

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>

Meaning of Palm Sunday

The various Bible gospel books in the hold accounts of what happened on Palm Sunday. Let's take a look at Matthew's account:

"As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away." This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet "Say to Daughter Zion, 'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Hosanna in the highest heaven!" When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?" The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."
~Matthew 21:1-11

Palm Sunday remembers and celebrates when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, as foretold in a prophecy in the Old Testament in Isaiah and Zechariah.

"Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey."(Zechariah 9:9)

The people wanted an insurrectionist to topple Rome. Jesus did come to defeat an enemy, but not the one they had in mind. Instead, He came to defeat the enemies of sin, death, and the devil that ensnared every man and woman since Adam and Eve.

According to Crosswalk, "Palm Sunday was the first day of Holy Week leading up to the Jewish holiday of Passover. Jesus rode on a donkey through the town of Jerusalem on His way to conquer death and bring us life through His sacrifice on the cross." —

Jesus voluntarily gave Himself as our sacrificial Passover lamb when they led him to his death on the Friday of that week.

What Do Palm Branches Represent?

So why did the people wave palm branches and place them at the feet of Jesus' colt? No doubt, in Palestine, where Jesus ministered, there were plenty of palm trees scattered throughout the land. But what was the meaning of using palm trees?

According to Easton's Bible Dictionary, the branches and trees actually have a significant meaning. People didn't just grab whatever leaves they could find for no reason.

"Its branches are a symbol of victory (Revelation 7:9). "Rising with slender stems 40 or 50, at times even 80, feet aloft, its only branches, the feathery, snow-like, pale-green fronds from 6 to 12 feet long, bending from its top, the palm attracts the eye wherever it is seen." The whole land of Palestine was called by the Greeks and Romans Phoenicia, i.e., "the land of palms."

The Jewish people wanted victory, victory over the Romans who had invaded their land. Jesus did come to enact a victory, but not quite the one they had in mind.

When we use palm branches in our services, we can remember how Jesus conquered death for us to have a chance of salvation through Him.

March 2026



Prayer Requests

Karen VanDyke - recent hip replacement and recovery

Linda Fuller - recently hospitalized for health concerns. She is home covering.

Sue Holbrook - recent hospital tests and is home.

Jim Kettlewell - continues rehab at Medilodge of Fort Gratiot

Those in our church family going through tests, surgeries and illnesses.

Those going through difficult times and suffering recent losses.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT:

Born to Kaitlin Barrett and Robert Lafata a baby girl, Blakely Thomas Lafata on February 17, 2026, her Great Grandpa Tom's 80th birthday. She is welcomed by big sister Brighton, grandparents Kim and Andrew Young, Mike and Kylee Barrett and CR and Trish Lafata. Great grandparents Tom and Gayla Todd.

Congratulations to all the family on the blessing of this precious baby girl.

MARCH QUOTES

Inspirational Quotes to Embrace March

March is a time for urging us to embrace change and take bold steps forward. Let these powerful quotes inspire you to cultivate new beginnings, shed negativity, and nurture your aspirations this month.

1. “Every small step is a giant leap toward your dreams.”
2. “In March, let your courage bloom like the flowers.”
3. “Change is the soil where new beginnings take root.”
4. “With each dawn, the chance for renewal unfolds.”
5. “Embrace the winds of change; they carry your wings.”
6. “Let go of the past; it’s time to plant your future.”
7. “Your journey starts with a single brave choice.”
8. “March forward, for every step brings growth.”
9. “Nurture your dreams; they’re seeds of tomorrow.”
10. “Doubt is a shadow; step into the light of action.”
11. “The beauty of March is in its promise of fresh starts.”
12. “Cultivate intentions; they’ll blossom into realities.”
13. “Every end is a chance for a new beginning.”
14. “Your potential is waiting; don’t keep it waiting.”
15. “Let the winds of March guide your aspirations skyward.”
16. “Bravery is a muscle; exercise it this month.”
17. “March is a canvas; paint it with courage and hope.”
18. “Small beginnings can lead to extraordinary journeys.”
19. “Renew your spirit; each day is a blank page.”
20. “Take the leap; the net will appear beneath you.”

As March ushers in the promise of spring, it also offers a unique opportunity for personal growth. Embrace this transformative season by setting small, achievable goals and letting go of habits that no longer serve you.

This month, let’s gather inspiration from uplifting thoughts that can guide us through challenges and ignite hope within.

March the season of renewal, it’s a perfect time to cultivate resilience and fortitude. Embrace the winds of change, letting them inspire you to rise stronger.

Motivational March Quotes for a Fresh Start

March is a month of renewal and growth, and set new intentions. Let these motivational quotes inspire you to take action, cultivate positive habits, and embark on a fresh start.

1. “Small steps today lead to giant leaps tomorrow.”
2. “Every sunrise is an invitation to begin anew.”
3. “Progress isn’t perfection; it’s the journey of persistence.”
4. “Reset your mindset; today is your blank canvas.”
5. “Embrace the discomfort of change; it’s where growth happens.”
6. “Let each moment be a stepping stone to your dreams.”
7. “You are the architect of your own transformation.”
8. “Dare to start; the magic lies in the doing.”
9. “With every choice, you write your own story.”
10. “Courage blooms in the face of uncertainty.”
11. “Reimagine your limits; they exist only in your mind.”
12. “Stay curious; exploration is the key to growth.”
13. “Habit is the bridge between your goals and achievements.”
14. “Challenge the ordinary; greatness lives beyond comfort.”
15. “Reset, refocus, and rise above yesterday’s limitations.”
16. “Let your actions speak louder than your fears.”
17. “Every step forward, no matter how small, is a victory.”
18. “Persistence transforms dreams into reality.”
19. “The future is shaped by the choices you make today.”
20. “March forward with intention; the journey is yours to define.”

You’re ready to step into March with intention, and these quotes are your pocket-sized cheerleaders cheering louder than a thousand marching bands. Let them nudge you toward fresh starts, springtime growth, and the resilience you already carry. Whenever doubt creeps in, return to these lines for courage, clarity, and gentle reminders that change is possible. Embrace the month with curiosity, act on small promises to yourself, and watch progress unfold day by day.

When does spring start?

Written By: [Catherine Boeckmann](#) Executive Digital Editor and Master Gardener

Welcome, vernal equinox! Are you excited about the start of spring? Learn how daylight grows longer, flowers begin to bloom, and nature awakens from its winter slumber. Embrace the season of renewal and fresh beginnings!

When Is the First Day of Spring 2026?

In 2026, the March equinox happens on March 20 at 10:46 A.M. EDT. This falls on a Friday and is the astronomical beginning of the spring season in the Northern Hemisphere and the autumn season in the Southern Hemisphere.

If you thought that the spring equinox only ever occurred on March 21, you may be dating yourself. The civil calendar date of the equinox continues to shift every year. Find out why.

What Is the Spring Equinox?

In the Northern Hemisphere, the spring equinox (also called the March equinox or vernal equinox across the globe) occurs when the Sun crosses the celestial equator going south to north. It's called the *celestial equator* because it's an imaginary line in the sky above Earth's equator. Imagine standing on the equator; the Sun would pass directly overhead on its way north.

On the March equinox, the Northern Hemisphere and Southern Hemisphere receive roughly equal amounts of sunlight; neither hemisphere is tilted more toward or away from the Sun than the other. Although in most locations (the North Pole and the equator being exceptions), the amount of daylight had been increasing each day after the and after the spring equinox, many places will experience more daylight than darkness in each 24-hour day. The amount of daylight each day will continue to increase until the summer solstice (in June), when the longest period of daylight occurs.

Here's an interesting fact: Equinoxes are the only two times of year when the Sun rises due east and sets due west for all of us on Earth! While the Sun passes overhead, the tilt of Earth is zero relative to the Sun, which means that Earth's axis neither points toward nor away from the Sun. (Note, however, that Earth never orbits upright but is always tilted on its axis by about 23.5 degrees.)

REMINDER: Daylight Savings Time Begins, March 8th, 2026 – SPRING FORWARD

FREE - After doing some spring cleaning the church has some plates, cups, etc. in need of a new home. They were previously used when the church put on large dinners. If you are interested, please let any of the PW members know by March 20th.

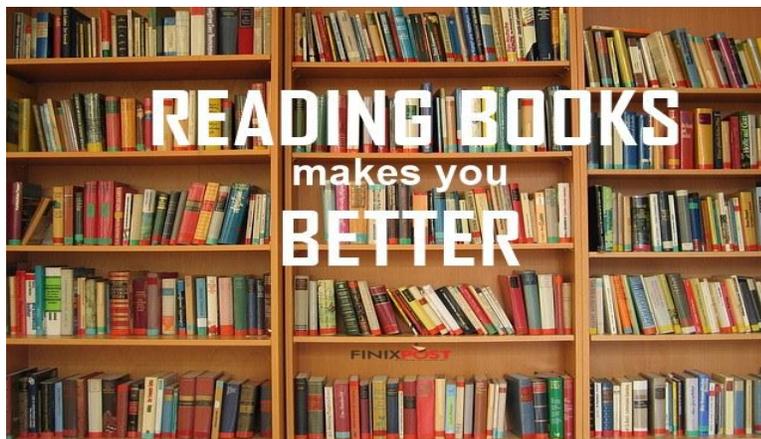
From your little Library in the corner....

“Over the course of the past several years, Tim Tebow has established himself as one of the greatest quarterbacks in the history of college football and ...has been drafted by the Denver Broncos. Now, Tebow writes about life as he chooses to live it, revealing how his Christian faith, his family values, and his relentless drive to succeed have molded him into the person and the athlete he is today.” From *Through My Eyes*, by Tim Tebow. (Blue Dot – Christianity).

“Warning: This book should only be read by imperfect, flawed people in serious need of God’s amazing grace. Thank you, Ruth Graham, for having the courage to bare your soul and then lead others back toward God’s welcoming arms.” Written by Philip Yancey about “*In Every Pew Sits a Broken Heart: Hope for the Hurting.*” by Ruth Graham (daughter of Ruth and Billy Graham). (Orange Dot – Meditation & Prayer)

In this Veggie Town Values tale, Junior Asparagus and Laura Carrot learn that patience is a virtue – especially if you’re in a hurry! From *Ben Hurry*, by Doug Peterson. (Yellow Dot - Children)

Getting cabin fever??? Hummm??? Try reading a book to escape the cold and lift your spirit(s)!



Happy
Birthday



3rd Cheryl Hosler
Meredith Hurley
4th Christopher Matthews
7th Meredith Francis
10th Steven Soule
16th Gerald Warner
20th Kelly Holbrook
21st Trevor Soule
22nd Sue Kinsley
Sue Weller
Jon Lusher
29th Curt Soule
30th Linda Fuller

3rd Larry & Barbara Pabst

SPECIAL DAYS IN MARCH

March 1

Baby Sleep Day
Horse Protection Day
National Peanut Lovers Day
Pig Day

March 2

Dr. Seuss Day
Fun Facts About Names Day

March 3

I Want You To Be Happy Day
Princess Day
Soup It Forward Day
Unique Names Day
What If Cats and Dogs Had Opposable
Thumbs Day

March 4

Hug A G.I. Day
March Forth-Do Something Day
National Sons Day

March 5

National Cheetos Day
National Pasty Day
Slam the Scam Day

March 6

Day of The Dude
Dress in Blue Day
Oreo Cookie Day
World Day of Prayer

March 7

National Be Heard Day
National Cereal Day
National Play Outside Day
Sock Monkey Day

March 8

Daylight Saving Time Begins
Hockey USA Day

March 9

Get Over It Day
Napping Day
Panic Day

March 10

International Bagpipe Day
Mario Day
Salvation Army Day

March. 11

National 311 Day
National Promposal Day
Dream 2026 Day

March 12

Working Moms Day
Girl Scout Birthday Day

March 13

Donald Duck Day
Earmuffs Day
Smart and Secy Day
World Sleep Day

March 14

International Ask A Question Day
Potato Chip Day

March 15

Brutus Day
Buzzards Day
Mothering Sunday
True Confessions Day

March 16

Campfire Girls Day
Lips Appreciation Day
No selfies Day

March 17

National Slime Day
St. Patrick's Day

March 18

National Sloppy Joe Day

March 19

International Read To Me Day
National Backyard Day
National Chocolate Caramel Day
National Poultry Day

Raspberry Day

March 20

Alien Abduction Day
Great American Meat Out Day
International Day of Happiness
Won't You Be My Neighbor Day

March 21

Memory Day
National Common Courtesy Day
National Corn Dog Day
National Single Parent Day

March 22

As Young As You Feel Day
Talk Like William Shatner Day

March 23

National Puppy Day
National Tamale Day

March 24

National Mock Cocktail Day

March 25

Little Red Wagon Day
Pecan Day
International Balloon Animal Day

March 26

Live Long and Prosper Day
Make Up Your Own Holiday Day

Purple Day

March 27

Frozen Dead Guy Days
World Cheese Day

March 28

Be Mad Day

March 29

Palm Sunday
Smoke & Mirrors Day

March 30

Grass Is Always Browner On The
Other Side Of The Fence Day

March 31

National Tater Day

Weekly

Wk 1 Return the Borrowed Books
Celebrate Your Name Wk
Termite Awareness Wk
Wk 2 National Procrastination Wk
Wk.3 Act happy Wk
National Fix A Leak Wk
Wk.4 Passion Wk
Holy Wk

Monthly

Adopt A Rescued Guinea Pig Month
Holy Humor Month
Mad for Plaid Month
National Peanut Month
National On-Hold Month

Dates to Remember



MARCH 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1. 10am Worship Pulpit Supply Elder Lisa Naveen	2	3	4 Lenten services Applegate Methodist 6 pm	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. Lenten services Lexington UMF 6 pm	12.	13.	14.
15. 10 am Worship Pulpit Supply Rev. Linda Fuller	16	17.	18. Lenten services Valiant Ministries 6 pm	19. Food Give-away, 12-2 pm Valiant Ministries	20.	21. Game Night 5:00 pm
22. 10 am Worship Pulpit Supply Mr. Todd Shoudy	23.	24.	25. Lenten services Cros/Lex Assembly 6 pm	26.	27.	28
29 Palm Sunday 10 am Worship Pulpit Supply Rev. Linda Fuller	30	31				

First Presbyterian Church of Croswell
7 South Howard
Croswell, MI 48422
810-679-3352

Email: firstpresbycros@gmail.com

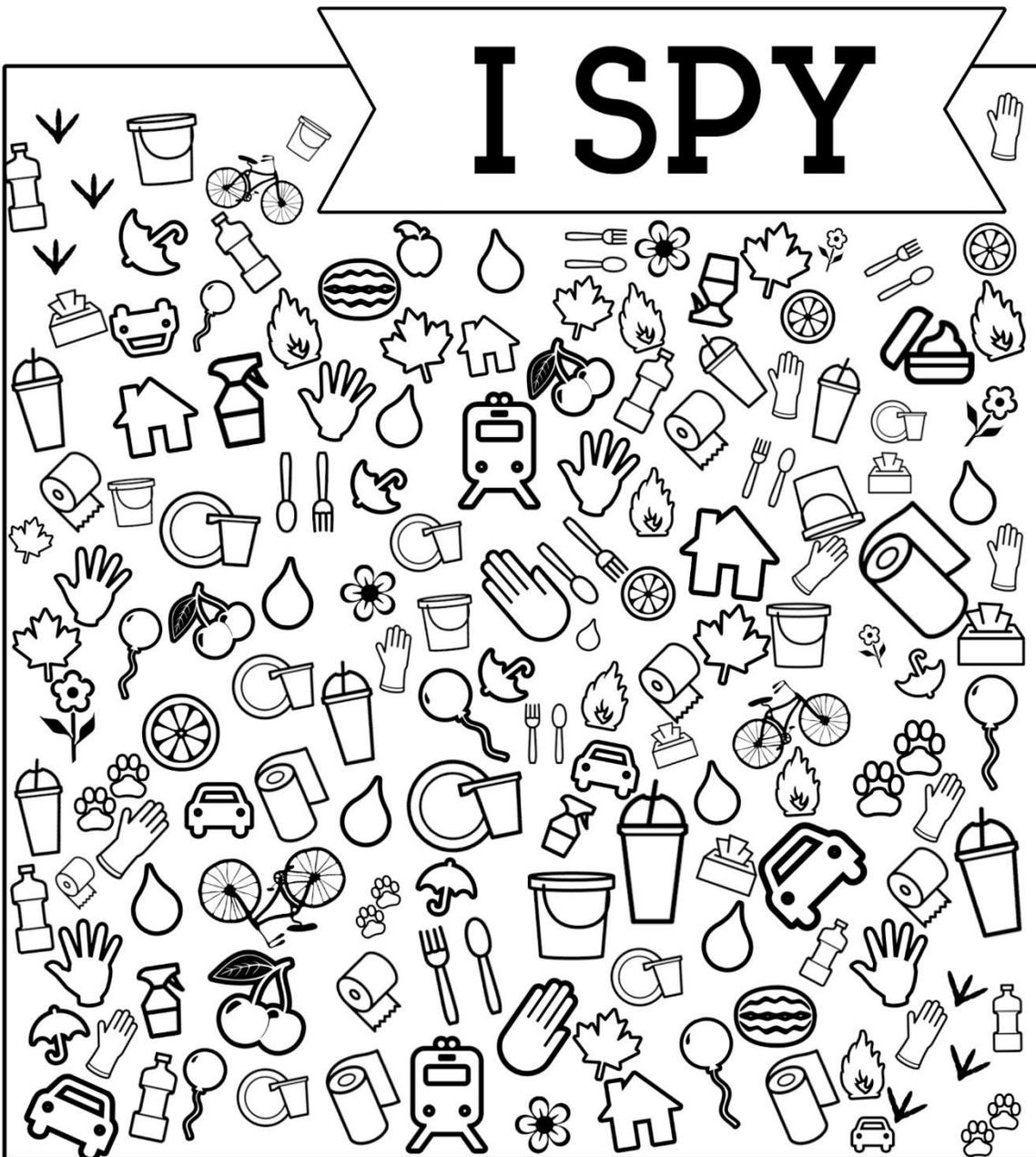
Visit Our Web Page: <https://croswellpresbyterian.org>

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

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

KIDS CORNER

I SPY

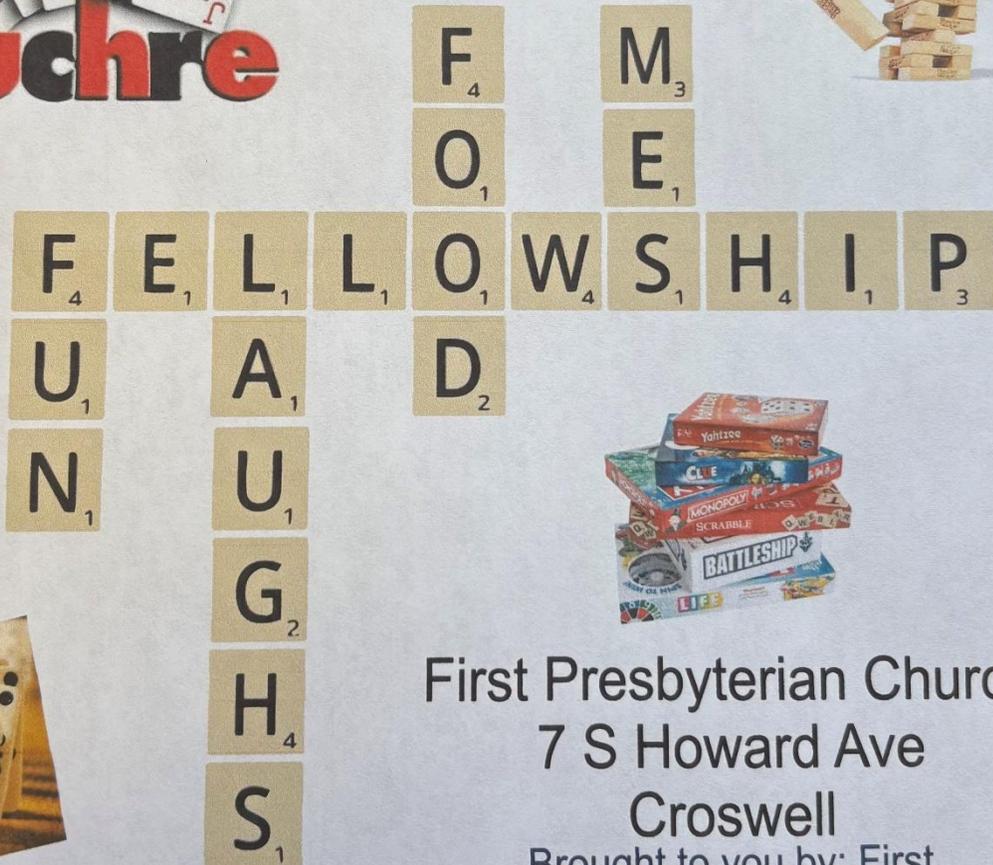
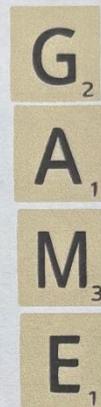


- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|
| 2 | | 4 | | 4 | | 2 | | 4 | | 5 | | 7 | | 4 | | 6 | |
| 1 | | 6 | | 7 | | 1 | | 3 | | 6 | | 7 | | 4 | | 7 | |
| 3 | | 2 | | 4 | | 6 | | 2 | | 7 | | 3 | | 9 | | 6 | |

GAME NIGHT

A fun break from winter.

MARCH 21
@ 5:00 pm



First Presbyterian Church
7 S Howard Ave
Crosswell
Brought to you by: First

PRESBYTERIAN DEACONS

UPDATED LENT FLYER – PLEASE REVIEW

You're invited to worship during

LENT

with the Cros-Lex Ministerial Association

Services on Wednesdays at 6 PM

FEBRUARY 25

Croswell FMC

13 n Howard Ave, Croswell MA

MARCH 4

Applegate Methodist

4792 Church St, Applegate, MA 48401

MARCH 11

Lexington UMC

5597 Main St, Lexington, MA 48450

MARCH 18

Valiant Ministries

5242 n Black River Rd, Croswell, MA

MARCH 25

Cros-Lex Assembly

101 W Sanborn Ave, Croswell, MA 48422

MAUNDY THURSDAY

APRIL 2 (6PM)

Croswell FMC

13 n Howard Ave, Croswell, MA 48422

APRIL 3 - GOOD FRIDAY (12 NOON)

Croswell Wesleyan

200 Peck Rd, Croswell, MA 48422