


# FEBRUARY

2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>4</u> Membership Committee Mtg. following church  SOUPER SUNDAY (Don't forget to bring in your food items!)	<u>5</u> 10:30 am to 12:00 Dead Philosophers Society Mtg.	<u>6</u> 1:00 pm Women's Fellowship Mtg.  6:00-8:45 pm PEO Mtg.	<u>7</u> 10:30 am – 12:00 p Bible Class 12:00 pm Tour Faith Community Health 4:30 pm Vision 100 Mtg. 5:30 Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm Bible Class	<u>8</u> 5:00 pm Worship Committee Mtg.  6:00 pm PPC Mtg.	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>11</u>  Transfiguration Sunday	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>  Finance Committee Mtg. 5:30 pm	 <u>14</u> 5:30 Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service ~LENT BEGINS~ NO BIBLE CLASS	<u>15</u>  Board Mtg. 6:00 pm	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>  Thrift Store Mtg. 2:00 pm
<u>18</u> First Sunday of Lent  Fellowship Dinner  Week Of Compassion special offering	<u>19</u> Presidents Day  10:30 am to 12:00 Dead Philosophers Society Mtg.	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u> 10:30 am – 12:00 p Bible Class 4:00 pm - Hymn Committee Mtg. 5:30 Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm Lenten Supper 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm Bible Class	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>
<u>25</u> Second Sunday of Lent  Week Of Compassion special offering	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u> 10:30 am – 12:00 p Bible Class 5:30 Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm Bible Class			

9:30 a.m. Sunday school – 10:15 a.m. Fellowship Time – 10:45 a.m. Worship – ALL SUNDAYS

## PASTOR'S COLUMN

The month of February typically celebrates Valentine's Day, which we celebrate each year on February 14th. Valentine's Day was officially recognized by Pope Gelasius in 496 A.D. It has a long tradition of being associated with romantic love; however, in our modern age it has also become associated with anyone you care for. That could be parents, children, friends and co-workers.

The history of Valentine's Day is a bit sketchy but most historians would agree it is about a man named Saint Valentine. St. Valentine was a third century priest who performed marriage ceremonies against the will of the Roman Emperor Claudius II. While in jail he fell in love with the jailor's daughter. On February 14, 270 A.D., Valentine was executed. Before he was put to death, he wrote a letter to his beloved and signed it, "From Your Valentine." (His remains are in the Whitefriar Street Carmelite Church in Dublin, Ireland.)

Valentines Day, with its rather sketchy history, is truly a day honoring love and has been celebrated for centuries. For Christians, there is a day we have celebrated for centuries. One that is not sketchy. Every year we celebrate the resurrection of Christ, on Easter.

There is only one message in regard to the greatest love story. God loves you and Christ died to forgive you of your sins and provide a place in heaven if you will accept it as a free gift. That is the only message there is. We will be spend eternity in heaven with God for one reason and one reason only. It will not happen because we were good, bad, or indifferent. It will happen because we put our trust in Jesus Christ and Him alone for our salvation.

May God's love be with you! See you in church.

Pastor Minor

## OUTREACH

### Week of Compassion

The Week of Compassion special offering will be collected on February 18th and 25th. This year the theme is **God is doing more than we can imagine!** It is easy to feel overwhelmed when we look at all the areas of need in God's world: there is hunger, sickness, and injustice in so many communities. It is easy to feel that we are too small, too insignificant to make a difference to believe that nothing we do can help. We can feel trapped by hopelessness and fear that there is little we can do to truly make an impact. **But there is hope! Better yet: we are that hope!**

The materials provided for Week of Compassion added these thoughts for us to consider.

For, as the Apostle Paul writes, "by the power at work within us," God is able to "accomplish abundantly more than we can ask or imagine" (Ephesians 3:20). As Christians we know that we are part of God's answer to the need in the world! As Christians we know that God's dream for God's people is not that we would strive to be separate, caring only for ourselves: God gave us community to practice love and compassion. As Christians, living into this loving legacy, we act out of faith knowing that God is using our contributions in ways that we can't foresee, multiplying blessings in ways we didn't expect. We act knowing that we are part of God's imagination.

Will you be part of God's dream for the world? Will you accept the invitation to make a difference and see what God will do with our giving?

### Faith Community Health Tour

This year the Outreach Committee will be offering several opportunities for the congregation to become better acquainted with local resources. The first opportunity is to visit Faith Community Health (FCH). FCH offers medical care for uninsured or underinsured individuals in our community and is an excellent referral for those who fall through the gap to access affordable medical care. Please plan to join us on **February 7th at noon** for a tour of their facilities and to learn more about this valuable community resource. A light lunch will be provided, please RSVP no later than **February 5th** by contacting the church office or email Jean Mueller at [mueller334@aol.com](mailto:mueller334@aol.com).