



***Ebenezer Baptist Church of Beaverdam, Virginia***  
***Lenten Season***  
***March 2, 2025***

We have been celebrating Black History, and we will continue to do so in all our days. On March 5, 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.

As we consider how the darkness of the road to Calvary is illuminated by the words, actions, and person of Jesus, our Easter theme is “The Light in the Darkness.” Heeding the call to discard the “stuff” that we have hoarded in our existence that has hindered our progress to and realization of an authentic abundant life, our Lenten focus is “Decluttering.”

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 on the Lenten observance and you are encouraged to identify and invest in personal fast practices. 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.

Our Lenten sermonic series will be anchored in the Gospel of Luke as we travel from the communion table to the cross and the celebration of a new day dawning.

March 2 “After Dinner Conversation” Luke 22:24-30 – Baptism at 9:45 am

March 5 Fast Day - Meal (Hospitality) 6 pm – In-person Bible Study 7 pm- Psalm 51

March 9 “A Whole Lot of Shaking” Luke 22:31-34

March 16 “Rise Up” Luke 22:39-46

March 23 “Stop It!” Luke 22:47-53

March 30 “You Got What You Wanted” Luke 23:13-25

- April 6 "See What You Have Done" Luke 23:26-31
- April 13 Palm Sunday- "Ain't No Stopping Us Now" Luke 19:34-40
- April 18 Good Friday- Fast Day- Easter Egg Hunt (Christian Ed.) – 5 pm  
Family Meal - 6 pm (Hospitality)  
Family Fun Night (Christian Ed.) 7 pm
- April 20 Resurrection Sunday- "Keep Up the Nonsense" Luke 24:1-12
- April 27 "Heart Burn" Luke 24: 25-32

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.

Grace and Peace be unto all,

Pastor