



"Loving Your Enemies... Far from being the pious injunction of a utopian dreamer, this demand is an absolute necessity for the survival of our civilization. Yes it is love that will save our world and civilization; love even for our enemies."  
**Martin Luther King, Jr.**

I am writing this on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. It is also the day of Donald Trump's inauguration, a day filled with wild hope for some and terrifying dread for others. People are divided. Just as there was division and tension over the Civil Rights movement, so we experience such strife today. Yet, Dr. King's words above remind us to aspire to something greater.

In a month where romantic love is highlighted, I want to highlight the critical need for the love Jesus expressed in Matthew 5: 43-45:

*"You have heard that it was said, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may prove yourselves to be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.*

I'm inviting us to examine our hearts to honestly assess if we are contributing to the strife & division or if we are agents of God's healing this planet. Choose wisely!

Happy Valentines Day,  
*Scott* 

### KEEPING YOU INFORMED:

- **SUPERBOWL PARTY!** Come watch **Sunday, Feb. 9, 6 pm.** Even though the Lions didn't make it this year, come gather with friends for Superbowl LIX. Bring a snack to share (Church provides pizza and beverages). Spread the word!

- **TACO NIGHT!** Join the party at the Church on Friday, **Feb. 21, 6 pm.** Bring a friend and a taco/burrito item to share! (The Church supplies taco shells & tortillas and lemonade).
- Remember that, if you are on the island, you can borrow **ice skates** from the church! Spread the word!
- Mark your calendars: The Ladies of The Rock are Hosting a **Ladies' Brunch** @ \$10.00 per person on Saturday **April 26th** from 11am-1:30 pm at the DrummondTownship Hall. Theme is *EXPRESSIONS OF JOY!* featuring guest speaker Laneen Hoover - LaPointe.
- **WINTER FUNDS APPEAL** : *Please prayerfully consider a special donation to help us through the financially lean winter months. Your Special Gift is very much appreciated! THANK YOU for investing in Jesus' GOOD NEWS!*



Our **fourth quarter** mission focus to the rural poor in **Romania** has raised \$2217.21. Well done! Learn more about that outreach **HERE**.

Our first quarter missions focus features [Healing Art Missions](#) support of children and families in Haiti. We will also be supporting [Love Matters Most](#), an amazing medical outreach to the poor in Kenya. Check them out and save your missions money for the **March 30** Sunday ingathering.

## *Love Your Enemies*

by Dr. David Feddes

Life without forgiveness is torture. When people have sinned, they often suffer guilt pangs. When people have been sinned against, they are often tormented by anger and hatred. The gospel of Jesus brings relief both to sinners and to those who have been sinned against.

(over)



If you've been abused or deeply offended, the memories can be as devastating as what actually happened. You may carry a grudge and wish the worst upon the person you hate. Or the memory may be so frightening that you can't bear to think about what happened. But when you trust in Jesus, you receive power to forgive sins committed against you. Jesus enables you to deal with your memories and face the awful truth about how deeply you've been hurt. The person who hurt you has been your enemy in a terribly painful way, but you receive strength to love and pray for that person.

Loving your enemies is not a burden but a blessing. You begin to experience new freedom. Your enemy no longer controls your feelings toward him. Hatred is no longer your automatic reflex to a painful memory. Loving your enemies is a gift of God that helps you experience God's love for you in a deeper and more powerful way. Every time you love an enemy, you realize again that while you were God's enemy, Jesus loved you and died for you ([Romans 5:10](#)).

*Lord, thank you for freedom from resentment. If I have unresolved anger, help me to deal with it. Give my enemy the same joy and blessing that you have given me. Amen.*

(From: <https://todaydevotional.com/devotions/loving-your-enemies-2006-05-11#:~:text=Every%20time%20you%20love%20an.that%20you%20have%20given%20me.> )

## February Birthdays

- 7 Mike Ogden
- 17. David Van Rhee

## February Anniversaries

- 29 Ron & Ann Green

*(If we don't have your birthday or anniversary, let us know!)*

## Pearls of Wisdom

“Who I am in Christ”

I have the Peace of God which passes understanding.

See *Philippians 4:7*

♥ Ruth Wise

ARTICLES FOR THE MARCH NEWSLETTER ARE DUE TO THE CHURCH OFFICE BY: **TUESDAY, FEB. 18th** (Email, if possible.)



Remember the D.I. Food Pantry (on the west side of Lighthouse Church) offers emergency food and utilities assistance to those in need. Call

**Michelle Wallace**, Food Pantry Manager, for help or donations, @ 312-285-4505 or leave a message at 906-493-6430.



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