

Blessing to You Common Ground!

We have entered into a season in the Church known as Lent. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, a day which focuses our attention on the cross and our need for repentance. A symbol of repentance and brokenness taken straight from the Bible is ashes. It is why ashes are placed on the forehead of participants of an Ash Wednesday service. These ashes represent our repentance from sin and remind us of how fragile our lives are. We are dust, and to dust we will return (Genesis 3:19). That is why we so desperately need Jesus!

As we enter the season of Lent, I want to invite you to join me in renewing our focus on Jesus. You can do this by fasting, or “giving something up” for Lent, but don’t feel limited to that method. You might already feel weary from a year filled with giving up so many things! So, try thinking of it this way: **Let’s look for ways to turn-up the volume on Jesus in our lives for the next 40 plus days.**

What could that look like? Here are some ideas:

- Start a new devotional or bible reading plan. [Click here](#) for a great one to try.
- Commit to say “thank you Jesus for...” every time you are frustrated, upset or challenged in your day.
- Do something extra kind for someone else each day.
- Take a walk each day and pray. Try listening more than speaking.
- Find a good worship album and pay close attention to the lyrics. Sing along with intention.
- Write a letter a day to Jesus.



During Lent we will also be starting a new sermon series called “Beauty for Ashes.” Each Sunday during Lent serves as a celebration of the life found in Jesus. Out of sin and brokenness Jesus brings beauty, brings life! If you have a beauty from ashes story or testimony you would like to share in a service over the coming weeks, please let me know! Perhaps, as you “turn up Jesus” in the weeks ahead he might reveal some of that beauty in the midst of the everyday. We want to hear about it.

I pray that God meets you in a powerful way over the next 40 days leading to Easter! **Join me in praying that others may join us along the way.** Invite your friends and family to join us on Sundays online. We plan to also meet in person for worship on Sunday, March 7 (weather permitting). Pray also for our planning and preparation for Easter Sunday. Our desire is to draw as many as possible into the beautiful life found by faith in Jesus!

Blessings,
Pastor Scott

February 17, 2021

