



***Ebenezer Baptist Church
14476 Scotchtown Road
Beaverdam, Virginia 23015
(804)-883-5525
www.myebcva.org
Reverend Dr. John W. Kinney, Senior Pastor***

Lenten Season

On February 22, we celebrate Ash Wednesday and initiate our forty-day Lenten Season as we prepare for Resurrection Sunday. The forty days recall the wilderness experience of Jesus as he spent days in focused communion with God before he commenced the full embodiment of his purposed life and ministry. The season of Lent is a committed period of reflection, repentance, and renewal as the faithful move toward the celebration of the life affirming victory in the resurrection of Jesus.

There are forty-six days from Ash Wednesday to Easter, but tradition recognizes the six Sundays in the period as worship days not fast/sacrifice days. Fasting focuses our attention in the Lenten observance and you are encouraged to identify and invest in a personal fast practice. Remember that the fast may extend beyond food to thoughts and behaviors that do not contribute to a full faith life.

When speaking of our Lenten sacrifice, we often speak of “giving up” something. “Giving Up” something can suggest that there is something that you value and do not wish to surrender but you are willing to sacrifice for a season. This year, the language of our church family will be “giving over” to God dimensions of our personal and shared lives that have not been rendered fully unto God. The deeper question is no longer “what I will give up”, but rather “what must I give over” to God.

As you seek to lay all on the altar, it is helpful to have a trusted conversation/accountability partner(s) to walk with you on your Lenten journey.

May we all find peace and power as we surrender all to God our Creator, follow the Christ our Teacher, and honor the presence of the Holy Spirit our Helper.

Join us for Bible Study on Ash Wednesday when we will revisit Psalm 51 and consider God’s Recovery Program.

- A. Recognition
- B. Rejection
- C. Repentance
- D. Requirements
- E. Removal
- F. Restoration
- G. Rejoicing

Grace and Peace be unto all,
Pastor