

The Vine and Branches

SAINT JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH DILLON, MONTANA

stjamesdillon@live.com 406-683-2735 March 2024 Issue



Adult Education during LENT * 2024

We are reading "Rescuing the Bible from Fundamentalism: A Bishop Rethinks this Meaning of Script" by John Shelby Spong. This book was written 33 years ago. Spong writes in simple terms - allowing the readers to see things in a new light. It makes for a good discussion during our coffee hour. It brings spiritual conversation to the table and talk where people are in their faith journey. An insightful look at scripture in the context of history, culture and science. A thoughtful look at the Bible and the world today.

We went to Forward Movement to help us focus more on Jesus during Lent. First, we are glad to have this ministry of the Episcopal Church which grew out of the determination of the General Convention in 1934 to counter a period of anxiety, distrust, and decline in the Episcopal Church with a "forward movement" charged to "reinvigorate the life of the church.

Our first book from Forward Movement is "Dust Bunnies in the Basket", finding God in Lent and Easter by Episcopal priest Tim Schenck. It has questions at the end of each section which allow the readers to actually Think about their relationship with the Christ, and how they can improve that relationship. The priest reminds the Easter bunny that he is dust, not to discredit who he is and what he has to offer, but to remind him that we are all dust, yet welcomed and worthy.

The second from Forward Movement is the Lent Madness. A basketball-inspired holy competition to see which of 32 saints earns the coveted Golden Halo. While it all seems very frivolous, we'll learn about the saints along the way. By the time Holy Week comes along, we'll see how God works in the lives of ordinary people to shine the light of Christ's love in a world in need of hope. Learn more and sign up for email updates at LentMadness.org

Lee Graves Adult Education coordinator