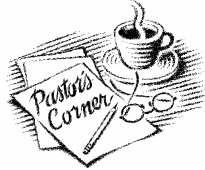




Midway Messenger

The Good News of Midway United Methodist Church

February 2010



Lee's Comments

"Just a Thought"

1 Corinthians 13 The Way of Love

If I speak with human eloquence and angelic ecstasy but don't love, I'm nothing but the creaking of a rusty gate.

If I speak God's Word with power, revealing all his mysteries and making everything plain as day, and if I have faith that says to a mountain, "Jump," and it jumps, but I don't love, I'm nothing.

If I give everything I own to the poor and even go to the stake to be burned as a martyr, but I don't love, I've gotten nowhere. So, no matter what I say, what I believe, and what I do, I'm bankrupt without love.

Love never gives up. Love cares more for others than for self. Love doesn't want what it doesn't have. Love doesn't strut, Doesn't have a swelled head,

Doesn't force itself on others, Isn't always "me first," Doesn't fly off the handle, Doesn't keep score of the sins of others,

Doesn't revel when others grovel, Takes pleasure in the flowering of truth, Puts up with anything, Trusts God always, Always looks for the best, Never looks back, But keeps going to the end.

I am aware that this passage is used at weddings and anniversaries, and rightfully so. It does describe the proper relationship between married couples. It does so for a

reason, it describes the love in the marriage of Christ and the church. We are the bride in the great relationship of Heaven.


To that extent, I worry that we may lessen to a degree the meaning of this passage. There is a depth to the relationship that God offers to us that we often fail to comprehend. By using the human institution of marriage to comprehend the power of these words when God is the other side of the relationship, we risk losing the power of the passage.

We need to recognize that Paul is talking of true, life-sustaining, transforming love. It is a love toward which we are called to strive. Yet, it is the description of God's love for us. God does not hold grudges, nor does God love us with a "catch." God's love does not shift or change due to our life station. God's love doesn't brag on what a great favor God has done for us, nor does it manipulate our response.

God's love does not brood, pout, or sulk. God's love always offers affirmation and hope. That means that all of us can celebrate February 14 as more than Valentine's Day. Since it falls on Sunday this year; let's celebrate it as "Sweet to His Heart" day. At least, that's just a thought.

In Covenant,
Lee



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1 Moms in Touch 10 am Upward Practice Mon-Friday	2 We Wonder - Public Registration – 8 am - Gym	3 10:00 Adult Bible Study 6:00 Beth Moore Study 6:30 Adult Bible Study 7:00 Youth Praise Band 7:30 Adult Choir 9:00 Praise Band	4 6:30 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry	5 7 am Men's Bible Study	6 5 th Upward Games
7 Scout Sunday 8:30, 10:45 Worship Services 9:30 Sunday School 9:30 H 2 O (Small Group) 10:30 Living H 2 O (Large) 5:30 Confirmation Class 5:30 Men's Bible Study 5:30 SNL 5:30 Disciple I 5:30 Disciple III 5:30 Companions in Christ	8 Moms in Touch 10 am Trustees 7 pm Upward Practice Mon-Friday	9 Finance Committee 7 pm	10 10:00 Adult Bible Study 6:00 Beth Moore Study 6:30 Adult Bible Study 7:00 Youth Praise Band 7:30 Adult Choir 9:00 Praise Band	11 6:30 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry	12 7 am Men's Bible Study Holiday – We Wonder	13 6 th Upward Games
14 8:30, 10:45 Worship Services 9:30 Sunday School 9:30 H 2 O (Small Group) 10:30 Living H 2 O (Large) 5:30 Confirmation Class 5:30 Men's Bible Study 5:30 SNL 5:30 Disciple I 5:30 Disciple III 5:30 Companions in Christ	15 Holiday- We Wonder No Moms in Touch Upward Practice Mon-Friday	 16 Holiday – We Wonder 5:30 pm Shrove Tues. Supper	17 ASH WEDNESDAY 10:00 Adult Bible Study 6:30 Ash Wed Service 7:00 Youth Praise Band 7:30 Adult Choir 9:00 Praise Band	18 6:30 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry	19 7 am Men's Bible Study	20 7 th Upward Games
21 8:30, 10:45 Worship Services 9:30 Sunday School 9:30 H 2 O (Small Group) 10:30 Living H 2 O (Large) Youth Leave for Trip 5:30 Confirmation Class 5:30 Men's Bible Study 5:30 Disciple I 5:30 Disciple III 5:30 Companions in Christ	22 Moms in Touch 10 am Upward Practice Mon-Friday	23 WOW 7 pm	24 10:00 Adult Bible Study 6:00 Beth Moore Study 6:30 Adult Bible Study 7:00 Youth Praise Band 7:30 Adult Choir 9:00 Praise Band	25 6:30 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry	26 7 am Men's Bible Study	27 8 th Upward Games Lay Speaking Class 9 - 1

We Wonder Preschool Fall Registration 2010-2011

Public Registration – Tuesday, February 2, 2010, 8:00 am in the Gym. For more information, please call Beth or Felicia in the Preschool office, 770-752-0440.

28 8:30, 10:45 Worship Services 9:30 Sunday School 9:30 H 2 O (Small Group) 10:30 Living H 2 O (Large) CONSIGNMENT SET UP 5:30 Confirmation Class 5:30 Men's Bible Study 5:30 SNL 5:30 Disciple I 5:30 Disciple III 5:30 Companions in Christ

DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Midway UMC Children's Ministries in connection with DARE (Disaster Assistance & Recovery Effort) are asking you to help us make the goal of 1000 health kits for the people in Haiti. Please assemble the kits following the EXACT instructions as listed on the handout sheets available in the Narthex and return the finished kits to the church drop boxes located in the Narthex and downstairs at the entrance to We Wonder Preschool.

Children's Consignment Sale
March 4, 8:30am -1:00pm
& 5:30-8:30pm
March 5 & 6, 8:30am – 1:00pm

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!! Volunteer and shop early. Volunteer 14 hours and shop first -Wednesday (March 4) 1-3 pm. Work 4 hours and shop Wednesday 4-6 pm and a private ½ price sale on Friday 4/6 pm. If you are interested in volunteering, please sign up at www.midwayumc.org, then under *My Consignment Manager* or contact Susan Keyser, c_s_kyz@lycos.com.

- KEEP THE HOMELESS WARM -

New and gently used blankets are urgently needed for donation.

Blankets should be dropped in DESIGNATED BOXES in either Narthex.

Midway Missions will distribute the blankets weekly through the winter season. Our goal is to share the warmth of Christian love. For any questions, call Lura Garrett, 770-664-5826.

For Your Information

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2/1 Colossians 4:2-6	2/16 Psalm 51
2/2 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28	2/17 1 Chronicles 29:10-25
2/3 2 Thessalonians 1:1-12	2/18 2 Chronicles 1:1-12
2/4 1 Samuel 2:1-11	2/19 2 Chronicles 6:1-11
2/5 Nehemiah 1:1-11	2/20 2 Chronicles 6:12-21
2/6 Daniel 9:1-19	2/21 2 Chronicles 6:22-42
2/7 Jonah 2:1-10	2/22 2 Chronicles 30:13-27
2/8 Habakkuk 3:1-19	2/23 Psalm 63
2/9 Psalm 3	2/24 Romans 8:18-30
2/10 Psalm 4	2/25 2 Corinthians 1:1-11
2/11 Psalm 5	2/26 Ephesians 1:1-14
2/12 Matthew 6:5-18	2/27 Ephesians 1:15-23
2/13 Matthew 7:7-29	2/28 Philippians 1:1-11
2/14 Psalm 56	
2/15 Psalm 57	

LENTEN ACTIVITIES:

Shrove Tuesday Supper will be February 16 at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Ash Wednesday Service will be February 17 at 6:30 pm in the Chapel.

SCOUT SUNDAY – FEBRUARY 7

February is a special month this year for the Boys Scouts of America. February 8, 2010 is the Boy Scout of America's 100 year anniversary. There are special activities and events going on all over the country this year in celebration of this milestone. We will be having a special Scout Sunday service on February 7 as a part of that.

Midway sponsors Boy Scout Troop 457 and Cub Scout Pack 457. In January of this year, a Venturing Crew was started as well that is sponsored by Midway, Venturing Crew 458. Cub Scouts is for boys in the first through fifth grade, Boy Scouts is for boys in middle and high school and Venturing Crews are for young men and women ages 14 to 21. As a sponsor of these organizations, we provide a place for them to meet (the Scout Hut) and also open up our facilities for their use such as using the gym for Cub Scout pinewood derbies and lock ins. Maybe you drove past the church toward the end of June in 2009 or 2008 and saw over 100 Cub Scouts from Forsyth county participating in a Cub Scout Day Camp on our field.

The Boy Scout Troop has five active Eagle Scouts with three scouts in various stages of completing their requirements to earn Eagle soon. In addition, seven Webelos II Cub Scouts earned their Arrow of Light rank in January which is the pinnacle of advancement in Cub Scouts.

Scouting teaches a duty to God and to help other people and this is exemplified through many activities and functions including the service projects these organizations are involved in. Most recently the Troop and Pack have assisted in the Health Kits for Haiti. In the past our service projects have included food and toy drives and assisting with cleaning the grounds at Midway.

These things would not be possible if Midway was not the sponsor for the Troop and Pack (and also the Venturing Crew). As members of the church, you help to support these organizations and make it possible for us to teach these boys to become young men and learn their duty to God, country and helping other people.

From the Leaders of Troop 457, Pack 457 and Crew 458, thank you.



100 Scouts

Of any one hundred boys who become Scouts, it must be confessed that thirty will drop out in their first year. Perhaps this may be regarded as a failure, but in later life all of these will remember that they had been Scouts and will speak well of the program.

Of the one hundred, only rarely will one ever appear before a juvenile court judge. Twelve of the one hundred will be from families that belong to no church. Through Scouting, these twelve and many of their families will be brought into contact with a church and will continue to be active all their lives. Six of the one hundred will enter the Clergy of his chosen faith.

Each of the one hundred will learn something from Scouting. Almost all will develop hobbies that will add interest throughout the rest of their lives. Approximately one-half will serve in the military and in varying degrees profit from their Scout training. At least one will use it to save another person's life and many will credit it with saving their own.

Four of the one hundred will reach Eagle rank, and at least one will later say that he valued his Eagle above his college degree. Many will find their future vocation through merit badge work and Scouting contacts. Seventeen of the one hundred boys will later become Scout leaders and will give leadership to thousands of additional boys.

Only one in four boys in America will become Scouts, but it is interesting to know that of the leaders of this nation in business, religion and politics, three out of four were Scouts.

This story will never end. Like the "Golden Pebble" of service dropped into the human sea, it will continue to radiate in ever-widening circles, influencing the characters of men down through unending time.



The Midway Messenger is published monthly by Midway United Methodist Church. If you have any questions, comments, or would like to be a contributor to the Midway Messenger, you can reach the church office by email (office@midwayumc.org), phone (770-475-5230), or drop off any articles at the Church office. **The deadline for the March issue is noon on February 22nd.**

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