

# THE OPEN DOOR

United Methodist Church of the Open Door - Kennett Square

February/March 2018

## Coming Up in Worship.

**Feb. 4th Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**  
**Communion Sunday -**  
**Sermon: Have you not heard?**

**Feb. 11 Sixth Sunday after Epiphany**  
**Sermon: Come down from the Mountain**

**Feb. 14 Ash Wednesday**  
**6:30 p.m.**

**Feb. 18 First Sunday of Lent**  
**REHAB: Wilderness**

**Feb. 25 Second Sunday of Lent**  
**REHAB: Intervention**

**March 4 Third Sunday of Lent**  
**REHAB: Program**

Leadership Team Consultation with Hal after worship.

**March 11 Fourth Sunday of Lent**  
**REHAB: Recovery**  
 Daylight Savings Time turn your clocks forward.

**March 18 Fifth Sunday of Lent**  
**REHAB: Promise**

**March 25 Palm Sunday - Holy Week begins**



## A Word from The Pastor

Remember Amy Winehouse? Her amazing sound, her writing skills, her stardom, and her destructive addiction. I always rooted for her because I had never heard such an amazingly authentic and raw soulful sound in my life. She presented herself with all her pain and scars and somehow she managed to get the whole world to listen. One of her most endearing songs was called “Rehab.”

*They tried to make me go to rehab  
 I said, no, no, no  
 Yes, I been black  
 But when I come back, you'll know, know, know  
 I ain't got the time  
 And if my daddy thinks I'm fine  
 He's tried to make me go to rehab  
 I won't go, go, go*

One of the reasons that I can speculate why this song did so well just as most of her incredible album, *Back to Black*, was her ability to be completely vulnerable in front of all of us, even her difficulty in making the decision to surrender to the process of rehab. She expressed what all of us at one point or another have felt; surrender is hard and I just don't want to deal with my stuff.

So what does it mean for us to use the same metaphor and principles of rehab to talk about our Lenten journey? During Lent starting Feb. 14th we'll begin to explore this together. The truth is, addiction isn't just about drugs or alcohol and rehab isn't just for those who suffer with this reality. We are all addicted. Some of us are working on that long journey from alcohol, drug, gam-

bling or even pornography addiction. And other are working from being addicted to drama, hate, self-loathing, low self-esteem, co-dependency and just plain horrible relationships. Perhaps this Lent season, we might have to go kicking and screaming but go we must. That is if we want to change, we must be willing to go through a spiritual rehab.

Now, most people who are in recovery will tell you this is a lifetime commitment but it has to start somewhere with one step, and one yes at a time. But we don't do this alone, we have been promised to be in good company, the company of all the saints that have come before us and those who walk with us every single day. This is the same journey that every one who ever wanted to follow after Jesus but we have to rely on each other to make it through. Together we'll move from Mortality - Wilderness - Intervention - Program - Recovery - Promise. Remember, God is not interested in your ability (God knows who you are and the abilities you are created with) God is interested in your availability. Are you and I available for God's Spirit to work in our hearts, souls and minds? That's the question and that's the journey: REHAB.

*On the journey with you,*

*Pastor Lydia*



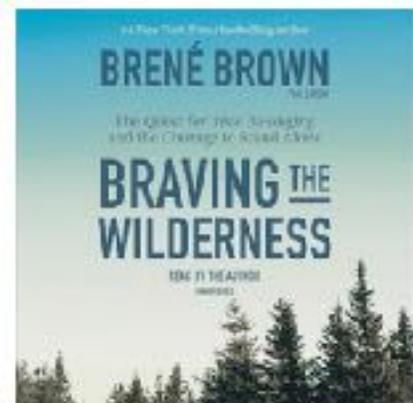
### **Ash Wednesday Contemplative Worship**

Feb. 14th 6:30 p.m.

Join us to begin the Lenten journey together by remembering our lives are fragile and mortal, but we have a loving God!

### **Book Study during Lent: Braving the Wilderness**

I encourage you to get a hold of the book by Brene Brown, *Braving the Wilderness* the entire congregation will be reading the book together either in small groups or after worship. The men's group, Women 4 Women, Facebook chats we will all be reading the book and having opportunity to break it down. If you are having trouble finding the book, let the office know and we'll make it happen.





**So we need your help!**

We need your updated contact information because our church email system has little hiccup and now we need to work to update it. Please make sure you see Miriam at the office and give her your preferred email address and phone number so that she can update the files. We are trying to stay away from paper and use our digital forms of communication as much as possible. Help us out.

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**Holy Week Schedule:**

March 29th - Maundy Thursday night 7 p.m. contemplative Communion meal as we listen to the final movements of Jesus as he heads to the cross.

March 30th - Anti-Hate/Anti-Bully Good Friday Observance. Time to be determined.

April 1st - Easter Sunday! The wait is over, let the celebration begin!!

Other opportunities:

- Women 4 Women - 1st Saturday of the Month - see Angela Ogunde
- UMCOD Men - 2nd Saturday of the Month - see Vince Dent/Owen Owens

***Living the Autumn Years: Finding Meaning & Purpose in Retirement***

Hosted by: Susan Worrell

**February 9, 2018 2-3:30 pm**

The Market at Liberty Place

[148 W State St, Kennett Square](#)

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