



The Messenger

PUBLISHED MONTHLY FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF
SAINT ANDREWS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, TOPEKA, KANSAS



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Ash Wednesday and the Use of Ashes

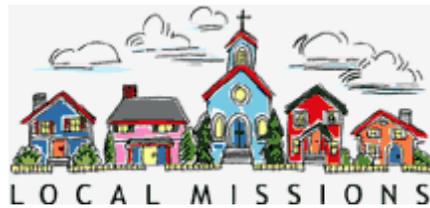
The liturgical use of ashes originated in the Old Testament times. Ashes symbolized mourning, mortality, and penance. Job (whose story was written between the 7th and 5th centuries B.C.) repented in sackcloth and ashes (Job 42:6). In the 5th century B.C., after Jonah's preaching of conversion and repentance, the town of Nineveh proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, and the king covered himself with sackcloth and sat in the ashes (Jonah 3:5-6). These Old Testament examples evidence both a recognized practice of using ashes and a common understanding of their symbolism.

The early Church continued the usage of ashes for the same symbolic reasons. During this time, for those who were required to do public penance, the priest sprinkled ashes on the head of the person leaving confession.

In the Middle Ages, those who were about to die were laid on the ground on top of sackcloth sprinkled with ashes. The priest would bless the dying person with holy water, saying, "Remember that thou art dust and to dust thou shalt return." In all of these examples, the symbolism of mourning, mortality, and penance is clear.

Eventually, the use of ashes was adapted to mark the beginning of Lent, the 40-day preparation period (not including Sundays) for Easter. Since the Middle Ages, the Church has used ashes to mark the beginning of the Lenten season, when we remember our mortality and mourn for our sins.

In our present liturgy for Ash Wednesday, it is customary to use ashes made from the burned palm branches distributed on the Palm Sunday of the previous year. The ashes are blessed and placed on the foreheads of the faithful, making the sign of the cross and saying, "Remember, man you are dust and to dust you shall return," or "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel." When we begin the holy season of Lent in preparation for Easter, we must remember the significance of the ashes we have received: We mourn and ask forgiveness for our sins. We remember our Lord, who suffered, died, and rose for our salvation. We renew the promises made at our baptism, when we died to an old life and rose to a new life with Christ. Finally, mindful that the kingdom of this world passes away, we strive to live the kingdom of God now and look forward to its fulfillment in heaven.



Despite the struggles of the Covid situation in 2021, The Topeka Rescue Mission continued to be a vital source for providing food and shelter to those in need in around the Topeka area.

In 2021 they provided 137,095 meals from their kitchen to TRM (Topeka Rescue Mission) guests and the community; 10,174 food baskets to hungry from the TRM Distribution Center; Food equaling 330,587 meals, plus 8,205 to community partners; In all TRM provided food for 475,887 meals in 2021.

The Mobil Access Partnership, which is the mobile laundry and shower, helped 1,322 people.

Donations of food, clothing and household items may be made at TRM's distribution center at 401 NW Norris St.



Thank you to everyone who donated soup and crackers during our **Souper Bowl** **Sunday** collection! We know that a can of

soup can be a meal or two, and your generous donations helped stock our pantry, and provide meals for your neighbors in need!

If you haven't heard we are raising funds for our 55th Anniversary Fund, specifically to replace the 60+ year old HVAC system in our building! We received our original bid just after the beginning of COVID in our country, and our estimate was \$150,000. Unfortunately, with all of the changes COVID has brought, we now need to raise at least \$180,000!

Beginning February 16th and running through April 15th Doorstep has a Matching Funds Challenge for you to take advantage of, and help Doorstep meet our goal!! We have a generous couple who has pledged \$20,000 towards Doorstep's HVAC replacement fund.

Donate to Doorstep between February 16th ~ April 15th and for every \$2 you donate, our matching funders will add \$1 to that donation!

If you have already donated towards our special project fund, Thank You, and keep in mind this is a new tax year, with another opportunity for you to help out, and have your donation matched!

Doorstep, Inc. is located at 1119 SW 10th, Topeka, Ks 66604. You can also visit our website: www.DoorstepTopeka.org, and donate through PayPal. Make sure to note the HVAC fund on any donation you send for this Challenge.

Ash Wednesday Service

Our Ash Wednesday service will be on March 2nd at 5:30 p.m. Please join us as we begin the season of Lent leading up the celebration of the resurrection on Easter, April 17th.



Thank You



Richmond and I would like to thank everyone for the support you have given us these last few months since the death of our beloved son, JR., through the wreckage of our house by a truck. We are so grateful for all the prayers, we are humbled by your generosity and strengthened by your faith and encouragement. Linda

keeps telling me, that's what family does.

And we love our church family.

Thank you from our hearts.

Sharon and Richmond



Set your clocks, Daylight Saving Time begins on March 13th!

Move your clock forward one hour when you go to bed on Saturday, March 12th!

We're on the Road Again



After a couple of months of not meeting because of the weather and Covid issues, the Lunch Bunch will be getting together again. We will be meeting at Banjos on Wednesday, March 16th, at 12:00 noon. Banjos is located at 5824 SW Topeka Blvd. You may contact Helen Jackson at 785-271-9891. All are welcome.

Per Capita

Per Capita is the amount assessed each church to support the work of the church at Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly. The amount per member for St. Andrews this year \$34.88 Thank you for considering to pay this to reduce the expense to St. Andrews.



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Lectionary for March 2022



Ash Wednesday—March 2- Joel 2:1-2, 12-17, or Isaiah 58:1-12; Psalm 51:1-17; 2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

First Sunday in Lent—March 6- Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16; Romans 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13

Second Sunday in Lent—March 13- Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27; Philippians 3:17—4:1; Luke 13:31-35 or Luke 9:28-36

Third Sunday in Lent—March 20- Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8; 2 Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9

Fourth Sunday in Lent—March 27- Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Celebration of Communion scheduled for March 6th.



March Birthdays

Janet Schiesser, March 1st
Mary Ottiwell, March 7th
Jan McPherson, March 8th
Norm Schiesser, March 27th
Betty DeShazer, March 29th



Richmond and Sharon McDaniels , Linda Ozakie , Dolores Wilmers , Kathy Fuller, Mary Jane and Junior Elder, Norm Schiesser, Rita Kelly, Cheryl Kelly, AJ Jones, Suzanne Liapis , Andy O’Neill, Jim O’Neill, Mark O’Neill, Rev. Mike Kuner, Pam Nigus , Sue Aschenbrenner.

Remember all those who serve -our active duty and veteran personnel, firefighters, EMTs, police officers, and medical personnel who continue to serve, the hungry and the homeless. Pray for peace and calm for our nation and our community. Pray for the world situation, especially the war that has broken out in Ukraine.

Pray for our government officials and world leaders that they may engage in diplomacy and lead with wisdom and compassion.

SESSION



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS FEBRUARY 20, 2022

Present: Jan Rice, Stephanie Reynolds, Betty DeShazer, Bill DeShazer, Charles Franks

Absent: Matthew Reynolds, Sharon McDaniels, Linda Ozaki, Claudia Hamer

No detailed Treasurer’s Report as computer was down. All bills paid. Expenses normal except gas which has gone up considerably.

Ash Wednesday (March 2nd) service will be at 5:30 p.m.

Pastor Stacey will be gone April 3rd.

La Manda Broyles is the new Executive Director of Topeka Rescue Mission.

Bible Study continues Sunday morning at 10:15. Recent study has been on Great Themes of the Bible. Lenten Study will begin March 6th.

Next Session meeting will be March 20th.

Next communion will be March 6th.

March 2022						
◀ February						April ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Janet Schiesser B'day	2 Ash Wednesday 5:30 Ash Wednesday Svc.	3	4	5
6 Communion	7 Mary Ottiwell B'day	8 Jan McPherson B'day	9	10	11	12
13 Daylight Saving Time Begins	14	15	16 12:00 Noon Lunch Bunch At Banjos	17	18	19
20 Session	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Norm Schiesser B'day	28	29 Betty DeShazer B'day	30	31	April 10-Palm Sunday April 17-Easter	

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

March, 2022



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**WELCOME TO
SAINT ANDREWS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Bible Study, Sunday, 10:15 AM**

Sunday Services 11:00 AM

