

Devotions and Stories

You Are Mine!

Isaiah 43:1

*But now, thus says the LORD, who created you, O Jacob, and He who formed you, O Israel:
Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; you are mine.*

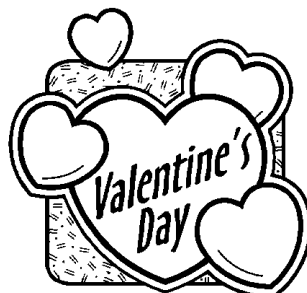
On Valentine's Day isn't it fun to dig through a bag of those little candy hearts that have the words printed on them? They say cute little things like "SWEET", "CUTE" or "HUG ME". But the one that I like the best says, "YOU ARE MINE!"

Isaiah 43 gives a beautiful picture of God saying those exact words to His beloved children of Israel. Even though they had wandered away from Him and He had to discipline them, He declares, "Don't be afraid! I made you and I will take care of you. You are mine!" Then, as their loving Father, He gives them the promise of His presence, His protection, and His provision through it all.

Ephesians 1:3-14 says that as a believer in Christ, God the Father does the same thing for you. He created you, He redeemed you, and He calls you to Himself saying, "You are accepted in the Beloved — in essence, "You are Mine!" As a loving Father cares for His children, so He cares for you day after day, week after week, year after year. He loves you! You are His!

Father, what a thrill to hear Your words and to know that I belong to You! Thank you for creating me, for caring for me, for calling me Yours and for the security that brings.

By Ann Shorb



Love for the Lord Dinner

To celebrate Valentine's Day this year our Family fellowship will hold a "Love for the Lord" Dinner. Formerly known as the Sweetheart Dinner, the name has been changed to include ALL people of the congregation. A sign up sheet is in the Narthex, please sign it if you wish to attend.



United Methodist Groups

Men's Group: Will meet on February 7th at 8:00 am at the Family Traditions Restaurant in Mt. Pleasant Mills.

They will also meet on February 21st at 7:00 pm.

Women's Group: Will meet on February 16th at 7:00 pm. Please stay tuned for more details on this meeting.

Child Evangelism Fellowship

A new opportunity for children in addition to Rocket Club is coming our way. Child Evangelism Fellowship will be starting a kids club for children ages 5-12 on Sunday evenings from 6:30-8:00 beginning February 20th. Jenna Braemiller will be teaching and leading this group. Parents are welcome to attend with their children and help with the meetings.

There is a sign up sheet in the narthex if you wish to bring your child. However, please don't feel you have to sign up to bring your child.

Don't forget

Prayer team will meet the 14th and the 28th. Anyone is welcome to join us and pray with us.

Quilter's Unlimited will meet the 7th and the 21st.

Grace Notes and Rocket Club

The Grace Notes will be practicing on February 2nd at 6:00 pm just before Rocket Club begins. Grace Notes is open to all age children and anyone is welcome to join.

Rocket Club will meet on February 2nd from 6:30 to 8:00. The children who have been coming are enjoying themselves. If you have not tried it yet, don't miss out! Come and bring a friend.

The Hallmark Quartet

The Hallmark Quartet will be in concert here at Hummel's on February 26th at 7:00 pm. The Hallmark Quartet has been together for 12 years and come from Ironton, OH.

A covered dish meal will precede the concert at 5:30 pm. We hope to see you there! This is an excellent opportunity for you to invite a neighbor or a friend to come with you!

Directory

We are in the process of making a new directory. Pictures were taken on the 28th and 29th of January. If you did not get your picture taken please see Suzy



Smith or Jenn Smith who will take your picture so that you are not missing from our directory.

Safe Sanctuaries

A safe Sanctuaries training will be held in Watson-town on Saturday February 26th. It is important for all of those working with children are trained so that you aren't "left in the dark". We want you to have an understanding of why this is required by our conference and important to us. If you work with children and have not already taken a training course, or if you would like to refresh your mind with this information please call the Church office as soon as possible so that we can get you registered to attend this training.

Please check your bulletin weekly for meetings or other events not listed here or changes to the above announcements.

Happy Birthday to:

2/2 Randy Swineford	2/19 Maddy Walter
2/3 Esther Kreider	2/20 Pat Mull
2/5 Mervin Royer	2/23 Joyce Bollinger Dustin Smith
2/6 Woody Johnson Andy Shockey	2/24 Clint Snyder
2/7 Brenda Arnold Marcella Hartman	2/27 Tony Dauberman Courtney Smith
2/9 Gene Stroup	2/28 Lester Hoffer Halee Uskurait
2/10 Connor Harris Margie Snyder	2/29 Travis Waite
2/11 Dylan Stevens	
2/13 David Britton	
2/14 Carol Keister Stacey Shockey	
2/16 Vince Greenaway David Keister	
2/18 Sandy Arnold	

Happy Anniversary to:

2/3 Willard and Arla Smith

2/14 Bryan and Pam Gill
Merv and Sherry Hostetler

2/17 Kurt and Jennifer Smith

2/27 Dean and Suzy Smith

My Jesus, I love Thee
I know Thou art mine.
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign.
My gracious Redeemer,
My Savior art Thou:
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I love Thee because
Thou hast first loved me
And purchased my pardon
on Calvary's tree.
I love Thee for wearing
the thorns on Thy brow
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I'll love Thee in life;
I will love Thee in death
And praise Thee as long as Thou lendest me breath
And say when the death dew lies cold on my brow:
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus 'tis now.

—Hymn text by: William R. Featherston

Please Pray for:

Pray for our Nursing Home Residents

Cathy Shrawder.....Bloomsburg
 David Kratzer.....Nottingham Village
 Peg Gilbert.....Manor Care, Sunbury
 Christine Walter.....Penn Lutheran
 Betty Mitchell.....Penn Lutheran
 Annabelle Keister.....Riverwoods
 Janice Stoneroad.....Penn Lutheran

Pray for our Extended Family

Ethel Stuck
 Virginia Thompson
 Warren C. Johnson

Please pray for our Shut ins

Scott Smith

Recent Surgeries & Procedures

Harry Stroup
 Faye Kuhns
 David Keister

Recent Hospital Stays

Janice Stoneroad
 David Keister

Our College Students:

Amy Bowersox	Stephanie Brouse
Brandon Craven	Kim Dreese
Marissa Ewing	Yvonne Herbster
Becky Hibbs	Zach Royer
Michael Shirk	Katie Stuck
Amanda Waite	Casey Wendt



Please remember the Shockey family as they grieve the loss of Alvin Aikey who passed away on January 9th. May God strengthen you in your time of loss.

Please keep Leroy Hibbs and his family in prayer as they mourn the loss of his mother, June Hibbs. June passed away on Wednesday, January 26th. May God comfort you in your time of grieving.



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...to proclaim the love of God to all people.

“Worry does not empty tomorrow of its sorrows, it empties today of its strength”

Jesus loves me, this I know. For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong, they are weak but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me.
Yes, Jesus loves me, The Bible tells me so.



My Secret Valentine

—by Robert Fulghum from Chicken Soup for the Father's Soul

It sits on a shelf at the top of my closet. Once it was a shoebox, decorated for Valentine's Day and given to me by my oldest child. Its components are standard: Three colors of construction paper—pink and red and white—faded now. Aluminum foil, several paper doilies, three kinds of macaroni, gumdrops, and jellybeans, some little white hearts with words on them (the kind that taste like Tums), and the whole thing held together with a lot of white library paste.

This shoebox valentine is shriveled and moldy where the jellybeans and gumdrops have run together. It's sticky in places. But it's a repository of childhood relics given to me by my children.

If you lift the lid, you'll know what makes me keep it. On folded and faded and fragile pieces of large-lined school paper are the words: "Hi daddi" and Hoppy valimtime" and "I lov you." Glued to the bottom of the box are 23 X's and O's made of macaroni. Scrawled in several places are the names of three children. It's the product of love in its most uncomplicated and trustworthy state.

The children are grown now. They still love me, though it's harder sometimes to get direct evidence. And it's love that's complicated by age and knowledge. Love, to be sure, but not simple. Not something you could put in a shoebox.

No one else knows the sticky old valentine is there. Once in a while I take it down and open it. It is something I can touch and hold and believe in, now that there are no small arms around my neck.

It is my treasure chest. And it stands for love. Bury it with me. I want to take it along as far as I go.

The book *Chicken Soup for the Father's Soul* can be found in our Church library which remains open. There are many books in the library including: fiction, devotionals, self-help, and reference books. Please feel free to check out the library found in the old part of the church, 3rd door on the left. There is a sign out sheet on the desk where you record the name of the book and your name so that we can keep track of the books. You may sign them out for as long as you'd like, but please remember to turn them back in when you are finished.

A children's library can be found down stairs next to the kid's Sunday school rooms. There are books and videos for signing out. The sign out sheet can be found on the shelf—simply sign and return when you are finished.

Why not check out the library today?