F e b r u a r y 2 0 2 0

The Connection

Morton Baptist Church

Rev. Walter's Phone: 585-729-2502
Church Telephone: 585-659-8459
mortonbaptistchurch@yahoo.com

Sunday Service: 10:30 AM
Bible Study: Wednesday at 12:00
www.facebook.com/273938523674

Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it. Proverbs 4:23 (NIV)

February is Heart Month

February is an interesting month this year. First of all, we have a leap year, so that every special day or holiday that falls after February 29th will be two days later than it was in 2019. In days past, there were some traditions around the leap year like Sadie Hawkins Day, where women asked the men to dance or even to marry them. Not sure we do much of that these days. February is also Valentine's Day. Woe to the husband who forgets that day. February 14th is also my son and daughter in law's wedding anniversary, and we joked that he would only ever forget it once. He never has. February is also called the Heart Month, as the American Heart Association has its annual neighborhood appeal. And also this month, Lent begins on February 26th Ash Wednesday, which means that Easter is on April 12th this year.

Thinking about all that is ahead of us this month, it does seem it is about our hearts. This is not so much about healthy hearts and habits; which are good things; but about where our hearts are. Do we treasure our relationship and the people God places in our lives? Are we thankful and honoring the bonds of our relationships? While we have a special day during the year when we express our love to others, we know what matters is doing it all year long.

We have another kind of love in the church often expressed as being brothers and sisters in Christ. Whether it is the person you always sit with at coffee hour or the caring person who will visit you when you are down and lift you up in prayer when you need it, this is the heart of being a church.

Near the end of the month we will begin Lent. While we're a Free Church and Baptist (non-liturgical), we are also free to take the days during Lent to be more focused in our prayer life, scripture reading, and reaching out and caring for others. For me Lent is never about giving up something, but rather seeking to have more of the Spirit of Christ in my life.

May we have a blest month,

Pastor Walter

1-15-2020 TRUSTEE MEETING

The meeting was opened with prayer at 7:00pm.

In attendance: Gary House, Tom Ingraham, Dan Cater, Rev. Walter Steenson, Marilynn Kundrata, Guests: Carol Duerr, Dale Rowley

The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed. Dan made a motion to approve, Gary seconded.

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed. Marilynn met with the Gaudinos. The Endowment Fund earned 20% interest last year. It was recommended that we transfer $5,000 to the Capital Fund. No other changes were recommended. A review of the years expenditures was made available. Gary made a motion to approve, Dan seconded.

Tom will get restaurant gift certificates to give to the Heberle's for their generous Christmas tree donations in the past years.

Gary met with the Fire Inspector. The fire extinguishers need to be updated. A CO2 alarm and a smoke detector needs to be installed in the furnace room. The boiler needs to be inspected. Old fire alarms should be replaced with new 10-year battery alarms. The exit sign at the church entrance is not working correctly. It may need a new battery or be rewired. They recommended we get an artificial Christmas tree as real trees are fire hazards. Gary will purchase and replace/install new alarms. Tom took care of the fire extinguishers and will contact Churchville Electric about the exit sign.

The boiler needed repair. Thermocouples needed to be replaced, gas leaks were repaired. It was recommended that we consider purchasing a new boiler as parts are expensive and hard to find because of the age of the boiler. A new boiler would also be more energy efficient. We will get quotes for the boiler for the sanctuary and for the Nursery School and MacQueen Hall.

Sandy Strasenburgh has located a new vendor for name plates for the Memorial Board. She will replace the plates that do not match the others.

Dale Rowley and Carol Duerr have agreed to be Trustees. They will replace Gary House and Tony Callari. Tony Callari agreed to fill in for Frank Hoffman until he is able to return.

Tom suggested that a second person be assigned to count offering money with him on Sundays. It was agreed that it would be a good practice going forward.

The meeting was closed with prayer at 8:25pm.

The next meeting will be February 19th at 7pm.

February Birthdays:

2nd Valerie Sill
4th Rick Zinsmeister
12th Barbara Miller
15th Audrey Dobbins
26th Karen Bond (Sill)
27th Chap Fabry

February Greeters:

2nd Frank Hoffman
9th Tom & Julia Ingraham
16th Liz Pearson
23rd Todd Rath

February Anniversaries:

8th Todd & Eileen Young
28th Pat & Ann Polasek

Kitchen Item:

The kitchen item for February is:
Paper Towels

ATTENTION!

Hospice Flower Sale

It is time for the annual Hospice flower sale! If you would like to purchase flowers, there is a signup sheet in MacQueen Hall. Orders are due by February 26th. The bouquets are $9.00 each and will be delivered the week of March 2nd. See Kathy Scroger with any questions.

Girl Scout Cookies

Grace Cater is selling Girl Scout cookies if anyone is interested! Cookies are $5 per box and payment is due upon delivery at the beginning of March. Please see Grace at church or call Angela at (585)-490-0441.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Lion's Club Chicken BBQ

The Annual Kendall Lions Club Chicken BBQ will take place on **Saturday, February 1st**. Pickup at the Kendall United Methodist Church from 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM. Tickets are pre-sale only. Contact a Kendall Lion to purchase tickets if you haven't already. This year's BBQ is in honor of Phil Haight as he recovers from injuries he sustained in an accident.

Annual Meeting

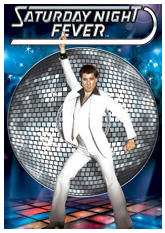
The Annual Meeting will be held on **Sunday, February 2nd** following the church service. The Deacons will be providing the lunch and drinks. All are welcome to bring a dessert! Annual reports are available in the narthex of the church.

Annual Baby Bottle Drive

The Care Net Center in Albion began their annual baby bottle drive in January. Please take a bottle, fill it will loose change (paper money and checks also accepted), and return your bottles (even if they're empty) to church by **Saturday, February 29th**. If you would like a donation receipt, include your name and address on a piece of paper and include this inside the bottle.

Bus Trip to Lancaster, PA

Barb Siebert is planning another bus trip for **September 21-24** to Lancaster, PA. The main attractions will be Queen Esther at the Sight & Sound Theatre, Saturday Night Fever at Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre, and the Amish Experience at the F/X Theatre. The cost will be $450 for a double room which includes bus transportation, lodging, 3 breakfasts, 3 dinners, play admissions to Queen Esther and Saturday Night Fever, Kitchen Kettle Village, Bird-in-Hand Farmers Market, Amish Experience, and a tour of Lancaster. Please contact Barb for more information and to sign-up (bjsiebert@msn.com).



In and Around the Community

Please keep Natalie Cook's father, Bill, in your prayers. He's currently searching for an accounting job.

Skip and Kathy Scroger's family were able to visit to celebrate Skip's 80th birthday!

Lori Steenson traveled to Tuscon, Arizona for their son and daughter-in-law's baby shower. They're due with the Steenson's first grandchild on January 31st.

Ralph Olney spent some time at Strong West with an infection in his leg. He's since been home, and now he and Bev are in Florida.

We're happy to hear that RoseMary Mintz will be heading back to New York from Florida on February 23rd.

Barb Miller's mother, Sue, has been moved into a memory care program. She's having a difficult time adjusting. Please keep her and the family in your prayers.

Please continue to keep EhLaw Chaw and Frank Hoffman in your prayers. EhLaw is now in Buffalo for a 90-day program. Remember her as she adjusts to a new setting and continues to heal. Contact Frank for more information or if you'd like to visit or send a card.

Dale Rowley had his knee replaced in late January. After a rough start, he's beginning to heal nicely. He has graduated from using a walker to a cane and can use stairs. We pray for a quick recovery!

Remember Katie Kundrata's husband, Ben, in your thoughts. He's back in Malaysia and is beginning the journey to become an American citizen. He had his physical, but due to the Chinese New Year, there was a delay sending his paperwork to the US Embassy. However, he still had his interview with the Embassy in late January, but now they have to wait for the physical paperwork.

Keep Angela, Dan, and Grace Cater in your prayers as they prepare for the new baby due on March 1st!

Pastor Walter celebrated his birthday with us on January 13th!

Burnt Biscuits

Author Unknown

When I was a kid, my mom liked to make breakfast food for dinner every now and then.

I remember one night in particular when she had made breakfast after a long, hard day at work.

On that evening so long ago, my mom placed a plate of eggs, sausage and extremely burned biscuits in front of my dad. I remember waiting to see if anyone noticed! Yet all my dad did was reach for his biscuit, smile at my mom, and ask me how my day was at school. I don't remember what I told him that night, but I do remember watching him smear butter and jelly on that biscuit and eat every bite!

When I got up from the table that evening, I remember hearing my mom apologize to my dad for burning the biscuits. And I'll never forget what he said: "Honey, I love burned biscuits."

Later that night, I went to kiss Daddy good night, and I asked him if he really liked his biscuits burned. He wrapped me in his arms and said, "Your Momma put in a hard day at work today and she's real tired. And besides – a little burnt biscuit never hurt anyone!"

Life is full of imperfect things… and imperfect people.

I'm not the best at hardly anything, and I forget birthdays and anniversaries just like everyone else. But what I've learned over the years is that learning to accept each other's faults – and choosing to celebrate each other's differences – is one of the most important keys to creating a healthy, growing, and lasting relationship.

And that's my prayer for you today. That you will learn to take the good, the bad, and the ugly parts of your life and lay them at the feet of God. Because in the end, He's the only One who will be able to give you a relationship where a burnt biscuit isn't a deal-breaker!

We could extend this to any relationship. In fact, understanding is the base of any relationship, be it a husband-wife or parent-child or friendship!

Being happy doesn't mean everything is perfect. It means you've decided to see beyond the imperfections. "Don't put the key to your happiness in someone else's pocket – keep it in your own." So, please pass me a biscuit. And, yes, the burnt one will do just fine!

February Bible Puzzle

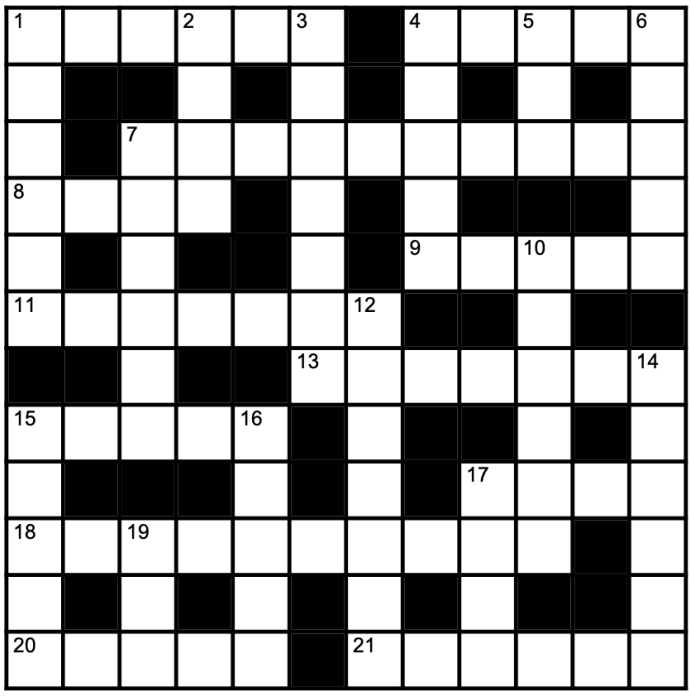
Quick Bible Crossword VIII

Across

1 Conflict (6)
4 Implement of war (5)
7 Forty years were spent here by Israel (10)
8 Watery downfall (4)
9 Consumed (5)
11 Testimony (7)
13 Sow (7)
15 Healed (5)
17 Tear (4)
18 Providential (10)
20 Humble (5)
21 Language (6)

Down

1 Obtain temporarily (6)
2 Jacob, for example (4)
3 Eternal (7)
4 Attend (5)
5 First woman (3)
6 Resurrected (5)
7 Season (6)
10 Tenths (6)
12 Red (7)
14 Enigma (6)
15 Biblical transport (5)
16 Decomposition (5)
17 Destroy (4)
19 Uncooked (3)



by *Philologus*

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January Bible Puzzle Solution

Bible Crossword IV - Solution

B	E	M	O	A	N	■	F	O	R	E	K	N	E	W
R	■	O	■	T	■	■	■	P	■	P	■	A	■	E
E	Q	U	I	T	Y	■	S	E	N	A	T	O	R	S
A	■	N	■	A	■	R	■	N	■	P	■	M	■	T
D	E	T	A	I	N	E	D	■	T	H	R	I	C	E
T	■	A	■	N	■	V	■	R	■	R	■	■	■	R
H	E	I	R	■	R	E	V	E	L	A	T	I	O	N
■	■	N	■	D	■	N	■	P	■	S	■	N	■	■
M	E	S	S	E	N	G	E	R	S	■	S	T	I	R
U	■	■	■	S	■	E	■	O	■	M	■	E	■	E
R	I	B	B	O	N	■	T	O	M	O	R	R	O	W
R	■	O	■	L	■	H	■	F	■	R	■	P	■	A
A	S	S	U	A	G	E	D	■	U	S	U	R	E	R
I	■	O	■	T	■	R	■	■	■	E	■	E	■	D
N	U	M	B	E	R	E	D	■	P	L	A	T	E	S

Across: 1 Bemoan, 4 Foreknew, 9 Equity, 10 Senators, 12 Detained, 13 Thrice, 15 Heir, 16 Revelation, 19 Messengers, 20 Stir, 23 Ribbon, 25 Tomorrow, 27 Assuaged, 28 Usurer, 29 Numbered, 30 Plates.

Down: 1 Breadth, 2 Mountains, 3 Attain, 5 Open, 6 Epaphras, 7 Naomi, 8 Western, 11 Revenge, 14 Reproof, 17 Interpret, 18 Desolate, 19 Murrain, 21 Rewards, 22 Morsel, 24 Bosom, 26 Here.

February 2020

"Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong. Let all that you do be done with love."
- I Corinthians 16:13-14

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Lion's Club Chicken BBQ 12-2 @ Kendall Methodist Church
2 Annual Meeting	3 Tops 4:00-7:00 pm	4	5 Bible Study @ 12:00 Choir Rehearsal @ 6:00	6	7 Youth Group 7:00-9:00 pm	8
9 Communion Sunday	10 Tops 4:00-7:00 pm	11	12 Bible Study @ 12:00 Choir Rehearsal @ 6:00	13	14 **Valentine's Day** Youth Group 7:00-9:00 pm	15
16	17 **President's Day** Tops 4:00-7:00 pm	18	19 Bible Study @ 12:00 Choir Rehearsal @ 6:00 Trustee Meeting @ 7:00	20	21 Youth Group 7:00-9:00 pm	22
23 Baby Bottles due	24 Tops 4:00-7:00 pm	25	26 **Ash Wednesday** Bible Study @ 12:00 Choir Rehearsal @ 6:00	27	28 Youth Group 7:00-9:00 pm	29

Morton Baptist Church
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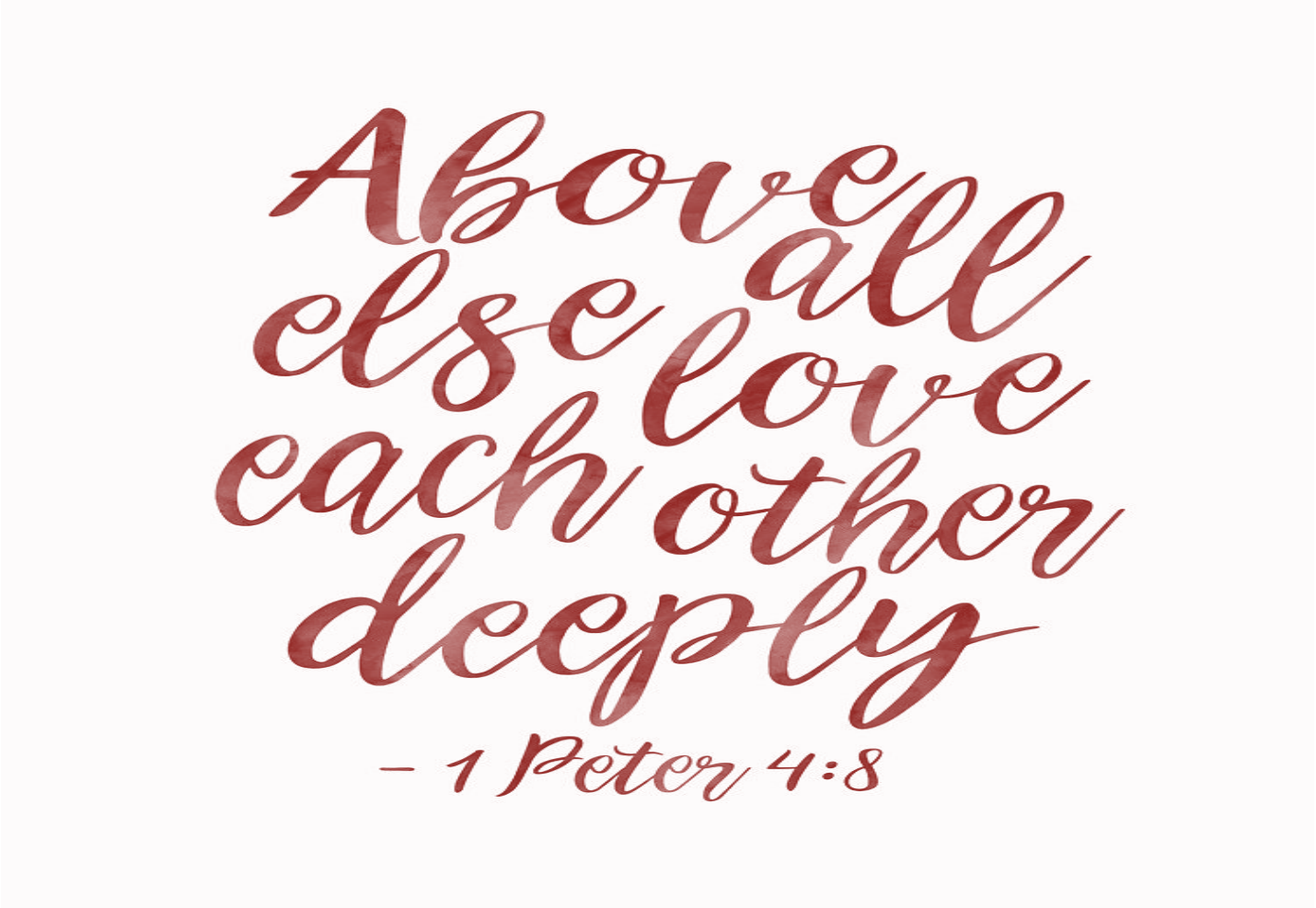
Hamlin, NY 14464

February 2020