

Turkey/Syria Earthquake Relief – PWRDF is accepting donations in the usual ways to augment an initial \$35,000 grant to ACT (Action by Churches Together) workers on the ground in the affected zone. You can donate online at pwrdf.org, by calling 1-866-308-7973 (leave a message and they will return your call) or by mail at PWRDF 80 Hayden Street 3rd Floor Toronto, ON M4Y 3G2. If donating by cheque please indicate Syrian Earthquake in the memo field.

A day after the 7.8-magnitude earthquake struck southeastern Türkiye on the Syrian border, PWRDF allocated \$35,000 to the ACT Alliance to support an urgent response from its members working in Syria. PWRDF began accepting donations from people wanting to help and has so far received \$46,000. We have also allocated \$5,000 to the Diocese of Jerusalem, working in Northern Syria.

PWRDF is also participating in the Humanitarian Coalition appeal, as a member of the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. The HC has raised more than \$8 million and continues to lobby the federal government for matching funds (which have not yet been granted).

The damage has been catastrophic. At least 1,200 aftershocks were reported, says the ACT Alliance, followed by a second earthquake later the same day of 7.5 magnitude in Central Türkiye near the city of Gaziantep.

“Widespread building collapse has been reported in southeast Türkiye and northern Syria. The earthquake was also felt across Lebanon, Cyprus and the region while it is expected that aftershocks which may be at the same intensity as the initial earthquake will be felt for weeks,” says a report from the ACT Alliance.

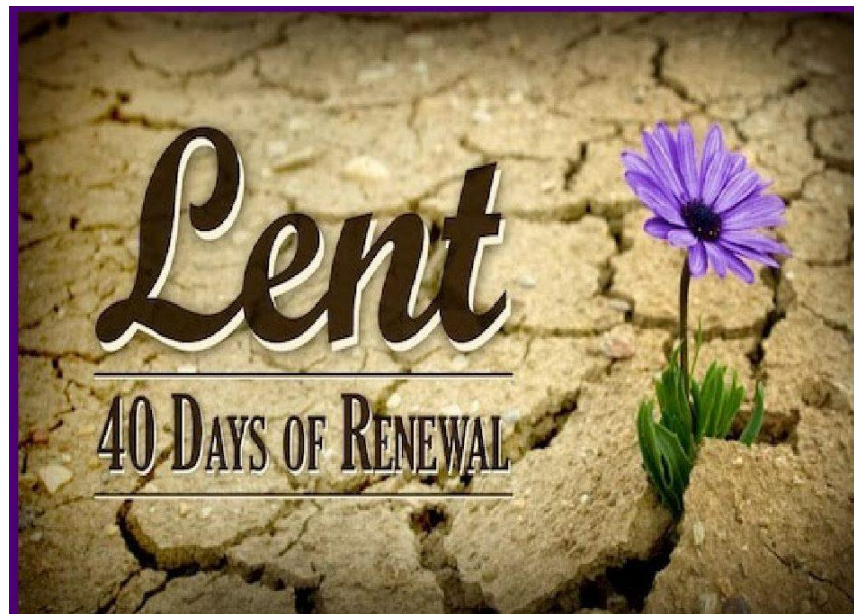
After almost a week of digging through rubble and removing massive pieces of concrete, more than 23,000 deaths have been reported, with 14,014 in Türkiye and 4,377 in Syria, and almost 7,700 people injured in Syria. There are thousands of collapsed buildings, and 115 schools destroyed in Aleppo, Hama, and Latakia. Inclement winter weather has caused flooding in displacement camps.

The ACT Secretariat has negotiated a process to sending funds to Syria, which is under sanction. Many members working in the area have been responding to humanitarian needs. ACT and its members in the area have called for the sanctions to be lifted during this humanitarian crisis.



First Sunday of Lent

February 26th, 2023



Rector: Rev'd Lori Ramsey

†
Wardens: Elaine MacInnis and Neil Harris

PLEASE TAKE THIS LEAFLET HOME FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

10:00 a.m. – BAS Holy Eucharist **Lay Minister:** Jon Muers

Opening Hymn – Out in the Wilderness

Gathering of the Community
Trisagion

Collect of the Day: Almighty God, whose Son fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are but did not sin, give us grace to discipline ourselves in submission to your Spirit, that as you know our weakness, so we may know your power to save; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

The Proclamation of the Word:

Genesis 2: 15-17, 3: 1-7 (John Greer)

Psalms 32

Romans 5: 12-19 (Arnold Hatfield)

Gradual Hymn – When We are Tested

Gospel: Matthew 4: 1-11 (Cory Lunn)

Homily – Bev DeVoue

The Apostles Creed

The Prayers of the People

Confession and Absolution

The Peace

Offering Hymn – God Who Gives to Life its Goodness

Prayer over the Gifts: God our refuge and our strength, receive all we offer you this day, and through the death and resurrection of your Son transform us to his likeness. We ask this in his name. **Amen**

Celebration of the Eucharist #3

Sanctus

The Lord's Prayer (sung)

Breaking of Bread #7

Lamb of God

The Communion

Communion Hymn – Draw Near and Take

Ablution Hymn – Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley

Prayer after Communion

Doxology

Blessing

Children's Hymn – Jesus Put This Song into our Hearts

Closing Hymn – Lead Us, Heavenly Father, Lead Us

Dismissal

May the Lord

Chancel Guild: Sylvia Jeffery, Lynn Rawlinson, Debbie McNutt, Carol Adams

Greeters: Placide Chiasson, Bob & Carol Adams, Neil Harris, Bill Canning, Murray MacCormick, Bill & Judy Wesley

In lieu of Altar Flowers, a donation has been made to the Discretionary Fund to the glory of God and in loving memory of departed members of Princess Mary Guild in honour of their 108th Anniversary.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Tuesday, Feb. 28th – 12:15 p.m. Noontime Prayer (Chancel)

Wednesday, Mar. 1st – 6:30 p.m. Choir

Thursday, Mar. 2nd – 1:00 p.m. Pastoral Ministry

7:00 p.m. Evensong & Lent Program (Chancel)

Friday, Mar. 3rd – 10:00 a.m. Meditation

11:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study

Next Sunday, March 5th – Second Sunday of Lent

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist BAS

Bookworms and Church Mice will meet next on Sunday, March 19th in the parlour after worship. The book for discussion is The Secret Life of Sunflowers by Marta Molnar. All are welcome to read along and join us in the discussion.

Continuing Covid precautions: Masking is still recommended. Be mindful of physical distance. Offering remains in the centre aisle. Hands free gesture of peace. Eucharist by a drop of wine on the wafer. Spacing by greeters in the centre aisle (abiding by the marks on the floor) at Communion. Chair area at the back for greater distance.

Our **mitten tree** is up for the season. We appreciate your donations of hand knitted or purchased mittens, hats and scarves for local schools.

Sunday School Update: We are planning to have Sunday School every second week for the winter months, except where Holiday or March Break interrupts the schedule. Sunday School will take place on the following weeks to the end of March: February 26 and March 26.

Our **Baby Needs 2023 Drive** for the Colchester Food Bank takes place from **February 5th - March 5th**. Donations of food, clothing and other essentials for babies and toddlers will be received in the Red Food Cart on Sundays, dropped at the parish office, or dropped off every Tuesday from 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. at the link door. There will be two members of the Chancel Guild to accept donations. Thank you for your support of this initiative of your Chancel Guild. For more info speak to Maria Murphy or Prue Hansen.



Lent Series: Our Lenten series this year is called “Ask.” From the intro: ***A lot of times, when people encounter a big question in their life of faith, it can feel isolating. Forbidden, even. Do-not-go-there territory. But what if faith requires us to ask questions? What if we need questions to survive and grow as a community of faith? You want to go there, don’t you? You want to believe dialogue with God, relationship with God, requires questions. Well, guess what? You’re in good company. “Ask” is a Lenten series for anyone who’s ever had a question about their faith.*** There are three ways to be involved in “Ask.”

1. Sign up for our **emailed daily devotions**. Every morning you will receive a short devotion with a question to ponder for the day straight to your in-box. Email Rev. Lori at lramseyis@gmail.com to sign up.

2. Join us on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the chancel for weekday **Evening Prayer** with a discussion time. We’ll ponder one of the big questions raised by the past Sunday’s gospel each week. All are welcome.

3. Think about your faith questions and place them in our **Question Jar**. We’ll attempt to answer one randomly drawn question every Sunday after the morning announcements. (Remember that some questions aren’t meant to have answers!) Rev Lori will also spend ½ hour each Sunday after the worship for an informal time to talk about the questions raised for us during the week.

Other Lenten Disciplines: Today we’ll be distributing **Lent 2.0 bags** to everyone in attendance. These bags contain an object and a series of prompts and questions for each Sunday in the Lenten season. We hope they will help your Lenten reflections.

Lent Madness: Again this year, we will be sponsoring **Lent Madness** in the parish. This fun and simple Lenten Devotion pits saints against each other head-to-head in a race to see who will win the Golden Halo. You can sign up to have Lent Madness in your inbox each morning by going to www.lentmadness.org and entering your email in the subscribe box. Then enjoy the learning each day and check out other parishioners’ votes. Track our progress toward the Halo on the church Lent Madness poster. And have some holy fun!

Food Table: Your Pastoral Ministry Committee is experimenting with a food table at the monthly community dinners. This would be a free table from which people could choose food to take home with them. We plan to begin providing this table at the March Community Dinner, for which St. John’s is responsible. We’re asking if you could pick up some food when you grocery shop, drop it in the bin provided at the back of the church, and we’ll take care of the rest. Some suggested items are: peanut butter, pasta, granola bars, soup, beans, cereal, rice, fruit cups, toiletries, and sanitary supplies. Thank you!

St. John’s is responsible for the **March Community Dinner** on March 19th. A list of the required foods and volunteers is posted at the back of the church today. We appreciate any help you can provide!

Looking Ahead (mark your calendars):

Sunday, April 30th – Sung Evening Prayer by our choir.

Saturday, May 6th – Spring Retreat at Whispering Spirits in Hodson