

Harbinger



From the Pastor

February is a very special time for many. It is a time we express our love and appreciation for those closest to us. Valentine's Day has traditionally been that one day all year in which we go out of our way to express our deepest feelings of love to those around us. Considering the brevity of time, it would seem more appropriate to express these feelings every day all year long.

One of the most discouraging things to me about love is that over the years its meaning has been skewed. Many today base love on all the wrong things, and look for it in all the wrong places. It is not based on passion or the right circumstances. Love according to 1 Corinthians "bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things." Our society has cheapened the concept of true love as something you can just

fall into and fall out of when things are not as desired.

Where have we missed it? What would cause us to make such a detour on the path of true love? I believe the answer could be found in Jesus' words to the church at Ephesus. In Revelation chapter two, verse four, Jesus said; "*but I have this against you, that you have left your first love.*" The foundation for true love is found in our love for Christ. If we do not yield ourselves completely to Him in love and devotion, we will not be able to express or extend love in its truest nature to anyone. This is the first and greatest commandment; "*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.*" "*The second is like it, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'*" (Matthew 22:37&39). True love

has a natural order, which allows it to flow through our relationships richly. We must first love God, secondly we love those who are significant to us, and thirdly the love of God in us flows to all mankind.

We learn to love by accepting the Love of God through Jesus Christ. It is His love that transforms our heart and enables us to love even those who seem a bit "unlovable." It is this love that makes our church family so special. True heartfelt love for brothers and sisters in Christ produces a very special unity through the Holy Spirit of God, equipping us with the power to accomplish God's purpose as the church. May we commit the rest of this year to loving God deeply, that we might love others completely?

Keep looking up!

In Him,

Pastor Matthew



2012

Volume 2, Issue 2

*Harbinger Points
of Interest*

- *Group Meetings*
- *Deacons Meeting*
- *Business Meeting*
- *Baptist Men*

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Christian Sympathy

We express Christian sympathy to Carol Thomas upon the loss of her dad, Earl Ware, in Athens, TN. We also extend Christian sympathy to Bobby Donaldson and family upon the loss of his mother, Lucille Donaldson. For those of you who remember the Duke family who were active members many years ago their daughter, Carolyn, passed away unexpectedly on December 16, 2011.



Women On Mission-February 14

Gene Fry Group-6:00 p.m. at the church. Katie Gilbert will do the Bible study.

Cadle Group-will meet at the home of Cristy Woody at 6:30 p.m.

Ward Group-February 15th at 12 noon in the fellowship hall for lunch/mission speaker.

Stitches of Love Group-(each Wednesday 10-12)

Baptist Men

Saturday, February 11, at 9:00 a.m.



Deacons Meeting

Sunday, February 12, at 7:00 p.m.

Welcome New Members

We want to extend a great big FBC welcome to Rod and Sandy Sisk. Rod and Sandy have two children, Sydney and Carson.. They join us by letter from Union Hill Baptist Church in Oneonta, AL. Their address is 273 Hunters Ridge Road, Mineral Bluff, GA 30559. Their phone number is 706-374-4575. We



also want to warmly welcome Timmy Huey upon his profession of faith. Timmy's address is 165 Kyle Road, Blue Ridge, GA 30513. His phone number is 706-455-8832. Welcome everyone!

Music Programs

Our children's choirs and handbells will resume on February 5. Children's choirs are at 6:15 p.m. and handbells are at 7:00 p.m. See you then!



Sunday School Leader Training

When: February 18

Time: Breakfast at 8:30 a.m.; training will start at 9:00 a.m.

Where: Fellowship hall

All leaders and helpers are urged to attend.

Dear Friends

Thank you so much for the continued prayers for my family. I truly appreciate your support and compassion.



Sincerely,

Sandra Mercier

Thank You!

I would like to thank everyone for all your gestures of love and caring throughout my hospital stay and continued rehabilitation. The visits, calls, cards, flowers and prayers were so uplifting. I especially want to thank Pastor Matthew and Harry for all their visits.

Love, Louise Brown

Happy Valentine's Day Everyone!



Thank You

Thank you pastors and friends for your visits, calls, and food but most of all for your prayers and caring concern during Fred's recent illness. May God bless each of you as richly as you have blessed us.

In Christ,

Fred and JoDee



Children's Church Schedule

2-5-Mark & Tammy Brooks

2-12-Carol Thomas &

Marilyn MacNeill

2-19-Gail Dockery

2-26-Don & Tammy Bigham,

Marlene Long



Nursery Volunteers

2-5 Mary & Cindy Owens

2-12 Darren & Rebekah Kimsey

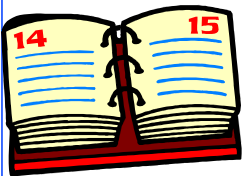
2-19 Danette Hughes & Jamie Parris

2-26 Philip & Sally Morris



Church Council Meeting

Everyone on the church council is asked to meet on Sunday, February 26, at 4:00 p.m. in the choir room. Please have a list of dates for all activities that you want placed on the church calendar.



Business Meeting

February 19 at 6:00 p.m.



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