
Subject: Who needs Mardi Gras?

From: Shannon Wall (revwall@gmail.com)

To: revwall@gmail.com;

Date: Thursday, February 16, 2012 4:05 PM

Dear Church Family:

Lent begins next week on Ash Wednesday...but first, join your church family this Sunday for worship (some old favorite hymns are promised), and then--on Tuesday--pancakes! New Orleans may have Mardi Gras, but that's nothing compared to the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper in South Britain.

I used to feel that we were supposed to feel bad during Lent, but I've revised my thinking. While we may use Lent as a time for deeper reflection and spiritual practices, it can also be a time of joy and gratitude. There's nothing wrong with that, any day of the year, in my book.

Along those lines, here is poem by J. Barrie Shepherd:

Ash Wednesday

Why not

Affirm yourself this Lent?

Be kind and gentle to your you.

Go walking, learn to breathe, read a book.

Know bread and wine and flesh.

Love yourself

Enough to give it

As a gift of love to life,

Or death.

Share hope with one who mourns,
Grief with one who laughs,
And rediscover all the yous
You left behind in getting to this place
From which, with ashes on your head, you go
In search of Easter.

Happy Lent,

Shannon

And Here at SBCC...

Worship:

This Sunday, February 19: Adult Choir, 9:00 a.m.; Worship, 10:00 a.m.; Children's Activity (no Sunday School); healing prayers in the church after the service for any who would like a special prayer.

Wednesday, February 22: Ash Wednesday Service with communion and ashes; joint service with the UCC Southbury and Roxbury Congregational Church here at SBCC, 7:00 p.m.

Eat:

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper: February 21, 4:30–7:00. On the menu: Pancakes (blueberry and plain), hash, sausage, applesauce, ice cream, coffee and tea. Tickets may be purchased at the door: \$8.00 for adults, \$6.00 for children. Youth age, 12 and older are needed to help serve starting at 4:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Laura McEvoy: sbcc_ce@yahoo.com.

Lenten Lunch Series: Our Lenten series this year will be offered on Tuesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. As in the past, we will share a soup meal with the UCC church in Southbury and the Roxbury Congregational Church. (This will

take the place of Bible Study through March 27). No sign-up—just show up!

- February 28, UCC Southbury
- March 6, Roxbury Congregational
- March 13, here at SBCC
- March 20, UCC Southbury
- March 27, Roxbury Congregational

Give:

Gently used books for readers ages 5–10: Sunday School students will be participating in a book drive for children served by the Department of Children and Families. Donations may be deposited in the boxes, beautifully decorated by our students, located in the Gathering Room.

Toiletries: The Women's Fellowship would very much appreciate donations of toiletries for the Easter "goodie bags" that we will make to be given to residents at the White Oak Rest Home. Give donations to Margie Nichols, please.

Other things:

Letters of contributions used for tax purposes and new church envelopes are available on the piano in the Gathering Room.

Interested in joining the church? We will be welcoming new members soon. Please speak with Rev. Wall or any of our Deacons.

THIS WEEK

Tuesday, February 21: Knit Wits, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; Bible Study, 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.; Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, 4:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 22: Ash Wednesday Service, 7:00 p.m.

NEXT WEEK

Sunday, February 26: Adult Choir, 9:00 a.m.; Worship 10:00 a.m.; Bells, 11:15 a.m.

Tuesday, February 28: Knit-Wits, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; Lenten Lunch Series begins, UCC, Southbury, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (no Bible Study)

Wednesday, February 29 (leap day!): Church Council, 7:00 p.m. (note date change)

Thursday, March 1: The Women's Fellowship will resume their monthly meetings on at 10:30 a.m. Please join us for a presentation given by Joyce Hornbecker on "Connecticut Firsts."; Property Committee, 7:00 p.m.

Rev. Shannon Rye Wall

South Britain Congregational Church

203-264-5890

845-505-3003 (cell)