

WCC UPDATE

MARCH 2026

PERSONALLY FROM THE PASTOR

To My Church Family,

Our theme for Lent this year is “With Us in the Wilderness.” The wilderness is one of the most consistent settings in Scripture. It's where Israel learned daily dependence on God. It's where Elijah discovered that the Lord's voice is not always found in spectacle, but in a quiet whisper. And it's where Jesus, led by the Spirit, faced hunger and temptation before stepping into public ministry.

In each of these stories, the wilderness isn't a detour from God's purposes; it's part of them. Lent invites us to recognize that the wilderness is a spiritual reality as much as it is a biblical setting. There are seasons when life feels stripped down, when clarity is hard to find, when prayers seem quieter than we would like. In those moments, we may be tempted to assume God is distant. Yet the testimony of Scripture tells a different story: the wilderness is often where God forms His people most deeply.

When Jesus entered the desert for forty days, He didn't go alone. The Spirit led Him there, and the Father remained with Him. In hunger and testing, Jesus trusted the Word of God. He refused to grasp for control or comfort apart from His Father's will. In doing so, He shows us what faithful dependence looks like AND assures us that He understands our own struggles from the inside.

This is the heart of this year's theme: **we aren't simply in the wilderness; Christ is with us in it.** Lent gives us space to practice that trust. Through prayer, fasting, repentance, and generosity, we allow God to clear away what distracts and re-center our lives on what truly sustains us. We remember that we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the Lord.

As we journey toward the cross and the hope of Easter, may we resist the urge to rush past the desert. The wilderness isn't the end of the story, to be sure, but it's an important chapter. It's where faith is strengthened, where dependence deepens, and where we learn again that God's presence is steady, even in barren places. And because Christ has gone there before us, we can walk forward with confidence, trusting that resurrection life waits on the other side.

In Christ,

Matt Stiveson



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March 8

MUSIC MINISTRY UPDATE

Hi Church Family!

We've almost made it to spring again, even though it seems like we haven't even had winter yet! I love the snow, so I am hoping for a few snowstorms closer to spring!

It has been an incredibly sad few months losing so many of our beloved church family members. My heart hurts for the soul-crushing grief of the family members. I am so thankful we all have each other. Just remember that no one is alone, and it is ok to lean on each other during these extremely hard times. The church has been with me through some really awful times in my life, and for that I am truly thankful.

Our **adult choir's Easter cantata** will be presented early this year. It **will be on Palm Sunday, March 29th** during the morning worship service. We will be singing "The Power of the Cross." In this cantata, "we journey with Christ through Holy Week, experiencing momentous events that changed history for all of humankind. *The Power of the Cross* provides an artful and poignant reminder of Christ's sacrifice of love, His triumph over death, and His promise of redemption for us all."

Hang on to Jesus everyone. He is our one true hope.

God bless you,

Teresa

Dr. Teresa Crane, D.M.A.

OUR CORE COMMITMENTS

- ◇ Encouraging families and individuals who are striving to develop faithful lives in the 21st century.
- ◇ Teaching the Bible in an exciting, relevant, and positive manner.
- ◇ Presenting Christ-centered worship experiences.
- ◇ Making our guests feel that our home is their home.
- ◇ Caring for the holistic needs (spiritual, emotional, and physical) of each individual in our community.
- ◇ Our motto is. "Unity in essentials, liberty in non-essentials, and in all things humility and respect." We won't tell you how to think, but rather strive to equip you with the tools necessary to think critically about your faith.

OUR MISSION AND VISION

Our Mission

Sharing God's perfect love with an imperfect world.

Our Vision

To be a welcoming family of Christ followers who are committed to growing in and living out our faith on a daily basis.



EASTER EVENTS

HOLY WEEK BRUNCH

Join us for brunch immediately following worship on Palm Sunday, March 29. Watch for the sign-up board in the Narthex.

CHILDRENS EASTER EGG HUNT

Following Easter Sunday worship, we will have our annual children's Easter Egg hunt. Doughnuts will be available in the Fellowship Hall. **Please bring your pre-filled Easter eggs to the church by Friday, April 3.**

STUDENT MINISTRIES UPDATE

A rugged cross: the old is gone. An empty grave: the new has come. Because of Jesus, we are made new! During our next Bible Study series, the children of our church will be led through the story of redemption—a story that began at creation and the fall, climaxed at the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus, and continues through all who walk in new identities as God's sons and daughters! Easter isn't merely an ancient story disconnected from our modern reality. The story of Easter reaches into our lives and changes the very core of who we are!

THANK YOU

As Teresa mentions in her article, it has been a season of grief for our church community. We want to extend thanks to all who have reached out to assist with Celebration of Life services and in providing meals during the past few weeks.

SUNDAY MORNING SCRIPTURE AND STUDY SCHEDULE

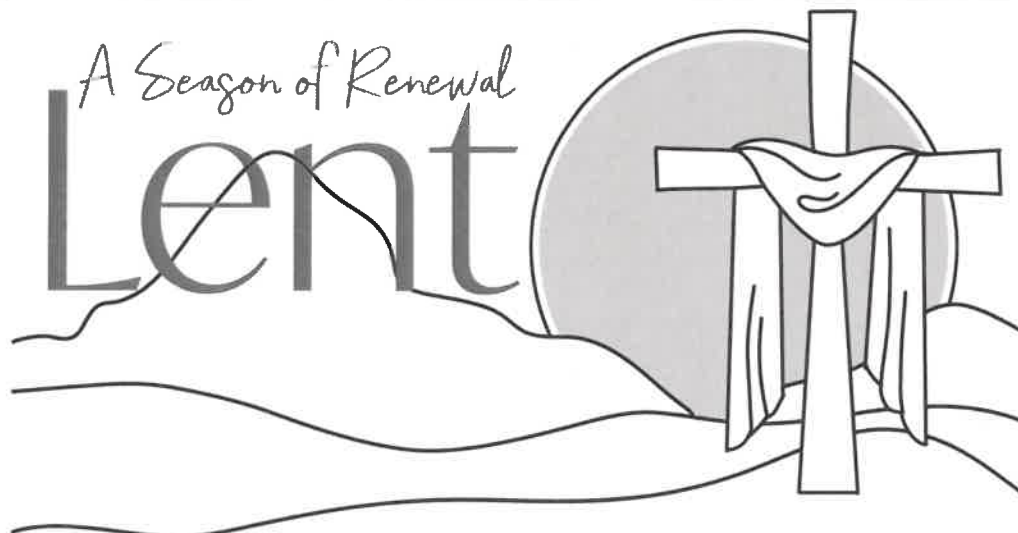
March 1—1 Corinthians 10

March 8—1 Corinthians 11

March 15—1 Corinthians 12

March 22—1 Corinthians 13

March 29—"The Power of the Cross", presented by the W.C.C. Choir





Sunday, March 1	We collect Pocket Change offerings on the first Sunday of every month and use the money given to this program to promote and purchase materials for the church.	
	9:30 am	Worship
	10:30 am	Bible Study for All Ages
	11:30 am	Elders' Meeting
Tuesday Mornings	8:30 am	Men's Bible Study —meeting at IHOP at 221 W. 104 th Ave., Northglenn. See Steve Cancino for information.
Wednesday Evenings	6:00 pm 6:30 pm 7:30 pm	Potluck Dinner (Bring a dish to share) Adult and Youth Bible Studies Choir
Thursday Afternoons	12:00 –2:00 pm	Food Pantry
Saturday, March 7	10:00 am	“Living as a Christian in Today’s World” Book and Discussion Group will be watching and discussing the movie <i>The Most Reluctant Convert</i> , about C. S. Lewis's life journey from atheist to a renowned Christian writer. The discussion of <i>The Screwtape Letters</i> will continue in April. Please feel welcome to attend the movie even if you have not previously been part of the group. See Missy Luzzi or Wolf Thompson for more information.
Sunday, March 8 Turn clocks forward	9:30 am	Worship
	10:30 am	Bible Study for All Ages
Saturday, March 14	Dad's group outing. Talk to Matt for more information.	
Sunday, March 15	9:30 am	Worship
	10:30 am	Bible Study for All Ages
Saturday, March 21	12:00 noon	Lessons in Grief Group —please bring a sack lunch with you. Contact Sharon Keel or Kay Stevens for more information.
Sunday, March 22	9:30 am	Worship
	10:30 am	Bible Study for All Ages
Tuesday, March 24	9:30 am	Church Women United —join the ladies of our church and other local churches as they create items to give to local care centers.
Saturday, March 28	10:00 am	Dad's Breakfast and Prayer Group
Sunday, March 29 Palm Sunday	9:30 am	Worship Easter Cantata—“The Power of the Cross” by the WCC Choir
	10:30 am	Holy Week Brunch