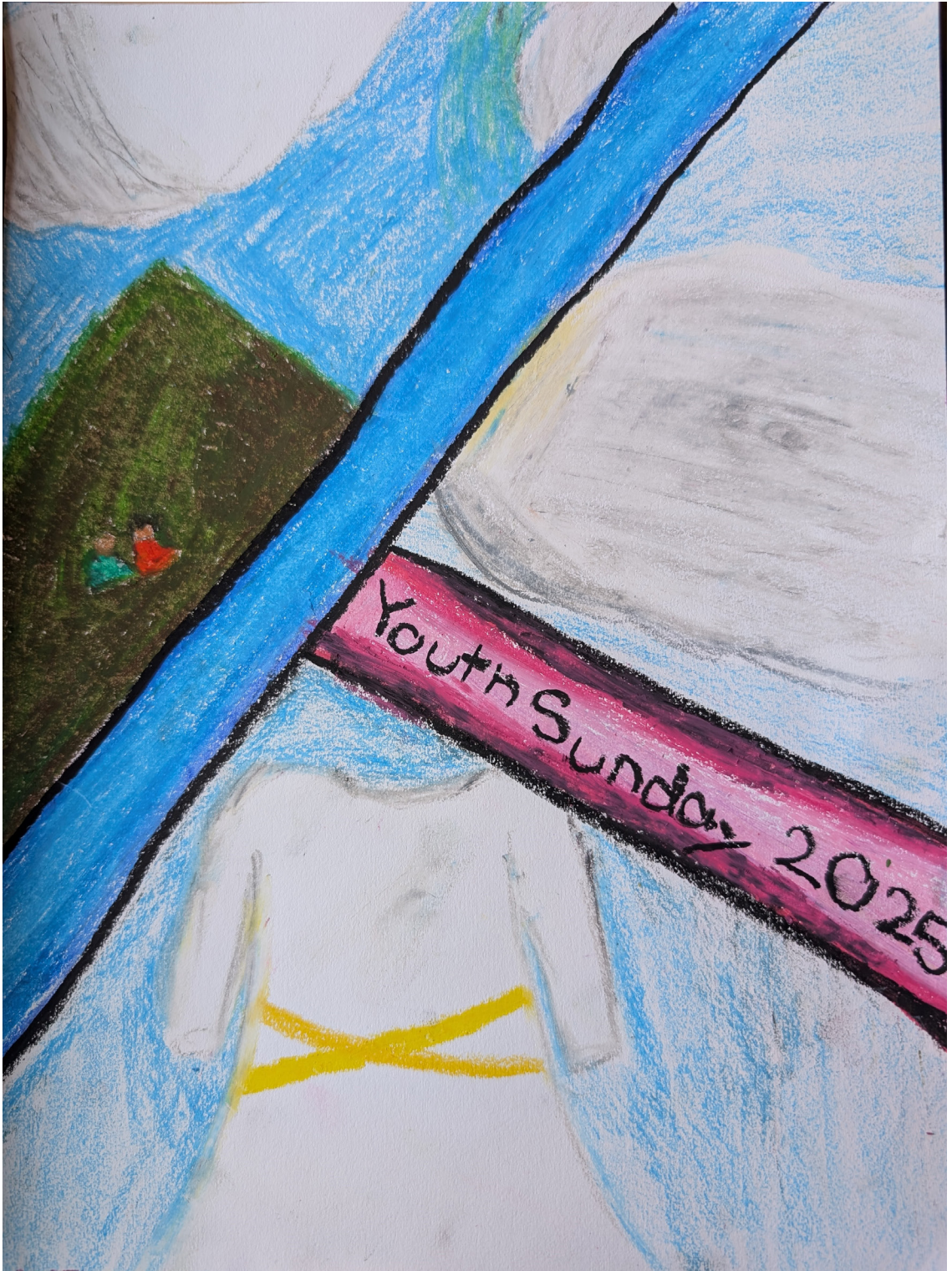




First
Presbyterian
Church *of Ann Arbor*

TRANSFIGURATION *of the LORD*
March 2, 2025
8:30, 9:30 & 11:30 am Worship



Youth Sunday, 2025 by Zora Polikoff



8:30 AM WORSHIP | MARCH 2, 2025

Transfiguration *of the* Lord

** Please rise in body or spirit when you see this symbol,
and join in singing or reading aloud text in **bold**.*

GATHERING

Welcome and Centering

*Call to Worship

Here in this place, there are no foreigners,
for all are welcome in God's house.

Here in this worship, there is only acceptance,
for love is the language of faith.

Here in our lives, there are no divisions,
for God dwells in each of us.

Come, let us worship in unity and love.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Creating and rescuing God, your power amazes us.

**Yet even in our amazement, we take too long to turn to you,
forgetting that you are the power that makes and saves and
sustains us.**

Even when we claim your power, we often do so for our own success and comfort, ignoring your command to use your power on behalf of the weak, the small, and the vulnerable. In Jesus Christ, you show us that you are on the side of all people, but never at the expense of the weakest among us.

**Forgive us when we try to hoard you for ourselves and try to
control who has access to your love. Forgive us when our greed,
our control, and our scandals keep others from knowing you.
Redeem us and transform us, O God. Open our hearts, our lives,
and our ministries, that we may become a doorway to your realm.**

Silence

Assurance of Pardon

PROCLAMATION

Readers Theater

Ruth 1:1-18

Meditation

Melissa Anne Rogers

RESPONDING & SEALING

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Communion

Prayer after Communion

SENDING

Prayer for the Day

God of Ruth and Naomi,
of hope in bitterness,
harvest in hunger,
life in death,
we offer our prayers of blessing
on the feet and lives of women and men
living in poverty and taking risks to
feed their families and communities.

You, Lord, are born in our resistance to injustice
and shoulder with women the burden of poverty.
Invite us into solidarity with them and with you,
as you lead us to life and justice. Amen.

Benediction

✠ ✠ ✠



9:30 AM WORSHIP | MARCH 2, 2025

Transfiguration *of the* Lord/Youth Sunday

Today is Youth Sunday. The liturgy and music were all crafted and put together by our youth. The invitation to communion was crafted by our middle school, Follow Me class, and the Great Prayer of Thanksgiving was crafted by our Confirmation Class.

Thank you to all our youth who helped!

** Please rise in body or spirit when you see this symbol,
and join in singing or reading aloud text in **bold**.*

GATHERING

Opening Voluntary

Go Tell it on the Mountain
Martin Gehrke, piano

Eugénie Rocherolle

Pouring of the Water

Welcome and Life in the Church

***Call to Worship**

In this place we gather
for signs of Jesus Love.

In this place we join
our hearts and souls together.

Here in this place
everyone is welcome and valued.

Here in this place we join
our hands as siblings in Christ.

***Hymn 190**

Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory

GENEVA

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Dear God, we have all made mistakes, some greater than others.
But we know you love us even though we've messed up. Forgive us
when we lie and tell false stories. Forgive us when we are mean
and selfish. Help us to be kind in our words, actions, and thoughts.
Help us to love others, even ourselves, in the same way you love
us....**

Silent Prayer

Kyrie

SINGAPURA



Lord, have mer - cy.



Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

Assurance of Forgiveness

*Passing of the Peace

*Congregational Response

JESUS LOVES ME

**Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong. They are weak, but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.**

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading

Exodus 34:29-35

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

A Conversation with Young Disciples



Guide my feet while I run this race; Guide my feet while I run this race;



Guide my feet while I run this race; for I don't want to run this race in vain!

Second Scripture Reading

Luke 9:21-36

The grass withers, the flower fades;
The word of the Lord endures forever.

Reflection

RESPONDING & SEALING

*Hymn 192

Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining

SHINE, JESUS, SHINE

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

*Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God above ye heavenly host.
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

*Prayer of Dedication

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table
Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Sanctus

LAND OF REST

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord. — God of pow - er and might,
 heav-en and earth_ are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in_ the high - est.
 Bless - ed_ is he who comes_ in the name of the Lord. — Ho -
 san - na in_ the high - est, ho - san - na in_ the high - est.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

All are welcome at the Table. The two inside stations offer cups of juice and bread. At the outer stations, clergy will offer you bread to dip into the cup. Gluten-free wafers are available at the center station.

When receiving each element, please respond as follows:

The bread of life. **Thanks be to God.**

The cup of salvation. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

SENDING

*Hymn 157

I Danced in the Morning

LORD OF THE DANCE

*Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary

Over the Rainbow
Levi Gehrke, piano

Harold Arlen

✠ ✠ ✠



11:30 AM WORSHIP | MARCH 2, 2025

Transfiguration *of the Lord*

** Please rise in body or spirit when you see this symbol,
and join in singing or reading aloud text in **bold**.*

GATHERING

Opening Voluntary

Pouring the Water

Welcome & Centering

***Call to Worship**

Side A: God of the mountaintop, you call us to journey with you.

Side B: *Shine upon us; grant us sacred illumination; dazzle us with your beauty and glory.*

Side A: In the midst of our weary souls and exhausted bodies,

Side B: *Transfigure our imaginations and reveal to us what is possible.*

Side A: In the face of unceasing violence and endless wars,

Side B: *Transfigure our imaginations and reveal to us what is possible.*

Side A: In the midst of crushing disasters, natural and humanmade,

Side B: *Transfigure our imaginations and reveal to us what is possible.*

Side A: Move us from scarcity and cynicism and transfigure our lowly visions to reveal the abundant life of your realm.

Side B: *Help us to keep watch so that we might leave the mountaintop inspired to do your work of transformation in the valley below.
Amen.*

Prayer of the Day

God who dazzles,
just as you revealed yourself in Christ
at the mount of transfiguration,
you send your Spirit now to work in our midst.
Show us this day the light of your presence.
Reveal to us your power and glory.
Illumine our hearts and lives with your brilliance,
that we might envision a world transfigured
in your image. **Amen.**

***Opening Hymn 190**

Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory

GENEVA

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Forgive us our selfish concerns with earthly things and our failure to acknowledge your glory in the face of Jesus Christ, for that blindness to the wonder of your presence that causes us to live our lives from day to day without knowing you. Have mercy on us, give us grace to discern the suffering servant Lord in the midst of our lives, to worship and serve you in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen....

Silence is kept.

Assurance of Grace

Passing of the Peace

As you pass the peace, please share a “mountaintop” experience from your life.

Hymn 192

Lord the Light of Your Love is Shining

SHINE, JESUS, SHINE

PROCLAMATION

Prayer for Illumination 288 *Spirit of the Living God*

LIVING GOD

Scripture Reading

Exodus 34:29-35

Luke 9:28-36

Meditation

RESPONDING

Prayer of Petition & Commitment

Great God of dazzling beauty and overshadowing majesty,
in Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, we glimpse the image of your glory.
Teach us to listen to him so that we may hear your voice
and follow your holy way; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

— from Prayers for the Transfiguration, PCUSA

SENDING

*Hymn

One Day Jesus Climbed a Mountain
(see insert)

Polish Carol

*Benediction

...we go out in peace,
to love, to serve, to imagine.

Closing Voluntary



CARRYING WORSHIP WITH US

The disciples were transformed by the experience of Transfiguration—an encounter with God. Each Sunday, in our worship, we encounter God. And in these moments, we can be changed in some way that makes the week ahead of us full of new possibilities. And so we leave our pew and reenter our homes, our jobs, our schools, our church meetings. We look into the faces of the people in our lives, and we look for new possibilities there too.

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

First Presbyterian Church is an inclusive and diverse faith community, led by the Holy Spirit, who welcomes people of all ages and backgrounds to come together to explore, nurture, and deepen their faith. Through worship, shared discussion, participation, and service, we aim to make God's love visible in our congregation, community, and world.

NEW TO FIRST PRES?

We are so thankful that you have joined us today for worship. We would love to get to know you and help you get to know us. Please sign the Friendship Pad. Sign it then pass it down to others. Interested in membership? Contact Rev. Rogers, mrogers@fpca2.org.

PRAYER

If you would like someone to pray with you, stop by the Prayer and Compassion Room after the 9:30 am service. Elders, Deacons, and Stephen Ministers are always there to assist those seeking prayer.

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP & CHILDCARE

We love to have children in worship! Age-appropriate worship activities and books are available as you enter the sanctuary or Monteith Hall. We also offer childcare from 9:15 am to 12:15 pm for children ages 5 and younger on the First Level. Ask an usher for directions.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

March is Women's History Month in the United States, a time to recognize the contributions of women to American history. This month, at the 8:30 a.m. service, we will learn more about the history of specific women in the Bible — specifically the Old Testament. We will learn about Ruth, Miriam, Rahab, Jael, and Jehosheba. Lay women in our congregation will offer refectations in these services.

Leading in Worship

LEADING IN WORSHIP

8:30 AM WORSHIP

Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers

9:30 AM WORSHIP

Rev. Mark Mares

Rev. Tommy Langejans

FPC Youth Participants

11:30 AM WORSHIP

Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers

Rev. Mark Mares

MUSICIANS

9:30 & 11:30 AM WORSHIP

Joshua Marzan, *Pianist*

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First Presbyterian worship services are filmed, recorded, and broadcast online.

If you do not want to appear in any videos or photos, please speak with an usher.

Today in Faith Formation

ADULTS _____

10:45 AM

EXPLORING THE FAITH

Let Us Run the Race with Perseverance

Lewis Room

Host: Michael Oswalt

Speaker: Marty Bodnar

EXPLORING THE BIBLE

The Parables of Jesus

French Room

Host: Ed Koster

FIRST FRIENDS

Climate Change

Curtis Room

Host: Pam Ehrhart

AMAZING STUFF

Parents' Class

Lemon Chapel

CHILDCARE & NURSERY _____

AGES 5 AND YOUNGER

9:15 AM to 12:15 PM | Room 101

CHILDREN & YOUTH _____

10:45 AM

4TH - 6TH GRADE

Amazing Stuff:

God's Plan for Growing Up

Room 304

K-8TH GRADE

Lemon Chapel Singers

Lemon Chapel

HIGH SCHOOL

Faith + Creative Arts

Youth Room

Calendar

TODAY

- 8:30 am **Worship with Communion** | Monteith Hall
- 9:30 am **Social Hour** | Welcome Center
- 9:30 am **Worship** | Sanctuary
- 10:30 am **Social Hour** | Social Hall
- 10:45 am **Adult Faith Formation** | Classrooms
- 10:45 am **Amazing Stuff Parents' Class** | Room 302
- 10:45 am **Amazing Stuff (4th-6th Grade)** | Room 304
- 10:45 am **Lemon Chapel Singers (K-8th Grade)** | Lemon Chapel
- 10:45 am **Faith + Creative Arts (9-12th Grade)** | Youth Room
- 11:30 am **Worship** | Monteith Hall
- 7:00 pm **Small Group Bible Study** | Wahl home

THIS WEEK

- Tue Mar 4 **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper** | 5:00 pm | Social Hall
- Wed Mar 5 **Drive-thru Imposition of Ashes** | 8:00 - 9:00 am & 12:00 - 1:00 pm
- Wed Mar 5 **Ash Wednesday Family Service** | 5:30 pm | Monteith Hall
- Wed Mar 5 **Ash Wednesday Ecumenical Taizé Service** | 7:00 pm | Sanctuary
- Thur Mar 6 **Lenten Walk** | 3:00 pm | Lillie Park Register online: fpca2.org
- Thur Mar 6 **Mature Ministries Lunch & Learn** | 12:00 pm | Social Hall
- Fri Mar 7 **Men's Study** | 8:45 am | Curtis Room

Announcements

CARE _____

CARE & COMPASSION SERIES

UM's Alcohol Management Program

MONDAY, MARCH 10

7:00 PM, MONTEITH HALL & LIVESTREAM

UM Health's Alcohol Management Program (AMP) offers brief, confidential health education and one-on-one counseling to anyone with mild to moderate alcohol problems. What is best? Abstinence or moderation? The program serves anyone who wants to make changes to their alcohol use.

Caring Hands

Do you like to cook? If you're willing to help, you can join our email list for meal requests and sign up as needs arise. Please email Mel Rogers at mrogers@fpca2.org to be added to the list.

CHILDREN & YOUTH _____

Summer Music & Fine Arts Camp

JULY 28–AUGUST 1

Rising 2nd - 9th graders are invited to join us for an exciting week at our Summer Music & Fine Arts Camp, featuring the musical *Elijah*. Camp runs daily from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM, culminating in a special Musical Proclamation during worship on Sunday, August 3. Register online at fpca2.org

MATURE MINISTRIES _____

Lunch and Learn: A Chaplain's Experience of the Cross of Christ and Grace Among VA Combat Vets

THURSDAY, MARCH 6

12:00PM | SOCIAL HALL

Join us as Rev. Roland Schaedig shares insights from his 22 years of ministry at the Ann Arbor VA, where he served combat veterans, often seen as society's marginalized. Through his work, he encountered grace in unexpected places, living out the call to serve "the least of Jesus' brothers and sisters."

Register: fpca2.org

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN _____

Presbyterian Women's Spring Retreat: Consider the Lilies

SATURDAY, APRIL 5

9 AM - 2 PM, SOCIAL HALL

Come relax and rejuvenate at our spring retreat, *Consider the Lilies*, on Saturday, April 5. An optional "Gentle Yoga" session will begin at 8 am, followed by a continental breakfast, an inspiring speaker, fun breakout sessions, and a boxed lunch. Childcare will be available. The registration fee is \$20 per person to cover the cost of food. All women are invited. Bring a friend! Please register by March 21, at fpca2.org.

Participate in the Creation of New Paraments

Beth Taylor is creating new Ordinary Time paraments and invites you to contribute! Share a small fabric piece or token (button, tie, broken earring, etc.) that reflects your life, faith, or connection to the church. These will be quilted into meaningful paraments. You may include a brief note about your item. Drop off contributions in the Welcome Center.



MARCH MISSION MADNESS

Explore our mission partnerships, discover new ways to get involved, and witness the transformative power of faith in action. Together, we'll learn, serve, and grow, strengthening our commitment to Christ's call to love and serve our neighbors.

Learn more and sign up:
fpca2.org

DONATE

COMMUNION SUNDAY FOOD DONATIONS

We invite you to help those facing food insecurity in our community by donating non-perishable food to benefit Food Gatherers. Donations may be dropped off throughout the month at the Welcome Center.

VOLUNTEER

ALPHA HOUSE

March 17-23

Volunteer to provide meals and childcare for families. Alpha House offers temporary housing, meals, and support services to help families regain stability.

ROTATING SHELTER

March 17-24

We're extending our commitment to sheltering those in need by hosting an extra week of the Rotating Shelter. Volunteer to host overnight or provide meals.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

The House of Faith Build is back, and First Pres is looking for volunteers! Build days (9 AM – 4 PM): Mar 28, April 4, 5, 12; May 10, Aug. 9
Lunch Providers (for 12 people, delivered by 11:45 AM): March 28, April 12, May 10



BIBLE STORY

Based on John 14:15-23:

Jesus said, "If you love me, live as I have lived. I'll ask God to send you a Forever Friend who will always be with you. The world won't understand this Friend, but you will know they are always with you. I won't leave you alone—I'll come back. Others won't see me, but you will, because I am alive in all of this.

One day, you'll understand that God and I are one, and you and I are connected forever. Live and love as I have, and you'll truly see me."

A disciple asked, "Why can only we see you, not everyone else?"

Jesus replied, "My word is LOVE. Focus on love, and God will focus love on you. Make love your home, and God and I will live in love with you."

EVERYTHING

LENT

IN BETWEEN

2025

meeting God in the midst of extremes

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

Deepen your spiritual walk through Lent and begin each day with a Lenten devotion written by church members and staff. This year's theme, "Everything In Between: Meeting God in the midst of Extremes," invites us to explore how scripture connects to both the highs and lows of life—and to Jesus' own journey. If you are currently on our mailing list, you will receive the daily devotional by email. To sign up, visit fpca2.org

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE PARTY

TUESDAY, MARCH 4
6:00 PM | SOCIAL HALL

Come celebrate with pancakes and bacon before we begin a more reflective time during Lent. Fun and food for all ages! Sign up online to bring toppings, loan griddles, and help volunteer!
fpca2.org

ASH WEDNESDAY

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5

Begin the season of Lent by joining us for worship and the imposition of ashes.

8:00 - 9:00 AM &
12:00 - 1:00 PM

Drive-through
Imposition of Ashes

5:30 PM Family Service
7:00 PM Ecumenical Taizé

HEALING FROM HURT: FORGIVENESS AND ITS ALTERNATIVES

SUNDAYS, MARCH 9 - APRIL 13
3:00 - 5:00 PM, LEWIS ROOM

This six-week Lenten program is designed to guide participants on a journey toward healing after harm. Led by Dr. Jennifer Griggs, a professional coach with expertise in forgiveness, this program offers a trauma-informed approach to understanding forgiveness, exploring alternatives, and reclaiming dignity. Limited to 10 participants.

Register: fpca2.org

LENTEN WEEKLY WALKS

MARCH 6 - APRIL 13

As part of our communal Lenten journey we will take weekly walks along the scenic trails in our community. All ages and stages of life welcome. A pastoral liaison will guide the group. Day, location, and time are posted on our website.

Register: fpca2.org

LENTEN HOME WORSHIP

TUESDAYS,
MARCH 11 - APRIL 8
6:00 PM

Please join us for a time of fellowship, a simple meal and brief worship service in members' homes. Limited to 25 people per gathering.

Register: fpca2.org