

Wandering Heart: Lenten Study Series

This Lent, we are focusing on the life and faith of one of Jesus' most famous disciples. In Peter, we see a person who is both steadfast and unsteady, a dear friend and a betrayer, a follower, and a wanderer. In Peter, we see ourselves. By following Peter's journey, we watch the story of Jesus unfold through the eyes of a very normal human trying to figure it out, just like us.

Like many of us, Peter has a wandering heart. His journey is not polished, or linear, or perfect. But he is always tethered to the love of God. This Lent, we're joining Peter in figuring out faith. We are hoping to wander alongside him, open to what we might learn about Jesus, and ourselves, by stepping into his shoes.

Our Lenten Study this year will be held after Worship on Sunday Mornings. We'll enjoy a light lunch together at 11:15am and at Noon, we'll proceed with our program.

Sunday, February 25th: "*The Case Against WWJD Bracelets*," by Nadia Bolz-Weber. Published on *The Corners* by Nadia Bolz-Weber. August 13, 2023.

<https://thecorners.substack.com/p/the-case-against-wwjd-bracelets>

We will view her sermon on Peter and read the short article and discuss it from there.

Sunday, March 3rd and March 10th: We will view and discuss *American Symphony*, a Netflix Documentary. Directed and produced by Matthew Heineman, starring Jon Batiste. Netflix. Released November 29, 2023.

This moving documentary follows Jon Batiste during a time in his life when his professional life was soaring, and his personal life was quite difficult. Batiste's enduring faith and inspiring creative spirit. There are several ways this film resonates with this series, as Batiste shows us a steadfast, heart-forward faith in the midst of a wandering journey.

Sunday, March 17th: We will view two videos and an article about Love Beyond Walls: Why I Refused to Quit Taking Love Beyond Walls: A Decade of Resilience and Connection," by Terence Lester. *From Streets to Scholarship* by Terence Lester. December 8, 2023.

<https://imterencelester.substack.com/p/why-i-refused-to-quit-taking-love>

<https://vimeo.com/244713515>

You don't need to attend every session or do any preparation. However, if you'd like to view and read these ahead of time, the links are here. Looking forward to viewing and discussion with you all. Any questions or concerns, please contact Kerry Stewart, Faith Formation Coordinator, at kerry@firstcongregationalbranford.org or 203 488 7201x106