



## Sermon Series: *The Original Tortured Poets*

Lent is a time to evaluate our faithfulness, our love, and our commitment to the God who saves. The Prophets of Israel and Judah show us a dogged loyalty to God in the midst of political, social, and religious unrest and disunity. They speak God's judgment when all is well. They declare God's hope when all is lost. Their hearts are uniquely tuned to the eternal song of God, which is the power poets possess in every time. They speak, and we do well to listen. So long before Taylor Swift's, "The Tortured Poets Department," there were Amos, Isaiah, Micah, Jeremiah and others living out their identity as the tortured poets speaking for God.

### March 5—Ash Wednesday

#### March 9—*False God*

Amos 7:10-15 & Amos 5:14-24

#### March 16—*High Infidelity*

2 Kings 20:12-19 & Isaiah 2:6-17

#### March 23—*Hoax*

Micah 1:1-5 & Micah 6:6-16

### March 30—*Exile*

1 Kings 2:26-27 & Jeremiah 20:7-13

#### April 6—*Holy Ground*

Psalms 126 & Jeremiah 30:7-14

### April 13—*Palm Sunday—Love Story*

Lamentations & Luke 19:28-40

### April 20—*Easter—Wildest Dreams*

Ezekiel & Luke 24:1-12

## Ash Wednesday & Wednesday Morning Communion Services

### March 5—Ash Wednesday

Join us for a Fellowship Dinner at 5:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall followed by our Ash Wednesday worship service at 6:30 PM in the Sanctuary. There will be the imposition of ashes as we remember that we are "dust, and to dust you shall return" and look to Jesus Christ as our Savior. The Sanctuary Choir will feature special music at this service.

### Wednesday Morning Communion in Lent (March 12-April 9)

Join us in the Chapel during the Lenten season each Wednesday morning at 7:00 AM for a time of reflection, scripture, music, and eucharist. As we walk with Jesus to Jerusalem and his cross, we prepare ourselves by coming to him to receive life in the bread and in the cup. You are then invited to stay after the thirty-minute service for a time of fellowship and shared breakfast and coffee. Eucharist, Word, Community.

### Lenten Devotional—We've gone digital!

This year in an effort to save paper and money, the Lenten Devotional will be available only in a digital format. Each day during Lent, except Sundays, the daily Lenten Devotional will arrive in your email inbox and be available on our Facebook page, [facebook.com/rcpres](https://www.facebook.com/rcpres). To receive the devotional by email please scan the QR code below or click the link in the This Week @ RCPC.



The Chancel and Floral Guilds spent part of a Saturday polishing all of the silver in the church!



# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

## Sunday School—March Classes

### The Seekers—Room 201

#### Lenten and Easter Study – Meeting Jesus at the Table

by Cynthia M. Campbell & Christine Coy Fohr (March 9-May 4)

The Gospels are full of stories of Jesus sharing meals with disciples, friends, even tax collectors and Pharisees. Whether multiplying bread to feed a whole crowd, relaxing with his inner circle, or telling curious elites stories about even greater banquets, Jesus imparts wisdom as he shares the wine and grants forgiveness as he distributes the fish. This eight-chapter resource provides biblical insights along with thought-provoking queries regarding our own time, such as whom should we invite to Sunday dinner and who is left out and left behind in our culture today.

Illustrations by artist Kevin Burns complement each chapter and invite further meditation on the Gospel story and its meaning for our lives. Each chapter includes questions for small group discussion or personal reflection. A guide for church leaders offers suggestions for preaching this book as a sermon series and incorporating food-related outreach and hospitality efforts.

### Parents as a Verb—Room 102

#### Good Inside by Dr. Becky Kennedy (March 9-May 4)

“This book is for any parent who has ever struggled under the substantial weight of caregiving—which is to say, all of us. *Good Inside* is not only a wise and practical guide to raising resilient, emotionally healthy kids, it’s also a supportive resource for overwhelmed parents who need more compassion and less stress. Dr. Becky is the smart, thoughtful, in-the-trenches parenting expert we’ve been waiting for!”—Eve Rodsky, New York Times bestselling author of *Fair Play* and *Find Your Unicorn Space*.

Dr. Becky Kennedy, wildly popular parenting expert and creator of @drbeckyatgoodinside, shares her groundbreaking approach to raising kids and offers practical strategies for parenting in a way that feels good.

All parents, come join us as we connect our faith to the topics Dr. Becky presents in her book. Including sibling rivalry, separation anxiety, tantrums, and more.

### Tortured Poets Lenten Poetry Study—Room 101—Led by Leigh Sackett

Journey with us in word and rhythm through the Lenten season. We will study the poets crying out as they name their experience and struggles, so that we too can name ours as we write our own poetry for this time of repentance, reflection, renewal, and finally rejoicing!

### Exploring Christian Theology—Room 101—Led by Mike Lockaby

As we continue our exploration of the history of how Christians think and talk about God, we’ll be looking at the way we talk about God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit throughout the winter/spring semester.

MARCH 5, 12, 19 & 26 | 12 PM | FELLOWSHIP HALL

Second Presbyterian Church | 214 Mountain Ave SW | Roanoke, VA 24016

## *What Are THEY Doing Here?*

Some books in the Bible are about a specific person. What makes these stories so compelling is that they often center on individuals who live on the margins—people whose lives seem insignificant in the eyes of the powerful, yet matter deeply to God. These are the stories of God’s powerful work among the powerless.

During the noon hour on March Wednesdays, *The Bible in Black & White* class will explore four of these narratives, seeking to understand what God sees in these individuals—and in all of us. Drs. Bill Lee and George Anderson, along with ministers from other sponsoring churches, will guide the discussion.

**Schedule:** Mar. 5: Ruth, Mar. 12: Esther, Mar. 19: Daniel, Mar. 26: Philemon.

**Learn more:** [www.spres.org/the-bible-in-black-and-white](http://www.spres.org/the-bible-in-black-and-white)



THE  
BIBLE IN  
BLACK  
&  
WHITE



# MUSIC MINISTRY

 **THE CONCORDIA CHOIR**  
**MARCH 3**  
**7:00 PM**



RALEIGH COURT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
1001 N. W. 10TH AVE. MOORHEAD, MN 56570

**The Concordia Choir**  
**Monday, March 3**  
**7:00 PM—Sanctuary**

Since 1920, the 70-voice choir Concordia Choir of Moorhead, Minnesota has performed in nearly every major hall, including Carnegie Hall and Kennedy Center, as well as numerous international venues, including St. Peter's Basilica. Under the direction of Dr. Michael Culloton, the choir continues to affirm its reputation as one of America's finest a cappella choirs. 2025's National Tour of the Southeast United States includes Roanoke, Virginia. To purchase tickets, visit [ConcordiaTickets.com](http://ConcordiaTickets.com).

 **ORGAN CONCERT:**  
**BACH AND**  
**THE CROSS**  
**MARCH 27**  
**7:00 PM**



RALEIGH COURT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
1001 N. W. 10TH AVE. MOORHEAD, MN 56570

**Organ Concert: Bach & the Cross**  
**Thursday, March 27**  
**7:00 PM—Sanctuary**

Music of the Baroque (1600-1750) is known for its use of rhetorical musical figures, figures used to express the mood (affect) or text of a piece. These are used to bring the listener into deeper understanding and conversation with the music. This recital program will explore the musical figure of the cross with the various moods and styles of organ music by J. S. Bach. Program repertoire includes the Lenten chorales of the Orgelbüchlein and Various Chorale-Preludes, the Fantasia and Fugue in G minor and more. This recital is offered in commemoration of the 340th birthday and 275th death anniversary of the composer. The concert is presented by Director of Music Ministries, Dillon J. Swanson.

# YOUTH & CHILDREN MINISTRIES

## Youth Spring Lock-In



Youth are invited to our Youth Spring Lock-In on Friday, March 7 from 7:00 PM—7:00 AM. All participants need to RSVP by March 3 and fill out a waiver for the Landing Pad. Scan the QR code to register.



Grandparents, Grandfriends, and Grandkids gathered for Winter VBS. We shared stories of our lives and faith, we played together, and we thanked God for family members of all ages and generations that show us God at work in our lives. Thank you Grandparents for being with us on Saturday and for the wonderful ways you love us!!



Thank you so much to everyone who helped support our Youth's Chili Luncheon Fundraiser! Thanks to you we raised \$2,847 towards the Youth summer trips!

# FELLOWSHIP & MISSION

## March Birthdays

3 Fred Hoffman	Susan Lindstrom
Rachel Miles Kennedy	Keith McCurdy
Angela Layman	19 David Burtis
4 Dan Carson, Jr.	Helen Hertz
Sophia Danyi	20 Jo Thomason
Barbara Lashley	Hugh Wellons
6 Cathy Crawley	21 Cormany Beckett
Wade Whitehead	23 Nora Chapman
7 Anne Moore	Morgan Davis
8 Andrew Kessler	Emily Jarrett
James Mallory	Zachary Swanner
10 Claire Haynie	25 James Rule, Jr.
Stu Stephenson	26 Elizabeth Chapman
11 Erica Bowes	Debbie Miller
12 Joe Austin	27 Kaitlin Swanner
Leigh Ann Hamlin	Leslie Weaver
13 Nancy Favor	29 Esther Mufi
James Kennedy	30 Tom Mason
14 Leigh Sackett	Cindy Schaefer
15 Hazel Skinner	31 Charles Favor
Nancy Trussell	Jeanne Fishwick
16 Marsha Ellison	John Fishwick
Amy Thisdell	Ellie Henriksen
17 Tom Cundiff	Lena Joy Kessler
Mark Currie	Dane McLamb
Louise Morris	Lucy Naff
Sylvia Mutcheson	
Jack Whitehead	
18 Dick Kepley	
Carson Kessler	

### Special Birthday Wishes:

Jo Thomason on celebrating her 97th birthday on March 20.  
Debbie Miller on celebrating her 92nd birthday on March 26.

## Fellowship Dinners Wednesdays at 6:15 PM

Meals are a suggested donation of \$8 per person and free for age 3 and younger, with a max suggested donation of \$25 for a family. Please register by noon the Tuesday before each meal either online at [rcpres.org/dinner](http://rcpres.org/dinner), the sign-up sheet in the Gathering Area, or by calling the church office, 540-343-5541 x 106 and leaving Julie Satterwhite a message. In our efforts to become an Earth Care Church, the Fellowship Committee asks you to please bring your own container if you would like a takeout meal on Wednesday nights. We thank you for your help with this.

### March Menus

**3/5 (5:30 PM)**—Pot Roast, Potatoes & Carrots, Country Green Beans, Homemade Bread, Ice Cream Bar, Roasted Carrots & Onions  
**3/12**—Beef Stew, Salad Bar, Homemade Bread, Apple Dump Cake, Super Green Soup  
**3/19**—BBQ Drumsticks, Mac & Cheese, Collard Greens, Homemade Bread, Cupcakes, BBQ Veggie Entree

## Young Adults Gathering

**Blue Ridge Axe Throwing & Dinner**  
Friday, March 7 at 6:00 PM

## Book Group

Nancy Ayling's monthly book group will meet on the following days in room 201 at 10:30  
March 12, April 9, and May 14  
For book information or more details contact Nancy at [ayling42@verizon.net](mailto:ayling42@verizon.net)

## Justice, Equity, & Belonging

Have you ever wondered what all the fuss about race in America is about? At RCPC, The Church of the Open Door, we are loving and welcoming, so we're good right?

The Justice, Equity and Belonging group has been meeting for the last several years discerning God's call for our mission group. Our mission is: To actively respond to God's call for social justice and to advance racial equity within RCPC and beyond.

To further our efforts here at Raleigh Court, the Justice, Equity and Belonging mission group will be sponsoring a book study led by David Dixon. We will be reading the book "*Waking Up White*" by Debby Irving. This book approaches race without blame or shame, but rather from a curious perspective and follows Ms. Irving's self-discovery in her understanding of race in her own family and the culture in which she was reared.

We hope you will plan to join us for this 7-week study on Monday nights beginning on March 3 at 6:00 PM. At the first meeting we will ask folks if a later start time might work better for the remainder of our study. Anyone wishing to join us should pick up a book at the library or your favorite source for buying books.

If you have any questions, please contact any of the following:

David Dixon ([dixonnd50@gmail.com](mailto:dixonnd50@gmail.com)),  
Maureen Guelzow ([nanaguelzow@gmail.com](mailto:nanaguelzow@gmail.com)),  
Mark Derbyshire ([samd123@vt.edu](mailto:samd123@vt.edu)).

# FELLOWSHIP & MISSION

## March Mission Partner: Rescue Mission



The Rescue Mission seeks to support the most vulnerable in Roanoke. The Rescue Mission provides overnight shelter, 600 meals a day, and runs the Fralin Free Clinic to support those who are homeless. The Rescue Mission also helps people remain in their own housing through the Manna Food Pantry and the clothing voucher program. Money collected this month during the loose plate offering will go to support the many ministries of the Mission.

If you are interested there are a number of volunteer opportunities at the Mission. See below or check out their website at [rescuemission.net/volunteer](http://rescuemission.net/volunteer) for more opportunities.

- **RAM House Drivers**—Love to drive? We need transport drivers for shuttling our guests to and from the Rescue Mission. Drivers are needed each day of the week from 7:45 AM–9:30 AM and 2:45 PM–4:30 PM.
- **Serve in the Kitchen**—As a volunteer you will have the opportunity to share not only a hot meal with our shelter and community guests but engage with encouraging words and a friendly smile. Volunteers are needed to serve breakfast, lunch, and dinner 365 days a year. *You must be 14 years old or older.*
- **Manna Food Pantry**—Manna is a weekly grocery box distribution program serving families in the Roanoke region. Volunteers are needed Wednesdays and Thursdays from 12:45 PM–3:30 PM. Great opportunity for groups! For ages 10-15, you must come with adult supervision; 16 years or older, adult supervision is not required.
- **2nd Helpings Stores and the Donation Center**—Did you know the Rescue Mission operates two retail stores that are solely based on donations? All donations of clothing and goods are filtered through our Donation Center. Volunteers are needed to help sort through donations and assist on the sales floor.

## Presbyterian Women Event

Saturday, March 29: Walk, Talk, & Taste at Mill Mountain Gardens

More details will be provided closer to the event date. If you have questions please reach out to Dawn Long at [bdlijlong@cox.net](mailto:bdlijlong@cox.net)

Save the Date for future events:

April 26—Paint and Praise (Time TBA)

May 25—Taste, Talk, & Walk: Lunch at Wasena Tap and Grill followed by a walk on the Greenway

## Building Supervisor

We celebrate the news of our building supervisor Linda Marshall's announced retirement, but we will sorely miss her. We need to start looking for her replacement. The building supervisor is responsible for all physical upkeep of the church, including but not limited to the cleaning, HVAC, plumbing, painting, electrical, carpentry, event set up, church grounds and general maintenance. It is a full-time position with a competitive salary and comes with individual health care benefits.

If you know of someone who will lovingly care for our building as Linda has, please refer them to our hiring team of Matt Arnold, Brad Kennedy, Linda, Andrew, Henry Schaefer or pass the name to Julie Satterwhite.

## Love Thy Neighbor Walk

Saturday, April 5, 2025

10:00AM—Noon (Registration 9:30)

Host Church: Raleigh Court Presbyterian

Are you looking for opportunities to foster peace and love in our world? The 4th annual Love Thy Neighbor Walk will be a walk of unity to spread the message of God's love for all people and to encourage the personal expression of love in our community and world. The walk is all-inclusive; therefore, friends, neighbors, young/old/ in-between, and strangers, are invited!

The walk is sponsored by Church Women United, a diverse group of women representing 35 congregations, nine denominations, and four racial/ethnic groups in the Roanoke Valley. You will learn the mission of four churches along Grandin Rd. and their specific outreach to our community.

Men are encouraged to join the march! Please mark your calendars and spread the message of God's love. Become the warm welcome as Raleigh Court Presbyterian Church opens its doors to people throughout the Roanoke Valley to form a Beloved Community.

Questions: Maureen Guelzow, 540-529-5347

## March 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>2</b> 9am—Worship: Chapel 10am—Sunday School 10:40am—Confirmation Class to Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church 11am—Worship: Sanctuary 12pm—Discover RCPC 2pm—Opera Chorus Rehearsal 5pm—Youth Choir 6pm—Youth Group	<b>3</b> 10am—Monday Morning Prayer Group 12:30pm—Small Group: Whaley 6pm—Waking up White Book Study 7pm—Concordia Choir Concert	<b>4</b> 9am—Staff Meeting 9:30am—PW Coordinating Team 4pm—Small Group: Dixon 6:30pm—Genesis Ringers 7:30pm—Raleigh Court Ringers 7:30pm—Small Group: Biddle	<b>5</b> 4pm—God Alive 5:30pm—Fellowship Dinner 6:30pm—Ash Wednesday Service 7:30pm—Confirmation Class 7:30pm—Sanctuary Choir	<b>6</b> 9am—Hunger Mission Packing 10:30am—Small Group: Hansard 7pm—RCNA Board Meeting	<b>7</b> 6pm—Young Adult: Blue Ridge Axe Throwing & Dinner <div style="background-color: #ADD8E6; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Youth Lock In</div>	<b>8</b>
<b>9 LENT</b> 9am—Worship: Chapel 10am—Sunday School 11am—Worship: Sanctuary 12pm—Discover RCPC 12:15pm—Earth Care 12:15pm—Youth Reps 12:15pm—Baptism Reception 12:30pm—Youth Choir	<b>10</b> 10am—Monday Morning Prayer Group 12:30pm—Small Group: Whaley 5pm—Fellowship Committee 6pm—Waking Up White Book Study 6pm—Joint Session & Deacons Meeting	<b>11</b> 9am—Staff Meeting 10:15am—Presbyterian Women 4pm—Small Group: Dixon 5:30pm—Officer Nominating Committee 6:30pm—Genesis Ringers 7pm—Youth Committee 7:30pm—Raleigh Court Ringers 7:30pm—Small Group: Biddle	<b>12</b> 7am—Lent Communion Service 4pm—God Alive: 4th & 5th Graders Clean Mill Mountain 5pm—Hospitality Committee 6:15pm—Fellowship Dinner 7pm—Presbyterian Women Evening Circle 7pm—Small Group: Sackett 7pm—Sanctuary Choir	<b>13</b> 9am—Hunger Mission Packing 10:30am—Small Group: Hansard 5:30pm—Justice, Equity, & Belonging	<b>14</b> 2pm—Funeral: Harriet Vance <div style="background-color: #C8E6C9; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Congregational Retreat: March 14-16</div>	<b>15</b>

## March 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>16 LENT</b> 9am—Worship: Chapel 10am—Sunday School & Commission to meet with New Members 11am—Worship: Sanctuary 5pm—Youth Choir 6pm—Youth Group	<b>17</b> 10am—Monday Morning Prayer Group 12:30pm—Small Group: Whaley 4:30pm—Personnel & Administration 5:30pm—Stewardship & Finance 6pm—Waking up White Book Study	<b>18</b> 9am—Staff Meeting 1:15pm—Worship & Music 4pm—Small Group: Dixon 5:30pm—Endowment Board 6:30pm—Genesis Ringers 7:30pm—Raleigh Court Ringers 7:30pm—Small Group: Biddle	<b>19</b> 7am—Lent Communion Service 3:30 PM—Preschool Committee 4pm—God Alive 6:15pm—Fellowship Dinner 7pm—Small Group: Sackett 7pm—Confirmation Class 7pm—Sanctuary Choir	<b>20</b> 9am—Hunger Mission Packing 10:30am—Small Group: Hansard	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Junior League's Blood Drive
<b>23 LENT</b> 9am—Worship: Chapel 10am—Sunday School 11am—Worship: Sanctuary & New Member Welcome	<b>24</b> 10am—Monday Morning Prayer Group 6pm—Waking Up White Book Study	<b>25</b> 4pm—Small Group: Dixon 5:30pm—Officer Nominating Committee	<b>26</b> 7am—Lent Communion Service 7pm—Sanctuary Choir	<b>27</b> 10:30am—Small Group: Hansard 7pm—Organ Concert	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 11am—PW Event: Walk, Talk, Taste at Mill Mountain

### WEEKLY SCHEDULE FOR GROUPS

Monday-Friday	Preschool	9:00 AM—12:00 PM
Monday	Centering Prayer	10:00 AM at St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church
Monday	Cub Scouts	6:30 PM
Monday	BSA Troop 2	7:00 PM
Monday	Roanoke Valley Choral Society	7:00 PM
Tuesday & Thursday	AA: Primary Purpose	10:30 AM
Tuesday	AA: Seeds of Hope	5:30 PM
Tuesday & Thursday	Tai Chi	5:30 PM
Thursday	Hip Sober Chicks	6:30 PM
Thursday	Opera Chorus	7:00 PM
Friday	Al-Anon	11:45 AM



Raleigh Court Presbyterian Church  
1837 Grandin Road SW  
Roanoke, VA 24015  
Change Service Requested

The Raleigh Court Herald is a monthly publication of  
Raleigh Court Presbyterian Church  
1837 Grandin Rd. Roanoke VA 24015  
540 343-5541

## Weekly Worship Schedule

Sunday Worship Services:  
9:00 AM—Chapel, Nursery Available  
10:00 AM—Sunday School  
11:00 AM—Sanctuary, Nursery Available, Livestream (Facebook & YouTube)

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The Rev. Andrew C. Whaley	Pastor and Head of Staff
The Rev. Isabella Fagiani	Associate Pastor
Leigh Sackett	Director of Christian Education
The Rev David Dixon, MD	Minister of Care
Dillon J. Swanson	Director of Music Ministries
Betsy Prillaman	Preschool Director

### Connect with RCPC Online

[rcpres.org](http://rcpres.org)

[Facebook.com/rcpres](https://www.facebook.com/rcpres)

[Instagram.com/rcpcroanoke](https://www.instagram.com/rcpcroanoke)

[youtube.com/rcpres](https://www.youtube.com/rcpres)

Each Sunday's Sermon is available on the  
RCPC Podcast. Scan the QR Code to Listen Today!

