

Colleagues,

At the Senior Pastors Retreat, there was conversation about collaboration on The Big Read & Lent. I suggested that I'd like more sharing of ideas with ministry suggestions like this, so offer this note as part of that.

At BLC the idea of The Big Read hasn't really caught on, but we did have a good experience with ***Fearless*** last year for Lent. We sold quite a few books and had a handful of small groups that met. We also had our sermons dovetail with the Lucado resource.

For this year, we'll be having some small group opportunities using Lose's ***Making Sense of the Cross***. Our Lent series title is:

Cross + Life
living in the light of the cross

We'll develop a sermon/worship series around this. Later this week our pastoral team will be meeting to advance that work (which likely will diverge from the lectionary). Our WELCA has a tradition of Ladies Lenten Luncheons, and the speakers will focus upon this.

Given our routine of year-round Wednesday worship, we don't have a strong routine of an additional midweek Lent series. However we do add two Wednesday worship opportunities. So we'll have a weekend sermon and a different Wednesday sermon for each week of Lent.

One of the challenges we have is what to do musically & liturgically for our Wednesday evening contemporary service during Lent.

It would be very helpful to share resources for what you are using (and have used in the past?) for Lent worship in your contemporary services.

Thanks for the sharing of wisdom...

Grace & Peace,

Jeff Whillock

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Connecting with God, one another, and our mission in the world.