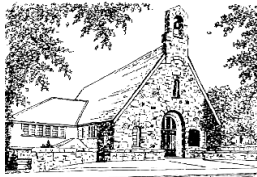


MARCH

2019

Volume LX

Number 3



HOUGHS NECK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH NEWSLETTER

310 Manet Avenue, Quincy, MA 02169

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www.hncong.org

FROM THE PASTOR

Reverend Stephen Vandergriff

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

As I write this letter on the last day of February the snow is falling, one of those beautiful snowfalls where the flakes are light and fluffy. But it's time for winter to move on. March brings spring and the reawakening of life that has been resting these last few months. We long to see green again - not just on St. Patrick's Day!

The church this month marks the beginning of the season of Lent, which begins with Ash Wednesday (March 6th this year). We are forty days from Easter (April 21, not counting Sundays, which are not considered days for fasting). Fasting is a lost practice for most Christians. Our Jewish sisters and brothers make it a regular practice to fast on Yom Kippur a day of atonement in the fall, and Muslim sisters and brothers fast for 11-16 hours a day during their month of Ramadan! Studies have shown that abstaining or reducing food and drink intake periodically - can be good for us. People who fast see improvements in blood pressure and their cholesterol levels, but also in their insulin sensitivity. Certainly there are health benefits.

But for centuries Christians, and others, have known the spiritual benefits of fasting. Jesus fasted regularly. Practitioners report that fasting produces a kind of "soul-cleansing," where life takes on a balance and a perspective that recovers an inner peace we too often lack, which can lead to a deeper relationship with God and one another.

Lent has often meant giving up something for the weeks before Easter (chocolate, swearing, alcohol, usually top the list. Perhaps this year it's time to wade out a little deeper and try fasting for a day (or just giving up a meal) once a week during Lent. It could begin a spiritual practice that changes your life.

Blessings and Peace,

Pastor Steve

SEASIDE SOCIAL CLUB

Bunco Night - \$5 donation



Please join us on Tuesday, March 12th for Bunco Night. Never played Bunco – well you are not alone. Learn to play and win prizes. Modern Bunco is a parlour game generally played with twelve or more players, divided into groups of four, trying to score points while taking turns rolling four dice. A Bunco is achieved when a person rolls three-of-a-kind and all three numbers match the round number.

Business meeting for members at 6:30 pm and program begins at 7:00 pm. Bring a friend. Program open to the public.

Lenten devotionals

Lent will begin on March 6, Ash Wednesday. During this very special Lenten period between Ash Wednesday and Easter, each of us will reflect on our faith and examine our lives. We have a powerful resource, "Take Nothing with You", 2019 Lenten Devotional, available for your use. This devotional is written by The Still Speaking Writer's Group, composed of United Church of Christ ministers and authors who collaborate on resources for people in the church, outside the church, and not so sure about the church. Their motto: "hearing God where you live (and other surprising places). Jesus gave some remarkable advice about what to take on a journey: "Take nothing with you" (Luke 9:3). Does he mean everything we need, but really don't, is burdening us? What does an unencumbered journey look like? Can we dare to reflect on suffering without our baggage, or on scripture without our favorite framework? Do we dare look at our journey anew for this season of Lent without our suitcases? We can find out together in this powerful devotional. They will be available in the Narthax of the church; additionally the Diaconate will deliver a copy to all our church family members, who can't make it to church on Sundays. May this Lenten season be a blessing to all of us!



GIGANTIC INDOOR YARD SALE

SATURDAY, APRIL 6th

**HOUGH'S NECK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
9A.M - 1 P.M.
310 Manet Avenue**

**Kitchen items, household items, dishware, clothing, holiday decorations, etc.
available at great prices!**

Snack bar open during the sale.

Items may be dropped off on Friday, April 5, from 9:00 - noon.

**If you need items picked up, or have questions, please contact Nancy
617-479-6441 or jacobs0511@gmail.com.**



Seaside Social Club is once again sponsoring an Easter Plant Drive. If you would like to purchase a plant(s) to be displayed in the sanctuary please fill out the order form below and they will be purchased for you. Each plant will be \$15 - see below for the options.

If you are paying by check please make it payable to **MOTHERS CLUB** and mail to the church at 310 Manet Ave. Quincy MA 02169 or you may place your order in the offering plate during worship service.

The deadline for orders is **Sunday, April 14th**. For more information contact Nancy Jacobs at 617 479-6441 or jacobs0511@gmail.com

Name _____ phone# _____

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

_____ Tulips@\$15 each

_____ Lilies@\$15 each

_____ Daffodils@\$15 each



Anne Baxendale
Linda DellaCroce
Linda Beck
Marie Blanchard
Bob Craig
Mary Giggey
Donnie Gamble

Edward Duddy
Elizabeth M. Orchard
Sheena Giggey Curley
May Keith
Melissa Hughes
Jane Neale
June Paul

Martha Chase
Jaime Toby
Joan Kirby
Beth Little
Laurie Mulligan
Kelly Stewart Cassier
Mark Paul

Jim Hoggrell
Paula Younie
John White
Sandy White
Eileen Menz
Harry & Bette Olson
Wink Wakelin



HAPPY MARCH BIRTHDAY!!



**Wish a happy birthday with a smile, a call
or a card to our MARCH birthday folks!**

MARCH

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------|----|------------------------|
| 1 | Kevin Murphy | 25 | Carrie Hallett MacLean |
| 2 | Karen Grillo | 26 | Joan Kirby |
| 3 | Robert Bassett | | Laura Hallett |
| 4 | Karen Christie | 27 | Robert Sparks |
| 5 | James Mackay | | |
| 13 | Cheryl Baldwin Shaw | | |
| 19 | Kindred Joy Sparks | | |
| 23 | Robert Rheault | | |

SPIRITUAL MESSAGES

Scripture: Imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises. Hebrews 6:12
Quote: Standfast, without wishing for another trust, and without wavering in the trust you have.
-Charles Spurgeon

Scripture: Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life. Matthew 6:25
Quote: Worry is an indication that we think God cannot look after us. -Oswald Chambers

Scripture: Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18
Quote: The measure of our spirituality is the amount of praise and thanksgiving in our prayer.
-D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

Scripture: You shall remember that the Lord your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness. Deuteronomy 8:2
Quote: All the way my Savior leads me, what have I to ask beside? Can I doubt His tender mercy, who through life has been my Guide?
- Fanny Crosby

Scripture: He hangs the earth on nothing. Job 26:7
Quote: The entire space achievement is put in proper perspective when one realizes that God walking on the earth is more important than man walking on the moon.
-James Irwin, astronaut



It's that time of year again for income tax for the calendar year 2018. If you are in need of a written form of what amount you gave to the church during the year for income tax purposes, please give your name to our financial secretary Shirley Pearson:

27 Braintree Avenue, Quincy, MA 02169

617-479-1918

March 2019 Daily Lectionary

These Scripture readings are from the two-year daily lectionary of the Presbyterian Book of Common Worship (Westminster John Knox Press 2018). The readings from the three-year Revised Common Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals are not included in this document.

Year 1

MARCH

Friday, March 1

Morning: Pss. 88; 148
Evening: Pss. 6; 20
Ruth 3:1–18
2 Cor. 4:1–12
Matt. 5:38–48

Saturday, March 2

Morning: Pss. 122; 149
Evening: Pss. 100; 63
Ruth 4:1–22
2 Cor. 4:13–5:10
Matt. 6:1–6

Sunday, March 3

Transfiguration of the Lord

Morning: Pss. 103; 150
Evening: Pss. 117; 139
Dan. 7:9–10, 13–14
2 Cor. 3:1–9
John 12:27–36a

Monday, March 4

Morning: Pss. 5; 145
Evening: Pss. 82; 29
Deut. 6:1–15
Heb. 1:1–14
John 1:1–18

Tuesday, March 5

Morning: Pss. 42; 146
Evening: Pss. 102; 133
Deut. 6:16–25
Heb. 2:1–10
John 1:19–28

Wednesday, March 6

Ash Wednesday

Morning: Pss. 5; 147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 27; 51
Jonah 3:1–4:11
Heb. 12:1–14
Luke 18:9–14

Thursday, March 7

Morning: Pss. 27; 147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 126; 102
Deut. 7:6–11
Titus 1:1–16
John 1:29–34

Friday, March 8

Morning: Pss. 22; 148
Evening: Pss. 105; 130
Deut. 7:12–16
Titus 2:1–15
John 1:35–42

Saturday, March 9

Morning: Pss. 43; 149
Evening: Pss. 31; 143
Deut. 7:17–26
Titus 3:1–15
John 1:43–51

Sunday, March 10

1st Sunday in Lent

Morning: Pss. 84; 150
Evening: Pss. 42; 32
Jer. 9:23–24
1 Cor. 1:18–31
Mark 2:18–22

Monday, March 11

Morning: Pss. 119:73–80;
145
Evening: Pss. 121; 6
Deut. 8:1–20
Heb. 2:11–18
John 2:1–12

Tuesday, March 12

Morning: Pss. 34; 146
Evening: Pss. 25; 91
Deut. 9:(1–3) 4–12
Heb. 3:1–11
John 2:13–22

Wednesday, March 13

Morning: Pss. 5; 147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 27; 51
Deut. 9:13–21
Heb. 3:12–19
John 2:23–3:15

Thursday, March 14

Morning: Pss. 27; 147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 126; 102
Deut. 9:23–10:5
Heb. 4:1–10
John 3:16–21

Friday, March 15

Morning: Pss. 22; 148
Evening: Pss. 105; 130
Deut. 10:12–22
Heb. 4:11–16
John 3:22–36

Saturday, March 16

Morning: Pss. 43; 149
Evening: Pss. 31; 143
Deut. 11:18–28
Heb. 5:1–10
John 4:1–26

Sunday, March 17
2nd Sunday in Lent

Morning: Pss. 84; 150
Evening: Pss. 42; 32
Jer. 1:1–10
1 Cor. 3:11–23
Mark 3:31–4:9

Monday, March 18

Morning: Pss. 119:73–80;
145
Evening: Pss. 121; 6
Jer. 1:11–19
Rom. 1:1–15
John 4:27–42

Tuesday, March 19

Morning: Pss. 34; 146
Evening: Pss. 25; 91
Jer. 2:1–13, 29–32
Rom. 1:16–25
John 4:43–54

Wednesday, March 20

Morning: Pss. 5; 147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 27; 51
Jer. 3:6–18
Rom. 1:(26–27) 28–2:11
John 5:1–18

Thursday, March 21

Morning: Pss. 27; 147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 126; 102
Jer. 4:9–10, 19–28
Rom. 2:12–24
John 5:19–29

Friday, March 22

Morning: Pss. 22; 148
Evening: Pss. 105; 130
Jer. 5:1–9
Rom. 2:25–3:18
John 5:30–47

Saturday, March 23

Morning: Pss. 43; 149
Evening: Pss. 31; 143
Jer. 5:20–31
Rom. 3:19–31
John 7:1–13

Sunday, March 24
3rd Sunday in Lent

Morning: Pss. 84; 150
Evening: Pss. 42; 32
Jer. 6:9–15
1 Cor. 6:12–20
Mark 5:1–20

Monday, March 25

Morning: Pss. 119:73–80;
145
Evening: Pss. 121; 6
Jer. 7:1–15
Rom. 4:1–12
John 7:14–36

Tuesday, March 26

Morning: Pss. 34; 146
Evening: Pss. 25; 91
Jer. 7:21–34
Rom. 4:13–25
John 7:37–52

Wednesday, March 27

Morning: Pss. 5; 147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 27; 51
Jer. 8:4–7, 18–9:6
Rom. 5:1–11
John 8:12–20

Thursday, March 28

Morning: Pss. 27; 147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 126; 102
Jer. 10:11–24
Rom. 5:12–21
John 8:21–32

Friday, March 29

Morning: Pss. 22; 148
Evening: Pss. 105; 130
Jer. 11:1–8, 14–17
Rom. 6:1–11
John 8:33–47

Saturday, March 30

Morning: Pss. 43; 149
Evening: Pss. 31; 143
Jer. 13:1–11
Rom. 6:12–23
John 8:47–59

Sunday, March 31
4th Sunday in Lent

Morning: Pss. 84; 150
Evening: Pss. 42; 32
Jer. 14:1–9 (10–16) 17–22
Gal. 4:21–5:1
Mark 8:11–21

Contact Information

FOR ALL

PASTORAL CONCERNS:

Please contact the church office at 617-479-8778, by email hncc@comcast.com or mail to 310 Manet Ave Quincy, MA 02169

hncong.org

FOR THE BULLETIN:

Please remit in writing to church office by Thursday for the following Sunday or hncc@comcast.net or mail to 310 Manet Ave Quincy, MA 02169

FOR THE NEWSLETTER:

Please remit in writing to Christine Keating by the 15th of the month to appear in the following month's newsletter. cmon1695@hotmail.com or mail to 16 Thomas St. Quincy, MA 02169

Weekly service of worship

**Sundays
at 10:00 a.m.**

Reverend Stephen Vandergrift

There is a potluck Coffee Hour each Sunday in the Conference Room after our service. All are welcome, please join us! We serve coffee, tea and whatever goodies are donated. Please volunteer to make and serve coffee and clean up!