

## Taking Lent to the Next Level:

### Introducing

# *The Master's Class*

**Definition:** A master class is a class given to students of a particular discipline by an expert, the eponymous "master."

The season of Lent is an intentional time of reflection and contemplation on the life and sacrifice of our Master, Jesus Christ. Many of us will observe the Lenten season by attending worship and possibly consider giving up something like sodas or too much television. But what if you felt led to take the Lenten experience to a higher level? What if you enrolled in the Master's Class for Lent 2011?

*The Master's Class* for Lent 2011 is a Holy Spirit led and self-monitored curriculum which consists of:

- Worship Attendance every Sunday during Lent.
- Attending daybreak prayer Monday through Saturday for the 40 days of Lent.
- Attending the weekly Book/Bible Study Class.
- Observing the Wesley fast every Thursday evening after dinner to Friday afternoon before dinner. (*Please consult your health care provider before abstaining from food. Water and juice are encouraged to prevent dehydration.*)
- A commitment to tithing 10% of your income for the next 40 days.
- A complete fast of one particular behavior that is a stumbling block to you in being fully used by God for the next 40 days. (For example; television, internet games, telephone, shopping, etc.)
- A weekly time of hands on service to those less fortunate.
- Being paired with an accountability/ prayer partner.
- A class check-in with Pastor Staci on Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, and Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> immediately following daybreak prayer.

The goal of this deeper level of Lenten observance is to allow the Holy Spirit to have the space to speak to your heart and allow God some room to have His way in your life. It is a time of radical surrender that will yield radical results. If you enroll in the Master's Class this Lent, your life will never be the same again. Praise be to God!!!!

Please be in prayer and ask the Holy Spirit to search your heart. Perhaps this is the season for you to take "*The Master's Class*." To enroll, simply begin with a commitment in your heart and stay after daybreak prayer on March 10<sup>th</sup> for a fifteen minute check in with Pastor Staci.

## Lent 2011: 24 Hours That Changed the World

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*Walk with Jesus on his final day.  
Sit beside Him at the Last Supper.  
Pray with Him in Gethsemane.  
Follow Him to the cross.  
Desert Him. Deny Him.  
Experience the Resurrection.*

Beginning March 9, 2011, our church will offer a seven-week journey you won't want to miss: "24 Hours That Changed the World." From Ash Wednesday through Resurrection Sunday, we will walk through the last 24 hours of Jesus' life. This Lenten journey is designed to help you experience and understand the significance of Jesus' suffering and death in a way you never have before.

Whether you are a long-time Christian or simply curious about the story of Christ's crucifixion, you are invited to join us on this inspiring adventure:

- March 9<sup>th</sup>: "Blow the Trumpet in Zion" Ash Wednesday Sacred Assembly at 7 p.m.
- March 10<sup>th</sup>-April 23<sup>rd</sup>: Daybreak Prayer, every morning (excluding Sundays) at 6 a.m.
- March 16<sup>th</sup>-April 22<sup>nd</sup>: "24 Hours That Changed the World" Book Study  
Wednesdays at 7 p.m., Fridays at 10:30 a.m., and Sundays at 9 a.m.
- April 21<sup>st</sup>: Maundy Thursday Jazz Vespers and Communion at 7 p.m.
- April 24<sup>th</sup>: Resurrection Sunday "Easter" Celebration at 10 a.m.

This experience is based on a book of the same name featuring Adam Hamilton, founding pastor of the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas. During the original sermon series which inspired the book, the Church of the Resurrection dramatically increased the number of people attending worship.

As part of this event, we will be making an extra effort to invite members of the surrounding community to participate. Since the final 24 hours of Jesus' life are so central to our faith, we will be making a special effort to invite people in the community to join us. We are asking members of the congregation to invite neighbors and friends to participate in the complete Lenten experience including Ash Wednesday service, daily Daybreak Prayer, weekly study groups, regular Sunday worship, and Resurrection Sunday Celebration.

For more information about this special event and how you can participate, please contact the church office of Jones Memorial United Methodist Church via telephone at (415) 921-7653 or email at [office@jonesumc.com](mailto:office@jonesumc.com) or see the event release on the *Upcoming Events* page of the Church's web site at [www.jonesumc.com/pages/events.htm](http://www.jonesumc.com/pages/events.htm).

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