

**Wednesday night, February 22, from 6:00-7:15**, is our first Lenten Gathering. Each Wednesday evening during Lent we gather together for a soup and bread meal, for prayer, singing, a skit, and a short message. This week we will celebrate Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, with the imposition of ashes on the foreheads of those who wish to receive them. Some people have commented that this seems like something that only Catholics do, but that is not true. Many Protestant denominations have services of "Ashes" for this special day. The service used in our church is taken from our United Church of Christ *Book of Worship*. Receiving the ashes is a symbol of our confession of sin, repentance, and our mortality. It is an act of being humble before God.