



# Radiance Community Church

## *Ground Us...*

This Lenten season, we are focused on grounding ourselves in the Good News. One of the ways we are doing this is by sharing our own good news each week, writing it on leaves and hanging them on a tree in our sanctuary, as a reminder that Jesus' teachings ground us in the good news, while they push us to grow and expand like branches reaching to the sky, doing our part to bring the good news of Jesus to the world. At the end of Lent, we will collect all the good news and share it with you in the April newsletter, but until then, I hope you will take time to go by the tree and read what has been shared each week.

As I thought about what good news I wanted to share with you in this month's newsletter, I decided that the best news of all is to remind you that you are so, so loved - by God and by your church family. Lent is meant to be a reminder that we are made from dust and will return to dust - and that God loves us from beginning to end.

Below you will find a poem written by Rev. Sarah Speed. As you read it, my prayer is that you will know that nothing you do - or don't do - will ever make God love you any more or any less, because God's love is unconditional and complete - even now.

### *Even Now*

We ask the question a million different times  
 over the course of lives.  
 Do you love me even now?  
 As children we ask this question  
 with eyes the size of saucers  
 and a quivering bottom lip.  
 In our teenage years,  
 we ask the question by pushing people away  
 and paying attention to who comes back.  
 As adults we ask the question by  
 extending the first invitation  
 and seeing who returns the kindness.  
 Over and over again we ask the world,  
 Do you love me even now?  
 The thing I've learned about God  
 is that, no matter what comes before "even now,"  
 the answer will always be yes.



Blessings,  
 Pastor Melissa

## pray for one another

- Those who are homebound or in retirement/nursing homes: Jim Bryant, Mary Durrer, Betty Heptinstall, Buddy Hawkins, Nadine Minnix, Cheryl Nicely, Betty Obenchain, Louise Parris, Betty Payne, Becky Peyton, Jack Pilcher, Evelyn Ragland, Alice Scogin, Vilas Secrist, Anna Mae Smith, Joe St. Clair
- Those with cancer including Dalton Burgess, Linda Dwyer, Wyatt Hodges (friend of the Kinseys), Penny Long (Bob Crawford's sister), Kathleen Lordan (friend of Joyce Waugh), Betty Nevin (friend of Betty Payne), Mary Seithalil (friend of Lisa Baker), Terry Schoonmaker (friend of Linda Murray), Wayne Simmons (cousin of Vilas Secrist), Caden Thomas, Betsy White (Joyce Waugh's niece), Carolyn Young
- Patty Templin, recovering from knee replacement surgery
- Jim Bryant, recovering from a mild stroke
- Mary Durrer, in Lewis Gale Hospital
- Dennis Helms & daughter Angela, in the death of Dennis' wife, Debbie Helms (friend of Paula Stump)
- Betty Hall's neighbor, Bonnie Farris, in the death of her daughter, Holly

## Faith Formations

- **Sunday Morning Bible Study, 9:30-10:15 am:** Adults are studying the life of Simon Peter, a flawed but faithful disciple. As we study Peter's life, we will discover how we, too, have special gifts, talents, and abilities that God can use to make a difference today. We also have classes for our children and youth, so there is something for your whole family.
- **Midweek Spiritual Formation, Wednesdays at noon:** Rev. Steven Harris is leading a Lenten Bible study focused on the teachings of Jesus. Join us in person or by Zoom: [bit.ly/radiancebiblestudy](https://bit.ly/radiancebiblestudy). You can also listen to a podcast of the study on Spotify at: [bit.ly/rccefaithpodcast](https://bit.ly/rccefaithpodcast).

## Featured Dates

### Sunday, March 1

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 AM
Worship	10:30 AM
Youth—Dinner & Discipleship	5:00 PM

### Wednesday, March 4

Mid Week Bible Study	12:00 PM
Lenten Soup & Scripture	6:00 PM

### Sunday, March 8

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 AM
Worship	10:30 AM

### Monday, March 9

Evelyn Townsend Circle	12:00 PM
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### Wednesday, March 11

Mid Week Bible Study	12:00 PM
Lenten Soup & Scripture	6:00 PM

### Sunday, March 15

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 AM
Worship	10:30 AM
Deacons Meeting	2:00 PM

### Monday, March 16

Ministries Council Meeting	6:00 PM
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### Tuesday, March 17

Admin. Council Meeting	5:30 PM
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### Wednesday, March 18

Mid Week Bible Study	12:00 PM
Lenten Soup & Scripture	6:00 PM

### Sunday, March 22

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 AM
Worship	10:30 AM
Youth-Dinner & Discipleship	5:00 PM

### Wednesday, March 25

Mid Week Bible Study	12:00 PM
Lenten Soup & Scripture	6:00 PM

### Sunday, March 29

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 AM
Worship	10:30 AM
Children's Palm Sunday Praise Party	11:45 AM
Youth-Dinner & Discipleship	5:00 PM

## Radiance Giving

**Giving:** Thank you for your faithful support of the ministry of our church. If you wish to give an offering, you may do so by placing it in the offering plate during the service, via mail, electronically through your bank or our website, <https://bit.ly/givingrcc> .

You may also donate by scanning our QR code:



## Lent at RCC

- **Diving into the Good News: Reading the Gospels Together**

If you are looking for a spiritual practice this Lent, join us in reading the Gospels together! Below, you will find the schedule for our March readings, If you prefer listening to reading, the Bible app will read the scriptures to you, or you can listen to the podcast "Let's Read the Gospels."

On Wednesday nights at 6:00 pm, we will have a soup dinner and Pastor Melissa will guide us in a discussion of that week's readings. Even if you haven't done the readings, come for the fellowship and discussion. Please sign up in the foyer if you will be attending, so we can be sure to have enough soup for everyone.

March 1: Luke 10-12

March 2: Luke 13-15

March 3: Catch up

March 4: Luke 16-18

March 5: Luke 19-21

March 6: Luke 22-24

March 7: Mark 1-3

March 8: Mark 4-6

March 9: Mark 7-9

March 10: Catch up

March 11: Mark 10-12

March 12: Mark 13-15

March 13: Mark 16, Matthew 1-2

March 14: Matthew 3-5

March 15: Matthew 6-8

March 16: Matthew 9-11

March 17: Catch up

March 18: Matthew 12-14

March 19: Matthew 15-17

March 20: Matthew 18-20

March 21: Matthew 21-23

March 22: Matthew 24-26

March 23: Matthew 27-28

March 24: Catch up



**WEDNESDAY**

**NIGHT**

**Soup & Scripture**

- **Music for the Season:** Check out a playlist to go along with our Tell Me Something Good theme:

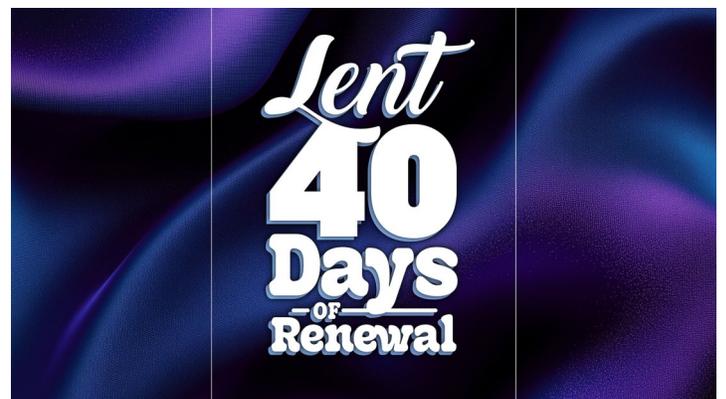
<https://bit.ly/Lentenmusic>.

- **Faith Lending Library:** Our library shelf in the foyer has been filled with books for the Lenten season. Feel free to borrow them.

- **Lenten Missions**

◇ **Local Missions Offering:** During the Lenten and Easter seasons, we are highlighting the ways we partner with organizations in our community to share God's love. We will collect a special offering to assist in our local missions efforts, as well.

◇ **Keystone Easter Food Boxes:** We are collecting food to be donated to Keystone Community Center, who will distribute 50 boxes to the senior adults and families who participate in their ministries. A list of needed items is available on the table in the foyer.



## Missions Opportunities

- **Blessing Box:** Our little food pantry has continued to be well used by our community; food is taken as quickly as we can stock it. As you shop, please pick up a little extra to share with our neighbors.
- **Keystone Community Center Weekend Food Bags:** During the school year, we provide weekend food bags for 15 children at Keystone Community Center (a couple of options for breakfast, some snacks, fruit, and proteins for lunches and dinners, juice and milk boxes). We package the food in grocery bags and deliver them to Keystone by Wednesday each week. The cost for the food is usually around \$100. Sign up in the foyer to provide food bags for a week - even better, do it with a group of friends.
- **Book and Magazine Collection:** The Evelyn Townsend Circle is collecting reading materials for the Roanoke City Jail library and for TAP. Paperback books and magazines will go to Roanoke City Jail and hardback books will go to TAP. Please place your donations in the appropriate box in the foyer.

## Upcoming Meetings

- **Evelyn Townsend Circle:** Monday, March 9, 12:00 pm, at the home of Ellen Scott
- **Deacons:** Sunday, March 15, 2:00 pm
- **Ministries Council:** Monday, March 16, 6:00 pm
- **Admin Council:** Tuesday, March 17, 5:30 pm



Joe	Durrer	March 01
Jacob	Sloan	March 03
Mary	Webb	March 04
Jenna	Dillon	March 06
Jean	McBride	March 08
Vicki	Wray	March 09
Bob	Crawford	March 09
Barbara	Kern	March 14
Buddy	Hawkins Jr.	March 22
John	Pruitt	March 26
Vilas	Secrist	March 28
Nancy	Vest	March 31

## Radiance Kids

**Palm Sunday Praise Party:** Children and families are invited to join us following worship on Sunday, March 29, for a special Praise Party as we prepare to celebrate Easter. Lunch will be provided, and there will be a small Easter egg hunt. Please let us know by March 25 if your family will attend.



## Radiance Youth

• **Youth Dinner and Discipleship:** Join us on Sundays from 5-7 for youth Sunday music rehearsal, dinner, and our Lenten Bible study at 5, dinner at 5:30, and Bible study at 6.

• **Help feed our youth** on Sunday evenings during our dinner & discipleship time! We eat at 5:30 pm, and it's best to prepare for 8-10. To sign up, go to: <https://bit.ly/rccyouthdinner> or see Pastor Melissa.



## Save the Date:

• **April 2:** Maundy Thursday Meal & worship around the table at Radiance.

• **April 3:** Preparing & serving lunch at The Least of the Ministries downtown. We will start prep at 9 am at Radiance & will be delivering at 11 am to TLOT.

## Worship Leadership Schedule

### March 1

- **Greeters:** Bobbie Hawkins, Neal Kinsey
- **Scripture Reader:** Brennon Viele
- **Offertory Prayer:** Bobbie Hawkins
- **Children's Worship Leader:** Glenda Pollard
- **Offering:** Gordon Williams, Jonathan Melson, Ric Scott, Becky Beard
- **Communion Prep:** Becky Beard, Glenda Pollard
- **Communion:** Becky Beard, Paul Howell, Linda Murray, Joyce Short, Gordon Williams

### March 8

- **Greeters:** Lisa Baker, Nancy Vest
- **Scripture Reader:** Ellen Scott
- **Offertory Prayer:** Joyce Waugh
- **Children's Worship Leader:** Nancy Vest
- **Offering:** Gerri Mills, Ric Scott, Mark Smith, Gordon Williams

### March 15

- **Greeters:** Mary Shirley, Gordon Williams
- **Scripture Reader:** Cindy Poff
- **Offertory Prayer:** Joyce Short
- **Children's Worship Leader:** Mary Harris
- **Offering:** Jenna Dillon, Alyssa Viele, Kathy Kinsey, Brennon Viele

### March 22

- **Greeters:** Bobbie Hawkins, Vicki Wray
- **Scripture Reader:** Kathy Kinsey
- **Offertory Prayer:** Nancy Burgess
- **Children's Worship Leader:** Kathy Kinsey
- **Offering:** Cason & Michael Krawchison, Ray Templin, Vicki Wray

### March 29

- **Greeters:** Bobbie Hawkins, Mark Smith
- **Scripture Reader:** Joyce Short
- **Offertory Prayer:** Ric Scott
- **Children's Worship Leader:** Donna Kester
- **Offering:** Janice Deyerle, Jonathan Melson, Ray Templin, Becky Beard

*Your Place*  
**In Service**

**Radiance Community  
Church**

4165 Colonial Ave.  
Roanoke, VA 24018  
540-774-2084

**Our Church Staff:**

Rev. Melissa Scott  
Pastor

Rev. Steven Harris  
Minister in Residence

Karen Viele  
Church Administrator

Bill Lininger  
Music Director