



Lent 2024 at St. John's ***Journeying into the Dust***



- Sunday mornings 9:15am. Special Speakers every Sunday. A list of speakers can be found on the back of this page.
- Wednesday Evenings beginning 2/21
 - 5:30pm Stations of the Cross—begin in front of the church and conclude at the entrance to Walton Hall in time for supper
 - 6:00pm Supper
 - 6:30pm Discussion

You are welcome to attend all—or any—of the above.
- Lenten Book
The Lenten Labyrinth: Daily Reflections for the Journey of Lent by Richard Hayes.
Available in Guerry Hall for \$10.00
- “Remember that you are dust.” Tiny cardboard boxes will be available for everyone. You are encouraged to place a small amount of earth into the box and keep the box on a table or in a special place during Lent as a reminder that we are dust. During Holy Week, you are invited to return the earth to the churchyard or to the labyrinth. On Holy Saturday, March 30th, at 5:30pm, you are invited to join the Rector in the churchyard to offer special prayers as we return the earth to the earth.

Sundays during Lent **9:15 in Walton Hall** **Special Speakers**

We are dust, and unto dust we shall return. “All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.”

When we remember that we are “but dust”—formed of the earth—the dust—and will return to the dust—we remember our humanity and our oneness with all creation. We remember the deep unity we share, a unity not always visible to earthly eyes. Re-membering is the work of mending that we have been given—the work of healing, rebuilding, and restoring. A journey into the dust of the earth is a pilgrimage into eternity—into hope and life—a journey into love. This is one reason we have created a labyrinth on the parish grounds—to step onto and into the dust on a regular basis.

Join us Sunday mornings during Lent for this amazing line-up of speakers! See the back of this sheet for a list of speakers.

February 18 - The Very Reverend Dr. Robert Willis, the Dean Emeritus of Canterbury. Dean Willis served as Dean of Canterbury, the mother church of the Anglican Communion, for twenty-one years. He is known throughout the Communion as a theologian, pastor, and writer of hymns. During the pandemic, he and his partner Fletcher Banner broadcast Morning Prayer from the Deanery Garden in Canterbury every day for over two years where viewers had the chance to get to know the beautiful flora and delightful fauna that graced the garden.

February 25 - Bobbi Jo O'Neal, Coroner for Charleston County. The Coroner will speak of her own calling to serve in the office of the coroner many years ago and will also talk about the ongoing restoration of the Potter's Field on Mary Ann Point Road of which we at St. John's are a part.

March 3 - The Reverend William L. "Roy" Hills, Priest-in-Charge of St. James-Santee in McClellanville will discuss his growing creation of crosses, which will be on exhibit here at St. John's in Walton Hall during Lent. Read more about the exhibit in our enews.

March 10 - Our own **John Lewis Gervais III** has been working hard to catalogue and digitize the names of all who are buried in our churchyard. In a parish established in 1734, that's a lot of names! He has created a gravesite digital inventory, a method for locating each gravesite (check out the compass rose in the churchyard) and has posted that method on the parish website for all to see. Each gravestone has been photographed. John will talk about this work. All members of the churchyard committee have been working diligently for many months now; they will also be present on March 10th. Porcher "Shay" Stoney serves as Chair. Plans for a ministry of prayer and the proper cleaning of the gravestones are underway and will be available to all who wish to participate.

March 17 - J. Stephen Rhodes, who grew up in Atlanta and South Carolina, is an author, Presbyterian minister, retired seminary dean, Canon Poet, and good friend and occasional kayaking buddy of the Rector, will join us. Steve writes: "I want to be honest about the brokenness that besets us, but I am also looking for beauty in the midst of that brokenness."

March 24, Palm Sunday - Norman Wirzba, professor of theology and ecology at Duke Divinity School, will join us to discuss our connection to the land and what it signifies for us as people of faith. Professor Wirzba is doing tremendous pioneering scholarly work where religion and faith intersect with ecology and agrarianism. He is the author of numerous books, including *Agrarian Spirit*, *From Nature to Creation*, *Living the Sabbath*, and with Fred Bahnson, *Making Peace with the Land*. He writes: "God is the primordial and essential Agrarian—the One who creates and sustains the world by planting, gardening, farming, and shepherding life."