

#### Do You Love Me?"

Read John 21:15-17 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 13:4-7 1<sup>st</sup> John 4:7-21

How do you define love? ... A feeling? An emotion? An action? Spoken words? Even the dictionary is vague on defining love: love is a fond or tender feeling, a warm liking, affection, attachment. Now I have a warm liking for Rocky Road ice cream (yum!) ... and tender feelings for new born animals (they are so cute) ... and affection for children (they make me laugh), and a strong attachment to the home I grew up in (wonderful memories of days gone by)... but to say that is love?... No ... true love is more than all those things put together.

The apostle Paul tries to define love for us in 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 13, telling us the many things that love is: patient, kind, humble, selfless, forgiving, honest, protective, trusting...a blend of character traits and social skills... ultimately how we choose to live our lives around and with others... how we choose to relate to others...so, love is... relationship. But that too does not pin-point what love IS!

We have to turn to 1<sup>st</sup> John 4:7-21 to find out what love IS. It says in verses 8 – 10: "God <u>is</u> love... Why? It goes on to say: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he first loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins..." (verse 8-10). Love is putting others first (God putting us above himself), love is giving sacrificially ... until it hurts (Jesus dying on the cross for us), but you give anyway because that's what love (God) does... He offers us grace. It is unwavering commitment (God not giving up on us), even when it is undeserved (we have all missed the mark and made wrong choices and mistakes)... it is giving everything for the sake of the other... so the other can reap the benefits of our life-giving love (God's gift of eternal life). "For God so loved the world (YOU), that He gave his one and only Son (Jesus), that whoever believes in him shall not perish (die) but have eternal life (live with God forever).

Peter's responses to Jesus' question, "Do you love me?" goes from yes Lord, I have a fondness, a tender feeling, an affection, a great liking, a warm attachment for you to an acknowledgement of Jesus as the Living God in verse 17:"...you know all things, you know I love you." Peter had to come to that point of knowing completely, free of doubt, who Jesus truly was, and acknowledge that his life would never be the same because of God's love for him... that is when Peter could move forward and do as Jesus asked, "Feed my sheep."

Jesus summed up the commandments and law in this simple phrase: "Love God with all you heart, with all your strength, and with all your mind. And love your neighbor as yourself." That is how God wants us to live...to simply love God and neighbor...to love as we are loved by God. In doing so, not only will our lives be changed...but the world will be changed too! Love never fails! So, go and love like God loves you!

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE EVENTS!



## Youth Calendar—April 2017

April 2 — Meeting 12:00 p.m.—2:00 p.m.

April 23 — Mission Trip Meeting 12:00—1:00 p.m.

April 29 — Car Wash Fundraiser 9:00—3:00

### YOUTH CAR WASH FUNDRAISER

SATURDAY, APRIL 29th, 9:00 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M.

FREEWILL OFFERING
Proceeds go to the summer mission trip to
Red Bird Mission



EASTER EGG HUNT Friday, April 7 11:00 a.m.

Just prior to Lunch Club.





## GRADUATION SUNDAY MAY 7, 2017

We will be recognizing all are graduates on Sunday, May 7. If you know someone graduating this year from preschool, from high school, from tech school, or college, please notify the office at 317-758-4195.



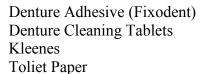
Ron & Justine Downard	04/09
Frank & Helen Leo	04/12
Tim Critser & Suzanne Montgomery	04/20
Bruce & Susan Beck	04/22
Darren & Catherine Wilson	04/23
Jim & Donna Pickett	04/24



04/29

Chris Bourdon	04/01
MacKenzie Kinkead	04/03
Robin Lindenmayer	04/04
Kristy Perrine	04/04
Jennifer Adams	04/06
Rex Nesbitt	04/07
Renee Zachary	04/07
Connie Bouse	04/08
Roger Spaulding	04/08
Katie Wainscott	04/09
JoEllen Flynn	04/12
Evan Krupp	04/12
Brittani Faherty	04/13
Pat Franklin	04/17
Martha Pence	04/18
Samatha Smith	04/21
Ralph Stephenson	04/21
Kristin McClain	04/22
Martha Leonard	04/23
Norm Strawn	04/23
Cathy Good	04/24
Erica Knuckles	04/27
Missy Bourdon	04/28
Clifford Biddle	04/29

Sunflower Pantry Items needed for April





#### REMEMBER OUR HOMEBOUND

Chad Hawley

Please remember our homebound with a card, a call, or a prayer this week. If you need an address, please call the church office at 317-758-4195. If you know of someone who needs to be added to our list, please let us know.

Mark Blessing	Robert (Bob) Fox
Joanne Norman	Mary Grace Pickett
Mary Anne Ogle	Betty Rohrer
William Oberthur	Melba Stephenson
Robert Peterson	Tresa Ann Waitt

# Learn and Play — March





Learning the letter "X"





Learning what makes rain in the clouds.



Making sure we are ready for kindergarten!



We love our science projects.

The faces of learning at Learn and Play!





April 9 — Palm Sunday

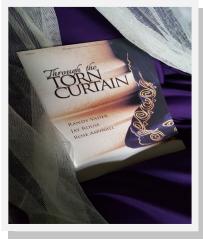
April 13 — Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service @

7:00 p.m.

April 14 — Good Friday Service @ 7:00 p.m.

April 16 — Easter Musical @ 7:00 a.m. with

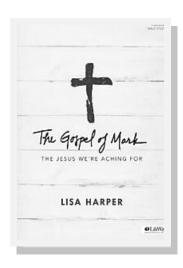
breakfast following April 16 — Easter Worship Service @ 10:00 a.m.



## THROUGH THE TORN CURTAIN EASTER MUSICAL

SUNDAY, APRIL 6 7:00 A.M.

Breakfast Served Following Musical



## NEW WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY THE GOSPEL OF MARK

You are invited to join us for the new Women's Bible Study: The Gospel of Mark with Lisa Harper beginning Wednesday, April 5, at 6:00 p.m. A light supper is served.

God's heart is moved by your cries for help, your shouts for joy, your unspoken worries. We know Him to be a God of unparalled power and authority, but Mark's account of Jesus paints Him as a deeply personal and intimate God too.

In *The Gospel of Mark: The Jesus We're Aching For*, follow Jesus through His days of early ministry all the way to the cross. It's there we discover what it means to be the recipients of His excessive compassion and the very reason for His all-consuming passion.

## MISSION COMMITTEE NEWS

## MISSION TRIP PLANNING MEETING

Those going on the mission trip to Redbird will meet on Sunday, April 23, from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.



#### DUCK IN FOR SENIOR FUN DAY

Saturday, April 22, — 3:00—5:00 p.m. Sheridan Sunflower Pantry



Come in and enjoy finger foods, beverages, games and prizes as we celebrate the Pantry's 2nd Anniversary serving our seniors 55 and older of Sheridan.









Sunflower Pantry Items Needed for April:

Denture Adhesive (Fixodent) Denture Cleaning Tablets Kleenex Toliet Paper

## **EDUCATION COMMITTEE NEWS**



#### **CAMP OUT VBS**

The Education Committee decided we will be doing VBS a little bit different this summer. With the busy schedule of our kids in sports, 4-H, etc., we decided to have a one day "camp out" VBS with a special "block party" finale. We have set the date for June 9th. VBS will be all afternoon with special events in the evening! Be sure to watch! If you are available to help on the 9th, please let Brenda Davis know.

In Enrichment we have been learning about Holy Week and all that Jesus did that final week. The older kids have been making 3D maps of the events which we will display at Easter. The younger kids have been learning the events with various crafts.









# APRIL 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 8:30 AM Worship 9:00 AM Church School 10:00 AM Worship 2:00 PM Easter Musical Practice 12:00 PM Youth	3 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM Lunch Club	4 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM Lunch Club 2:00—4:00 PM Sunflower Pantry	5 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM Lunch Club 6:00 PM Bible Studies 7:00 PM Choir	6 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM Lunch Club	7 11:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM Lunch Club	8 7:30 AM UMM Lenten Breakfast
9 9:00 AM Church School 10:00 AM Worship 2:00 PM Easter Musical Practice	10	11 1:30 PM Lydia Circle 7:00 PM Sunflower Pantry Board	12 6:00 PM Bible Studies 7:00 PM Choir	13 10:00 AM Preschool 12:00 PM Lunch Club 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service	14 7:00 PM Good Friday Service	15
16 7:00 AM Easter Musical w/Breakfast Following 10:00 AM Worship	17 7:00 PM Trustees	18 2:00—4:00 PM Sunflower Pantry 7:00 PM Education Committee	19 6:00 PM Bible Studies 7:00 PM Choir	20 10:00 AM Preschool 12:00 PM Lunch Club	21	22 3:00—5:00 PM Senior Fun Day @ Greenhouse
23 8:30 AM Worship 9:00 AM Church School 10:00 AM Worship 12:00—1:00 PM Mission Trip Team Meeting	24	25 7:30 PM Finance Committee	26 6:00 PM Bible Studies 7:00 PM Choir	27 10:00 AM Preschool 12:00 PM Lunch Club	28	29 9:00 AM—3:00 PM Youth Car Wash 6:30 PM Euchre Party For Greenhouse
30 8:30 AM Worship 9:00 AM Church School 10:00 AM Worship						