

Dear Families:

Today we continued to observe the season of Lent. Lent is a time for preparation, but it's not a joyous anticipation like Advent is. Lent is a time to repent, reflect and improve on our Christianity. To do this, we will be working together with the congregation to develop spiritual disciplines until the joyous day of Easter.

We have discussed and practiced the spiritual disciplines of fasting and prayer. This week, we are practicing the discipline of listening to God. God wants a relationship with us, and part of that is having conversations. Through prayer, we talk to God. However, all good conversations involve not only talking, but listening to what the other party has to say.

We studied listening to God by reading about the Good Shepherd. Sheep listen to their shepherd; they know his voice and follow his commands. Likewise, we must listen to God's directions if we want to live and prosper. Thankfully, God gives us a whole book full of His words, guidance and direction. We can listen to God by reading and studying the Bible. But sometimes, it's not always that easy. Today's loud and distracting world can compete with God's voice for our time and attention. This week, practice studying the Word. Also, make sure you clear some quiet time to listen and reflect on what God is saying. Turn off the world for awhile each day and focus on God's end of the conversation.

Every time you listen to God during this week, place a chip into your cup. Return the cup with the chips that you collected to church next week, and add them to our collection container. The purpose of this is NOT to proclaim our deeds to others, but to show the youngest members of our congregation how much GOOD can be accomplished by a small but mighty community of faith. We hope you can participate with us!

Thanks for joining us today!
Carol McClellan
CE Director