



February 2017
A VIEW FROM THE PULPIT

“GOD’S VALENTINE”

Love, Cupid, hearts, chocolates, cards, and flowers will be everywhere – on Valentine's Day; February 14th. On that day we celebrate love and friendship. But where did this holiday of affection come from?

The origins of Valentine's Day are murky. We do know that the ancient Romans celebrated the feast of Lupercalia, a spring festival, on the 15th of February. With the introduction of Christianity, the holiday moved to the 14th of February – the saint day that celebrated several early Christian martyrs named Valentine. But somewhere along the way, Valentine's Day came to represent romance. The romance we associate with Valentine's Day may spring from the medieval belief that birds select their mates on February 14th. During the Middle Ages, human lovebirds recited verse or prose to one another in honor of the day. "Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?" wrote William Shakespeare. And poet Elizabeth Barrett Browning expressed love this way:

*How do I love thee; let me count the ways.
I love thee to the depth and breadth and height*

"Will you be my Valentine?" Nowadays, people often ask this of their loved ones in greeting cards. Probably the first greeting cards, handmade valentines, appeared in the 16th century. As early as 1800, companies began mass-producing cards. Initially these cards were hand-colored by factory workers. By the early 20th century even fancy lace and ribbon-strewn cards were created by machine.

I remember sometime about the 7th or 8th grade getting valentines with SWAK written across the flap of the envelope. I don't know whether kids today still do that or not but back in the day it meant "Sealed

with a Kiss". The card itself would have an X or several X's on it somewhere that meant the same thing.

The X we use to denote a kiss comes from the Middle Ages, when the cross of Saint Andrew was used for a signature on important documents by those who couldn't write. This was a sign of binding honesty, and after writing the X, it was kissed to further guarantee faithful performance of the obligation. So X became associated with a kiss.

John 3:16 tells of God's ULTIMATE Valentine, His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

“For God so LOVED THE WORLD THAT He gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life”

God sealed His Valentine not with SWAK or with an X but with the Cross of Calvary.

On February 14th as we think about Love let's give thanks for God's **valentine** to us, our Savior Jesus Christ.

Rev. George Walton, Stated Supply Pastor



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Adult Sunday School Class meets from 9:45 – 10:45 a.m. For the month of February, we will study the following lessons:

- Feb. 05th **Re-Created to Live in Harmony**
Galatians 3:26 – 4:7
- Feb. 12th **New Birth Brings Freedom**
Galatians 4
- Feb. 19th **Freedom in Christ**
Galatians 5: 1-17
- Feb. 26th **Christ Creates Holy Living**
Galatians 5:18 – 6:10



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

We have several important activities coming up in the next couple of months. Mark your calendar now for these special events.

On Sunday, January 29th, we will have our New Member's Luncheon. God has blessed us with eight new members. It is a joy to welcome each one into our church family.

On Sunday, February 12th, we will enjoy the Valentine's Banquet, sponsored by the Men of the Church. All ladies should be prepared for an evening of good food and good fellowship. Come and enjoy!

On Sunday, March 5th, we will celebrate Gifts of Women Sunday. This day we honor our sisters in Christ and the unique gifts they share in their service to Christ.

All ladies who attend Buffalo Church are invited to become a member of a Women's Circle. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet with a small group of women for Bible study, fellowship, fun, and much more. If you are not a member of a circle, I encourage you to consider attending a meeting.

Circles meet on the second Monday of the month. The Mary Lou Campbell Circle (MLC) meets at 2:00 p.m. in the afternoon and the Sunshine Circle meets at 6:30 p.m. Hope to see you there.

Jackie Frie, PWCT Moderator



Love from Jesus

This Christian Valentine message sends you love I got from Jesus, love I learned from the gospels, found in His words, His actions, His example. This Christian Valentine saying conveys love I didn't have before I was saved, couldn't relate to or understand before I gave my life to the Lord. On Valentine's Day, know that I love you and want to lift you up, encourage you and serve you. Happy Valentine's Day!

By Joanna Fuchs

Remember with love and prayer:



CHURCH MEMBERS: Family of Roy Cox, Lynda Bowers, Sheila Brewer, Dr. David Ciliberto, Nellie Cox, Greg Deck, Joan and Al Gardner, Barbara Jo Glass, Clay Ingram, Sandie Lemons, Lois Martin, and Alberta McDonald

FAMILY OF CHURCH MEMBERS: Linda Crompton, MacKenzie Deck, Virginia Ellis, Brielle Frear, Lynn Godwin, Michael Holt, Terry Johnson, Stanley Jones, Taylor Jones, David Key, Elaine McBryde, Sam McClearn, Julia Monson, Marie Robinson, Carson Setzer, Janette Siess, Louise Stewart, Brandee Thomas, and Doug Ury

FRIENDS OF CHURCH MEMBERS: Family of Jennifer Avent, Wendy Cole, Michelle Daurity, Henry and Nancy Douglas, Billy Edwards, Frank Gaddy, Leroy Hughes, Debbie Hurley, Eva Jones, Claire Kennedy, Will Kirkland, Kasyn Kolacinski, Judy Lloyd, Pat Maguire, Rebecca Mansfield, Wendy McBryde, Robert and Sarah McGehee, Emily Moonyham, Megan Nelson, Cheryl Smith, Frank Tibbett, Marie Wicker, and Emily H. Wright

WEEKLY OFFERING TOTALS



January 01, 2017 – \$2170.50
January 08, 2017 – NO Church due to SNOW
January 15, 2017 – \$8495.00
January 22, 2017 – \$1273.00
January 29, 2017 – \$1654.50
5 Cents A Meal Offering – \$59.32
Backpack Kids Offering – \$83.80



Deadline for articles to be included in the next issue of the newsletter will be Tuesday, February 21st by 9:00 a.m.

Shannon Lemons, daughter of Sandie and John Lemons, left for her junior year at Michigan State University. Please pray for her safety while there. She is majoring in Japanese and Graphic Arts. If you would like to send her a card:



Shannon Lemons
735 East Shaw Lane
West Owen Hall Room 346
East Lansing, MI 48825



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|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Feb. 02nd - Randy Seymore | Feb. 21st - Marie Macko |
| Feb. 05th - Allison Goodwin | Feb. 22nd - Geri Hales |
| Feb. 10th - Linda Cummings | Feb. 22nd - Pat Kelly |
| Feb. 11th - Kristian Johns | Feb. 22nd - Shannon Lemons |
| Feb. 13th - Jeff Cashion | Feb. 22nd - Pat Moerke |
| Feb. 16th - Angela Deck | Feb. 23rd - Debbie Thomas |
| Feb. 16th - Charlotte Johns | Feb. 25th - Chase Setzer |
| Feb. 16th - Wayne Martindale | Feb. 26th - Jason Kelly |
| Feb. 17th - Andy Holder | Feb. 26th - Darlene Reagan |
| Feb. 28th - Shawn McNeill | |



- | | |
|---------------|----------------------------|
| February 06th | Frank & Betty Robinson |
| February 16th | Nelson & Kathy Jolly Burke |



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING/GREETER

- | | |
|-----------|-----------------------|
| Feb. 05th | COMMUNION – Kay Davis |
| Feb. 12th | Kathy Jolly |
| Feb. 19th | Patrick Kelly |
| Feb. 26th | Buddy McNeill |

EMAIL: buffalochurch@windstream.net
SEE THE NEWSLETTER IN COLOR AT:
www.buffalopres.org

To My Buffalo Church Family & Buffalo Women,



Thank you so much for the generous Christmas Gifts. What would I do without you! You are all so good to me. These gifts sure did come in handy this time of year. I love each and every one of you so much! Thanks again...

Love, Janet Warner
Church Secretary

P.S. And a special thank you to Larry & Anne!



The deepest sympathy of the congregation is extended to:
The Family of Roy Cox
The Family of Janice Windchester

Gifts to the Church



In Memory of Roy Cox
Nancy Cashion-Cameron
Karen and Tucker Mann
Nelson and Kathy Jolly Burke

In Memory of Janice Windchester

Jan Renwick
The Buffalo Women
Bob and Mattie Kelly
Larry and Anne Collins
Nelson and Kathy Jolly Burke



FLOWERS WILL BE PLACED IN THE SANCTUARY DURING FEBRUARY BY THE FOLLOWING:

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 02/05/17 – | OPEN |
| 02/12/17 – | by Nelson & Kathy in honor of Bob Jolly's 90th Birthday |
| 02/19/17 – | OPEN |
| 02/26/17 – | OPEN |

HAPPY NEW YEAR

NEW BEGINNINGS

Oh, the joy we feel when a new year is ushered in. It's exhilarating and exciting. We get to start all over again. How fun is that! We make promises that we may or may not keep. Changes in our lifestyle, changes in our diet, and maybe even our attitude. We may try to be more positive with each new day that we are blessed with or we want to set new goals. I set new goals every year. Not that I achieve them all, but at least I write them down and try. Maybe I will only achieve one out of five, but that's a start.

The one thing I am thankful for is My Lord. The fact that He has blessed me with the gift of Life. A life that no one controls but me. Me and My attitude and my inner strength. We are all given the same choices and we all handle them differently.

I want to outreach more to those less fortunate than me. Maybe just my friendship. It may be a Sunday afternoon call or perhaps a meal to a shut in, but I want to make a difference to someone that has touched my life. I am so blessed and I want to share my blessings with others. I want to shout as loud as I can that I am in love with life. I want to run out into the street and shout Praises to the Lord for He is so great and so merciful... He has blessed me with such a wonderful life. I have my home, my family, my church family, and my work family. I have so much love to share and joy to give. So much to be thankful for. I am sure you do too.

Please Lord, help me to set these goals and to achieve more than one this year. Help to be the tool that you make me and to begin this New Year with all the power you have instilled within me. In my heart and in my soul, I will beckon to the Holy Spirit and He will drive me to bigger and better

things. As I sit in my own little corner of the world I will listen as He speaks and I will hear and be moved. Inspired.

Happy New Year my dear loved ones and friends. Reach your new boundaries each and every day so that we can be a team and the team grows and grows to be that Spiritual Blessing to all whom we come in touch with.

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2017

**In Christ Love,
Jan Renwick**

BABY ARRIVAL ANNOUNCEMENT:

MASON MATTHEW PANCOAST

Born on January 2, 2017

Son of Tony and Megan Pancoast

Grandson of Bryan & Sharon Pancoast
(All from Michigan)

Great Grandson of Jan Renwick

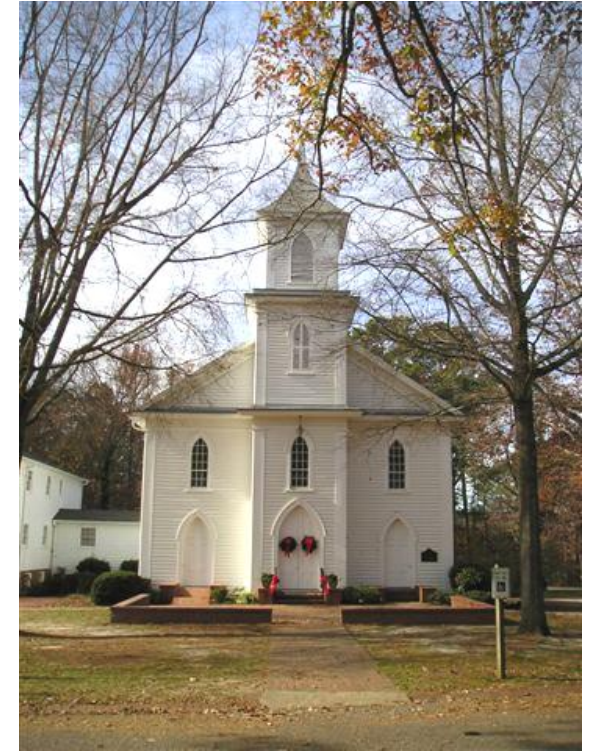


VALENTINE'S DAY BANQUET

We hope everyone will attend the Men's Valentine's Day Banquet on **Sunday, Feb. 12th, at 6:00 p.m.** A delicious meal will be provided by our men. Fellowship and a good time available to all and all are welcome! The men will arrange transportation for any who desire it, just call the church office.



If you would prefer chicken instead of steak, please call the church office and notify Janet.



**BUFFALO PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
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Sanford, NC 27330**

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