

The Messenger

February 2016



The Presbyterian Church Of Johnstown

Minister's Message



What's Love Got to Do with It?

Tina Turner asked a question in her hit song from 1984 that came to my mind as we enter the coming month. February is the month each year that is associated with love. Valentine's Day arrives every February 14, and it is a time when we are supposed to celebrate the love we have for the person with whom we are married or dating. And it is certainly something that ideally brings couples closer together and reminds them of the exclusive feelings that exist in their relationship.

It is also clear in our culture that when it comes to the expression of love in a relationship, that there are many ways that people show love and understand love. And so it caused me to ponder what types of love we actually do see manifested in our culture and communities. And I came up with four basic types, which is probably not exhaustive, but certainly represents some of the prominent forms.

The first type that seems obvious in our culture is Narcissistic Love, and this probably doesn't even qualify as a type of love, because it is so self-centered and self-serving. In this type of love the individual is predominantly focused on receiving admiration and in many ways is "in love" with themselves. It is unhealthy and it doesn't foster depth in a relationship and more often than not will destroy a relationship.

The second type I see, which is the one that is most associated with Valentine's Day, is Romantic Love. This type of love is typically described as very enjoyable and certainly has the capacity to draw two people closer together. It usually is very prominent early in a relationship and serves as a gateway to deeper connection, but it wouldn't be described as a type of love that is mature or enduring. It is a good start and is very important, but it is not the deeper love that sustains all of life's twists and turns.

The third type of love is known as Philial Love, which is a type of love that is concerned for others. In fact the word itself is embedded in the name Philadelphia, which is known as the city of brotherly love. It is a non-romantic form of love that is ultimately concerned for the well-being of others. It is the type of love that in many ways drives mission work in the church, when we see a devastating natural disaster or a tragedy occur, often we will want to do whatever we can to help with the situation, because we care about others and genuinely want to relieve pain and suffering whenever possible. Though it is certainly an attribute that is consistent with Christianity, this type of love is also manifested in our culture regardless of religious background. People who would claim no faith tradition at all are very often quick to demonstrate philial love and reach out to friends, neighbors and even strangers.

And the fourth type of love that is found in our lives and culture, and seems to be the deepest form, is one that is not as easily identified and in many ways is very specific to Christianity. It is called Agape Love (or Unconditional Love). This is a type of love that is expressed without the expectation of getting anything in return and has the capacity to bring about wholeness and healing in a person's life. It is also a type of love that can only be experienced or expressed in a relationship with God. This type of love originates only in Him, and the only way we can show it to others is if we have an experience of that love from Him first and foremost. It is also the type of love that is being described by Jesus as he shares some last words with his disciples not long before his own arrest. He says to them...

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." (John 13:34-35, NIV)

And it makes sense that Christ would share such a command as part of the last instruction he gives, because this type of love is what ultimately reveals who He is and reveals the disposition that God has toward us. And it is always a good reminder that if we want to truly live out our faith and have others come to see and know Jesus Christ, then we will do the same. It is the best way to share our faith and to truly represent Christ as a church.

In His Service,

Kevin



A Note from the Clerk...

Proverbs 16:9 In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps

Session met on January 19, 2016. Pastor Kevin opened the meeting with prayer. Marie Fleming, Dianne Alexander, Hazel Almendinger and Cille Childers recently attended Partners in Education (PIE) training classes for Church Officers and Leaders, it was very informative.

A large group of youth and adults from our church attended the Winter Jam Concert on January 9th. There were 12 youth, 8 leaders and 7 other church members.

A new monitor has been installed in the hallway and will be ready to use soon.

Our next session meeting will be Tuesday, February 9, 2016 at 6:00 pm.

The Annual Congregational Meeting was held on January 24, 2016 following the worship service. Pastor Kevin opened the meeting with a prayer. The committee reports were received and accepted.

Scott Lockwood reported that we have done well financially and ended the year with a surplus.

Linda Lockwood, Alice Main and Marci Papart were elected to the nominating committee.

Gratitude was expressed to Scott Lockwood, Scott Kisner and Lewie Main for their diligence and hard work with church finances.

I would also like to take a moment and sincerely thank Diane Frazier for her dedication and excellence as our Clerk of Session. I look forward to following in her footsteps as I transition into serving as your new Clerk of Session.

Dianne Alexander, Clerk of Session



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 4pm Prayer Walk at the Bike Path *weather permitting 6-8 GS	2 1pm Tabitha sewing circle 5:15 Jr Choir/Joy Ringers 6:00 TOPS 7pm Adult Choir	3	4 8 am men's coffee Hour 6-7:30 Scouts	5	6
7 8:30 Teen Bells 9:00 Teen Choir Sunday School 9:15 Adult 9:30 kids 10:30 Worship & Communion	8 4pm Prayer Walk at the Bike Path *weather permitting 6-8 GS	9 1pm Tabitha sewing circle 5:15 Jr Choir/Joy Ringers 6:00 TOPS 7pm Adult Choir	10	11 8 am men's coffee Hour 6-7:30 Scouts	12	13
14 8:30 Teen Bells 9:00 Teen Choir Sunday School 9:15 Adult 9:30 kids 10:30 Worship	15 4pm Prayer Walk at the Bike Path *weather permitting	16 1pm Tabitha sewing circle 5:15 Jr Choir/Joy Ringers 6:00 TOPS 7pm Adult Choir	17 1:00 Elizabeth Circle @ the Hot Spot 6-7:30 Scouts	18 8 am men's coffee hour 6-7:30 Scouts	19	20
21 8:30 Teen Bells 9:00 Teen Choir Sunday School 9:15 Adult 9:30 kids 10:30 Worship	22 4pm Prayer Walk at the Bike Path *weather permitting 6-8 GS	23 1pm Tabitha sewing circle 5:15 Jr Choir/Joy Ringers 6:00 TOPS 7pm Adult Choir	24	25 8 am men's coffee hour 6-7:30 Scouts	26	27
28 8:30 Teen Bells 9:00 Teen Choir Sunday School 9:15 Adult 9:30 kids 10:30 Worship	29 4pm Prayer Walk at the Bike Path *weather permitting					

Volunteer Ministries for February

GREETERS:

7th Jeanne Voigt
14th Jim & Diane Frazier
21st Kerry & Marie Fleming
28th Kevin & Rhonda Piper

ACOLYTES:

7th Aja Irwin
14th Megan Miller
21st Grace Almendinger
28th Charlie Richards

NURSERY:

7th Sidney Blair
14th Liz Myers & Wesley Cox
21st Phoebe Richards
28th Haley Trimble & Heather Mansell

JUNIOR CHURCH:

7th Dani Cox
14th Rhonda Piper
21st Carrie Almendinger
28th Kathy Trimble & Rhonda Piper

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

7th Pastor Kevin
14th Jenny Cartwright
21st Katie Miller
28th Karen Blair

WORSHIP LEADER:

7th Karen Blair
14th Haley Trimble
21st Jeanne Voigt
28th Jeremy Derenberger

Flowers:

14th The McMillan family for all those who celebrate love in their lives, present, past and to those already departed.

Birthdays and Anniversaries



4 Dawn Rae McMahon

16 Jeff & Ashley Speck

6 Logan Willeke
Jason Weeks

17 Steven & Marilyn LeClair

8 Marianne Derenberger
Marie Richards

18 Katrina Cartwright
Kent Carson

11 Cindi Graves

19 Lyra Irwin

12 Don Orr

20 Mason Alexander

15 Bev JayJohn

28 Kaye Cook

29 John & Dianne Alexander

Our Church Groups



ELIZABETH CIRCLE

This group meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Hot Spot coffee house. The group has a short bible study and plenty of fellowship time. Come and see what we are all about!

Next meeting: February 17th, 1:00



Tabitha Sewing Circle

The sewing Circle meets each Tuesday at 1:00pm in our sewing room (off the Fellowship Hall). The group makes lap quilts and baby quilts, which are donated to local charities.

Sewing is on a weather permitting schedule during winter.

Contact Carolyn Friedberg if you need weekly information.



Women's Association

The Women's Association is selling their cookbooks. The new price is \$5 for the cookbooks. You can purchase these through Norma Johnson, or bring the money into the office during office hours.



PRAYER CHAIN

Please send all prayer chain requests to Carolyn Friedberg.

The email address is JPCPrayerRequest@hotmail.com.



Men's Coffee Hour

The men meet at the Hot Spot Coffee House each Thursday morning at 8am to fellowship.

Church Happenings

YOUNG-AT-HEART INVITED TO SYMPHONY!!

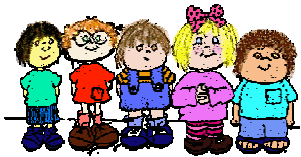


Jane Muller has invited our group to attend the spring concert of the Central Ohio Symphony. It will be held on Sunday, March 6, 3:00 PM. It will be in the Gray Chapel at Ohio Wesleyan University in Delaware. They have extended a special price for our group of \$12 per person. Jane will be playing at this event and this would be a great way for us to support her wonderful talent. Reservations need to be made by Sun. Feb. 14, so please call the church office and let Marie know if you plan to attend.



Super Bowl Party

We will be holding a Super Bowl party at 6 pm on Sunday, February 7th. Join us in the Fellowship Hall. Bring an appetizer to share and your lawn chairs or blankets to sit on. Stadium food will be provided.



Nursery

If there are adults who use the nursery on a regular basis and would like to volunteer their time, please contact Hazel Almendinger.

It is Per Capita Time



What is Per Capita? In essence, per capita is a set amount of money (apportionment) per member that congregations pay to the larger Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Every Presbyterian shares in the benefit of the PC (USA)'s system of government, so every Presbyterian is asked to share the expenses associated with coordinating and performing the functions of that system. Per Capita is \$32 per person this year. If you would like to make a donation to offset your per capita it would be accepted and appreciated.

Lenten Devotionals



The 35th Edition of the Lenten Devotional will be ready for pick up Sunday February 7th. You can pick up the devotionals after church that morning. A huge thank you goes out to Carolyn and Linda for making this happen every year.

Prayer Requests January 2016

JPCPrayerRequest@hotmail.com

Continued Prayers

- Our governmental leaders
- ISIS terror

Healing

- Don Orr was hospitalized for six days during the past two week for pneumonia. He still has some breathing and swallowing issues.
- John Alexander fractured his pelvis when he fell from a barn.
- Steven LeClair fell through scaffolding at his home in Tennessee.
- Nancy Venard is home and doing well after having back surgery.
- Marjorie Stires, friend of Hazel Almendinger, has several health issues.
- Clara Lash, Hazel Almendinger's sister, was hospitalized after a fall. She is doing well now.
- Sam Maynard. Dianne Alexander's brother is in rehabilitation at Villa Angela Nursing Home, Columbus, because of severe injuries suffered after being run over by a truck.
- Rev. Edward Carlson, Maxine Pardee's son-in-law, has ongoing medical issues that need prayer.
- Doug Boggs, husband of Carolyn Friedberg's friend Marsha, had a leg amputation because of serious bone infection. This is the second leg to have been amputated.
- Dan Montgomery, former superintendent of Johnstown schools, had pancreatic surgery.
- Mark Deeds, Reagan's dad, Mark, had surgery on Wednesday, November 25, to fix a valve to his heart.
- Joyce Priest, wife of long-time Johnstown teacher, had emergency surgery Friday, December 4.
- Craig Lockwood recovering from vision surgery December 10.
- Rhonda Deeds is had from surgery December 28.

Cancer

- Victoria Boals, New Albany teenager who has been fighting brain cancer for the last year or two, had brain surgery early November. The surgery was successful; however, she is having trouble with her left eye not moving, and also her right side. After a month in the hospital, Victoria came home December 2. Her biggest setbacks now are her left eye (which is not moving) and her right side. She is should have had a surgical procedure on December 7 on her eye.
- Caroline Mitchell, two-year-old granddaughter of Barb and Bill Mitchell, being treated for leukemia. The doctors anticipate two years of treatment.
- Lea Ann Snyder, friend of Roger & Donna Hines, Barbara & Bill Mitchell, and Phyllis Kraner, has cancer throughout her body.
- Dana Logan, acquaintance of Kaye Cook, has Stage 4 lung cancer. The cancer has spread to her bones. She is now on hospice care.
- Henry Webster, friend of Katie Miller, suffering from seizures. He was operated for a brain tumor. He has had a subsequent scan which indicated the brain tumor has shrunk. He will continue on chemo for the next several months.

- Maelee Leonard who is only 8 months old is she recovering from a malignant tumor removal from her bladder. She started getting chemotherapy treatments on August 10th. She is the daughter Macee Leonard who is a coworker of Katie Almendinger.
- Cathy Wine, Alice Main's cousin, is being treated for colon cancer.
- Monica Piper, Rhonda Piper's sister-in-law, will have radiation and 10 years of anti-cancer drugs for her stage 1 breast cancer.
- Aly Cline, friend for Katie Miller, was recently diagnosed with tumors that surround the nerves in her lower back. She will have surgery soon. She may have more than 15 tumors.
- Susan Cline, Aly's mother, made it through her brain surgery last week to remove a tumor. She will need to undergo lots of neurological physical therapy to regain her balance and strength.
- Diane Patterson, friend of JoAnn Glick, has myelodysplastic syndrome which requires a weekly blood transfusion and chemo treatments.
- Johnnie Johnson has skin cancer and he and his wife Sharon are grieving the loss of their daughter Sharon. He is also recovering from heart surgery January 12.

Long Term Illnesses or Disabilities

- Maxine Pardee myasthenia gravis and extreme pain.
- Ed Carlson, the younger and Maxine Pardee's grandson, has Marfan Syndrome, a rare genetic condition which affects the heart and breathing.
- Brian Eckstein, Brandon and Adam Eckstein's father has ongoing serious issues.
- Emma Kisner has been having absence seizures. Pray she will soon outgrow them.
- Rev. Edward Carlson, Maxine Pardee's son-in-law, has ongoing medical issues that need prayer.
- Bill Kraner, Phyllis Kraner's husband, has ongoing health problems.

Those Shut in or Confined to their Homes

- Roy H. Sarbaugh, Carol Hoff's father
- Alice Neibarger, New Albany Gardens and Care Center, Columbus, OH 43230.
- Margie Wheaton, Betty Ford's daughter, is in a nursing facility because of her Parkinson's disease.
- Lawrence Bishop at Sharonbrooke Sr. Living Center, 920 Sharon Valley Road, OH 43055
- Ellen Howell, Hazel Almendinger's sister, is house bound. She is in pain management for spinal stenosis.
- Cecil and Maryann Grimes, brother and sister-in-law to Maxine Pardee, Cecil has worsening Alzheimer's and Maryann has a lung condition.
- Rev. Tom Jackman, former minister of the Johnstown Presbyterian church in the late 60's and early 70's, 200 Cottage Dr. Apt 302, Palmyra Pa. 17078-3608

Deaths

- Betty Ford died Monday, January 25.
- Mildred Boccock, Ken Weaver's sister, had surgery December 9 for a bleeding ulcer. She had other issues as well. She died peacefully Sunday Jan 17.
- Haley Meadows and Greg Farran Long were killed in an automobile accident November 27. Haley was the granddaughter of Ron and Gabi Meadows. Ron and Gabi used to attend here in years past.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Office hours & Contacts

Pastor Kevin will be in the office Monday through Thursday.

Marie's hours are Monday–Friday from 9am to Noon.

Our phone number is 967-7541

Pastor Kevin's email address is pastorkevin@thejpc.org

Our email is johnstownpres@gmail.com

Prayer Chain email is JPCPrayerRequest@hotmail.com

www.thejpc.org

We present to you many opportunities to get involved in the church life. There are sign-up sheets for ministry involvement that need volunteers in our foyer. Take a chance and sign up! You will be blessed. Here are the names to contact if you have any questions.

Flowers for Worship: contact the church office

Greeters: contact Marie Richards

Acolytes: contact Marie Richards

Nursery & Jr. Church: contact Hazel Almendinger

Children's Message: contact Marianne Derenberger

Special Music: contact Katie Miller

Property Maintenance: contact Lee Mansell

Church Sign: contact Marie Richards

Wedding Coordinator: contact Sally Uhde

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY



You may sign up to place flowers in our chancel for a special remembrance on Sunday mornings. The cost of each bouquet is \$15.00. Please put your \$15.00 for your flowers in an envelope marked "Flowers" and put it in the offertory plate when you sign up. We appreciate the beauty of your generous donation. The flowers are yours to take home after worship service on Sunday. Please return your vase to the church office.

Finances



Monthly financial information may be picked up or viewed in the church office.