

NEWSLETTER

First Presbyterian Church of Croswell

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

To view our service online, type into your browser:

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

What Is Lent All About, and Why Is It Important?

Lent serves as a crucial time of spiritual growth and introspection for Christians. By dedicating this season to prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, believers engage in a structured reflection of their lives, aligning their hearts more closely with the teachings of Jesus.

Lent is a significant season in the Christian liturgical calendar, observed by many denominations as a time of reflection, penance, and spiritual growth. It lasts for 40 days, not including Sundays, leading up to Easter Sunday—the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. While its practices and observances may vary among different Christian traditions, the essence of Lent remains a period of preparation and renewal, inviting believers to deepen their relationship with God.

The Importance of Lent for Spiritual Growth

Lent serves as a crucial time of spiritual growth and introspection for Christians. By dedicating this season to prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, believers engage in a structured reflection of their lives, aligning their hearts more closely with the teachings of Jesus. This journey of self-examination often reveals areas needing improvement, inviting individuals to confront weaknesses, biases, or distractions that may impede their faith journey.

Moreover, Lent beckons Christians to remember their dependence on God's grace. The practice of fasting, in particular, reminds us of our material needs and spiritual hunger, inviting an acknowledgment that true sustenance comes from God alone. By reorienting their focus during this season, believers can experience a transformative renewal of faith, allowing them to enter into the joyous celebration of Easter with a more profound understanding of Christ's sacrifice and resurrection.

Lent and the Journey Toward Easter

As with any significant journey, Lent culminates in a moment of high importance: Easter. The weeks of preparation create a deeper appreciation for the events of Holy Week leading to Easter Sunday. Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday mark pivotal moments that recount Christ's last supper, crucifixion, and the profound stillness before the resurrection. Coming out of Lent bolstered by prayer, fasting, and service, Christians enter into Easter filled with hope, joy, and gratitude for the new life offered through Jesus's resurrection.

Celebrating Easter is an acknowledgment not just of Christ's victory over death but also of the transformative work He accomplishes within believers' hearts during Lent. The season prepares Christians to receive this gift more fully, encouraging them to carry its message of hope and renewal into their lives, and into the world, throughout the remainder of the year.

Conclusion: Embracing Lent's Spiritual Significance

In summary, Lent is a significant time for Christians, offering opportunities for deep reflection, repentance, and renewal of faith. The practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are designed to lead believers into a closer relationship with God, preparing them for the celebration of Easter and the realities of the resurrection. Engaging fully in the Lenten season allows individuals to reflect on their spiritual lives, recognize the power of grace, and emerge with hearts renewed and ready to celebrate the new life offered in Christ. By embracing the spiritual significance of Lent, Christians can experience profound transformation, ultimately leading to a richer, more vibrant faith journey.

February 2026



Prayer Requests

Jim Kettlewell is receiving rehab at Medi lodge of Fort Gratiot.

Erin Snyder (Michelle Sutton's daughter - granddaughter of Hal and Fran Sutton) - hospital with pneumonia recently returned home with antibiotics.

Adam Snyder (Michelle Sutton's son) - hospital - heart issues

Michelle Snyder - prayers for strength and peace as she tends to the needs of her children.

Lisa Haddix - father passed away in early January

Vanessa & Paul Nehmer and family and the Sly family on the recent passing of her mother, Jean Sly

FEBRUARY QUOTES

Short and Positive February Quotes for a Happy Month

“In February there is everything to hope for and nothing to regret.” -Patience Strong

“Though February is short, it is filled with lots of love and sweet surprises.” -Charmaine J. Forde

“In the depth of winter, I finally learned that there was in me an invincible summer.” -Albert Camus

“One kind word can warm three winter months.” -Japanese proverb

“While it is February one can taste the full joys of anticipation. Spring stands at the gate with her finger on the latch.” -Patience Strong

“Never dull your shine for somebody else.” -Tyra Banks

“Winter forms our character and brings out our best.” -Tom Allen

“You were born to stand out, stop trying to fit in.” -Roy T. Bennett

“Make the most of yourself...for that is all there is of you.” -Ralph Waldo Emerson

“Just be yourself, there is no one better.” -Taylor Swift

“Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can.” -Arthur Ashe

“What good is the warmth of summer, without the cold of winter to give it sweetness.” -John Steinbeck

“No winter lasts forever; no spring skips its turn.” -Hal Borland

“Work hard in silence, let success be your noise.” -Frank Ocean

“Winter is the time for study, you know, and the colder it is, the more studious we are.” -Henry David Thoreau

“Dreams don't work unless you do.” -John C Maxwell

“Winter teaches us that not everything in life is about growth. Sometimes we need to embrace the quiet moments of rest.” -Morgan Harper Nichols

“The future depends on what you do today.” -Mahatma Gandhi

“Every noble achievement is a dream before it is a reality.” -Patience Strong

“The winter solstice has always been special to me as a barren darkness that gives birth to a verdant future beyond imagination.” -Gary Zukav

Funny Short February Quotes for Less Stress This Year

“Why does February feel like one big Tuesday?” -Todd Stocker

“To shorten winter, borrow some money due in spring.” -W.J. Vogel

“February is the shortest month, so if you're having a miserable month, try to schedule it for February.” -Lemony Snicket

“February, when the days of winter seem endless and no amount of wistful recollecting can bring back any air of summer.” -Shirley Jackson

“Never take shortcuts in winter.” -Bear Grylls

“I like these cold, gray winter days. Days like these let you savor a bad mood.” -Bill Watterson

“For every snowflake that falls, an idiot forgets how to drive.” -Unknown

“The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched - they must be felt with the heart.” -Helen Keller

“February days are a marketing gimmick, love happens every day.” -Randeep Hooda

“When you're lucky enough to meet your one person, then life takes a turn for the best.” -John Krasinski

“Love has nothing to do with what you are expecting to get, only with what you are expecting to give.” -Katherine Hepburn

“Love is the greatest refreshment in life.” -Pablo Picasso

VALENTINE'S DAY

Valentine's Day, holiday(February 14) when lovers express their affection with greetings and gifts. Given their similarities, it has been suggested that the holiday has origins in the Roman festival of Lupercalia, held in mid-February. The festival, which celebrated the coming of spring, included fertility rites and the pairing off of women with men by lottery. At the end of the 5th century, Pope Gelasius I forbid the celebration of Lupercalia and is sometimes attributed with replacing it with St. Valentine's Day, but the true origin of the holiday is vague at best. Valentine's Day did not come to be celebrated as a day of romance until about the 14th century

Although there were several Christian martyrs named Valentine, the day may have taken its name from a priest who was martyred about 270 ce by the emperor Claudius II Gothicus. According to legend, the priest signed a letter "from your Valentine" to his jailer's daughter, whom he had befriended and, by some accounts, healed from blindness. Other accounts hold that it was St. Valentine of Terni, a bishop, for whom the holiday was named, though it is possible the two saints were actually one person. Another common legend states that St. Valentine defied the emperor's orders and secretly married couples to spare the husbands from war. It is for this reason that his feast day is associated with love.

Formal messages, or valentines, appeared in the 1500s, and by the late 1700s commercially printed cards were being used. The first commercial valentines in the United States were printed in the mid-1800s. Valentines commonly depict Cupid, the Roman god of love, along with hearts, traditionally the seat of emotion. Because it was thought that the avian mating season begins in mid-February, birds also became a symbol of the day. Traditional gifts include candy and flowers, particularly red roses, a symbol of beauty and love.

The day is popular in the United States as well as in Britain, Canada, and Australia, and it is also celebrated in other countries, including Argentina, France, Mexico, and South Korea. In the Philippines it is the most common wedding anniversary, and mass weddings of hundreds of couples are not uncommon on that date. The holiday has expanded to expressions of affection among relatives and friends. Many schoolchildren exchange valentines with one another on this day.

BLANKET SUNDAY

The Presbyterian Women will again be sponsoring Blanket Sunday throughout the month of February. These blankets are distributed throughout the world when disasters strike or for those in need. Brochures and envelopes are located at the back of the church. \$10.00 donations buy one blanket. Please make checks out to Presbyterian Women as we will be sending one check alone with the PW donation. Envelopes may be placed in the offering plate at the rear of the church. Thank you in advance for your thoughtful donation.

From your little Library in the corner....

The new year is the time many of us vow to take better care of our bodies, through diet and exercise. But what about the “Care of the Soul”? This book’s title tells it all: “*Care of the Soul: A Guide for Cultivating Depth and Sacredness in Everyday Life*”. Intrigued? It’s waiting for you in our little Church library! (Golden Beige Dot – Self-Help Section)

“Children will love Max Lucado’s delightful new character – a common caterpillar named Hermie. But Hermie doesn’t like being so common. He doesn’t think he’s special. This extraordinary tale teaches children that God has made each one of us unique, but most of all, He wants us to be just like Jesus.” From *Hermie, A Common Caterpillar* by Max Lucado. (Yellow Dot – Children Section)

“An unforgettable story of two brothers and the only woman whose love can set them both free.” From *Just Beyond the Clouds*, by Karen Kingsbury. (Purple Dot – Adult Fiction)

Stuck in a mental snowbank yearning to be somewhere else??? Check out a good book to climb into???



Happy
Birthday



2 nd	Ann Erickson
5 th	Audrey Warner
11 th	Carter Young
	Cindy Hull
15 th	Raeleen Sample
20 th	Tom Fockler
24 th	Steve Oldford
25 th	Dayna Wright
28 th	Kyle Hosler

No Anniversaries

SPECIAL DAYS IN FEBRUARY

Feb. 1

Candy -Making Day
Change Your Password Day
G. I. Goe Day
National Get Up Day

Feb. 2

Crepe Day
Dump Your Significant Jerk Day
GroundHog Day

Feb. 3

The Day The Music died
Wear Orange Day

Feb. 4

I Heart Horror Day
Quacker Day
Thank Your Mailman Day
Winter Walk To School Day

Feb. 5

World Nutella Day
Weatherman's Day

Feb. 6

Bubble Gun Day
Give Kids A Smile Day
Wear Red Day
Working Naked Day

Feb. 7

Ballet Day
National Ice Cream For Breakfast Day
National Play Outside Day
Take Your Child To The Library Day
Who Shall I Be Day

Feb. 8

Opera Day
World Marriage Day

Feb. 9

Meal Monday
National Pizza Day
Read in the Bathtub Day
Toothache Day

Feb. 10

Umbrella Day
Safer Internet Day
World Pulses Day
Extraterrestrial Visitor Day

Feb. 11

Be Electrific Day
Don't Cry Over Spilled Milk Day
White Shirt Day

Feb. 12

Lincoln's Birthday
Paul Bunyan Day
Safety Pup Day

Feb. 13

Blame Someone Else Day
Desperation Day
Get a Different Name Day
National Cheddar Day

Feb. 14

Ferris Wheel Day
National Have A Heart Day
Quirky Alone Day
Valentines Day

Feb. 15

Love Reset Day
National Gum Drop Day
National Hippo Day

Feb. 16

National Almond Day
Presidents Day

Feb. 17

My Way Day
Paczki Day
Who Shall I Be Day

Feb. 18

Ash Wednesday
Cow Milked While Flying In An
Airplane Day
Lent

Feb. 19

Chocolate Mint Day
National Lashes Day
The Great American Spit Out

Feb. 20

National Comfy Day
National Leadership Day
No One Eats Alone Day
Tartar Sauce Day

Feb. 21

National Red Sock Day

Feb. 22

Bus Driver Appreciation Day
For The Love of Mike Day

Feb. 23

National Cupcake Day
National Dog Biscuit Day'
Play More Cards Day
Tootsie Roll Day

Feb. 24

Forget Me Not Day
National Dance Day
National Tortilla Day

Feb. 25

Pink Shirt Day
Rubber Ducky Day

Feb. 26

National Chili Day
National Set A Good Example Day

Feb. 27

Pokemon Day
Skip The Straw Day

Feb. 28

National Public Sleeping Day
National Tooth Fairy Day
Open That Bottle Night

Weekly

Wk 1	National School Counseling
Wk 2	Jell-o Wk Love Makes the World Go Round; But, Laughter Keeps Us From Getting Dizzy
Wk.3	Random Acts of Kindness
Wk.4	Bird Health Awarness

Montly

Library Lovers Month
National Hot Breakfast Month
National Snack Food Month
Pull Your Sofa Off The Wall Month
National Parent Leadership Month

Dates to Remember



FEBRUARY 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1. 10am Worship Pulpit Supply Elder Lisa Naveen	2	3	4	5	6	7.
8. 10am Worship Communion Pulpit Supply Rev. Kim Strunz	9	10. Deacon's Mtg. 6:00 pm Session Mtg. 7:00 pm	11.	12.	13.	14.
15. 10 am Worship Pulpit Supply Rev. Linda Fuller	16	17.	18. 	19. Food Give-away, 12-2 pm Valiant Ministries	20.	21.
22. 10 am Worship Pulpit Supply Karmen McMillen	23.	24.	24.	26.	27.	28

First Presbyterian Church of Croswell

7 South Howard

Croswell, MI 48422

810-679-3352

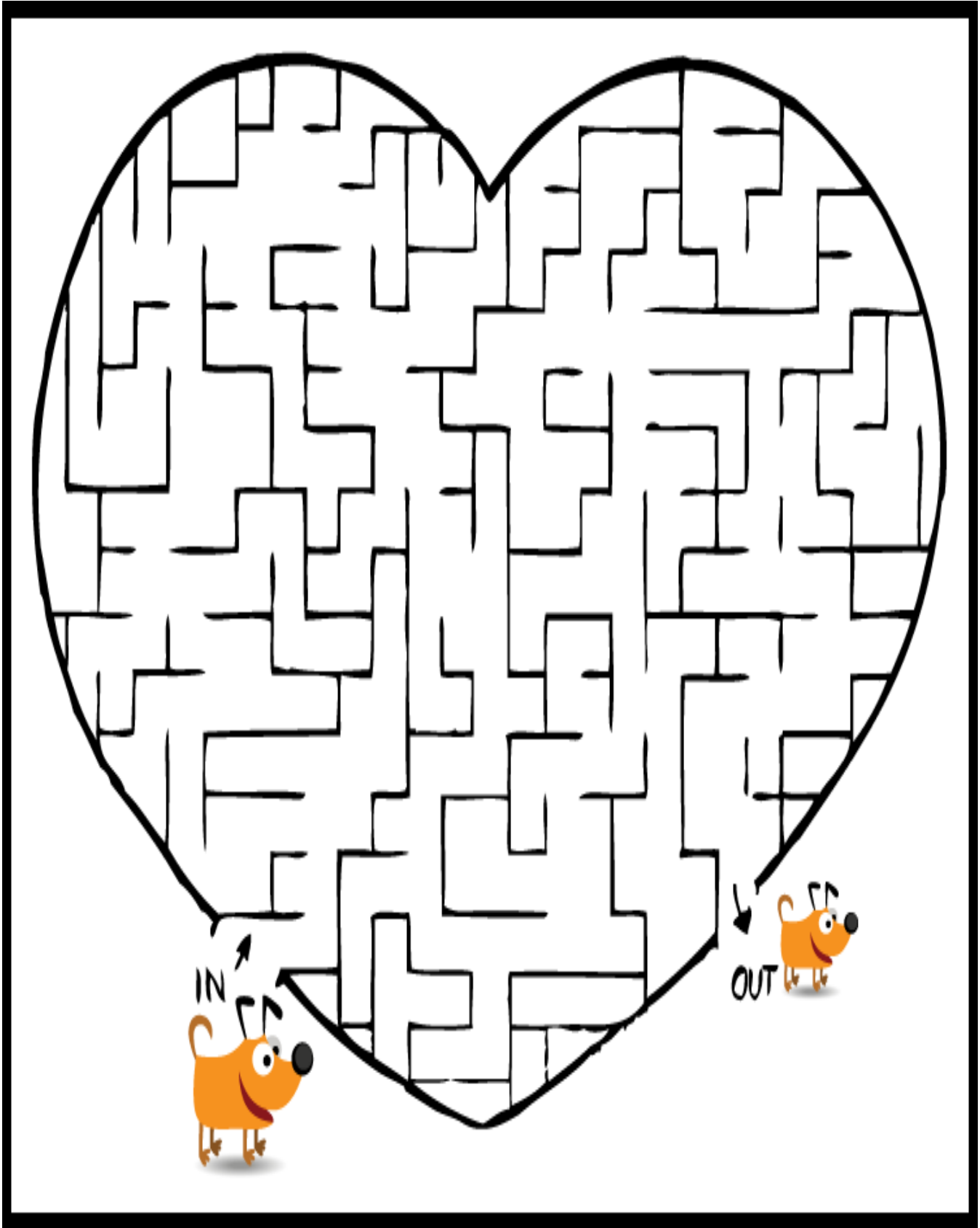
Email: firstpresbycros@gmail.com

Visit Our Web Page: <https://croswellpresbyterian.org>

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

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

KIDS CORNER



You're invited to worship during

LENT

with the Cros-Lex Ministerial Association

Services on Wednesdays at 6 PM

FEBRUARY 25

Valiant Ministries

5242 N Black River Rd, Croswell, MI 48422

MARCH 4

Croswell Wesleyan

200 Peck Rd, Croswell, MI 48422

MARCH 11

Lexington UMC

5597 Main St, Lexington, MI 48450

MARCH 18

Croswell FMC

13 N Howard Ave, Croswell, MI 48422

MARCH 25

Cros-Lex Assembly

101 W Sanborn Ave, Croswell, MI 48422

APRIL 3 - GOOD FRIDAY (12 NOON)

Applegate Methodist

4792 Church St, Applegate, MI 48401