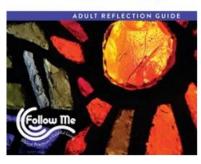


Carmel Presbyterian Church, Glenside, PA 19038

February, 2022

## Pastor's Sunday Morning Group Moves to Wednesday Evening on Zoom **Practice Joy!**





The Adult Sunday
Morning Group led by
Pastor Peter will move
to Wednesday evenings: 7:30-9:00 pm
on ZOOM so more can
participate! If Covid
kept you home, if Sunday morning choir rehearsal prevented
attendance, if it was
too early to get up, or
the time just wasn't a

good fit, Pastor Peter is moving the Sunday morning class to **Zoom Wednesday evenings** beginning the **first Wednesday of February!** 

To brighten our almost two-year gloomy pandemic outlook, our first topic will be Practice Joy. Real JOY is something we all need. The study comes from the PC(USA) Follow Me: Biblical Practices for Faithful Living Curriculum and each member will receive a Practice Joy four-week Adult Reflection Guide to be picked up in advance of the start at the Church Office starting Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup>. During the four Wednesdays of February, beginning Wednesday, February 2, we will: Practice Joy. As we approach the two-year mark of the Pandemic, we all can use some JOY!

We usually think of joy as a feeling, a response to something we experience. Scripture, however, invites us to experience joy as more than a passive response; instead, we practice joy as a faithful choice. Joy is something that we experience, something we savor, and something that is gifted to us by a loving and merciful God. While we experience joy individually, it is also a communal practice, one that is experienced in different ways by all God's people. Here are the weekly discussion topics featured in the *Adult Reflection Guide*:

- Feb 2: See Joy in God's Creation (Psalm 65:5– 13; Genesis 28:11–22)
- Feb 9: Rejoice in God's Mercy (Psalm 30; Luke 5:17–26)

- Feb 16: Share Others' Joy (Luke 15; Romans 12:15; 1 Corinthians 12:26)
- Feb 23: *Practice Joy in All Times* (John 16:1–24; Philippians 4:4–6)

We will use the *Practice Joy* discussion to explore this faithful choice in greater detail together. Pick up an *Adult Reflection Guide* in the Church Office beginning Sunday, January 30, or during the week.

Looking ahead to Lent, a special six-week study Practice Spiritual Disciplines is planned. Also from the Fellow Me curriculum, it will be held Wednesdays in Lent on ZOOM from 7:30-9:00 pm. Make your Lent time preparing for Holy Week more meaningful through the discipline of spiritual practices! God's central invitation to followers of Jesus is to draw near to God in Christ and to allow God, through the Holy Spirit, to transform us into Christ's image. Christian spiritual disciplines and **spiritual practices** are ways in which we do that. Spiritual disciplines are usually thought of as those things that help us draw near to God and might include different forms of prayer, meditation, study, See JOY Page 2 and service.

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#### From JOY Page 1

Spiritual practices are seen as those things Jesus did, said, or embodied; we as Jesus' followers try to do so as well. While dates will be finalized and printed in the March Courier, featured in the *Adult Reflection Guide* are the topics:

- Fast (Matthew 4:1–4, 6:16–18; Acts 13:2–3)
- Pray (Matthew 6:9–13; Philippians 1:3–11)
- Listen to God (1 Samuel 3:1–11; Mark 1:35–39)
- Embrace Simplicity (Matthew 6:19–21; Philippians 4:11–12)
- Unplug (Genesis 2:1–3; 6:30–34)
- *Try Different Practices* (Isaiah 43:19; Hebrews 4:15–16)

Many of the spiritual disciplines covered in this group discussion have emerged over the centuries as Christians have experimented with ways to make space in their lives to be with Jesus and to allow Jesus to transform them. As with *Practice Joy*, an *Adult Reflection Guide* will be available in the Church Office as we approach Lent.

In addition to the material in the *Adult Reflection Guide*, there will be also brief videos on Zoom Wednesday evenings as conversation starters. *Follow Me: Biblical Practices for Faithful Living* is a thirty-six-unit curriculum based on practices Jesus did and taught us to do as faithful followers. Written for people of all ages who wish to live out their faith, this new curriculum examines where these practices are found in the Bible and how they have been used in Christian faith then and now.

We hope you will participate in both group discussions and find some *Joy* and find time to *Practice Spiritual Disciplines*! —*Pastor Peter* 

# Transitional Ministry Update

You've read about the 7-week Seven Marks of a Vital Congregation bible study and discussion along with the Seven Marks Sermon Series that accompanied it last Spring. In October, the congregation was invited to participate in the U.S. Congregational Vitality Survey. The Transitional Ministry Mission Study Team is pleased to announce that the Mission Study report is complete and has been approved by the Session. The report summarizes information collected from the 7 -week study, results of the survey, history of Carmel, and a current overview of how Carmel serves our community as reported on our website. We are currently awaiting a review of the report by the Presbyterian Commission on Ministry. Upon their approval, the team will distribute the report to the Pastor Nominating Committee for their use to find a new pastor that will meet Carmel's current and future needs and also to the congregation. We will schedule an opportunity to present our findings, facilitate discussion, and answer questions for the congregation.

The Transitional Ministry team has enjoyed this opportunity to seek out the voices of this congregation, review where we've been, explore how to build on our strengths, analyze areas for improvement and assist Carmel in spreading God's word and learning His will for how we can impact the world.

There is hope and excitement for Carmel's future. Now we just need to work together to discern the path forward. —Deb Gates

#### Presbytery of Philadelphia Changes Leadership

The leadership of the Presbytery of Philadelphia changed hands at their January 22 meeting as 2021 Modera-

tor of Presbytery Ashley Rossi cross on to her successor, Rev. Presbyterian Church. Elder Zanterian Church was also installed

Thanks were expressed By Execuas follows: "The Presbytery is so our out-going Moderator – Rev. faithful servant. Thank you Ash-Moderator."

passed the moderator's stole and Ted Mingle of Lower Providence dra Maffett of Valley Forge Presbyas Vice-Moderator for this year.

tive Presbyter Ruth Santana-Grace grateful for the heart and spirit of Ashley Rossi! Well done good and ley Rossi for your ministry as our

Serving as Presbytery moderator

is a big commitment, and Rev.

Rossi expressed her thanks to all who have contributed with dedication, tenacity, and flexibility during these unsettled times, as well as to her home church of Carmel. To the Presbytery, she wrote, "You have kept the flame of your joy alive. May you continue your call as God's anointed, preaching freedom to the prisoners and setting the oppressed free, until our paths cross again."

--Janet Simon



tacklehunger.org

February 13th

Carmel tackles **Souper Bowl for Caring** on Sunday, February 13th! Bring a can of soup or donate to Interfaith Food Cupboard.

For over 30 years, the Souper Bowl of Caring movement has been inspiring people to tackle hunger in their local communities creating over \$170 million worth of support that stays completely local.

Interfaith Food Cupboard is a favorite Carmel beneficiary. They have served Montgomery County families in need since 1970. The Cupboard serves more than 2,100 individuals experiencing food insecurity.

#### No Prayer List In Your Inbox?

If you are a member of the Prayer Community but haven't recently received the Prayer List in your email Inbox, it's possible your email address was inadvertently dropped from the distribution list. Those feisty "Google gremlins" like to play that joke every so often. Please email Susan Lohoefer with your preferred email address with a note to be added back into the distribution list.

Would you like to join the Prayer Community? This Member Care Ministry on behalf of the Board of Deacons is a spiritual life-line which communicates and takes voluntary, but committed, prayerful action on the needs of the congregation and its friends, the community and at times, on the occasion of national and world events. Through the ways in which each member individually prays and lifts prayers to God, we strive to unite voices, quietly raised to God on behalf of the needs of others. All information is treated as confidential unless and until public announcements are made through other means. Lists are updated and emailed every 1-2 weeks throughout the year.

Joining is quick and easy - email Susan Lohoefer to get started. No email? No problem - all it takes is a phone with an answering machine, and we'll set you up with a Prayer Buddy. —Susan Lohoefer, Prayer Community Liaison for the Board of Deacons susanlohoefer@gmail.com Phone: 215-290-6545

#### **Refuge Update**

We are a small group, but we are powerful! Grades 3-8...join us on Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:30 for dinner and fellowship.

In a December mission project, the Refuge youth brought in food items and put together two



themed baskets (a lunch one and an Italian dinner one) that went to the Inter-Faith Food Cupboard.

In January we studied the Epiphany and celebrated our inner light. Sonny even has

us thinking of him on 'sunny' days. In February we focus on love & caring month spreading our love to our church and community. Late in the month, we prepare for Lent.

Join us on Super Bowl Sunday, February 13 for SOUPER BOWL FOR CARING. Bring a can of soup and/or donate to Interfaith. We will also be treating you that day! —Joyce Kornfeld



We know that all things work together for good to those who love God.

Romans 8:28, NKJV



Frank and Ann Scott III, who will celebrate their 51st on February 20th

and

**Edwin and Linda MacFarland**, who will celebrate their 50th Golden Anniversary on February 26th.

# Happy Birthday To

**Robert "Lou" Richardson**, who will turn 92 on February 23rd. Have a wonderful day!



## **Carmel's College Fund**



One of the responsibilities assigned to the Stewardship Committee is administering the College Fund. Students who are attending or will attend college, graduate school, or vocational school and are members of Carmel may apply. All applicants must complete the application form yearly. Completed applications will be reviewed and preapproved by the Stewardship committee. Then the committee reports to Session for final approval. When approved, the applicant will be issued a check.

The guidelines and application form can be found on Carmel's website at

www.presbycarmel.org
or contact the church office



It is a blessing, indeed, to be able to welcome 2022 with an enthusiastic slate of officers to serve on our boards. Session welcomes back returning elders: Class of 2022: Deborah Gates, Eric Krieg, David Lanahan, Gary Moll, Kelly Rose, and Janet Simon; Class of 2023: Melissa Deacon, Anne Newman, Jay Raulinaitis, and Ken Schuyler; and welcomes the newly installed Class of 2024: Leslie Donaghy, Lisa Lent, Barbara Podrost, and David Rice. There are still openings for additional Elders. If you are interested in serving on the Board of Session, please contact Pastor Peter, Barbara Podrost (Chair), or Lisa Lent.

Session established the following 2022 Session Committees, chairpersons denoted with an asterisk: Christian Education: Janet Simon\*; Church Officer Nominating: Barbara Podrost\* and Lisa Lent; Congregational Life: Melissa Deacon\*; Outreach (Evangelism): Kelly Rose\* and David Rice; Finance, Investments and Insurance: Eric Krieg\* and Ken Schuyler; Personnel: Jay Raulinaitis\* and Gary Moll; <a href="Property: Gary Moll">Property: Gary Moll</a>\* and David Lanahan; Stewardship: Anne Newman\* and Jay Raulinaitis; and Worship and Sacraments: Deborah Gates\* and Leslie Donaghy. Ken Schuyler was elected Clerk of Session in 2022, replacing Nancy Pinkowicz who has faithfully served Carmel in this capacity since 2015 and will now be serving Carmel in 2022 as a member of the Pastor Nominating Committee. Thank you, Nancy!

The following items were among the reports and business conducted by Session:

The Transitional Ministry Team's Mission Study Report was approved by Session at a special meeting on January 5th and must now go to the Presbytery's Commission on Ministry (COM) for approval. Once approved, it will be presented to the congregation for information. The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) will hold our initial meeting after a Presbytery COM liaison is assigned, and will use the Mission Study Report as input as it starts the process of selecting a new Pastor.

The Personnel Committee is working on hiring a new Business Administrator to replace Mary Ann Welsh who is retiring. Thank you, Mary Ann!

As presented by Stewardship, Session approved four special offerings for 2022 – Souper Bowl, One Great Hour of Sharing, Peace and Global Mission, and Christmas Joy. Session approved the 2022 Operating Budget, which will be reviewed at the Annual Meeting of the Congregation on January 30<sup>th</sup>.

Due to the high number of COVID cases in recent weeks, Fellowship Hour will be suspended during January, and reevaluated for February. Session also decided to hold the Annual Meetings of the Congregation and Corporation virtually via Zoom, rather than in person on January 30, 2022.

As you read through weekly worship bulletin inserts and monthly editions of the Courier, please consider your role in God's plan for the ministry and witness of our Church. —Ken Schuyler, Clerk of Session

## From the Transitional Pastor's Study

What Is It We Make Manifest To the Community Around Carmel?

Dear Friends,

This year we have the whole month of February to journey from the Season of Epiphany (January 6: where Jesus' identity is made "manifest" to disciples and the world and disciples seek something new) to the Season of Lent that begins with Ash Wednesday (March 2: when disciples ponder and deepen their discipleship).

"From now on you will

be catching people."

LUKE 5:10, NRSV

installed and recognized this year's class of elders, deacons and shepherds to be empowering servant leaders. At the sanctuary door, as folks departed worship, someone asked me, "Just what is ordination?" I gave a long and complicated answer, and then later looked it up to find a more concise way to respond. Here's what I

Most years Lent begins early to mid-February. What shall we do with all this **extra time**?

Early in Jesus' ministry Jesus says to the fishers Simon and Andrew (as they mend their nets): "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." Immediately, they leave their nets behind and follow. The same is true with James, son of Zebedee, and his brother John (they leave their father in the boat and follow).

#### Life is no different today—Jesus calls us.

And, we have **all** of February this year to discover our calling (as God makes Jesus 'manifest' and we follow). We ask, what made these disciples leave behind their life and work for something new? What makes someone leave what they are doing to follow something totally new and as yet unknown? Jesus is the One who said, "Follow me!" I believe the answer is appropriating a **vision of something larger** than our daily lives.

#### The vision calls us.

We can sit at home and mend our nets—that's important. Yet, we also have a broader calling—to fish for people! Carmel fishes in many ways... through welcoming Spirit-inspired worship... through outward looking incarnational focused mission... through lifelong discipleship formation with a focus on children to youth to young adult to older adult education... through Youth Ministries... through Fun Gatherings Where We Share Conviviality with Others... through caring relationships with each other and those we have yet to know... through intentional authentic evangelism as we witness among those in our community... and maintaining available hospitable buildings and grounds... To do and continue to do all of this we strive to live into empowering servant leadership.

Many of you were in the sanctuary (or participating virtually via livestreaming) as we ordained,

found:

The act by which the church sets apart leaders to serve in particular offices. The word ordination is derived from order. In ordination the church orders itself for ministry.

Many of us at Carmel have been ordained whether as an Elder or a Deacon and we know it's not just a "three-year job". As the saying goes, "Once an Elder/Deacon, always an Elder/Deacon." While elders and deacons may not be serving actively during a three-year term, the identity and responsibility—the calling—remains.

That is to say, of course, for **all** who are **disciples**—baptized and confirmed—into Carmel membership. This whole month of February, let us remember our baptisms and what it is we confirmed and/or affirmed as we became Carmel members. The Presbyterian Church *Book of Order* describes **faithful members** as those who accept Christ's call to be involved responsibly in the ministry of his Church. Such involvement includes:

- · proclaiming the good news,
- taking part in the common life and worship of a particular church,
- praying and studying Scripture and the faith of the Christian Church,
- supporting the work of the church through the giving of money, time, and talents,
- participating in the governing responsibilities of the church,
- demonstrating a new quality of life within and through the church,
- responding to God's activity in the world through service to others,
- living responsibly in the personal, family,
   See PETER on Page 7

Director: Leslie Rupp

# Nursery School— February News

## Don't Forget Registration for 22/23

#### **Register Soon!**

Registration has begun for the 22/23 school year. A registration form Is being sent home with your child. If you need one for a friend let us know and we will send you another one. Registration is open to the general public next week and spaces are available on a first come, first served basis.

#### **Valentine Parties**

It's that time of year when love is in the air and there are hearts and flowers everywhere! Each class will have a Valentine's Day Party this month. The parties will be on February 14th and February 15th . See your child's teacher about the details and what they might need. Look for

sign up sheets. Happy Valentine's Day!

#### **Community Helpers**

Part of Carmel Nursery School's curriculum for February is learning about community helpers. The children learn about who these community helpers are, what they do, and how they help us. To enhance the knowledge of community helpers.



#### Bundle Up

Please remember to send your child with a hat, gloves, scarf and warm jacket. Our policy is to go outside as long as it is 32 degrees or above. ( with no snow in the



playground)

### February, 2022

- **Feb 1st** —Registration begins
- Check out our wish list
- **Feb 10th** Gertrude Hawk Candy sale begins
- Feb. 14th and 15th—Valentine's Day Parties
- March Dates
- MARCH 4TH- Gertrude Hawk sale ENDS

### Gertrude Hawk Candy Sale

We are holding our Gertrude Hawk fundraiser just in time for Easter. Choose from a large variety of delicious candy and other gifts. Carmel Nursery School gets half of the money raised if we sell over \$5000. We've done it before! Lesser amounts we get a percentage of the profits. Please turn in your orders to the nursery school office by March 13th The candy will be delivered in time for Easter. The exact date is still to be determined. Sell to family, friends and

coworkers. You will be helping us to purchase new manipulatives and resources for the classrooms and enjoying treats and gifts for you and your family! Thanks for your order.



#### HELP BOOST OUR RAT-INGS

Please google Carmel Nursery School and give us a great rating. The more good ratings we have the higher we come up in someone's search !!! It really helps us get our name out

#### Wish List!!!!!!

- Elmer's glue sticks
- Watercolor paint sets
- White, red and pink construction paper

#### **SHEPHERDS**



Shepherds: Now that the holidays are over, its time to get down to work for the new year. We have 6 Shepherds for this year that is a little short of help. We will do our best but if anyone would like to help, please let the staff at church know or email me <a href="mailto:bcherry56@aol.com">bcherry56@aol.com</a> or call 215-460-5594. Thank you for considering!

Thanks again to our retiring sheep Melissa Keller, Ruth Kucera, Patricia Agbote, Lynne Coulter, and Karen Bogle. The herd will miss you. We thank Penny's Flowers' new owners for such beautiful arrangements. Please keep in mind to honor or memorialize your relatives or friends. The cost is minimal. Call the

church office for details. Take care, be safe, and Praise the Lord! —Beth Cherry



Warm and loving wishes from your Deacons! We are still filled with the love and joy of sharing the Christmas holiday with everyone. It was truly moving to see so many faces and to lift our voices in praise together.

We want to start by sincerely thanking Carol Moll and Heidi Lindsay for their service as Deacons, and to give a big thank you to Sue Lohoefer for her continued support in updating the weekly prayer list. You are all invaluable assets to our church community and we appreciate you! We are pleased to announce the officers for 2022: Moderator Jed Smith, Vice-Moderator Denise Abraham, Secretary Jeanne Simon, and Treasurer Steven Heintz, Jr.

The Inter-Faith Food Cupboard is currently providing 4 bags of non-perishables to 100 families per week! Think about all the lives that are touched by this community effort! The Cupboard reports that February and March are the months when donations decline. Please pick an item or two from below to drop off during this month and next to help our neighbors in need. As always the drop off point is conveniently located right inside the church lobby. https://www.i-fha.org/what-we-do/food-cupboard/



## The current most needed items for the interfaith food cupboard are:

- 1. Assorted snacks such as crackers, cookies, etc.
- 2. Breakfast items such as pancake mix, syrup and smaller packages of oatmeal such as the boxes of individual portions
- 3. Coffee and tea
- 4. Baking supplies, including box mixes
- 5. Laundry pods (not bottles) of detergent

#### Ongoing projects:

We continue to ask for the congregation's help in creating an updated list of our members in college, so we can send them goodies throughout the year. Please email Abigail at <a href="mailto:ampm611@gmail.com">ampm611@gmail.com</a> with the college student's name, year, email, and mailing address! We've only had one name submitted so far!

If you could use a home cooked meal, don't forget Meals in a Moment! Carmel members, please reach out to Denise Abraham (<a href="mailto:phillygirl1216@gmail.com">phillygirl1216@gmail.com</a>) to request a meal. If you are a family with schoolaged children, please reach out! We are making and freezing meals that you can pick up or have dropped off, and can reheat on a night when you need a break!



Please reach out to us if there are any projects or causes for which you would like assistance from the Deacons, we are here to help!

As always, if you are in need of Deacon support or are interested in becoming a deacon, please reach out to me at <a href="mailto:ampmp611@gmail.com">ampmp611@gmail.com</a>

Please see our snazzy Deacon website page for more information about us, and our Local Mission Partners page for links to the organizations we support!

https://presbycarmel.org/deacons-shepherds/

https://presbycarmel.org/local-mission-partners/

God Bless!

—Abigail Clayton

#### From **PETER** Page 5

- vocational, political, cultural, and social relationships of life,
- working in the world for peace, justice, freedom, and human fulfillment.

Carmel is a wonderful congregation! The time is now for us to make manifest who we are once again to this community where we live and move and have our being. Jesus' call—"Follow me!"—is like a match striking a rough surface and lighting us up to shine our light beyond our walls with the new life that soon will again be revealed at Easter.

As always, in our shared Transitional Ministry, please do not be hesitant or consider it unimportant to involve me in your life's joys and concerns.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Peter

### **Lectionary for February, 2022**

#### February 6, 2022

Isaiah 6:1-8 (9-13)
Psalm 138
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Luke 5:1-11

#### February 20, 2022

Genesis 45:3-11, 15 Psalm 37 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50 Luke 6:27-38

#### February 13, 2022

Jeremiah 17:5-10 Psalm 1 1 Corinthians 15:12-20 Luke 6:17-26

## February 27, 2022: The Transfiguration of the Lord

Exodus 34:29-35
Psalm 99
2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2
Luke 9:28-36





We need your help live-streaming Sunday morning worship! We only have a few volunteers who facilitate the livestream every week, and we need more! We will be happy to train! It is not difficult. Please contact Gary Moll at 215-264-0221 or e-mail garylmoll@yahoo.com



Dear Carmel Friends,

A big thank you to Beth Cherry for bringing a beautiful poinsettia to our home on Sunday. It brightens up our dining room table. Thanks for your thoughtfulness.
Ray and Nancy Rose

Thank you for the lovely bouquet of flowers given to us recently at our new address. Unfortunately, we do not know who brought them. Thank you for all of your kind thoughts. We miss you all so much and hope to return to Carmel soon.

With love,

Ray and Nancy Rose

Thank you for the beautiful flowers from the service on January 2nd. I was surprised when Beth Cherry showed up at the door with them. Anne and I welcome the care you all have for us.

Walt Newman

Thank you to Beth Cherry who brought me the poinsettia and for all of the Christmas cards!
Thanks, too, to Barb Thompson for thinking of me with a beautiful arrangement.
Kay Bauer

We want to express our deep gratitude for the prayers, cards, and flowers we received from Carmel members following the recent death of Jim's mother.

Jim and Barb Thornton

Thank you to all the Carmel folks who reached out to me during my recent bout with Covid. Thank you, Ruth Kucera, for the funny card that made me chuckle; thank you Pastors and fellow staff for the lovely arrangement to brighten my bedroom; thank you Linda MacFarland for a cheery little arrangement for my desk; thank you letter writers for the congregational letter; and thank you Denise Abraham for the amazing turkey chili—one of favorite dishes! I was truly touched by everyone's concern and care.

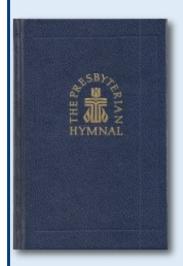
Mary Kate Nolen

# MEMORIAM

James (Jim) Thompson, Sr. joined the church triumphant on December 23. Jim was a life-long member of Carmel and enjoyed singing in the bass section of the Carmel Choir. He served as a 10-year senior high advisor, a member of the Board of Deacons, and as an Elder on Session. Some Carmel members remember Jim as their senior high advisor, and others can picture him as one of the costumed three Wise Men processing down the aisle and singing "We Three Kings" on Epiphany Sunday.

Please remember his wife Barbara, children Jim, Jr, Susan Ehring, Laurel MacBride, Scott, and Brian and his 15 grandchildren and four great grandchildren as they mourn his loss. They will appreciate your cards and notes, prayers, and thoughts.

### Free Presbyterian Hymnals Available



Carmel has been given several copies of the blue Presbyterian Hymnal by our Presbytery. These copies are available in the Carmel church office. The hymnals make it easy to worship from home on our livestream each week. Please call the church office to arrange a time to pick up your copy to keep.

—Abby Palmisano
Organist and Director of Music





In *It's Okay Not to Be Okay*, Christian author Sheila Walsh looks at the all-encompassing love that Jesus expects of his followers. He commands us to "love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself" (Luke 10:27, ESV).

But we can't love that way without faith, Walsh writes. "I'm not living by faith if I have an answer to everything. If I understand everything God does or doesn't do, then all I need to love him with is my mind. We're called to love him with more." That "more," she explains, involves these paradoxes: "We love with all our heart, even when it's broken. We love with our soul, even when our humanity wrestles against our situation. We love with our strength, even when it's almost gone. We love with our mind, even when we don't understand." Even if God's purposes and plans don't make sense here on earth, we can heed this advice from the great preacher Charles Spurgeon: "When we cannot trace [God's] hand, we must trust his heart."

Adapted from *NewsletterNewsletter, February, 2022* 



- February is African American History Month
- Valentine's Day, February 14, 2022
- Presidents Day, February 21, 2022
- Transfiguration of Our Lord, *February 27, 2022*
- Ash Wednesday, March 2, 2022
- World Day of Prayer, March 4, 2022
- International Women's Day, March 8, 2022