

FEBRUARY 12, 2026

Thank You Ray Croucher

Ray Croucher will continue to serve as a deacon through 2026 in order to fill a vacancy on the deacon board. Council thanks God for his guidance and provision for our needs. The directory, rotating slides in the fellowship hall and website are in the process of being updated.

THIS SUNDAY

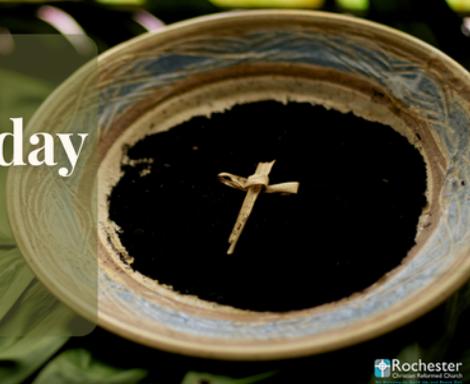
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15 - 6:30 PM

SERVICE OF

*Praise, Prayer
AND
Thanks*

Ash Wednesday Service

February 18, 2026
7:00 p.m.



*Reminder:
NO Koinonia Dinner
Wednesday, February 18*

**The Prayer Meeting Will Not Meet on
Ash Wednesday.**

Serving this Sunday

Nursery

Lisa Falvo
Clara Miller

Children and Worship

Charlene DeLallo

Ushers

Brooke Chambery and George Cline

Coffee Service & Cleanup

Jeff and Ellen Harp
Andy Knox and Christy Porte

thank you



Houghton University Choir

presents an evening of God-glorifying music
from the present and past

Saturday, February 21 • 7:00 PM

at Rochester Christian Reformed Church
2750 Atlantic Avenue, Penfield



Youth Choir for Easter Sunday!

Our organist and Choir Director, Ryan Chan, will be conducting a Youth Choir on Easter Sunday, April 5th. This choir is open to children/youth from age 4 through 8th grade.

Rehearsals will take place immediately following the service, in the Sanctuary:

- March 1
- March 8
- March 22
- March 29

Pulpit Schedule

February 7-22: A study of the Book of Acts, taught by Steven Rodriguez and Bethany Miller
 February 18 - Ash Wednesday
 March 1, 8: Brad Zinnecker
 March 15: Chris Fantuzzo
 March 22: Nick Monsma (from Palmyra)
 March 29 [Palm Sunday]: Bethany Miller

NEW Sunday Helping Hands Kids-Parents Ministry

Some parents are only able to attend a Sunday School class if their child or children can be supervised from 11:30-12:15. If you are, or can be here during that time to help make that happen, we need you!

These children are old enough to entertain themselves, and they will have some activities to do. So, we really just need an adult presence to keep a safe environment.



Please see Becky Hughes if you are interested in helping out, for one week or several to minister to these families.

Preparing for Lent

In *1 Corinthians 9*, the Apostle Paul uses the metaphor of athletic training as he discusses spiritual resilience. Just as athletes must continually enhance their physical strength and endurance to remain competitive, so we must submit to spiritual disciplines such as Bible reading, prayer, almsgiving, and fasting if we wish to nourish and deepen our faith. These practices can improve our everyday lives. They can also help us to dislodge stubborn patterns and draw us closer to God and to each other.

Lent is a Church season in which believers have traditionally focused on spiritual disciplines, and the Elders encourage you to participate this year in ways that you find personally meaningful. Lent, of course, is the forty days, excluding Sundays, leading up to Easter. It begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. It has been observed from antiquity by the Catholic and Orthodox churches, from the era of the Reformation by some Protestant churches, and, within the past few decades, by Reformed congregations such as Rochester CRC.

How can you participate this year? First, you can attend our two special services: **Ash Wednesday** (Feb. 18) and **Good Friday** (April 3). Next, you can meditate this week (Thurs., Feb. 12 to Tues., Feb. 17) on what you are refusing to surrender to God. In *Mark 10:17-31*, we read of the Rich Young Ruler, who could boast that he was following all of the Commandments. But Jesus, through the Holy Spirit, knew that there remained one thing that was hobbling the young man's faith: "Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." Heartbreakingly, this young man was not willing to make that exchange.

What do we struggle with? How can we make ourselves ready to respond to God's call? Spend a few days meditating on this. In particular, think of what things you might give up for a time. Breaking our normal routines can help us see where our focus has been narrowed by "the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth," enabling us to return to fruitfulness (*Matthew 13:22*).

Please consider some sort of fasting this season of Lent. Baby steps are OK. Besides fasting from food (our resident physician counsels, when fasting from food, that you please drink water), here are some other fasts you might try:

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|---------------|--------------|---------|
| ·Social media | ·Video games | ·Meat |
| ·Television | ·Caffeine | ·Sweets |

Fasting, let us emphasize, is not a good in itself. Rather, it is a means to an end. It helps us to recognize that "Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God" (*Matthew 4:4*). When we feel hunger and realize that we must also hunger for God's word, we can read scripture or pray to address that hunger (*Matthew 5:6*).

In addition to the individual paths we take during Lent, the Elders will schedule some special meetings. These gatherings will build on the work of the Search Committee and will aim at our discernment of God's will for us in calling a pastor. More news about this will follow during the first week of Lent.