

The Scribe

February 2018

I was preparing for a Bible study once and as I looked at the calendar, I noticed our meeting date would be on February 14th. A light bulb went on. Let's do a lesson on love. I opened our discussion by asking the group about famous love stories. I was hoping they would mention Romeo and Juliet, and that sort of love story. Sure enough, Romeo and Juliet were mentioned, as well as some others that had not occurred to me. As the group warmed to the discussion, I decided to highlight for them the Biblical view on love. I broke out my handy dandy Bible dictionary and looked up the word love, particularly as it is used in the New Testament.



I read for the group a passage that stated the New Testament used two Greek words for love, agape and phileo. After explaining the two words referring to love, the paragraph ends by saying, "Each denotes a passionless love."

A passionless love? A statement like that doesn't exactly send a chill down your spine, or leave you with a warm fuzzy feeling. What in the world do we gain from a passionless love?

What followed was a thoughtful and insightful discussion about the love that is revealed in the pages of the Bible. Contrasted with the conception of love that is prevalent in our society, we began to see a passionless love is not a negative. Rather than being a love that runs hot and cold, the Bible speaks of a love that is constant, not ruled by emotions, but is an act of the will that is then lived out in faithfulness and fidelity.

During our discussion, I was reminded of a man who had been a faithful member of the group. His name was Roy. Roy had moved away, but he demonstrated Biblical love in his relationship with his wife, Ellen. Ellen spent her last years in a care facility, suffering the effects of advanced Alzheimer's. Roy loved Ellen. He loved her with the Biblical love that is described as passionless. He loved her by visiting her every day, doing all he could to convey to her that he would faithfully be by her side until death would do them part.

(Love continued on page 2)

(Love continued from page 1)

When our discussion ended, having been reminded that the passionless love of the New Testament is a love that always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres, and never fails, I returned to my office. I was sitting at my desk. That very morning I received an email, sent by a dear friend. It was a story he came across. It meant so much to him that he sent it on to all of his friends. I'm sure glad he sent it to me.

"It was a busy morning, about 8:30 a.m., when an elderly gentleman in his 80's arrived to have stitches removed from his thumb. He stated that he was in a hurry as he had an appointment at 9:00 a.m. I took his vital signs and had him take a seat knowing it would be over an hour before someone would be able to see him.

I saw him looking at his watch and decided since I was not busy with another patient that I would evaluate his wound. It had healed well, so I talked to one of the doctors and got the needed supplies to remove his stitches. While taking care of the wound, we began a conversation.

I asked him if he had another doctor's appointment that morning as he was in such a hurry. He told me no, but that he needed to go to the nursing home to eat breakfast with his wife. I then inquired about her health. He told me that she had been in the nursing home for a while and that she had Alzheimer's disease. As we talked, I asked him if she would be worried if he was a bit late. He replied that she no longer knew who he was and that she had not recognized him in five years. I was surprised, and asked him why he was still going every morning to visit his wife even though she didn't know who he is. He smiled and patted my hand and said, 'She doesn't know me but I still know who she is.'"

Passionless love. There is no need to apologize for it. It is the love that fills the pages of the Bible. That kind of love never fails. Thanks be to God.

Wayne



Mission

Pancakes with a Purpose

Come and enjoy a pancake breakfast with all the trimmings.

In support of **Family Housing Support** three churches in the community hold pancake breakfasts **each month** from **8 to 10 a.m.** There is no charge but donations are gratefully accepted to provide funds for the local Family Housing Support. Working in collaboration with the WARM Center, we provide emergency housing to meet the most basic needs of families with children.

First Saturday

Cross Mills Baptist Church
4403 Old Post Road
Charlestown

Second Saturday

Dunn's Corners Church
221 Post Road
Westerly

Third Saturday

Babcock Presbyterian Church
25 Maxson Street
Ashaway



ONE TON OF FOOD WITH A TON OF LOVE

The Deacons are challenging the congregation to bring in **ONE TON OF FOOD** by Valentine's Day for the Jonnycake Center.

The Jonnycake Center has a great need for food during the winter when people experience high heating bills and may have reduced work hours. This is a time when employers cut back the number of workers they need or eliminate seasonal jobs, making winter a time of real hardship for many. Donations to the Jonnycake Center around the holidays are wonderful but diminish afterwards. If we could bump up our contribution during this period, it would be most welcome.



Let's show our Christian love by bringing **ONE TON OF FOOD** by Valentine's Day (or shortly thereafter!). Non-perishable food only. Please place your donation on the shelves at the back of Fellowship Hall. The Deacons will weigh it and keep track of our awesome total.

Thank you in advance,
The Deacons

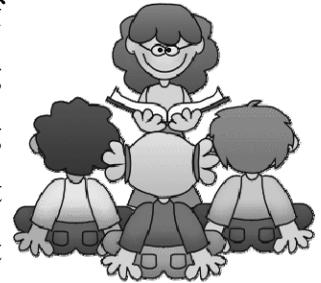
PS: If you are reading this and are wondering how you can afford your food, PLEASE speak with Pastor Wayne for confidential help.



soup-to-go

Presbyterian Women is happy to announce that Sunday, February 11th has been designated as "**Soup Sunday.**" Delicious soups to suit every taste will be available for purchase after each worship service in Fellowship Hall. We also invite everyone to make their favorite soup and add it to the sale. All proceeds will benefit our mission trips.

The mandate from Presbytery to foster a love of reading in young children will be addressed beginning in January. Volunteers will go into the Early Learning Center and **read a favorite book** to the children that will be followed by some kind of an activity. The last session will be held on Friday, May 4th.



Another special event is coming on Monday, March 12th. We are extending an invitation to all churches in the area to come and hear about the sewing projects taking place as part of our "**Dress a Girl**" mission. Lois Gardner will be our guest speaker and we plan to offer lunch to all who are able to attend. The Monday, February 12th Presbyterian Women's meeting at 1 p.m. in Fellowship Hall will provide a time to finalize our plans for this event and all women are invited to join us.

Recently received from Rachel Pierson . . .

Prayer of an Anonymous Abbess



Lord, Thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older and will someday be old.

Keep me from getting talkative and particularly from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion.

Release me from craving to try to straighten out everybody's affairs.

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details—give me wings to get to the point.

I ask for grace enough to listen to the tales of others' pains. Help me to endure them with patience.

But seal my lips on my own aches and pains—they are increasing and my love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by.

Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally it is possible that I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a saint—some of them are so hard to live with—but a sour old woman is one of the crowning works of the devil.

Make me thoughtful but not moody; helpful but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom it seems a pity not to use it all—but Thou knowest, Lord, that I want a few friends in the end.

Amen.

—Margot Benary-Isbert

Diamonds Among Us!

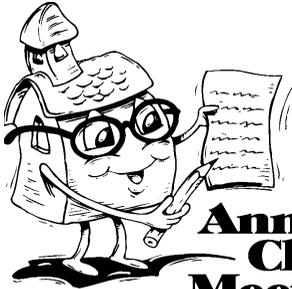
We extend our birthday wishes to:

- Phyllis Thomas on February 1st;
- Louise (Weegie) Walsh on February 3rd;
- Mary Ribeiro on February 23rd;
- Bert Sullivan on February 25th;



Diamonds (70 and beyond), please contact the Church Office at (401) 322-0655 or sign up on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall and add your name to our list.

Sunday, February 18th, 2018
11:00 a.m. Sanctuary



**Annual
Church
Meeting**

The **Annual Meeting** is the one meeting during the year that any and all topics may be introduced from the floor and addressed by the congregation. Here is your opportunity to voice your praises and concerns. Please try to join us. The meeting is usually around one hour. All other congregational meetings must have a previously-stated agenda and only address those topics printed and announced on that stated agenda. At the Annual Meeting anything may be discussed.

Full financial reports will be distributed on Sunday, February 11th and discussed at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 18th.

2017 FINANCIAL SUMMARY		
	Budget	Actual
Total Budgeted Income	\$ 352,541	\$ 345,889
Total Budgeted Expenses	\$ 352,541	\$ 344,795
Total Other Income		\$ 66,406
Total Other Expenses		\$ 33,415



The January **Session** meeting began with prayers of concern for our beloved Pat Rychlec.

We received a bright year-end financial report. Special thanks to Rachel Pierson, Jennifer Clays and the Trustees for a stellar job!

The Christian Education Committee has developed a job description and has begun a search for a Children's Ministry Coordinator.

The Worship and Music Committee has outlined the 2018 schedule of special seasonal events. Dale Green, our seminary intern will preach on Sunday, February 4th. The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be served on February 11th.

Since Easter falls on Sunday, April 1st, the Sacrament of Holy Communion and Confirmation of our youth will be held on Sunday, April 8th.

Andy Wallace, Music Director has announced that the musical composition commissioned to celebrate Joyce Dionne's 66 years in the choir has been completed. Additional donations are needed to supplement existing donations. See Andy Wallace if you wish to contribute.

Our Mission Committee was dealt a set back in the Family Housing program due to severe cutbacks in HUD funding. The Community Housing group will reconvene to refocus its approach.

Pastor Wayne Eberly was pleased to announce that 19 children have joined the Confirmation Class of 2018. This eight-week course will be completed with Confirmation on Sunday, April 8th.

Following the meeting the Session visited Pat Rychlec at Westerly Hospital; Katey, Chris and a very big dog were at her bedside.

—Art Ganz, Clerk of Session

FEBRUARY 2018 SABBATH DAY WORSHIP

Sundays at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Sunday, February 4

Dale Green, guest preacher

Sunday, February 11

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Sermon: *In His Steps*

Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

Sunday, February 18

First Sunday in Lent

Sermon: *He Became Flesh and Dwelt Among Us*

Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

Sunday, February 25

Second Sunday in Lent

Sermon: *He Did Not Come to Call the Righteous, But Sinners*

Mark: Mark 2:13-17

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

9 a.m.; Choir Room



Bible Study

- February 6 Lesson 18 Radical Discipleship
- February 13 Lesson 19 Mounting Controversy
- February 20 Lesson 20 Hidden Messiah
- February 27 Lesson 21 God Seeks Least

Wednesday Evening Bible Study

Begins the New Testament

7:15 p.m.; Choir Room

- February 21 Lesson 13 Radical Discipleship
- February 28 Lesson 14 Hidden Messiah

Dunn's Corners Community Church,
Presbyterian
221 Post Road
Westerly, Rhode Island 02891

Non-Profit Organization
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Return Service Requested



The Scribe

February 2018

Diamonds (70+) Celebrate



Tuesday, February 13th, 2018

11:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
12 p.m. Luncheon in Fellowship Hall

Menu: American Chop Suey, garlic bread; dessert: Lincoln Log by Yvette Drurey.

Please sign up on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.
If you need a ride, please call the Church Office at (401) 322-0655.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <h1 style="margin: 0;">February 2018</h1>				1	2	3
				Meet in Choir Room: 5:45-6:10 pm Glory Ringers 6:15-7:20 pm Community Church Ringers 7:30-9 pm Chancel Choir	1-3 pm Watercolor Group (FH) 5-7 pm setup Mission (Lois Gardner)	8-10 am <i>Pancakes with a Purpose</i> Breakfast—Family Housing Support (FHS) at Cross Mills Baptist Church 4403 Old Post Road Charlestown 8am-6 pm Mission: <i>Dresses for Girls</i> Workshop (FH) 10 am-noon <i>High Society Jazz</i> Rehearsal (C) 5 pm Deacons Dinner at WARM Shelter
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8 and 10 am Worship/Fellowship Dale Green, guest preacher 8 and 10 am Church School through 8 th grade 9:45-11:15 am Infant Room/Toddler Room (U) <i>Souper Bowl of Caring</i>	3:30 pm Worship/Music Committee Meeting (C) 6 pm Christian Ed Meeting (KK)	8:30 am Work Team 9:15 am Bible Study (C) 6-8 pm Teen Time (KK) 6:45 pm AA (FH)	9 am Breakfast Group 5-8:30 pm Scouts Blue/Gold Dinner (FH) <u>No</u> Vespers <u>No</u> Bible Study	Meet in Choir Room: 5:45-6:10 pm Glory Ringers 6:15-7:20 pm Community Church Ringers 7:30-9 pm Chancel Choir	1-3 pm Watercolor Group (FH)	8-10 am Pancakes with a Purpose Breakfast—Family Housing Support (FHS) at DCCCP (FH)
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
<i>Transfiguration of the Lord</i> Celebration of Holy Communion Presbyterian Women: Soup Sunday 8 and 10 am Worship/Communion/Fellowship 8 and 10 am Church School through 8 th grade 9:45-11:15 am Infant Room/Toddler Room (U) 11:30 am Confirmation	1 pm Presbyterian Women (FH)	8:30 am Work Team 9:15 am Bible Study (C) 11:30 am Worship (S) 12 pm Diamonds Luncheon (FH) 3 pm Staff Meeting (P) 6 pm Building & Grounds (C) 6-8 pm Teen Time (KK) 6:45 pm AA (FH) 7 pm Session (C)	9 am Breakfast Group 6-8 pm Scouts (FH, M, KK)  7 pm Worship (S)	Meet in Choir Room: 5:45-6:10 pm Glory Ringers 6:15-7:20 pm Community Church Ringers 7:30-9 pm Chancel Choir	1-3 pm Watercolor Group (FH)	8-10 <i>Pancakes with a Purpose</i> to support <i>Family Housing Support</i> at Babcock Presbyterian Church 25 Maxson Street, Ashaway 10 am-noon <i>High Society Jazz</i> Rehearsal (C)
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
<i>First Sunday in Lent</i>  Annual Meeting 8 and 10 am Worship/Fellowship 8 and 10 am Church School through 8 th grade 9:45-11:15 am Infant Room/Toddler Room (U) 11 am Annual Meeting (S)	Presidents' Day  Church Office Closed No ELC/KK	8:30 am Work Team 9:15 am Bible Study (C) 6-8 pm Teen Time (KK) 6:45 pm AA (FH)	9 am Breakfast Group 6-8 pm Scouts (FH, M, KK) 6:30 pm Vespers/Communion (S) Pastor Wayne Eberly, leader 7:15 pm Bible Study (C)	Meet in Choir Room: 5:45-6:10 pm Glory Ringers 6:15-7:20 pm Community Church Ringers 7:30-9 pm Chancel Choir	1-3 pm Watercolor Group (FH)	
25	26	27	28	Call Director, Christine Fish at (401) 322-0510. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Learning Center: Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. • Kid Kare: Monday through Friday 7 to 8 a.m. and 2:30 to 6 p.m. 		
<i>Second Sunday in Lent</i> 8 and 10 am Worship/Fellowship 8 and 10 am Church School through 8 th grade 9:45-11:15 am Infant Room/Toddler Room (U) 11:30 am Confirmation		8:30 am Work Team 9:15 am Bible Study (C) 6-8 pm Teen Time (KK) 6:45 pm AA (FH) 7 pm Deacons (C)	9 am Breakfast Group 6:30-8:30 pm Scouts (FH) 6:30 pm Vespers (S) Bob Rieger, leader 7:15 pm Bible Study (C)			