

A
COMMUNITY OF
FAITH
STRIVING
TO

KNOW
CHRIST
PERSONALLY

GROW
WITH CHRIST
INTIMATELY

SHOW
CHRIST
PASSIONATELY

“This is my commandment: love each other in the same way I have loved you.” (John 15:12)

It's February, which means Valentine's Day is around the corner! Stores are packed with heart shaped boxes, lace, and flowers. Celebrating love is, well, lovely, but it can also be lonely for many people. I think it's time for us to reclaim Saint Valentine's Day as a day to share the truest love – God's love. After all, it is a saint day, a day to remember the life (or at least the legend) of Saint Valentine. There are many stories told about Valentine, who we believe lived about 270 years after Jesus. He is said to have been a priest in Rome who performed secret marriages when the emperor had forbidden soldiers to marry. He also helped Christians who were imprisoned because of their faith. My favorite story is this one: When Valentine refused to follow the emperor's orders, he was thrown in jail and beaten, but he refused to fight back. While in jail, Valentine shared stories of Jesus with his jailer. The jailer had a blind daughter, and when Valentine healed her, the entire family became Christians. The emperor was furious and had Valentine killed. Before he died, he wrote a letter to the daughter and signed it, “From your Valentine.”

I don't know which of the legends of Saint Valentine are historically true, but I do know that they set an example for us of ways in which we can share God's love with others. In our study of John's Gospel, we've noted that “For God so loved the world...” in John 3:16 is better translated “For God loved the world in this way...” God's love isn't just about feelings; it is about action, and it isn't limited to one type of relationship; it is for all people. This month, I hope you can find ways to share God's love with others, inspired by Saint Valentine. Perhaps you can do a service for someone, whether you know them or not. Bring some canned food for our Souper Bowl of Caring. Tell someone about God's love and how you've experienced God. Send a note to someone, reminding them that they are loved. Let a supervisor know when you receive great customer service.

Let's make this February a month when Colonial Avenue Baptist Church clearly shows our neighbors that God loves them - and so do we!

Blessings,
Pastor Melissa

Our Mission

Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world

Our Vision

To **Know** Christ personally, **Grow** with Christ intimately, and **Show** Christ passionately



Finances

Total Budget Income for 2021:	\$ 138,465.05
Jan. Budget:	\$ 12,087.16
Feb. Budget:	\$ 8,603.34
March Budget:	\$ 12,904.60
April Budget:	\$ 10,706.21
May Budget:	\$ 10,992.11
June Budget:	\$ 9,107.91
July Budget:	\$ 15,576.44
August Budget:	\$ 12,872.53
September Budget:	\$ 9,790.96
October Budget:	\$ 11,334.28
November Budget:	\$ 12,384.88
December Budget:	\$ 12,104.63

February Birthdays

Nicholas Mort	February 2
Carrol Hall	February 4
Theresa Rowland	February 5
Betty Heptinstall	February 7
Ric Scott	February 11
Jeanne Duddy	February 14
Evelyn Ragland	February 15
Kaitlyn Jenkins	February 15
Evelyn Hutcherson	February 17
Jim Rhodes	February 22
Doug Heptinstall	February 23



Prayer Concerns

- Those who are homebound or in retirement & nursing homes: Betty Brown, Madaline Brown, Lois Burge, Jane Byrum, Mary Durrer, Freda Guill, Evelyn Hutcherson, Yvonne Metz, Nadine Minnix, Shirley Moore, Betty Obenchain, Bill & Liz Parker, Louise Parris, Betty Payne, Evelyn Ragland, Alice Scogin, Katie Wood
- Those with cancer including Alison Ziegelmeir (Ric Scott's cousin), Barbara Kern, Bob Padfield (Kati Agee Padfield's father-in-law), Jack Cooper, Brian Britt, & Paula (Reatha Linkenhoker's daughter)
- Buck Conner
- Doug Heptinstall
- Vicki Wray, recovering at home from adverse reactions to chemotherapy
- Those affected by COVID, including Madaline Brown and Teresa Thomas (a friend of Ginny Smith; Teresa is in the hospital and was on dialysis prior to her COVID diagnosis)
- Margaret Jones' granddaughter, Amanda, awaiting a heart valve replacement
- Paula, Reatha Linkenhoker's daughter, undergoing treatment for breast cancer
- Jeanne Duddy's granddaughter, Iysa, awaiting results from a biopsy for spots on her intestine.
- Jeanne Duddy, dealing with high blood pressure
- Mark Smith & Nancy Vest, in the death of their cousin, Patsy Smith
- Susan Wimmer, a friend of Ginny Smith, who has been fighting lung cancer for over a year. Susan now has a brain tumor, as well.
- Angela Carraway and Katie Wood, both recovering from falls
- The family of Betty Brown, in her passing

Connect with God

One of the best ways we can connect with God is by studying the Bible and praying together. We offer many opportunities each week for Bible study and prayer, and we'd love for you to join us!

- **Sunday Morning Bible Study** is a great way to connect with God and with our church family! We have classes for all ages and stages of life at **9:30 on Sunday mornings**.
- Join us for **centering prayer** on **Tuesdays at noon**, in person in the fellowship hall, or on Zoom (<https://bit.ly/pbjcenteringprayer>).
- **Brown Bag Bible Study: Wednesdays at noon**, Rev. Steven Harris, our minister-in-residence, leads a study of the Book of Job. You may attend this study in person in the fellowship hall or on Zoom. The Zoom link is <https://bit.ly/cabcbiblestudy>. Bring your lunch, if you'd like.

- **"The Rest of the Story" Bible Study:** On **Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.**, Pastor Melissa leads a study of the scripture from the previous Sunday's worship. Ask questions you may have been wondering about, share thoughts about the passage, and take a deeper dive into the scripture (there is always so much more than can fit into a sermon). For now, the study will be by Zoom, and the link is <https://bit.ly/cabcstory>. If you would like to attend but prefer to do so in person, please let Pastor Melissa know. If there is enough interest, we will do two sessions (one live, one by Zoom) or do a hybrid meeting.

Youth

We have a new Sunday evening youth schedule! We will begin meeting on **February 20** (no youth events on Feb. 6 or 13).

5:00-6:00 pm: Fifth-Seventh Grade Bible Study
6:00-6:30 pm: Snack supper for all youth
6:30-7:30 pm: Eighth-Twelfth Grade Bible Study



This will allow us to have more age-specific Bible studies. If you would like to **provide a supper for our youth**, please let Pastor Melissa know.

Use Your Gifts

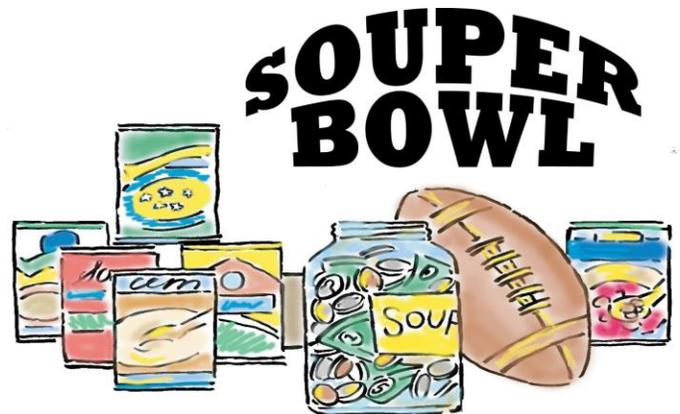


Scripture tells us that God gives each of us gifts for the building up of God's kingdom. We have some specific ways that you might be able to share your gifts right now (along with many others, of course!). If you would like to serve in any of the following ways, please let Pastor Melissa know.

- If you are watching our worship service live-stream, we would love to have you **serve as a worship host**, interacting with others who are watching at the same time. We will offer training on how to do this; just let us know your willingness to serve in this way. (You could even do this while worshipping in person.)
- We can always use some help with **organizing & cleaning**. If those are your gifts, let us know!
- Our youngest family members need loving folks to be with them in the nursery during worship. If you could **volunteer** one Sunday a month, please let Pastor Melissa know.

Connect with Our Community

Souper Bowl of Caring began with a simple prayer from a single youth group: "Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat." Since then, more than \$170 million has been generated for local charities across the country through Souper Bowl of Caring. This year, we're participating by collecting soup (or other canned goods) on **Sunday, February 13**. Our donations will help feed hungry people right here in our community. The Missions Committee invites you to share God's love for our neighbors in need and give generously on Souper Bowl Sunday!



Congregational Meeting

On **Sunday, February 20**, following worship, we will have our quarterly congregational (business) meeting.

"AS THE FATHER HAS SENT ME, I AM SENDING YOU."
JOHN 20:21, NIV



**Colonial Ave.
Baptist Church**

4165 Colonial Ave.
Roanoke, VA 24018-4097
540-774-2084
www.cabc.us

Our Church Staff:

Rev. Melissa Scott
Pastor

Rev. Steven Harris
Minister in Residence

Karen Viele
Church Administrator

Bill Lininger
Music Director

