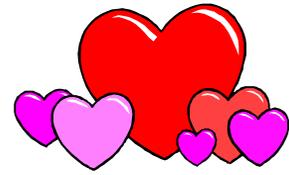


BETHANY HIGHLIGHTS

February 2014



Ben's Pen

February is often known as the month of love. Florists, jewelers, chocolate makers and other gift dealers have huge inventories with grand visions of selling out. We talk about love in glowing terms. We define love with a lot of adjectives, even though love is an action. We just moved from the Christmas season where we speak and sing of God's love for us in that He sent His son for us. We are preparing ourselves for Easter where we observe Christ dying on a cross for humankind. We are reminded of Jesus admonition to his followers to love one another. That is an easy task when the other looks and acts and thinks like we do. How do we show love to that one who is not like us? In fact, we often do not even like that other. How do we show love to those in our world that dislike and do not respect us? A dozen roses and some candy will not get it. One of the challenges of a Christian life is exemplifying love to everyone twelve months a year. Our mission's projects provide avenues for us to show love to people in our world that we normally would not even encounter. Our shoes project is a great way for us to literally give someone the shoes off our feet. Helping out in a local food pantry or clothes closet is a great way to literally lend a hand. The Relay for Life fundraising events can help foster hope to some individuals whose hope (and life) is dwindling every day. A visit to a nursing home or hospital can say a lot even if we barely open our mouths. A card of encouragement to a teacher, law enforcement officer, firemen or other community servant speaks volumes to those who receive them. A phone call to that fellow church goer who has missed a week or two says they are not expendable. How are you celebrating Valentine's Day this year? If we are truly saying I love you to our neighbor, we have to give some of who we are. Love is a verb. Let us make sure the "love" month has plenty of our action in it.

In Christ's Love,

Ben

We are focusing on feet this month; putting ours to work reaching others and providing shoes for those in our world who do not have any. There is information at our collection site in the Education Building by the double doors or check out two websites, www.giveshoes.org or www.cbfva.org.mission-box. The CBF of Virginia is trying to collect 25,000 pair of new or used shoes and we are kicking in our help. You probably have some unused shoes at your house. They could be the ticket for someone to go to school or work or just have some footwear for the first time in their life. Bethany has just the heart to help someone step into shoes.

Our PRIME TIMERS have moved their monthly meeting back to the second Wednesday of the month. They would love to have you join them for a time of fellowship, entertainment, good food and fun. They have a spot just for you on February 12th. Speak to Danny Lee or Linda Lee for more information.

The Men's Group is hosting this year's Valentine's banquet on February 15th at 6:00 p.m. They have a great menu and some fun entertainment planned. Everyone is invited to join the fun. There will be some more information about reservations and food needs announced soon.

The Church Council meets on Monday, February 10th at 7:00 p.m. Each Council member is encouraged to have their committee calendar and agenda ready as we plan the coming month's activities for Bethany.

We welcome Mike Johnson to our Deacon body. We selected him to fill the unexpired term of Dickie Bettis and we look forward to Mike's service with us.

The deadline for announcements for the March *Highlights* is February 18th.

BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Ben Thomas, Pastor

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Bethany Baptist Church

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February 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Choir Rehearsal 12:30 pm	3 Men's Ministry 7:00 pm	4	5 Bible Study 10:00 am	6	7	8
9 Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Choir Rehearsal 12:30 pm	10 Church Council 7:00 pm	11	12 PRIME TIMERS 12:00 pm	13 Deacons 7:00 pm	14	15 Valentine's Banquet 6:00 pm
16 Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Choir Rehearsal 12:30 pm	17	18 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	19 Bible Study 10:00 am	20	21	22
23 Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Choir Rehearsal 12:30 pm	24	25 Business Meeting 7:00 pm	26 Bible Study 10:00 am	27	28	

February Birthdays

1 – Bobby Edenton	16 – Kenny Terry
1 – Tyler Trice	18 – Donna Marshall Smith
2 – Todd Allen	18 – Maggie Sharp
2 – Casey Davis	20 – Donna Steckler
3 – Ethel Hart	22 – Ryan Corthon
7 – Mason Durrett	23 – William Thomas
8 – Brenda Bowles	25 – Teresa Laibstain
11 – Jeanette Gatewood	

February Anniversaries

16 – Herbert & Sue Terry
28 – Charles & Darlene Grimm

Healthcare Center Prayer List:

Grace Anderson	Nell Durrett
Scarlett Blanton	Violet Henshaw
Brenda Cannon	Douglas Jones
Bobby Carnahan	Leah Jones

Deacons

Alice Allen	(804) 448-3292
Al Baker	(804) 448-3345
Mike Johnson	(540) 582-6788
Danny Lee	(540) 582-8213
Emmitt Marshall	(540) 582-5381
Harry Newman	(804) 448-1502

Deacon of the Month:

Alice Allen

The mission of Bethany Baptist Church is to make a positive impact for Jesus Christ with people who live in our community by sharing the message of eternal life through Jesus Christ and by growing together as the family of God.

Just a thought...

Will we talk more about the Super Bowl and its outcome or the life and message of an untelevised Hebrew named Jesus? Which one changed the world? Which one will be remembered 2000 years from now? What dominates your conversation?