



Lehman--Idetown United Methodist Church
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Wilderness Journey

*"Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil."
Matthew 4:1*

Jesus spent forty days and forty nights seemingly alone in the wilderness, and without food. Matthew tells us, *"he was famished."* (Matt. 4:2) That is when the devil stepped in and the temptation began, when Jesus was at his lowest. However, when the Son of man was at his weakest point, the Son of God was at his strongest. After spending the wilderness time communing with God, his Father, Jesus was able to resist his tempter, answering each taunt with Scripture. After the devil departed, *"Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee"* (Luke 4:13-14), and Jesus began his ministry.

With Ash Wednesday, we begin the forty day season of Lent that leads to Easter. Today, Christians use this time as a season of reflection and self-introspection that directs our attention to the coming celebration of the Resurrection. Many emulate Jesus by giving up something that is meaningful to them; and replacing it with time spent with God, deepening their relationship with our Creator. That is a gift that keeps on giving: time – new time, more time, extra time - spent in prayer and devotion, spent one on One. What a glorious gift to offer our Savior; what a wonderful gift to feed our souls.

This Lenten season, I invite you to feed your soul and take a trip into the wilderness. You can pick up a souvenir bag at the church before Ash Wednesday to help guide you along the way. In it, you will find objects that are either commonly found in the wilderness, or that would be handy to have there. Even though the wilderness can be a lonely, desolate place, each of our souvenirs will help guide us closer to our destination – closer to Christ.

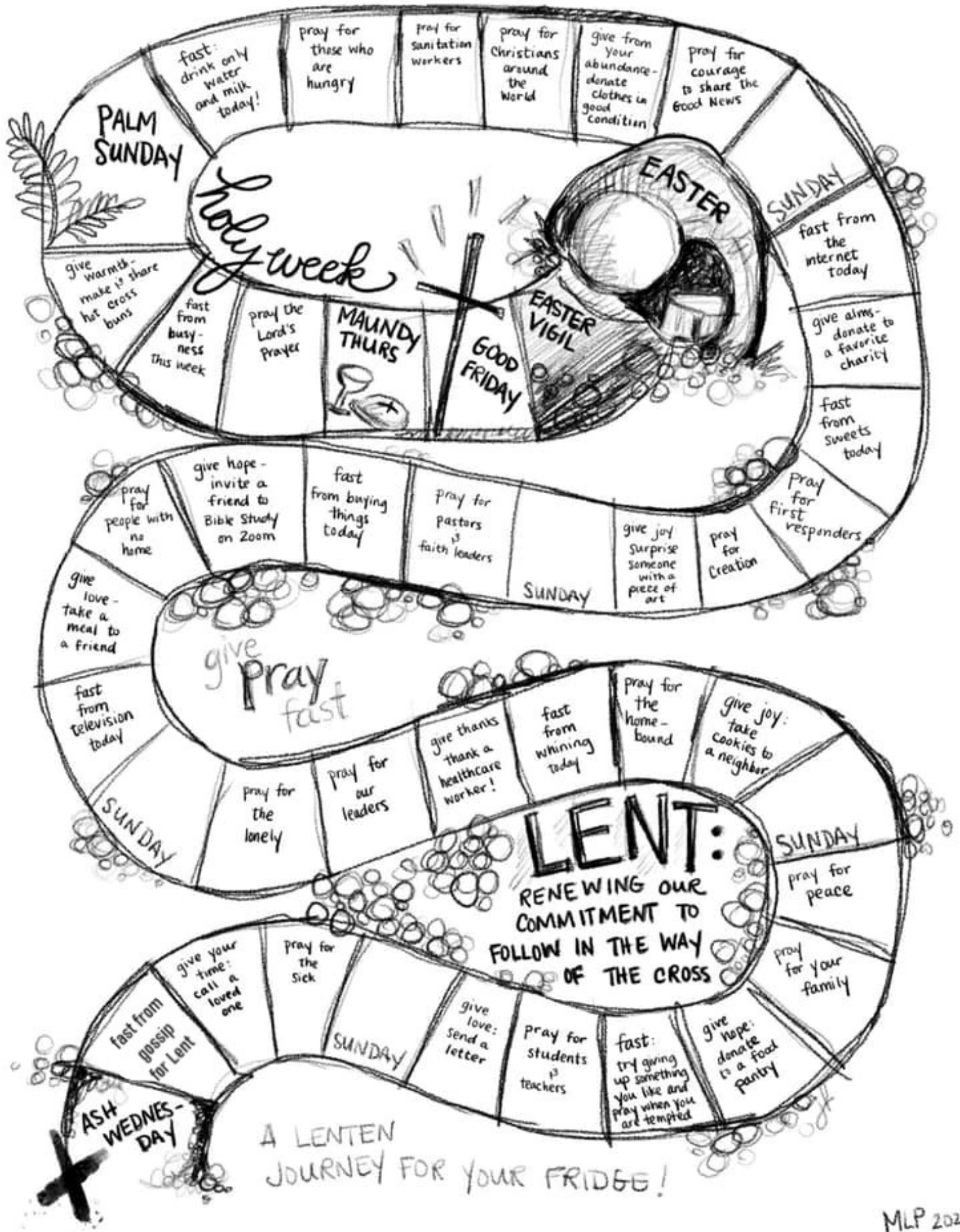
Let the journey begin!

God's Blessings,
Pastor Laura

PS. If you haven't picked up your souvenir bag contact Pastor Laura to make arrangements.

PPS. Before Palm Sunday, be on the alert for "Holy Week in a Bag"!





****All in-person events are currently postponed indefinitely****

Worship will continue Sunday mornings at 9:30am by ZOOM (see email chain or Facebook for the call-in number or the link). Sermons are recorded (usually) and uploaded to LIUMC.net and our FB page.

The building should continue to be used minimally at this time. Please do not use it unless it is brief and necessary; if you need to use it, please sanitize all railing, light switches and door knobs.

OFFERING

The total offering for the month of January was \$16,755.40. Our monthly budget is \$9,078.75. Thank you all for continuing to give what you can in an economically difficult time.

Even though we are not meeting in person, mission and ministry still continue. We invite you to send your tithes to continue the work God is doing through LIUMC to: LIUMC, PO Box 12, Lehman, PA, 18627.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We will be doing a weekly zoom meeting for virtual Sunday school every Sunday for preschool and elementary students starting 1/31 through at least the end of February. We are continuing to try new ways to stay connected and learn as a Sunday School community while we are remote.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Remains virtual via Zoom; starts at 10:45 (following worship); it is the same link used for worship service. Join us!!

OUR DAILY BREAD – Has Arrived. It is in the plastic tote outside the church door (front)

SOUP PICKUP is 2/10 from 4-6 pm. Enter the driveway from lower side, have correct change (\$7.00/qt) or check ready. You can also pick up your **LENT IN A BAG** at this time!

Sunday, February 14th, we will celebrate **LOVE!** Be sure to wear your **festive cruise-wear attire**.

A note about using **ZOOM chat feature**: if you send Pastor Laura a private chat message during worship service, she will not see it. Feel free to send a private chat message to Aimee (Lehman-Idetown UMC-host), she will convey it to Pastor promptly.

Warren Rees, Peggy Sullivan's father, moved on February 4th; below is his new address/phone number if you would like send him a card or give him a call.

H. Warren Rees
Room 407, The Pavilion
1409 Medical Center Dr.
Lebanon, TN 37087
(615) 965 2230

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES will be held via Zoom at 7 pm on 2/17. Details will be provided via email/Facebook. Reminder: No communion on Ash Wednesday.

If you are still in need of your **LENT-IN-A-BAG**, reach out to Aimee or Pastor Laura for pick up times. This goodie bag includes an option for ashes on Ash Wednesday, as well as weekly items to celebrate Lent.

Sending a big **THANK YOU** to our Sunday School Teachers/Helpers. Keeping the children involved and excited during this difficult time has been a challenge, one that each of you have met with Grace, Love and Fun!

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS:

14- Kelly Lyons 16- Lyndsay Cupp 20- Bill Reynolds 22-Alexa Kovaly 26- Kinley Lyons

PLEASE BE PRAYING FOR:

Concerns: Stash Family; Families of: Grover Bryan, Connie Grizzle, Michael Casey, Betty Josuweit, Rev. Anita Ambrose, Dominic Fino, William McGovner, and Gert Fealey; Chris; Michelle; Shickshinny family who lost their house in a fire; Korri and Noel who are having surgery this week; Alice Summa; Victoria Lucas; Kanisha; Damon; Ashley; those who have to be out in the snow.

Ongoing: Korri & Family; Tim Nulton; Travelers; Shut ins and those who are isolated; Peace and understanding; For protection of communities and people of color; An end to systemic racism; Families who've been economically affected; Peace in Turbulent times; + Unspokens

Circle of Prayer: February 7- 13, 2021 - Antes Fort UMC, Antes Fort Grace UMC, Muir Bethel UMC, Dalton Cove Forge UMC, Williamsburg Grays UMC, Port Matilda Mainesburg UMC, Mainesburg *Camp Hill UMC, Camp Hill *Lower Bambara UMC, Panguma - Sierra Leone McVeytown UMC, McVeytown First, Berwick Bethany UMC, York

Please alert our prayer team of new requests: Kendra Cosgrove (570) 675-2024

LETTER FROM UMW - Greetings UMW Friends,

Happy New Year and praying that this letter finds you and your family in good health, body, mind and soul. These are trying times for all of us. But we have the hope of knowing that God is in charge and we will get through this.

Hope this year will bring us back to some normalcy. We will of course not be meeting in person until we are able to open the church.

Since January is always our Pledge Service and we do have a budget to meet, if you would like to make your Pledge please mail to LIUMC UMW PO Box 12, Lehman, PA 18627, attention Dorothy Dawe. Checks payable to UMW, noting in the comments Pledge 2021.

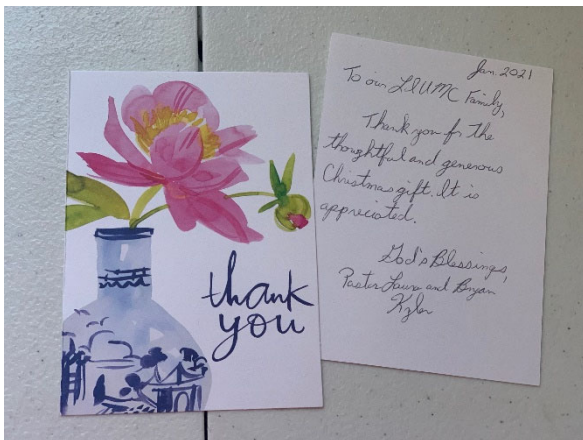
We will not be having our Pastie Sales until further notice, or our Spring Rummage Sale. Hopefully by fall we will be able to hold our Rummage Sale.

I will keep you posted on what will be happening. If you have any questions of ideas please contact me.

Remember God is always with us. Pray for Peace. Stay safe and healthy.

*God Bless you,
Jayne Haefele, 570-814-8263, Jshaefe41@gmail.com*

CONNECT WITH US! - Visit us at LIUMC.net or on our Facebook page (@Lehman.Idetown)



A heartfelt 'Thank You' from Pastor Laura and Bryan for all the beautiful and special Christmas presents and wishes.

