

CONNECTIONS



Showing True Love

BY REV. RYAN EDEN

"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."

- 1 John 4:9

Whenever you think of February, one important day usually comes to mind, Valentine's Day. That day that we all take a moment to tell those around us how much we care about them.

As important as it is on that day to tell others you care about them is how you tell them, especially with your spouse/ significant other. Growing up, my dad always told the three of us,

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“Never give your wife a gift with a cord,” referring to a vacuum, or kitchen appliance, or something like that. Whether or not he learned that lesson the hard way, we never knew.

But it is important how you show those you love that you love them every day, not just on Valentine’s Day. But, no matter what we can do, whether we go to Jared or buy our loved one that new toy they’ve always wanted, we still fall short of perfectly showing our love to them. I may do something wonderful for my wife on Valentine’s Day, but then do something completely unloving on February 15th.

Which is why Valentine’s Day is best spent remembering a greater love, a perfect love, a love shown to us in the greatest “how” ever. God showed His love for us in this, that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

God shows His love for His fallen creation and creatures by taking on flesh, suffering and dying to save us. He shows His love for us in dying, so that we might live for eternity.

And the great thing about this love is that it never changes. We don’t have to worry about God doing something loving today, and unloving tomorrow. We don’t need to fear that God will take his love away. As we read in Hebrews, “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.” God’s love endures for eternity and it never changes.

And so, as we tell those we love that we love them, let us also give thanks the God has shown His love for us by sending the ultimate gift, His Son, Jesus, so that, through Him, we might live in His kingdom with Him.





A snowy hello from the Preschool room! The next time you wake up to a fresh blanket of snow, and feel like grumbling about needing to shovel, think about your little Redeemer Lutheran Preschool friends, shouting with joy as they run out into the fresh snow to build a snow man and go sledding. I'm sure it will put a smile on your face! We have been having a lot of fun in the snow! At the end of January we took a field trip to the Winona Public Library and got a tour. Preschoolers even got to try scanning the books in and out at the check-out desk! In February, which is dental health awareness month, we will have a visit from a dentist to teach us about keeping our teeth clean and healthy. In February, we will also learn about outer space, presidents, favorite authors, and we will have fun celebrating Valentine's Day! Thank you to our church family, for your support and prayers!





February 26, 2020

Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent. It is 40 days (excluding Sundays) before Easter April 12, 2020.

The modern tradition of rubbing a cross on a person's forehead supposedly identifies that person with Jesus Christ.

What is the significance of Ash Wednesday and ashes on the forehead?

Q: Would you please explain the significance of Ash Wednesday. I've seen some people in the past with black ash crosses on their foreheads.

A: *Lutheran Worship: History and Practice, a commentary on Lutheran Worship*, one of our Synod's hymnals, says this about ashes on Ash Wednesday: "Other customs may be used, particularly the imposition of ashes on those who wish it. This ancient act is a gesture of repentance and a powerful reminder about the meaning of the day. Ashes can symbolize dust-to-dustness and remind worshipers of the need for cleansing, scrubbing and purifying. If they are applied during an act of kneeling, the very posture of defeat and submission expresses humility before God."

The use of ashes on Ash Wednesday is a more recent custom among most LCMS congregations, although some have done it for decades. The ashes are usually derived from the burned palms from the previous Palm Sunday. Experience will show, however, that in obtaining ashes this way, it doesn't take many ashes to "ash" a whole congregation. Like sin, they are very dirty and go a long way. One palm leaf will produce enough ashes for several years.

Usually the pastor takes the ashes on the end of his thumb and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of each worshiper, saying these words: "Remember: you are dust, and to dust you shall return." This follows most effectively prior (or as part of) the Service Corporate Confession and Absolution on pp. 290-291 of Lutheran Service Book.

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Love Word Search

1 Corinthians 13:4-8

Find the hidden words.



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

Is **PATIENT**

Is **KIND**

Is Not **JEALOUS**

Does Not **BRAG**

Is Not **ARROGANT**

Does Not Act **UNBECOMINGLY**

Does Not Seek Its **OWN**

Is Not **PROVOKED**

Does Not Take Into Account A
Wrong **SUFFERED**

Does Not Rejoice In
UNRIGHTEOUSNESS

REJOICES With The Truth

BEARS All Things

BELIEVES All Things

HOPES All Things

ENDURES All Things

EVENTS

- Feb. 14th: Valentine's Day
- Feb. 15th: Newsletter Deadline
- Feb. 15th: Parents Night Out (4-7pm)
- Feb. 20th: Preschool Open House (4:30-6pm)
- Feb. 26th: Ash Wednesday Service (6:30pm)
 - Light meal before services (5:30pm)

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIV.S

- Feb. 3rd: Randy & Lori Rolbiecki's Anniversary!
- Feb. 4th: Happy Birthday Sam Swanson!
- Feb. 11th: Happy Birthday Dave Fruechte!
- Feb. 16th: Happy Birthday Rachel Eden!

"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace."

- Numbers 6:24-26

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Welcomes you to come praise His Love for Us!

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Mon - Fri 10-1 pm

