

## **??? SINCE YOU ASKED ???**

*“Since You Asked” is an occasionally appearing article. If you have a question for this column, please direct it to Pastor or Mabel in the church office. Thanks!*

Some of you have noticed, especially in the Sunday school curriculum, that there are two different lectionary tracks.

### **Why are there two tracks? What is the difference?**

The Track One readings are the semi-continuous readings. The Track Two readings are the lections in thematic harmony with the Gospel.

Track One allows the option of semi-continuous reading of the great Old Testament narratives on the Sundays after Pentecost, to provide exciting new preaching opportunities, vacation Bible School ideas or informal summer story-telling for adults as well as children. [Genesis through Judges in year A; the Davidic Covenant and Wisdom literature in Year B; the prophets -Elijah, Elisha, Amos, Hosea, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Joel and Habbakuk -in Year C.]

Track Two allows the option of lections in thematic harmony with the Gospel of the day for the Sundays after Pentecost. This follows the pattern of the present lectionary in which the readings from the New Testament are chosen in relation to the Gospel.

Track One also allows for the greater inclusion of women and their role in salvation history, offering texts about women never heard on Sunday before.

The most notable example is the account of the woman anointing Jesus at Bethany, found in Mark 14:3-9, “Wherever

the good news is proclaimed...what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.” This text, omitted in the present lectionary, is included in the RCL as part of the Passion narrative read on Palm Sunday in Year B.

### **Why are both RCL tracks of value?**

- It is a truly ecumenical lectionary shared by most Protestant denominations.
- It provides new opportunities for ecumenical Bible study and shared resources for teaching and preaching.
- It has improved the choice of appropriate texts for Sundays and Festivals.
- It incorporates most of the readings with which the church is familiar.

### **Who is already using the Revised Common Lectionary?**

United Methodist Church  
American Baptist Churches in the USA  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
Anglican Church of Australia  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada  
Anglican Church of Canada  
Presbyterian Church in Canada  
Christian Church [Disciples of Christ]  
Presbyterian Church in the USA  
Christian Reformed Church in North America  
United Church of Canada  
Church of England  
United Church of Christ  
Anglican Church in South Africa