

February 2015

Issue 61

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A Time for Everything

Ecclesiastes 3 1:8 New Living Translation (NLT)

For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven.

- A time to be born and a time to die.
- A time to plant and a time to harvest.
- A time to kill and a time to heal.
- A time to tear down and a time to build up.
- A time to cry and a time to laugh.
- A time to grieve and a time to dance.
- A time to scatter stones and a time to gather stones.
- A time to embrace and a time to turn away.
- A time to search and a time to quit searching.
- A time to keep and a time to throw away.
- A time to tear and a time to mend.
- A time to be quiet and a time to speak.
- A time to love and a time to hate.
- A time for war and a time for peace.

January brought a new season in my life when I heard my eye doctor telling me you have Presbyopia, which is the fancy way to say; your eyes are getting old. Glasses were prescribed, but not just any glasses..... Bifocal ones! Me, wearing glasses everyday now?! For everything there is a season indeed and for me this year is the season of glasses and learning how to do pretty much everything without getting dizzy.

Life is full of seasons, we can recognize them and enjoy them (or suffer them) one at a time. But most of the time seasons are mixed together, and can be overwhelming to say the least.

Also in January we received the news that two former pastors of Saint Andrew's have joined the church triumphal. The passing of Rev. Kermit Morrison and Rev. Rachel Ye Kim have made an impact in our congregation, many of you have share with me memories of your time with these pastors and how they impacted your faith. Pastor Kerm was described as a giant who did not hesitate to help all who need it and dream big as he led the church. Pastor Rachel a very gentle soul guided and encouraged many during her short time.

We keep their memories alive as we continue to share the stories and remember their legacies, we pray for their families and their grieving and most of all we give thanks to God for the crossing of our paths.

It has been seven months since the beginning of my appointment with you and in this time we have had times of getting to know each other, times for celebrations, times for building, remodeling and moving things around. Times to reorganize, times to love one another, we have laughed and we have cried together ... and all of this in a short couple of months all together, all mixed, and with all the seasons and the changes we continue to listen for God's vision and guidance.

Now we are in the beginning of a new season, Lent. A season of repentance, a season of self-reflection but most important a time to grow closer in our relationship with God. Lent begins on February 18 with Ash Wednesday and goes on for forty days until the Saturday before Easter without counting Sundays, as Sundays are days of celebration in anticipation of Jesus' Resurrection. Lent is a journey of faith that we are invited to take together as a community. We can encourage one another; learn from one another through this season. We can explore different spiritual practices together, some "give up" something during this time, in order to get closer to God. Others "take on" something in order to get closer to God. This is a good time to join our Bible Studies on Thursday. It is a great time to increase your prayer life, if you haven't been in church in a while this is time to come back! Lent is a season to remember who we are as children of God and sit at the feet of our Master as his true disciples.

During Lent we will have many opportunities for worship and prayer, I invite you to take advantage of these opportunities and join in the celebration. My prayer is that you receive new blessings on this season of Lent so that you can be the hands and feet of Christ on earth.

In His precious name,

Ximena Varas, Pastor



We serve God by serving others; here is what you can do:



Souper Bowl February 1st, Souper Bowl of Caring, we will be taking a free will offering that will go to a food pantry in the area.



Food Pantry Collection

Non perishable items are collected during the month. Every first Sunday of each month all the collected food items will be taken and delivered to the Branford Food Pantry.



Nicaragua Trip

In June Ximenita Varas will join the district team traveling to Nicaragua to engage in different mission projects. The team will be fundraising to offset the cost of this mission. **February 17**, there will be a fundraiser at Westbrook Lobster House 300 Church Street, Yalesville, CT 06492 from 4:00pm to closing, mention the Nicaragua trip and 15% of your bill will be donated for this mission. You can talk to Ximenita if you have any question or to find out other ways to help (donations always work!)



Connectional giving

All of us giving together — allow United Methodists to do together what we cannot do alone. We join in with United Methodists around the world in 6 special collections through the year. The money collected goes 100% to a specific mission, next special collection in on **March 15**, One Great hour of Sharing.

Pastor's Discretionary fund

Every first Sunday you can donate to the pastor's Discretionary fund, this money is used by the pastor to help with immediate needs in the community.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of the Reverend Kermit B. Morrison, who died at the Mary Wade Home in New Haven, CT on January 2, 2015 at the age of 86. Pastor Kerm served Saint Andrew's from July 1998 to July 2007.



Let Us Remember...



Let us remember the Reverend Kermit B. Morrison, who died at the Mary Wade Home in New Haven, CT on January 2, 2015 at the age of 86. Rev. Morrison served The United Methodist Church for more than half a century; the majority of that time was served in the NY Conference.

Kermit Blancher Morrison was born on Jan 17, 1928, in St.

Johnsbury, VT. He was raised in Springfield, VT in a large and loving family that included three sisters, a brother and grandparents. He was a fine student and a star athlete.

He attended DePauw University in Greencastle, IN, where he majored in philosophy, lettered in football and was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity. He graduated in 1951 with a Bachelor of Arts degree, and was also the recipient of the Walker Cup, presented annually to the member of the senior class who had contributed the most to the University community during his or her four years on campus. He then attended Yale University Divinity School, earning his Bachelor of Divinity in 1955; he returned to Yale and earned his Master of Sacred Theology in 1970.

During his career as a pastor, Kerm served churches in New England and beyond, including the American Protestant Church in Brussels, Belgium; the North Thetford and Post Mills churches in Vermont; Hicksville (1967-1968); Seymour, CT: Great Hill/Oxford (1968-1980); Hartford: First-St. Paul's (1980-1993); North Haven: Faith (1993-1998), and, after his retirement in 1998, Kerm served at New Haven: St. Andrews (1998-2007). While serving at Great Hill/Oxford, he was also an instructor, and later an assistant professor, at Post Jr. College in Waterbury CT (1974-1980).

Kerm was always an active leader and his ministry extended beyond the church, leading groups of every age on bicycle trips, skiing trips, cruises, and excursions to places such as the Passion Play in Oberammergau, Germany. He directed plays, coached sports teams and led choirs, Sunday Schools and summer church camps.

Kerm was a longtime supporter of the Mary Wade Home in New Haven, CT, acting as chaplain and serving as a member of the Board of Managers. In 2007, as Alzheimer's disease began to affect him, he and his wife, Mary Ellen (Susi), moved into an apartment owned by Mary Wade; following Susi's death in 2011 Kerm moved to Mary Wade's skilled nursing unit, where he died, peacefully, supported by the love of family, friends and caring staff.

During Kerm's first marriage, to Marilyn Payne, they adopted two children, Michael (who died in 2005) and Marci. Kerm married Susi in 1964, and helped to raise her four children, Thomas, Robert, Ellen and James. Kerm is survived by five children and six grandchildren, a sister, Barbara Ann Streater, a brother-in-law, Sheldon Stokes, and many nieces and nephews. His faith, kindness and energy live on in the memories of all his family and thousands of parishioners whose lives he touched over the more than five decades of his ministry.

A celebration of Kerm's life will be held Saturday, January 24th, at 2pm at The Mary Wade Home, 118 Clinton Ave, New Haven, CT. For more information, contact Peggy Nelson at 203-888-5625, and confirm your attendance by January 15th. To honor Kerm's memory, in lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to The Mary Wade Home, 118 Clinton Avenue, New Haven, CT 06513.

Grace and peace to you,

Fredric O. Jackson
Conference Secretary

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of The Reverend Rachel Ye Kim who entered into the Church Triumphant on January 14, 2015 at Bradford Hospice at the age of 50. Pastor Rachel served Saint Andrew's from July 2012 to July 2014.



Let us remember with thanksgiving the life and ministry of the Reverend Rachel C. Ye Kim, who by the grace of God entered that kingdom which has no end on January 14, 2015.

Rachel entered the world in Inchon, South Korea on March 25, 1964; she was the daughter of Dong Sup Ye and Hae Soon Ye. “As part of an immigrant family, her two younger siblings also witnessed that she was very much a “second parent” while their parents forged a family and livelihood in this new land, America,” stated Rev. Brian Bodt. According to Rev. Charlie Yun, “They originally attended the Korean UMC in Elmhurst, Queens, but later when the church moved to Hempstead, they followed to the new location. Rachel attended Hofstra University and later Drew University School of Theology.”



She was married to the Reverend Gye Ho Kim (Tom) on January 20, 1998. They are the parents of two children, Jonathan age 14 and Elizabeth age 12. Pastor Kim is appointed to New Haven: First & Summerfield.

Rev. Rachel's ministry began and ended in the New York Annual Conference. She received Deacon's Orders and became a Probationary Member in 1989, followed by Elder's Orders and Full Membership in 1991. Her appointment history began at Poughkeepsie: Mid-Hudson Korean, Associate Pastor (1989-1991); Port Washington, Associate Pastor (1991-1993); Korean Church of Greater Washington, Virginia Conference (1993-1997); Hartsdale, NY: St Paul's (1997-2005); Family Leave (2005-2006); Shady (2006-2012); New Haven: St. Andrew's (2012-2014); Medical leave (2014).

A Service of Death and Resurrection was held on January 17, 2015 at the Mary Taylor Memorial UMC, Milford, CT. The Reverends Kun Sam Cho, Bishop Jane Allen Middleton and Superintendent Kenneth Kieffer participated. Clergy of the conference were invited to vest, process and sit together. A service of committal followed the church service at King's Highway Cemetery, Milford. Following the services all were invited to the church to greet the family and share refreshments.

The quality of Rev. Rachel Kim's life is not measured in years, but in roles she played with faithfulness as daughter, sibling, wife, mother, pastor and friend. With confidence, it may be said that John Wesley's dying words echoed on the occasion of Rachel's death, “The best of all is, God is with us!”

Grace and peace to you,

Fredric O. Jackson
Conference Secretary

Tribute to Pastor Rachel

Submitted by Junette Cole

My question was why? God should have taken her when she had Leukemia in her teenage years. I just could not get over that question. I cried not so for the friendship we created but for who she was and the mission she was here to do.

When Pastor Rachel came to St. Andrews Methodist Church I quickly realized that we shared a common principle – the love of God. We spoke about Church Services and the different committees in the church. She called a meeting for all the members of the church to find out what kind of church we wanted and how we should go about it. We made plans of how to achieve our goals and we set off to follow our plans.

I listened to her messages diligently; it was full of love and commitment to God. She was always willing to share herself in whatever way she could. We had all kinds of lunches, she loved food

Despite my faith I did not accept it well. I felt as if my mentor and friend had been taken away too soon. I was upset for several days, until I came to the realization that Pastor Rachel's life was a miracle that I was privileged to be part of and for that I am fully blessed.

God could have taken her a long time ago without allowing any of us to know her but he had a plan which was to let her touch the lives of many believers. She did everything that one should do on this earth, even have children, the two creations of heaven - a man and a woman.

For all of us who knew her there will always be a special place in our hearts. I know where she is, she is happy and I am quite sure this is what she will be saying:

I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one
I'd like to leave an afterglow of smiles when life is gone.
I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly down the ways.
Of happy times and laughing times and bright and sunny days.
I'd like the tears of those who grieve, to dry before the sun.
Of happy memories that I leave when life is done.

Tribute to Pastor Morrison

Submitted by Junette Cole

My son and I met him at an awkward moment and time in our lives and he became our mentor. Pastor Kerm was an organizer. The stop sign has nothing to do with him; he was the energizer bunny that just continued going. He knew the abilities and strengths of every member of his congregation. He has a way of getting everyone involved in all the actives of church.

There was a Methodist organization that would supply food once a month and our church was involved. Everyone would come to the church to pick up their supply and Pastor Kerm would be right there in the truck helping.

Christmas was the best. The whole church took part in the Christmas pageant and the best part, all the guys dressed up in women's clothes. Pastor Kerm made it a habit to give - himself, his time, a listening ear, a word of encouragement – and I believe he found peace and happiness that can't be beat.

On my son's graduation he gave him a watch and told him to make use of time as every minute counts.

Sometimes in life we come across people who leave a print on our lives and I was lucky to have met someone like Pastor Kerm Morrison.



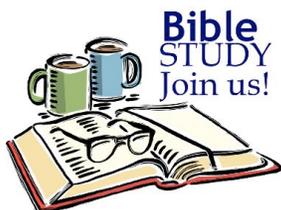
Did you know?

That pastor Ximena loves to talk with people? Do you want to visit with her, get to know her better? Maybe you need to have a prayer time or just chat, call the pastor at her cell phone (203) 278-1568 to set an appointment or stop by during the week to talk to her.

If you know of someone who needs to be visited at home please let her know too!



At St. Andrew's, we believe in the power of prayer! If you or someone you know needs to be pray for please contact pastor by phone or email.



Every Thursday Night at 6:00pm



For your very generous Christmas gift and for all your love.

Pastor Ximena



Go For the Gold!

At the end of the rainbow
There's a pot of gold.
Go for the gold!

Practice, strain.
Win the Olympics Games.
Go for the gold!
The gold of the pharaohs
Older then Spanish gold coins, Go
for the gold!

Gold wedding bands
Some keep, some throw away.
Go for the gold!

Greater are you than the daughter
of the king
Who cried and grieved and tried
and failed
When her father said, "Spin straw
into gold."

What good did the evil magic of
old Rumpelstiltskin?
You too can learn
To spin straw into gold.
Like the richest gold mined deep
down in the earth,
Dig down deep in your soul.

GO FOR THE GOLD!

By Diana Grippen

Why ashes on Ash Wednesday?

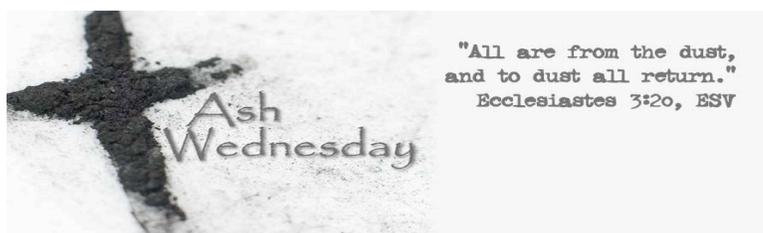
Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent. Lent is a time when many Christians prepare for Easter by observing a period of fasting, repentance, moderation and spiritual discipline.

Ash Wednesday emphasizes two themes: our sinfulness before God and our human mortality. The service focuses on both themes, helping us to realize that both have been triumphed through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

During some Ash Wednesday services, the minister will lightly rub the sign of the cross with ashes onto the foreheads of worshipers. The use of ashes as a sign of mortality and repentance has a long history in Jewish and Christian worship. Historically, ashes signified purification and sorrow for sins.

It is traditional to save the palm branches from the previous Palm Sunday service to burn to produce ashes for this service. Sometimes a small card or piece of paper is distributed on which each person writes a sin or hurtful or unjust characteristic. The cards are then brought to the altar to be burned with the palm branches. The ash cross on the forehead is an outward sign of our sorrow and repentance for sins.

— Adapted from *The United Methodist Book of Worship*



You are invited to receive Ashes on Wednesday February 18, 2015.
Pastor will be at the church in the afternoon for anyone who would like to stop by.
We will also have two short prayer services at 1:00pm and at 5:00pm in the sanctuary.
Everyone is welcome

Come and begin your journey of Lent with us!



The mission of The United Methodist Church is to “Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world” (Matt. 28:18-20; Matt. 22:36-40). This mission is achieved through vital congregations that equip and empower people to be disciples of Jesus Christ in their homes and communities around the world.

Our Vital Signs

The Vital Signs Dashboard is a tool developed by Brick River through GCFA. This tool allows you to track your weekly worship attendance, professions of faith, small group participation, missional participation and financial giving for your congregation. It is a tool designed to help congregations follow their progress on the goals that they set for each year, based upon the goal-setting challenge initiated by the Vital Congregations work. It is in response to the Call To Action to focus on fostering and sustaining an increase in the number of vital congregations effective in the mission of The United Methodist Church.

Date	Worship Attendance	Small Groups Attendance (week)	Pledges & Offerings	Charitable Giving*	New Members
1/18/2014	0	6	0	0	0
1/11/2015	40	14	1479	0	0
1/4/2015	43	0	926	0	0
12/28/2014	34	0	985	0	0
12/24/2014	51	0	178	0	0
12/21/2014	52	0	973	0	0
12/14/2014	40	9	767	0	0
12/7/2014	48	21	951	70	0
11/30/2014	39	0	1169	41	0
11/23/2014	40	19	1147	35	0



Easter Flowers

To purchase one or more plants to help decorate the church on Easter morning, please complete the form below and place it in the offering plate, mail it to the church, or give it to Carol Tripp **by the deadline date, Sunday March 22**. Each plant will cost \$10 and may be paid with the order.

All checks should be made payable to St. Andrew's United Methodist Church. Please print as neatly as possible, and indicate whether you wish to take your plant following the service on Sunday, April 5, or donate it.

Please note that each plant donated is for one name or one couple's name (as in "John and Jane Smith.") Please do not list more than one name/couple's name per plant donated.

Your Name: _____
(as you want it to appear in the Easter Sunday bulletin)

Telephone # (in case of a question) _____

Number of Plants: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Honor of: _____

I would like to donate: ___ daffodils ___ hyacinths ___ tulips ___ lilies

- I wish to take my plant(s) home
 I wish to donate my plant(s)

Lent Worship Guide
Sermon Series:
What are you Up to?

The Holy Spirit reserves the right to change this schedule as the Spirit moves.

“If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.” - Mark 8: 31-38

Lent is often known as a time of giving something up in order to make room in our lives for spiritual pursuits. Rather than just “giving up” in Lent, this season, the scriptures ask us to consider all that Jesus is “up to” and all that he asks us to be up to in his name. What pursuits are we up to in our lives that call us to be our best selves, and our best selves as the church?

"Store Up" Ash Wednesday 2/18/15

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven...” Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

As we begin this Lent season, we contemplate the essence and the substance of our lives. Do we spend time reaching for “must have’s” that our culture says we need? Or are we storing up the things that bring us closer to the reign of God, the good things—the treasures—that fill us and others with well-being of body, mind and spirit.

We will have two prayer services at 1:00PM and 5:00PM for imposition of ashes. Pastor will be in the church through the day for others who may want to stop by.

"Come Up" 2/22/15

“In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him... ‘You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.’” - Mark 1: 9-15

The first Sunday of this series brings us to the moment at which Jesus comes up out of the waters of baptism to hear, “You are my beloved.” We are called to come up out of the depths of whatever seeks to keep us under and know that we are beloved of God. Come up, for now is the time to be fully who you are created to be for the sake of the world.

Scriptures:

Genesis 9:8-17

Psalms 25:1-10 (# 756)

1 Peter 3:18-22

Mark 1:9-12

"Take Up" 3/1/15

“If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.” - Mark 8: 31-38

Jesus was very clear that following him might not be a smooth ride. He was bound to choose the just way, not the easy way, through life. To take up the cross was to lose one’s life—to let go of certain expectations of safety and acceptance in order to stand for the Gospel message of love. How are we to take up the causes of Jesus—justice, righteousness and mercy in our day?

Scriptures:

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Psalms 22:23-31

Romans 4:13-25

Mark 8:31-38

"Raise Up" 3/8/15

Jesus answered them, ‘Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up...’ But he was speaking of the temple of his body.” - John 2: 13-22

The story of Jesus’ response to the temple being made into a marketplace was profound and may have been another step toward his ultimate demise on the cross. He refers to raising up a new temple in three days—something his disciples later remembered as a foretelling of his resurrection. How might we raise up as the Body of Christ and be a holy temple—a holy dwelling place of God—in the world?

Scriptures:

Exodus 20:1-17

Psalms 19 (UMH 750)

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

John 2:13-22

"Light Up" 3/15/15

"For those who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God." - John 3: 14-21

Verse 16 is probably one of the most infamous and oft-quoted scripture in the Bible. What follows that verse is important for our Lenten journey. God did not send Jesus to condemn the world, but to offer it saving light. As believers in that light, we are called to be those who will continue to light up the world through our lives so that the world might see the hope it yearns for.

Scriptures:

Numbers 21:4-9

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 (UMH 830)

Ephesians 2:1-10

John 3:14-21

"Lift Up" 3/22/15

"And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." - John 12: 20-33

"When nothing else would help, love lifted me!" says the old Gospel song. To be lifted up is to be drawn into the love of God. Jesus drew all kinds of people to him during his short tenure on earth, drawing no boundaries for who was invited into that love. As his hour to die drew nearer, he spread the message that all things would be enveloped in his love even after he was gone. What uplifting message will we pass on to others?

Scriptures:

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalm 51:1-12 (UMH 785)

Hebrews 5:5-10

John 12:20-33

"Sit Up" Passion Palm Sunday 3/29/15

So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him... Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: 'Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!' - John 12: 12-16

Make no mistake, the powers-that-be in Jerusalem sat up and took notice at the actions of Jesus and his motley crew of palm-waving followers on that morning. It was a show of the "power" of love and justice for the "least of these," in stark juxtaposition to the military might of the Roman rulers. It was a non-violent action featuring a man sitting on a donkey—an action that has offered hope throughout the ages. Will we sit up and take notice of the injustice of this world and work to eradicate it in ways that honor that first Palm Sunday parade?

Scriptures:

Liturgy of the Palms

Mark 11:1-11

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 (UMH 839)

John 12:12-16

Liturgy of the Passion

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 31:9-16 (UMH 764)

Philippians 2:5-11

Mark 14:1-15:47 or Mark 15:1-39 (40-47)

"Look Up" Easter Sunday 4/5/15

"When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back." - Mark 16: 1-8

Three days had passed. The women went to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body, according to custom. No doubt the journey to the tomb was heavy. Perhaps they approached with heads lowered in defeat and grief. But then they looked up and it changed their lives. The barrier that they thought would be there was gone and what they discovered instead was life. Will we look up? Will we look up from our complacency, apathy, fear and depression about "the way things are" and be filled with the promise of new life and hope yet again

Scriptures:

Acts 10:34-43

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (UMH 839)

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8

**Saint Andrew's
United Methodist
Church**

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Visit us on the Web at:
standrewsnh.com



www.facebook.com/churchofSaintAndrews

Happy Birthday!



January

- 17 Michael Kidd
- 18 Jim Copeland
- 19 Briannah Morales
- 21 Ann Greene
- 26 Angelique Smith
- 27 Imaine Webster
- 28 Minnie Carlson
- 29 Brenda Hermann

February

- 08 Warren Jaqua
- 09 Ralph Pickup
- 10 Lucille Clancy
- 14 Adrienne Goodson
- 17 Archie Guthrie, Sr.
- 20 Paige Machnicz
- 23 Brenda Burgos
- 26 Gillian Penna

**everyone is
welcome**

We welcome visitors and new families
and children.

Do you know someone who would like to
visit us for Sunday Worship?

Special Dates

- African-American History Month
- Boy Scout Sunday, February 8, 2015
- Valentine's Day, February 14, 2015
- Transfiguration of Our Lord, February 15, 2015
- Presidents Day, February 16, 2015
- Ash Wednesday, February 18, 2015
- First Sunday in Lent, February 22, 2015



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