

## Going Deeper: Our Lenten Journey

In the tradition of the church, the faithful set aside the 40 days before Easter as a time of preparation. In this Lenten season, we are "Going Deeper" as we seek ways to heighten our awareness of the grace of God. We are exploring spiritual practices, like prayer, Bible study and Holy Communion. We are deepening our faith in the One who went to the cross and conquered death for love of the world, our Savior Jesus Christ.

### Going Deeper: Invitation to Worship



Ash Wednesday, February 25  
Services are: 7:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m., and 7:00p.m.

### Going Deeper: Invitation to Daily Devotion

Beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 25, we invite you to participate in shared/communal daily readings and reflections. Our daily devotionals, available each Sunday during Lent at the church and on the web site, offer opportunities to go deeper in faith through spiritual practices.

### Going Deeper: Holy Adventure

God invites us to be his companions in co-creating our future. Our lives are unfinished, surprising, and holy adventures to be lived out day by day and moment by moment! Join Pastor Scott on a Holy Adventure of surprising and exciting self-discovery, and uncover what God has in store for you! Beginning **Wednesdays, February 18, 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm.**

### Going Deeper: The Passion Story



All four Gospels offer detailed accounts of the last week of Jesus' life on earth. Join this Lenten Bible study to discover lessons for life by going deeper into Holy Scripture. Pastor Sherry will lead the study Wednesday, February 25 — April 8. **Participants have a choice of two meeting times: 4:00 p.m.—5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.—8:00 p.m.**

### Going Deeper: Sacred Music

Music has been used as a pathway to go deeper into the heart of God since long before the Psalms were written. We connect with God and each other through music. During these Lenten weeks, you are invited to participate in one of the music ministry groups at First Church. On **Wednesday's Children's Music at 6:00 and 6:30 p.m.; Echoes of Praise Handbells, 7:00 p.m.; Thursdays, Chancel Choir at 7:00 p.m.** There are also opportunities for joining the youth praise band, adult praise band, women's singing ensemble and the orchestra. All are welcome to participate, please contact music director Norma Nichols at 810-229-8561 or [norma@brightonfumc.org](mailto:norma@brightonfumc.org).



# How Will You Go “Deeper in Faith” this Lent?

*As Christians we are blessed with many ways to experience the presence of Christ’s Holy Spirit. John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, believed that spiritual practices are a “Means of Grace,” a way to grow in the mercy and love of Jesus Christ. Wesley also taught that there is accountability when we make the commitment to practice our faith in community.*

*This Lenten Season, First Church will be “going deeper” with spiritual practices, and all are invited to participate. If you make a commitment to one or more spiritual practices in the weeks ahead, you can find accountability and support by sharing your decision and experiences with a staff member listed below or with a spiritual friend.*

*Please know that the staff and leadership of First Church will be participating with you and are holding you in prayer.*

## Daily Prayer

While we are moved to pray daily, centuries of Christian practice has shown us that there are many ways to pray. Some pray in silence, some in movement, some pray on their way to work and others as they end their day. In prayer we speak our worries, joys and desires. In prayer we hear the comfort and guidance of God. If you desire guidance for your personal prayer life or wish to share your experiences of prayer, contact Pastor Sherry Parker. ([sherry@brightonfumc.org](mailto:sherry@brightonfumc.org))

## Daily Bible Reading

The Bible offers the revelation of God’s will and God’s way. Daily reading reminds us of God’s Spirit moving through our lives. In this Lenten season, our emphasis will be on the Gospel of Mark. Read the gospel and discover the Good News of Jesus Christ. If you would like guidance in your Bible reading or a place to share your experiences of studying the Bible, contact Pastor Scott Chrostek. ([scott@brightonfumc.org](mailto:scott@brightonfumc.org))

## Worship and Sacraments

We know God’s grace as we gather together in community. From the earliest days of the church, believers have gathered to pray, sing hymns and break bread together. Discover the love of Jesus Christ in weekly worship.



## Service

We are blessed by the love of God to be a blessing to others. Discover the grace of Jesus Christ in the midst of service to neighbor.

There are multiple opportunities for service in the Brighton Community and through First Church. Mission opportunities during Lent include volunteering for REACH (we will host a homeless program) and traveling to Cass UMC in Detroit to work. If you are seeking to serve or would like to share your experiences of service during Lent, contact Suzy Hutchison. ([suzy@brightonfumc.org](mailto:suzy@brightonfumc.org))

## Hospitality

As Christ invites and welcomes us to follow him, we are called to invite and welcome others. That welcome is to include those who join with us in worship as well as those who can no longer attend. The practice of hospitality opens our hearts to God’s grace and mercy and opens the door of God’s love for others. If you are seeking ways to offer hospitality or to share your experiences of hospitality contact Deacon Loretta Job. ([loretta@brightonfumc.org](mailto:loretta@brightonfumc.org))

## Music

It has been said that music is the window to the soul. With all the sounds available to us these days, how much time do we give to listening to inspirational music? Music can surround and support our spiritual life. No matter your taste in music, there are Christian musicians offering prayer and praise in a way that will speak to you. If you are seeking meaningful Christian music, contact music director Norma Nichols ([norma@brightonfumc.org](mailto:norma@brightonfumc.org)) for

