



This Week at BRPC

February 18, 2021

Building Relationships with People in Christ

Dear Friends,

Some of you have asked for the text of the poem that Jana read so beautifully as our Ash Wednesday call to worship. The poem is called "Blessing the Dust" and is by Jan Richardson, a poet, painter, and Methodist minister. This poem has been a favorite of mine for years, and can be found in her book *Circle of Grace: A Book of Blessings for the Seasons*. The text is, as follows:

"Blessing the Dust: For Ash Wednesday" by Jan Richardson

All those days
you felt like dust,
like dirt,
as if all you had to do
was turn your face
toward the wind
and be scattered
to the four corners
or swept away
by the smallest breath
as insubstantial—

did you not know
what the Holy One
can do with dust?

This is the day
we freely say
we are scorched.

This is the hour
we are marked
by what has made it
through the burning.

This is the moment
we ask for the blessing

that lives within
the ancient ashes,
that makes its home
inside the soil of
this sacred earth.

So let us be marked
not for sorrow.
And let us be marked
not for shame.
Let us be marked
not for false humility
or for thinking
we are less
than we are

but for claiming
what God can do
within the dust,
within the dirt,
within the stuff
of which the world
is made
and the stars that blaze
in our bones
and the galaxies that spiral
inside the smudge
we bear.

This Lenten season, may we all see the miraculous things that the Holy One can do with dust.

Peace,

Pastor Elizabeth



Sermon

“Again & Again, God
Meets Us”

Rev. Elizabeth Meador

Scripture Reading

Mark 1:9-15

Watch online at

www.brpcraytown.org

Sermon videos will be posted on our church website until we are able to gather together in person for worship!

Prayer Concerns

Baby **Ivy Grace**, who continues to show improvement. Her parents are pleased with her progress.

MaryLou Oberlander, who is home and under doctors care.

Christi Neal, for health issues.

Stan Smith, who had to return to the hospital.

Delores Lunceford (Dodie), who is on hospice.

Sharon Wentz, who is battling cancer.

Kerri McCorkle, who is under doctors care and scheduled for additional surgery in early March.

Joyce Chick

Peggy Sinden's friend **Rose Ann**, who passed away from cancer.

Diane J., neighbor to Karen A. who has been diagnosed with breast cancer.

Pvt Christian Weisz, grandson to Carla, who is serving in South Korea.

Mary Lou and Gary's daughter, **Laura** and her husband **Mark**

Carter Willis, grandson to Paul and Donna Vance, who has returned to Afghanistan.

Jean Martin The KR Family Lucy Becka Bruce Odenbaugh Marleen Merrill

Loydine Kranz Amy Banks Margaret and Gordon Neal Sandy Moore

JOY

Sunshine and warmer weather



During Lent, we will be working on a community prayer and art project - more information to come! But we need donations of purple and/or black fabric to make it happen! The fabric will be cut into strips and used outside, so we will need to dispose of them when the project is finished. If you have purple or black fabric - solid or patterned - that you'd like to donate, please let Grace or Pastor Elizabeth know. Thank you!



Deacons and members for braving the weather to help distribute our Lenten Devotionals.

Your continued giving to the Micah Ministry is very much appreciated.

With your help Micah “maintains two well-stocked clothing pantries that are open most Monday evenings. Marsha Elbasani maintains the Children's Clothing Pantry, and Lori Taylor and Jean Mercer organize our Adult Clothing Pantry. Volunteers from “partner” churches sew winter hats, blankets and booties and assemble "health kits" for the pantries. Clothing is dispensed as our guests eat at the table without appointments. It is not uncommon for us to hand out a thousand pantry items on any given Monday.”



Micah also provides free health care through “Care Beyond The Boulevard” provided by doctors, nurses and nurse practitioners.



February 2021

ADULT BIBLE STUDY



Sunday, February 21st

First Sunday in Lent

Online Worship

www.brpcraytown.org

9:30AM— Zoom Bible Study

12:00PM —Zoom Coffee Fellowship

Monday, February 22nd

Tuesday, February 23rd

Wednesday, February 24th

1:00 PM—Book Club

Thursday, February 25th

7:00PM—Session Meeting

Friday, February 26th Office Closed

Saturday, February 27th

Sunday, February 28th

Second Sunday in Lent

www.brpcraytown.org

9:30AM—Zoom Bible Study

12:00PM—Zoom Coffee Fellowship

BRPC Coffee Fellowship (Online): <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/801765302>
Meeting ID: 801 765 302
Passcode: 64133

My first call as a Steven Minister was a life changing experience on my faith journey. I was assigned a 15 year old boy and his family. He faced the following challenge's, all happening in less than two weeks;

1. His girl friend was raped and murdered by two men who were caught and a long trial would ensue where he would be called to testify.
2. He was diagnosed with cancer of the bone in his leg and was given two choices for treatment, amputation, which guaranteed the cancer would not return, or take a chance with a new experimental chemo that would allow him to keep his leg but with no guarantee that the cancer would not return.
3. His father dealing with heart issues said he couldn't deal with all the stress, so he left the family and filed for divorce.

My first thoughts were human emotion. How could I take on this responsibility? What did this young boy do to deserve all this?

I am a brand new believer at this time and was chosen over others who were older and wiser than me. Common sense told me, the Bible says that God is Sovren and will not give me this responsibility unless he guides and directs me how to minister to this family. If he does not respond then he is not God.

Next time, my conversation with God, God's response, and my first meeting with the Boy and his family.

Be with us on Zoom Sunday at 9:30 AM, our study is in Col. 2. May the Lord bless and keep us all well and safe and **warm**. Amen

The Sunday School Teacher.



See FULL church calendar at

www.brpcraytown.org