

## Calendar Coincidence

Years ago my sister gave birth to her first child Jessica on April 1st. The comment was made, “She is an April Fools baby.” The father, Charley, immediately responded, “ Oh no, this year April 1st falls on Good Friday. She is a Good Friday baby!”

This year we note two such calendar coincidences Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent is on February 14th, Valentine’s Day, and Easter is on April 1st, April Fool’s Day.

On Valentine’s Day February 14th, you are invited to share in an evening pancake meal (free) at the church, at the end of which we will have our Ash Wednesday worship in Fowler Hall. Because it is traditional to fast during lent, some communities shared a feast of pancakes before lent began. At worship following our feast you are invited to adopt a Lenten discipline of your choosing.

On April Fool’s Day, lent has ended and we will all join together in celebrating the resurrection of Jesus and his victory over sin and death for all of us.

During lent we will examine the passion narrative in Mark’s Gospel (and a little of Luke), allowing ourselves to see events through the eyes of different characters. The worship series is thus called “Being...the Woman, Peter, James, the Thief, Pilot, Caiaphas, Simon, Judas, the Centurion, and Mary.” Each Sunday we will listen for God’s word to us as we consider Jesus’ passion and death through the eyes of a different person. On Easter, April 1st, our worship is focused on “Being Fools.”

## Confirmation Group for Young People

Starting in February we will have a confirmation group that will meet on Sunday afternoons. Confirmation group is for young people who are old enough and mature enough to begin considering faith in Jesus as their savior and Lord. If you are interested, talk to David Leach or Vera Moffitt, or contact the church office.

## Missions—Wow!

St. Andrews gave \$17,597 to our connectional missions plus \$5,541.85 to other United Methodist missions such as the Methodist Children’s Home and Missionary support. We can add to that \$5,421.75 which we spent or gave in local missions. Our women and men groups also contribute money to mission causes not included here, and we contribute thousands of pounds of goods to local ministries. Congratulations and “well done thou good and faithful servants.”

*Pastor David*