

**Our Mission**  
"Centered in Christ"  
"Strength for Today"  
"Hope for Tomorrow"



March  
2019

**Rev. Larry Gallaher**  
Pastor

513-443-4866  
[pastor@rossumc.org](mailto:pastor@rossumc.org)

Ross Community Church UMC  
2943 Hamilton Cleves Road  
Hamilton, Ohio 45013

**Lent Begins**  
**Wednesday**  
**March 6, 2019**



**Lent Ends**  
**Thursday**  
**April 18, 2019**

Dear Church Family,

The month of March brings us into the season of Lent for the church of Jesus Christ. Many people both in the church and out may wonder what Lent is, why do we celebrate this time, what is its meaning in my life?

Lent along with Christmas may be the two most important days of the Christian year. Lent is a time that offers us an opportunity to come to terms with the human condition we may spend the rest of the year running from and it brings our need for a Savior to the forefront. Like Advent, Lent is a time to open the doors of our hearts a little wider and understand our Lord a little deeper, so that when Good Friday and eventually Easter comes, it is not just another day at church but an opportunity to receive the overflowing of graces God has to offer.

Lent is a time when we can look inwardly at our lives and become truly penitent when we examine our lives in view of the Cross of Jesus. Lent gives us an opportunity to try to comprehend what Christ did for us on the cross. We all know it was a bitter battle that He faced for you and me. But ultimately, the purpose of Lent does not stop at sadness and despair - it points us to the hope of the Resurrection and the day when every tear will be dried. Lent is not only about His death, but it is also about His resurrection and His gift of new life to mankind.

How can we observe Lent on a personal basis:

- We can spend time in confession. There are forty days of Lent where we can set aside some time to examine the areas of sin in our lives that prevent us from being conformed to God's Will.
- Fasting and Prayer: Fasting done correctly, it can be a powerful time of renewing your relationship with God. Fasting also is a way of disciplining our self, strengthening our "spiritual muscles" when temptations arise in life, we are already used to saying "no" to our desires. (Check with your doctor if you have medical issues).
- Meditating on Christ's Sacrifice: Biblical meditations typically turn to the salvation offered to us through Christ's suffering.
- Charity: A very important element of the Lenten season is becoming aware to the suffering of others.

Enjoy the season of Lent but as you do, grow in your faith and understanding of Jesus Christ.

Pastor Larry



## Ross Community

United  
Methodist  
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

*Submitted by Judy Creasy*

The next UM Women's meeting will be on Tuesday, March 12, 2019 in the church at 10:00 a.m. The women are planning the Mother and Special Others dinner on Tuesday, May 7th. All women are invited to bring all their Special Others to the dinner.

The women are helping Nancy sort the clothes that have been donated to her for the RAMM Third Saturday Giveaway. In March we will be helping Nancy on Wednesday, March 12 at 9:00 a.m. We will meet at the Administration Building in her sharing closet room to get the clothes ready for the following Saturday.

All students who will be attending college next year are eligible for the UMW Dorothy Gard Scholarship. The applications are in a gray folder in the church hallway. The deadline for the scholarship applications is April 7, 2019. We will be presenting them on the Graduating Sunday in June.

## Worship Leaders

| March | 2019          |
|-------|---------------|
| 3     | Greg Conrad   |
| 10    | Debbie Kunick |
| 17    | Roger Creasy  |
| 24    | Tim Zecher    |
| 31    | Nancy Beckman |
| April | 2019          |
| 7     | Debbie Gilman |
| 14    | Chip Schoepf  |
| 21    | Jim Rechel    |
| 28    | Sally Rechel  |

## Hall & Door Monitor

| March | 2019            |
|-------|-----------------|
| 3     | Phil Brown      |
| 10    | Roger Creasy    |
| 17    | Butch Foster    |
| 24    | Doug Beckman    |
| 31    | Judy Creasy     |
| April | 2019            |
| 7     | Sharon Mortimer |
| 14    | Wayne Estep     |
| 21    | Phil Brown      |
| 28    | Jim Rechel      |



## March Birthdays

|                    |
|--------------------|
| 02 Denzil Burch    |
| 09 Morgan Eppich   |
| 13 Barb Rechel     |
| 13 Dodd Rheinfrank |
| 15 Judy Creasy     |
| 15 Karyn Taylor    |

|                  |
|------------------|
| 20 Linda Estep   |
| 20 Kylie Foxx    |
| 20 Trysta Taylor |
| 22 Debbie Gilman |
| 26 Greg Conrad   |

## March Anniversary's

11  
Chris & Jill Fox

18  
Kyle & Karen McNeely



# Lent

Lent is the period of 40 days which comes before [Easter](#) in the Christian calendar. Beginning on Ash Wednesday, Lent is a season of reflection and preparation before the celebrations of Easter. By observing the 40 days of Lent, Christians replicate Jesus Christ's sacrifice and withdrawal into the desert for 40 days. Lent is marked by fasting, both from food and festivities. Whereas Easter celebrates the resurrection of Jesus after his death on the cross, Lent recalls the events leading up to and including Jesus' crucifixion by Rome. This is believed to have taken place in Roman occupied Jerusalem. The Christian churches that observe Lent in the 21st century (and not all do significantly) use it as a time for prayer and penance. Only a small number of people today fast for the whole of Lent, although some maintain the practice on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. It is more common these days for believers to surrender a particular vice such as favourite foods or smoking. Whatever the sacrifice it is a reflection of Jesus' deprivation in the wilderness and a test of self-discipline.

## Why 40 days?

40 is a significant number in Jewish-Christian scripture:

- In Genesis, the flood which destroyed the earth was brought about by 40 days and nights of rain.
- The Hebrews spent 40 years in the wilderness before reaching the land promised to them by God.
- Moses fasted for 40 days before receiving the ten commandments on Mount Sinai.
- Jesus spent 40 days fasting in the wilderness in preparation for his ministry.

Most Christians regard Jesus' time in the wilderness as the key event for the duration of Lent.

## Why is it called Lent?

Lent is an old English word meaning 'lengthen'. Lent is observed in spring, when the days begin to get longer.

## The colour purple

Purple is the symbolic colour used in some churches throughout Lent, for drapes and altar frontals.

Purple is used for two reasons: firstly because it is associated with mourning and so anticipates the pain and suffering of the crucifixion, and secondly because purple is the colour associated with royalty, and celebrates Christ's resurrection and sovereignty.

## East and West

Both the eastern and western churches observe Lent but they count the 40 days differently.

The western church excludes Sundays (which is celebrated as the day of Christ's resurrection) whereas the eastern church includes them.

The churches also start Lent on different days.

Western churches start Lent on the 7th Wednesday before Easter Day (called Ash Wednesday).

Eastern churches start Lent on the Monday of the 7th week before Easter and end it on the Friday 9 days before Easter. Eastern churches call this period the 'Great Lent'.

The last week of Lent is called [Holy Week](#).

*Copied from the following web site: [http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/christianity/holydays/lent\\_1.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/christianity/holydays/lent_1.shtml) .*

# Information Page

Ross Community Church

## SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

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### Sunday School

9:15 – 10:00

(For All Ages)

+

### Fellowship

10:00 – 10:25

+

### Church Service

10:25

+

### Thursday Service

Praise Music

&

Message

7:00 p.m.

## CONTACTS

### Pastor:

Rev. Larry Gallaher 513-443-4866

### Church Office:

Emily Adams 513-868-2923  
emily.fs.adams@gmail.com

### Lay Leader:

Jim Rechel 513-521-5223

### Church Council:

Phil Brown 513-868-2338

### Pastor Parish Chair:

Brenda Brown 513-868-2338

### Trustees:

Wayne Estep 513-896-5851

### Sunday School Superintendent:

Sandy Hogeback 812-593-2984

### Nursery Attendants:

Vicky Foster / Gabrielle Truman

### Prayer Chain:

Vicky Foster 513-738-3748

### Newsletter:

Phil Brown 513-868-2338

Visit the Ross Community United Methodist Church web page at: <http://www.rossumc.org/>

## MONTHLY MEETINGS

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### United Methodist Women

Second Tuesday of the month  
@ 10:00 a.m.

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### Trustees – Nurture & Missions

First Tuesday of the month  
@ 6:30 p.m.

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### Church Council

Second Monday of odd months  
@ 7:00 p.m.

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### United Methodist Men

Last Saturday of the month  
@ 9:00 a.m.



### Prayer Chain

To have someone placed on the Prayer Chain please call Vicky Foster at 513-738-3749 or email [yfoster@zoomtown.com](mailto:yfoster@zoomtown.com).

If you wish to be added to the Prayer Chain send Vicky your email address.

## LORD'S Supper



If you are **home bound** and would like to **receive communion** please contact the church office at (513) 868-2923. Rev Larry Gallaher will return your call.

### "Prayer Shawl Ministry"

Please spread the word: -----If anyone has a family member, friend, etc. that is gravely ill, please let me know in the Sunday service, or email me at [www.carolfarmer90@yahoo.com](mailto:www.carolfarmer90@yahoo.com). Also contact me for more information. This program is 100% voluntary, and the Church has not spent a penny. We can also use more volunteers. Have a great day in the Lord.

Submitted by Carol Farmer



If you would like to place flowers on the altar, in memory or in honor of someone, please contact Debbie Kunick at 513-490-0381 or [djkljkbutterfly@gmail.com](mailto:djkljkbutterfly@gmail.com).

Office: Emily Adams, Administrative Assistant: Office hours 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. **Tuesday & Thursday;** 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **Wednesday.**