

NEWLETTER

First Presbyterian Church of Croswell

Web Page: <https://Croswellpresbyterian.org>

SERIES OF MESSAGES DURING LENT ON THE CHRISTIAN SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

Have you ever felt overwhelmed by the busyness of life but what you really longed for was a deeper connection with God? If so, you are not alone. Many people exert an incredible amount of energy scaling the mountains of demands in their daily life, and in so doing overlook the practices that can nurture their souls.

On the six Sundays of Lent, I will be sharing with our congregation a series of messages on the CHRISTIAN DISCIPLINES. By embracing the Christian disciplines of confession, prayer, fasting, Bible study & meditation, service and solitude, God can transform your life, so that you experience greater peace and joy.

Here is the schedule of messages on the Christian spiritual disciplines that you will hear on Sunday mornings at First Presbyterian Church

- March 9 - The Christian Discipline of CONFESSION
- March 16 - The Christian Discipline of PRAYER
- March 23 - The Christian Discipline of FASTING
- March 30 - The Christian Discipline of STUDY & MEDITATION
- April 6 - The Christian Discipline of SERVICE
- April 13 - The Christian Discipline of SOLITUDE

During wintertime, professional baseball pitchers who anticipate returning to the Detroit Tigers for another regular season of games, discipline themselves to stay in shape by throwing baseballs dozens of times each day. So that by the date of the season-opener game, they will be throwing almost all balls into the strike zone. Piano students discipline themselves by practicing playing hours each day on the piano. So that by their recital, they will be playing the piano flawlessly. Likewise, you and I at First Presbyterian Church will be practicing Christian disciplines during Lent, so that by Easter Sunday we will be totally in step with the crucified and resurrected Jesus.

Bill Wright
Pastor

PASTOR ON CALL

Pastor Bill Wright is available to visit church members anytime, anywhere, either for emergency situations or casual conversations. Feel free to call Bill at (810) 858-7033 NOTE: Pastor Bill's new email address is: hi.from.Bill.Wright@proton.me

March 2025



Prayer Requests

Sally and Leonard
Goheen - cancer
treatments and recent
hospitalization

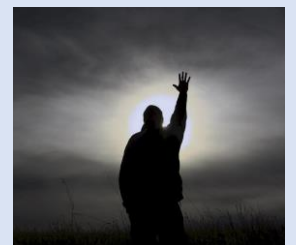
Debbie Fair's brother Dan
Dobson – surgery

Sue and Paul Holbrook/s
niece Christine - ALS
diagnosis

Cody Wylie a friend of
Lisa Haddix's daughter-
surgery

Those with seasonal colds
and flu.

Those recovering from
surgeries and other
serious illnesses.



2025 COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES

6:00 p.m.

- March 12 Valiant Ministries
5242 N. Black River Road
- March 19 Applegate Global Methodist Church
4792 Church Street, Applegate
- March 26 Cros-Lex Assembly of God
101 W. Sanborn Street
- April 2 First Presbyterian Church
7 S. Howard Avenue
- April 9 Croswell Free Methodist Church
13 N. Howard Avenue

JOINT MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

6:00p.m.

- April 17 Croswell Free Methodist Church
Our Church has been invited!

COMMUNITY GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

12:00p.m.

- April 18 Trinity Episcopal Church
5446 Main Street, Lexington

CAMP WESTMINSTER

Camp Westminster (Presbyterian) on Higgins Lake, Michigan has been changing lives since 1925. Camp Westminster's summer programs enable children and youth to try exciting activities, gain confidence, make real connections with new friends for life and positive role models, and spend time splashing in the lake, all while growing in their faith. Other activities available for children and youth at Camp Westminster include outdoor living skills, arts & crafts, ropes & climbing, sports, theater & music, nature exploration and Out Trips. Camp Westminster also offers a Family Camp. For more details, go to www.campwestminster.com online.

Happy March! May the warmer and longer days ahead fill you with joy!

Bible Verses

Isaiah 40:31

"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

Galatians 6:9

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

Ecclesiastes 3:1

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens."

Proverbs 3:5-6

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

James 1:12

"Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him."

Jeremiah 29:11

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Philippians 4:6-7

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Romans 12:2

"Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."

Lamentations 3:22-23

"Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

Psalms 121:1-2

"I lift up my eyes to the mountains—where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth."

What Is the Meaning and Purpose of Lent

Lent signifies a solemn 40-day period preceding Easter. Commencing on Ash Wednesday and concluding on Holy Saturday, Lent is characterized by fasting, prayer, and repentance as believers prepare for the celebration of Easter Sunday. This season of reflection and self-discipline involves practices such as abstaining from certain indulgences, fostering a deeper spiritual connection, and commemorating the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

What are the Key Date of Lent?

Lent starts with Ash Wednesday, the day when you might see people with a cross of ashes on their foreheads. These ashes are a reminder of our need for repentance and the reality of our human frailty. Palm Sunday follows, marking Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem, when people welcomed Him with palm branches, recognizing Him as their King. Maundy Thursday remembers the Last Supper, when Jesus shared a final meal with His disciples and demonstrated humility by washing their feet.

Good Friday is a solemn day that commemorates Jesus' crucifixion and His ultimate sacrifice for our sins. Despite its sorrowful events, it's called "Good" because of the redemption Jesus secured for us. Holy Saturday is a day of quiet reflection, as we remember Jesus' time in the tomb and anticipate the joy of what's to come. Finally, Easter Sunday bursts forth with celebration—Jesus is alive! His resurrection offers us hope, new life, and the promise of eternity with Him.

Why is Lent 40 days? The 40-day period of Lent is symbolic of significant biblical events, including:

- Jesus' 40 days of fasting and temptation in the wilderness ([Matthew 4:1-11](#)).
- Moses spending 40 days on Mount Sinai receiving the Ten Commandments ([Exodus 34:28](#)).
- Elijah's 40-day journey to Mount Horeb ([1 Kings 19:8](#)).
- The 40 days of rain during the Great Flood ([Genesis 7:12](#)).
- The Israelites' 40 years of wandering in the desert ([Numbers 14:33](#)).

The meaning of Lent revolves around preparation, reflection, and penance. During Lent, Christians honor the 40 days and nights following Christ's baptism when He went into the wilderness without water and food and was tempted by Satan. During that time, Christ did what we do today when we fast: wrestle with temptation. This was not the first fast; biblical figures often fasted when petitioning God for something important. "So we fasted and implored our God [...], and he listened to our entreaty" ([Ezra 8:23](#)). The Israelites "mourned and wept and fasted till evening for Saul and his son Jonathan, and for the army of the LORD and for the nation of Israel, because they had fallen by the sword" ([2 Samuel 1:12](#)).

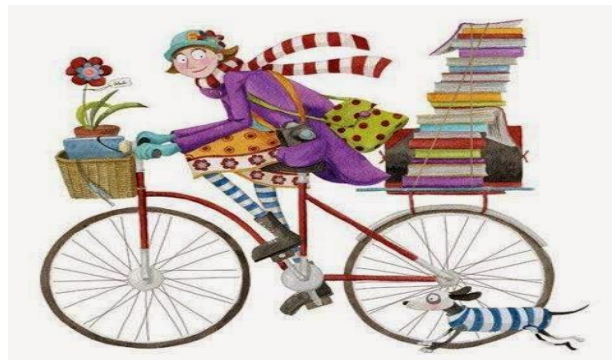
From your little Library in the corner....

“Karen Kingsbury spins a tale of love and loss, lies and betrayal that sent me breathlessly turning pages to discover what might become of Jade and Tanner. These flawed characters are easy to sympathize with...and celebrate with by story’s end! Contemporary issues of faith and the First Amendment add to the timely message in A Moment of Weakness.” (quote from Liz Curtis Higgs). (Purple Dot – Adult Fiction).

The Story of Charlotte the Caterpillar is about the Christian hope, faith and eternal life. First written in 1855 by Mrs. Gatty, this story uses stories from the world of nature to illustrate and communicate truth about God and his purposes. (Yellow Dot – Children)

The author of this book “casts a wide net to appeal to all Christians everywhere without compromising the gospel one iota. Read it all. It could revolutionize your prayer life”. (Quote by Pastor Jack Hayford) A great read for cold, wintry days! Ten Prayers God Always Says Yes To: Divine Answers to Life’s Most Difficult Problems, by Anthony DeStefano. (Orange Dot – Meditation/Prayer)

“As Marv Besteman lay in a hospital bed, visions of celestial beauty were the last thing on his mind, but he was about to have an experience he never could have imagined – and could never forget.” My Journey to Heaven by Marv Besteman. (Blue Dot – Christianity)

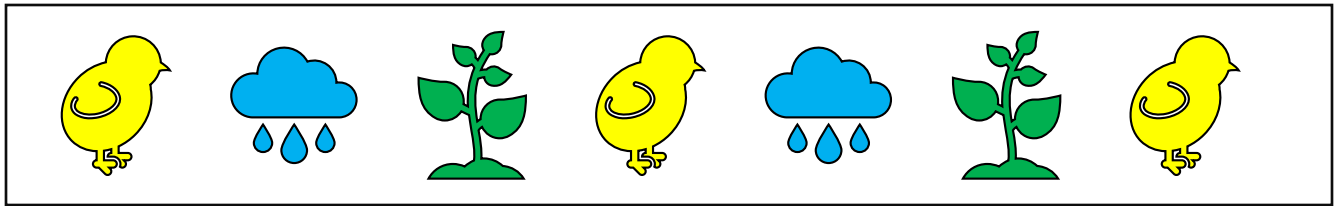




3rd Cheryl Hosler
10th Steven Soule
16th Gerald Warner
20th Kelly Holbrook
21st Trevor Soule
22nd Sue Kinsley
Sue Weller
Jon Lusher
29th Curt Soule



3rd Larry & Barbara Pabst

Dates to Remember



MARCH 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2 10AM Worship with Holy Communion.	3	4	5 Ash Wednesday	6	7	8
9 10 am Worship 	10	11 Session Mtg. 7:00 pm Deacons Mtg 6:00 pm	12 Lenten Services, Valiant Ministries 6:00 pm	13	14	15 Game Night and Straw Party 5:00 pm
16 10 am Worship	17	18	19 Lenten Services, Applegate Global Methodist 6:00 pm	20 Food Truck Valiant Ministries 12-2 p.m. 	21	22
23 10 am Worship 30	24 31	25	26 Lenten Services, Cros-Lex Assembly of God 6:00 pm	27	28	29

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To view our services online copy and paste into your browser:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/Sp81Xi763weTSfkt>

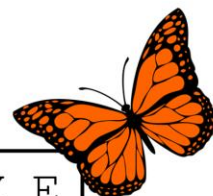
KIDS CORNOR

Spring Word Search

Name: _____



Spring Flowers



P	T	T	X	C	P	E	T	U	N	I	A	N	X	E
O	A	S	Y	I	S	V	I	O	L	E	T	F	A	G
P	A	J	D	A	I	S	Y	Y	L	R	N	Y	A	E
P	Z	Q	C	R	O	C	U	S	I	U	Z	I	H	R
Y	C	O	S	M	O	S	C	D	L	O	H	G	N	A
S	U	N	F	L	O	W	E	R	Y	T	S	B	W	N
D	M	D	C	H	F	R	D	V	Y	Z	I	O	P	I
L	Q	S	A	Q	N	Z	V	S	A	Z	R	K	A	U
O	K	C	R	F	B	R	R	Y	D	Z	I	A	N	M
G	K	A	N	A	F	O	O	E	O	Z	A	S	S	U
I	E	L	A	L	F	O	D	S	K	N	C	L	Y	X
R	M	I	T	Z	G	E	D	E	E	E	A	L	E	U
A	O	L	I	G	U	Z	P	I	Z	I	N	N	I	A
M	Q	T	O	Q	X	U	A	L	L	D	J	N	K	Y
Y	R	O	N	L	T	O	Y	F	T	U	L	I	P	S

Word list:

AZALEA

DAISY

LILY

ROSE

CARNATION

FORSYTHIA

MARIGOLD

SUNFLOWER

COSMOS

GERANIUM

PANSY

TULIP

CROCUS

IRIS

PETUNIA

VIOLET

DAFFODIL

LILAC

POPPY

ZINNIA

