



# FEASTING on the WORD™

## THE LECTIONARY

### What Is The Lectionary?

The lectionary is a set of Bible readings for each day of the week that attempts to introduce congregations to the breadth and depth of the Bible. It does not cover every book of the Bible, but tries to cover major biblical themes. Participating churches often preach from the same readings each week. During the 2011-12 program year Mick and Mary will be preaching from one or more of the lectionary readings. Jews began the practice of having set readings for particular times of the year well before Jesus' day and later the early Christian church adopted it. Many Protestants rejected use of the lectionary during the Reformation. In the 1960s after Vatican II, however, both Catholic and Protestant biblical scholars collaborated in the selection of the lectionary texts. While the PC (USA) has participated in deciding the lectionary passages, it does not compel local churches to adopt its use in worship. The lectionary is divided into years A (Matthew), B (Mark), and C (Luke). We are in year A, through the end of Nov. 2011, so Matthew is the featured gospel, except during Lent, when John and Acts are used for the gospel reading.

### Which US Churches Subscribe To Lectionary Usage?

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Christian Fellowship of the Unitarian Universalist Association, Christian Reformed Church in North America, Episcopal Church (*provisional use*), Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Presbyterian Church (USA), Reformed Church in America, United Church of Christ, and United Methodist Church.

### Want To Learn More About The Lectionary?

<http://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Revised\\_Common\\_Lectionary](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Revised_Common_Lectionary)

### Want To Know The Lectionary Readings For Each Day?

<http://www.FeastingOnTheWord.net/>

Note: While we have used the "Feasting on the Word" logo on this handout, your instructors, not the authors of "Feasting on the Word," developed it.