. Love is a listening ear. Love is community. Love is a hopeful future. Love is a path forward. When all else seems lost, love remains.

Love  
remains

Week of  
Compassion

Special Offering  
**FEBRUARY 20-27**



## WEEK OF COMPASSION



We lift up these names to God, in hopes that their needs will be met:

- ◆ The Unkraut Family
- ◆ Tim & Sandy Borchers
- ◆ The Baldrige Family
- ◆ Sharon Simonds
- ◆ Dottie Wilke
- ◆ Barb Lee
- ◆ Paul Stevenson
- ◆ Debra Zeis

## PRAYER LIST

## EPIPHANY SERMON SERIES

The season of Epiphany is a time when Jesus reveals Himself to us as the Messiah and Son of God through His ministry and teachings.

Our Epiphany sermon series is titled “*The Commands of Jesus*” and will run from January 16th to February 24th.

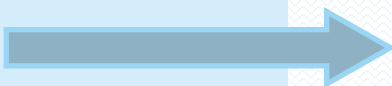
During this season, we will be reading scriptures from all four Gospels in order to hear the commands of Jesus.

Join us in-person or from the comforts of home as we live-stream our worship service on Facebook and YouTube this Sunday.

We look forward to sharing this season with you!



**THIS  
WEEK**



COMMANDS	SCRIPTURE	DATE
Let Your Light Shine	Matthew 5:13-16	Jan 16th
Do Not Worry	Matthew 6:25-34	Jan 23rd
Go and Do Likewise	Luke 10:25-37	Jan 30th
Do Not Be Afraid	Luke 5:1-11	Feb 6th
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Take Up Your Cross	Mark 8:27-9:1	Feb 20th
Feed My Lambs	John 21:15-25	Feb 27th

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Visit our website

<https://firstchristiancovington.org>

## RECURRING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	EVENT DETAILS
<b>Every Sunday</b> <b>10:45 AM</b>	Morning Worship	Join us in-person or from home during our live-stream ! If you miss our live stream, the worship video will still be available online.
<b>Every Tuesday</b> <b>2:00 PM</b>	Bible Study	The women of FCC meet every Tuesday via Zoom for a weekly prayer and Bible study session. Please contact the church office for the Zoom link.
<b>Every Saturday</b> <b>5:00 PM</b>	Community Dinner	We prepare and serve a community dinner every Saturday and are always looking for volunteers! Contact Sheri Jackson at (859) 240-7817 to get involved.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	EVENT DETAILS
<b>Sunday,</b> <b>02/20/22</b> <b>2:00 PM</b>	FCC Book Club	Each month our book club chooses a new book to read and discuss; this month's selection is " <i>This Tender Land</i> " by William Kent Krueger. Meetings are held on Zoom. Contact the church office for the link if you are interested in joining.
<b>Sunday,</b> <b>02/20/22</b> <b>7:00 PM</b>	Leadership Council	All members are invited to join as our Leadership Council meets. Contact Pastor Tracy or Alex for the Zoom link if you are interested in joining.
<b>Wednesday,</b> <b>02/23/22</b> <b>7:00 PM</b>	Faith In Action Together (FIAT)	FIAT is the acting branch of our justice ministries focused on fighting the systemic issues that continue to oppress our neighbors. Meetings are held on Zoom. Contact the church office for the link if you are interested in joining.