



Jefferson United Methodist Church  
125 East Jefferson Street  
Jefferson, OH 44047  
440-576-4561  
admin@jeffersonumc.com  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Office hours are 8:30 - 2:00 M-F  
Office closed 11:30 – 12:00 daily for lunch.

**Our Mission: To make disciples of Jesus Christ  
for the transformation of the world.  
Our Motto: Love God ~ Love Others ~ Serve the World**

**February 2024**

**Volume 112**



*February*

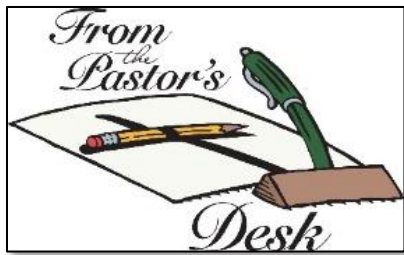


# February

## BIRTHDAYS

- |    |                  |
|----|------------------|
| 1  | Sophia Shelko    |
|    | Linda Miller     |
| 3  | Rebecca Feick    |
| 9  | Heather Whetsell |
| 10 | Roger Leininger  |
|    | Sue Mizer        |
| 12 | Lee Daubenspeck  |
| 16 | Phil Spencer     |
| 17 | Brenda Sochia    |
| 20 | Glade Heath      |
| 21 | Susan Shadle     |
| 26 | Wanda Bagley     |





Some confident opinions about love, straight from the mouth of children, found on the Internet:

- “Love is foolish...but I still might try it sometime” (Jill, age six).
- “Love will find you even if you’re trying to hide from it. I been trying to hide from it since I was five, but the girls keep finding me” (Dave, age eight).
- “I’m not rushing into love. Fourth grade is hard enough” (Regina, age ten).
- “When a person gets kissed for the first time, they fall down and don’t get up for at least an hour” (Wendy, age eight).
- “I look at it like this: Kissing is fine if you like it, but it’s a free country and nobody should be forced to do it” (Billy, age six).

Ah, love. Everyone has an opinion on it, even children. Yes, love is something which seems to control and shape our lives each and every day. Many search for that one person to love. But even if we don’t, there are at least some people in our lives whom we can say that we truly love – friends, family, etc. Love dictates the way we live our lives. It has been said that money is what makes the world go round, but I would contradict that statement and say that love is what makes the world go round – either the presence or lack of it. In the end, everything in our world seems to boil down to whether love is evident or not.

As we turn the calendar into February, we will hear more about love than any other time during the year, as Valentine’s Day arrives on the 14<sup>th</sup> of this month. Commercials will begin airing declaring how you can get that “perfect gift” for your sweetheart, stores will be filled with “love-themed” items, and every couple will scramble to make plans for the day especially designed for love.

But what exactly is love? Ask fifty people and you will get fifty different answers. And you know what? Maybe that is not a bad thing, because the way love is shown is different for each person. Nevertheless, as Christians we are called to carry love with us each and every day of our lives – not the romantic love which is witnessed during Valentine’s Day, but Christian love.

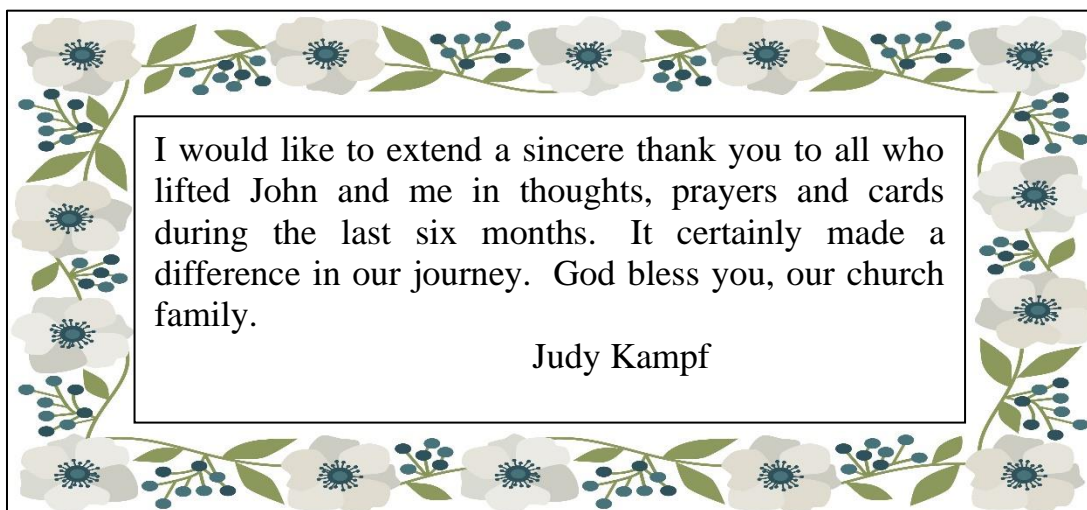


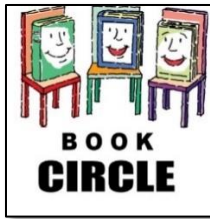


The most famous passage in the Bible about love is 1 Corinthians 13. And although frequently used in weddings (including mine and Carin's), this passage is more than anything, about Christian love. After all, just look at the words – *“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud...Love never fails...”* (1 Cor. 13:4,8a). As Christians, we are all called to exhibit this type of love all of our lives. We are to be patient and kind with one another. We are to put others before ourselves. We are to practice love as a means of fighting evil. Yes, love is the essence of Christianity.

Furthermore, this year, we experience that Christian love on Valentine's Day more than ever! For coincidentally, Valentine's Day falls on Ash Wednesday – the day when we begin Lent and subsequently the journey to the cross. And this journey will lead us to discover the ultimate act of love – Jesus, who gave his life for us, because he loves us so much!

So as Valentine's Day approaches, I urge you to not only perform the traditional celebrations but keep Christian love in your heart. Practice love to your neighbors *and* your enemies. Carry love with you wherever you go. Jesus said to *“love one another as I have loved you”* (John 13:34-35). Thus, as Valentine's Day and Lent loom, may we follow our Lord and Savior and do just that!





We've switched to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month!

### February 13th

*Rebecca* by Daphne Du Maurier  
Meet at the church where we will share pizza and discuss this classic book! All welcome! Let Mary Howe know if you'd like to join us so we can include you in the pizza count.

### March

*And the Mountains Echoed*  
by Kahled Housseini

### April

*One in a Million Boy* by Monica Wood

### May

*Nature's Best Hope*  
by Doug Talamy (all-county read)

**Open to other suggestions for books to read!!**

**Please join us & keep reading!**



## Verse of the Day

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

- 2 Peter 3:18

## Voice of the Day

We know that without food we would die. Without fellowship life is not worth living.

- Laurie Colwin, "More Home Cooking: A Writer Returns to the Kitchen" (1993)

## Prayer of the Day

May our days be filled with grace, food, and fellowship — the things we need to sustain a joyful, meaningful life.



### An Opportunity to serve

Our new accessible East entrance provides easy access to the sanctuary for our disabled visitors. It is our hope to have a friendly face (or two) at the entrance to greet them and offer any assistance they need. If you would like to serve as greeter at this entrance on Sunday mornings, please contact Lauri Allen, 440-344-4493 or Phil Spencer, 440-813-6866.

# thank you



As Maribeth Davis said, our church family embraced them when she and Bob first visited, which let them know they had found a church "home".

That's what hospitality does, so I want to give a shout out to all who make this happen ~ KayAnn Brabender who secures our greeters and all who greet; Harlan Waid who schedules our ushers and to all who usher.

Thank you to all who help decorate and undecorate for the various church "seasons".

You are ALL a part of the JUMC hospitality team just by saying hello, offering a seat, directions, or a friendly smile.

Judy Kampf, Hospitality Coordinator

---

Thank you so much for the cards, birthday cards, and visits to Dale. We have been blessed by the JUMC church family throughout his hospital and rehab visits. Thank you!

Carol Christ



Thank you to everyone who helped prepare the parsonage for the Roseberrys to move in. We had several cleaning shifts wiping down walls, dusting surfaces, and cleaning cabinets, kitchens, and bathrooms. Thank you for your elbow grease! We also had many of you donate food and gift cards to welcome the Roseberrys to Jefferson. Thank you all for your gifts!

## SUSANNA'S CUPBOARD

We are delighted to tell you that we received TWO generous Grant awards in December of 2023.

We received \$1000 from the Jefferson Memorial Fund, and \$5000 from the Western Reserve District of the East Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church. These two grants will allow us to continue to offer food at the current rates to those who visit our cupboard.

With your gifts of protein, socks, and other items, and these grant monies, we will be able to carry on. THANK YOU ALL!!



Thank you for bringing in items for Sager Brown mission Depot! You can still donate items: hand towel, washcloth, comb, soap or bring in on Feb. 4: adult toothbrush, Feb. 11: nail clippers, Feb. 18: bandages (3/4 x 3") Imagine what it would be like to live through a flood, fire, etc. and need these items to just clean yourself! Help others around the world through UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief.)



*Change the  
World*

Thank you to all of you who contributed to our 2023 Change the World offering whether through the loose change offering, Sunday School offering, donating "butterflies" at Easter, working the GOBA breakfast, or directly to the fund. We raised \$4000! Of that, \$1500 was sent to the General Board of Global Missions to support 3 students in Cambodia. The remaining was split 3 ways between the Kinship Program at our Children Services, Kelley Cooke's student athletes at the Univ. of Pittsburgh, and to help support the students in Pakistan through the gentleman who came here to visit a while ago. YOU have helped people around the world!

*Susanna Wesley Ministries*

Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Merry Christmas from Cambodia!

For our December edition of the newsletter, we made a short video clip to show you how we celebrated Christmas as Susanna Wesley House.

YouTube Link: [Merry Christmas from SWH](#)

We thank you for your continued support for the ministries in Cambodia especially for women and children.

We wish you and your household peace and joy in this blessed season!

SWH Team  
Phnom Penh



**JUMC “General Fund”  
Monthly Summary through  
December 31, 2023**

Monthly Budget	\$29,718
Average Monthly Contributions	\$23,273
Average Monthly Expenses	\$24,863
“Shared Ministries” (Conference Apportionments) Paid	100%

**JUMC “Building Fund”  
Summary as of  
December 31, 2023**

Total Expenses (Phases 1-3 plus new entrance driveway)	\$660,344
Paid to Date	\$560,344
Congregational Loans <i>(Payable by 12/31/2024)</i>	\$35,000
Congregational Loans <i>(Payable by 12/31/2027)</i>	\$65,000



To Whom It May Concern,

Hello, my name is Ian Prouty. I am currently working on my Eagle Scout with Troop 41 out of Jefferson, Ohio. I have decided to partner with the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation since I was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes when I was five years old. I plan on making 300 mini tic-tac-toe games and then I would like to distribute them to kids around the hospitals. I want to show these kids that their life isn't over and I hope it encourages them to fight like I did. I want them to know that they are not alone.

To raise money, I plan on hosting a spaghetti dinner on February 17th at the Jefferson United Methodist Church from 4:30-7 PM. I am looking for donations to help make my fundraising project possible. These may include either food or monetary donations.

Thank you in advance for your consideration,

Ian Prouty

(440) 261-1101

[ibprouty2006@gmail.com](mailto:ibprouty2006@gmail.com)



**Ian Prouty  
Eagle Scout Project  
Fundraiser  
Troop 41  
Jefferson, Ohio**



*Once an Eagle,  
Always an Eagle*



**\$10 Spaghetti Dinner  
Dine-In or Take-Out  
Project Supports JDRF!  
Jefferson United Methodist Church  
February 17, 2024  
4:30pm-7:00pm**

# February 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9:30am - Worship 10:30am - Fellowship 10:30am - Sunday 5pm - Youth Group	9am - Pickle Ball 10:30am - Yoga - 6:30pm - Boy Scouts 6:30pm - Yoga - Slow		6:30pm - Bell Choir 7pm - Chancel Choir	9am - Pickle Ball 10:30am - Women's	8am - WIC	
9:30am - Worship 10:30am - Fellowship 10:30am - Sunday 5pm - Youth Group	9am - Pickle Ball 10:30am - Yoga - 6:30pm - Boy Scouts 6:30pm - Yoga - Slow	10am - Ministry Team 4pm - Christian Cafe @	6:30pm - Bell Choir 7pm - Chancel Choir	9am - Pickle Ball 10:30am - Women's 12pm - Quilters 6:30pm - Trustee	8am - WIC	8:30am - Stephen Min.
9:30am - Worship 10:30am - Fellowship 10:30am - Sunday 5pm - Youth Group	9am - Pickle Ball 10:30am - Yoga - 6:30pm - Boy Scouts 6:30pm - Yoga - Slow	10am - Ministry Team 4pm - Christian Cafe @	6:30pm - Bell Choir 7pm - Chancel Choir	9am - Pickle Ball 10:30am - Women's	8am - WIC	4:30pm - Scout
9:30am - Worship 10:30am - Fellowship 10:30am - Sunday 5pm - Youth Group	9am - Pickle Ball 10:30am - Yoga - 6:30pm - Boy Scouts 6:30pm - Yoga - Slow	10am - Ministry Team 4pm - Christian Cafe @	6:30pm - Bell Choir 7pm - Chancel Choir	9am - Pickle Ball 10:30am - Women's	8am - WIC	10am - Quilters