

Lent Series: Encountering God: What have we witnessed?

By Doug Steiner

"In the early centuries Lent was primarily a time for Christian converts to make their final, intensive preparation for baptism. All these years later it is still a season of renewal through reflection on the life of Jesus and, during Holy Week, on his suffering and sacrifice. In light of the triumph of the resurrection, which has already happened and which we celebrate at the end of this season, we invite you to encounter God this Lent and ask yourself this question: What have you witnessed?"

This passage comes from the introduction in the Leader magazine to our Lent worship series this year. As the title implies, we will be exploring ways that people in scripture encountered God, as well as the invitation of how we also encounter God. The second part of the theme encourages us to witness to our encounters with God. Each week during Lent our witness focus will shift among different realities of encountering God.

We continually encounter God. Lent is a season to sharpen our focus with reflection and preparation as we journey from Ash Wednesday toward the shadow of the cross to the joy of Easter morning. Enter the journey!

Please consider joining us as we pray with our fellow Mennonite churches on Wednesdays throughout Lent. The four Mennonite churches will rotate hosting and leading the practice. Services begin at 7PM. All are welcome to attend.

Wednesday Lenten Schedule

Date	Location	Prayer Practice/Theme
March 5 th	Bethel	Ash Wed.
March 12 th	Jubilee	Liturgy of the Hours
March 19 th	South Union	Lectio Divina
March 26 th	Oak Grove	Centering
April 2 nd	Bethel	Take our Moments & Our Days
April 9 th	Oak Grove	Prayer Stations
April 16 th	South Union	Stations of the Cross & Prayer Labyrinth

Shape Us into Something Beautiful

By Pastor Rick Stoner

What do you see when you look at this sculpture. A bunch of stuff? A cross? Confusion? Does anyone see beauty? No. Well perhaps we don't see beauty because we lack the eyes to see it. Perhaps in our rigid factual world built on logic we allow our filters of understanding beauty to be shaped in such a way that we become closed to the beauty that is right before our eyes. Albert Einstein once said, "Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the world." So maybe we need to awaken the eyes of our hearts to see a new kind of beauty.

In our year of discernment prayer we ask God to shape us into something beautiful, yet I wonder what we are asking for when we pray this.

Continued on page 2.

This sculpture is part of a sculpture series entitled "The Passion" by Merrill Krabill



Shape Us continued...

Are we asking God to make us into a faith community that has no flaws, as if we were to become some sort of pretty or attractive group that everyone flocked to? Or, are we asking God to create us into the keepers of the truth? We have no false teaching because we own the truth; a sort of pristine people.

Let's go back to the sculpture. I wonder does anyone see beauty. If our imaginations are limited by our traditional models of beauty being something pretty, pristine, or without flaw, then we would be hard pressed to find beauty in the sculpture. Yet, the artist, Merrill Krabill, suggests that there is beauty here. He states:

None of these images are ugly or represent an evil to be avoided. They are all beautiful in their way, if you are willing to use the word as describing an ideal rather than as being without flaw... Somehow all the work is connected to a search for how to live well in a broken world. The pieces are bound with wire and chain, but that binding also holds them together. They are broken and the barbed wire, the bent and twisted metal, the broken clay, the broken glass and the red stains are all painful images, but the pieces are put back together and they are healing.

Maybe this is what we are praying for in our prayer. Maybe we, in all our bent and shattered and broken states, can be bound together by Christ to becoming something healing; something beautiful.

Perhaps in the end we will realize that to be shaped into something beautiful is more than just being attractive. It more than an external reality where people see us as the faith community that has it all put together. We are seeking something deeper when we pray for the Lord to shape us into something beautiful. For this beauty reaches beyond the creation of some sort of palace of pure doctrine, because it reaches to the core of who we are until we able to step back and let go. So, instead of trying to create some flashy façade of ecclesial beauty, we might learn to embrace the brokenness that is bound together in Christ's love. This love that takes all the sharp edges and twisted mess and holds is all together in this beautiful mess that we call church. Sure it might not look ideal, but then the body of Christ does not conform to the ideal pictures that we often carry in our minds. So yes, let us pray to be shaped into something beautiful. Let us allow our brokenness to be formed into something new; something that can enter into the pain of those around us and bring healing and hope.

From Cocaine to Cocoa—MCC Success Story

Summarized by Erin Dye

In the most recent issue of the Mennonite Central Committee publication "A Common Place," the cover story shares about MCC's support of alternative crops to coca for cocaine for Colombian farmers.

In the face of declining income from other crops, farmers have turned to coca. Loewen writes, "Growing coca, a tree that requires relatively little maintenance, gave struggling farmers an income unmatched by any other work in the region" (page 4). Although farmers are aware that coca, which is used to produce cocaine, is illegal, but they will likely not have an opportunity to see it in its drug form nor have much of an idea of its effects. With hungry mouths to feed, this concept has little bearing.

Mennonite Brethren Church in the Choco region with the support of MCC and the Foods Resource Bank provides alternative methods to farmers. The church distributes rice seeds and agrees to purchase the crops. Rice waste and cacao plants, used to harvest co-

coa beans, have a symbiotic relationship. With the waste from the rice mill, MCC could encourage farmers to grow cacao plants and generate more income than with other crops.

The mission has had its difficulties with local authorities and armed groups fighting for control of the region. However, God has blessed and secured their efforts. The Mennonite Brethren Church can follow through with their encouragement for the farmers growing alternative crops because they can guarantee purchase of harvested crops through MCC funds.

Continued on page 3.



Catching up with Liesl Graber

In light of Liesl Graber's upcoming touring choir's visit to Bethel in April, Liesl was willing to send us an update from Harrisonburg to catch us up on how things are going for her. We look forward to seeing her and her new friends soon!

I absolutely love Eastern Mennonite High School and I am so glad to have had the opportunity to attend here. The community aspect of this school is uplifting and refreshing; everybody knows everybody, but it's not the superficial surface-level knowledge like I experienced in public school. People are genuinely happy to see each other every morning and students are usually engaged in whatever the teacher is saying. Conversations are intellectual and purposeful, harmful gossip is next to nonexistent, and random hugs happen all the time around the school. I love my classes, I love my friends, I love my teachers. I suppose you could say I am doing very well in my new environment.

Since transferring to EMHS, I have taken the liberty to get involved in lots of things at school and this was incredibly helpful when I was first trying to get to know people. I have been a part of the *Sound of Music* production we did last fall, as well as a few other minuscule plays. Aside from Touring Choir, I am also a part of the National Honors Society, I play tennis, and I tutor an exchange student in English a few days every week after school.

I do many of the same things in Harrisonburg that I did in Bellefontaine, and I've found that it doesn't matter whether you're living in a small town or a less-small town, people tend to do whatever they enjoy. For me, this includes going on tea dates with friends, seeing a movie, going out to eat, or just spending time at my friends' houses to bake cookies or play Monopoly.

Right now the plan is to major in Linguistics and minor in Psychology with the dream of becoming a Forensic Linguist. As for which college I will be attending next year, I am just as clueless as you are. I'm in the process of waiting for acceptance letters before I make my final decision. The four colleges I applied to are

Eastern Mennonite University, University of Virginia, College of William & Mary, and Reed College, so who knows where I'll end up!

Touring Choir is an audition-only group of juniors and seniors who begin the season as friends and leave as a close-knit family. Through

the many Sunday morning performances and the long cross-country bus rides, we have grown to regard each other as parts of one whole, bonded together by love for each other, love for beautiful music, and love for God. Most of our songs this year focus on the idea of "Home" or "Homesickness," a theme that I find very fitting as I reflect on how special this particular performance will be for me. What can you expect from our performance? Astounding music, gorgeous harmonies, touching lyrics, smiling faces, teary eyes, and an encounter with the Holy Spirit.

Chamber Choir is a subunit of Touring Choir, selected from the broader group as the "best of the best." We sing slightly more challenging pieces and sometimes perform independently from Tour. Concerts are typically divided into three sections with Touring Choir opening, Chambers singing in the middle, and then Touring Choir closing. We end the program by forming a circle in the aisles, holding hands, and blessing the audience with our Benediction song.

To the people of Bethel, I have missed you all so dearly! People are not kidding when they say Bethel is one-of-a-kind. You are a bundle of joy and I cannot wait to see you again soon!



Cocoa continued...

President of Mennonite Brethren Church's council, Rivas Dominguez says, "We want to see people living differently...to see agriculture being strong here in this region, big rice crops or cacao crops, and know that people have the income they deserve and that they are able to live better lives with dignity" (page 8).

I found this article inspiring as a way of sharing the good things God is doing and how he works through our donations from rural Ohio to a small or-

ganization like MCC. But through this domino effect, 140 families in Columbia know a different way. In fact, not only do these families have dignity that they can provide for their families themselves, but that they too are "blessed as the peacemakers" for they are sharing in God's reconciliation of the world by reducing the production of harmful drug crops. Empowering for everyone! Please read the full article in the "A Common Place" Winter 2014 on the periodical carol.

What a Souptastic Event!

What did you do to stay warm on a chilly February Sunday? About 50 of us enjoyed a time of fellowship, creativity, and delicious food at the youth's Souptastic Fundraiser February 9th after worship! Mary Psolla thought soup is the best to eat with all this snow we're having. All youth selected their favorite soup, chose one adult to help them make the soup, decorated a display, and competed to earn Best Theme and Best Taste from participants.

Youth contributed the following:

Alex Steiner (aided by Ellen Steiner)—“Steiner Spice:” a chicken chili soup with rooster sauced inspired by his chili pepper themed chef attire.

Michael Lehman (aided by Kathy Lehman)—“Broccoli and Cheese:” because anything is good with enough cheese! Michael said he wanted to avoid chili and kept his a secret from the other youth.

Trace Robinaugh (aided by Jordy Robinaugh)—“Vegetarian Chili:” a different type of chili with a unique ingredient of quinoa.

Rick Stoner (aided by Jessica Stoner)—“Holy Mole! Guacamole Soup:” After an attempt at a Trinidadian soup with avocados, the Stoners landed on this smooth soup. The tomato and sour cream fixings made for a fresh delight! Chuck and Jeanie Swartz provided the Texan themed décor.



Becky Wilkins (aided by Janet Wilkins)—“Llamas in Mexico (chicken tortilla soup):” a thick taco soup with all the fixings for a crunchy taco. The theme was inspired by Becky's love for llamas and they collected the

décor from her aunt in Tucson, Az.

Savannah Hostetler (see pictured to the left and below)(aided by Beth Maurer)—“For the love of Bacon (cheesy potato soup):” Savannah wanted to work around a Valentine's theme and the necessary ingredient of bacon on potato soup. Their booth also featured chocolate covered bacon and stickers!



Mckenna Stoner sporting Alex's chili pepper chefs hat

Jerry Landes (aided by Barb Landes)—“Think Spring (creamy asparagus):” because asparagus is one of the first things to come up in spring. Jerry's booth was especially hopeful as he set out lettuce seeds sprouting out of dirt. Spring is around the corner!

Annie Steiner (aided by Cheryl Shank)—“Venison Stew:” a hearty meat and potatoes stew featuring a deer shot by Jacob Shank.

It was difficult to choose between best soup and best theme. Carl Newcomer admitted how hard it was to choose. He enjoyed the “Steiner Spice” but enjoyed the humor Michael's display. Daniel Lehman was partial to Trace's soup, but liked Michael's display the best. Whereas Bill Barrett liked Michael's cheesy broccoli soup, but enjoyed Annie's deer horns display. Dena Hostetler enjoyed Becky's spicy soup with the chicken, but especially all the condiments to add. Linda Roth didn't leave the event without the Stoner's recipe for Guacamole soup! “It was smooth, had a great taste and the right amount of spice. Plus avocados make anything good!” All soups but one were gluten free so everyone could leave with full bellies! Although all displays and soups were enjoyable, Michael Lehman won overall with most votes, with Savannah's Theme and Becky's Taste in a close second.

The event was a success. Lori and Donna Lehman commented on how fun and different this fundraiser was and the variety of tastes offered. Barb Landes got the idea for this fundraiser from attending a similar event when visiting family in Hesston, Kansas.

What was happening...?

By Donna Lehman, Historian

35 years ago—February 7, 1979 Ed and Kim Lehman were MYF (Mennonite Youth Fellowship) sponsors, and on February 7th the group had a surprise baby shower for them! Then, later in the month, the group went to Indian Lake Rollarena for a skating party.

25 years ago—1989—Roy and Ruby were in Brownsville, TX serving with a Mennonite Voluntary Service Unit and Janet (Kauffman) Wilkins was serving at Homestead, FL.

The Quiz Team, consisting of Bradly Kauffman, Todd Hostetler, Anne Rabenstein, Shane Oelker, Joshua Kanagy, Matt Schlongeger, Matt Trost, and Steve Rabenstein were quizzing on Genesis.

20 years ago—1994—March 26th, the Bethel Ladies had a Spring Banquet with the theme, ‘Lo, the Win-

ter is Past.’ (80 in attendance) Pat Zook was the speaker, she shared about the trials of life with the uncertainties involved in her husband (David) listed as ‘missing’ in Vietnam.

January & February: Chuck Graber and Bradley Kauffman were on a Study Trimester (Goshen College) in Costa Rica.

The blue hymnals (the Worship Book) had been purchased, so we had several Sunday evening hymn sings learning new songs.

15 years ago—February 7, 1999 the youth were raising funds for the church conference in St. Louis ’99, so Chuck and Jeanie Swartz helped them by serving a Mexican meal!

(Please add to your ‘The Year Looking Back 2013’ which was in your mailboxes several weeks ago, February to October 2013, Mark and Polly Thomas served with Haggai Institute in Kihei, Hawaii)

The Movements of Consolation and Desolation

By Pastor Dave Maurer

Within the Christian tradition of discernment, it is common to talk about the movements of consolation and desolation. Yet, these are terms that are not common to our church vocabulary. As Ruth Haley Barton describes these movements in her book “Pursuing God’s Will Together” they are what “Scripture calls ‘discernment of spirits’ (I Cor 12:10) or ‘test[ing] the spirits to see whether they are from God’ (I Jn 4:1). The discernment of spirits helps us to distinguish the real from the phony, the true from the false, in the external world but also in the interior world of our own thoughts and motives. As we become more attuned to these subtle spiritual dynamics, we are able to distinguish between what is good (that which moves us toward God and his calling upon our lives) and what is evil (that which draws us away from God).” Pg. 57-58

She goes on to say that “Ignatius describes the inner dynamics of discerning the spirits as consolation and desolation. Consolation is the interior movement of the heart that gives us a deep sense of life-giving connection with God, others and our authentic self. We may experience it as a sense that all is right with the world, that we are free to be given

over to God and love, even in moments of pain and crisis. Desolation is the loss of a sense of God’s presence; indeed, we feel out of touch with God, with others and with our authentic self. It might be an experience of being off-center, full of turmoil, confusion and maybe even rebellion. Or we might sense our energy draining away, tension in our gut or tears welling in our eyes.” Pg. 58

Given this description of these movements, it seems to me that while the terms may appear foreign to us, that the movements may actually feel rather familiar. For instance when we describe a “peace that passes all understanding” that we feel deep within ourselves even in the midst of tumultuous circumstances, we are describing consolation. And when we declare that we “just had a bad feeling about it” or that we could “just feel within our gut that something wasn’t right,” we are describing desolation. And so while these names may seem foreign to us, I believe the feelings are familiar.

Continued on page 5.

Movements continued

And yet while the feelings may be familiar, it seems to me that the challenge for most of us is in becoming more a tune to these sometimes subtle shifts that may occur within us. It takes space and practice for us to become more aware of these deep seated movements within us and to trust their guidance in our discernment. The reality is that our awareness of these movements grows not just in considering these movements in “big decisions” but also in our daily lives as we seek to follow God’s leading in all that we do.

And so I wonder, “How might our daily experience of God’s leading be different if we paid more attention to the consolation and desolation in our lives?” And “How might we experience clarity in God’s leading for our congregation if we named the movement of the Holy Spirit among us through naming and talking openly about how we experience the movements of consolation and desolation within us?” May God’s guiding spirit be before us as we seek to follow God’s leading.

Sarah Adams Shares for MCC By Erin Dye

Despite weather cancellations in early January, Sarah Adams and Marlin Yoder from Mennonite Central Committee braved the Ohio winter to be with the Mennonite organizations of Logan County February 1st-3rd. Sarah is a Columbus native and recently finished a four year assignment in the Middle East. She served as MCC Representative for Lebanon and Syria, based in Beirut, where she was responsible for coordinating MCC’s emergency response work in these two countries. Now back in the states, Sarah has been traveling and sharing with interested congregations and small groups about her experiences and how MCC contributions are benefiting their recipients.

On Saturday, February 1st, Sarah met with the youth and young adults of Bethel and Oak Grove for pizza and discussion on service at 6pm. At 7pm, she gave a more formal presentation on the conflict in Syria, the experiences for the refugees, and how God is working despite the turmoil. On Sunday, February 2nd, she spoke at Jubilee for their morning worship, and on Monday, February 3rd she had breakfast at the Liberty Gathering Place with MCC Thrift volunteers and interested individuals from Mennonite Women and the churches. All events were well attended and ended with many questions for Sarah!

Sarah gave background information on the Syrian way of life. Most people are used to a middle class lifestyle, so for the 2 million refugees and those remaining in their war torn homes, their way of life has been significantly altered. She explained how the conflict has spread in the last few years and how that has affected Syria’s economy, particularly their almost self sufficient food production. MCC’s goals are to partner with the existing efforts to overcome the strife. Sarah’s degree and skills are in Community Development and helping communities discover what they need and what values

they strive for as a people.

There are many reasons to hope in Syria. Of the 20 million people remaining in the country, only a small percentage are involved in the Conflict, probably only a few hundred thousand - maybe less. The number of people actually involved in the Conflict is very few relative to the majority of people who are just trying to survive and live life each day. And of those trying to survive, many are working toward peaceful solutions. Sarah shared amazing stories of individuals and groups of people loving their neighbors as themselves and even tearing down barriers between Muslims and Christians. West Liberty MCC Thrift Manager Kathy Lowry commented that biggest thing she and others seemed to take away from Sarah’s presentation was “What we are hearing about what’s happening in Syria is not really what’s going on.” Sarah explained that the side of Syria the media shows in America doesn’t represent the positives and gives a skewed understanding of the conflict.

Through these presentations, it is clear MCC is making a difference and the relief kits and school kits from rural Ohio are helping those in need! Some of the efforts of MCC in Syria include emergency food aid, MCC material resources, trauma recovery, disaster preparedness training for local organizations and conflict transformation.

Another area greatly affected by the conflict is education for Syrian children. Families no longer can afford to send their children to school, so MCC has a sponsorship program to assist families. Sponsorships are \$300 for one year. The love offering taken at the Saturday night sharing and Sunday morning at Jubilee will go towards Global Family Sponsorship!

Continue to keep the work on MCC as well as the people of Syria in your prayers as they navigate peacekeeping in their country and in their lives.

World Hunger Relief

By Barb and Byron Kauffman

World Hunger Relief, Inc., a farm located on the North side of Waco, TX., is a Christian organization that provides training in sustainable farming techniques, motivates individuals and communities to live sustainably, advocates on behalf of the poor, and partners with local and international sustainable development programs.

There are 10 talented and eager interns plus several "live-in volunteers" who work with livestock, gardening, or food services at the farm. The interns, who come from different states and countries, are energetic and work well together.

We have worked with the interns in both gardening projects and livestock care. In addition, Byron has done various maintenance jobs and plumbing projects. Barbara has assisted with "deep" cleaning in the pantry, kitchen and education building and prepared a lunch for 30 plus persons at the farm.

There were 2 other SOOP couples here for some of the time. Once again, we have enjoyed learning to know new friends and being exposed to new ideas and ways of doing things. We have been challenged to think more about life from the vantage point of persons in poverty.

Quizzing 2014

Savannah Hostetler has offered to give us an update of her year so far!

I am studying the Book of Exodus. This year has been the best year so far! They just keep getting better and better. The people on my team are Megan Barthauer, Zach Shaw, Andrew Tyler, and Seth Campbell. We have so much fun! I love how we act goofy and have fun, no matter if we win or lose. One time, we were tied with another good team. We went into overtime and I rang in on all three overtime questions, giving me a quiz out and winning the game for us! It was the best feeling ever! As seen in Exodus, God is really amazing! It's so cool how all the little details (that we often overlook) can add up to form a bigger picture that God has laid out specifically for us.



Holy Week

April 2014

Date	Day	Time	Event
13 th	Sunday	10:40am	Worship-Palm Sunday
15 th	Tuesday	7:00 pm	EMHS Choir Performance
16 th	Wednesday	7:00 pm	Prayer Service (South Union)
17 th	Thursday	6:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Sedar meal
18 th	Friday	6:30 pm	Good Friday Community Service
20 th	Sunday	8:00 am	Sonrise Service
		9:00 am	Easter Breakfast
		10:40 am	Worship

Bethel/Oak Grove Mennonite Women

By Donna Lehman, MW Secretary

This group met in January, but cancelled in February because of the cold and snow. But, the January meeting was perfect for a cold winter day. The noon meal featured 'Stone Soup.' All attendees brought a cup of vegetables, and Kyle had prepared beef broth; the veggies were plundered into the broth...and very good soup! The committee consisted of Kyle VanOsdol, Christy Headings, and Rudelle Matthews, who helped by adding fruit salads and bronies, etc. to the meal.

Sara Ellen shared in a devotional, and her Courageous Women of the Bible

was...the woman who had an issue of blood, but had enough faith and courage to get close enough to Jesus in a crowd and touch his garment; courage which led to healing.

20 were in attendance and we completed: 1-comforter, 1-baby comforter and 1000 Box Tops/Labels for Education were sent to Hopi Indian School in Arizona.

April Birthdays

2 – Jacob Shank
3 – Christy Headings
6 – Carole Barrett
6 – Roger Headings
9 – Mark Thomas
18 – Karl Z. Smith
22 – Kip Louden
23 – Kristyn Horn
23 – Ashley Rabenstein
24 – Annie Steiner
28 – Carl Newcomer
29 – Mike Roberts

March Birthdays

2 Larissa Graber
7 Kim Lehman
8 Tim Horn
10 Janice Rabenstein
10 Josephine Hostetler
12 Steve Lapp
13 Stephen Hostetler
13 Elizabeth Lochridge
14 Liesl Graber
14 Todd Hostetler

March and April Wedding Anniversaries

March 9, 1985 – Ken & Cheryl Shank
March 17, 1973 – Chuck & Carol Buck
April 5, 1997 – Mary & Bob Psolla
April 14, 1957 – Janice & Bob Rabenstein
April 20, 1996 – Janet & Joe Wilkins
April 27, 1996 – Dena & Todd Hostetler
April 30, 1994 – Sandy & Steve Rabenstein

15 Jerry Landes
18 Jeanie Swartz
19 Neil Wirick
22 Becky Wilkins
25 Bob Rabenstein Sr.
26 Carol Buck
26 Polly Thomas
28 Velma King
30 Michael Lehman
30 Robert Psolla
31 Wilfred Yoder

MARCH is Bethel's month to host WL Cares Food Pantry! Sign up for a Wednesday or the third Saturday of the month to volunteer!

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We're on the web!

Check out:
bethelchurchwl.org



*The purpose of our
newsletter*


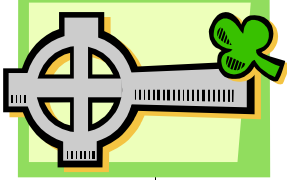
This newsletter is published in January, March, May, July, September, and November

Its purpose is three-fold:

- Inform** the church about events
- Acquaint** persons who attend Bethel with each other
- Inspire** us to Christ-like living

March 2014



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>Daylight Savings Time=Spring is coming! "Even in darkness light dawns for the upright, for the gracious and compassionate and righteous person." Psalm 112:4</i></p>						
2 3p Abraham's Lot & God's GIRLS	3	4 9:15 a Women's BS 12p P&J lunch 3p BHH	5 Ash Wednesday 7p Service (Bethel)	6 3p BHH 7p Ministry of Worship	7 ACA	8 ACA 8a King's Daughters
9 Daylight Savings 2p Bible Quizzing	10	11 9a Menno W 3p BHH	12 7p Lent Service (Jubilee)	13 3p BHH 7p JOICO	14 9a PCT @ Barb Landes home 6pm Community Movie Night	15 8am Men's Breakfast 6p F5 Youth Fundraiser
16 3p Abraham's Lot & God's GIRLS 6p Youth & Mentors	17 	18 9:15 a Women's BS 12p P&J lunch 3p BHH	19 7p Lent Service (South Union)	20 3p BHH	21	22
23	24	25	26 4:15 Our Daily Bread 7p Lent Service (Oak Grove)	27 7pm JOICO	28	29 
30	31	<p>St Patrick is an example of loving our neighbors as ourselves since he chose to be a priest to a country who captured and enslaved him as a child. He used the shamrock to tell the people of Ireland about God. The three leaves represent the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.</p>				