

EPWORTH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



February 2022

TELEPHONE(334) 298-3186 WWW.EPWORTH-PC.ORG

“Love is...”

Well, here we are again—Valentine’s Day—February 14. A time for cards and chocolate candy, flowers and falling in love! It seems to me that most people have some idea of what love is, or perhaps what love *is not!*

A classic 1955 movie starring William Holden and Jennifer Jones is known by its Academy Award-winning title song, “Love is a Many Splendored Thing.” Then there was also a soap opera that aired from 1967 through 1973, entitled the very same theme song: “Love is a Many Splendored Thing.” Were your emotions stirred—if in fact you were born yet—by that inspiring song, written and composed (respectively) in 1967 by Andre Popp and Pierre Cour, which reminded us all that, “Love is Blue?” It can be said then, that love is defined and described in various ways.

That being said, there are at least two Bible-based characteristics about the gift of love that we should remember to put into practice.

First, genuine love must be

shown!

Paul reminds us about that principle in his letter to the Romans, “But God showed His great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.” (Romans 5:8, NLT) God *showed* His love for us, unconditionally. I’m convinced He expects the same from us! In essence, He tells us as much in that passage of the Holy Bible that we have come to know as “The Love Chapter,”

1 Corinthians 13, verses 4 – 6: “Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; ⁵ it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶ it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right.” To put it simply, love has to be shown. It has to be demonstrated.

Secondly, genuine love must be shared!

It’s one thing to love someone “from a distance”—so to speak. But at some point, it’s imperative to tell them—to share with them—that we love them! It seemed important to Jesus, although Simon Peter had denied that he was actually one of Jesus’ *closest followers*—even denied that he *knew* Jesus—for Peter to profess his love for Him. John’s Gospel,



by Rev. Grant Parker

in chapter 21 beginning with verse 15, records their conversation, in which Jesus reveals that He expects Simon Peter to share, as well as to show, his love for Him.

“Jesus asked Simon Peter, ‘Simon son of John, do you love Me more than these?’ ‘Yes, Lord,’ Peter replied, ‘you know I love you.’ ‘Then feed My lambs,’ Jesus told him. Jesus repeated the question: ‘Simon son of John, do you love Me?’ ‘Yes, Lord,’ Peter said, ‘you know I love you.’ ‘Then take care of My sheep,’ Jesus said. A third time He asked him, ‘Simon son of John, do you love Me?’ Peter was hurt that Jesus asked the question a third time. He said, ‘Lord, you know everything. You know that I love you.’ Jesus said, ‘Then feed My sheep.’”

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Oh, I know, sometimes it's hard "to remember not to forget." To say it another way, we "forget to remember!" I remember a story my friend, the Rev. Dr. George Mathison once shared with me. I think I remember the story because it reminds me so much of myself at times!

It seems that a gentleman was walking down the street when he saw an old man sitting on a park bench just crying his eyes out. He said to the elderly man, 'Why are you so sad? What is the matter?' The old fellow said, 'I just got married to this beautiful young woman. She loves me, and I love her, and we have a wonderful life together. We live in a beautiful house with a little white fence around the yard, the yard is covered with beautiful green grass, and fragrant flowers adorn the area around the house—and I have anything and everything I want.' The gentlemen then said to the old man, 'Well, then why are you crying like that?' The old man said, 'I can't remember where I live!'

I know, sometimes we "forget to remember" the important things about life and love. But this St. Valentine's Day—in fact, every day—let's try to remember to show and to share our love for others!

Keep your hand in Jesus' hand, and your eyes on the Cross!

Brother Grant

We love because
He first loved us.
1 John 4:19

Flower Calendar

The 2022 Flower Calendar is posted on the Gathering Room board. Please sign up if you wish to put flowers in the church either in honor of or in memory of someone or on a special Sunday.



Anniversaries	
Feb 1	Fred & Susan Sims
Feb 3	Bill & Ronnie Badowski
Feb 5	Robert & Marina Meacham
Feb 6	Mark & Mary Ensley
Feb 7	Eddie & Abby Supan
Feb 10	Bryce & Becky Gaunt Bubba & Caylin Tate
Feb 20	Scott & Judy Burkes
Feb 22	Ed & Regina Ridgley
Feb 24	Ralph & Pam O'Brien
Feb 25	Andrew & Brandi Johnson
Feb 28	Leo & Becky Ivey

Birthdays	
Feb 1	Gabriel Watson
	Sylvia Curtiss Jimmy Mann Brandi Johnson Hank Baker
Feb 2	
	Kyle Page Ella Bell Delilah Kennedy Lily-Ann Childs
Feb 3	
Feb 4	Liz Wise
	Ron Hart Emma Cato
Feb 5	
Feb 7	Andrew Head
Feb 8	Dustin Brassell
Feb 9	Kinsley Riepe
	Bonnie Wilgis David Head Jess Thomas
Feb 10	
	Cody Kirkland Adam Norden Sheri Nishimura
Feb 11	
	Sue Barnes Randy Barnette
Feb 12	
Feb 13	Carol Cain
	Eleonore Hall Seabo Griggs
Feb 14	
Feb 15	Amy Head
	Mary Barnette Emma Head Grayson Bloodworth
Feb 18	
Feb 19	Ben Johnson
Feb 21	Ralph O'Brien
Feb 22	Wendy Sieck
	Claire Hughes Katie Collins
Feb 23	
Feb 24	Ronnie Head
	Betty Register Stephanie Baker Miranda Griggs
Feb 25	
	Rejean Lee Karen Cameron
Feb 26	

OUR FAITHFULNESS

Total Annual Budget \$961,418.56
 Budget Needs YTD \$36,977.64
 Actual Contributions YTD \$49,899.17

Visitation Volunteers

The following people will accompany Brother Grant when he goes visiting on Monday nights. If you are listed here, please meet Brother Grant at 6:30 pm at the church to go with him to visit prospective new members.

- Feb. 3 – Minnie Henderson
- Feb. 10 – Becky Coreno
- Feb. 17 – President’s Day
- Feb. 24 – Sandra Arnold

Thanks,
 Kathryn Perdue



The Epworth United Methodist Women’s group is selling RADA products. You, your family, friends and co-workers can now place orders for RADA products through our online ordering site. The products will be shipped directly to your address.

For anyone placing orders the website is:
<http://www.radafundraising.com>

Type in zip code-36868
 Select – Epworth
 This will open up a page where you can look at the catalog or scroll down to shop.



EPWORTH KIDZ CREW

THE WINTER GAMES ARE COMING!!

DADS AND DAUGHTERS AND MOMS AND SONS!

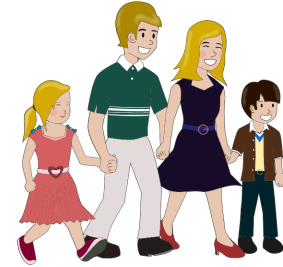
Join us for THE WINTER GAMES where Dads and Daughters will team up against Moms and Sons for some winter fun!

WHEN: Sunday, February 13th, 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

WHERE: Epworth Gym

VOLUNTEERS ARE WELCOME!! Sign up with Letha

Kids through 6th grade bring your parents for some great winter games. "Extra" parents can help referee! REGISTER your name and the number in your family group at letha.parker@epworth-pc.org.



GET YOUR GAME ON!

"Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever." 1 Corinthians 9:25

ATTENTION PARENTS!

Check out the **PARENT CUE APP** for great parenting resources designed for specific age groups. It also provides family devotionals for your children as they move through the stages of development.



Youth Ministry

Sunday Night Life

Life is Better Together

4:30—6:00 pm Every Sunday

Wednesday Night Youth

6:00—7:30 pm 6:00—6:30 pm
Hangout time (snack bar open)



February 2022

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool 9:30 am Bible Study 6:30 pm United Methodist Women	2 9:00 am Preschool 10:00 am Cart workshop 6:00 pm Youth 6:30 pm Classes & Kids Konnections	3 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool 6:30 pm UMW will meet in the Fellowship Hall	4	5
6 4:00 pm Admin Board	7	8 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool 9:30 am Bible Study	9 9:00 am Preschool 10:00 am Cart workshop 6:00 pm Youth 6:30 pm Classes & Kids Konnections	10 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool 6:30 pm Men's Ministry in the Fellowship Hall	11	12
13 4:00—5:30 pm The Kidz Winter Games Dads & Daughters and Moms & Sons	14 Newsletter Deadline	15 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool 9:30 am Bible Study	16 9:00 am Preschool 10:00 am Cart workshop 6:00 pm Youth 6:30 pm Classes & Kids Konnections	17 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool 6:30 pm Men's Ministry	18	19
20	21 President's Day Office Closed	22 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool 9:30 am Bible Study	23 9:00 am Preschool 9:30 am Bible Study 10:00 am Cart workshop 6:00 pm Youth 6:30 pm Classes & Kids Konnections	24 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool	25	26
27	28					

REMEMBER SECURITY

- Lock your vehicles
- Don't leave valuables in sight
- Be aware of your surroundings
- If you see anything strange, tell someone
- Know what actions to take in an emergency
- (flyer on gathering room counter)
- Tell Pastor Grant or Ross Goode you want to join our security ministry team and help us keep Epworth safe.

