

Chronicle

Newsletter of
Country Christian Evangelical Free Church

Scotts, Michigan
626-9733
www.countrychristinefc.org

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Youth group Valentines dinner

On February 15th from 6-8 come to the church for a night of fun and fellowship. This year the menu will consist of a chicken entre with a vegetable and potato or rice, a pork entre with a vegetable and potato or rice and a new menu choice with a Mexican theme. Bring your loved one for a night of good food and fun as Trenton puts on another spectacular show. Cost for the night is 30 dollars per person. All proceeds go to the youth group. This money is used for trips such as our winter retreat at Camp Barakel and other fun activities. Please reserve your spot by February 12th with your dish of choice

If you have any questions please contact Gary Truax at 269-716-2337

Weekly Opportunities

Sunday

9:30 Worship
11:00 Sunday School for all ages
12:15 Bible Study
6:00 Bible Studies
Impact Youth
6:15 Bible Study

Monday:

6:00 Grief Support Group
8:00 Young Adult Bible Study

Wednesday

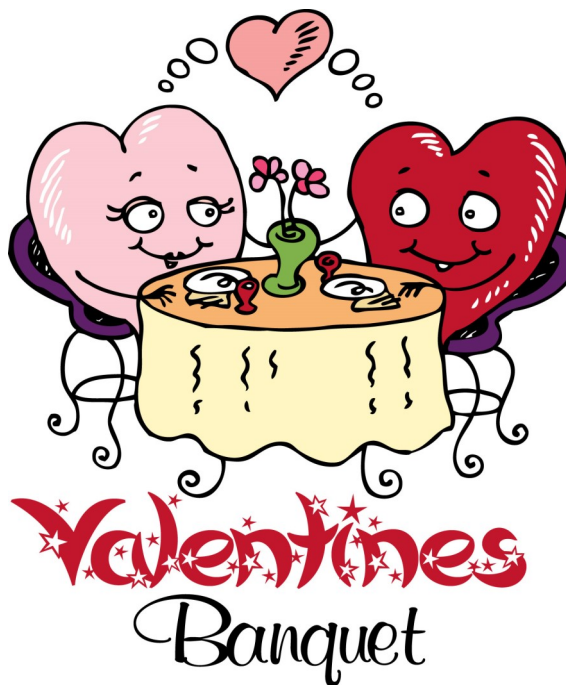
9:00 Ladies Bible Study
6:15 AWANA
6:45 Bible Study

Thursday

Bi-weekly Bible Study-- G. Wedel

Friday

5:30-7:30 AM Prayer



“Our purpose is to be ambassadors for Christ, helping people to become spiritually mature, filled with the fullness of God”

If you have been in stores over the last few weeks, you have undoubtedly noticed the increasing number of hearts, cupids and other valentine related gift items, candies etc. This is clear evidence that Valentine's Day is quickly approaching. Valentine's Day is associated with love. It is one of the leading days for couples to become engaged. Some couples have even selected Valentine's Day as their wedding day with the idea that is an appropriate day for publicly declaring their love for one another.

Unfortunately, for many, the kind of love related to Valentine's Day is based on superficial, condition "love". i.e. "I will love you as long as you love me", or "I will love you as long as you make me happy", etc. The Bible tells us about true love. While many passages give us an idea of what true love really is. Still the clearest concise depiction of love is found in 1 Corinthians 13. This passage is often included in some fashion as part of wedding ceremonies. (Quoted from the Message) v4-8a, 13:

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.
 Love never dies.

But for right now, until that completeness, we have three things to do to lead us toward that consummation: Trust steadily in God, hope unswervingly, love extravagantly. And the best of the three is love."

The ultimate example of love is how God demonstrated His love for us through sending Jesus Christ. Romans 5:8 "but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." If we were to research each of the points mentioned above in 1 Corinthians 13, we see that Jesus Christ is the personification of true unselfish love. For example: Paul wrote that love does not keep track of the sins of others, Jeremiah 13:14 "For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more." and in Hebrews 10:17 "I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more." We could demonstrate more, but most of us a smart enough to connect the dots.


We are called to be imitators of Jesus Christ. The word Christian was originated as meaning followers of Christ we're called little Christs. In several places Paul tells believers to imitate Christ. How well do we love? Do we love like Jesus? Does our family, coworkers, friends and community see us loving like Christ? What areas do we need to improve. The passage in 1 Corinthians is just a starting point. In the year to come, can we set as a goal to love more, to love purer?

Jim Hawkins—editor

?? ? **Bible Quiz** ? ?

The precise number varies depending on the Bible version, but roughly how many times does the word "love" occur in the Old and New Testaments combined?

A. 200-300
 B. 400-500
 C. 600-700
 D. 800-900



ANSWER

Country Christian Evangelical Free Church

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Submissions to the Chronicle are welcomed and are subject to editing for content, length or grammar. In addition submissions must be in keeping with the principles and teachings of CCEFC. Submissions may be made by electronic media or hand written article. Submit an article electronically to the following E-mail: CCChronicle@sbcglobal.net
 Fax: (610) 549-7184
 or on disc: MSWord or Wordperfect formats for electronic submissions is preferred. Typed or hand written submissions are also accepted.

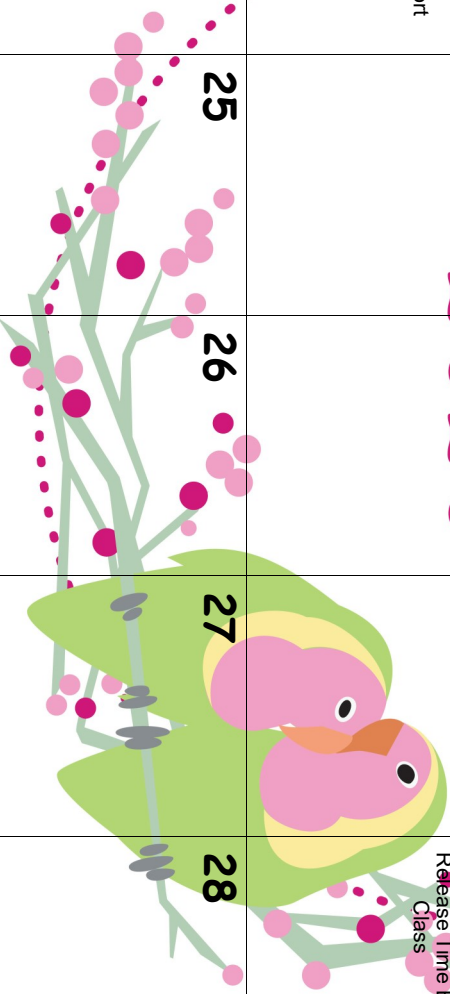
Deadline for submissions is the second to the last (usually the third) Sunday of the month prior to late morning service. Questions about the Chronicle should be directed to the editor or the board of elders.

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Unless noted otherwise, graphics are provided courtesy of Communication Resources.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Weekly: 9:30 Worship 11:15 Sunday School 6:00 Impact (Youth) 6:00 Bible Study 6:15 Bible Study	Weekly: 7:00 Grief Sharing Support Group (begins 2/17) 8:00PM College and Career Bible Study	Weekly: 7:00 Cardio Drumming	Weekly: 10:00 AM Ladies Bible Study 6:15 AWANA 6:45 Bible Study	Weekly: Bible Study	Weekly: 5:45 AM Prayer	1
2 Communion 12:15 Providence Meal	3	4	5 EFCA Theology Conference @ Trinity Begins	6	7 EFCA Theology Conference @ Trinity ends	8
9	10 7:00 Elder's Mtg.	11 No Cardio Drumming	12 AWANA Valentine Party Deadline to register for the Valentine Dinner	13 6:30 Christian Ed Mtg. 7:00 Deacons Mtg.	14 Valentine's Day	15 Youth Sponsored Valentine Banquet
16 Deadline March Chronicle	17 President's Day Grief Sharing Support Group begins	18	19	20	21 Release Time Bible Class	22 1:00 Baby Shower for Holly (and baby) Gray
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 Leap Day

February 2020



Who to contact**Country Christian Evangelical Free Church**

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Online Church Directory:

Members . instantchurchdirectory . com

Shopping Fundraisers

Office Depot: 111699341

Facebook Page

Stacey Coville

Weekly Bible Studies**Sundays:**

Pat Clarey's: 6-8 PM in the church
 library – Pat's phone – 321-0132
 or 626-4531 (every other week);
 Russ and Ruth Bartholomew's –

6:15 – 8:15 PM at their house on
 T Ave, phone – 626-8019;

Mondays:

Young Adult Bible Study 8PM at the
 Fleck's led by Trenton Steele

Wednesdays:

Ladies Bible Study at the church
 9:00 AM

Thursdays:

George and Joyce Wedel – Every
 other Thursday night at their
 house – 11626 East R Ave., call
 – 626-9764.

Church Directory and On-line TV services:

There is a flyer under the TV mon-
 itor in the back of auditorium



5 Jonah Fleck
 6 Chase Audette
 8 Reed Steele
 9 Amy Drallette
 9 Kris Fleck
 11 MacKenzie Vincent
 13 Rick & Kay Landrum
 14 Will Burnsed
 18 Kevin Dunlap
 20 Rodney Miller
 21 Derrick Drallette
 23 Walter Dubbeld
 23 Elly Kuiper
 23 Payge Steele
 26 Troy Gray
 28 Madison Vincent

**Inclement Weather Policy:**

If it is a school day, and Climax-Scotts schools are closed for weather, all church activities for that day are automatically cancelled. For non-school days, check local television stations or with the event organizer. If the weather or roads are questionable, and the event is still held, you are encouraged to use your best judgement before venturing out.

Friendship Squares

This tasty treat doubles as a game to play with a buddy.



What you need:

- Graham crackers
- Chocolate chips
- Microwave-safe bowl
- Zippered baggie
- Scissors
- Raspberries
- Blueberries

What you do:

1. Gently break cracker sheets in half to form squares.
2. Heat chocolate chips in microwave for 30 seconds. Stir, then continue heating for 30 seconds at a time until melted.
3. Spoon melted chocolate into baggie and snip a small triangle from one bottom corner.
4. On each cracker, squeeze chocolate lines to form a Tic-Tac-Toe board. Let cool.
5. Using the fruit as X's and O's, play Tic-Tac-Toe with a friend. The winner gets to eat the treat!

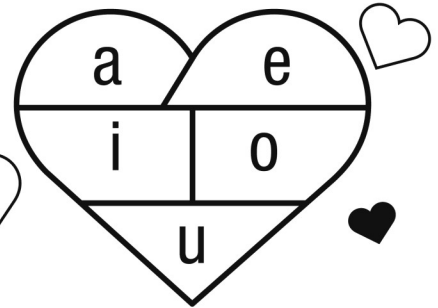


A friend in Jesus

In the Bible, Jesus shares what it means to be a true friend.



Directions: Use the heart key to fill in the missing vowels from John 15:14, 17, NIV.



“Y _ _ r _ my fr _ _ nds _ f

y _ _ d _ wh _ t _ c _ mm _ nd. ...

Th _ s _ s my c _ mm _ nd:

L _ v _ _ _ ch _ th _ r.”

JOHN 15:14, 17, NIV

Answer: “You are my friends if you do what I command. ... This is my command: Love each other.” John 15:14, 17, NIV



IT'S LEAP YEAR!

Pat Answers**Does Jesus have to Convince God the Father to Love Us?**

There is a warped view of the Trinity and God the Father which pictures Him as full of anger, wanting to fully vent His anger on us sinners, but Jesus keeps stopping the Father from punishing us. I am ashamed to admit I held this view myself as a young man. I thought the Father was never really pleased with me and that if it was not for Jesus stepping in again and again that I would be "toast."

This view of God is patently false! Not only does the Trinity work in harmony and unity to accomplish our salvation from start to finish (see Ephesians 1:3-14), but the Bible declares repeatedly that our salvation is rooted in God the Father's great love! Take the obvious John 3:16 - "For GOD so loved the world that He gave His only Son..." This is further developed in 1 John 4:9, 10, 14 - "In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent His only Son into the world, so that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins...and we have seen and testify that the Father sent His Son to be the Savior of the world." Our salvation is all because of the Father's great love - Ephesians 2:4. It is wrong to think Jesus has to persuade the Father to love and forgive us when it was the Father's plan all along!

The reality is that the Father loved us so much that He poured out His holy anger and wrath fully on His own Son, Jesus at the cross - see 2 Corinthians 5:21 and Romans 3:24-26. God made Jesus our substitute for His glory and for love's sake. This is the eternal love story and covenant between God the Father and God the Son - see John 17. The Father accepts all who are in Christ, linked to Christ by faith, and graciously counts as righteous - as holy as His own Son. God the Father's love is poured out on us in Christ now through the Holy Spirit - Romans 5:6. "There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." - Romans 8:1. We are now in and through faith in Christ the apple of His eye, His precious children, His beloved ones, and no one can stand against us, condemn us, or separate us from His love - see Romans 8:31-39. Even on the darkest days and in the toughest times, let us remember God the Father's love is the basis of our hope and life in Christ!

May you savor God's love afresh and may it lead you to surrender yourself to live day by day for His honor because He is your loving Father. In our Father's amazing love,

Pastor Pat

Dated material—Please do not delay

If you would like to be included for the mailing list please contact the church office at 269.626.9733 and provide your name and address.

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