

Dranesville UMC Newsletter

February 2024

Object Lessons of Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday is a day of repentance and reflection that marks the beginning of the season of Lent. It is a time to acknowledge our mortality, our sinfulness, and our need for God's grace and mercy. Many Christians observe Ash Wednesday by attending a worship service that includes the imposition of ashes on their foreheads as a sign of sorrow and humility.

But what if we want to make Ash Wednesday a more participatory and meaningful experience for ourselves and our community? What if we want to engage more deeply with the themes of the day and prepare our hearts and minds for the celebration of Easter?

We are looking for your ideas and suggestions on how to create an Ash Wednesday service that invites people to participate in different ways. Wherever you are in your faith journey, we want to hear from you. How do you observe Ash Wednesday? What are some creative and inspiring ways to make this day more than a ritual?

Here are some possible categories for your ideas and suggestions:

Serve: How can you serve others on Ash Wednesday? What are some
(continued on page 2)

Join us as we celebrate the season of Lent



February 14th 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service
March 24th Palm Sunday
March 28th 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service
March 29th Good Friday – 8a-6p Open for Prayer
March 31st 7:00 am Easter Morning Service
10:30 am Easter Traditional Service

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**Come worship with us
on Sundays at 10:30 a.m.
In the Sanctuary
or virtually via Zoom**

**Coffee hour following
worship via Zoom or live**

**Adult Sunday School
at 9:00 a.m.**

*If you would like to join,
please contact us at
office@dranesvilleumc.org.*

Object Lessons of Ash Wednesday (continued)

service projects or charitable causes that align with the values of Lent?

Give: How can you give something up or take something on for the duration of Lent? What are some personal or communal practices that help you to grow in your faith and devotion?

Pray: How can you pray on Ash Wednesday? What are some liturgies, devotions, or prayer spaces that help you to communicate with God and receive forgiveness?

Make: How can you make something on Ash Wednesday? What are some creative forms of expression that help you to explore your identity and purpose, and to share your faith and testimony with others?

Be: How can you be on Ash Wednesday? What are some ways to practice silence, solitude, mindfulness, awareness, gratitude, and joy on this day?

Please let me know if you have any questions and more importantly suggestions and ideas. We will hold a service with music, liturgy, and sermon. On top of these, let's work together to make this Ash Wednesday a memorable one.

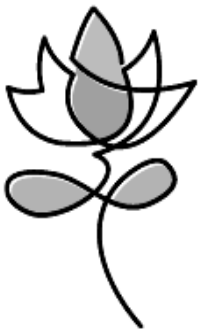
I look forward to hearing from you and learning from your ideas. May God bless and guide you throughout the season of Lent.

With much blessings,

Pastor Keith

PRAYER PAGE UPDATE

By Ed Barr



Prayers

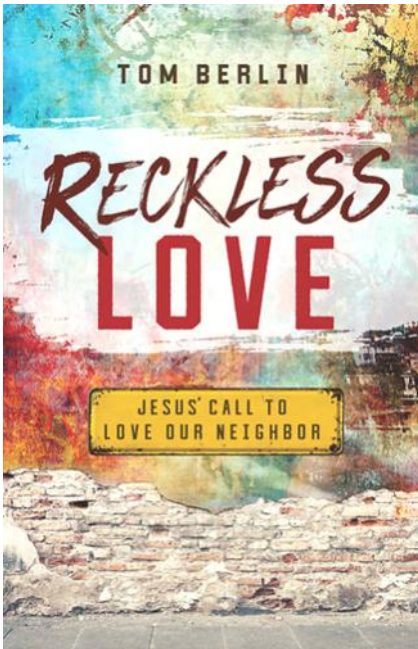
Dranesville has upgraded its prayer request page on the church website for 2024. The intent of this upgrade is to provide more timely and accurate information on each prayer request, as well as simplifying the task of generating the weekly Prayer Page in the bulletin and the prayer list used for the pastoral prayer during worship. When you submit a prayer request from the [church website](#), the email confirmation that you receive will contain a date when that request will time out and be removed from the prayer list. After the request has timed out, you may then re-add and update that prayer request, providing the latest information on how to pray. This process is intended to ensure that the Prayer Page is up-to-date. We encourage everyone to make the best use of this updated capability on the Dranesville UMC website.

Every Week Join Us In Study and Prayer: [Dranesvilleumc.org/connect](https://dranesvilleumc.org/connect)

Prayer group is meeting virtually via Zoom, Tuesdays at 8:00 am [Zoom link here.](#)

Bible Study: Join anytime.

Tuesday Evening Bible Study: 7 pm Zoom info: [Zoom link for Tues Evening Bible Study](#)
Thursday Morning Bible Study: 10 am Zoom Info: [Zoom link for Thurs Morning Bible Study](#)



Tuesday and Thursday Bible Study:

In his latest book Reckless Love, author and Pastor Tom Berlin writes that Jesus taught them to love their neighbor first as a way to more deeply love God.

In his exploration of Jesus' teaching and travels with his disciples, Berlin suggests that Jesus teaches us how to love God with heart, soul, mind, and strength by showing us how to love our neighbor. While many hope to learn to be better family, friends, leaders, and neighbors by finding a deeper relationship with God, what if becoming a better neighbor leads you to that deeper love of God?

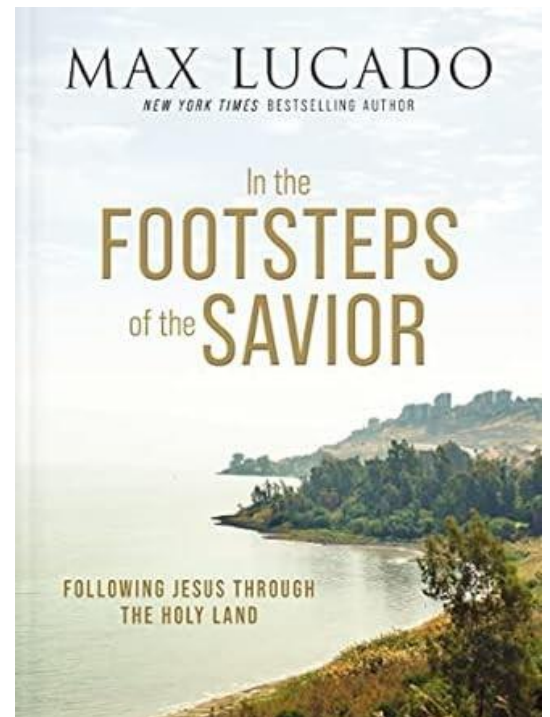
In Reckless Love, you will consider your life, and learn how loving the people around you will completely renew your faith and give you a new experience of loving God.

Sunday School: In the Footsteps of the Savior Max Lucado

In the Footsteps of the Savior is an invitation to come alongside Max Lucado as he shares meaningful, insights on the people and places that shaped Jesus's life. Max Lucado guides us through three distinct aspects of Jesus' life:

- The arrival of the Savior
- Jesus's ministry
- The crossroads and the cross

Join us any Sunday in the conference room or on Zoom at 9:00am for this six-week series.





Lunch with the Evergreen Group:

February 11th at 12:00 pm in Sterling at
The Bungalow Lakehouse Restaurant.
Please see Pete Hause for details
and to RSVP or call 703-430-7166.

MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

Next chance for us to help:

February 13th!

Join us on the 2nd Tuesday of each month (light rain or shine) from 9:30 am – 12 pm (or until the food runs out) in the rear parking lot at Christ the Redeemer Catholic Church (46833 Harry Byrd Hwy., Sterling). Join Team Dranesville and wear your Dranesville UMC T-shirts while packing food for those in need.



We distributed melons, carrots, onions, potatoes, bread and cabbage—no leftovers!



The closet has two major sales coming up where they could use help from the DUMC congregation. They need to transport bins of donated items to the Herndon Moose Lodge for the Toy Sale in July and the Everything Christmas Sale in November. The Closet would love to have an advance commitment from youth and young adults in particular to help with this aspect. The more the merrier! Please contact the church office for

more information. Please take a look at their website to volunteer.

<http://theclosetofgreaterherndon.org/volunteer/>

DUMC COLLECTED \$445.00 IN LINK GROCERY CARDS JANUARY!

EVEN 4 OTHERS Collection—February 25th

Once again we will have a collection for LINK Against Hunger. Please leave donations in the big wooden box in front of the office before church on Sunday, February 25th. They will be counted and transported to the LINK location after church.



Some of the top needs are Jelly, Dried beans, Canned fruit, Canned corn, peas, carrots, potatoes, Boxed potatoes, Toilet paper, Paper towels, Cleaning products, Toiletry items, etc.



January 15, 2024

Dranesville United Methodist Church
1089 Liberty Meeting Ct
Herndon, VA 20170

Thank you so much for your support of \$12,132.15 in donations and \$3575 in gift cards for 2023.

LINK serves so many hard working individuals, individuals who are struggling to make their funds stretch far enough, individuals who are retired and living on a very small budget, individuals who have run into some misfortune and so many other circumstances that cause them to use a food pantry.

LINK continues to work hard to meet the ever changing needs of our neighbors in Herndon, Sterling and Ashburn. Our weekly deliveries to families in food crisis continue to be high. As we prepared to do our In order to better meet the needs of our community, LINK held two Christmas holiday distributions. The changes we made allowed us to provide food, gift cards, hats/scarves/gloves and toys to our families with much less contact and more efficiently for our clients in their time of most need. We were able to serve over 1100 families this holiday season. We could not do this without your support - both financially and in-kind. Your generosity has been and is always greatly appreciated.

Serving our community by sharing the food and toys we receive are just some of the ways to show our love and compassion for our neighbors. LINK is run 100% by volunteers and we could not do these things without your support.

We've recently updated our website and we encourage you to visit it periodically to stay up to date on what's happening with LINK. Please visit www.linkagainsthunger.org

Thank you again for your generosity and continued support.

Sincerely,

Becky Field-Ross
Corresponding Secretary

To learn more about LINK, a 501(c)(3) organization, please see our website www.linkagainsthunger.org. For receipt purposes, please note no goods or services were received for this contribution, which is tax deductible as allowed by law. Please retain this letter as a receipt for the donation.



Churches in the Herndon and Sterling Area LINKED Together to Help People in Need
Post Office Box 443 - Sterling, Virginia 20167 -- Answering Service: 703-437-1776

www.linkagainsthunger.org



Dranesville

United Methodist Church

“Making disciples of Jesus Christ by feeding body, mind and soul.”



TWINS!

February

- 4 Holy Communion
11:45 Church Council Meeting
- 11 Scout Sunday
Evergreen Lunch at 12:00 pm
- 13 Mobile Food Pantry
- 14 Ash Wednesday Service 7pm
- 25 Even 4 Others Collection for LINK
- 28 Wednesday Night Dinner 6pm

March

- 3 Holy Communion
- 10 Evergreen Lunch at 12:00 pm
- 12 Mobile Food Pantry
- 20 Wednesday Night Dinner @ restaurant TBD
- 24 Palm Sunday
Grocery Card Collection for LINK families
- 28 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service
- 29 Good Friday– 8am-6pm Open for Prayer
- 31 7:00 am Easter Morning Service
10:30 am Easter Traditional Service

GIVE Online!



In the event of inclement weather, we may move to a virtual-only zoom service. We will publish any notification of cancellation of our in-person worship by email on Saturday. The church building will be closed if Fairfax County Public Schools are Closed.

Every Week Join Us In Study and Prayer:

Dranesvilleumc.org/connect

- ◆ Sundays at 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School in person and via Zoom
- ◆ Tuesdays at 8:00 a.m. Prayer group is meeting virtually via Zoom
- ◆ Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. and Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. Bible Study is held via Zoom

To get connected to any of the virtual meetings, please contact the church office by e-mailing office@dranesvilleumc.org or leave a message at 703-430-3137 anytime.

Office hours: Tuesday–Friday 8:30 am–12:30 pm.