

# February Epistle

Dust to Dust...

2012



**Christianity on the Move**™

*“If the world were merely seductive, that would be easy. If it were merely challenging, that would be no problem. But I arise in the morning torn between a desire to improve the world and a desire to enjoy the world. This makes it hard to plan the day.”*

**E.B. White**

***I close my eyes, only for a moment, and the moment's gone  
All my dreams pass before my eyes, a curiosity  
Dust in the wind***

***All they are is dust in the wind***

***Same old song, just a drop of water in an endless sea  
All we do crumbles to the ground though we refuse to see  
Dust in the wind***

***Now, don't hang on, nothing lasts forever but the earth and sky  
It slips away, and all your money won't another minute buy  
~Moody Blues: "Dust in the Wind"***

## I'm building a Sandcastle!

Growing up I always chose to celebrate Mardi Gras instead of Ash Wednesday. Yes, while some folks got ashes on their forehead, I would rather have put my focus on Fat Tuesday festivities of the day before. The traditional passage on Ash Wednesday reads “from dust you have been created and to dust you will return,” spoken to Adam after the apple had been eaten. Perhaps Adam and Eve got too caught up in Fat Tuesday and the tree of life just sounded like a good idea; the apple just a little bit too delicious looking. Up to this point, humankind had it made, living a care-free life of nude sunbathing in a glorious garden.

So why do we recognize the day on which humanity lost our bliss? Why bring light to the notion that we are bound to return to dust? Why...? Because humility sets us free to build ourselves a sandcastle. The lenten season finds its climax in Easter, the culmination of Christ's death for our sins. Ash Weds. is a time when we can

release our burdens, knowing that even as mere dirt, God yearns for our company.

We have a choice because God has established a definite: We come from dirt and we will return to it. Now we have to decide whether we want to blow aimlessly in the breeze with moments passing by in a Moody state of the blues; or, do we address life alongside of E.B.White, questioning whether to spend our days changing the world or enjoying it? I choose the latter and I hope you join me.

We can change the world by enjoying the world, and here at Sweaty Sheep, that is exactly what we plan to do. We believe that we can “Re-Create through Recreation.” That we can evangelize through our smiles and laughter, and that even though we might be destined for dirt, we can have a really great time living up until then! How do you enjoy the world? How do you make the most out of every day? Life isn't always easy nor is it always fun. E.B. states, “If the world were merely seductive” or “merely challenging,” our direction would be more evident. However, the world is hard sometimes and our path is not

always clear. We all go through times of aimlessly blowing in the wind. Times of which we feel like mere dust. How is Dust going to change anything? Ghandi called us to “be the change we want to see.” No, we might not bring the world to peace, we may not cure cancer, but we will make an impact on the garden around us. As we enter lent this month I bid you to celebrate Fat Tuesday... and then I bid you to celebrate Ash Wednesday. Celebrate humility, for we came from mere dirt. Celebrate our freedom from the burdens of this world, for to dirt we will return.

\*Loving the Hills 2-11 8am  
\*Kickoff Social, Sports & Social 1-16 6pm  
\*Calvin 5k Bible Study tuesdays 7pm  
\*Eco-Worship 1-18 5pm Crescent Hill Presbyterian  
\*Leap Year party 1-29 5:30pm Osheas  
\*Triple Crown Training Breakfast & 6m run, 8am Iroquois Presbyterian Church  
~Info and more events @  
[sweatysheep.com](http://sweatysheep.com)

**Genesis 3: 19-23 - By the sweat of your face you will eat bread, till you return to the ground, Because from it you were taken; For you are dust, And to dust you shall return.” Now the man called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all the living. The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them.**

**Then the LORD God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of Us, knowing good and evil; and now, he might stretch out his hand, and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever”— therefore the LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden, to cultivate the ground from which he was taken. So God drove the man out; and at the east of the garden of Eden He stationed the cherubim and the flaming sword which turned every direction to guard the way to the tree of life.**

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