

# *Pastor's Greeting*

Greetings!

March 2020

Lent has begun. During Lent we prepare for the Easter celebration. We enjoyed pancakes with many toppings on Fat Tuesday (also known as Mardi Gras or Shrove Tuesday) as we cleared the house of foods that will be given up during Lent. On Ash Wednesday we marked our foreheads with ashes as a sign of our mortality and our sorrow over our sins.

This year we are observing Lent with daily devotions from The Lenten Tree by Dean Smith, Wednesday Soup & Sandwich/lessons, and sermons focusing on what we can learn from the wilderness times in our lives. We will follow Jesus through highs and lows as he makes his final approach to Jerusalem. He will choose to obey God's plan for his life—carrying our sins to the cross, taking our punishment, and blazing the trail to resurrection.

I have been teaching the ABC's of Salvation and they are on the back of my business cards. Although God works on us throughout our lives, our actual salvation is very simple. Accepting God's gift to you is as simple as ABC. Lent is especially focused on the A—Admit that you are a sinner (you are not perfect). The Christian season of Lent calls us to repent of our sins, to change our hearts and lives. Jesus' response to many people he healed was "go and sin no more." This is changing our hearts/beliefs and our lives/actions.

If you have not accepted God's gift, or you're leading someone to Christ, you will follow-up with B and C—Believe that Jesus is God's son and that he chose to die for your sins; and Commit to living a life following Christ's example by serving others.

Also exciting, very soon we will be announcing a partnership with Right Now Media. Right Now has over 20,000 Bible study series and videos for kids, youth and adults. You will be able to access Right Now anywhere there is an internet connection. AUMC content and suggested materials can also be included. Please watch for more information during the next couple months.

Praying that you are an intentional Christian during Lent (and always),

*Pastor Barre*

**Be A Disciple!**