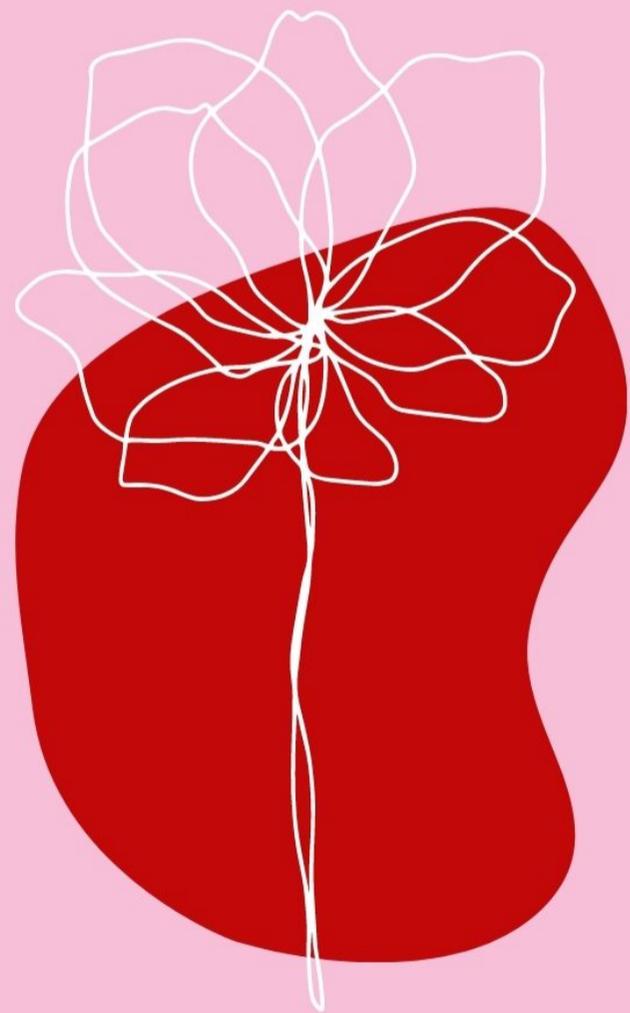


THE HERALD

Listening to God's Heart from the heart of the city.

Be kind to one
another, tender-
hearted, forgiving one
another, as God in
Christ has forgiven
you.

EPHESIANS 4:32



From the Pastor's Desk

Recently in Refresh, our focus Scripture was John 13:34-35 (I'm encouraging you to pull out your Bibles and read it, so I'm not posting it here!). The word *love* exists several times in the passage, and I asked the students about love. Do they love a kind of food the same way that they love their sibling, or a sport or other extracurricular activity the same way they love their parents? The answer, of course, was no. As you probably know, we only have "love" in the English language, and we use it in a variety of ways. Not so in Greek. In this passage, the Greek word for "love" is *agape*. Agape is the kind of love Jesus has for us. It is self-sacrificing, putting the needs of others before our own, a love that pours itself out for others, a love that costs us something.

I want to encourage you to seek out opportunities where we see agape love in our church and in our communities. I'll share a few examples here:

- A church member called another person in the congregation to check and see how the person was doing, and continues to provide that church member with support - a great example of God's love.
- It's a new calendar year, and with it comes a new budget for the church. The outreach committee realized how hard the county health department is working with COVID testing, and had a coffee bar for them - a warm treat and welcome respite during this winter weather - God's love in action.
- A congregation member recently shared how important our Bible studies are to them, giving them life at a tough time in their life - and how grateful they were to be able to attend in person, and on Zoom when the need arises - God's love made available in whatever way this person needs it.
- Someone else recently commented to me that, at the death of a loved one, how important the grief books were from Stephen Ministry, how much they were helping them, and that the books always come at the right time - God's love in both word and deed.

I could share many other examples, but I don't want to take up the entire newsletter space when I know there are many other important things being placed in it. I share these examples, though, as a reminder to you that the church's witness and its reach with agape love depends on you. These stories tell of recipients of God's agape love through our congregation; could you add to them ways that you have shared God's agape love in our church, our community, or our world?

I look forward to engaging with you in worship (online, over the airwaves, or in person).



Pastor Jay

Study Opportunities to Grow in Love

The Koinonia Sunday School class will be finishing their study of the Bible, *The Grand Sweep*, on February 13. They will have read through the whole Bible in a year! We've averaged 14 people participating in this weekly study. They'll be taking a week off February 20, and on February 27, they will start a 12-week study, *New Testament Stories from the Back Side*. Books are available outside the church office for \$10. If you want to join in the study, please reach out to Pastor Jay - they meet on Zoom each Sunday at 7:30 am.

Did you miss out on the opportunity to read through the Bible? No worries! Our adult Sunday school class (meeting in-person and online) at 10:15 am is studying *The Bible Year*. We do have some extra books available if you'd like to read along, and you're welcome to join the class. The suggested donation for the book is \$20, and they're available outside the church office.

Pastor Jay's Romans study will conclude on February 22 and 24. We'll take a week off, and then begin studying *Were You There: Lenten Reflections on the Spirituals*. Classes are available Tuesdays from 6:30-7:30 pm or Thursdays from 9:30-10:30 am, beginning March 8 and 10. Use this link (or use the e-news link) to sign up: <https://forms.gle/y6NqxnRgCgnm5XRA>

Second Wednesday Dinner

Our February 2nd Wednesday dinner is February 9. Refresh Student Ministries will be offering breakfast for dinner that night! The menu includes biscuits and gravy (sausage or plain), fruit, and dessert for a freewill donation. We will have a limited seating dine-in option at 5:30 pm, and the drive-through will be available for pick-up from 5:15-6:30 pm. Please use the link to sign up by February 7: <https://forms.gle/K1YtkYyh4TDzhmxu9>



NOW

NOW Weekend Meal Bagging is back in full swing! We bag, most weeks, on Thursdays at 4:00 pm. We would love to have you volunteer!

The Just-One Item for February will be dry erase markers! If you would like to donate please drop off your donation in the box right outside the church office!

On Wednesday, March 9th, we will be hosting our annual Fundraising Soup Supper, 5:15 pm - 7:00 pm.. The menu will be limited to four types of soup: chili, chicken and noodles, gumbo and vegetable soup. There will be an online order form or orders can be made by calling the church office. We need volunteers to come and help out at the soup supper and volunteers that would be willing to donate soup or a dessert. If you would be interested in helping out please contact Kirbie in the office!

Schedule for Chancel Choir and Glory Handbells:

Chancel Choir will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 2nd to rehearse and record music for February.

Glory Handbells will meet at 6 p.m. on Thursday, February 3rd and February 17th. Anyone interested in learning how to play bells is encouraged to join our crew!

MATS

MATS will resume on Thursday, February 3rd at 9:30 a.m. in the choir room. All Mamas, Papas and Grands are invited to bring children birth to school age for music and movement with snacks. A devotional time is available for adults. Great family fun!



Care News from Stephen Ministry

**“Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed;
save me, and I shall be saved; for you are my praise.”**

Jeremiah 17:14

The United Methodist Discipleship Ministries says the following about healing:

Scripture strongly affirms ministries of spiritual healing, which in recent years have received renewed emphasis throughout Christ's holy Church. The root of the word healing in New Testament Greek, sozo, is the same as that of salvation and wholeness. Spiritual healing is God's work of offering persons balance, harmony, and wholeness of body, mind, spirit, and relationships through confession, forgiveness, and reconciliation. Through such healing, God works to bring about reconciliation between God and humanity, among individuals and communities, within each person, and between humanity and the rest of creation. The New Testament records that Jesus himself healed the estranged and sick and sent out his disciples on ministries of healing. James (5:14–16a) calls us also to pray for and anoint the sick, that they may be healed.

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/book-of-worship/healing-services-and-prayers>

If you or someone you know is experiencing great swings of emotion, from sadness to happiness and back to sadness again, please contact Pastor Jay. Stephen Ministers are available to provide Christian care.

Healing Services

You are invited to join Pastor Jay Regennitter and the Stephen Ministers when they present healing services during the six Sundays of Lent: March 6, 13, 20, and 27, and April 3 and 10. The services will be released at 6pm on YouTube and via email/social media.

“He heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds.”

Psalms 147:3



February Birthdays

2/1	Katie Hartke
2/2	Mary Jane Parker, Nicholas Ramos
2/4	Lenzi Ippolito
2/5	Allie Oxford, Nadene Keene
2/7	Taya Harmon, Tomi Skaggs
2/8	Brenda Graham
2/9	Heidi Wright
2/10	Jack Frakes
2/11	Dalton Davis
2/12	Lori Treadway
2/14	Dorcas Sills
2/15	Stacy Baize
2/16	Ruth Parrott
2/18	Walt Conner
2/20	Katelin Veenstra
2/22	Greg Catt
2/24	Connie Carter
2/25	Jane Elliott
2/26	Trevor Carter

February Anniversaries

2/1	Walt & Margaret Conner
2/14	David & Mary Correll
2/28	Stacy & Jim Baize



Prayer Requests

Jeremy Markello; Carol Wolf; Carl Blanton; Michael Brady; Cathy Thomas; Judson Richardson; Julie Zhang; Bill Thompson; Michael Keene; John Larrabee; Nicole Young; Evan Prah; Richard Youngs; Kay Young; Vonnetta Shipman; Becky Goodwin; Caius Bell; Ray & Nelda Dotson; Kim Collins; Claudette Mejean; Demmie Long; Emma Bodine; Charles Hough; Sheltyn James Henry; Rick Pritchard; Laurie Vaughn; Wally Leggit; Judy Eckert; Lisa Schaefer; Matthew Williams; Larry Potts; Patricia Hodgson; Pamela Hart; Paul Davis; Kathy Kennedy; Tina Klender; Duane Parker; Ruth Fiscus; Jan Riker; Dustin Ikemire; Robin Bray; Greg Faylor; Susan Rodgers; Melinda Ashby; Brad Smith; Leah Buser; Kamillah Rollins; Donna Ferry; Janice Woods; Carl Janney; Lou Bonnell; Cathy Devalle; John Youngs; Heather Karbach; Dan Davis; Gary Null; Nay Owens; Hart Odom; Jennifer Newlin; Eathan Baize; Marsha Strader; Kirtina Carter; Janet Clark; Bernie Limper, Dick Mitchell; Mark Killian; Anna Marie Miller; Thelma Gifford; Jon Anderson; Melinda Wehrle; Ashley Reed; Nita Stone; Diane Crampton; Mike Emmerich; Pam Hill; Margaret Zeleny; Dale Kamplain; Raymond Kidwell; Brian Willhite; Rhea Hayden; Pat Campbell; Ken Mattsey; The Salhani Family; The Family of Kaye Weger; Becky & Jim McNary

FEBRUARY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
KEY: IP - In-Person Z - Zoom HY - Hybrid; both in-person and Zoom		1 6:30 pm - Invitation to Romans (HY)	2 6:30 am - Refresh (IP) 3:00 pm - Kids Club (IP) 6:30 pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal (IP)	3 9:30 am - Invitation to Romans (HY) - MATS (IP) 4:00 pm - NOW Weekend Meal Bagging (IP) 6:30 pm - Glory Handbell Rehearsal (IP)	4	5
6 7:30 am - Koinonia Class (Z) 9:00 am - Worship (IP with Masks, Livestream, YouTube and Radio) 10:30 am - Worship (IP, Mask Optional) - Sunday school (HY) 4:30 pm - Stephen Leaders	7	8 6:30 pm - Invitation to Romans (HY)	9 6:30 am - Refresh (IP) 3:00 pm - Kids Club (IP) 5:00 pm - Second Wednesday Dinner (Dine In and Drive Thru) 6:30 pm - Stephen Ministry (IP)	10 9:30 am - Invitation to Romans (HY) - MATS (IP) 4:00 pm - NOW Weekend Meal Bagging (IP)	11	12
13 7:30 am - Grand Sweep Class (Z) 9:00 am - Worship (IP with Masks, Livestream, YouTube and Radio) 10:30 am - Worship (IP, Mask Optional) - Sunday school (HY) 4:30 pm - Stephen Leaders	14	15 6:30 pm - Invitation to Romans (HY)	16 6:30 am - Refresh (IP) 3:00 pm - Kids Club (IP) 4:30 pm - NOW Weekend Meal Bagging (IP) 6:00 pm - Committee Meetings (HY) 7:00 pm - Church Council (HY)	17 9:30 am - Invitation to Romans (HY) 6:30 pm - Glory Handbell Rehearsal (IP)	18	19
20 7:30 am - Grand Sweep Class (Z) 9:00 am - Worship (IP with Masks, Livestream, YouTube and Radio) 10:30 am - Worship (IP, Mask Optional) - Sunday school (HY)	21 OFFICE CLOSED	22 6:30 pm - Invitation to Romans (HY)	23 6:30 am - Refresh (IP) 3:00 pm - Kids Club (IP) 6:30 pm - Stephen Ministry (IP)	24 9:30 am - Invitation to Romans (HY) - MATS (IP) 4:00 pm - NOW Weekend Meal Bagging (IP)	25	26
27 7:30 am - Koinonia Class (Z) 9:00 am - Worship (IP with Masks, Livestream, YouTube and Radio) 10:30 am - Worship (IP, Mask Optional) - Sunday school (HY)	28					

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Communications Coordinator: Brennan Seth Tracy

Music Director: Antje Pippin

Organist/Pianist: Brenda Graham

Custodians: Amy DeDoming, Mark DeDoming

Nursery Staff: Anita Cohoon, Marnie Inboden

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