

THE EPISTLE

LOVE



Did you know that there are 792 references to love in Scripture?

In 1 John 4:8, we read, “*The person who doesn’t love does not know God, because God is love.*”

When Jesus was asked which commandment in the Law is the greatest he replied, “*You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: You must love your neighbor as you love yourself. (Matthew 22:36-39)*

How well do you love God and your neighbor? Do you love both the way that you love yourself?

Here is an exercise that I do from time to time to help me consider how well I am “loving” God, my neighbor, and myself. I invite you to try this exercise now.

1. Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 aloud.

‘Love is patient, love is kind, it isn’t jealous, it doesn’t brag, it isn’t arrogant, ⁵it isn’t rude, it doesn’t seek its own advantage, it isn’t irritable, it doesn’t keep a record of complaints, ⁶it isn’t happy with injustice, but it is happy with the truth.’ Love puts up with all things, trusts in all things, hopes for all things, endures all things.

2. Now, read the passage aloud again, but this time insert your name in place of the word “love” or the word “it” that refers to love. For example, I would read, “*Susan is patient, Susan is kind, Susan isn’t jealous, Susan doesn’t brag, etc.*”

3. Did you perhaps recognize an area in which you need to grow in love? For me, I am reminded that I need to grow in the area of being patient as a way of loving God and my neighbor. But the good news is that the Holy Spirit is continuing to shape me and you into the image of God, and hopefully, the next time that I do this exercise, I will see some growth in my ability to love both God and others with *patience!*

May God’s grace continue to shape you into God’s image---Love in action.

Pastor Susan

Prayer List

Nursing Home: Ann Thompson, Billy Coleman, Kathleen Padgett, Irene Riddle, Eileen Quattlebaum, Lewis Bobb, Doris Goff

Shut Ins: Linda Beber, Grace Givens, Helen Humphries

Military: Chuck Bearon, Ryan Caulder, Robbie Grafton, Shannon Corley, Parker Hite, Patrick Wilson, Matthew Rollins, Ben Walker, Ryan Matthews

Friends and Family: Stacie Goff, Leonard Beans, Randy Cockrell, Gene Trotter, James Grasso, Loretta Brock

Condolences: The pastor, staff, and congregation extend loving sympathy to

—Billy Coleman and family in the death of his daughter Nancy Ann Coleman Wooten.

—Van and Debra Shealy and family in the death of his mother Dorothy Phillips.

—Judy Proctor and family in the death of her sister Beth Blue Foster.

(Friends and Family will be listed for three weeks. To add or delete a name from the prayer list, please call the church office or use the prayer cards located in the pews.)

February Birthdays and Anniversaries

2-Doris Goff, Debra Shealy

3-Gideon McGrew-Keller

4-James Hardy Crouch, Rob Shealy

6-McKenzie Wertz, M/M John White

8-Lois DeLoache

9-Lee Wertz

10-Colton Wilson, Grace Givens

11-Alice Dawn Herlong

15-Nicholas Horne, Ryan Fingerlin

17-Benjoy Bradshaw

21-Betsy Pope

22-Hunter Riggs Trotter

23-Walker Rollins

24-Ryleigh Elizabeth Gullede

27-John Mac White

28-Jackson Prewett

Memorials

In memory of Mike Stevens by Timmy and Carlene Temples

In memory of Michael and Patti Stevens by Dwayne and Sheila Josey, Johnnie and Samuel Stevens, Julia Wills

In memory of Ruby Herlong by Carlene and Timmy Temples, Jessie Werts, Dwayne and Sheila Josey, Johnnie and Samuel Stevens

In memory of Bettis and Ruby Herlong by Cal and Lora Atwood

In memory of Lee Ann Sample Riegart by Jessie Werts

In memory of Dorothy Phillips by Dan and Jane Guy, Johnnie and Samuel Stevens, Julia Wills, Allene Able, Patsy Quattlebaum

In memory of Rudelle Perry by Dan and Jane Guy, Patsy Quattlebaum

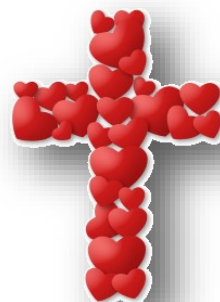
In memory of Nancy Ann Coleman Wooten by Caroline Herlong, Patsy Quattlebaum

In honor of Maggie Wills and Eliza Hesse Johnson by William Wooten

Thank You Note

I have finished my radiation and I am in “wait and see” mode. I wanted to thank everyone for their prayers, thoughts, cards and kind deeds. I especially thank the Jeanette Brewer Sunday School Class for helping with my yard work this past summer. You saved me countless worries. Thank you all again.

Maryann Bayer



DISTRICT PACKING PARTY

Packing Party
Sponsored by
Greenwood District Disaster Response Team
Saturday, February 9, 2019 9:00 A.M.—until
Lowe's of Greenwood

Everyone is invited to join us on February 9, as the Greenwood District comes together once again to offer assistance to flood victims from recent hurricanes and flooding. Many hands make light work so bring your friends to help us pack the 200 flood buckets your contributions have made possible.

SPAGHETTI FUNDRAISER

Sunday, February 10, 2019

11 A.M. — 1 P.M.

\$8 per plate

The youth appreciate your support as they raise money towards the cost of their annual snow trip to Pigeon Forge, Tennessee on March 1-3.

SAFE SANCTUARY TRAINING

Mark you calendars now for Sunday, February 10, 2019, 3:00—5:00 P.M., Broad St. UMC, Clinton, for a district safe sanctuary training/sexual ethics training event led by Rev. Cathy Joens. A sign-up sheet is located in the vestibule.

Church leaders (e.g., Boards of Trustees, youth and children leaders, Church Council Chairs, Disaster Response Team members) should also plan to attend. Rev. Joens will address issues related to providing a safe environment for church members and visitors and recommendations for dealing with crisis and emergency situations.

MEN ONLY

GET OUT OF THE BOAT
Saturday, February 16
Mt. Horeb UMC, Lexington
Registration 8-9:15 A.M.
Event 9:30 A.M.—5:00 P.M.
This is an all men's event.

Preaching, testimonies, comedian, workshops, fellowship and music will fill the day.

TEA FOR TWO AND TWO FOR TEA



THE CAMELLIA TEA, sponsored by the Edgefield Camellia Club, will be held on Thursday, February 14, at Magnolia Dale, 200 Norris Street in downtown Edgefield from 2:30-5:00 P.M. This event is free but donations are appreciated. Reservations are not required.

THE CAMELLIA TEA features many beautiful blooms displayed in an elegant setting offering delectable tea refreshments. Sandwiches, sweets, punch and teas from the Charleston Tea Plantation will be offered. The lovely mid-winter afternoon will be completed amidst a back-drop of music, provided by local musicians.

RECENT TEAS have attracted visitors from throughout SC, NC, GA, and FLA and have showcased many old varieties of camellia japonica. This event is a continuation from 1949 when Edgefield was well-known as a premier camellia growing area and a tea was held each February.

INVITE a FRIEND to join you to visit Edgefield, have lunch, shop and then conclude a pleasant day by attending The Camellia Tea.

For those interested in riding the church bus, please meet in the upper parking lot across from the church at 1:30 pm. We will be leaving the church no later than 2:00 pm.



ST. PAUL HOSTS DISTRICT PRAYER SERVICE

On February 17, at 4:00 P.M. in the Sanctuary, St. Paul will host the Greenwood District Prayer Service for the special session of the General Conference.

Please come support our District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Stephen Love, who will be preaching at this service.

FAITH-SHARING

Rev. Dr. Winston Worrell will be teaching us how to be more effective in sharing our faith story on

**Saturday, February 23 from
10 A.M.—3 P.M.**

Registration deadline is Monday, February 11.

Many people become disciples of Jesus through the testimony, actions, and encouragement of someone they know and trust. Yet, we know that there are many Christians who have difficulty building new relationships with new people, which affects their ability to share their faith in, and love of Jesus, to make new disciples. Learn from Rev. Worrell methods of faith-sharing, fine-tuning your faith-sharing, and gain confidence in your faith-sharing.

MINISTRY TEAM

The Ministry Team will meet on Tuesday, February 19, at 6:30 P.M. in the Social Hall.

ASBURY HILLS

For those attending the Asbury Hills Hands and Feet Service Weekend, we are meeting at church after school and leaving by 4 P.M. on Friday, February 22nd. Bring \$40 for lodging and food on campus, and extra money for supper, souvenirs and lunch. Each attendee also needs to bring a tool and gloves, as well as a devotional to share with our group. We will return late afternoon on Sunday, February 24th.

We look forward to this event where we will be the Hands and Feet of Christ while worshipping and fellowshiping together. As a group, we will dive deeper into God's Word, and we will also get our hands dirty with projects around Asbury Hills. FUN!!!

UPCOMING EVENTS

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

Mark your calendar!!! You won't want to miss this event on Tuesday, March 5 at 5:30. Join us in the Family Life Center for delicious pancakes, games and entertainment.

OBSERVANCE OF ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent and emphasizes two themes: our sinfulness before God and our human mortality. The receiving of ashes helps us to realize that both have been triumphed through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The ashes placed on our forehead or hand is an outward sign of our sorrow and repentance for our sins.

The morning of March 6, from 6:30-8:00 A.M. you are invited to drive by St. Paul to receive the Imposition of Ashes on your way to work along with a cup of Starbucks coffee.

At noon on March 6, you are invited to the Community Ash Wednesday service followed by lunch. Location of this event will be published later.

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Mark your calendar for this meeting on March 6, at 7:00 P.M. in the Social Hall.

MINISTRY TEAM

Mark your calendar for this meeting on March 19, at 6:30 P.M. in the Social Hall.

5TH SUNDAY

On March 31, we will celebrate 5th Sunday in the Family Life Center with breakfast at 9 A.M. followed by worship at 10 A.M.

February 2019

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|--------------------------------|--|---|--|---|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 Communion GIG Kids 5:30 Youth 5:30 | 4 | 5 | 6 Covenant Bible Study 10-12 | 7 Covenant Bible Study 6:15-8:15 | 8 | 9 District Packing Party 10-12 |
| 10 Spaghetti Lunch 11-1 Safe Sanctuary Training 3-5 GIG Kids 5:30 Youth 5:30 | 11 Registration Deadline for Faith-Sharing Training | 12 | 13 Covenant Bible Study 10-12 | 14 Covenant Bible Study 6:15-8:15 Camellia Tea Depart 2:00  | 15 | 16 Men's Retreat Get Out of the Boat 9:30-5:00 |
| 17 District Prayer Service 4:00 GIG Kids 5:30 Youth 5:30 | 18 | 19 Ministry Team 6:30 | 20 Covenant Bible Study 10-12 | 21 Covenant Bible Study 6:15-8:15 | 22 Depart for Asbury Hills 4:00 | 23 Faith-Sharing Training 10:00-3:00 |
| 24 GIG Kids 5:30 Youth 5:30 | 25 | 26 | 27 Covenant Bible Study 10-12 | 28 Covenant Bible Study 6:15-8:15 | | |

St. Paul United Methodist Church

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