

First Baptist Church

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Ash Wednesday Service

February 14, 2018



AND YOUTH AUCTION

First Baptist Fellowship Hall

Saturday, February 17, 2018

5:00 p.m.

for Donation

The Spaghetti Supper will begin at 5:00 p.m.

Take-out plates will be available.

The Youth Auction will begin at 6:00 p.m.

All proceeds will go to help finance the Belize Mission Trip.

Come on out and join the fun!

Krispy Kreme Doughnut and Coffee Sale

Fundraiser for Belize Mission Trip

Order Form on Church Office Door
Doughnuts \$9.00 per box
Coffee.....\$9.00



Please place your order before Friday, February 16.

Orders will be delivered on Wednesday, February 21.

THANK YOU!

Our Love and Sympathy

to Nancy Jenkins and family at the loss of Nancy's father, John Moore.

Lent

February 14-March 30

Lent is the forty-day-long season of fasting and prayer before Easter. The forty days represent the time Jesus spent in the desert where he endured temptation by Satan. The purpose of Lent is to prepare—through prayer, penitence, and self-denial—for the annual remembrance during Holy Week of the death and resurrection of



Jesus. Lent teaches us that the world cannot be saved painlessly; Jesus gives himself as a sacrifice, and because he does, we give ourselves also.

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent and occurs forty-six days (*forty days not counting Sundays*) before Easter. Ash Wednesday gets its name from the practice of placing ashes on the foreheads of the faithful as a sign of repentance. The ashes are from palms burned from the previous year's Palm Sunday. The pastor uses the ashes to make the sign of the cross upon the foreheads of the congregation while reciting the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return ... repent, and believe the Gospel."

We come to:

- be reminded of our mortality
- renew our promises to God
- consider how we will spend the weeks leading up to Easter
- offer ourselves as a living sacrifice to the God, who, through His son, Jesus, gave himself for us.

My Preparation for Easter

If you feel led to prepare for Easter in a more thoughtful way this year, some suggestions are...

Inward and Personal Disciplines

- ___ Spend time in solitude each day.
- ___ Read a book for inner growth.
- ___ Keep a journal of prayer concerns, questions, reading.
- ___ Focus on thanksgiving, rather than on asking, in prayer.
- ___ Give myself a gift of three hours to do something I always say I don't have time to do.
- ___ Make a list of people with whom I need to be reconciled. Pray for them and let Jesus guide me in my thinking and feeling toward them.
- ___ Take control of my life by _____.
- ___ Go to Holy Week services as an act of love and waiting with Jesus.
- ___ Take time to inventory my priorities and plan how I will reorder them.
- ___ Give up a grudge or a rehearsal of a past event.

Take on some loving task:

- ___ Plan to visit a "shut-in" neighbor or church member.
- ___ Write a letter of affirmation to a person who has touched my life.
- ___ Go to dinner with someone I want to know better.
- ___ Say "NO" to something that is a waste of money and time.
- ___ Pray for help in resisting prejudice and for courage in opposing it.
- ___ Rebuke the tendency to be critical of others.