

News at Forest

February 2023



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Staff:

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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

February is here! Valentine's Day is just around the corner so if you have not done your shopping yet, this is your warning. This is a month where you walk into the store and just see red. Not the kind that makes you angry, but rather signifying love. There are gifts for all ages from stuffed animals and giant cards to coffee mugs and boxes of chocolate, lots and lots of chocolate. It is all focused on conveying how we feel about someone else. It seems like regardless of what item you pick up, it is in the shape of a heart, covered with hearts, or filled with hearts! All of these have a focus on the idea of expressing love. Over the past few weeks we have been speaking about Transformation. We began with the mind, moved to the heart, and now we are looking at our lives. For many of us, the love we experience with those around us has helped shape us into who we are today. At the same time, there is only one love that has saved us from the grave and is working with power to see us transformed. This love is the love of God. I was reminded of this verse as my daughter was memorizing it this week:

Romans 8:37-39 NIV

37 In all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. **38** For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, **39** neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

As we celebrate this holiday, so many of us are reminded of a lost loved one. For many this is a difficult season, as we remember those who have gone on to be with the Lord. During this season I encourage you to take these few verses to heart. There is NOTHING that can separate us from the love of God – Death nor life, present or future, no height, no depth, nothing in creation. We are inseparable from His love, not only for a lifetime, but for eternity. His presence not only fosters hope, but brings transformation. I encourage you to open God's word today, read of His love for us, and purpose He has for your life that you may experience the transformation He has in store!

Sincerely,

Andrew

February Calendar

February 1

6:30 pm Prayer Meeting

February 2 - Groundhog Day

7:00 pm Men's Bible Study

February 5

8:30 am Church-wide Breakfast

9:30 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship/Lord's Supper

4:30 pm Worship Rehearsal

6:00 pm Bible Study

February 7

7:00 pm Ladies' Bible Study

February 8

6:30 pm Prayer Meeting

February 9

7:00 pm Men's Bible Study

February 12

9:30 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship

4:30 pm Worship Rehearsal

6:00 pm Bible Study

7:00 pm Deacons' Meeting

February 14 - Valentine's Day

7:00 pm Ladies' Bible Study

February 15

6:30 pm Prayer Meeting

February 16

7:00 pm Men's Bible Study

February 19

9:30 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship

4:30 pm Worship Rehearsal

6:00 pm Bible Study

February 21

7:00 pm Ladies' Bible Study

February 22 - Ash Wednesday

6:30 pm Prayer Meeting

February 23

7:00 pm Men's Bible Study

February 25

10:00 am Storehouse

February 26

9:30 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship

4:30 pm Worship Rehearsal

6:00 pm Bible Study

February 28

7:00 pm Ladies' Bible Study

MUSIC MINISTRY UPDATE

It's February! Ahhh...the month of **love**. We will be celebrating this month by praising and worshipping the Lord with songs about **love** such as The Same **Love**, Your **Love** Defends Me and The Father's **Love**. We'll be singing the song 'You Are My King (Amazing **Love**)' weekly to help us remember our Lord's ultimate sacrifice of **love**.



The lyrics tell us the story:

*I'm forgiven because You were forsaken.
I'm accepted, You were condemned.
I'm alive and well, Your Spirit is within me
Because You died and rose again.
Amazing **love**, how can it be that You my King would die for me?
Amazing **love**, I know it's true;
It's my joy to honor You in all I do, I honor You.*

Thank you Lord for Your perfect sacrifice so that we may be saved and be able to celebrate **Love** on a daily basis, not just one month of the Year!

Love,
Jennifer Evans

one-year Bible Reading Plan

Week 6 - Love

- February 4 1 Corinthians 13
- 5 Isaiah 54:10
- 6 Romans 8:35 - 39
- 7 1 Peter 4:8
- 8 1 John 4:7 - 12

Week 7 - Purpose & Plan

- 9 Ephesians 1:3 - 14
- 10 Job 42:1- 2
- 11 Proverbs 19:21
- 12 Jeremiah 29:10 - 13
- 13 Romans 8:28 - 30

Week 8 - Praise

- 14 Psalm 96
- 15 Exodus 15:2
- 16 Psalm 71:14 - 16
- 17 Luke 1:46 - 55
- 18 Hebrews 13:15

Week 9 - Temptation

- 19 Luke 4:1 - 13
- 20 Deuteronomy 8:2
- 21 1 Corinthians 10:12-13
- 22 Hebrews 2:18
- 23 James 1:2 - 4., 12 - 15



Deacons of the Week

February:

- 5 Bobby Stone
- 12 Dave Evans
- 19 Terry Arnold
- 26 Ken Dewalt

BUDGET UPDATE For Month Ending January 31, 2023

Revised Budget YTD	\$ 21,832.40
Rec'd YTD	\$ 20,574.77
Reg. Offering	\$ 20,517.77
Other Income	\$ 60.00
Exp. YTD	\$ 24,525.55



Online giving is possible by texting
FBCBELMONT to 73256,
or online at www.firstbaptistbelmont.com/giving

February BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Hannah Gwie
- 8 Andrew Renfroe
- 12 Jayda Renfroe
- 16 Hannah Laws
- 23 Herman Myrick
Mary Belcher
- 26 Nelda Wilson
- 27 Rachel Orrell



Church-wide
BREAKFAST
Sunday, February 5th
8:30 AM



Looking Ahead – StoreHouse 2023

We take this opportunity to thank all of our faithful friends, our wonderful volunteers and our Faithful and Wonderful God for a terrific end to 2022. We ended the year with our two Christmas Toy Giveaways and were able to provide parents of 171 children with gifts for Christmas. It had been a very hard year for many parents and we heard many heart-wrenching stories of tremendous need. We also experienced tears of joy from parents who realized that their children would be able to find wrapped toys to open on Christmas morning. And it's because of reactions like these that we desire to do even more to bring hope into our world. So, we look forward to 2023 with fresh eyes to see where the Lord would want this ministry to go, what He would want this ministry to become, whom He would want this ministry to impact, as we strive to fulfill the Great Commission of going to our Jerusalem, reaching our community with the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. We invite all of you to come along with us....it's going to be an exciting year!!

Mike and Cherie Curtin

