

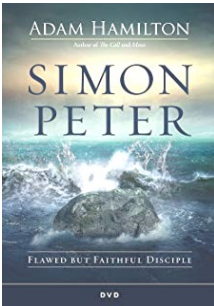


### Inter-generational Lent Workshop

Sunday March 3 at 9:45am, we're having an Inter-generational Lent Workshop in the Fellowship Hall. We'll be making our own "Faces of Easter" boxes that you can have at home. Parents and children can make their box together, and grandparents are welcome to make a kit that can be shared with grandchildren. This is a beautiful way for families to share the different stories of Jesus throughout Lent.

### Ash-Wednesday service

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, the season of 40 days in preparation for Easter. We are having a service at **6:00pm on Wednesday, March 6th**. Join us for a beautiful service with special music, scripture, and the imposition of ashes on your forehead. Childcare will be provided.

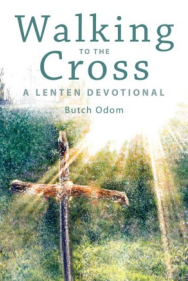


### Simon Peter Bible Study

During Lent, we will be studying Simon Peter, the "flawed but faithful disciple," based on Rev. Dr. Adam Hamilton's book. There are multiple groups participating in this study. On Sunday mornings, the Discoverer's class will be doing this study together. Our students, both children and youth, will also be participating in the Bible study during Lent. Kathy will lead a study group on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 in the Library, beginning March 12. The deadline to sign up is **March 1** and books are \$15 each. Sign up in the church office.

### Spiritual Practice of Centering Prayer –Sunday School class

Centering Prayer is a Christian prayer practice that was developed from both "The Cloud of Unknowing" an anonymous work of a 14th century Christian author and the work of St. John of the Cross. The practice is a silent type of prayer that helps address the hyperactivity of our minds and our lives. The current practice has its roots in the 1960's and 70's when Eastern types of meditation were popular. At that time Father Thomas Keating and other Christian leaders wanted to help seekers understand that there were meaningful meditation practices within the Christian tradition as well. This six week group, led by Rev. Lance Perry, will not only review the practice of Centering Prayer, but we will also practice it. The group begins Sunday March 10 from 9:15 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. No book or prior reading required, but if you like to prepare ahead you can read "Intimacy with God" by Thomas Keating. For discussion purposes, this group will be limited to 10 people.



### Walking to the Cross

"Walking to the Cross" is a 40-day devotional that invites you to walk, pray, and reflect during the season of Lent. Walking can be a practice of spiritual and physical devotion. This small group will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays at 4:30pm in the church parking lot. Led by Kim Rogers, you will have a short time of devotion and then spend time walking around Blowing Rock and reflecting together. Sign up in the church office with Hazel or Holly.

**Rise Against Hunger meal packaging event** Sunday, April 7 from 3-5pm, Rumble is partnering with St. Mary's, St. Mark's, and Appalachian State Presbyterian Episcopal Campus Ministry, and Blowing Rock School for our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Rise Against Hunger meal packaging event. This event is open to all ages. You can visit their website for more information, [www.riseagainsthunger.org](http://www.riseagainsthunger.org). To volunteer for the meal-packaging event, please call or email Hazel in the church office.



**Before I created this Lent insert**, I spent a little time reflecting and preparing myself. I turned on some meditative music and let my creative side emerge. I was drawn to blues and greens - thinking of the sea - thinking of Simon Peter, being called from the waters. I thought of waves, the out-pouring of the Holy Spirit upon each of us. I also spent some time reflecting on my own walk with Christ. Before we were born, God chose us; yet, we choose to follow Jesus, just as the disciples did. And just like they had to change their hearts, we must do the same. That's when the scripture from Psalm 51 came to mind—"Create in me a clean heart, O God..." During this season, may we all draw close to God and prepare for this journey to the cross. –Holly