

# Crossnore Presbyterian Church

## "Growing Deeper in Faith, Reaching Out in Love"

P. O. Box 386/200 Chapel Dr., Crossnore, NC 28616  
828-733-1939/cpcpcusa@gmail.com.  
www.crossnorepresbyterianchurch.org

### Announcements and Items of Interest

March 10, 2021

**Sunday, March 14, 2021— Sunday Worship on Zoom** delivered to your email by 11 a.m. on Sunday morning or mailed to you. You are invited to share in worship with our church family. You can receive an email that includes links to the zoom recordings of the worship service and sermon, as well as attached PDFs of the worship bulletin, sermon, announcements and prayer requests. If you would like to receive this weekly email, please contact the church office: cpcpcusa@gmail.com. You can also have a printed copy of the service, sermon, announcements and prayer requests sent through regular mail—just call the church office (828-733-1939) and give Ashlyn your current mailing address.

**Our General Fund is in need of support.** We have gotten a little behind in the past two months.



**2021 Lenten Global Mission Offering:** For over 70 years, *One Great Hour of Sharing* has provided Presbyterians a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world. The three

programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing are the *Presbyterian Disaster Assistance*, the *Presbyterian Hunger Program*, and the *Self-Development of People program*. Each works in a different way to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. This is an opportunity for us to spread Christ's love around the globe and be a part of the universal Body of Christ. If you would like to participate, make your check out to Crossnore Presbyterian Church, designate it for One Great Hour of Sharing, and mail it to: Crossnore Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 386, Crossnore, NC 28616.

**2021 Lenten Local Mission Offering:** We are still dispersing funds to our partner local non-profits. We have partnered with over 15 local non-profits since March 2020. If you would like to make a donation to be used for those in need in Avery County, make your check out to Crossnore Presbyterian Church, designate it for local mission, and mail it to: Crossnore Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 386, Crossnore, NC 28616.

**CPC prayer time via Zoom.** We meet each Thursday at 9:30 a.m. for approximately 30 minutes. We

pray for those on our church prayer list, for our family and friends, those who are ill, leaders at all levels, and those from whom we have received prayer requests. Please consider joining the small group that has been meeting for about a year now. It is a very special time. Just send me an email note asking to be put on the list and we will send you an email with the zoom link (it is sent out each week, usually by end of day on Wednesday). Hope to hear from you. Blessings, Barbara Ross, \_rossbw335@gmail.com

**Feeding Avery Families—News:** Please spread the word! FAF needs more space due to their rapid expansion to feed the hungry in Avery County. They are looking for 3-5 acres in the Newland area to build a 12,000 sq ft building. If you know of anyone to sell or donate land, please contact Dick or Jo-Ann (828-733-5127).

**Service Opportunities in Avery County include:** Reaching Avery Ministry (helping to pack food boxes)- 828-733-5127; Feeding Avery Families (unloading food supplies, packing boxes, and distributing boxes), sign up to volunteer on the Feeding Avery Families Facebook page. Volunteers are needed!!

#### March Birthdays

- \* SUSAN HARTLEY—MARCH 1
- \* MICHELE LEE—MARCH 1
- \* LOU MARTIN—MARCH 2
- \* DAWN BATES—MARCH 3
- \* JONATHAN KIDDER— MARCH 4
- \* SHERRI MCKINNEY—MARCH 5
- \* LINDA DRIVAS—MARCH 8
- \* DAVID EHMIG—MARCH 10
- \* JIM HARLLEE—MARCH 14
- \* BOB HARDEE—MARCH 16
- \* HEATHER JORDAN—MARCH 16
- \* BETTY REDMON FRANCE—MARCH 18
- \* LINDA BERKLEY—MARCH 21
- \* MARY NOBLE—MARCH 28
- \* FRANK MARTIN—MARCH 29
- \* LESLIE RICHARDSON—MARCH 29
- \* BOBBY TAYLOR—MARCH 29

#### Prayer Requests



- \* DR. STEVEN MOWERY
- \* BAGBY FAMILY
- \* NANCY COLEMAN
- \* DAWN BATES
- \* BILL AND BOBBIRAE HASSETT
- \* CHERYL KENYON
- \* JOE JORDAN
- \* CONNIE VUOLO, GABE VUOLO'S MOTHER
- \* MARTHA LIND, ERIN LIND
- \* CONNIE & RB DANNER
- \* FRANK DUNCAN
- \* JESSE & BARBARA DOWNING
- \* MARILYN GASCHO
- \* BONNIE VUOLO
- \* JANET WELLS
- \* TASHA REID
- \* MAGGIE LAUTERER
- \* MIKE KILGORE
- \* FRANK DUNCAN
- \* DAVID FRANCE
- \* FRANCES & LARRY BROWN

*Above all, maintain constant love for one another.....1 Peter 4:8*

#### A prayer of thanksgiving for the COVID-19 vaccines -

Merciful God, hear our prayers for a world that continues to grapple with a relentless virus, and our gratitude for the light beginning to emerge at the end of a long and deadly tunnel.

As vaccines are at last becoming available for COVID-19 and as people begin to be inoculated around the globe, we give thanks for all whose tireless labors have brought us to this day: technicians, scientists, medical personnel, biotech companies and government agencies that have worked together to find a cure that will restore our communities to wholeness and health. We pray that the reach of these vaccines will encompass the

world, especially those places where medical resources have far too often been inadequate to the need — places where histories of colonialism have left abiding scars and where under resourced medical systems are overwhelmed by the essential work of caring for those who have been infected.

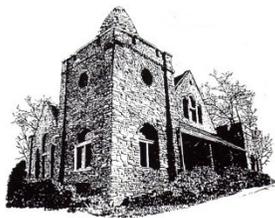
We continue to pray for healthcare workers around the globe who are running ragged after months of high-risk essential work on the frontlines of this pandemic. Grant them strength, endurance, wisdom and courage for the living of these days. We pray for all who are desperately ill, for those who grieve the loss of loved ones and for those whose physical, mental and economic well-being have

been most severely impacted by the havoc wrought by the pandemic. Grant wisdom to all entrusted with civic leadership as they discern and negotiate just ways in which to aid those most afflicted. Move our hearts to put partisanship aside for the common good, so that safeguards against the coronavirus will not be ignored and that our communities may be restored and revitalized.

Let us live in the Spirit of Christ for one another and for our world.

God, in your mercy, hear our prayers. Amen.

December 16, 2020 by Roger Gench



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March 10, 2021

### Daniel's Den

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## Why do we practice Ash Wednesday and What is Lent?

Hello Reader and thank you for your two questions. Since ancient times, humans have marked their repentance from sinfulness and their return to God through unique festivals and holidays. In the Christian tradition, part of the preparation time before Easter is the season of Lent, represented by the color purple in the church calendar. The word “Lent” is not about that stuff you clean out of the dryer; instead, it is a surprisingly secular word that came into Christian usage. Lent is derived from the Old English word “lencten”, which is the ancestral parent word of our modern English word “lengthen,” and references the lengthening of the daylight hours going into spring. Ash Wednesday is the start of Lent. It helps us prepare for the long road leading to the crucifixion, death, and resurrection of Jesus, making the season of Lent a “spiritual spring” where the flowers of our hearts are prepared to bloom into the glorious resurrection of Easter Sunday. The end of Lent happened on Holy Saturday during the Great Vigil of Easter, one of three midnight church services that celebrate the light of Christ.

Ash Wednesday has been celebrated as a day of fasting and repentance in the Christian Church since the First Council of Nicaea in 325 C.E., but at its core is the more ancient acknowledgment that we are finite creatures who often lose our way in life. In Christian language, we call this “losing of the way” sin; and, as our Jewish siblings of old, we use ashes or dust to show that we are in a state of mourning for the wrongs we have done to God and each other. This is done in one of two ways: in the Eastern Christian traditions, the dust or ash is sprinkled on the penitent’s head with the declaration “Repent, and believe the Gospel”; or, as is most common in the Western Christian traditions, the ash is affixed to the forehead in the sign of the cross followed by the dictum, “Remember you are dust, and dust you shall return”. To up the ante, many Christians will bind themselves with a Lenten oath to give up or refrain from something during the forty days of Lent. I have preferred to restrain myself with an oath that adds something to my already busy schedule, such as an additional hour of Bible study a day or an extra hour of volunteering. Many people find keeping their Lententide oaths difficult and soon fizzle out, but I will tell you the secret to keeping your pledge going all of Lent: cheat days. That is correct; you read it right—church-sanctioned cheat days. If you count the calendar days between Ash Wednesday and Holy Saturday, you will notice that there are forty-six days. This is because Sundays are considered feast days outside the forty days of Lententide. This is helpful as it allows you a little leeway to fulfill your oath faithfully, so do not worry if you have sworn to refrain from chocolate consumption during Lent as you are allowed to have that sinfully delicious chocolate pie after dinner on Sunday.



Have a question on church history, liturgy, sacred tradition, Presbyterianism, or more? Submit it to Daniel's Den at

[Daniel.Coffey@upsem.edu](mailto:Daniel.Coffey@upsem.edu).

Daniel Coffey, Union Presbyterian Seminary, Charlotte Student, (828) 386-5212