

Articles published in Currents for Theology and Mission January Issue

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Homepage Update

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*Recognizing God's presence in everyday moments.*



## Shrove Tuesday Milestone Moment

March 5th is Shrove Tuesday this year. It signals the end of Epiphany on the church calendar and comes the day before Ash Wednesday.

Gathering for fun to eat pancakes and all things fattening on this day has been a Christian tradition since the 16th century. It combines repentance and preparing for the Lenten season with a festive spirit.

Often times the faith community hosts a pancake supper on this day. How often have we recognized this special day in our own homes? The Shrove Tuesday Milestone Moment gives an opportunity for family and friends to gather in the home as an important step along their

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## Articles by David W. Anderson and Deborah A. Streicher

*"Because Christ sets us free from all things that sever our relationship with God, now our attention can be redirected from preoccupation with what God thinks about us to focus instead on what our neighbor needs from us. God, for Christ's sake, does not need our good works; it is our neighbor who does need our good works."*

-Rev. Dr. Craig Nesson, Academic Dean & Professor of Contextual Theology and Ethics at Wartburg Theological Seminary

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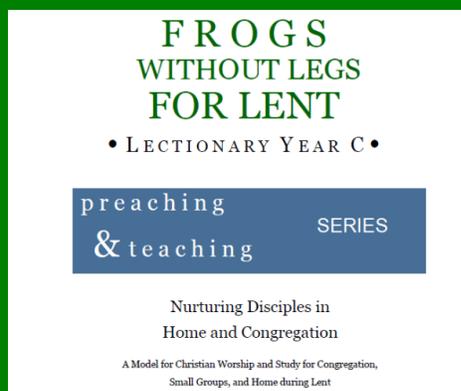
faith journey.

For the cost of \$2.95 this Shrove Tuesday Milestone Moment can be downloaded and reproduced to send home. Ask people to take pictures of those gathered to feast on pancakes in households and share them in newsletters and on Facebook pages as Lent begins.

[Click here to download.](#)



This [Lenten gifting stone](#) complements the Shrove Tuesday Milestone Moment.



## Frogs Without Legs for Lent

Preach, teach, and experience Lent this year through the practice of four foundational faith disciplines. This series is used alongside the book, [Frogs Without Legs Can't Hear](#), and includes family and small group activities to help disciples practice the Four Key Faith Practices of:

- \* Caring Conversations
- \* Devotions
- \* Service
- \* Rituals and Traditions

This Lenten preaching and teaching series for your congregation offers a thematic presentation of Lent that will help lead worshippers, congregational leaders,

*Currents in Theology and Mission*, the Theological Journal of the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago and Wartburg Theological Seminary, were based on the [Life of Faith Initiative](#), a grassroots effort within the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). David and Debbie felt honored to write articles for this issue. We invite you to read their articles as they reveal what is found at the heart of their ministry with Milestones Ministry.

[Shepherding Souls and the Life of Faith Initiative by Rev. Dr. David W. Anderson](#)

[The Christian Way of Life: It Begins with Immersion by Deborah A. Streicher](#)

There are many other insightful articles in this issue also. [Click here for Table of Contents.](#)



## New! Mountain Highs and Valley Lows

A new feature for Milestones Ministry as we begin 2019 is to add an extra touch to caring conversations. The Four Key Faith Practices is at the heart of all Milestones Ministry resources. As we publish new resources in 2019, each will include the addition of talking about a mountain high and/or a valley low prior to beginning the caring conversation discussion. Providing an opportunity to share personal milestones to begin conversations deepens our relationships and helps to build the trusting ones that grow us in our faith together.

See the example below taken from the recently published Report Card Milestone Moment.

families, and small group and Bible study participants into a deeper experience of the life of the church that partners home and congregation in ministry. This series offers the following:

- Weekly themes
- Recommended Bible texts
- Sermon helps
- Family and small group caring conversations and service
- Devotional prayers for the week
- Short readings from Frogs without Legs Can't Hear: Nurturing Disciples in Home and Congregation to offer your congregation a common vision and language for ministry
- Bulletin information, Lenten table tent, and promotional articles
- Skits for introducing the Four Key Faith Practices

[Download an Excerpt](#)

There are several options for ordering:

- [As a CD Rom](#)
- [As a CD Rom plus book](#)
- [As a download](#)
- [As a leader's pack with CD Rom and ten books](#)



As you gather together, take a moment to share a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your lives and then use the outline below to discuss the report card.



#### Caring Conversations

Discuss these thoughts and questions:

## Homepage Update

Over the past few months, two topics have surfaced frequently during our coaching and contacts with leadership in congregations:

- What makes Milestones Ministry work?
- How do we address loneliness and fatigue in ministry?

We have added articles on the [Milestones Ministry homepage](#) and links for further reading. As we continue to learn from you and grow in our ministries together, we are committed to helping leadership in the setting of the congregation. This leads to effective practices role modeled in the faith community and done in the home. It is one step at a time.



Visit our website: [www.milestonesministry.org](http://www.milestonesministry.org) and like us on [Facebook](#) page and join us for conversations on our [Facebook group page](#).

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*The Milestones Ministry Mission is to provide congregations and households with resources and coaching services to nurture the Christian faith and reach out to others with the love of God in Christ.*

STAY CONNECTED

