***Lent at Christ Church***

***2017***

Dear people of God:

We often think of Lent as a time to give up chocolate, caffeine, television, or some other source of personal "joy." This year, I encourage all of us to see Lent differently-- not as much focused on externals but as a time to go deeper into our spiritual lives. Lent is a time to reconnect with the Christ at the center of our being. In the midst of our busy lives, Lent is an opportunity to reflect on what matters most and to encounter the peace of God in a way that can sustain us throughout the year. Rather than focus on what we are giving up, I encourage us to add on a discipline of devotion, prayer, meditation, reading, or an additional worship service. By simply taking advantage of one or more of the *Lent at Christ Church* offerings described in this brochure, we can make space in our lives for a renewed encounter with the divine and a deepening of our understanding of God, God's world, and our place in it.

May the peace of Christ be always with you.

Michael S. White, Rector

**(Sundays -** *March 5, 12, 19, 26, April 2)*

**9:30 a.m. Adult Forum** 2nd Floor Parish House

***Spirituality 101***

*"I don't pray or read the Bible as much as I probably should." "I am not very saintly." "I go to church but don't really think of myself as a very spiritual person."* If you have ever had thoughts similar to these (or if you haven't), join the Rev. Michael White and others as we explore spirituality as a way of seeing--- a new lens for living rather than a new set of obligations. We will seek to break out of our usual either/or framings (dualistic thinking) as we examine topics such as *Original Blessing/Original Sin; Creation and Incarnation/Redemption Theology; Heaven/Hell; Trinity/One God.*

Please contact the Rev. Michael White if you have any questions.

A nursery will be provided.

**6:00 p.m. Evening Eucharist** Christ Church Nave

**Tools for Christian Meditation**

In the midst of the demands and chaos of everyday living, *Christian Meditation* can provide a center, an inner peace, and a connection with the living God that allows us to peacefully walk through the rest of our week. If you would like to learn more about *Tools for Christian Meditation,* join us each Sunday evening in Lent. In the context of a quiet, reflective Eucharist, the Rev. Liam Collins will offer teachings on meditation followed by a brief opportunity to practice these techniques, and then receive Eucharist together. For many, these tools for meditation may be just what is needed at this time in our journey. If you have any questions, please speak with the Rev. Liam Collins.

**(Tuesdays** - *March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4)*

**7:00 p.m. Episcopal Churches of Savannah** St. Thomas, Isle of Hope

**Approaching the Passion of Christ through**

**Music, Liturgy, Mission, Art, and Film**

Join with lay and clergy Episcopalians from Savannah area churches for a joint Lenten offering on the Passion of Christ. Each week we will discuss the Passion as presented through a different medium. Our own Timothy Hall will lead the March 7 discussion, *The Music of Lent.* Other presenters include: the Revs. William Willoughby, Kelly Steele, Gavin Dunbar, and Michael Chaney. If you have questions, please speak with Timothy Hall or the Rev. Michael White.

**(Wednesdays** - March 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5)

**12:00 p.m. Eucharist with Prayers for Healing** Undercroft Chapel

Wednesdays in the Chapel we will have a brief service of Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing. While this service is offered throughout the school year, Lent is an ideal to time to add a mid-week connection with worship and our spiritual and physical health.

**5:30 p.m. Evening Program and Discussion** Christ Church Undercroft

**Ashes to Ashes: A Lenten Forum on Death and Dying**

Join us each Wednesday for a light supper, evening devotion, and discussion.

5:30 p.m. Soup and Bread Supper

6:15 p.m. Evening Prayer

6:30-7:30 p.m. Program

Hosted by Deacon Patti Davis, *Ashes to Ashes* will have a series of presenters from within the congregation as well as outside experts. The program will be complete each week in time for Parish Choir rehearsal at 7:30 p.m. All are welcome and please speak with Deacon Patti if you have questions.

-March 8 - **Talking about death**, Jamey Espina, MA, LPC, Vice President of Service Excellence for Hospice Savannah and The Rev. J. Sierra Reyes.

-March 15 - **What Really Happens?** Jon Cohen, BSN, Certified Hospice and Palliative Care Nurse. Dr. Tom Hollis, Clinical Psychologist, The Rev. Liam Collins

-March 22 - **The Lasting Gift of Life Stories**. Dottie Kluttz, BSN, creator of Hospice Savannah’s Story Keeping Program, and Will Wallace, MD.

-March 29 - **Ethical Issues around Death and Dying.** Kathleen Benton, Hospice Savannah and Rabbi Robert Haas, Temple Mickve Israel on writing an ethical will.

-April 5 - **Making Plans:** a Will and Powers of Attorney, Estates and Trusts, a Living Will: Wiley Ellis, Attorney at Law and the elements of the funeral service, storytelling a life: The Rev. Michael White.

***(Thursdays -*** *March 9, 16, 23, 30, April 6)*

**10:30 a.m. Book Group** Christ Church Undercroft

***The Prodigal God***, by Timothy Keller

The Christ Church Book Group will meet Thursdays in Lent to discuss Timothy Keller's *The Prodigal God*. If you have not joined us before, Lent is a perfect opportunity to begin and the book, a fruitful spiritual discipline. The Book Group is led by the Rev. Patricia Davis, Deacon. Please contact Deacon Patti if you have any questions.

***LENTEN RETREAT***

***(Friday, March 24 - Saturday, March 25****)*

Join the Rev. Liam Collins and the Rev. Canon Frank Logue for an overnight retreat at Honey Creek Conference Center, a beautiful water/marsh-front retreat center just below Brunswick. In this natural setting, we will seek to find the deep connections that will permit our lives to be lived, not out of a sense of never being or having enough but in the power and presence of God. The retreat will begin March 24th at 5 p.m. and conclude by 2 p.m. on the 25th. A Lenten retreat is a wonderful way to deepen our experience of the season.

The rates for the conference including three meals are: Lodge 1- Single $144, Lodge 1- Double $99.50, Lodge 2- Single $133, Lodge 2- Double $94, Cottage- $90, and Campers and Commuters- $64. To register go to Honeycreek.org or call 912-265-9218. If you have questions, speak with the Rev. Liam Collins.

**1 Book, 1 Diocese**

*Living into God’s Dream: Dismantling Racism in America,*

edited by Catherine Meeks.

Each Lent, Bishop Benhase encourages the people and churches of the Diocese of Georgia to read a particular book as part of our shared experience of Lent. This year's book is *Living into God’s Dream: Dismantling Racism in America,* edited by Catherine Meeks. This book is a report from the front line, combining personal stories and theoretical and theological reflection with examples of the work of dismantling racism. www.1book1diocese.georgiaepiscopal.org is a common resource for thoughts and reflections throughout the season of Lent.