



The Church Bell



Cortland Christian Church

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Cortland, Ohio

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CortlandChristian
Church.Com

Phone: 330-637-4611

Pastor Casey Chapman

pastoratcortland
@gmail.com

Jonathan Gallo
Organist

Joyce Hall
Administrative
Assistant



A Message From Pastor Casey

"Do Not Forget Each Other"

"This is mine." "I did this." "I need to gain a better position." "I need more power." All of these statements diminish what love is. Our world teaches that a person needs to "look out for number one". The world's doctrine says that love is acceptance. When a person takes this viewpoint, love becomes meaningless. The selfish attitude in one's life tricks them to accept love as a mere acceptance of another person and their life choices. There are no strings attached. There is definitely no sacrifice.

The greatest form of love has been recorded in the Bible. John 15:13 of the HCSB says, "No one has greater love than this, that someone would lay down his life for his friends." With great love comes great sacrifice. Sometimes that sacrifice is death, for because Jesus, the Son of God, loved us so much He died on a cross so that the debt our sins would be paid.

Other times the sacrifice of love is something else. It may be sacrificing a friendship in order to warn a friend that has gone on a dangerous path in their life. They may not listen to you or want anything to do with you after that, but if they heed your warnings then your love for them is realized. You cared enough to wake them up before they made a fatal mistake, dying in their sin. The world disagrees with this. The world says that love is acceptance and that we should accept people even if they are making a fatal mistake in their life. Who are we to warn them? We are their brothers, their sisters, their friends. We are their messenger from God. And so, we take the Gospel to them.

The sacrifice of love may be much simpler. It may be our time to help a neighbor clean their gutters for nothing in return. It may be picking the unpopular kid, the less skilled person to be on our teams, not because they will give us a victory, but because we love them, for, God loved us. Romans 5:8 says, "But God proves His own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us!" We were once "unpopular" for we were sinners. We knew nothing of great theology and Bible teachings. We would not have placed in any Church Bible Tournaments. But Christ still chose us to be on His team.

Continued on next page

Worship Leaders



February 7

Jeff Byler and Spencer Chapman

February 14

Curtis Bell and Carol Robinson

February 21

Sharon Hopkins and Amy Seger

February 28

Amy Popichak and Justin Klamut

Pastor Casey

814 -573-8148

Office:

330-637-4611

Office Hours:

Mon– Thurs.

8am-Noon

Coffee Fellowship



February 7 Joyce Hall

February 14 Kerry Culp, Kelly Culp,
Pat Culp

February 21 Barb Bradford

February 28 Brenda & Brad,
Roy and Marsha

Pastor Casey's message contin- ued from cover page

With all of this in mind, how do you love your brother, your sister, your friend, or even that stranger? Is there enough evidence to convict you of being a Christian? Is there enough proof to find you guilty of loving? On this Valentines Day, let us remember that love is not an emotion. It is not a thought of acceptance. **Love is an action.**



Pastor Casey will be
on vacation from
February 18– March 3

January 2021— Financial Report

Our Budget for 2020 of \$13,000 explains
the monthly amount needed to maintain our church.

January 1, 2021 to January 31, 2020

Offering Received	\$ 13,771
Expenses	\$ <u>-11,031</u>
Balance	\$ 2,740

Mortgage Payment \$1,883.24

Loan Balance \$ \$71,633.00



“Happy Birthday”

<i>February 1</i>	<i>Kay Payne</i>
<i>February 1</i>	<i>Brenda Byler</i>
<i>February 3</i>	<i>Ronna Nazrini</i>
<i>February 5</i>	<i>Bob Johnson</i>
<i>February 13</i>	<i>Charles Corbett</i>
<i>February 16</i>	<i>Spencer Chapman</i>
<i>February 17</i>	<i>Linda Tucker</i>

“Happy Anniversary”

February 14
Tom and Gail Peura

There was a little boy whose 1st love was a young girl in a picture which he found and picked from the street... As time went by he got married, But still kept it. One day, his wife found it and asked, "Where did u get this?" The man said, "I kept that since I was a child, But why r U asking?" The girl replied, "I lost this picture when I was 7..." :)



Church Elders

meet
Third Sunday in the
month

— 8 am —
Board Room

Church Meetings

Tuesday, Feb. 5

Finance Meeting 6:15pm

Board Meeting 7pm



“Breakfast with Friends”

Women of Worship

Saturday, February 6
10am

Here in the Fellowship Hall
Saturday, November 7 — 10am










L.O.A.F. Meeting

St. Roberts Church

February

10am

FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1.  GROUNDHOG DAY	<u>Meetings</u> Finance 6:15pm Board 7 pm	3.	4. L.O.A.F. Methodist Church 10am Aerobics	5.	6. Aerobics Breakfast with Friends 10am in Fellowship Hall
7. Sunday Service 10am Adult Sunday School 8:55am	8. Aerobics	9. <u>Meetings</u> Finance 6:15pm Board 7 pm	10.	11. Aerobics	12. Lincoln's Birthday 	13. Aerobics 
14. Service at 10am  Valentines Day	15.  Presidents Day	16.	17.  Ash Wednesday	18. Pastors Vacation Starts Aerobics	19.	20. Aerobics
21. Service at 10am Adult Sunday School 8:55am	22.  Washington's Birthday	23.	24.	25. Aerobics	26. 	27.
28. Service at 10am Adult Sunday School 8:5am	28. Aerobics					Aerobics

Pray for our "Shut-Ins" and "other friends". They would enjoy a Thinking of you card or a joke or story you found in a magazine. Maybe a phone call, just say "hello" to our friends.


*Lord,
Hear Our
Prayer*

Bob and Mary Jo Johnson
328 Orchard
Cortland, Ohio 44410

Edwin and Eileen Niemi
Lake Vista Apt. 207
Mecca Street,
Cortland, Ohio

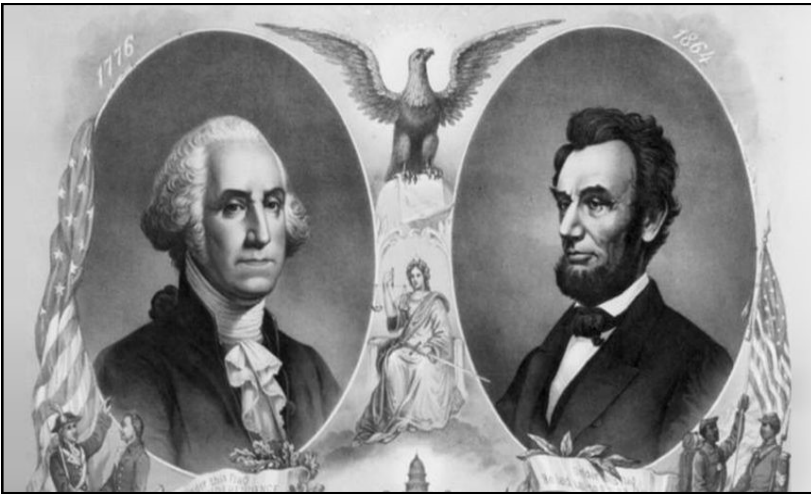
Kathie Bates
Room 105
369 N. High Street
Cortland, Ohio 44410

Pat Taylor
Room 212
4100 North River Rd.
Warren Ohio

Charlie Beer

41 Heron Circle
Cortland, Ohio 44410
330-637-1456

Lauralee Lawrence
124 Willow Street
Cortland, Ohio
44410



**“Presidents Day”
is ostensibly a time to
celebrate the great men who
helped shape the nation.**

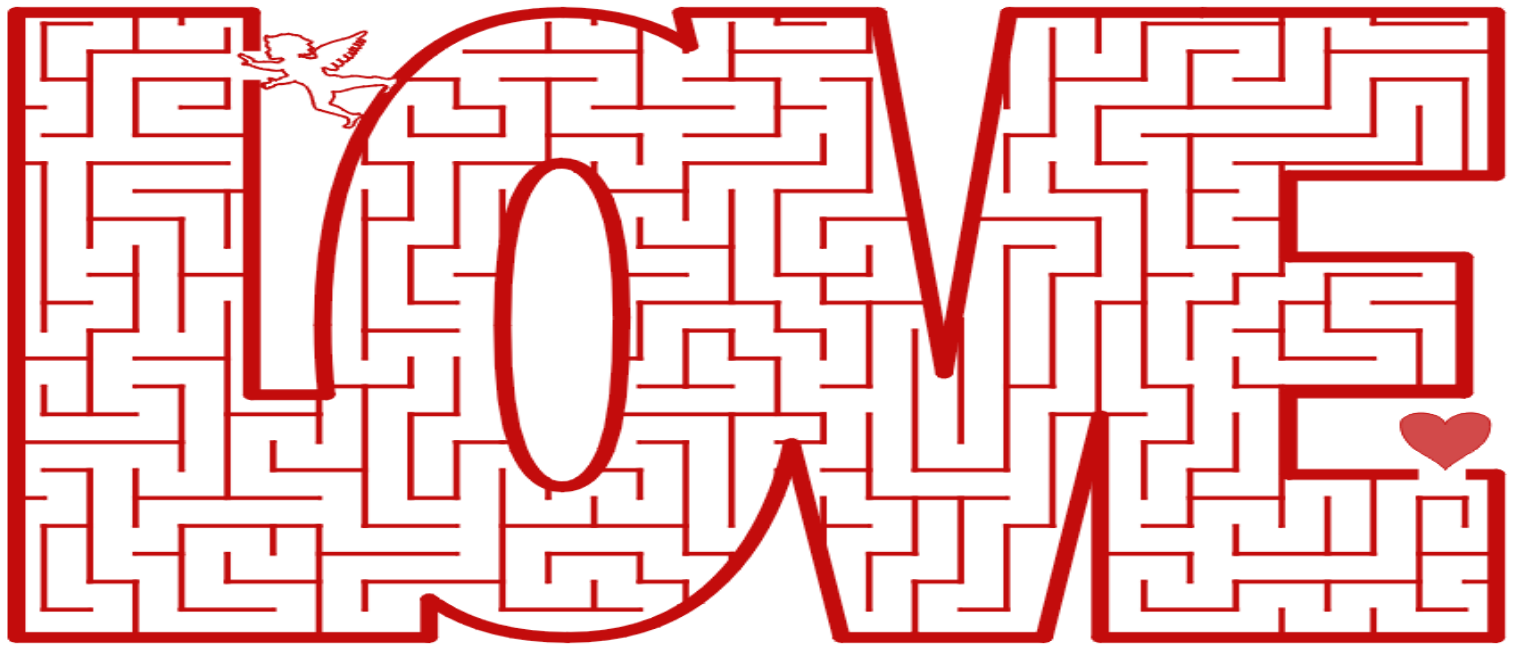
It’s an oddly named holiday, if for no other reason than few would hold the presidents with equal reverence. Once upon a time, we celebrated the birthdays of Washington and Lincoln separately, an honor befitting their outsized legacies. It’s universally accepted that their accomplishments merit unequal treatment in that regard.

It was Richard Nixon, of all people, who decided to replace Washington’s and Lincoln’s birthdays for the more generic Presidents Day, which takes place on the third Monday in February. The intent was to pay respect to all the previous office holders, though the unintended consequence has been just the opposite. For younger generations, the holiday represents little more than a chance to score some deals at the local mall; it’s doubtful that shoppers are giving thought to our greatest presidents as they troll the discount bins.

And that’s a shame. Presidents Day should be a chance for Americans to reconnect with the past — both distant and near — and the giants of the office who transformed the country. There’s certainly no shortage of men and moments to appreciate.

George Washington, the father of our country, is best remembered for holding the militia together during the early years of the Revolutionary War. His time as president is sometimes considered an afterthought to his military escapades. But perhaps his most decisive triumph came in the summer of 1794, when as president he personally led the militia that put down the Whiskey Rebellion. Washington knew that failure to end the insurrection would render the Constitution — and the notion of Federal supremacy — impotent. It was too important to delegate to others, so he donned his old uniform, saddled up, and marched through Western Pennsylvania, where he quickly scattered 7,000 disgruntled distillers. How the course of history would have been different had he failed to squelch the uprising.

Abraham Lincoln called his decision to emancipate the slaves the defining act of his presidency and the 19th century. He was wrong in one regard: it’s arguably the defining action in American history. What’s often overlooked is how much Lincoln personally struggled with it. While he found slavery morally contemptible, he didn’t believe the president had the constitutional power to abolish it. Moreover, he was concerned that emancipation would push the border-states into the Confederacy, a potentially lethal blow to the Union. But with the war going poorly, he came to realize that universal freedom and preserving the Union were inextricable; one not achievable without the other. Emancipation was a huge gamble, one that ultimately paid off.



Can you find your way to Love



The Professor and the Watch

An old man meets a young man who asks; “Do you remember me?” And the old man says no. then the young man tells him he was a student, And the teacher asks: “ What do you do, what do you do in life?” The young man answers: “ Well. I became a teacher.” “ah, how good, like me?” Asks the old man.

“Well Yes, In fact, I became a teacher because you inspired me to be like you.” The old man, curious, asks the young man at what time he decided to become a teacher. And the

young man tells him the following story:

“One day, a friend of mine, also a student, came in with a nice new watch, and I decided I wanted it. So I stole it, I took it out of his pocket. Shortly after, my friend noticed that his watch was missing and immediately complained to our teacher, who was you. Then you addressed the class saying, “ this student ‘s watch was stolen during classes today. Whoever stole it please re- turn it. But I didn’t give it back because I want to.

You closed the door and told us all to stand up and form a circle. You were going to search our pockets one by one until the watch was found. However, you told us to close our eyes, because you would only look for his watch if we all had our eyes closed. We did as instructed. You went from pocket to pocket and when you went through my pocket, you found the watch and took it. Your kept searching everyone’s pockets and when you were done, you said “open your eyes, we have the watch”.

You didn’t tell on me and you never mentioned the episode. You never said who stole the watch either. That day you saved my dignity forever. It was the most shameful day of my life.

But this is also the day I decided not to become a thief, a bad person, etc. You never said anything, nor did you even scold me or take me aside to give me a moral lesson. I received your message clearly. Thank to you, I understood what a real educator needs to do. Do your remember this episode, professor? The old professor answered, “Yes, I remember the situation with the stolen watch, which I was looking for in everyone’s pocket.

I didn’t remember you , because I also closed my eyes while looking.”

This is the essence of teaching: “If to correct you must humiliate; you don’t know how to teach”

Touching Little Stories for Valentines Day

LICENSE TO WED

by Donna Kelsey, Lake Nebagamon, Wisconsin

One summer day in 1957, we headed to the courthouse for a marriage license. My husband-to-be, Steve, asked the clerk for a fishing license. She advised him a fishing license cost \$1.50 and a marriage license cost \$2.50. With some thought and a smile, he chose the marriage license, and so our life together, later filled with two children, began. Whenever we had a disagreement, I would remind my husband that he could have saved money had he chosen a fishing license, and it would have expired in a year. The extra dollar cost him 53 years of wedded bliss.

DESTINY AT THE DENTIST

by Kathleen Curran, Canyon Country, California

Having just cemented a new bridge, my dental-assistant mother said to her patient, "Your girlfriend's going to love your new teeth." He replied, "I'm between girlfriends right now." She said, "Don't go anywhere. I have two daughters, Kathy and Vicky. Let me get their pictures from my wallet." Dan was still reclined in the dental chair with his bib on and wasn't going anywhere. Rushing back, she showed him her daughters' photos, saying, "Here is our phone number. Give Kathy a call—she's the older one." He called, and we've been happily married for 39 years. Thanks, Mom!



A MUTUAL CALLING

by Lauren Belski, New York, New York

Brian and I have been married three years, but we've been together ten. We met as AmeriCorps volunteers on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in Porcupine, South Dakota—a tucked-away place with a scattered population of 1,000. He taught computers and played guitar. I taught English and wrote poetry. In the volunteer house, we courted each other by making a phone out of tin cans and a string. I still remember his voice in my ear. Automatic goose bumps. A year later, our mothers discovered we were born in the same hospital in New Jersey, 1,600 miles away.

My boyfriend and I were out to dinner and there was an older couple sitting near to us.

All of a sudden I heard the older man say "Remember when we were like that?"

I looked at my boyfriend and we laughed and giggled

When I turned back around, my boyfriend had a ring in his hand, and said

"I can't wait until we're like that!"

Today my boyfriend came over and met my parents for the first time.

After he left, my dad told me, "Your boyfriend loves you."

I smiled and asked, "How do you know that?"

My dad responded, "Because he looks at you the same way I look at your mom."

Tips to Prevent Dehydration

- ◆ Drink small amounts of fluids throughout the day, rather than drinking large amounts all at once.
- ◆ Studies have shown that elderly adults who drink 5 glasses of water experience lower rates of fatal coronary heart disease.
- ◆ Avoid coffee and alcohol, especially in large quantities, because they have a diuretic effect. This leads to a greater loss of body water, which can cause or exacerbate dehydration.
- ◆ Drink water or low-fat milk with every meal, and keep favorite drinks nearby.
- ◆ Recognize the early warning signs of dehydration. Warning signs include fatigue, dizziness, thirst, dark urine, headaches, dry mouth/nose, dry skin and cramping.
- ◆ Food high in water, like fresh fruits, vegetables and some dairy products, can help you meet daily hydration needs.



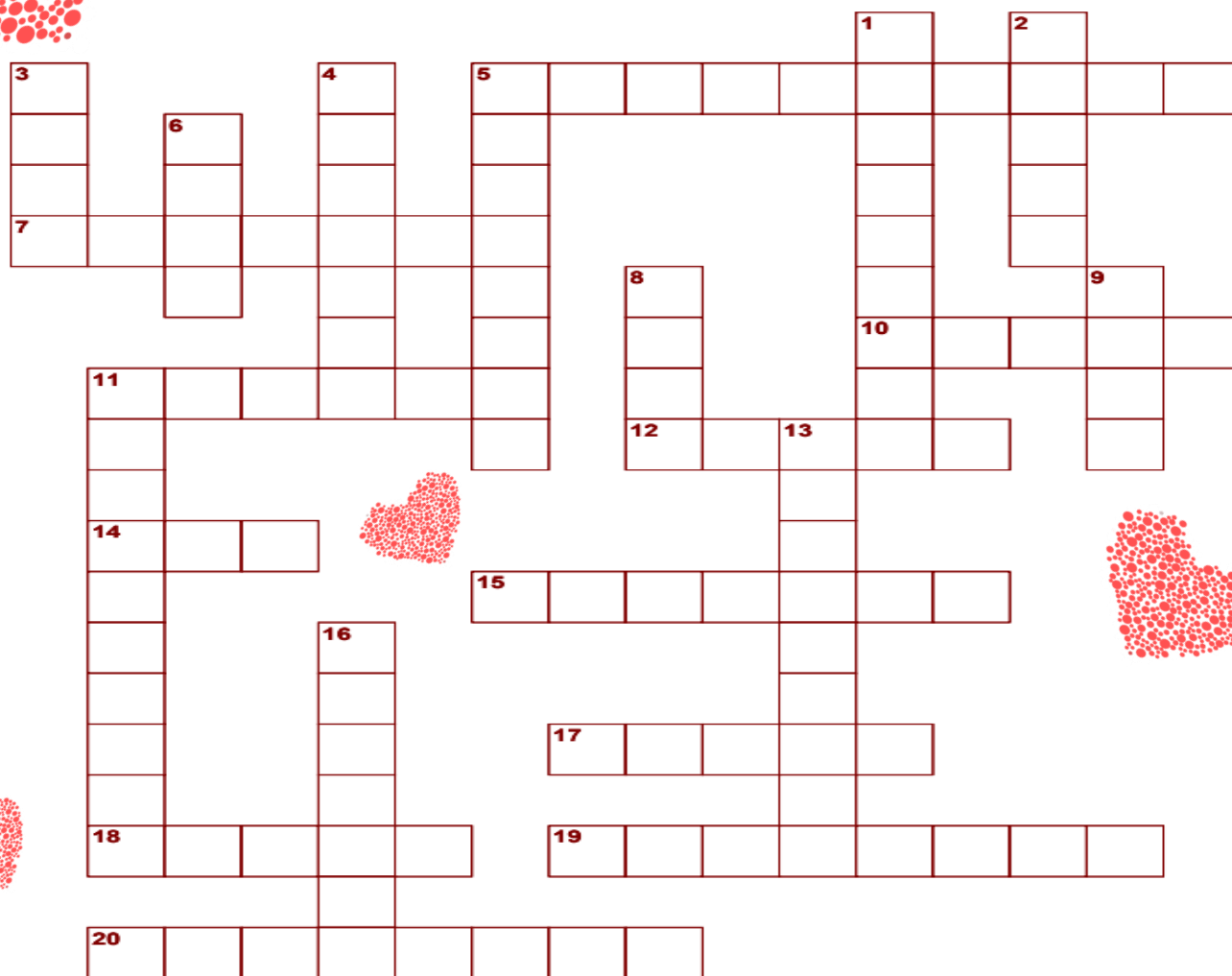
Direction Home of Eastern Ohio Handbook —resource@dheo.org

Simple Chair Exercises



- ◆ Sit in chair, take three deep breaths, lifting arms above head for inhale and down for exhale each time.
- ◆ Reach one hand toward ceiling, hold for 5 seconds. Repeat with the opposite hand. Relax your shoulders.
- ◆ Shrug your shoulders 5 times.
- ◆ Stretch arms to the sides, move in circles-10 times forwards, then 10 times backwards. Relax your shoulders.
- ◆ Place your hands on your shoulders and roll them forward 10 times, then backwards 10 times. Relax.
- ◆ Keeping your shoulders relaxed and hands on your shoulders, touch your elbows together 10 times.
- ◆ Reach both hands toward the ceiling, lean to the right and hold for 10 seconds. Then lean to the left and hold for 10 seconds. repeat.
- ◆ Take 3 deep breaths.
- ◆ Relax your shoulder, lean head to right shoulder, hold for 5 counts, then do left shoulder the same.
- ◆ Move your hand down your leg reaching toward your foot, and back up again. Repeat 5 times, switch to opposite leg.
- ◆ Place your hands on your thighs, keep your back straight and lean forward and hold for 5 counts and back 5 times.
- ◆ Stamp your feet 10 times.
- ◆ Wiggle your toes for 10 counts.
- ◆ Place your feet flat on the floor. Point your toes up toward the ceiling, hold for 5 counts. Repeat 5 times.
- ◆ Lift your knees one at a time holding for 5 counts. Repeat 5 times each.
- ◆ Bend at waist, reaching hand to opposite toe. Hold for 5 counts. Repeat with opposite hand 5 times.
- ◆ Wiggle your fingers for 10 counts.
- ◆ Place hand on opposite knee and turn to look behind you, hold for 5 counts, repeat other side.
- ◆ Cool down by taking three deep breaths, lifting arms above head for inhale and down for exhale each time.
- ◆ Give yourself a hug and hold for 5 counts.

Valentines Day Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 5** One of a pair of lovers
- 7** Written communication of information
- 10** Slender pointed shaft shot from a bow
- 11** One closely attached to another by affection and esteem
- 12** Small pigeonlike birds
- 14** Color that resembles the color of blood
- 15** Plants capable of producing blossoms
- 17** Roman god of love
- 18** Root of one's emotions
- 19** Obsessed with a loved person
- 20** Month with one additional day each fourth year

DOWN

- 1** Small piece of brown candy often containing sweet filling or nuts
- 2** Confection made with sugar
- 3** Piece of writing characterized by vivid, compressed language
- 4** Love affair
- 5** Song performed out of doors in tribute to a lover
- 6** Press with lips as sign of love
- 8** Greeting _____
- 9** Tender and passionate affection
- 11** Number represented by the Roman numeral XIV
- 13** Greeting card sent as token of affection
- 16** One who observes another person with pleasure and approval



A Beautiful Short Story

Author Unknown

We were the only family with children in the restaurant. I sat Erik in a high chair and noticed everyone was quietly sitting and talking. Suddenly, Erik squealed with glee and said, "Hi." He pounded his fat baby hands on the high chair tray. His eyes were crinkled in laughter and his mouth was bared in a toothless grin, as he wriggled and giggled with merriment.

I looked around and saw the source of his merriment. It was a man whose pants were baggy with a zipper at half-mast and his toes poked out of would be-shoes. His shirt was dirty and his hair was uncombed and unwashed. His whiskers were too short to be called a beard and his nose was so varicose it looked like a road map.

We were too far from him to smell, but I was sure he smelled.. His hands waved and flapped on loose wrists...

Hi there, baby; hi there, big boy, "I see ya, buster," the man said to Erik.

My husband and I exchanged looks, "What do we do?"

Erik continued to laugh and answer, "Hi."

Everyone in the restaurant noticed and looked at us and then at the man. The old geezer was creating a nuisance with my beautiful baby. Our meal came and the man began shouting from across the room, "Do ya patty cake? Do you know peek-a-boo? Hey look he know peek-a-boo."

Nobody thought the old man was cute. He was obviously drunk. My husband and I were embarrassed. We ate in silence; all except for Erik, who was running through his repertoire for the admiring skid-row bum, who in turn reciprocated with his cute comments.

We finally got through the meal and headed for the door. My husband went to pay the check and told me to meet him in the parking lot. The old man sat poised between me and the door. "Lord just let me out of here before he speaks to me or Erik," I prayed. As I drew closer to the man, I turned my back trying to sidestep him and avoid any air he might be breathing. As I did, Erik leaned over my arm, reaching with both arms in a baby's 'pick-me-up position' Before I could stop him. Erik had propelled himself from my arms to the man.

Suddenly a very old smelly man and a very young baby consummated their love and kinship. Erik in an act of total trust, love and submission laid his tiny head upon the man's ragged shoulder. The man's eyes closed, and I saw tears hover beneath his lashes. His aged hand full of grime, pain, and hard labor, cradled my baby's bottom and stroked his back. No two beings have ever loved so deeply for so short a time.

I STOOD AWESTRUCK. The old man rocked and cradled Erik in his arms and his eyes opened and set squarely on mine. He said in a firm commanding voice, "You take care of this baby."

I STOOD AWESTRUCK. The old man rocked and cradled Erik in his arms and his eyes opened and set squarely on mine. He said in a firm commanding voice, " You take care of this baby."

Somehow, I managed, "I will" from a throat that contained a stone.

He pried Erik from his chest, lovingly and longingly, as though he were in pain. I received my baby, and the man said 'God bless you, ma'am, you've given me my Christmas gift."

I said nothing more than a muttered thanks. With Erik in my arms, I ran for the car. My husband was wondering why I was crying and holding Erik so tightly, and why I say saying, "MY God, my God, forgive me."

I had just witnessed Christ's love shown through the innocence of a tiny child who saw no sin, who made no judgment; a child who saw a soul, and a mother who saw a suit of clothes, I was a Christian who was blind, holding a child who was not.. I felt it was God asking. ' Are you willing to share your son for a moment?

when He shared His for all eternity. How did God feel when he put his baby in our arms 2000 years ago.

The ragged old may unwittingly, had reminded me,

'To enter the Kingdom of God, we must become as little children.'

If this blesses you, please bless others. We must always remember who we are, where we came from and most importantly, how we feel about other, The clothes on your back or the car that you drive or the house that you live in does not define you at all: it is how you treat your fellow man that identifies who you are.

It is better to be liked for the true you, than to be loved for who people think you are.....(Amen!)



??

Groundhog Day is February 2.

Do we know if he will see his shadow or not?

Is this a true predictions of what is to come with our weather or do we just live it day by day in hopes of better weather. Do be sure to check this out, it's kind of fun and maybe this year he will see his shadow and guess what. Maybe we just have to wait and see the weather Mother Nature wants us to have.

But lets enjoy his visit just for the fun of it.

All I Need To Know

A Sunday School teacher decided to have his second grade class learn Psalm 23, one of the most quoted texts from the Holy Bible.

He gave the kids a month to memorize the whole chapter. One of the girls was really excited about it, but she simply couldn't memorize the Psalm. Although she practiced hard, she could hardly get past the first few lines.

So the day came for the children to recite Psalm 23 before the school board and that little girl was nervous.

When her turn came, she stepped up to the microphone and proudly said, "The Lord is my Shepherd and that's all I need to know!"

This should make us all think twice about gossiping about someone else.

Mildred, the church gossip, and self-appointed monitor of the church's morals, kept sticking her nose into other people's business. Several members did not approve of her extra-curricular activities, but feared her enough to maintain their silence.

She made a mistake, however, when she accused George, a new member, of being an alcoholic after she saw his old pickup parked in front of the town's only bar one afternoon.

She emphatically told George and several others that everyone seeing it there would know what he was doing. George, a man of few words, stared at her for a moment and just turned and walked away. He didn't explain, defend, or deny. He said nothing.



Peanut Butter Cup Squares

Peanut butter sandwich cookies,
divided
1/4 c. butter, melted
1 pkg. (8 oz.) cream cheese, softened
1/2 c. peanut butter
1 cup of cold milk
1 pkg. (3/4 oz.), Jell-O Vanilla Instant
Pudding Mix
2 1/2 cups thawed Cool Whip, divided
3 oz. Bakers Semi-Sweet Chocolate

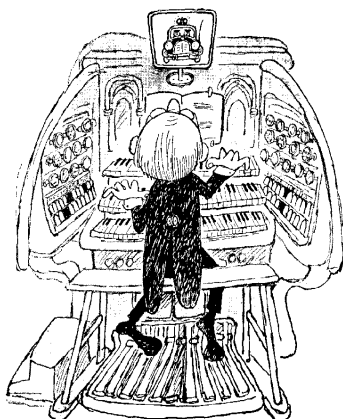
Line a 9 inch square pan with foil, with ends of foil extending over sides. Finely crush 24 cookies, Mix with butter, press onto bottom of prepared pan.

Beat cream cheese and peanut butter in medium bowl, until well blended. Add milk and dry pudding mix, beat 2 minutes. Stir in 1 cup of Cool Whip, spoon over crust. Refrigerate until ready to use. Microwave remaining Cool Whip and chocolate in microwaveable bowl on high for 1 1/2 –2 minutes or until chocolate is completely melted and mixture is well blended stirring after each minute.



Cool completely. Spread chocolate mixture over pudding layer in pan. Chop remaining cookie; sprinkle over chocolate mixture. Refrigerate 4 hours or until firm Use foil handles to lift dessert from pan before cutting to serve

How the Organist Got The Job.



The minister was preoccupied with thoughts of how he was going to ask the congregation to come up with more money than they were expecting for repairs to the church building. Therefore, he was annoyed to find that the regular organist was sick and a substitute had been brought in at the last minute. The substitute wanted to know what to play. "Here's a copy of the service," he said impatiently. "But, you'll have to think of something to play after I make the announcement about the finances." During the service, the minister paused and said, "Brothers and Sisters, we are in great difficulty; the roof repairs cost twice as much as we expected and we need \$4,000 more. Any of you who can pledge \$100 or more, please stand up." At that moment, the substitute organist played "The Star Spangled Banner." And that is how the substitute became the regular organist!

Chili Cook Off 2021

Through the pandemic we were still able to put on our yearly Chili Cook Off. Many pots of Chili Arrived and tons of delicious desserts and a loaded salad bar.

A Crazy Hat and Tie event happened with two winners, Ladies, Jean Scott and Men Brad Bevan.

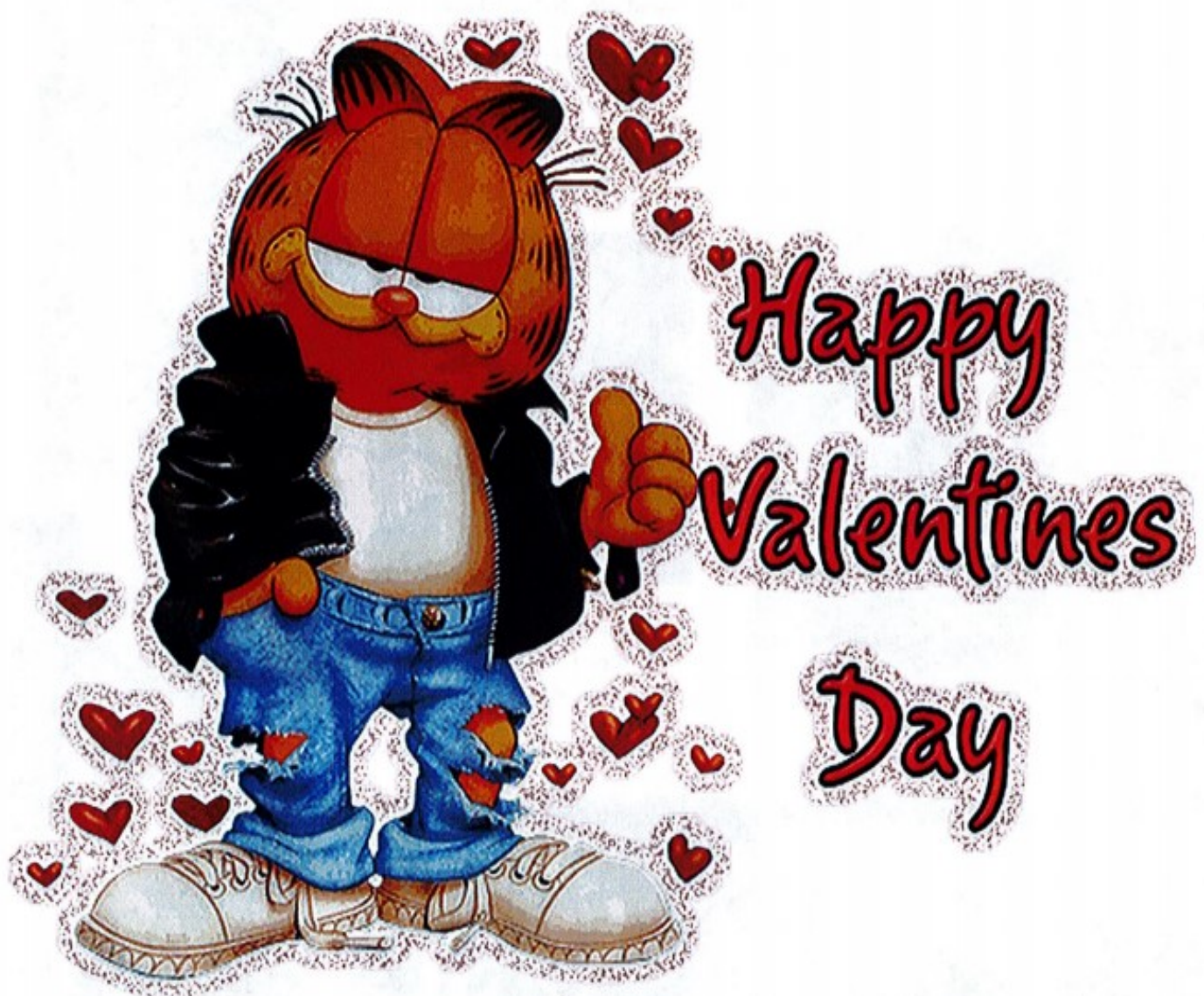
Winners of the Chili Cook Off were, Barb Bradford, Linda Tucker, and Spencer Chapman



This is always a fun day here at CCC. Good Organization by Linda Chagnot and her crew.

Photos submitted by Sharon Polakoff





**The Groundhog Saw his shadow. Six more weeks of winter..
Dress warm and try to enjoy this wonderful world of white.**

Enjoy the Presidents Day!