



The Oakletter, Feb. 15, 2026

The graphic above references Psalm 51, long associated with Ash Wednesday, the start of Lent.

Lent starts next Wednesday, Feb. 18, and it's a busy season for us. Before we get to the schedule, please let me emphasize why we celebrate Lent.

Lent is a time for us to examine our relationship with God and to cast out anything that we find standing in the way of that relationship. Some do this by giving up something for Lent, which is one option; another option is taking up something for Lent, i.e., adopting a discipline or spiritual practice such as fasting or spending additional time praying or reading scripture. Just remember that anything we give up is secret – it's our secret devotion to God. If you give something up or even take something up, don't tell anyone. Remember, however, that Sunday is a feast day, and if you give something up, you can have it on Sunday, since it's a day with the Lord.

Okay here's the schedule:

Shrove Tuesday, Feb. 17: 9:30 a.m., bagels for Fire Station #3 [supported by CAP donations]

Shrove Tuesday, Feb. 17, 11 a.m., pancakes at IHOP at Kempsriver Crossing

Shrove Tuesday, Feb. 17, 5:30 p.m., zydeco service at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 233 Mann Dr.
Ash Wednesday, Feb. 18, 6 p.m., worship service

Tuesday, Feb. 24, 6:30 p.m., *The Last Supper* study at Oaklette and on Zoom

Tuesday, March 3, 6:30 p.m., *The Last Supper* study at Salem UMC, 2057 Salem Rd., Va. Beach

Tuesday, March 10, 6:30 p.m., *The Last Supper* study on Zoom only

Tuesday, March 17, 6:30 p.m., *The Last Supper* study at Oaklette and on Zoom

Sunday, March 22, 11 a.m., Cantata

Tuesday, March 24, 6:30 p.m., *The Last Supper* study at Salem UMC, 2057 Salem Rd., Va. Beach

Palm Sunday, March 29, 11 a.m., worship service

Tuesday, March 31, 6:30 p.m., *The Last Supper* study at Oaklette and on Zoom

Holy Thursday, April 2, 6:30 p.m., worship service

Easter Sunday, April 5, 6:30 a.m., sunrise service under pavilion, followed by pancake breakfast

Easter Sunday April 5, 11 a.m., worship service

Please keep all of this in prayer.

Thanks,
Ned

This week at Oaklette

Sun., Feb. 15
9:30 am Sunday
school/SOTM

11 am
Transfiguration
Sunday worship

6:30 p.m.,
Beverly
Hillbillies Bible
study

Mon., Feb. 16
10 a.m. Food
pantry [N.
Helsel/S. Price]

7 p.m. HRM
Band

Tues. Feb. 17
11 a.m., Shrove
Tuesday
pancakes at
IHOP

5:30 p.m.,
Zydeco service
at St. Thomas
Episcopal

Wed., Feb. 18
6:30 p.m.
choir practice

Thurs., Feb. 19
8:30 a.m.-3:30
p.m. HSOBX

10 a.m., Bible
study

Sat., Feb. 21
7 a.m.,
soupline, Salter
Street

Sun., Feb. 22
9:30 a.m.,
Sunday
school/SOTM

11 a.m., First
Sunday in Lent
worship

Birthdays: Feb. 16: Earl Baker, William Smith; Feb. 19: John Gallop V, Gina Long

Sunday's Gospel, Matthew 17:1-9

After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus. Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters – one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah."

While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!"

When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. But Jesus came and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid." When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them, "Don't tell anyone what you have seen, until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

Our prayer list includes: Wayne Magner; Pat Newbern; Dakota Rebel; Ray & Bob Rosales; Rhonda Roughton (Stella Price's daughter); Roman Roughton (Stella Price's great grandson); Loretta Smith (Amy's son's girlfriend's mother); The League of Advocates; Virginia Conference & Bishop Sue; Edward Thomas; Marilyn Washington; Monica Whitehurst; Phyllis Buchanan Wolfe; Our Country & Military; Billy East; Pastor Tyrone Armstrong; Donna Baker; Eileen Balance; Preston Basnight; Tanya & Steve Benton; Megan Carroll