



FROM THE PASTOR:

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 2nd. This is a traditional time of fasting and reflection as we approach the celebration of Easter. "What are you giving up for Lent?" is a common question in many places. The decision on what to fast from often comes down to one thing that we really enjoy that we might be better off taking in moderation. Things like chocolate, soda pop, or Facebook are usual targets. Fasting can be a way to refocus our attention on God. Fasting is not about physical or psychological health. It is about being mindful of God's presence in every aspect of our lives.

When Isaiah talks about fasting, he asks, "Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? (Is. 58:6-7).

Fasting is not just about navel gazing. It is also about concrete positive action to make the world a more just and loving place. How will you do that in the next 40 days?

Pastor Ray



During the Sunday School lesson on the Jewish day named Sukkoth; a major Jewish festival held in the autumn (beginning on the 15th day of Tishri) to commemorate the sheltering of the Israelites in the wilderness. This is also known as the Festival of Booths. The Jewish people would build booths (shelters) to remember how God protected and sheltered them in the wilderness. Above are the booths that we made in Sunday School class. Berkley made a fabulous teepee like booth during class.



March 6 I Am the Bread of Life

March 13 I Am the Light of the World

March 20 I am the Good Shepherd

March 27 I am the Resurrection and the Life



Kum Ba Yah aka Kum Ba Zoom

We meet every Wednesday on ZOOM for fellowship, study and prayer. 7:00 PM. The link to the Zoom Meeting is sent in the Wednesday eMail each week.

Kum Ba Yah topics:

March 2 Ash Wednesday

March 9 Mark 9

March 16 Mark 10

March 23 Mark 11

March 30 Mark 12

Adult Sunday School

Sundays at 9:30am on Zoom and in Person!

March 6 Stations of the Cross 1 & 2

March 13 Stations of the Cross 3 & 4

March 20 Stations of the Cross 5 & 6

March 27 Stations of the Cross 7 & 8

BACKPACK PROGRAM

We are grateful for the leadership of Dave Foster and Janice Johnson who organize our weekly food program with children at Roosevelt Elementary School. We are currently serving 45 students by providing weekend "backpacks" of simple, nutritious food. Your support is

BACKPACK PROGRAM

essential and appreciated.

The foods we give are single serving, easy open containers, no cooking required, and without nut products. The food can be divided into two breakfasts, two lunches, and two dinners.



4-State youth 4 Equality

A new group is forming to provide a safe place for area teens to explore their uniqueness as created and loved by God. First Presbyterian is happy to offer space for this new group. The first vision for this group came from the story of a young gay man who has experienced bullying in an area school and rejection by his local church. We look forward to learning and growing together.

The youth group has made a schedule for their meetings:

1st Monday of the month - Game Night

2nd Monday of the month - Speaker

3rd Monday of the month - Movie/History night

4th Monday of the month - Open (crafts, outings, mental health activates)

Monday February 21st Deanna Duvall spoke to the group about Self Love.

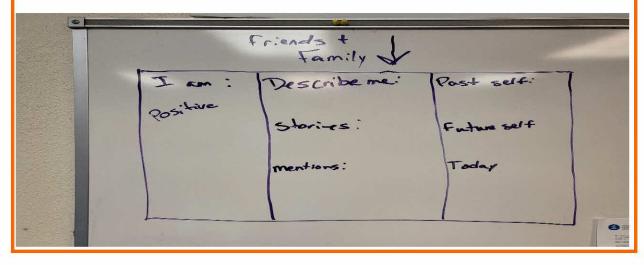
She gave each of us a peace of paper which we folded into thirds. Below is a picture of how we were to fill in each section.

Section 1: How we see ourselves: make it a positive reflection

Section 2: How family and friends would describe us

Section 3: What would you say to your past self, your future self, and your cur rent self to make a positive self love statement.

We all need to work on our self love at times. Perhaps you can make this sheet for yourself and improve your self love today.





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 10-12 Food Pantry	2 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 KumBaZoom Ash Wed.	3 10-12 Food Pantry 2:30 Backpack	4 10-12 Food Pantry World day of prayer	5
6 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Fellowship	7 10-12 Food Pantry 6:00 4States 4 Equality	8 10-12 Food Pantry	9 10-12 Food Pantry 2:30 Backpack 7:00 KumBaZoom	10 10-12 Food Pantry	11 10-12 Food Pantry	Daylight savings: Turn your clocks ahead an hour
9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Fellowship 11:30 Deacons meeting	14 10-12 Food Pantry 6:00 4States 4 Equality	15 10-12 Food Pantry 11:00 Mission Com- mittee Meeting 7:00 Session Meeting	16 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 KumBaZoom	17 10-12 Food Pantry	18 10-12 Food Pantry	19
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	Jamie Gray3/7	<i>Dottie Liwai3/13</i>
	Josh Gray3/7	Frankie Gray3/13
	Rosemary Russell3/8	Emily Gray3/21
	<i>Sally Whalen3/8</i>	Felicity Burris3/21
	<i>John Wilcox3/8</i>	Fred Niehaus3/31
-0	Ross Tomlinson3/12	

Should your name be here? Please let the office know your birth date so we can include you!



Servers in the Lord's House					
Coffee Host	4 States Youth	4 Equality			
Open	March 7	Open			
Open	March 14	Open			
Open	March 21	Open			
Open	March 28	Open			
	Open Open Open Open	Coffee Host Open Open March 7 Open March 14 Open Open March 21			

Please call the office or talk to Pastor Ray to sign up for servers slots!

Backpack Helper Schedule						
Wednesday Mar 9	Melinda	John				
Thursday Mar 17	No Backpack	Spring Break				
Thursday Mar 24	Open	Open				
Wednesday Mar 30	Open	Open				



Church Directory

Last chance to update any information for the 2022 Church Directory.

Do you have a new phone number, a new address, or email address?

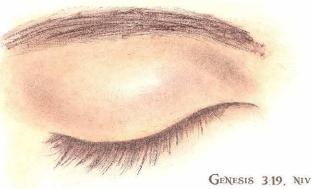
Now's the time to get that new info into the office so Ross can edit and finalize the Church directory.

BY THE SWEAT OF YOUR BROW YOU WILL EAT YOUR FOOD UNTIL YOU RETURN TO THE GROUND, SINCE FROM IT YOU WERE TAKEN;

DUST
YOU ARE AND TO
DUST
YOU WILL RETURN!"

Ash Wednesday is March 2nd this year!

Lent is a period of 40 days during which Christians remember the events leading up to and including the death of Jesus Christ, whose life and teachings are the foundation of Christianity. The 40-day period is called Lent after an old English word meaning 'lengthen'.



Pent BEGINS

The **Daffodil** is March's Birth Month Flower!

March

SYMBOLIZES

Rebirth Vanity Domestic Happiness



According to Feng Shui, daffodils are believed to bring good luck for 12 months if forced to bloom at New Year's time.





March 13th begins Daylight savings Time. Please remember before you go to bed Saturday night, March 12th, to turn your clocks ahead one hour.

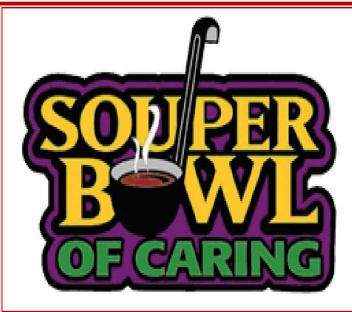
Fact: Germany established DST in May 1916, **as a way to conserve fuel during World War I**. The rest of Europe came onboard shortly thereafter. And in 1918, the United States adopted daylight saving time. ... And so daylight saving time was abolished until the next war brought it back into vogue.

March Born

You are generous and always positive if you are born in March. You can make anyone laugh with your funny humor. Your caring nature makes you a gem of a person. You can be secretive about things and you do not share your life secrets easily with others. You are hardworking and honest. You are imaginative with new things in life.



www.wishafriend.com



SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

Thank you to everyone who gave to the Souper Bowl of Caring drive this year.

This money will help provide food for those in need in our own community through the Backpack program and food pantry here at 1st Pres.

The First Presbyterian Church 1410 N.E. Veterans Blvd. <u>Mianii, OK 74354</u>





Genesis 2:7

7 then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, [a] and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being.