

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF
LAC DU FLAMBEAU
MARCH 2025 NEWSLETTER
VOLUME XXIII ISSUE III

Our Mission Statement:

As people of God and servants of our Lord Jesus Christ, we believe our Mission to be the building of a strong fellowship, ministering to the Spiritual and physical needs of the church, the community, and the world fulfilling our Lord's command to "Love our neighbors."



What is Ash Wednesday?

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a 40-day period of fasting, repentance, and spiritual preparation leading up to Easter. Traditionally observed by Catholics and now embraced by several Protestant denominations, Ash Wednesday serves as a solemn reminder of human mortality and the need for repentance.

During Ash Wednesday services, a priest or minister applies ashes in the shape of a cross on the foreheads of worshippers, often while reciting the words: *"Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return"* ([Genesis 3:19](#)). The ashes, typically made from the burned palm branches of the previous year's [Palm Sunday](#), symbolize grief over sin, humility before God, and the hope found in Christ's sacrifice on the cross.

Ash Wednesday also sets the stage for Lent, a season reflecting on Jesus' 40-day fast and temptation in the wilderness ([Matthew 4:1-11](#)). The day before, known as Shrove Tuesday or Fat Tuesday, is often a time of feasting before the fasting and discipline of Lent begin. Many cultures celebrate with indulgent foods like pancakes or pastries as a final moment of enjoyment before the season of reflection and self-denial.

When is Ash Wednesday?

For 2025, Ash Wednesday will be observed on March 5.

Ash Wednesday falls 46 days before Easter Sunday, marking the official start of Lent. Since Easter follows the lunar calendar rather than a fixed date, Ash Wednesday's date changes each year. It always takes place on a Wednesday, but the specific date shifts between February 4 and March 10 depending on when Easter is celebrated that year.

What is the meaning of wearing ashes and where do they come from?

The ashes used on Ash Wednesday typically come from the burning of palm branches from the previous year's [Palm Sunday](#) celebrations, remembering when Jesus rode a donkey into Jerusalem as the crowd waved Palm branches. After Palm Sunday, the palm branches are collected, dried, and burned to create the ashes used in the Ash Wednesday service. These ashes are then mixed with a small amount of water or oil to create a paste, which is applied to the foreheads of worshippers in the shape of a cross as a symbol of repentance and mortality.

The ashes are used to keep us in mind of our humble origin and of how the body of Adam, our forefather, was formed out of the dust of the earth; also to remind us of death, when our bodies will return to dust, and of the necessity of doing penance for our sins.

While the ashes remind us that we will die and return to the ground, if we believe in Jesus, we will be raised with Him in glorious new bodies.

Is Ash Wednesday in the Bible and what does it have to do with Lent?

Although Ash Wednesday is rich in Christian symbolism, you won't actually find it mentioned in the Bible. The tradition developed over time, starting with the Council of Nicea, which established a 40-day fasting period before Easter. There was some debate about when this period should start, but in the fifth century, Pope Gregory officially moved the beginning of Lent from a Sunday to Ash Wednesday. While the holiday itself isn't directly from Scripture, its core practices—fasting, prayer, and repentance—are deeply biblical.

The heart of Ash Wednesday and Lent is about turning back to God. The 40 days of Lent reflect Jesus' time in the wilderness, where He fasted and prepared for His ministry. For many Christians, this season is a time of self-reflection, letting go of distractions, and drawing closer to God as they prepare their hearts for Easter, the celebration of Jesus' [resurrection](#).

The story of Jesus' temptation in the wilderness is found in Matthew, Mark, and Luke. After being baptized, He spent 40 days fasting while Satan tempted Him three times, trying to take advantage of His hunger and exhaustion. But Jesus stood firm, responding with Scripture each time and refusing to give in. His victory over temptation is a powerful reminder that we can rely on God's Word and strength in our own struggles, too.



Birthdays

Pam Fraboni	March 3
Nancy DiCristina	March 12
Owen Karlmann	March 15
Dennis Robertson	March 25

ANNIVERSARIES

No known Anniversaries this month



Scripture readings for March 2025

March 2 – Transfiguration of the Lord

Ex. 34:29-35 and Ps. 99; 2 Cor. 3:12- 4:2; Luke 9:28-36 (37-43a)

March 5 – Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:1-2,12-17 Or Isa. 58:1-12 and Ps. 51:1-17; 2 Cor. 5:20b-6:10; Matt. 6:1-6, 16-21

March 9 – 1st Sunday in Lent

Deut. 26:1-11 and Ps. 91:1-2, 9-16; Rom. 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13

March 16 – 2nd Sunday in Lent

Gen. 15:1-12,17-18 and Ps.27; Phil. 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-35 or Luke 9:28-36(37-43a)

March 23 – 3rd Sunday in Lent

Isa. 55:1-9 and Ps. 63:1-8; 1 Cor. 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9

March 30 – 4th Sunday in Lent

Josh. 5:9-12 and Ps. 32; 2 Cor. 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32



Special Days for March

Transfiguration Sunday	March 2
Ash Wednesday	March 5

World day of Prayer
Daylight Savings Time
1st Day of Spring

March 7
March 9
March 20



The Ladies of Community Presbyterian Church

Which included Jill Consie, RuthAnn Kamerad, Deb Wilke, Rebecca Wright, and Mary Jane Stevens got together on January 29th to sign "Snowbird" cards and make up some special Valentine Boxes for those congregants that are unable to get out and attend our church services. These were dispersed right before Valentines Day. Plans are being made to meet once a month for various projects.



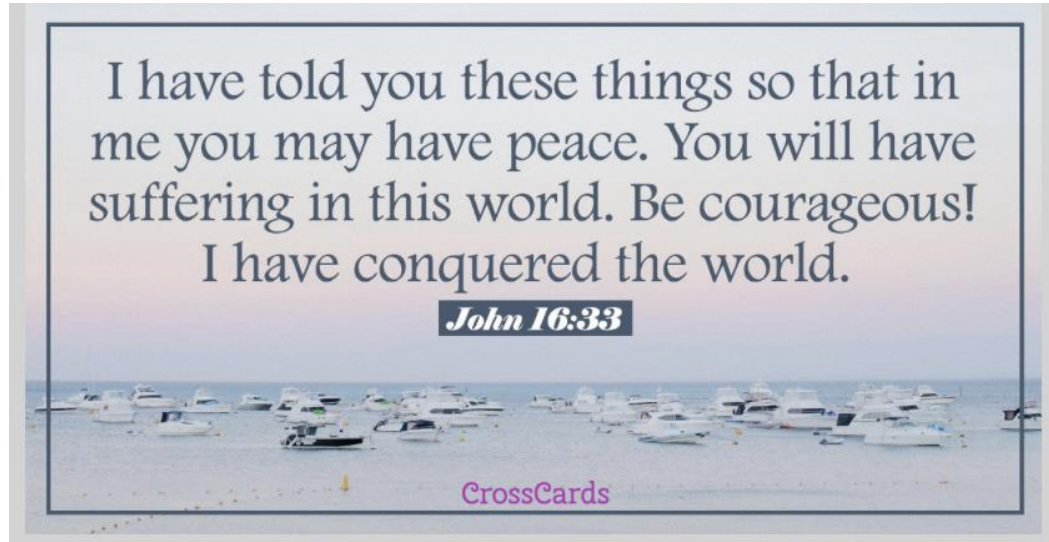
The Ladies of Community Presbyterian Church will be serving a soup and bread supper after the Ash Wednesday service on March 5th at 4:00 PM.

WE ARE IN NEED OF PEOPLE TO SIGN UP FOR:

USHERS

LITURGISTS

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS



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Articles are to be submitted by the last Sunday of the month.

If you are online, the following web addresses will provide you with news and information about the General Assembly, Synod of Lakes and Prairies, and the Presbytery of Northern Waters www.pcusa.org/crisis; outreach/evangelism; www.stopinfindout.org; northernwaters.net. We also have the Newsletter on our website: www.ldfchurch.com.

PASTOR: Terry Muck

CLERK OF SESSION: Mary Jane Stevens

TREASURER: Bill Raduege

THANKS TO The PEOPLE OF THE PAST,
THE PRESENT, AND YET TO BE

ELDERS:

Glenn Morrison

Owen Karlmann

Ralph Kerler

Jill Consie

Mary Jane Stevens

DEACONS:

Shirlee Gallagher – Moderator

Fran Raduege - Treasurer

Deb Wilke

Jan Garvey

Carol Gelwicks

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