

40 Days of Renewal

Riverside's Recognition of Lent

Lent is the Christian season of preparation before Easter. In Western Christianity, Ash Wednesday marks the first day of Lent, which begins 40 days prior to Easter. Sundays are not included in the count. This is a time when many Christians make an extra effort to draw to near to God through fasting, repentance, prayer and spiritual discipline.

The Bible gives many examples of God preparing His people for ministry over a 40 day period. Therefore, Riverside is going to have 40 Days of Renewal during the season of Lent. Let's face it! Every Christian can become spiritually lazy. This is going to be a time of sacrificially seeking God as a church family. It will be a spiritual boot camp.

You are asked to participate in these 40 Days of Renewal, so the Riverside family can help each other grow stronger in Christ. Everyone who signs up will be prayed for faithfully throughout the 40 Days! Let Riverside help you discover or rediscover the joy of your faith in Jesus.

Seven Ways to Participate in 40 Days of Renewal

1. Fast on Wednesdays during lunch. Give the money you would have spent on lunch in a special offering for a person or ministry of your choice.
2. Fast everyday except Sunday from something that will be difficult to give up. For instance you can fast from television, sweets, sodas, video games, secular music, meat or anything else that will require sacrifice.
3. Read your Bible Monday through Saturday. A guide is on the back of this page.
4. Pray for 10 minutes a day. You are encouraged to spend this time in focused and uninterrupted prayer. Try getting away from everyone, spending time on your knees or prayer walking.
5. Attend a Connections class and a worship service every Sunday.
6. Bring someone to church on a Sunday during Lent or on Easter Sunday.
7. Register with a Connections class or Pat Pinckard. The church will pray for registrants throughout the 40 Days and will send email reminders to those who submit an email address.

Guide for Bible Reading

- _____ Day 1, Feb. 25, read James 1 and fast for lunch
- _____ Day 2, Feb. 26, read James 2
- _____ Day 3, Feb. 27, read James 3
- _____ Day 4, Feb. 28, read James 4
- _____ Sunday, March 1, Attend to a Connections group and a worship service
- _____ Day 5, March 2, read James 5
- _____ Day 6, March 3, read 1 Peter 1
- _____ Day 7, March 4, read 1 Peter 2 and fast for lunch
- _____ Day 8, March 5, read 1 Peter 3
- _____ Day 9, March 6, read 1 Peter 4
- _____ Day 10, March 7, read 1 Peter 5
- _____ Sunday, March 8, Attend a Connections group and a worship service
- _____ Day 11, March 9, read Psalm 1
- _____ Day 12, March 10, read Psalm 19
- _____ Day 13, March 11, read Psalm 22 and fast for lunch
- _____ Day 14, March 12, read Palm 23
- _____ Day 15, March 13, read Psalm 24
- _____ Day 16, March 14, read Psalm 51
- _____ Sunday, March 15, attend a Connections group and a worship service
- _____ Day 17, March 16, read Psalm 63
- _____ Day 18, March 17, read Psalm 84
- _____ Day 19, March 18, read Psalm 91 and fast for lunch
- _____ Day 20, March 19, read Psalm 103
- _____ Day 21, March 20, read Psalm 127
- _____ Day 22, March 21, read Psalm 150
- _____ Sunday, March 22, attend a Connections group and a worship service
- _____ Day 23, March 23, read Mark 1
- _____ Day 24, March 24, read Mark 2 and fast for lunch
- _____ Day 25, March 25, read Mark 3
- _____ Day 26, March 26, read Mark 4
- _____ Day 27, March 27, read Mark 5
- _____ Day 28, March 28, read Mark 6
- _____ Sunday, March 29, attend a Connections and a worship service
- _____ Day 29, March 30, read Mark 7
- _____ Day 30, March 31, read Mark 8
- _____ Day 31, April 1, read Mark 9 and fast for lunch
- _____ Day 32, April 2, read Mark 10
- _____ Day 33, April 3, read Mark 11
- _____ Day 34, April 4, read Mark 12
- _____ Sunday, April 5, attend a Connections group and a worship service
- _____ Day 35, April 6, read Mark 13
- _____ Day 36, April 7, read Mark 14
- _____ Day 37, April 8, read Mark 15 and fast for lunch
- _____ Day 38, April 9, read Mark 16
- _____ Day 39, April 10, read 1 Corinthians 13
- _____ Day 40, April 11, read 1 Corinthians 15
- _____ Easter Sunday, April 12, attend a Connections group and a worship service