



Greensboro Gleanings

February 2017

From the pastor's desk ...

*I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.
Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.
(John 13.34)*

Dear Friends,

February is the month when many of us express our ongoing affection for partners, family members, and friends with Valentine cards. Very little is known about St. Valentine, a third century Christian martyr, but, somehow, in the fourteenth century, his name and saint's day (February 14th) became associated with courtly love. Valentine's Day has become a "warm, fuzzy" observance, and there's certainly nothing wrong with that. But the kind of love Jesus spoke of, when he gave his disciples the commandment to love one another, has little to do with the emotions signaled by hearts, chubby cherubs, and chocolate.

The kind of love Jesus speaks of is love as *intention* — a determination to regard each person as precious in God's sight and therefore in ours. It is a determination to name and address all the barriers to full personhood experienced by those who suffer from bigotry, discrimination, poverty, and oppression in our nation and our world. It is a determination to resist expressions and acts of hatred.

When I attended the Women's March in Montpelier, this past Saturday, I noticed many signs enjoining us to love and to reject hate. The witness of all the many marches, across the country and around the world, shows that we can come together by the hundreds of thousands, peacefully demonstrating our determination to "walk in love, as Christ loved us." I hope and pray that love will continue to be our intention, our practice and our end result.

Yours in the love of Christ,

Rona

THANK YOU

February Ushers and Greeters

Feb. 5 — Jeff & Chris Pierpont
Feb. 12 — Tim & Bobbie Nisbet
Feb. 19 — Alden & Patty Launer
Feb. 26 — John Rohnert &
Cathy Pollard



February Coffee Hour Hosts

Feb. 5 — Ken & Janney Johnston
Feb. 12 — Nancy Hill
Feb. 19 — Shelly Jungwirth
Feb. 26 — Jan Travers



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Calendar	2
Milestones	3
Pastoral Search	3
Music Corner	3
LECTIONARY	4

February 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Sundays 8:30am Choir Rehearsal Fellowship Hall 10:00am Worship Service Sanctuary	Mondays and Wednesdays 10-11am Growing Stronger Fellowship Hall	Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:30-10am Tai Chi Fellowship Hall	1 4:30pm Pleasants Fund Parsonage	2	3 5:30-6:30pm Greensboro Free Library Chili Dinner Fellowship Hall	4
5	6	7	8 1:00pm Deacons Parsonage	9	10	11
12	13	14 VALENTINE'S DAY	15	16	17	18
19	20 PRESIDENTS' DAY	21 6:30pm Church Board Parsonage	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	Mar. 1 Ash Wed. Service 1:00pm Deacons 4:00pm Mission Board	2	3	4

MILESTONES

Happy February Birthday to

Anne McPherson, Brian Niemi, Colton Niemi, Brian Gilmartin, Katie Gilmartin, Nathaniel Hill, Gabriel Hill, Keilah Figueroa, Mia Feroleto, Ercel Harvey, Kyle Behrsing, Sheila Carver, and a **Happy Anniversary** to Clive Gray and Nancy Hill, and Janice and Mike Leonard

Is your birthday listed this month when it shouldn't be? Have we missed you in our celebrations? Contact the church office and let us know if your birthday is listed incorrectly or has been missed.

PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

We are finally in the process of receiving and reviewing profiles from candidates for our pastor position.

Several were evaluated this month. It was determined that most did not match the criteria we seek. One has been put on "the back burner" to possibly have another look.

While this report is brief it is pregnant with purpose and hope. Please continue your prayers.

Please feel free to contact any of the Search Committee members with questions or suggestions.

The committee members are Susan Coffey, Nancy Hill, Shelly Jungwirth, Jeff Pierpont, Janet Travers, Roger Waible, and John Hewett.

Roger Waible
Chair, Search Committee



THE MUSIC CORNER



With our first month of 2017 in the rear-view mirror, we move into February with musical offerings that continue our mission to *Serve God Through Music*.

5th — For this Communion Sunday we have chosen *O Sacred Feast* by Healey Willan (1880-1968). Best known for his sacred music, Canadian-originalist Healy wrote 800 works for opera, symphonies, chamber music, a concerto for band, orchestra, organ and piano. This anthem is one (No. 4) of 6 motets composed with communion in mind with the text: *O Sacred Feast, wherein Christ is received...*, slow and lush with lovely suspensions and harmonies.

12th — with this Sunday being so close to St. Valentine's Day, we focus on the theme of love and bring you *I Sing Redeeming Love*. For those of you who are familiar with Mozart's *Ave Verum Corpus* (K. 618) you will hear that theme throughout this anthem with words by Robert Altman. This anthem is both comforting and soothing.

19th — Dr. Stan Pethel (1950-) is a living composer. He was a professor of music at Berry College in Rome, GA, and widely known for his sacred choral works. We bring you his *Come, Let Us Worship* anthem that is written in a brisk 6/8 tempo, with lively phrases and rhythms. The text is quite uplifting: *Come let us worship the God of the ages, Come let us honor our Father above...*, you may notice a slight jazz sound coming from the piano.

26th — our final anthem offering this month has been in our music library a long time (1949!). *God is a Spirit* was written by Alexander Kopylov (1854-1911), who taught in Moscow at the Imperial Court of Music (the choir was modeled after the famous Vienna Boy's Choir). He was a master chorister, composer and violinist. This anthem, written in the Russian style with big chords and long phrases, includes a fugue in the second half and the text is based on John, 4: 24.

Hal Parker
Music Director

NEWS FROM
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Upcoming Lectionary Readings

Feb. 5 ~Isaiah 58:1-9a, (9b-12) ~Psalm 112:1-9 (10)
~1 Corinthians 2:1-12, (13-16) ~Matthew 5:13-20

Feb. 12 ~Deuteronomy 30:15-20 or Sirach 15:15-20
~Psalm 119:1-8 ~1 Corinthians 3:1-9 ~Matthew
5:21-37

Feb. 19 ~Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18 ~Psalm 119:33-40 ~1
Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23 ~Matthew 5:38-48

Feb. 26 ~Exodus 24:12-18 ~Psalm 2 or Psalm 99 ~2
Peter 1:16-21 ~Matthew 17:1-9

A BIT OF HUMOR

From The Lists...of a Small church organist

by Constance E. Scofield.

Common Congregational Complaints

About the Service Music (all voiced, at one time or another, by the same congregation)

1. The organist plays the hymns too fast.
2. The organist plays the hymns too slow.
3. The organist plays the hymns too loudly.
4. We sing too many new hymns.
5. We always sing the same old hymns.
6. We don't sing the old favorite hymns often enough.
7. The organist plays too much strange music (complaint variously used to describe the works of Corelli, Gluck, Handel, Grieg, and Gordon Young.)

