



# Northwest Reminder

## Volume LI, Issue II



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February 2021

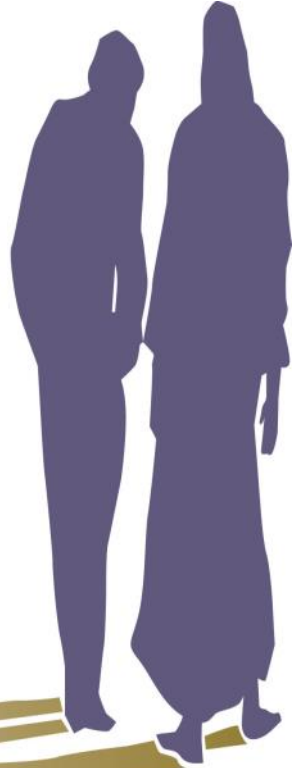
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A newsletter serving the congregation and friends  
of Northwest United Protestant Church

*LOVING AND SERVING CHRIST  
IN OUR COMMUNITY AND WORLD*

*Lent is an occasion for us to  
journey with Christ ... into  
tomorrow. For you never  
walk with Christ long but  
what the dawn breaks, the sun  
shines and hope breaks  
through.*

*-P. Neil Straight*



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## A “Gentle” Reminder

Dear NWUP members and friends,

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17. In the liturgical calendar, Lent covers the four weeks leading up to Holy Week and Easter. Lent is a time for introspection and intentional spiritual formation. It's a period of preparation, fasting, and self-denial as we move through the pain of Good Friday and into the joy of Easter. I like to think of Lent as a journey of transformation. During this time many people have traditionally given up something as a test of their devotion to God. One year I gave up french fries. I'm not sure how that got me closer to God, but it got me closer to a healthier number on the scale!

Here are some suggestions for your Lent journey:

- ◆ Instead of giving up something for Lent, you might try taking something on. Take on daily Bible reading and prayer. If you are already doing this add extra time to your daily devotional or find a new devotional that offers a new perspective on the scriptures.
- ◆ If you enjoy reading about faith and God, read find books or articles that stretch your faith muscles. For example, find books written by women, people of color, LGBT or Native American voices.
- ◆ Instead of giving up chocolate, take on helping families fight hunger in your community by donating to the local food bank. Check out the “Empty Bowls” fundraiser at the Gallery at the Park in Richland.
- ◆ You might consider increasing your giving. This month we will collect a special offering for Week of Compassion, the relief, refugee, and development mission fund of the Christian Church Disciples of Christ. This organization’s vision statement is “A world where God’s people transform suffering into hope.” Your gift can offer hope to a person impacted by natural disasters, it can help bring fresh water to a village in Nicaragua, or it can help a community develop sustainable farming.
- ◆ Beginning on Wednesday, February 17 at 7:00 pm. join me for Bible study on zoom and invite someone to join with you. If you haven't joined a Bible study yet, consider this part of your spiritual formation for Lent. (If you would like to join, but this is not a good time slot, let me know, I can start a second study, but I need to hear from you...)

Blessings to each of you as you walk your journey of transformation during Lent.

Pastor Miriam

## Refocus for Lent

Give up complaining — focus on gratitude.

Give up harsh judgments — think kind thoughts.

Give up worry — trust God to provide.

Give up discouragement — be full of hope.

Give up bitterness — turn to forgiveness.

Give up hatred — return good for evil.

Give up anger — be more patient.

Give up pettiness — become mature.

Give up jealousy — pray for trust.

Give up gossiping — control your tongue.

Give up sin — turn to virtue.

Give up giving up — persevere.

—Author unknown



## Bible Quiz: (Answer on Page 6)



During Jesus' time in the wilderness after his baptism, Satan tempted him to do three things. Which of the following was not one of the temptations?

- A. To change water into wine so wedding guests would know he was God's son.
- B. To Throw himself down from the top of the temple, expecting angels to save him.
- C. To turn stones into bread to satisfy his hunger.
- D. To worship Satan in order to gain all the world's kingdoms

### **Thank You!**

To all those who have donated to NWUP Church and to those who have continued to support the church even through this pandemic that we are facing.

We value you as a congregation and we love seeing you every Sunday. Without your continued support and dedication to service in our community we would not be Northwest United Protestant Church! Stay warm and stay safe in our world that we face together. We look forward to seeing you soon!

## Announcements

### • Ash Wednesday Service



February 17th at noon in the NWUP sanctuary and online. A brief service of prayer, scripture, and music at noon. Please wear your mask and observe all protocols.

### • Lent Bible Study

Join Pastor Miriam for a guided discussion of the Sermon scriptures. Take up Bible study during Lent and renew your relationship with God.



When: Begins February 17 (Ash Wednesday)

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Where: on Zoom

### • Week of Compassion Special Offering

“Let Love Flow”



God’s compassion flows through you! A special offering will be received on February 21st and 28th, 2021.

## Volunteer Opportunities @ NWUP Church:

1. Volunteers are needed to lead songs and read scripture during worship.
2. Handbell choir has a space for you! Can't read music? No problem! Wednesdays at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary.



***NWUP is meeting in person following  
all COVID-19 protocols.***

# NEWS FROM THE PEWS



Holly Cahow & Richard Kirkendal with Kreiger & Lana  
on Christmas 2020

- On Feb 13, 2021 Holly Cahow (Pat Cahow's daughter) will marry Richard Kirkendall in Las Vegas, NV. with her sister Heather & Rick Phillips attending.



## **Congratulations!**

Rev. Dr. Stephen Gentle has accepted a call to be the Intentional Interim Minister at Shalom United Church of Christ in Richland. He will begin serving on February 1, 2021.

## **The Gentle's have moved!**

Their new address is:  
511 Greenbrook Place  
Richland, WA 99352

# WITNESS OF THE SAINTS

## Sunday, January 3:

Online Worship: 85

### **In Finance:**

Loose Offering	\$5.00
General Fund	\$450.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$455.00</b>

## Sunday, January 31:

Online Worship: 0

### **In Finance:**

Loose Offering	\$50.00
General Fund	\$600.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$650.00</b>

## Sunday, January 10:

Online Worship: 135

### **In Finance:**

Loose Offering	\$18.44
Rent	\$62.50
Bldg. Fund	\$50.00
Zephyr Fund	\$2194.92
General Fund	\$5985.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8310.86</b>

## Bible Quiz Answer

Answer: A (See Matthew 4:1-11 and Luke 4:1-13.)

## Sunday, January 17:

Online Worship: 287

### **In Finance:**

Loose Offering	\$5.00
General Fund	\$23490.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$23495.00</b>



## Sunday, January 24:

Online Worship: 120

### **In Finance:**

Loose Offering	\$10.00
General Fund	\$1035.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1045.00</b>

- |      |                    |
|------|--------------------|
| 2/15 | Jeff Ayres         |
| 2/18 | Aydia O'Hara       |
| 2/20 | Elvera Laughery    |
| 2/24 | Donna Baumgarten   |
| 2/25 | Lois Galpin        |
| 2/25 | Savian Willis      |
| 2/26 | Ryan Dudley        |
| 2/28 | Jan Brinson-Wagner |



# FEBRUARY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	01	02	03	04	05	06
	FH Reserved African American History Month 1-28	Ground Hog & World Wetlands Day	FH Reserved Handbells 10am		Pastor Day Off FH Reserved	FH Reserved
07	08	09	10	11	12	13
Boy Scout Sunday Young Adult Week (YAW) Begins 1-14	FH Reserved		FH Reserved Stew&Fin.330pm Handbells 10am		Pastor Day Off Lincoln's BDay Chinese New Year FH Reserved	FH Reserved Holly & Richard Kirkendal Wedding
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Elder's Meeting 7pm Transfiguration Sunday Valentine's Day (YAW) Ends	FH Reserved <b>Jeff Ayres</b> President's Day	Board Meeting 4:30 p.m. Mardi Gras	FH Reserved Ash Wednesday Bible Study 7pm Handbells 10 a.m.	<b>Aydia O'Hara</b>	Pastor Day Off FH Reserved	FH Reserved <b>Elvera Laugherly</b>
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
First Sunday in Lent WOC Collection	FH Reserved Washington's BDay		FH Reserved Handbells 10am Donna Baumgarten Bible Study 7pm	<b>Lois Galpin</b> <b>Savian Willis</b>	Pastor Day Off <b>Ryan Dudley</b> FH Reserved	FH Reserved
28						
Jan Brinson-Wagner WOC Collection						



"FIRST COMES FAT TUESDAY, THEN ASH WEDNESDAY, FOLLOWED BY TEMPTATION THURSDAY."

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### Staff:

Miriam Gentle ..... Pastor  
 Anna Kion ..... Moderator  
 Erica Nunez..... Secretary  
 Sue Lincoln..... Choir Director/Pianist

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