Lead Pastor February 2022

Lent is coming! Lent is coming! That's the guiding thought through this month of February – getting ready for Lent to begin in March and planning what that means for us. We haven't really done lent together completely in person since 2019, so it has given us a chance to redefine what that means and I'm looking forward to what we have planned.

Our Wednesday Dinners came back strong after a break in January – it was wonderful to welcome folks back for that time of food and fellowship. We will be continuing them in Lent with the addition of our midweek Lenten services of Holden Evening Prayer as well as a book study opportunity. It would be wonderful to see council members take part in this time – or volunteer if you are able to!

I spent time in February doing several continuing education opportunities offered by the synod and other resources. It is always renewing to hear and speak with colleagues from across the synod and from other denominations as we learn together.

Leadership has made the decision to do an in person VBS this summer – and we are excited! We are going to be very aware of how we are planning certain events and will make every effort to hold things outside as much as possible. It will be wonderful to celebrate God's love for us through the eyes of these amazing kids that are with us for VBS!

Things we must consider at our March Meeting:

- 1. Covid concerns I know this is on the agenda for later in the meeting. I have been asked some members (not too many, but some) if we are not going to make masks optional with the latest CDC recommendations. I would like council to make this decision.
- 2. Are we going to wait until summer to begin an outdoor worship or is that something we would like to see offered sooner? Perhaps we start one after Easter? What are people looking for when it comes to worship?