



the  
*Encourager*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH PARK  
CHURCH OF CHRIST

*February 2022*

## THIS CRAZY LITTLE THING CALLED LOVE

The month of February has long been the traditional “month of love” thanks in part to Hallmark, Hershey, and florists everywhere. However, God’s love for us isn’t limited to a month or a season. Our love shouldn’t have such limits either.

I want to commend the North Park church family for truly embracing a spirit of love for one another. It’s evident. We pray earnestly for those in our family who are hurting and dealing with difficult situations. We rejoice when God answers prayers with relief, healing, peace, comfort, and rejuvenation. There are also so many “behind the scenes” efforts that take place within our family that are motivated by love: cards, visits, calls, texts, food, gifts, listening ears, caring hearts, and good works. It’s powerful, really powerful.

As Christians, as God’s children, our lives should constantly reflect the message written in

1<sup>st</sup> John 4:7-8: “Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.” Who better to write about love than John the Apostle, who witnessed and experienced the impactful, life changing love of Jesus Christ?

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Living in a world where unconditional love is often very hard to find, we have the opportunity to share that with one another, but let's not be selfish with our love. Let's share our love with those outside of our church family as well. We've done a good job with that overall: The Helping Hands Pantry, God's Hand Gift Shop, The Giving Tree, and the Blanket Ministry are a few of the ways we have demonstrated our love to others outside of our church family but those efforts tend to be set by the calendar, the day, the season. We can't place limits on when we share our love with others, love that originated with God.

A few weeks ago, one of my messages centered on each of us serving as an "oasis" for both those within our church family, as well as those outside of our church family. An "oasis" is described as a fertile, green area found in a hot, dry region such as a desert.

*<sup>34</sup> "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."*

*John 13:34-35*

It is a place that can provide refuge, rest, relief, peace, comfort, renewal and hope. There are no limits, restrictions, or seasons to prevent us from being an oasis and responding to the needs of our friends, neighbors, classmates, co-workers, or total strangers.

What prepares each of us for serving as an oasis? We need hearts that embrace the love of God and are willing to share that love with others. We can help to relieve the pain, loneliness, distress, hopelessness, and desperation present in people and replace that with God's love by demonstrating our love. Who knows, our efforts could result in someone wanting to become a child of God, a follower of Jesus Christ, and a member of our church family. I doing so, they would get to experience the love and concern from an entire congregation of people. That would be life changing and why love is so important every day.

~Tim~

ATTENTION: If you are listed to serve and are unable to, please contact Wayne Morris to let him know as soon as possible.

Those to Serve –February 6, 2022

Worship Director: Ken Maupin  
Opening Prayer: JJ Whaley  
Preside: Sid Long  
Ann/Closing Prayer: Jeff Hagerman  
Scripture Reading: Marcus Cassady  
Greeters: Delores & Lisa Warkins  
Class Attendance: Jaye Lavern  
Usher #1: Ken Lynch  
Usher #2: Doug Soter  
A/V Booth: Mark Murray  
Security: Ken Maupin  
Church Mailbox: Pat Williams, Joan Schmidt

Those to Serve –February 13, 2022

Worship Director: Jordan Siracusa  
Opening Prayer: Simon-Peter Broughton  
Preside: Joe Nicosia  
Ann/Closing Prayer: Jeff Hagerman  
Scripture Reading: Scott Weir  
Greeters: Simon-Peter Broughton, Julie Cavallaro  
Class Attendance: Marcus Cassady  
Usher #1: Wayne Morris  
Usher #2: Jose Cervantes  
A/V Booth: Justin Reese  
Security: Jaye Lavern  
Church Mailbox: Pat Williams, Joan Schmidt

Those to Serve –February 20, 2022

Worship Director: Sid Long  
Opening Prayer: Ken Lynch  
Preside: Tim Barton  
Ann/Closing Prayer: Jeff Hagerman  
Scripture Reading: Jerry Gibson  
Greeters: John Castree & Liz Willis  
Class Attendance: Jaye Lavern  
Usher #1: Ken Maupin  
Usher #2: Scott Seigrist  
A/V Booth: Tim Barton  
Security: Jerry Gibson  
Church Mailbox: Pat Williams, Joan Schmidt

Those to Serve –February 27, 2022

Worship Director: Ken Maupin  
Opening Prayer: Stan Gregory  
Preside: Jordan Siracusa  
Ann/Closing Prayer: Jeff Hagerman  
Scripture Reading: Joe Nicosia  
Greeters: Scott & Tammy Weir  
Class Attendance: Marcus Cassady  
Usher #1: Joe Nicosia  
Usher #2: Joey Nicosia  
A/V Booth: Adam & Tyler Zomok  
Security: Joe Nicosia  
Church Mailbox: Pat Williams, Joan Schmidt

# Bible Wordsearch

## Parables of the Wedding and the Tower

Fit the words in the list into the diagram below reading forward, backward, up, down, diagonally, always in a straight line.

Luke 14:15-30

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

ALLEYS	GREAT
ANGRY	GUESTS
BANQUET	HATE
BLESSED	HEARD
BLIND	HOUSE
BRING	INVITED
BROTHERS	JESUS
CERTAIN	JUST
CHILDREN	KINGDOM
COST	LAME
COUNTRY	LANES
CRIPPLED	MASTER
CROSS	MONEY
CROWDS	ORDERED
DISCIPLE	OWNER
EAT	OXEN
ESTIMATE	POOR
EXCUSES	READY
FATHER	ROADS
FEAST	SISTERS
FIELD	STREETS
FINISH	TABLE
FOLLOW	TASTE
GOD	TOWER

After you find all the hidden words the left over letters spell out a Bible verse reading from the top left to the bottom right

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Psalm 30

## Pantry Sub List

Justin Reese	815-299-0762	Jaye Lavern	815-608-4465
Elizabeth Soter	815-721-0405	Jeremy Schulz	630-418-0371
Cameron Maupin	815-978-3362	Ken Maupin	815-262-1487
Mary Riley	815-988-7440	Sara Maupin	815-262-0303
Tammy Weir	815-751-0866	Naomi Gibson	815-742-2291
Katie Schulz	630-418-0372	Cathy Firm	815-298-6341
Maxine Byrne	815-494-2512	Liz Willis	815-494-0595
Joan Schmidt	815-708-3993	Brenda Mohler	815-505-7205
Pat Seifert	815-871-7236	Tim Firm	815-914-1782

# Prayer List

**Jason Willis**

**Anneka Broughton**

**Sue Ann Diaz**

**Helen Holland**

**Wendy Williams**

**Brandi Ostergard** – friend of Wendy Williams who has cancer

**Michelle Hutchison** – Tammy Weir’s sister in law, undergoing cancer treatment

**Mike Trank** – Melanie Lavern's dad, being treated for cancer

**Kevin Sircloumb** – tumor on his brain stem, is back in the hospital

**Gregory Willis** – Ron Willis's brother, diagnosed with Myeloma

**Earline Nipps** – has started chemo treatments

**People of Haiti** – please continue to keep Haiti in your prayers as the political strife in the country continues

**Lucy Chamberlain** – trying to schedule time with a heart specialist

**Lindsey Farley** – friend of Katrina Whaley’s, recovering after a bad car accident

**Jan Lavern** – has had a set back in her recovery from her broken leg

**Donna Fincher** – back at home

**Deckard family** – friends of the Morris/Zomok family who are going through a lot after a cancer diagnosis and a job relocation

**Adam Zomok** – found some blockages that they are hoping to treat with medication

**Bonnie Cole** – home from the hospital

**Myrtle Williams** – recovering from surgery

**Greg Jines** - friend of the Morris's who is being treated for stage 5 kidney disease

**Sherry McKuen and Dr. Rigsby** - two of Lisa Warkins’ friends who were recently diagnosed with cancer

**Mary Ann Sircloumb** – has been quite ill

**Daniel Batha** – Sally’s husband, has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer

**Ron King** – should be back home this weekend

**Keith Pierce** – home after an extended hospital stay being treated for covid

**Joan Wadsworth** – dealing with pain from an auto-immune flare up

**Jack O’Callaghan** – co-worker of Ron Bolly’s who is being treated for cancer

**Marcus Cassady** – recovering from recent car accident

**family of Annabelle Santos** – Castree's niece who recently passed away

**Pat and Judy Callery** – relatives of the Bolens who are currently hospitalized being treated for Covid

**Carolyn Lee** – friend of the Lynch family, hospitalized with Covid

**Family of Freda Izzard** – Simon-Peter Broughton’s Aunt passed away recently

# FEBRUARY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 10:00 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Devot/Singing	3	4 Marsha Phillips' bday	5 Pantry 10-noon
6 9:30 am Bible Class 10:30 am Worship	7 ROMEO Club	8 Blanket Ministry workday @ 9am	9 10:00 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Devot/ Singing HHP Food Delivery	10 6-7 pm Pantry	11 Jeff & Kathy Hagerman's bday	12 Pasta Dinner @ 5:00 pm Rebecca Hagerman's bday
13 9:30 am Bible Class 10:30 am Worship LIFE Group Sunday Gwen Sullivan's bday	14	15 Cameron Maupin's bday	16 10:00 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Devot/ Singing Pam Reese & Tracy Meinert's bday	17 RCC Board Meeting @ 7pm Jean Foster & Jordan Stracusa's bday	18 Jan Hinrichs' bday	19 Pantry 10-noon
20 9:30 am Bible Class 10:30 am Worship Jan Morris's bday	21 Rich Hinrichs' bday	22	23 10:00 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Devot/ Singing HHP Food Delivery	24 6-7 pm Pantry	25 WINTERFEST	26 WINTERFEST
27 9:30 am Bible Class 10:30 am Worship LIFE Group Sunday	28 Brittle McKinney's bday					



## NEWS & EVENTS

- If you would like make a donation to RCC to help with raising funds for the cabin siding, you can write a check made to RCC or you can go to this website <https://rockfordchristiancamp.org/cabin-keepers/>
- The teens will be selling candy bars after church in the coat room to help raise money for their trip to Winterfest
- Don't forget to sign up for the Pasta Dinner to help support the teen's trip to Winterfest!! The dinner will start at 5:00 pm on Saturday, February 12th. Each adult is \$10 and \$5 for kids
- The first Meijer Simply Give campaign of the year will run from Sunday, January 2nd through Saturday, April 2nd. The double match days will be March 5th and March 26<sup>th</sup>
- We continue to struggle to have enough ladies volunteering at the pantry. If you are at all able to help on the 1st or 3rd Saturdays of the month, please come.
- The new Bring/Teach/Keep class starts today in Fellowship Hall
- Please get all changes that need to be made for the 2022 Directory to Ashley asap. The Directories will hopefully be printed and ready to be handed out no later than February 13th. If you don't have the changes to her by February 6th there is no guarantee that she will be able to have your correct information printed

Elder's Group E-Mail Address  
northparkcofcelders@gmail.com

Steve Adkins  
eldersteveadkins@gmail.com

Jeff Hagerman  
elderjeffhagerman@gmail.com

Joe Nicosia  
elderjoenicosia@gmail.com

Ken Maupin  
elderkenmaupin@gmail.com

The North Park Church of Christ is committed to sharing Jesus with our community and the world; while encouraging the spiritual development of our youth, strengthening the bond of our families, and serving the needs of our senior adults to build a church known by its love and message that flows from the very heart of God.

*Where Friends Learn to Live and Love Like Jesus*

MINISTER

***Tim Firm - cell phone: 815.914.1782***

CONTACT US:

Phone—815-633-4253

Email—NorthParkCofC@gmail.com

www.northparkchurchofchristil.com

Helping Hands Pantry— 815-633-1504

www.helpinghandspantry.com