



JOIN US FOR WORSHIP IN THE
SANCTUARY
SUNDAY 10AM
-OR-
ACCESS THE LIVESTREAM
OF SUNDAY'S WORSHIP
<https://meet.google.com/rik-bqqf-rye>
phone call: 1-929-282-0976 and
at the prompt enter: 574 737 948#.

Prayer For February

Heavenly Father,
Thank You for Your love and
guidance as we enter February.
Please guide and protect my
family, friends, and me
throughout this month. Help us
to reflect Your love in our actions
and thoughts, and provide
strength and comfort to those in
need. May we remember Your
greatest act of love through
Jesus Christ and share that love
with others.
In Jesus' name, Amen.

CoffeeWithStarla.com



9am Adult Bible Study
10am Worship Service
11am Fellowship
2pm Lake Huron Woods

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From the Pastor's Desk

Hasn't this been a tough winter? Raise your hand if this winter has been a piece of cake. Did any hands go up? This is the longest coldest winter spell that I can remember. And the snow keeps falling a little bit at a time so its hard to keep our driveways clear of snow. Then some of our church family have had furnace problems, and most of us will have sky high heating bills. On top of that Michigan has had a spate of flu cases. Many in our church family have fought serious cases of the flu, even covid. Others struggle with long term ailments that take time and patience to overcome.

As we look out into the world we see conflict and discord in our beloved nation. Our leaders seem to have nothing good to say about their political opponents. Minneapolis is a city living in fear and violence. There seems to be an unhappy turbulence infesting our nation and world.

So what might we do about what we don't like in our weather, nation and world? The fact is that we can do very little or nothing about the weather or the state of our country and world. I suggest we concentrate on what we can control. Reach out and call your church family, remind them of the Ash Wednesday service on Wednesday, February 18, at 4:00 PM. We all do better knowing that we have one another to help us through these long winter nights and frigid winter days. It's good to remember that the days are getting longer, we now have 10 hours of sunlight each day while in December we only had 9 hours.

Let us concentrate on serving our LORD JESUS CHRIST by loving the LORD our GOD with all our heart, soul and strength, and loving our neighbors as ourselves. (Mark 12:30-31) I believe we can warm up by forgiving anyone and everyone without exception. Once we forgive it becomes easy to love our enemies, as JESUS instructed us to do. (Matthew 5:44) The cold winter outside can become the warmth of JESUS living within us. Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is not coming with things that can be observed; nor will they say, 'Look, here it is!' or 'There it is!' For, in fact, the Kingdom of God is within you."(Luke 17:20-21) As we serve JESUS CHRIST, GOD'S Kingdom lives within us and among us. Having the Kingdom of GOD live within us makes outward troubles and trials much easier to endure in the cold of winter.

This time of year we receive about 3 additional minutes of sun every day. Before too long the sun will overcome the frigid cold of long winter nights. In the same way the warm grace of the SON overcomes the cold of our sin. Spring is coming - Yeh! JESUS has come and is coming again!- Hallelujah!

So, Who is Saint Valentine?

St. Valentine is believed to have lived during the reign of Emperor Claudius II in Rome. He was a priest (or possibly a bishop) who ministered to persecuted Christians. According to various accounts, he was martyred around 269 AD for defying the emperor's orders, which included banning marriages for young men, as Claudius believed that single men made better soldiers. St. Valentine continued to perform marriages in secret, which ultimately led to his arrest and execution.

Britannica

Legends and Significance

Several legends surround St. Valentine, contributing to his association with love and romance. One popular story suggests that while imprisoned, he healed the blind daughter of his jailer, Asterius. Before his execution, he sent her a note signed "from your Valentine," which is thought to have inspired the modern tradition of sending Valentine's cards. Britannica

St. Valentine was buried on the Via Flaminia, and his relics are said to be housed in various locations, including the Basilica of Santa Maria in Cosmedin in Rome and the Whitefriar Street Church in Dublin, Ireland, where many pilgrims visit, especially on his feast day.

Wikipedia

Patronage

St. Valentine is recognized as the patron saint of lovers, engaged couples, and beekeepers. His legacy has evolved over the centuries, and he is often depicted with symbols of love, such as birds and roses. The celebration of Valentine's Day on February 14 is believed to have originated from the early Christian feast day established in his honor, which has since become a day dedicated to romantic love.

Britannica

In summary, St. Valentine is a significant figure in Christian history, whose life and martyrdom have inspired a rich tradition of love and affection celebrated worldwide on Valentine's Day.

Birthdays

6th Barb Wismer
9th Mike Bergeon
11th Steve Anderson
12th Barb Wright
26th Barbara Fochtman

Anniversaries

**26th Pastors Roxie and Bill
Davis**

Events

11th Chili Dinner 4pm
14th Craft Day 1-3pm
**18th Ash Wednesday Service and
Potluck 4pm**

Meetings

4th Deacons 4pm
**5th Evangelism and Outreach
11:00am**
10th Stewardship 2pm
12th Worship 12:30pm
12th Session 1:30pm



**Communion Sunday is
February 1, , 2026**

Deacons'
The Deacons recently received a thank you letter from the Salvation Army in Port Huron for the Deacons' Christmas donation and for being bellringers. Great job representing our church and serving the community!

Valentine Traditions From Around the World

Valentine's Day is celebrated in various ways around the world, each reflecting different cultural traditions and values. Here are some of the unique traditions from around the globe:
Argentina: Celebrates "the week of sweetness" in July, where lovers exchange kisses and chocolates.



Bulgaria: Couples enjoy a glass of local wine as a symbol of love.

Romania: Couples go to the forest to pick flowers and wash their faces in the snow for good luck.

France: Couples exchange cards, letters, or invite each other to a romantic dinner.

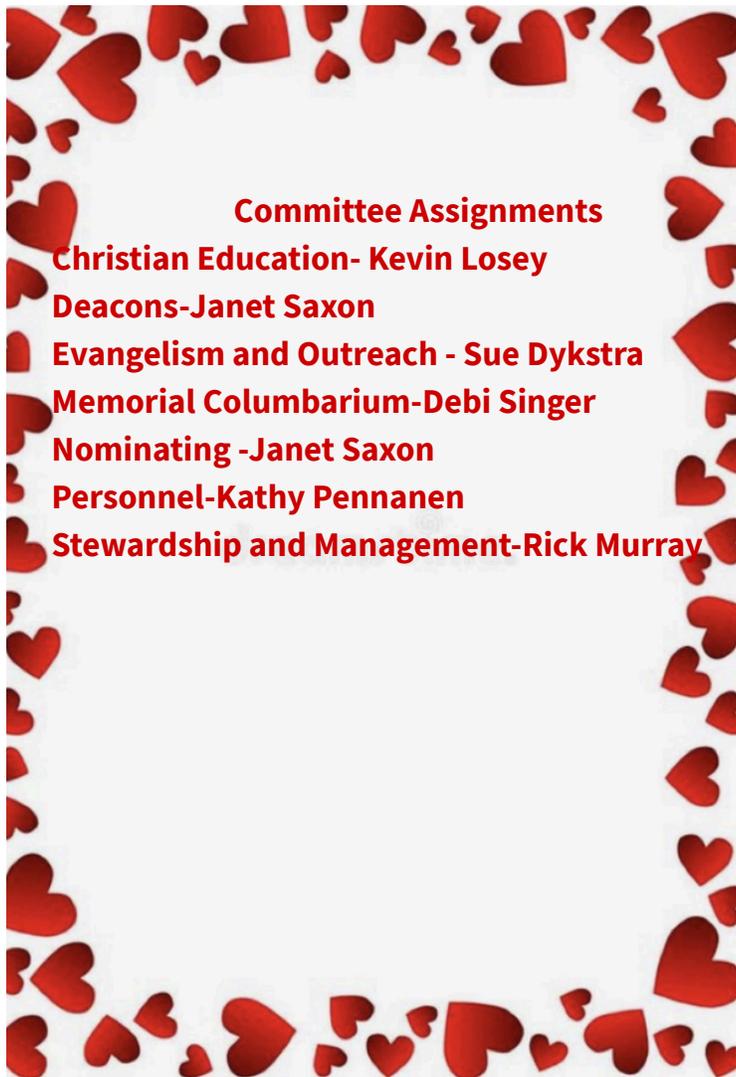
Germany: Celebrates with chocolates, gifts, and pigs, a tradition imported by American soldiers.

Japan: Women give chocolate to men, with "honmei-choco" reserved for romantic partners.

Denmark: Couples exchange pressed snowdrops and "lover's cards" with love poems.

These traditions showcase the diversity of how love is celebrated globally, from romantic dinners to unique gifts and flowers. Each celebration adds a personal touch to the day

Community Corner



Gossiping

The Bible clearly warns against gossiping, highlighting its destructive nature and urging believers to speak words that build others up rather than tear them down.

Biblical Teachings on Gossip

Destructive Nature: Gossip is often described as a tool that stirs up conflict and separates close friends. Proverbs 16:28 states, "A perverse person stirs up conflict, and a gossip separates close friends." This illustrates how gossip can damage relationships and create division within communities.

Power of Words: The Bible emphasizes the power of the tongue, stating that "Death and life are in the power of the tongue" (Proverbs 18:21). This means that our words can either uplift or harm others, making it crucial to choose them wisely.

God's Displeasure: Gossip is listed among behaviors that God hates. Proverbs 6:16-19 mentions, "There are six things that the Lord hates, seven that are an abomination to him... a false witness who breathes out lies, and one who sows discord among brothers." This indicates that gossip is not just a minor issue but a serious offense in God's eyes.

Call to Restraint: The Bible encourages believers to restrain their lips and avoid unwholesome talk. Ephesians 4:29 advises, "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs." This reinforces the idea that our speech should be constructive rather than harmful.

Consequences of Gossip: Engaging in gossip can lead to severe consequences, both for the gossiper and the subject of the gossip. Romans 1:29-32 lists gossips among those who are under God's wrath, indicating the seriousness of this sin.

Conclusion

In summary, the Bible teaches that gossip is harmful and divisive, and it is something that God disapproves of. Believers are called to speak with kindness and truth, avoiding gossip and instead fostering an environment of love and respect. By being mindful of our words, we can contribute to healthier relationships and communities, reflecting God's love in our interactions with others.

New Event

If you ever wanted to learn how to play the guitar, the time is now. Starting February 15 around noon you can learn. All levels of from beginners to experts. The lessons are free Bring a lunch and coffee will be provided. Here are the dates for 2026

February 15

March 15

April 19

May 17

June 21

July 19

August 16

September

October 18

November 15

December 20

Lent is a call to repentance when we turn from our past way of life and seek the power of the Spirit to help us do better.

Psalm 32:1-2

At Lent It is the special effort to be more devoted than ever before, more honest with ourselves and with God, and less centered in ourselves.

A LOOK AHEAD FOR MARCH



Annual Irish Tea
March 14th
3-5pm