

THE LIGHTHOUSE

Official Newsletter of
Stone Creek Fellowship Church



From the Pastor Jeremy Tennery

Hello, friends.

I pray that everyone is having a wonderful start to 2024. This month, we celebrate Valentine's Day which is when we recognize those we love, like our spouses or significant others, family members, friends, and those closest to us. But shouldn't we do that every day by serving as Christ served? By speaking as Christ spoke? By loving as Christ loved? We

should show others our love by living 1 John 4:7, which says, "Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God." There is no greater command.

This month, I also encourage you to celebrate the love of our Heavenly Father, Jesus Christ. It is a love that stretches over our sins. A love that gives us mercy and grace. It is a love that sacrificed everything for us, "But God shows his love for us, because while we were still sinners Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8). The love of Jesus cannot be taken from us by anyone or anything. "I'm convinced that nothing can separate us from God's love in Christ Jesus our Lord: not death or life, not angels or rulers, not present things or future things, not powers or height or depth, or any other thing that is created." (Romans 8:38-39)

The love of a spouse, significant other, children, and friends is wonderful; we are all blessed to have those in our lives who love us and to whom we can show love. But always keep sight of the fact that the love of any human pales in comparison to the love of Jesus Christ.

A love He proves time and time again.

From my family to yours,
Pastor Jeremy

Scriptures About Love

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. - **1 Corinthians 13:4-8 NIV**

A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies.
Proverbs 31:10

Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.
1 Peter 4:8

Birthdays & Anniversaries in February

Amanda Tennery Feb 4th

Amber Cook Feb 7th

MJ Payne Feb 16th

James Cousins Feb 21th

Emmett & Sylvia Williams Feb 6th 54 yrs.

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Bible Verse of the Month

So my word that comes from my mouth will not return to me empty, but it will accomplish what I please and will prosper in what I send it to do.

Isaiah 55:11 (CSB)

Romans 10:17 (CSB)

HAPPY
Valentine's Day

True or False

1. Jacob was born to Sarah and Abraham.
2. Did the Torah and the Pentateuch have the same meaning for the first five books in the Old Testament.
3. Did the people during Jesus' time have mirrors?
4. Millennium means 100 years.
5. Did Melchizedek bless Abraham?
6. Levi is another name for Matthew.
(Answers on page 4)

Be The Good Samaritan

Who Was the Good Samaritan?

Jesus tells the parable, or story, of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10 of the New Testament. In that Bible chapter, he says, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him."

The Good Samaritan was the person who had mercy upon the man that was half-dead and robbed on the side of the road. After a priest and Levite passed the downtrodden man, showing him no mercy or compassion, the Samaritan took care of him and saved his life.

Meaning of the Good Samaritan Parable

The meaning of the Good Samaritan parable from Jesus is very simple: "Love your neighbor as yourself." Before telling the story of the Samaritan, Jesus is asked what is the greatest commandment of all. He answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"

The parable of the Good Samaritan is a story to illustrate how we "love our neighbors as ourselves." When other people need our help the most, like the man on the road, is when our love for neighbor is truly tested. Jesus tells us to be like the Good Samaritan, helping others in times of need, and not the Priest and Levite who ignored their neighbor.

Words Of Wisdom

Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving happier. -Mother Teresa

"In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years." -Abraham Lincoln

Bible Trivia



1. What was Sarah's name before God spoke to Abram.
2. Does God know the faults of our minds and the secrets of our hearts?
3. What was the name of the Roman centurion assigned the responsibility of escorting Paul to Rome?
4. What was Joseph's mother's name?
5. What is the first mention of the Jordan river in the Old Testament?

"Christ Has Come" By Dr. B.L. Worsham

Life More Abundantly

"I (Jesus) am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." (John 10:10)

"Life—more abundantly!" Today people are searching with all their might for "direction!" We hear them cry "help me" ---"education!" Another exclaims, "how much is enough" ---money, houses, land, influence, power, ---the answer comes roaring back from T.V. Experts, News Media, How to Books, from all areas— "a little more than you've got right now!" ---"Get More!" ---"Climb Higher!!" Other voices call out---"who can we believe?" ---And today, tycoons answer--- "here's someone", "they have a degree in X, Y& Z—so they must know- you can believe these people!"

And so, millions follow Doctor So & So, and spend their life attempting to obtain a great amount of, "something", that "someone", has said is, "success." But it turns out to be a "will-of-the-wisp", that has cost them their productive years of life, their health, their marriage, their family relations—and left them holding a bag of disappointments!

So, can anyone define success? Webster says - "The desired (sense of) or result of a project."

Note: may be money, promotion, pleasure, position! But—all of these are short-term and at best, temporal.

Once I witnessed a man die without salvation---terrible, as he tried to fight off death! A failed life! By contrast, the Apostle Paul met the close of life with complete confidence, and his testimony— "the Lord stood with me—the Lord shall deliver me unto His heavenly kingdom! To whom be glory forever and ever." (2 Timothy 4:18)

My friend, life without Christ is a waste and a failure! Life with Christ is full, complete, and death transitions to eternal life in heaven forever—absolute success! His promise— "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly! (John 10:10)

God Bless You,



Bobby Worsham - Pamela Parker's Dad Jan 31th
Ryan Griffin - Amber Cooks Brother Feb 25th - 5th year in passing



February Recipes

Strawberry Cake From Rosalyn Carter

Ingredients:

- 1 pkg yellow or white cake mix
- 1 - 3 oz package of strawberry Jello
- 3/4 cup cooking oil
- 1 cup chopped nuts
- 4 eggs
- 2 tbs flour
- 1 - 10 oz package of frozen strawberries or 1 pint of fresh strawberries with 1/2 cup of sugar



Directions:

- Mix all ingredients and beat well
- Pour into an angel food cake pan and bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes or until done
- Serve plain or with whipped cream.

Mrs. Wheat's Natchitoches Meat Pies

Ingredients Filling:

- 1-1/2 pounds ground beef
- 1-1/2 pounds ground pork
- 1 cup chopped green onions, white and green parts
- 2 or 3 cloves chopped garlic
- 1 tablespoon salt
- 1 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 teaspoon red pepper flakes
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cayenne
- 1/3 cup all-purpose flour



Ingredients Crust:

- 2 cups self-rising flour, plus about 2/3 cup more for rolling out dough
- 1/3 heaping cup Crisco shortening, not melted
- 1 egg, beaten
- 3/4 cup milk
- Vegetable oil, for deep-frying

Directions Filling:

- Combine meats, green onions, garlic, salt and peppers in large Dutch oven. Cook over medium heat, stirring often until meat is no longer red and is broken into small bits, about 15 minutes; do not overcook.
- Sift flour over meat, mixing thoroughly. Remove from heat. Place meat in a large colander to drain off liquid and cool to room temperature.

Directions Crust:

- Sift flour and cut shortening into it. Add egg and milk and mix. Form dough into ball (it will be very sticky). Roll out about 1/3 of dough at a time on heavily floured board with floured rolling pin to about 1/8-inch thick, adding least amount of flour possible to keep it from sticking.
- Cut dough into 5- to 5 1/2-inch circles. (Use a round sharp-edged dish or utensil of the correct size; or use a dumpling-maker form.) Cut out all dough circles before filling any, placing circles on cookie sheet. If necessary to stack pastry while making circles, place waxed paper between them.

Assemble Pies

- To assemble each pie, place a heaping tablespoon of filling on one side of pastry round. Dampen edge of pastry with fingertips moistened with water. Fold pastry over meat and crimp with fork tines dipped in water, pressing to seal.
- Prick each pie twice on top with fork. Freeze if desired, enclosed in self-sealing plastic bags; do not thaw before frying.
- Just before serving, carefully drop pies in oil heated to 350 degrees. Fry until dark golden brown, about 2 minutes. Drain on absorbent paper.

Oven Cooked Bacon

Ingredients:

- Your favorite bacon (uncooked)

Directions:

- Place bacon on a raised grid backing sheet
- Place baking sheet into cold oven
- Set oven temperature to 425 degrees
- Set timer for 25 minutes
- Remove bacon and enjoy



Awesome Grilled Cheese Sandwich

Ingredients:

- 1 cup grated parmesan cheese
- Your favorite bread slices
- Butter
- Your favorite sliced American, cheddar, Swiss, or other cheese



Directions:

- Butter one side of each slice of bread
- Spread grated parmesan cheese on plate and dip buttered side of bread in cheese until well coated
- Heat skillet on medium low heat and place each side of bread, cheese side down, place 1 slice of cheese on each piece of bread and let cook for 3 and 1/2 minutes (Do not touch during this part)
- Place pan with bread slices into the oven and broil until sliced cheese on top is melted.
- Close up the cheese sandwich and enjoy.

Easy Egg Drop Soup

Ingredients:

- 4 eggs
- 8 cups of chicken stock
- 1 tbs corn starch
- Salt, pepper and sesame oil
- Diced green onions

Directions:

- Mix 4 eggs with 2 tbs of water until well mixed
- Bring 8 cups of chicken stock to boil in saucepan
- Mix 1 tbs corn starch with 1/2 cup of water into a slurry
- Lower temperature of water to a simmering boil
- Pour mixed eggs in as a steady small stream into the simmering water to form ribbons
- Add salt, pepper, diced green onions and sesame oil to taste and enjoy!



Creamed Chipped Beef on Toast

Ingredients:

- 1/4 cup butter
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- 2 cups whole milk
- 1 (4.5 ounces) jar dried beef, chopped
- 8 slices toast

Directions:

- In a saucepan, melt butter over medium heat. Stir in flour, salt, and pepper until well blended.
- Gradually whisk in milk so that no lumps form, and continue cooking and stirring until the mixture thickens.
- Stir in the chopped dried beef and cook until the beef is heated through.
- Serve the creamy chipped beef over crispy, golden-brown toast slices.

Kcal: Approximately 300 kcal per serving | Servings: 4 servings



Trivia Answers:

1. Sarai and half sister to Abram Gen 11:29
2. Yes, God does Psalms 44:21 and 94:31
3. His name was Julius Acts 27:1
4. Rachel was Joseph's mother's name.
5. The story of Abram and Lot separation. Gen 13:11
6. Yes one of Jesus's brother Mark 6:3

True/False Answers:

1. False it was Isaac
2. True Both are used for first five books in OT Torah (law)
3. False mirrors were made of polished metal Job 37:18
4. False it means 1000 years and in Revelations it's used six times
5. True Mysterious priest and king of Salem who blessed Abraham in the name of "God Most High" Gen 14:20
6. True Levi was a tax collector in Capernaum.

Free Cybersecurity Awareness Training

We live in a world where everyone is online and uses the Internet on a daily basis for email, surfing the web, managed our prescriptions, bank accounts, order products online and much more.



We are now offering **FREE Cybersecurity Awareness Training** to all SCF members. The training includes videos, newsletters and other features designed to improve your awareness and knowledge of cybersecurity threats. Contact Bill Parker by email at bparker@stonecreekfellowship.org or call 802-602-3551 for more information.

Valentine's Day History



From 13 to 15 February, ancient Romans celebrated the feast of Lupercalia. Many believe that the origins of Valentine's Day can be traced back to this ancient fertility festival. To mark the occasion Roman men sacrificed goats before using their skins to whip women in the belief that this would make them fertile. Some historians have argued that at the end of the 5th century, Pope Gelasius I declared 14 February to be Valentine's Day in an attempt to reclaim this festival from the Romans and Christianize it.

It's not clear which Saint Valentine this day was initially dedicated to, as two saints with this name share the feast day of 14 February. Both of these saints were martyred in Rome; Valentine of Terni in around AD 197 and Valentine of Rome in around AD 496.

Many legends have been recorded about the latter St Valentine, but these are most likely apocryphal. These include the story that Valentine himself fell in love with his jailor's daughter while incarcerated for giving aid to prisoners. According to this tale, St Valentine wrote his inamorata a note signed "from your Valentine": the first Valentine's greeting. However, while this fanciful story is compelling, it is unlikely to be true.

The next milestone in the history of Valentine's Day came in 1382, when Geoffrey Chaucer wrote his poem Parliament of Fowles. This poem contains what is widely reported to be the first recorded instance of St Valentine's Day being linked to romantic love. This reference can be found in the lines:

In 15th-century France, 14 February became an annual feast day celebrating romantic love. Lavish banquets with singing and dancing were held to mark the occasion. It was also a 15th-century Frenchman who committed the earliest surviving Valentine's greeting to paper. While imprisoned in the Tower of London following the 1415 battle of Agincourt, the Duke of Orleans wrote to his wife:

In the mid-19th century the Valentine's card travelled across the Atlantic. Cards rapidly gained popularity in America, where they were initially advertised as a British fashion. Advanced American technologies meant that more elaborate cards were produced cheaply, encouraging their popularity yet further. In 1913 Hallmark Cards produced their first Valentine's card, representing a key development in the commercialization of Valentine's Day. Thanks in large part to marketing campaigns, Valentine's Day has today become a time not only for sending cards, but for buying flowers, jewelry, perfume and chocolates. And now you know this annual celebration of love is anything but modern.

HUMOR FOR THE



SOUL Hope Words

Faith is our positive response to what God has already provided.

"There is not a single thing that Jesus cannot change, control, and conquer because he is the living Lord." Franklin Graham

Stone Creek FELLOWSHIP

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Sunday

Sunday School 9:30 AM

Sunday Worship 11:00 AM

Children's Church 11:00 AM

Thursday

Praise Team Practice 5:30 PM

Churchtrac—Your Web Window Into The Church

<https://elwsjw.churchtrac.com>



The second way to access the site is to open up your smartphone's camera and point it at the QR code shown to the left.

Your login name will be your email address. Click the "Forgot Your Password" to set your password. Contact Emmett Williams or Bill Parker for assistance

The Lord's Supper



The men's Sunday school class is now preparing the Lord's Supper which occurs on the first Sunday of each quarter. The group prepares unleavened bread and pure grape juice.

Dates for upcoming Lord's Supper events are shown below:

April 7, 2024

July 7, 2024

October 6, 2024