

"HEARD ON THE HILL"

Issue 6

News from Willistown United Methodist Church

February 8, 2019

Welcome to "Heard on the Hill"! This is an "e-mail blast" to keep all our friends and members informed of all the activities here at Willistown UMC. Please let editor, Sara Beam, know of any team meetings or events of interest that we can pass on to both the church community and our neighbors in the geographic community.

NOTE: If church is cancelled due to weather conditions, it will be posted on the web Site at <http://www.willistownumc.org/> and an email will be sent to all on our current distribution lists. We will call those we know do not have computer access, but please let your friends know, if you think they don't check their computers regularly.

UPCOMING

Thanks to all the Soup Makers and buyers! We raised \$310.00 for the Church General Fund through your generosity and love of soup! Mark your calendars, the next sale is February 2, 2020—Eagles versus?!



Noisy Money: Our total "Noisy Change" in January was **\$184.19**. This is our church's mission contribution to "MEALS ON WHEELS of Chester County."

Speaking of soup, Ash Wednesday is March 6th and we will again have soup and a service around the table to mark the beginning of Lent. Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. In the early church, Lent was a time to prepare new converts for baptism. Today, Christians focus on their relationship with God, often choosing to give up something or to volunteer and give of themselves for others. **Join us to receive ashes as the start of this solemn season.**

40 Days of Lent: Find your own spiritual path

A UMC.org Feature by Joe Iovino*

During **Ash Wednesday services** on the first day of Lent, many United Methodist pastors will invite their congregations "to observe a holy Lent: by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's Holy Word" (from the **United Methodist Book of Worship**). While you may be aware of this season leading up to Easter, you may wonder how you might "observe a holy Lent."

There is no one prescribed way. Instead, we are each encouraged to find our own method of confronting our sinfulness, remembering our mortality, and giving thanks for the gift of salvation we receive through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Fasting

One of the more common practices is to give something up for Lent. Some abstain from chocolate, social media, shopping, or something else through the season. This is a **religious practice known as fasting**. We fast to reorient ourselves away from the distraction of those things, and back toward God.

Another way to reorient your life toward God, is to **focus on devotional practices** like Bible study and prayer during the season.

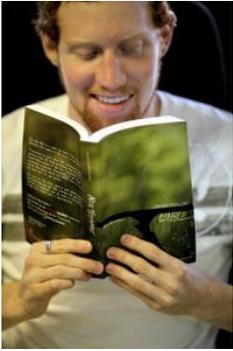
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Spending extra time in Bible reading and prayer is a great way to observe Lent. Photo illustration by Kathleen Barry, United Methodist Communications.

Bible reading

Many do not know where to begin when reading the Bible. The **Upper Room Daily Devotional Guide** and **Alive Now** will help guide you in this pursuit. Each day they provide a scripture passage and wonderfully thought-provoking and spirit-enriching material to read and think about.

Prayer

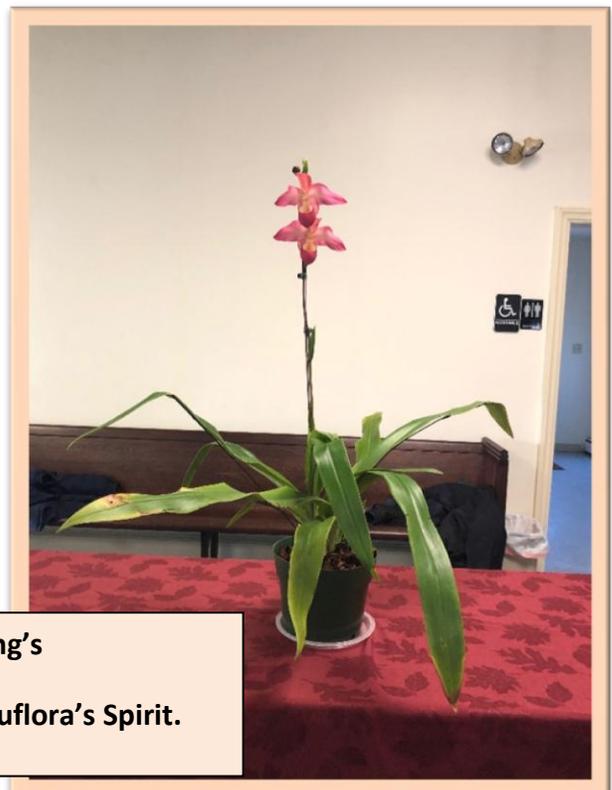
In the busyness of our everyday lives, prayer can sometimes get squeezed out. Lent is a wonderful time to intentionally work toward finding **more time in your life for prayer**. You can experiment with **different ways to pray** during the season, or really delve into a new-to-you way of praying. Enriching your prayer life is a great way to spend Lent.

Service

Another way to observe a holy Lent is **to take on a new** way of serving. Throughout the forty days of the season you can adopt a new habit of volunteering in the community, making special financial gifts to service organizations, singing in the choir, or participating in a small group.

Rest

An important practice with which many of us struggle is **the spiritual discipline of rest or Sabbath**. We don't have to rest on Saturday, the traditional Sabbath day, or even Sunday. You can instead find moments during an ordinary day to be still in God's presence. You might choose to spend a few minutes during lunch with a **desktop meditation**, listen to sermons on your commute, or **read a poem that feeds your spirit**. Each can be a great way of enriching your Lent.



Bill Keating's
Phragmipedium Peruflorea's Spirit.

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If you would like to Greet or be an Usher, please contact Don Stapleton. If you would like to be a Liturgist, contact Barbara Gorham. We are always in need people to serve and it is a great way to be a part of the church life.

In Service

Date	Name
Greeters	
February 10	Pat Roelofs and June DiRomualdo
February 17	Agnes Tobin and Curt Wise
February 24	Carol Rice and Jane Jeffrey
Ushers	
February 10	Jane and Jim VanZandt
February 17	Ruth and Jim McNamara
February 24	Nancy and Dick Wright
Liturgists	
February 10	Fred Bachman
February 17	Gil Fell
February 24	Barbara Gorham



2	Betty Nelson
15	Lilly Clark
20	Betty Barlow
23	Bill Snyder
23	Pastor Jim
26	Carol Bowers
27	Savie Di Romualdo
27	Kim Pierce

Important Dates During Lent	
March 6	Ash Wednesday Service and Soup
March 31	UMCOR Sunday
April 14	Palm/Passion Sunday
April 18	Holy Thursday Service and Supper
April 19	Good Friday Service and Meditation
April 20	Holy Saturday
April 21	Easter Sunday



15	Nancy and Dick Wright
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Thank You Note from Salvation Army for Kettle Bell-Ringing!



WILLIAM BOOTH
Founder

Rory C. SWANSON
General Commander

ANDRÉ COX
General

STEPHEN BANFIELD
Divisional Commander

101 E. Market Street
West Chester, PA 19380

Captain Jesu & Maria Corraliza
Corps Commanding Officers

Phone: (610) 696-8746
Fax: (610) 696-1622

Dear Salvation Army Friends,

January 23, 2019

On behalf of our staff, Advisory Board and the people we serve, thank you so much for your willingness to support The Salvation Army one more year in the ringing of the bells ministry. Volunteers are worth their weight in gold and words can't express how much we appreciate your support.

I would like to personally thank you for volunteering your time at our **2018 Christmas Red Kettle Campaign**. This campaign could not have been a success without your help and the help of many others who volunteered their time to support our cause.

- The funds collected stay in our local community to benefit the programs and services of the **West Chester Salvation and Chester County**. That is a fantastic result, made possible because of friends like you that support us each year.
- We want to thank you for patiently and kindly working with us to ensure a productive season that will ultimately benefit many people in need. Your efforts and contributions are a blessing to those less fortunate than us. The generous time you gave in support of this campaign helped us raise **\$84,550.08** towards our programs and services for the community. Words can't express how meaningful your participation and support are for us.
- Thank you again for your partnership with us. We look forward to **Christmas 2019**, and hope that you will once again participate with us in The Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign to help local people in need.
- *Please convey our thanks and appreciation to all the members in your group.*
- Sincerely,
- ***Captains Maria & Jesus Corraliza***