

The Hilltopper

New Hope United Methodist Church's Monthly Newsletter

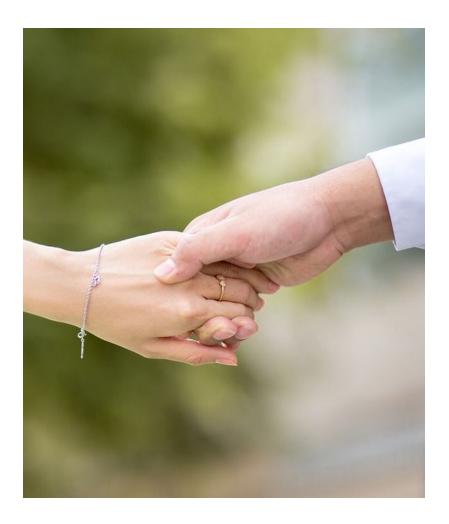


First Sweethearts

By: Allen Webster

The history of love begins in a beautiful locale, long, long ago. Lonely man meets available woman. A match made in heaven, to be sure, they seemed made for each other.

Adam desired sweetheart (Genesis 2:18). It is normal and natural for us to desire to find one of the opposite sex with whom to share life. "Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD" (Proverbs 18:22). Parents should encourage their children to interact socially, date, and develop wholesome relationships (1 Corinthians 7:36). Solomon observed, "Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up. Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm alone?" (Ecclesiastes 4:9-11).



A sweetheart is a blessing from God (Genesis 2:22). In Adam's case, God made and presented this gift directly to him. Through providence and in answer to prayer, God will lead us to a lifelong companion. Solomon wrote, "House and riches are the inheritance of fathers: and a prudent wife is from the LORD" (Proverbs 19:14; cf. Proverbs 3:6; James 1:17).

We should love a sweetheart as our own bodies (Genesis 2:23). In Adam's case, she was a part of his body. Paul may have had this in mind when he wrote, "So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it" (Ephesians 5:28-29).

Sweethearts must leave parents (Genesis 2:24). Adam and Eve had no parents to leave, but God set this precedent to be projected into and applied to all future generations. Leave literally means "to forsake and neglect." Young people who get married must leave father and

mother • physically (move out of their house into your own place). One old preacher said, "Put three bridges between you and your in-laws and burn down two of them." • psychologically (make your own decisions and live with the consequences, Galatians 6:5), and • economically (the new husband is to support his wife, and their future children, 1 Timothy 5:8).

Sweethearts should cleave to each other and weave their lives together (Genesis 2:24). In creation, God made two out of one. In marriage, God makes one out of two. The Hebrew word (dabaq) behind "cleave" means "to join fast together; to glue; to cement; a death-grip". It refers to a strong bonding together of objects and often was used to represent gluing or cementing. Job used the word when he spoke of his bones clinging to his skin and flesh (19:20; cf. Psalm 102:5). It could also have the meaning of following closely. The two ideas were sometimes carried together, as in Ruth's clinging to Naomi (Ruth 1:14) and the men of Judah remaining steadfast to David (2 Samuel 20:2).

Plato had a strange, but interesting, idea. He believed that originally humans were double what they are now. Because their size and strength made them arrogant, the gods cut them into halves; and real happiness comes when the two halves find each other again, and marry, and so complete each other. This does not match the Genesis account except for the fact that God does want two to become one. We should be one emotionally, legally, physically, and spiritually. Working as a unit, sweethearts bring children into the world, train and prepare them, and send them out to repeat the process. They join together in the joys of the marriage bed (Hebrews 13:4). Joining hands and hearts, they set their eyes on heaven and never look back.

Sweethearts should fight Satan together (Genesis 3:1-6). Satan chose a time when Eve was alone. Would she have been more successful in dealing with him if Adam had been by her side? Probably. Two heads are better than one.

Sweethearts can lead each other into sin (Genesis 3:6). Satan tempted Eve, but Eve tempted Adam. A girlfriend may pressure her sweetheart for sexual favors against God's will (2 Timothy 2:22). A husband may insist his wife miss church services so they can enjoy a day at the beach.

Sweethearts should not blame each other (Genesis 3:12). Men have been blaming their wives for their mistakes ever since. One of the excuses made for not coming to the great supper was "I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come" (Luke 14:20). Wives have also been known to blame husbands instead of taking responsibility for their actions.

Sweethearts should understand the difficulties the other faces and be sympathetic (Genesis 3:16-19). I picture Adam reaching over and taking Eve's hand as they dejectedly leave the Garden. They had lost everything, except each other. When Eve cried out in pain as Cain and Abel were born, I picture the look of sympathy on her husband's face. Later perhaps he said, "Eve, I'm so sorry you had to endure that. I know it must have been awful." I see Eve bringing Adam a glass of water after a long day in the field— sunburned, scratched by the thorns, and wearing sweat-stained clothes. "Honey, I know you had a rough day. I wish we had never sinned and brought these hardships upon us."

Sweethearts should stay together during the hard times (Genesis 3:23-24). Marriages are not lasting as long as they once did. Here is the percentage of married people who reach these anniversaries: 5th: 82% 10th: 65% 25th: 33% 35th: 20% 50th: 5% Adam did not break up with Eve because she cost him paradise. Eve did not set up a separate place and go it alone. As far as Scripture records, they remained sweethearts for the next 930 years (Genesis 5:5).

And think - you and I both came about because of that first romance in a Garden long, long ago!

Lectionary Readings for February

February 3

Jeremiah 1:4-10 Psalm 71:1-6 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 Luke 4:21-30

February 10

Isaiah 6:1-8 (9-13) Psalm 138 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Luke 5:1-11

February 17

Jeremiah 17:5-10 Psalm 1 1 Corinthians 15:12-20 Luke 6:17-26

February 24

Genesis 45:3-11, 15 Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50 Luke 6:27-38



Pastor Shin Dedicating Hand-Chimes

During our Christmas Eve Service, we collected over \$740. That money was used to buy a set of hand-chimes, to be gifted to a church in Turkey. They will use the chimes for their outreach ministries.



- 1 Loretta Dameron
 - Martha English
 - Jamie Stout
- 2 Kylie Armstrong
 - Al & Lynn Tuten
- 4 Robert Shiflett
- 5 JoEtta Walker
- 8 Colin Hester
- 9 Nancy Pyle
- 10 Ian Gruber
- 13 Marguerite Howell
 - Owen Pence
- 14 Ernest Shaver
 - Becky Tate
 - Dale & Sherry Rankin
- 15 Cooper Coffey
 - Rebecca McCaskey
 - Tonya Meier
 - Holly Morris
 - Joan Simmons
 - Isabelle Willberger

- 17 Pastor Shin
 - Seth Joyner
 - Zach Rickman
 - Lewis & Karen Whitmer
- 18 Susie Shreckhise
- 19 Jo Layman
 - Robert Riner
- 20 Helen Shiflett
- 21 Al Tuten
- 22 Colin & Teresa Hester
- 23 Mike Shreckhise
- 24 Jennifer Bottenmiller
 - Tabatha Herring
- 25 Marc Mehler
- 26 Dave Dively
- 27 Stephen Sundeen
 - Richard & Natosha Ritchie



The following are the minutes from the <u>JANUARY</u> meeting of the Church Council. They are available for you to help the entire church congregation <u>Stay In The Know</u> about what and how this group are caring for the people and the church building of New Hope UMC - in the past, the present and into the future!

The meeting was called to order by Sam Arnold, Chairperson. Dallas VanLear read the devotions.

Those present at the meeting were: Sam Arnold, Dallas VanLear, JoEtta Walker, Cindy Sheets, Bruce Rogers, Karen Whitmer, Pastor Shin, Teresa Barr, Wanda Harding, Kevin Armstrong, Cindy Deavers, Robin Craun, Andy Breeding and Kim Maugans.

The minutes of the November meeting were approved and submitted.

FINANCE COMMITTEE – Kevin Armstrong, Chairperson

- In 2018, we received roughly \$12,000 over our budgeted income. However we spent \$30,000 on the new HVAC heating & cooling system project for the social hall, putting us over our expense budget for the 2018 year. This \$30,000 was a Capital Improvement expense and not part of our general expenses.
- So far we have received donations of \$5,780 for the HVAC project. These donations are part of the \$8,370.83 in the Building Fund account. A motion was made by Kim Maugans and seconded by Dallas VanLear to take \$7,000 of that money and pay it on the Dupont Community Credit Union credit line for the HVAC project. It was voted on by all members and approved. This leaves a DCCU credit line balance of \$21,820 for the HVAC project, which we hope to pay off in 2019.
- The 2018 internal financial audits are in progress. The audits are due to the Finance Committee by April 1.
- So far this year we have received 3.9% of the budget with 7.7% of the year complete.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Cindy Deavers, Church Treasurer

- We dispersed the mission money for 2018 to the Valley Mission, Verona Community Food Pantry, SACRA and District Missions Center.
- We paid \$2,000 on the HVAC (new heating & cooling system) in December.
- The propane bill was received for the church propane, 179 gallons @ \$1.98/gallon. The bill for the parsonage was \$371.93 and the bill for the church was \$922.29.
- We received \$740 in donations at the 2018 Christmas Eve Service. The money was used to purchase a set of Hand-Chimes to be donated to the church in Turkey.

- There was some discussion about adding and removing names of people from some of our back accounts, this issue was taken up further in the New Business section.

TRUSTEES – Teresa Barr, Chairperson

- The Trustees advised we need a new roof on the Narthex/Sunday School building. The flat roof has become a huge problem over the years, particularly in the stairwell and around the skylight, with numerous leaks and problem areas. The thinking is that there is no way to repair the roof and we must replace the flat roof entirely.
- The thinking is to replace the flat roof with an A frame roof. However, the Trustees are in the evaluation stage and will make final decisions after they have consulted with contractors qualified to do this type of work. There have been improvements in materials and technology since the original roof was installed. The estimated cost is \$40,000-\$50,000. The trustees will begin to get further information from qualified companies and get estimates to replace the flat roof or install a new A frame roof. When the evaluations are completed, the Trustees will make a proposal to the Church Council.
- There was a discussion about the church library. Several years ago the Church Council approved a motion to move the church office from the current location to the church library, when funds were available. However, with new people taking over church positions, limited electrical outlets, safety concerns, storage issues, convenience, usage concerns and the wide variety of flexibility that the library currently gives us; everyone is sensitive to all of these concerns and issues.
- The discussion continued to possibly make the library into a type of church study with a wide-array of uses; including: a room for the Pastor to meet with people for counsel, a round table, chairs, a rug, window blinds, etc., and perhaps a desk and file cabinet for the Pastor and Sunday School Superintendent to utilize for needed items and materials. It would also remain versatile enough to be used for our big events like H.O.T.S., 50s Drive-In and others when we need the extra space.
- Kim Maugans made a motion that due to the change in the need of space utilization for the area known as the church's library, we authorize and designate the Trustees to develop a plan of action to redesign and re-designate the library into a room that is more convenient for our church's current needs. Dallas VanLear seconded the motion, the Council voted and it was passed.
- The Trustees denied a request for the downstairs refrigerator, that we use for the flowers, to be moved to the counting room for easier access for the flower ministry.
- Also, there had be a request for the refrigerator that we use downstairs for the flowers, to be moved to the counting room for easier access for the flower ministry. That request was denied by the trustees.

WORSHIP MINISTRY – Susan Coffman, Chairperson (not present)

- Pastor Shin spoke of the efforts and upcoming plans made by the Worship Committee & Planning Team.

NURTURE/SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT MINISTRY – JoEtta Walker, Chairperson

- George Taylor is heading the bible study group that meets every Wednesday at 5:45pm. They are currently studying the book of Hebrews and would love to have more participants! All are invited to join them!
- There will be a 5th Sunday Covered-Dish Lunch on Sunday, March 31, 2018 ~ And it's Bring-A-Friend and Bring-A-Dish Day

EVANGELISM MINISTRY – Sue Snider, Chairperson (not present)

- Pastor Shin spoke of the 5th Sundays Bring-A-Friend and Bring-A-Dish Sundays coming up on March 31st and June 30th.

MISSION/OUTREACH MINISTRY – Kim Maugans, Chairperson

- Kim and Pastor Shin have discussed the idea of having a Mission Sunday, once a month wherein the missions that we support here at New Hope UMC will have a representative come to our church and discuss alittle bit about what their mission is all about and what they do with the donations and support that we give to them.
- There are currently no upcoming mission trips planned.
- There are no plans about Tangier Island Missions currently.
- Kim performed an individual mission for a church family member recently.

UNITED METHODIST MEN – Dallas VanLear, President of UMM

- Next meeting is February 19th at 6:30pm
- The UMM will host the Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner on March 5 from 5pm-7pm
- The start of Wednesday Night Dinner back on March 6th, Ash Wednesday at 6:00pm
- March meeting is March 19th (every third Tuesday) at 6:30pm

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN – Wanda Harding, Chairperson

- UMW will host the Heart's Party on Sunday, February 17th from 4pm-6pm
- There are no upcoming meetings in the near future.

YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE – Chloe Breeding, Chairperson (not present, no report given.)

STAFF/PARISH RELATIONS – Andy Breeding, Chairperson

- We are recommending a revised Child & Adult Abuse Prevention Policy in 2019.
- This policy was started a number of years ago, but it has been updated to include additional safeguards.
- We will provide training to everyone who will be working with children within our church.
- The training will introduce us to definitions, what is expected of all of us, situational concerns and more.
- Everyone who wants to work with the children of our church, in any capacity, will need to go through the training and background check.
- For those who are concerned about privacy issues, please note that the Pastor and the Chairperson of the Staff/Parish Relations Committee will be the only persons with access to the background information.
- Karen Whitmer made a motion to approve the implementation of the policy and training procedures and Dallas VanLear seconded it. It was voted on by all and approved by the Council.

HISTORIAN - Lynn Tuten, Chairperson (not present, no report given.)

MEMBERSHIP - Karen Whitmer, Chairperson

- Fillmore Cook recently passed away and was buried here at Oak Lawn Cemetery.

LAY LEADER – Dale Rankin, Chairperson (not present, no report given.)

COMMUNICATIONS – Cynthia Sheets, Chairperson

- Cindy Sheets presented the highlights from our upcoming events and meetings. (*Please see our Upcoming Events page in this Newsletter for upcoming events, meetings and activities in February.*)

PASTOR – Pastor Shin

- March 24th will be UMCOR Sunday and we will have a guest speaker from UMCOR to talk to us about what they do and what they do with our donations. Pastor Shin requested \$200 to be taken from the Wednesday Night Dinner Freewill Offering (which we currently have approximately \$1,200.00) as a donation for UMCOR to be presented when they come on Sunday, March 24. Dallas VanLear made the motion, Sam Arnold seconded and it was voted on by all and passed.
- On Sunday, March 3rd, Pastor Shin's brother, Shin Bum Hong will come back to New Hope UMC and play piano for us.
- There will be a Special General Conference on February 23-26th, by the Council of Bishops in St. Louis Missouri Pastor Shin asked for prayers for this conference, that the Holy Spirit will guide our United Methodist leadership in their decision-making process.
- For the first time, the Annual Conference will not be held on a Sunday. This year Annual Conference is June 20-22nd.

NEW BUSINESS

- Kim Maugans made a motion to remove his name as outgoing Lay Leader and add Dale Rankin as incoming Lay Leader to the Pastor's Discretionary Account held at Dupont Community Credit Union and generate written correspondence to the Credit Union, directing them to permit this change. Dallas VanLear seconded it, it was voted on by all and passed.
- There was discussion to have Natasha Ritchie, new Assistant Treasurer, added to the church's checking account and remove Karen Whitmer from the account. The issue was discussed and it was decided to put this issue on hold until Natasha is fully trained in her new position.
- Cindy Sheets said that the computer in the office has not been working, i.e., not-booting up for approximately 3 months. Although, Al Tuten has been working on it on a voluntary basis, it was discussed and requested that we get an outside computer repair company to work and repair the computer. Robin Craun asked the age of the computer, and the computer is believed to be approximately 5 years old. Having this additional information, there was a suggestion made to purchase a new computer for the office for the general use of the church family. Kim Maugans made a motion to grant \$500 for the purchase of a new computer that Pastor Shin and Cindy Sheets will work together to purchase. Sam Arnold seconded it. It was voted on by the entire church council and it was passed.
- Cindy Sheets informed the Council that the church copier has some limitations and needs maintenance. We may have to look into getting a newer copying machine for the church.

- There was also discussion about the new wall calendar on the bulletin board in the main hallway. We will be trying out a new 4 month wall calendar for the first half of the year and seeing if it meets our expectations and needs as a church.
- JoEtta Walker brought up the continuing audio problem on the TV monitor in the Nursery. There was discussion to get Jerry Coffman to contact our A/V guy (Mark Garrison) and have him come back and troubleshoot this problem. Cindy Sheets also brought up the audio issues on our DVD copies and we will have Mark also troubleshoot this problem.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Pastor Shin.

Next Council meeting will be Thursday, February, 28, 2019 at 6:30pm

Respectfully submitted by: Cynthia Sheets & Bruce Rogers

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REALLY ADAM ... A VALENTINE'S DAY FRUIT BASKET ... IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN?!?

What do squirrels give for Valentine's Day? Forget-me-nuts.

What did the valentine card say to the stamp?

Stick with me and we'll go places!

Did Adam and Eve ever have a date?No, but they had an Apple.

What did the boy octopus say to the girl octopus?

Can I hold your hand, hand, hand, hand, hand, hand, hand, hand, hand?

<u>Upcoming Events, Activities and Meetings</u> <u>at New Hope UMC - February 2019</u>

February 3, Sunday ~ Sunday School @ 9:30am

~ Sunday Worship Service & Holy Communion @ 10:30am

~ Souper Bowl of Caring - Right After Worship

February 4, Monday ~ Circle of Hope Meeting @ 7:00pm with Gail Armstrong

February 6, Wednesday ~ Children's Bell Choir Practice @ 5-5:45pm

~ Hebrews Bible Study @ 5:45pm

~ Choir Practice @ 6:45pm

February 9, Saturday ~ Sweet Hour of Prayer @ 8:00am

February 10, Sunday ~ Sunday School @ 9:30am

~ Children's Sunday & performance by Children's Bell Choir @10:30am

~ Children's Choir - Right After Worship

February 13, Wednesday ~ Hebrews Bible Study @ 5:45pm

~ Choir Practice @ 6:45pm

February 16, Saturday ~ Sweet Hour of Prayer @ 8:00am

February 17, Sunday ~ Sunday School @ 9:30am

~ Brotherhood/Sisterhood Sunday @ 10:30am

~ Children's Choir - Right After Worship

~ Hearts' Party @ 4:00pm-6:00pm

February 19, Tuesday ~ United Methodist Men Meeting @ 6:30pm

February 20, Wednesday ~ Hebrews Bible Study @ 5:45pm

~ Choir Practice @ 6:45pm

February 21, Thursday ~ S.W.A.T. Lunch at Ciro's Verona @ 12pm

February 23, Saturday ~ Sweet Hour of Prayer @ 8:00am

February 24, Sunday ~ Sunday School @ 9:30am

~ Sunday Worship Service @ 10:30am

~ Kids will have lunch and then go to the JUMP Park in Harrisonburg

February 27, Wednesday ~ Hebrews Bible Study @ 5:45pm

~ Choir Practice @ 6:45pm

February 28, Thursday ~ Church Council Meeting @ 6:30pm

March 2, Saturday ~ Sweet Hour of Prayer @ 8:00am

March 3, Sunday ~ Sunday School @ 9:30am

~ Transformation Sunday Worship Service with Special Music by Shin Bum Hong and Holy Communion starting at 10:30am

February is Age-Related Macular Degeneration and Low Vision Awareness Month.

Macular Degeneration and Cataract Surgery: Are They Compatible?

Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) is a frustrating condition that diminishes your ability to see detail clearly. When you combine AMD's loss of central vision with the blurriness from cataracts, you have a recipe for significant vision loss.

Can you have cataract surgery to restore some clear vision if you have macular degeneration? The answer is probably yes . . . but there are some factors your ophthalmologist will consider first.

Find Out Which Condition Impacts Your Vision Most

Before recommending cataract surgery, your ophthalmologist will want to find out whether most of your vision loss is caused by the cataract or by the AMD. Some people who have a lot of damage to their retina from macular degeneration won't see much or any vision improvement from cataract surgery.

Your ophthalmologist will examine your retina and take photographs to assess its condition. They will also take a look at how cloudy your lens is to see how much vision the cataract may be blocking. And before recommending cataract surgery, your ophthalmologist will check your vision to see if a change in your eyeglass prescription or even low vision magnifiers may be enough to see better.

Having cataract surgery with AMD may not restore your ability to do up-close tasks, such as reading. Removing the cataract will allow more light to enter the eye, but that may not be enough for good central vision. We need a clear lens and a healthy retina for sharp vision.

Does Having Cataract Surgery Make AMD Worse?

Depending on the type of AMD you have, the answer is not fully known at this point.

If you have the "dry" form of AMD, there is no evidence that cataract surgery will make your AMD worse. However, if you have the "wet" form, it is not clear if cataract surgery will negatively affect your macular degeneration. Cataract surgery causes inflammation inside the eye, which in theory could make wet AMD worse. However, results of multiple studies have been inconsistent, so we don't know for sure if cataract surgery worsens wet AMD.

On the positive side, there is no evidence that having cataract surgery will make you more likely to develop dry or wet AMD if you don't already have it.

Fortunately, for those struggling with the double whammy of vision loss from both AMD and cataracts, studies have shown that cataract surgery can improve vision in those who are candidates for the procedure. You and your ophthalmologist can discuss your options for achieving better sight.

Written By: Kierstan Boyd Reviewed By: G Atma Vemulakonda, MD

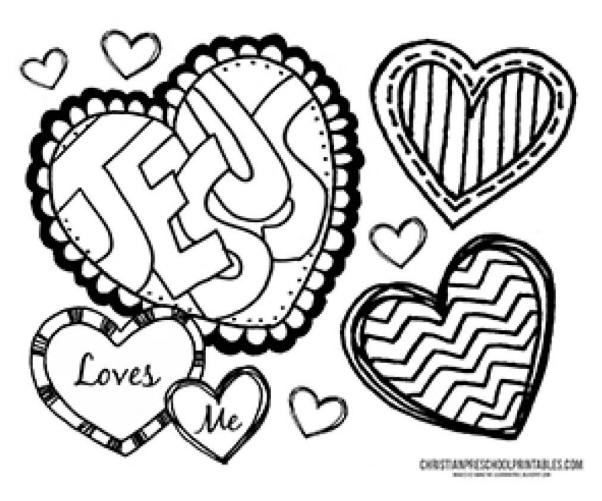
Kid's Corner

(Parents please feel free to print this page for your kids to color while you read them the story.)

Valentine's Day and Love

by Sharla Guenther

Valentine's Day is a special day of the year. There are parties, chocolates, cards, and candy with "Be Mine" written on them. Other than all that where does Valentine's Day come from?



There are several stories about priest named Valentine who performed secret marriages when an emperor ordered that no young men should be married because they would be better soldiers in the war.

Another story is about a man named Valentine who fell in love with a girl while he was in jail. Just before he died he wrote her a love letter and signed it, "From your Valentine".

I don't know if these stories are true or not, I guess it

doesn't really matter. I think the important part is: that we know what love is and know where it came from.

The Bible tells us that love is from God and that God is love. The neat thing about God's love is that it's not a feeling to him, he can't fall out of love with us. He loves us even when we're not loveable and when we're grumpy or doing bad things. He loves all of us no matter what.

The tricky part is loving others like God loves us. God's love is much different than the mushy kissy stuff that you see on TV or all around you. It's not bad to be mushy with your family but sometimes its harder to show other people how you love them. We can't just go around kissing everyone to show them our love!

There is a special kind of love we can have for others, it's called agape love. This doesn't have to be mushy love, just see people as God would see them. Pretend for a day that you have special glasses on and that everyone you see you love just because God loves them, like the way you love a mom or dad, brother or sister.

I'm sure you'll run into somebody you don't think deserves your love or you just don't want to love at all, but God loves them and if we love God we are supposed to love them too.

Who exactly are we supposed to love?

- *Love God
- *Love yourself
- *Love your family
- *Love your friends
- *Love your neighbors
- *Love your enemies

What are some ways that we can love God? It's not as hard as you think. How do you show others you love them? We talk to them, try to get to know them better, listen to them, and sometimes we do things for them. We can do all these things for God. We might not be able to touch Him but we can pray to God, read the Bible and learn about him, obey Him and do the things he asks us to do.

We are also supposed to love ourselves. This doesn't mean that we should think we're better than everybody else. We get this from a Bible verse that says do for others as you would want them to do for you. This means we should take care of ourselves. Things like looking before we cross the street, eating our vegetables, and getting a good sleep at night are ways we can do that. Remember that if you're a Christian the Spirit of God lives inside us and he wants us to treat ourselves with respect.

Loving our family is hopefully pretty easy. Even though we get mad at our parents sometimes because they don't let us do something, we still love them. Just remember that you are part of a family and nothing will ever change that. You should always be able to depend on each other and they'll be the ones to tell you the truth before anyone else.

Loving our friends should be easy because we pick the people we want to be friends with. The thing is, sometimes when we disagree with our friends we think we don't have to be their friend anymore, but God's love would ask us to forgive them and try to work things out.

Do you know who your neighbors are? Neighbors aren't just the people who live next to you but are everyone you might run into. I don't want to encourage you to run up to strangers but think about helping others with love. By helping an elderly lady who needs help with her groceries, returning a wallet found on the street, or even praying for people on the news that are in trouble are just a few ways to love a neighbor.

I hope you don't have any enemies but there will always be someone that you don't get along with or believes the opposite of what you believe. There are many, many people that don't believe in God and that purposely do things that hurt him and God still loves them. Loving people that bully us or our friends seems impossible, but it's not with God's help. By asking for God's help we will be able to love our enemies easier when we just can't do it on our own.

Learning to love like God takes a long time and takes God's help. It's easier to love than to hate, so have lots of fun learning to love God and everyone around you!



We are still in need of contributions for the Building Fund that will help us pay down our bill for the new Heating & Cooling System. If you have any questions, please contact Kevin Armstrong.

If you would like to add an article or announcement to the Hilltopper, please contact The Hilltopper editor, Cindy Sheets at cds3501@gmail.com or call/text at (540) 280-1860

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