

A Moment with the Pastor

It's February, and the first thing that jumps out at me is Valentine's Day. A day to celebrate love, and to let the people we love, know just how much they mean to us. But what if we took the opportunity this month to show everyone how much God loves them. There is no better time than now to reveal the unconditional love of God to the lost and broken.

I read an article today from the "New Harbor Press", and it really spoke of this idea of using February to spread the great love of God.

"What's the point of being Christian? The obvious answer is 'to follow Christ.' But why did he come in the first place? Why do we need to follow him? Some people would answer, 'to be protected from problems,' but that's foolish. Our faith doesn't prevent us from suffering. It shows us how to respond to suffering in a way that glorifies God and works for the good of the people around us.

The real point of being Christian is recognizing that only by following Christ can we learn to love the way God wants us to love each other and in a manner that works for the ultimate good of everyone involved. Jesus tells us, 'Love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples' (Jn 13:34-35). Jesus calls this his 'new commandment' because his life illustrates a very different vision of love than the world offers. We cannot call ourselves disciples of Christ unless we consciously reject everything the world tells us about love and learn, instead, to live the love that comes from the Father's heart.

The world tells us that love is just a feeling, and that as long as you are being true to your feelings, you are being loving — no matter how many lives are ruined in the process. Christian love says that, regardless of our feelings, we are not loving unless the things we do help us and the people we love become like Christ.

The world says that "love is love" and if a relationship makes me feel good, it is good. But Godly love says that relationships are only good to the degree that they promote Christ like behavior."
– Dr. Greg Popcak

This is my challenge to you this month, instead of following our broken cultures idea of love, let's take our cues from God, and love in a way that brings Him glory, and brings us into alignment with Christ like behavior.

This Valentine's Day, show your spouse, children, and anyone else how much you love them, but also take the opportunity to reflect Christ like love to everyone you meet, and let the love of God transform this world.

Sincerely, and with all love Pastor Jacob Anderson

Stewardship Statistics							Total Money And Average Attendance
	1/4/26	1/11/26	1/18/26	1/25/26			
Attendance for in-person services.	45	55	43	21			41 (note 1/25 was blizzard conditions.)
General Fund	\$1538.00	\$1225.00	\$2980.00	\$985.00			\$6728.00
Weekly Budget	\$2855.00	\$2855.00	\$2855.00	\$2855.00			\$11420.00
+ or— Budget	(\$1317)	(\$1630.00)	\$125.00	(\$1870.00)			\$4692.00
Designated Giving							
Birthday Money	\$54.00		\$20.00				\$74.00
Food Pantry				\$405.25			\$405.25
Hockey Tickets							
Phyllis Betz Memorial							
Gideons							
Also, on 12/07/25 \$100 given directly to Gideons							
Total Giving's	\$1592.00	\$1225.00	\$3000.00	\$1390.25			\$7207.25

Prayer list

John and Sara Roberts
 Sue Snyder (brain cancer)
 Gloria Snyder (cancer in vocal chords)
 Jamie Thomas (health issues)
 Nora (Jacob's 14yr. old niece/scoliosis)
 Jeff Frost (difficult time with chemo)
 Lindsey Baker's father-in-law
 Jacob's parents (health issues)
 Dee, friend of Patsy (accident recovery)
 Mary Jean Queen (stroke recovery/home)
 Dick Tolles (cancer in both lungs)
 Gene Mazey (home, but weak)
 Jai Krause
 Charles Roe (pray for strength)
 North Baltimore Church of Christ (minister search)

Prayer list cont.

Hannah Euler (Update 12/14 – She is home, but has to relearn everything.)
 Sherry, friend of Mary Ann (Cancer is back. She starts Chemo again.)
 Family of Peggy Carsey (A memorial service will be held in the spring.)
 Family of Jim Meyer (Stephanee Wohler's father)
 Jerry Snyder (He is home. Nurse stopping in to check on him and work on better balance. He also feels sick with a cough, but no fever. He got a biopsy 1/19 to check spot on kidney)
 Paul Kuzio (one kidney removed/dialysis every 2 days)
 Jan Zulch (home now)

Remember our Shut-ins

Bud Brown - BG Manor

Those in Service:

Darryl & Carol Krause (missionaries)
 Lt. Col. Elijah Ward – Carlisle, PA
 Ron Burkhardt - Stateside
 Jon Walker - 180th TFW Active duty
 Michelle Metzger - Army Nat'l Guard
 Luke Millican - USAF
 Walker Polsinelli - Pakistan
 McNeil Snyder - USAF/Georgia
 Wynter Anderson - Army Nat'l Guard
 Hunter Braun - USAF
 MSgt Deidra (Anderson) Braun - USAF

17th Annual Chili Cook-Off - Saturday, February 28th at 6:00pm



This is a community event and open to the public. Invite people to participate. Dust off those recipes and get ready to compete for the prize of best chili! We'll provide the corn bread, crackers, cheese and drinks. Bring a dessert to share.

There will be prizes for the best chili's. Make this a fun night for all!



Fellowship Break

February 1st hosted by
Melissa Tolles

Men's Mentoring
starts immediately after
Fellowship Break.



Board Meeting
Tuesday, February 3rd
at 7:30pm

Food Pantry is Open
February 7th and 21st
10:00am - Noon

VBS Meeting - February 1st

Those wishing to help with VBS remain in the
Sanctuary for a short planning meeting
before going to Fellowship Break.

Friday Game Night/Potluck
February 13th and 27th
6:30 - 9:00pm

Small Group Bible Studies at the church
Wednesdays at 7:00pm
'Gospel of John'

Ladies Christian Fellowship
February 23rd at 7:00pm

Annual Congregational Meeting Rescheduled to February 8th

(It was canceled on 1.25.26 due to blizzard.)

- * We take a short break after worship.
- * The meeting is held in the Sanctuary.
- * Every family will receive a copy of the 2025 Annual Report.
- * We'll discuss the report.
- * You will have an opportunity to ask questions & give input.
- * No Adult or Jr./Sr. High Sunday School



Youth Group

- ⇒ Junior/Senior High
- ⇒ Sunday, February 7th and 21st, 5:00 - 6:30pm
- ⇒ At the Anderson's
- ⇒ Dinner - Games- Lesson

The Love God Desires



God's love is never meant to stop with us; it's meant to flow through us. When we love others, we reflect his very heart. As 1 John 4:12 (NIV) reminds us, "If we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us."

This is the true mark of a Christian — love that reaches beyond comfort zones, opinions and differences. Jesus said in John 13:35 (NIV), "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

The world is watching, not to see how loudly we profess our faith but how deeply we practice it. Every act of compassion, every gentle word and every moment of grace reveals something divine — God's love at work in us. The more we give that love away, the more it grows within us, mirroring the heart of Christ, who gave Himself for all.

So ask yourself: Does the world recognize you as his disciple by the way you love?

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The Upside-Down Blessing

The Beatitudes are more than poetic lines from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. They're a radical redefinition of what it means to be blessed. The Greek word *makarios* doesn't just mean "happy." It describes a deep, untouchable joy that pain, loss or hardship cannot erase. As scholar William Barclay wrote, it is "the joy which shines through tears."



Jesus flips the world's idea of success upside down. The "blessed" aren't the powerful or prosperous, but the poor in spirit, the mourners, the meek and the merciful. Imagine reading them as "Congratulations, you who feel broken, God's kingdom belongs to you!" His words assure us that, even in suffering, we stand in God's favor.

Real blessing isn't about shiny possessions or smooth sailing. It's the steady, saving presence of God — a life preserver tossed to us when we're struggling to stay afloat. And it's not just an individual promise. Jesus spoke these blessings to a community, a 'we' more than a 'me'. Together, as the body of Christ, we find comfort, strength and the courage to live with joy that nothing in life or death can take away.

— Adapted from *HomileticsOnline.com*

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Mountain-Top Moments

In Matthew 17, we read a remarkable story about Jesus taking Peter, James and John up a high mountain. What seemed like an ordinary hike turned into a moment that changed their understanding of who Jesus really is. Matthew writes, "And He was transfigured before them; and His face shone like the sun, and His garments became as white as light" (Matthew 17:2, NASB). The disciples saw Jesus in a brilliant, heavenly glory — a glimpse of his true identity as the Son of God.

But that wasn't all. A voice from the cloud declared, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him!" (Matthew 17:5, NASB). Imagine the awe and holy fear those disciples felt. Just like many of us would, they fell to the ground, overwhelmed by God's presence. Yet Jesus didn't leave them trembling. He came close, touched them and said those comforting words we all long to hear: "Do not be afraid."

After the moment passed, Jesus led them back down the mountain and into everyday life again. This powerful encounter reminds us that Jesus is truly the Son of God — radiant, holy and worthy of our worship. But it also shows us his heart: gentle, reassuring and near to us when we are afraid.

We may not stand on that mountain, but we can still experience our own "mountain-top moments" — times in worship, prayer or Scripture when we glimpse God's glory in a fresh way. And just like the disciples, we are invited to rise up, follow Jesus and listen to him every step of the journey.

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A Vision Rooted in Faith and Freedom

Washington's wisdom has been an inspiration for large numbers of our leading men and women in every decade since his time. He had the uncanny foresight of seeking to build a nation upon the bedrock of strong patriotism, unquestioned integrity, opportunities for all, high ideals and love of God.

May our great land, conceived in prayer for peace, bring new concepts of living to all the peoples of the world.

— *James Francis Cook, in The Etude*

Shine Without Wax



How sincere are you, really? How honest, dependable, and genuine? These are traits that shape our character and help others see Christ in us.

The word *sincere* comes from an old Latin phrase meaning “without wax.” In ancient Rome, potters sometimes used wax to hide cracks in flawed pottery. Buyers would hold each piece up to the sunlight to see if it was truly solid and not hiding any imperfections.

When we allow the light of Christ to shine through our lives, it reveals both our rough spots and our strengths. The good news is that Jesus never shames us for the cracks; he restores us. As his light works within us, we grow into people of integrity who are whole, authentic, and sincerely his.

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Christian Symbol

CORNERSTONE — The cornerstone is a symbol for Christ. It has Old Testament roots in Isaiah’s prophecy (Isaiah 28:16). In the New Testament, Christ is called the cornerstone in Ephesians 2:20. The IHC and XP on the stone’s sides are abbreviations for “Jesus” and “Christ” in Greek.



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Love

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 NIV [“]⁴ Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵ It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. ⁶ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.”

1 Corinthians 13:13 NIV “And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

Colossians 3:12-14 NIV [“]¹² Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ¹³ Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. ¹⁴ And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.”



Stephanee Wohler
 Gene Mazey
 Jim Clark
 Tyler Foster
 Steve Murphy
 Leigha Yarger
 Tanya Tolles
 Joann Euler
 Harper Steiner
 Henry Steiner

4 John & Cathy DuBois
 15 Bob & Peggy Walker
 16 Amy & Anthony Soto
 22 Ed & Tanya Tolles

A Taste of Loving-Kindness

A Sunday school teacher once asked her class, "What do you think the Bible means when it speaks of loving-kindness?"

A young boy thought for a moment and replied, "Well, if I were hungry and someone gave me a piece of bread with butter on it, that would be kindness. But if they added a spoonful of jam, that would be loving-kindness."

The Newsletter Newsletter

PUZZLE

LOVE CODE BREAKER

Change some of the letters below to reveal this verse!

Change: C's to L Z's to H P's to R
 J's to A Q's to T X's to E
 K's to O

(The other letters stay the same.)

L
 CKVX AZX CKPD YKUP

GKD WIQZ JCC YKUP

ZXJFQ JND WIQZ JCC

YKUP SKUC JND WIQZ

JCC YKUP MND JND

WIQZ JCC YKUP

SOPXNGOZ

Mark 12:30

Answer: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength."

?

?

Bible Quiz

?

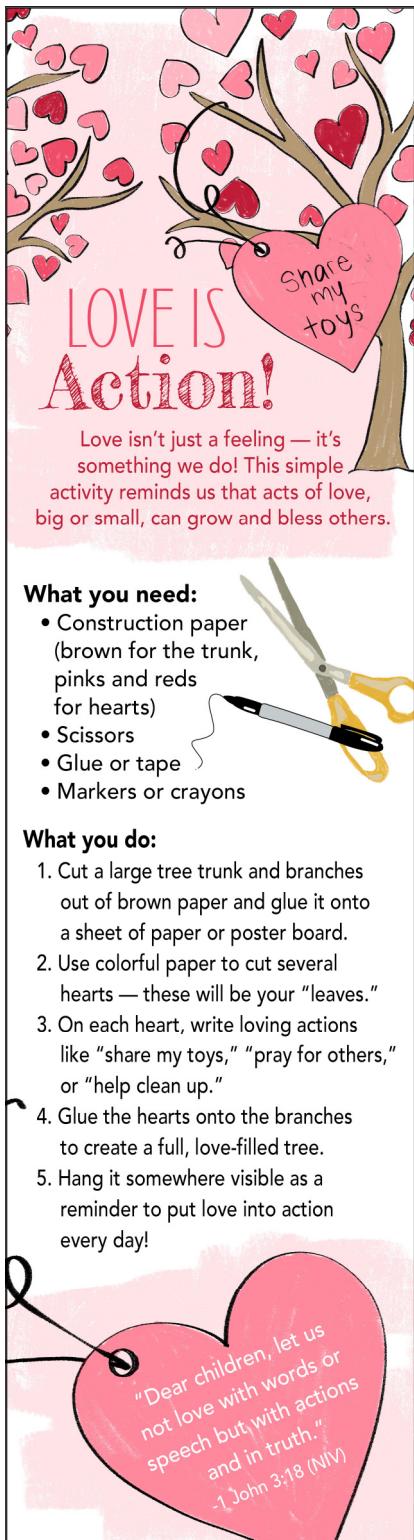
?

The New Testament uses several Greek words to describe love. Which of the following best represents the **selfless, sacrificial love** that God shows to humanity?



- A) Eros
- B) Phileo
- C) Agape
- D) Storge

Answer: C (See John 3:16 and 1 Corinthians 13)



Puzzle!

We see hearts everywhere and love sharing cards and greetings with friends and family.

Use this code to decipher a special message from God — perfect for any day, any month.

CODE:

A 1 G	D 2 E	H 3 N	I 4 L	O 1 T	R 2 S	U 3 Y	V 4 W
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"

2*	*2	*1	4*	1*
----	----	----	----	----

2*	*3	4*	1*	1*
----	----	----	----	----

4*	2*	*3	*2	*1	2*
----	----	----	----	----	----

1*	4*	1*	3*	2*	*1	3*	2*	2*	1*
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

"

2*	*3	4*	1*
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Jeremiah 31:3

Answer: "I have loved you with an everlasting love."

On the Lighter Side

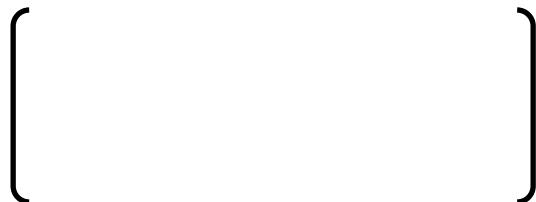
What did the blueberry say on Valentine's Day?
I love you berry much.

What do you call a very small Valentine?
A Valen - tiny!

FEBRUARY 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30am Worship Birthdays/Anniversaries VBS Meeting after Worship Fellowship Break hosted by Melissa Tolles Men's Mentoring	2  Groundhog Day	3 7:30pm Board Meeting	4 7:00pm Small Group Bible Study	5 7:00pm Band Practice	6	7 10am - noon Food Pantry 5-6:30pm Youth Group at the parsonage
8 9:30am Worship Annual Meeting	9	10 7:00pm Small Group Bible Study	11 7:00pm Band Practice	12 6:30 - 9:00pm Game Night	13	14  Happy Valentine's Day
15 9:30am Worship 11:00am Jr./Sr. High S.S. and Adult S.S.	16  Presidents Day	17 7:00pm Small Group Bible Study	18 7:00pm Band Practice	19	20	21 10am - noon Food Pantry 5-6:30pm Youth Group at the parsonage
22 9:30am Worship 11:00am Jr./Sr. High S.S. and Adult S.S.	23 7:00pm Ladies Christian Fellowship	24 7:00pm Small Group Bible Study	25	26 6:30 - 9:00pm Game Night	27	28 Chili Cook-Off 6:00pm  CHILI COOK-OFF

Weston Church of Christ
PO Box 344
13355 Center Street
Weston, Ohio 43569



March news articles are due February 17

Sunday Worship Times
9:30am Worship Service
11:00am Sunday School



2026

Weston Witness

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John McKenzie, 419-806-5775
Bob Walker, 419-262-8006
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**The purpose of the Weston Church of Christ is to glorify God by reaching the lost,
strengthening the saved and serving as one body for Jesus Christ our Lord.**