

CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

Eblast

February 8, 2024



Shrove Tuesday

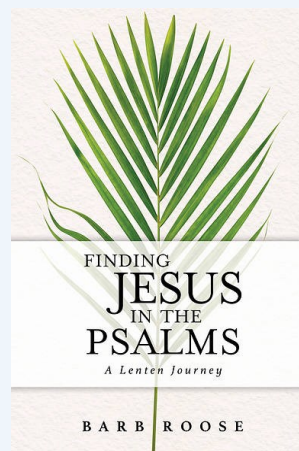
Pancake Supper

On Tuesday, February 13th from 4:30 - 6 p.m. our annual Shrove Tuesday pancake supper will be hosted by St. John here at the Church of the Redeemer in the Parish Hall. There will be delicious pancakes, eggs and sausage, along with great fellowship. We do hope you will join us then.



Join us on February 14th at 12:05 p.m. for our Ash Wednesday service. If noon is a little too early for you please feel free to join Canon Melinda and Pastor Scott for the 7p.m. service at St. John Lutheran Church.

On Monday, February 19th at 6:30 p.m. we will begin our Lenten Bible Study "Finding Jesus in the Psalms." We will gather in the Nursery at St. John Lutheran Church, 207 S. Hopkins Street.





Ash Wednesday — Lent Begins

An Invitation to A Holy Lent

Dear people of God: The first Christian's observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting. This season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when those who, because of notorious sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the

Church. Thereby, the whole congregation was put in mind of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word. And to make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature, let us now kneel before the Lord, our maker and redeemer. BCP p. 264

Goodbye Alleluia



Alleluia

In keeping with the traditions of both Episcopalians and Lutherans, we will be saying goodbye to saying the word “Alleluia” during the season of Lent on the last Sunday of Epiphany. The word is based on the Hebrew word halleluyah that means “Praise the Lord”. With the penitential character of the season of Lent, the word is “buried” or hidden during the season. This tradition goes back to the fifth century in the western church. It is a kind of verbal fast so that when we hear it again on Easter, we may hear it anew.



Transfiguration



IN MEMORIAM
ALBERT F. FRANKENFIELD
1862 - 1924

*And after six days Jesus took with him
Peter and James and John his brother,
and led them to a high mountain apart.
And he was transfigured before them,
and his face shone like the sun, and his
garments became white as light. And
behold there appeared to them Moses and
Elijah, talking with him.*

Matthew 17:1-3

Window 24

This Sunday is the Feast of the Transfiguration, where Jesus' divinity is revealed to Peter, James and John.

This window commemorates this event and you can find it in the Nave on the wall opposite the hospital. With the altar at your back, it is the left most window. This is one of the many windows that underwent repair. We are planning a celebration of the completion of the Windows project in April.

Below is a poem by Madeleine L'Engle that perhaps describes what the people seeing the transfiguration may have experienced.

"Suddenly they saw him the way he was, the way he really was all the time, although they had never seen it before, the glory which blinds the everyday eye and so becomes invisible. This is how he was, radiant, brilliant, carrying joy like a flaming sun in his hands. This is the way he was-is-from the beginning, and we cannot bear it. So he manned himself, came manifest to us; and there on the mountain they saw him, really saw him, saw his light. We all know that if we really see him we die. But isn't that what is required of us? Then perhaps, we will see each other, too.

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

A Lenten Series

Valley United Presbyterian Church and the Epiphany Roman Catholic Church are coming together to offer presentations on the topic of "Love Your Neighbor" on Wednesday evenings in Lent.

Leaders from local organizations will speak on our responsibilities to fellow human beings. A freewill offering will be collected for various organizations.

Feb 21 - Obligations to the Poor

Speakers: A panel featuring Kim Paul from The Bridge, Christina Ramirez from The Salvation Army, and Patrick Aquilio from Catholic Charities

Location: Epiphany Parish Hall

Feb 28 - Life and Dignity of the Human Person

Speaker: Anja Miller, Guthrie Hospice

Location: Epiphany Parish Hall

March 6 - Care for God's Creation

Speaker: Marty Borko, Carantouan Greenway

Location: Epiphany Parish Hall

March 13 - Boundaries and Relationships

Speaker: Dawn Clover, Guthrie Employee Assistance Program

Location: Valley United Fellowship Hall

March 20 - Solidarity and Peace

Speaker: Father Dan Toomey and Pastor Sharan Knoell

Location: Valley United Fellowship Hall

Dinner and fellowship start at 5:45pm on each evening.

Join us this Lenten season as we earnestly listen to the Word of God and learn what we can do to show our love for our neighbors.

If you plan on attending this event please let Canon Melinda know. We are hopeful that you will attend. If you do plan on going perhaps we can ride together. Please note there is NO COST TO ATTEND but registration is required and a link can be found at the bottom of this page.


**ROOTED IN JUSTICE,
FREEDOM, AND EQUALITY**

**Absalom Jones and Black History
Month Celebration**

**FEBRUARY 24, 2024
10:00AM**

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER AND PREACHER:
REV. RYAN HAWTHORNE,
Associate Rector at Palmer Memorial Episcopal
Church, Houston, TX.**

Hosted by the Diocesan Racial Justice and Reconciliation Task Force

The Episcopal
Diocese of Bethlehem

St. Stephen's Pro-Cathedral, Wilkes Barre
35 S Franklin St,
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701

The Racial Justice & Reconciliation Task Force will host a celebration of Absalom Jones and Black History Month Celebration on **February 24, 2024**, at [St. Stephen's Pro-cathedral \(Wilkes-Barre\)](#).

Join us for a day of reflection, formation, and fellowship with keynote speaker the Rev. Ryan Hawthorne, Associate Rector at [Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church](#), Houston, TX.

This event consists of check-in at 9:30 a.m., keynote address, discussion, lunch, and a concluding worship service. Registration is needed for your participation: [click here](#)

THE
Episcopal
CHURCH



08623

February 2024

Church of the Redeemer
201 S Wilbur Ave
Sayre, PA 18840-1605

Dear Friend:

Thank you for your continued prayers for my recovery. I am grateful for my family, for the exceptional medical care that I am receiving and for the support of my Episcopal family.

I am writing to invite you, your congregation, and all Episcopalians to honor the life and work of Blessed Absalom Jones by making a gift in 2024 to the Absalom Jones Fund for Episcopal Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). In 1804, Absalom Jones became the first African American to be ordained a priest in the Episcopal Church. We celebrate his life and accomplishments each year on February 13, known on our church calendar as the Feast of Absalom Jones.

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, I ask that you consider making a gift or dedicating a plate offering in your parish (live or virtual) this year to support the Absalom Jones Fund. Since the Church established the Absalom Jones Fund in 2018, a third of all Episcopal Dioceses, sixty-five parishes, and hundreds of generous individuals have donated. I am profoundly grateful.

Many faithful Episcopalians have been asking me what they can do to make a real difference. One way to make that difference is to invest in a better future for young people. Historically Black Colleges and Universities create dynamic and empowering educational environments for college students from diverse backgrounds. Now more than ever, these institutions need your support. Thank you for your consideration of this request, and may God bless you and keep you and your loved ones.

Keep the faith,

The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry
Primate and Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church

P.S. To obtain a press release and bulletin inserts visit: episcopalchurch.org/development/HBCU. Julia Alling, Senior Development Officer, is pleased to answer any questions you may have. She can be reached directly at jalling@episcopalchurch.org or 212-716-6041.



February, we celebrate and honor the lives of our Brown/Black siblings. It is a way to remember important people and events of the African diaspora. It was first celebrated at Kent State University from January 2 to February 28, 1970. President Gerald Ford recognized Black History Month in 1976 during the Bicentennial celebration. It is now celebrated in several other countries (United Kingdom, Germany, Canada, the Republic of Ireland, France, and several countries in Africa).

This week, we are uplifting Sojourner Truth. She was born in 1797 into slavery in New York State. She escaped with her infant daughter to freedom in 1826. She then went to court and was the first black woman to win a case against a white man to recover her son in 1828. She changed her name from Isabella Baumfree to Sojourner Truth in 1843 because she felt called to preach the Gospel of Jesus in the countryside. Her most famous speech, "Aint's I a Woman," was delivered extemporaneously, in 1851, at the Ohio Women's Rights Convention. She was a strong advocate for both the abolition of slavery along with women's rights which led to a meeting with President Lincoln. Her passion for freedom and equality was for all people. Her final words at age of 86 were, "Follow the Lord Jesus" an indication of her deep faith in God.

If you have any interesting facts on "Black History Month" that you would like to share with us, please email the church office.



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_History_Month

<https://www.focusonthefamily.ca/content/black-history-month-people-of-colour-people-of-faith>

Readings for February 4, 2024

First Reading: 2 Kings 2:1-12

Psalm 50:1-6

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Gospel: Mark 9:2-9

Scripture Reflection

Reflection on the Gospel by Donald Booz from Daily Feast: Meditations from Feasting on the Word

We all want to travel to the mountaintop and experience the transfiguration with Jesus. Yet the text eventually moves us back down the mountain into the normal routine of life. Even if we have a mountaintop experience, we often do not know how to share it with the faith community. At the same time, the faith community may not know how to receive an experience with God on the mountaintop. Have you taken up the cross, or are you still hesitating?





The Wildcat closet is still accepting donation of Sweat pants, Sweat shirts, socks and toiletries. The box is located in the atrium . Linda Murrelle will pick up your donations and make sure they are delivered to the proper locations.



For the Month of **February** we will be collecting cereal for our local food pantries.



Update on Baby Bob

Baby Bob now weighs 3 pounds 3ozs. and is 14.4 inches long. He is making progress! He is able to have some “skin time” with his mom. Like any preemie, he makes some progress and then regresses. Each regression causes worry and concern and each progression is wildly cheered. Please keep Baby Bob in your prayers (and his mom and dad, Zach and Dawn.) “Thinking of You cards” are greatly appreciated—just write one out and drop it off at church, we’ll do the rest. Although they haven’t asked for this, we know that Wal-Mart gift cards are a big help to them.

Serving in Worship at Redeemer

February 11

Reader: Diane Siebecker

Usher: Walter Chaykosky

Greeter: Sherry Gabauer

February 18

Reader: Alice Bennett

Usher: Rick Rhodes

Greeter: Mary Rhodes



Jeff Watson 2/11

Margaret Cole 2/12

Tyler Rhodes 2/12

Colleen Marshall 2/13

Dan Wayman 2/14

Maria Elliot 2/14

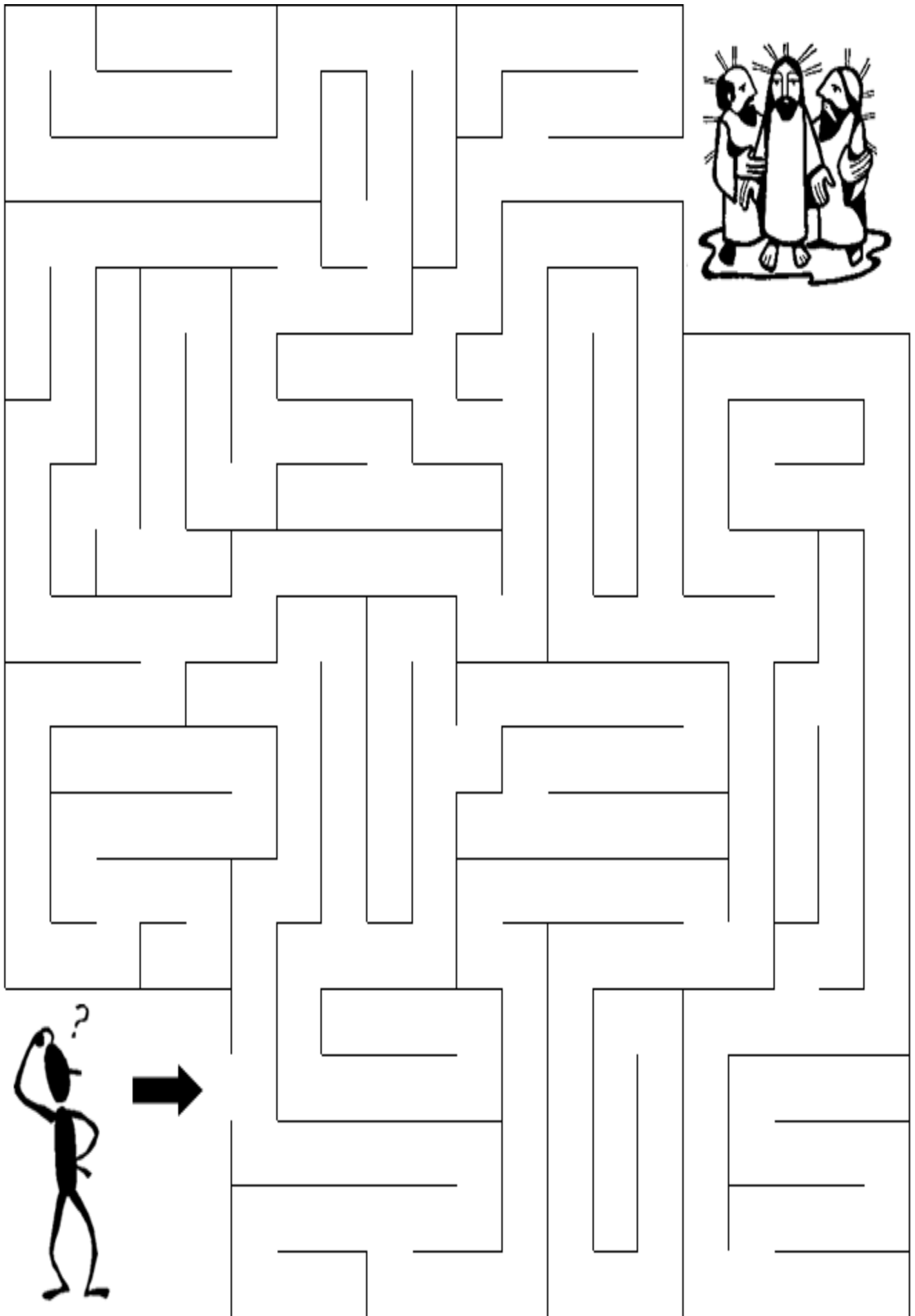
Linda Dix 2/17

Mark your Calendar

A celebration for our stained-glass windows. April 14, 2024. Tribute Quartet, a Gospel group out of Tennessee will be performing.



THE TRANSFIGURATION



On the Mountain Top

After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. Mark 9:2

Based on Mark 9:2-9



I P E T E R Z Z K E M T F F K
B P S Q Q R A B B I L A Y P Z
Q Q A H E L J E P J T I V H R
G M G N W F G G K V K G J O L
S I O G O Z N J O O J O M A X
H L B S R I L O Z I P O O G H
A B Y T L V K H C C C D O K Z
M A L Z D A W N W E Q Z E L T
D O Z E J M P B W H I T E X K
S A U M A Q O P C L O T H E S
D I Q N L C A S E M L V P O C
S B X H T O H W E A Z R G Z V
Q Z Y R G A V C Z S R O X R Z
P Q V O Y W I E T H N E G S K
K J A M E S Y N N O N C D C Z

DAYS
HIGH
PETER
ELIJAH

JOHN
RABBI
WHITE
WORLD

APPEARED
MOSES
LOVE
DAZZLING

CLOTHES
GOOD
SIX
MOUNTAIN

BLEACH
VOICE
ALONE
JAMES