

LENTEN CALENDAR TEMPLATES 2016

Using a calendar template is one of my favorite ways to keep a daily discipline during Lent. It doesn't involve making false promises to myself about sitting down for thirty minutes a day and praying/studying/meditating and then feeling guilty when I fail. On the calendar template I choose a word or name for each day, write the word in a space, and draw or doodle around it. As I draw I let the name or word fill my heart and mind. If words come to me I pray them. If not, I am quiet. I think of each mark or stroke of color as a wordless prayer. This process can take three minutes or thirty. Each day is different. I love the accumulation of words or peoples' names in a visual tapestry.

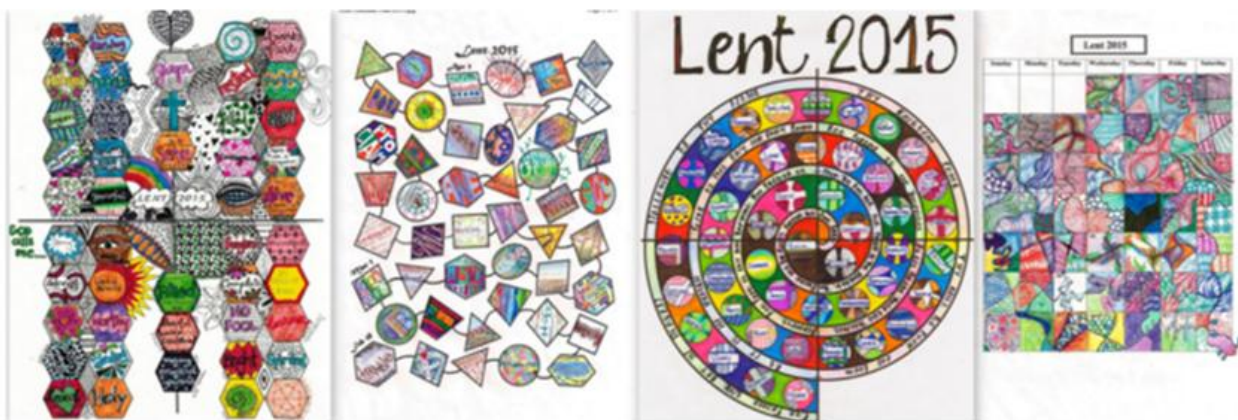
Below are four templates to choose from in jpg or pdf form. There are 46 spaces which include the weekends. Some calendars are dated; others allow you to choose your own placement. Since the spaces are small I take the template to a copier and enlarge it (129%-132%) to an 11"x17" piece of card stock.

Here are some ways to use the calendar:

- 1) Use a daily book of Lenten meditations. Read the meditation for the day and select a word that jumps out at you.
- 2) Follow a daily lectionary and choose a word from one of the Scripture readings.
- 3) Pray for a person each day.
- 4) Use nouns or adjectives that describe the nature and character of Jesus: savior, redeemer, healer, radical, obedient, forgiving,....
- 5) Subscribe to the United Church of Christ daily devotional and spend some time each day with the reading and prayer. If so moved, incorporate your thoughts or feelings about it into your drawings, perhaps using a symbol or word for each day. Subscribe to the daily devotionals here:

http://www.ucc.org/daily_devotional_sign_up

Here are some examples of last year's completed templates:

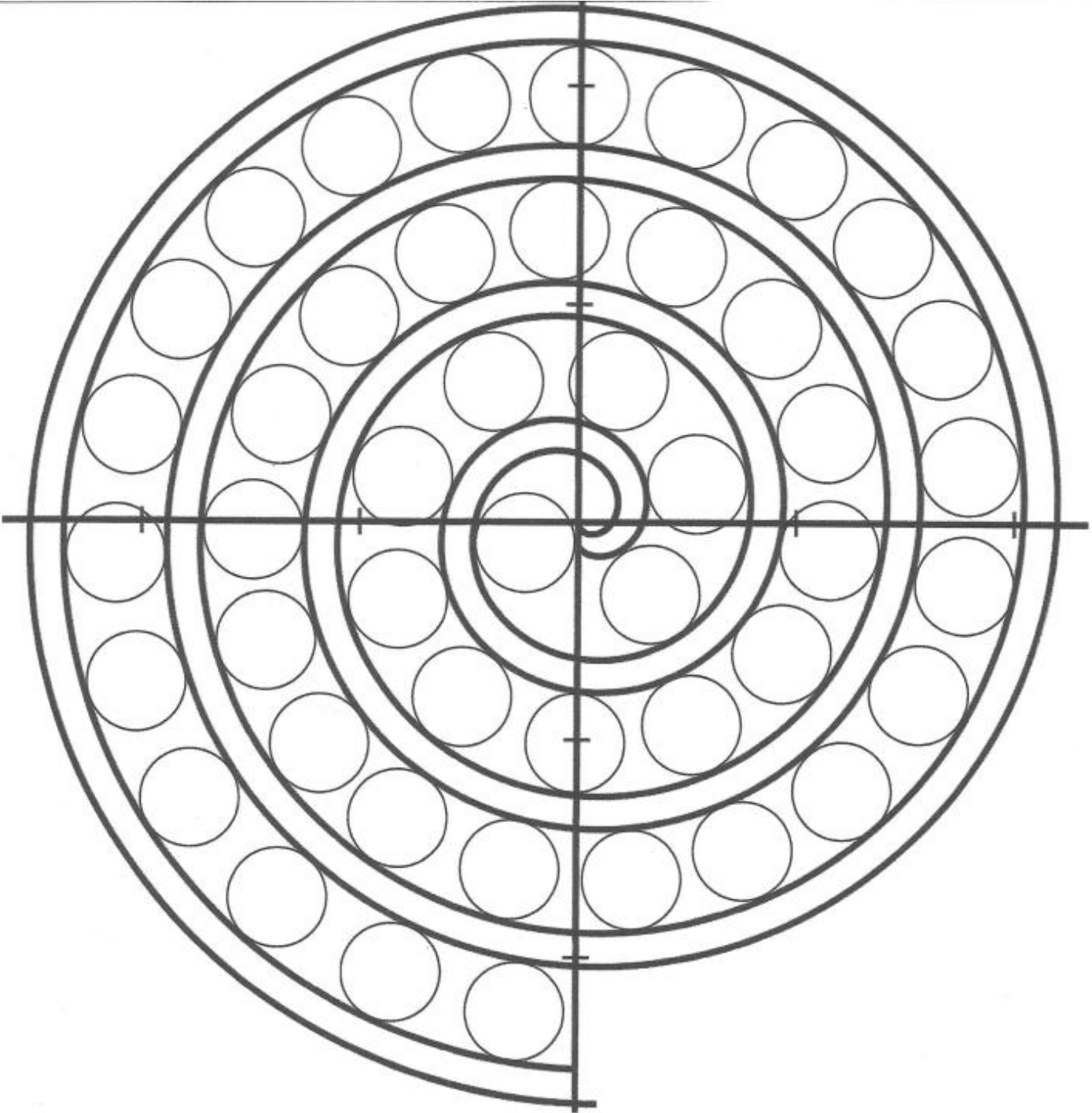


Thanks to Gwyn Varozza, Linda S. and J., Martin Boardman, and Linda S. and J. for sharing their 2015 calendars.

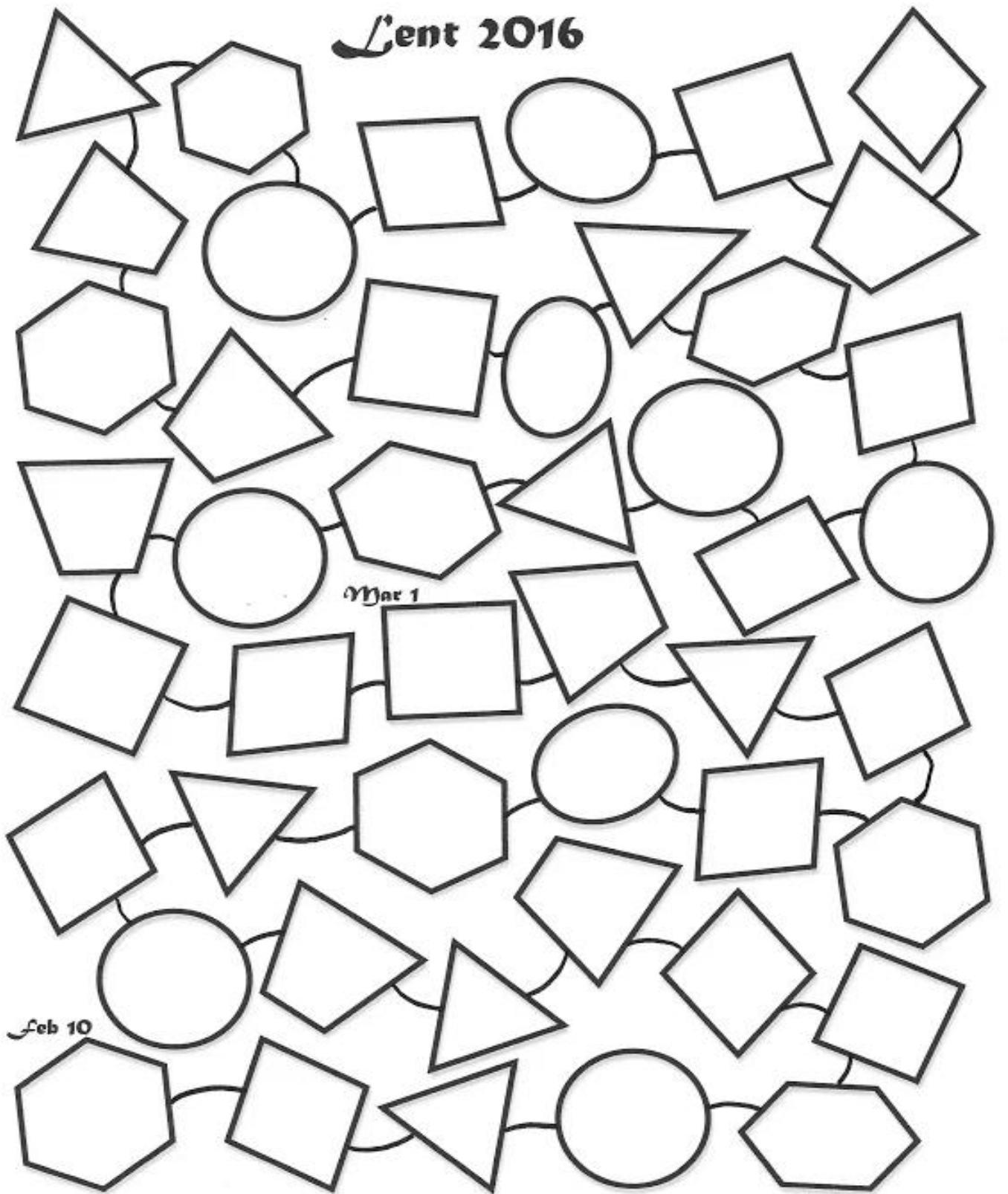
Lent 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			February 10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	March 1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26

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Mar 1

Feb 10

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Website: <http://prayingincolor.com/lenten-calendar-templates-2016>