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«Company Name»
«Address Line 1»
«Address Line 2»
«City», «State», «ZIP Code»



Our Mission:
To relate to
God more
intimately,
to evidence the
fruit of the
Spirit, and to
bring Jesus
into all our
relationships.

Hunters Ridge
Community Church
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HRCC News

From the Pastor's Pen...

One of the fundamental characteristics we attribute to God is love. In 1 John 4:8 it says, "Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love." And 1 John 4:16 says, "So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him." The love of God is His eternal sharing of Himself.



And God's love includes benevolence, grace, mercy, and persistence.

Benevolence means God does not seek His own good, but rather that of others. It is God's kindness and God looking out for the welfare of those He loves. **Deuteronomy 7:7-8** speaks well of this kind of love, "It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the Lord set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, but it is because the Lord loves you and is keeping the oath that He swore to your fathers, that the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt." God told the Jewish people that He has, "...set his love on you and chose you..." God is benevolent; He is concerned for our good for our own sake, not for what He can get out of it. His love is unselfish and it is clearly seen in the fact that He sent Jesus to die for us. That love was not motivated by any prior love for Him on our part. This divine love took the initiative by sending Jesus to earth and making it possible for us to be saved and in a right relationship with God through repentance and faith. This love is extended to all though Jesus.

Grace is God's love seen as He deals with us not on the basis of our merit, worthiness or what we deserve. Grace is about His goodness and generosity for all of us who did not deserve His love. Grace means God supplies us with undeserving favors. **Exodus 34: 6** says, "The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, "The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness." And **Titus 2:11** says, "For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people." Salvation is a gift of God because of His loving grace.

Mercy is God's tenderhearted, loving compassion for His people. It speaks of a tenderness of heart toward those in need. **Psalms 103:13** says, "As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him." Jesus was often moved by those who were hurting. **Matthew 9:35-36** says, "And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd."

Continued...

Persistence is God's withholding judgment and continuing to offer salvation and grace over a long period of time. **Psalm 86:15** says, "But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness." And **1 Peter 3:20** says, "Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?" God is patient with all people, desiring that they would come to repentance and faith in Christ. God's love is a persistent love, that simply does not cast people off when they disobey Him, He loves them and desires them to turn to Him in repentance and faith.

When February comes around every year Valentine's Day is celebrated. It is a day of love. What God wants is for you and me to love Him and to love others. My love needs to be formed by God who loves us, is benevolent, gracious, merciful, and persistent toward us. My prayer is that we all would know this love of God and God's love would motivate us to love others.

May we love God with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and may we love others with the love of Christ.

Blessings

Pastor Howard

Scrap & Craft

February's Scrap and Craft weekend is Friday, February 17, 4:00-10:00 and Saturday, February 18, 9:00-4:00. We had many "dotters and yarners" at last month's weekend. Bring whatever project you want to work on - the possibilities are endless and not limited to crafting. We are inviting all ladies to consider coming and enjoying laughter, fellowship and food. Friday night is "bring your own." Saturday noon we have a pot luck. We hope to see many of you there! Please let Becky Anderson or Dawn Vandenberg know if you plan to attend.

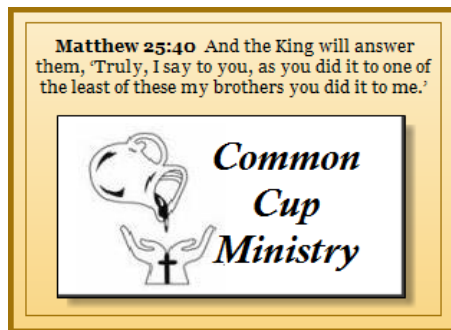


We had a great turn out for last month's Scrap & Craft. We hope you will join us this month.

LOVE
IS PATIENT & KIND
DOES NOT ENVY
IT IS NOT PROUD
IT DOES NOT DISHONOR OTHERS
IT IS SELF-SEEKING
NOT EASILY ANGERED
KEEPS NO RECORD OF WRONGS
LOVE DOES NOT DELIGHT IN EVIL
BUT REJOICES WITH THE TRUTH
LOVE ALWAYS PROTECTS
NEVER FAILS
TRUSTS
HOPES
PERSEVERES
1 Corinthians 13:4-7



You are invited to a baby shower for Carissa Tavary Cowles and her baby boy on Sunday, February 26th at 2:00 PM here at the church. Carissa is registered at Target and Amazon.



Thank you for your continued support with the pudding cups for

the Weekend Backpack feeding program. Please keep them coming in. They are greatly appreciated!

Please mark Monday, March 27 on your calendar for the Common Cup Annual Meeting here at Hunters Ridge. The meeting will start at noon, with coffee provided. Everyone is invited to come hear about Common Cup and ask any questions you may have about the ministry. A copy of the Common Cup annual report is available in the Common Cup corner. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

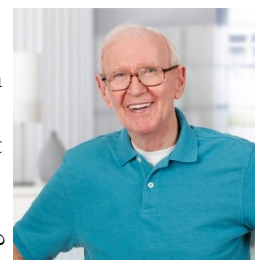


You are invited to the home of Gordon Houk (125 N. Pine in Lester Prairie) on Sunday, February 12 at 5:00 PM for his annual Super Bowl Party. Pizza and pop will be provided. You are asked to bring a snack to share.

In the Library



Gilbert Morris was a Christy Award winning author, and is one of today's best know Christian novelists. He is also our library's featured author this month. The library has a few of his historical fiction series, which are set in different periods throughout history. Why not check one out this month?



Meal Prep Day



Meals were prepared for those who might need a meal during sickness, after surgery or birth of a baby or a move.

1st John

Y	F	O	R	G	I	V	E	N	M	E	D	N	O	C
A	O	N	E	S	T	R	A	E	H	O	P	E	O	E
D	W	R	I	T	E	D	E	A	T	H	Y	M	V	S
A	O	U	T	O	N	G	U	E	A	E	M	U	E	N
R	R	O	S	S	E	E	N	B	S	A	R	R	R	A
K	K	I	U	E	E	I	I	H	N	R	E	D	C	E
N	S	V	L	E	S	D	T	D	E	D	C	E	O	L
E	E	A	I	R	E	U	M	V	I	E	E	R	M	C
S	D	S	G	H	R	E	O	R	Y	E	I	E	E	H
S	U	D	H	T	N	L	P	E	R	D	V	R	S	I
E	C	O	T	T	H	G	U	A	T	I	E	A	S	L
N	E	O	S	P	I	R	I	T	L	H	D	E	A	D
T	P	L	E	A	S	I	N	G	O	D	G	F	G	R
I	E	B	R	O	T	H	E	R	A	I	L	I	E	E
W	I	C	K	E	D	E	V	O	L	E	B	O	R	N

ABIDE	DESTROY	LUST	SEEN
BELOVED	EVIL	MESSAGE	SIN
BLOOD	EYES	MURDERER	SLEW
BORN	FEAR	ONE	SPIRIT
BROTHER	FORGIVEN	OVERCOME	TAUGHT
CHILDREN	GOD	PLEASING	THREE
CLEANSE	HEARD	PRIDE	TONGUE
COMMANDMENTS	HEARTS	RECEIVED	TRUTH
CONDEMN	HOPE	RIGHTEOUS	TRY
DARKNESS	LIAR	SAVIOUR	WICKED
DAY	LIE	SEDUCE	WITNESS
DEATH	LIGHT	SEED	WORKS
DEED	LOVE		WRITE

Copyright 2008 John R. Potter John's Word Search Puzzles
<http://www.thepotters.com/puzzles.html>

Read Through the Bible

In 2023 we will be reading through the Bible using a portion from the Old and a portion from the New Testament each day.

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|----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1: Ex 27-28; Matt 21:1-22 | 8: Lev 4-5; Matt 24:29-51 | 15: Lev 17-18; Matt 27:27-50 | 22: Num 3-4; Marg 3:20-35 |
| 2: Ex 29-30; Matt 21:23-46 | 9: Lev 6-7; Matt 15:1-30 | 16: Lev 19-20; Matt 17:51-66 | 23: Num 5-6; Mark 4:1-20 |
| 3: Ex 31-33; Matt 22:1-22 | 10: Lev 8-10; Matt 25:31-46 | 17: Lev 21-22; Mat 28 | 24: Num 7-8; Mark 4:21-41 |
| 4: Ex 34-35; Matt 22:23-46 | 11: Lev 11-12; Matt 26:1-25 | 18: Lev 23-24; Mark 1:1-22 | 25: Num 9-11; Mark 5:1-20 |
| 5: Ex 36-38; Matt 23:1-22 | 12: Lev 13; Matt 26:26-50 | 19: Lev 25; Mark 1:23-45 | 26: Num 12-14; Mark 5:21-43 |
| 6: Ex 39-49; Matt 23:23-39 | 13: Lev 14; Matt 26: 51-75 | 20: Lev 26-27; Mark 2 | 27: Num 15-16; Mark 6:1-29 |
| 7: Lev 1-3; Matt 24:1-28 | 14: Lev 15-16; Matt 27:1-26 | 21: Num 1-2; Mark 3:1-19 | 28: Num 17-19; Mark 6:30-56 |