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## *From the Pastor's Desk*



**Greetings to you and peace from God our Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ.**

It is good to be back home!!! I definitely enjoyed my vacation time but, as always, I am ready to get back home. I have always been a "home-body" and I easily entertain myself by knitting, reading or whatever else I may find to occupy my time. Now Jeri is somewhat the opposite. He is forever asking where we are going this day. It seems he is going somewhere every day. Now he too was anxious to get home to see Tigger, but then the next day he was looking to go somewhere else and do something more.

I had in mind doing all the laundry from our trip, but unfortunately had to schedule a doctor's appointment which also added an ultrasound exam at Hanover Hospital. On our trip I got an intense burning pain in the mid-thigh on my left leg. Having had similar burning pain last January after my neck surgery, I immediately thought I had another blood clot as I had last year. After the ultrasound, I was relieved to know it was not a blood clot! (My doctor said that type of burning could be from the Lombar spine!) It eases my mind that I did not have a blood clot but now, I wonder what is going on with my back. Oh well, another focus for this column at a later date.

But, what my mind is working on with this message is the colloquialism "opposites attract." I know I heard this stated numerous times over the years and I know it applies to magnetism in science classes, but I wonder if it is really a quality to have in life relationships. I do know that in working with couples that there does need to be common interests that are shared so that couples can and do work together on things. If there is no common interest, each of the partners do their own thing and actually spend little time together. It is good if each partner has some interest they work on themselves, but for there to be no common interest, in my mind, can be a problem. Some couples have no problem doing everything together. And, some couples have no problem doing nothing together. Each couple works that out for themselves. With life partners, spouses, even friends, we find people we want to be with who enable us to bloom! With Valentine's Day later this month, we certainly hope that each and every one of us has those special people in our lives that help us be the best people we can be and that we also help them be the best they can be! Valentine's is generally associated with couples in love. But, we could also consider cherished friends our valentines!

Of course, Valentine's Day is probably the most noted holiday this month, but we also take time to recognize President's Day. We are fortunate in our country that as the United States was formed, our forefathers painstakingly worked out the details that make this the greatest nation in the world. And we also give praise for the foresight of a President who led us to abolish slavery and move to assure equality for all.

Part of our February journey is also the start of Lent. And, this year, Lent begins on February 26th so it is almost as late as it can be. Some years it begins in March. But, our journey of Lent is for us to contemplate the love of God in our lives. So from looking at our love for one another at Valentine's Day to the love of God in our journey of Lent, February is definitely for us the month of love! We hope you are well aware of love in your life and cherish all the avenues of love coming your way. May you hear "I love you" many, many times - especially the voice of God saying it to you!

God Bless you ALL!

With love - Pastor Lou Ann



### **SPECIAL SERVICES in FEBRUARY**

#### **Feb. 2- Epiphany 4**

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

Sermon: "Achieving Blessedness"

Anthem: "What You Gonna Preach?" - Choplin

#### **Feb. 9 - Epiphany 5**

Gospel: Matthew 5:13-20

Sermon: "This Little Light of Mine"

Anthem: "The Light of the World" - Price/Besig

#### **Feb. 116 - Epiphany 6**

Gospel: Matthew 5:21-37

Sermon: "Healed and Reconciled"

Anthem: "Whisper to My Heart"

#### **Feb. 23- Transfiguration Sunday**

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

Sermon: "A Mountaintop Experience"

Anthem: "You Are the Christ"

#### **Feb. 26- Ash Wednesday**

Gospel: Matthew 6:16-21

Sermon: "Public or Private Faith?"

## **SCHEDULE OF DUTIES for FEBRUARY**

### **GREETERS:**

February 2 - Nancy Taylor  
February 9 - Janie Montgomery  
February 16 - Nancy Myers  
February 23 - Donna Sleeth

### **GIFT COLLECTORS:**

February 2 - Charlie Diehl  
February 9 - Barb Marshall  
February 16 - Sterling Boyd  
February 23 - Cindy Axe

### **LAY READERS:**

February 2 - Sonja Ness  
February 9 - Michael Wills  
February 16 - Nelson Leader  
February 23 - Linda Eichelberger

### **ACOLYTES:**

February 2 - Joel & Stephanie Frey  
February 9 - Carl & Sharon Criswell  
February 16 - Greg & Sonja Ness  
February 23 - David & Susan McDowell

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

February 2 - Nelson Leader  
February 9 - Barb Marshall  
February 16 - Lynz Leader  
February 23 - Susan McDowell

### **SOUND SYSTEM OPERATORS:**

February 2 - Terry Doll  
February 9 - Ed Adams  
February 16 - Eli Matthews  
February 23 - Greg Ness

### **LIGHTING OPERATORS:**

February 2 - Joel Frey  
February 9 - Greg Ness  
February 16 -  
February 23 - Sterling Boyd

### **CAMERA OPERATORS:**

February 2 - Greg Ness  
February 9 - John Sterling  
February 16 - Greg Ness  
February 23 -

### **VIDEO OPERATORS:**

February 2 - Jessica Keller  
February 9 - Jeri Jones  
February 16 - Judy Bishop  
February 23 - Nelson Leader

**ALTAR GUILD:** Jean McDowell & Barb Adams

**DEADLINE FOR MARCH NEWSLETTER:** February 15

**FEBRUARY**  
**BIRTHDAYS**



*May God  
Bless You  
on Your  
Birthday!*

1. Jamie Luckenbaugh
3. Marlene Matthews
4. Gerry Geesey
6. Beth Herbst
7. Bryan Adams
10. Bryan Barley
12. Landan McKenzie  
James Klyeman
13. Mark Morton
15. Trent Hake
20. Allie McKinsey  
Madelynne Shisler  
Kolton Knickel  
Amber Sipe
22. Kathy Rayhart
24. Donna Hartley
27. Jamie Reid  
Susan McDowell
28. Sandra Ness
29. Donna Busch  
Linda Rost  
Emma Boyd

**CELEBRATING FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES**

Feb. 7 - Bronley and Peggy Free - 50 years  
Feb. 12 - Charles and Theresa Diehl - 9 years

# FINANCIAL REPORT

## Undesignated General Fund

## Red Brick Chapel

## Cemetery

Month-2019	Income	Expense	Income	Expense	Income	Expense
January	\$10,497.09	\$9,547.51	\$0.41	\$304.33	\$923.15	\$1,053.87
February	\$9,667.09	\$9,824.01	\$0.36	\$483.40	\$241.82	\$1,553.75
March	\$8,387.08	\$12,838.53	\$0.40	\$453.34	\$0.01	\$1,243.18
April	\$13,112.13	\$9,712.75	\$0.38	\$257.71	\$100.07	\$1,225.10
May	\$9,751.94	\$9,644.88	\$0.39	\$128.12	\$0.06	\$1,562.95
June	\$9,881.09	\$13,213.55	\$0.37	\$262.02	\$100.04	\$2,221.37
July	\$12,313.08	\$9,948.30	\$0.38	\$484.24	\$907.34	\$1,930.00
August	\$10,369.15	\$9,742.92	\$0.37	\$98.23	\$100.10	\$2,025.00
September	\$12,618.58	\$12,301.63	\$0.36	\$453.54	\$200.08	\$2,176.37
October	\$12,561.34	\$9,975.90	\$0.36	\$132.95	\$800.07	\$1,530.00
November	\$11,485.80	\$9,432.74	\$0.35	\$120.22	0.06	\$1,235.00
December	\$15,192.28	\$14,935.31	\$0.36	\$383.22	\$200.05	\$781.30
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$135,836.65</b>	<b>\$131,118.03</b>	<b>\$4.49</b>	<b>\$3,581.32</b>	<b>\$3,572.85</b>	<b>\$18,637.89</b>

Balance of Undesignated General Fund @ January 1, 2020

\$4249.50

Balance of Red Brick Chapel Fund @ January 1, 2020

(Includes \$53,501.38 Endowment)

\$74,285.12

Balance of Cemetery Fund @ January 1, 2020

(Includes \$828,822.00 CD's, Trusts, UCC Foundation-in April and in July

transferred \$9000 each time from the UCC Foundation to BB & T Bank)

\$834,840.79

## Financial Assistance Given through Hand of Hope Fund - 2019

	#	Total	Monthly	Available
	Families	\$\$\$	Donations	Balance
Beginning				\$ 253.90
January			\$ 78.55	\$ 332.45
February	1	\$ 25.00	\$ 70.20	\$ 377.65
March	1	\$ 25.00	\$ 62.75	\$ 415.40
April	2	\$ 50.00	\$ 53.76	\$ 419.16
May			\$ 50.00	\$ 469.16
June	3	\$ 75.00	\$ 99.84	\$ 494.00
July	2	\$ 50.00	\$ 163.00	\$ 607.00
August	3	\$ 300.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 307.00
September	2	\$ 50.00	\$ 78.62	\$ 335.62
October	2 +EC	\$ 256.45	\$ 206.45	\$ 285.62
November	1	\$ 25.00	\$ 110.72	\$ 371.34
December			\$ 66.11	\$ 437.45
<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>\$ 856.45</b>	<b>\$ 1040.00</b>	

## **REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS**

**Doris Harper**  
Arlington Court, Room 121  
Senior Commons  
@ Powder Mill  
1775 Powder Mill Rd  
York, PA 17403

**Peggy Luckenbaugh**  
Room 704B  
Colonial Manor Nursing Home  
970 Colonial Avenue  
York, PA 17403



**Freda Berry**  
The Haven at Springwood  
2321 Freedom Way  
York, PA 17402

**Linda Trone**  
Room 700  
Colonial Manor Nursing Home  
970 Colonial Avenue  
York, PA 17403

\*\*\*\*\*



**Remember**  
and pray for  
**Our Members**  
in the  
**Military**

**A1C Ness, Brandon**  
6907 S. Camino de la Humanidad  
Tucson, AZ 85756

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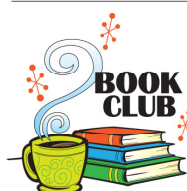


### ***MEN'S GROUP***



Join the men of Blymire on  
Tuesday, February 11, at 7:00 PM at the church.  
Bring a friend to the meeting. As always we have  
an open discussion on joys and concerns. Come  
join us for a time of sharing. **REMEMBER ALL  
MEN ARE WELCOME.**

You are invited to our  
Crafty Chicks gathering on  
Sunday, February 23, from  
1:00-5:00 PM. Please  
bring with you any needle-  
work, scrapbooking or other craft project  
that you are working on. We will have a  
good time finishing those projects and  
fellowshipping with friends.



Our Women's Book Club will  
hold their next meetings on Tuesdays,  
February 11 and 25, at 10:00 AM in  
the Gathering Room. And . . just like  
the Book Club in Mary Ann Shaffer's  
novel, The Guernsey Literary and  
Potato Peel Pie Society, we are each reading our  
own book choices and discussing them with the  
group. New members are always welcome.



The FAITH KIDZ will be meeting on Wednesdays,  
February 12 and February 19, from 6:30-8:00PM.



On Friday, February 14, beginning at  
6:00 PM we will be hosting a Valentine's  
Sweetheart Concert here at the church.  
"Timeless", a group that plays songs from  
the 50's and 60's will provide the musical  
entertainment. There will also be a dessert  
buffet.

This is not just for couples, so come  
solo or bring a group of friends with you  
and travel back in musical time.

There is no admission charge, but a  
freewill offering will be taken.





## HARTMAN CENTER CAMPS

THINK SUMMER!!! We now have the brochures for the upcoming camping season at Hartman Center. There are several new camps, as well as many old favorites. July 5-11 has been designated Arts week, with special artistic activities for campers of all ages. July 21-27 is Nature Week for those campers who enjoy outdoor activities. There is also a three day Mind, Body, Spirit camp for adults to practice mindfulness, yoga and spirituality.

Also scheduled are several family camps where the whole family can attend together and grand camps for grandparents and grandchildren to connect. The week before the official start of the camping season will be called "Love Thy Camp." Adults are invited to come and experience the fun of camp, but also help with cleanup and repairs to get the camp in shape for the summer.

Pick up a brochure from the bulletin board in the hallway or check out the website [www.hartmancenter.com](http://www.hartmancenter.com) for more information. In order to enable more people to afford to attend camp, a voluntary three-tiered pricing system has been set up this year. There are also camperships for those families who need even more assistance. As in the past, our church will pay for half of the cost of camp. So if you are interested in going, don't let the cost stop you.



## DAFFODIL DAYS ARE COMING!



The American Cancer Society's Daffodil Days will be springing into Blymire's Church on Sunday, March 22. For over forty years Daffodil Days have been bringing hope to those affected by cancer, and with that hope they are also bringing progress. The monies raised by Daffodil Days funds American Cancer Society's service programs, educational initiatives, advocacy, and national cancer research. Daffodils are available with a donation of \$10.00 per bunch of 10 flowers and \$15.00 for the Mini Potted Daffodils. You can also order a bunch of tulips for \$15.00. A new option this year is the "Gift of Hope" for those who would like to purchase a gift of a bunch of flowers to be sent to a local cancer center instead of receiving the flowers themselves.

All orders must be placed by Sunday, February 16. To order your flowers, please fill out the form below and drop it in the offering plate, or give it to Linda Eichelberger. If paying by check, please make it payable to the American Cancer Society.

I would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ bunches of daffodils for a donation of \$10.00 per bunch.

I would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ bunches of tulips for a donation of \$15.00 per bunch.

I would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ Mini Potted Daffodils for a donation of \$15.00 per pot.

I would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ "Gift of Hope" for a donation of \$25.00 each.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ Paid \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# **EMMANUEL'S CLOSET**

## ***February 2020***

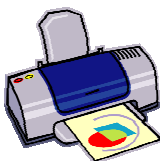


### **Easter Project**

For Easter we are planning to give out extra food bags for our clients to make a special holiday meal. We could use the following donations to help fill those bags: **Instant mashed potatoes, gravy, stuffing, canned carrots, canned pineapples, brownie mix muffin mix, and bags of candy (jelly beans, chocolates, anything Easter themed).** Please bring these donations to the church no later than Sunday, March 15, to allow time to sort and shop for anything that is not donated. We will also be including gift cards to use to purchase meat and other perishable food items. The bags will be given out on March 28 and April 4. Thank you.

### **Cartridge Recycling**

Don't forget to bring in your empty printer cartridges and place them in the box above the coat rack in the hallway. Thank you for your support of this project which will not only raise money for those in need, but also help to keep our planet "green."



**Below is a list of items that we are especially in need of right now:**

**Assorted beverages**

**Soup**

**Cereal**

**Oatmeal**

**Boxed/Boxed rice sides**

**Brownie mix**

**Mac & cheese**

**Tuna helper/Tuna**

**Canned carrots**

**Canned stew**

**Frosting only (we have a lot of cake mix, but no frosting)**

**Canned chili w/meat**

**Canned tomato products (sauce, crushed, diced, stewed, paste, spaghetti)**

### **E.C. Continuing Needs**

Juice

Cereal/Oatmeal

Peanut Butter/Jelly

Pancake Mix

Spaghetti Sauce

Boxed Dry Pastas

Helper Meals

Dessert Items

Condiment Items

Canned Tuna/Meats

Canned Fruit/Vegetables

Soap

Shampoo

Toilet Paper

Paper Towels

Dish Washing Liquid

Laundry Detergent

All-Purpose Cleaners

Children's books/toys

Small household items

**Please, NO Expired Food Items**

**We are now accepting fall and winter clothing. They should be clean, in good repair and unstained.**



***THANKS FOR CARING!***



## LABELS

When we're most vulnerable, we sometimes latch on to the worst labels and carry them wherever we go. These aren't labels others give us in jest, they're the names we give ourselves through our pain. For some of us, it's self-effacing names we gave ourselves about our weight or our intelligence. For others, it's about where we live or how much money we have or don't have. We've been labeled by whatever it was that made us stand out, and the label stuck to us like duct tape and continues to define us today.

Our Creator cleared it up for us, though. When Jesus called Peter a "rock" after he had failed, He demonstrated that many of these labels we've given ourselves just aren't true. They're lies masquerading as reality. When you find yourself calling yourself by a name that just isn't true, remember what God calls us. He calls us His beloved.

We're all different. Not just a little bit different, but wonderfully and sometimes dramatically so. God chose to put different parts of His image inside every single person, so we all reflect Him in unique ways. Not so we would ricochet off each other, but so we could refract His light in us in wonderfully colorful ways. What made you stand out as unique might be the thing God wants to use to show what He looks like to the rest of the world.

The swirls that make marbled stone so unique are also the points of greatest weakness. Don't let your uniqueness break you. Don't let your failures define you. Don't give or receive names God never had for you.

The critics don't get the final word in God's kingdom. God gets to tell us who we are, and He says we're loved. Not just a little, and not for awhile, but from here to eternity and back. The next time you hear the old tapes that make you feel unworthy, remember that the God who spoke the universe into existence, who hears the thoughts you don't speak out loud, says you're beloved and you're His. That's His name for you.



Bob Goff

## IN HONOR OF VALENTINE'S DAY

Today, I was sitting on a park bench eating a sandwich for lunch when an elderly couple pulled their car up under a nearby oak tree. They rolled down the windows and turned up some jazz music on the radio. Then the man got out of the car, walked around to the passenger side, opened the door for the woman, took her hand and helped her out of her seat, guided her about ten feet away from the car, and they slow danced for the next half hour under the oak tree.



Today, I walked my daughter down the aisle. Ten years ago I pulled a 14 year old boy out of his mom's fire-engulfed SUV after a serious accident. Doctors initially said he would never walk again. My daughter came with me several times to visit him at the hospital. Then she started going on her own. Today, I was seeing him defy the odds and smile widely, standing on his own two feet at the altar as he placed a ring on my daughter's finger.

Today, when I tapped the side of my wheelchair and told my husband, "You're the only reason I want to be free from this contraption," he kissed me on my forehead and said, "Honey, I don't even see that thing."

### 6 Tiny Love Stories

Today, my 12 year old Labrador can barely stand up, can't see, can't hear, and doesn't have enough strength to bark. But it doesn't stop her from wagging her tail a mile a minute every single time I walk into the room.

Today, I walked up to the door of my office (I'm a florist) at 7AM to find a uniformed Army soldier standing out front waiting. He was on his way to the airport to go to Afghanistan for a year. He said, "I usually bring home a bouquet of flowers for my wife every Friday and I don't want to let her down when I'm away." He then placed an order for 52 Friday afternoon deliveries of flowers to his wife's office and asked me to schedule one for each week until he returns. I gave him a 50% discount because it made my day to see something so sweet.

Today, I have an elderly patient who is suffering from a severe case of Alzheimer's. He can rarely remember his own name, and he often forgets where he is and what he said just a few minutes beforehand. But by the stretch of some miracle (perhaps the miracle of love), he remembers who his wife is every morning when she shows up to spend a few hours with him. He usually greets her by saying, "Hello my beautiful Kate."

## TIME TO PRAY

I got up early one morning  
and rushed right into the day;  
I had so much to accomplish  
that I didn't have time to pray.

Problems just tumbled about me,  
and heavier came each task.  
"Why doesn't God help me?"  
I wondered.  
He answered, "You didn't ask."

I wanted to see joy and beauty,  
but the day toiled on, gray and bleak;  
I wondered why God didn't show me.  
He said, "But you didn't seek."

I tried to come into God's presence;  
I used all my keys at the lock.  
God gently and lovingly chided,  
"My child, you didn't knock."

I woke up early this morning,  
and paused before entering the day;  
I had so much to accomplish  
that I had to take time to pray.

Author unknown

"Life is amazing. And then it's awful.  
And then it's amazing again. And in  
between the amazing and awful it's  
ordinary and mundane and routine.  
Breathe in the amazing, hold on through  
the awful, and relax and exhale during  
the ordinary. That's just living heart-  
breaking, soul-healing, amazing, awful,  
ordinary life. And it's breathtakingly  
beautiful."

L.R. Knost



"The majority of us lead quiet, unheralded lives as we pass through this world. There will most likely be no ticker-tape parades for us, no monuments created in our honor. But that does not lessen our possible impact, for there are scores of people waiting for someone just like us to come along; people who will appreciate our compassion, our unique talents. Someone who will live a happier life merely because we took the time to share what we had to give. Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have a potential to turn a life around. It's overwhelming to consider the continuous opportunities there are to make our love felt." — Leo F. Buscaglia



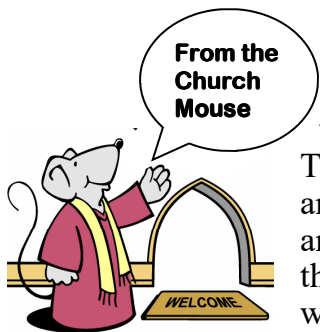
"Love is the flower you've got to let grow." John Lennon



## IN HONOR OF PRESIDENT'S DAY - 10 PRESIDENTIAL

1. When you get to the end of your rope, tie a knot and hang on. -Franklin D. Roosevelt
2. It is amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit. -Harry S. Truman
3. Character is like a tree and reputation like a shadow. The shadow is what we think of it and the tree is the real thing— Abraham Lincoln
4. If hard work is not another name for talent, it is the best possible substitute for it. -James Garfield
5. Honesty is the first chapter of the book of wisdom. -Thomas Jefferson
6. If one morning I walked on top of the water across the Potomac River, the headline that afternoon would read "President Can't Swim". Lyndon Johnson
7. Never judge a stranger by his clothes.— Zachary Taylor
8. Politics is supposed to be the second oldest profession. I have come to realize that it bears a very close resemblance to the first. -Ronald Reagan
9. I know only two tunes: one of them is 'Yankee Doodle', and the other one isn't. -Ulysses S. Grant
10. As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them. -John F. Kennedy.





## Revelations for FEBRUARY from “Bly Mire” Mouse

Did you hear about the travelers who went to Florida in January in order to get warm? They had cold weather just like they left back in Pennsylvania! That is pretty much a description of the trip that I went on with Pastor Lou Ann and Jeri! We did have a few days of warm weather when we were able to walk around in shirt sleeves, but then the thermometer dropped!!! I will guarantee that there were no sun tans on this trip! I was very surprised when Pastor Lou Ann went and put her feet in the pool on Friday! BURRRRR! (Actually, I did the same thing after she went back in the house and I guess my little foot minded the cold water more than her size 9 did!)

As you know other years I would sneak along with Pastor Lou Ann and Jeri because they always went to Disney World and I was able to see my cousin Mickey and his wife Minnie. Not this trip though. I was hoping they would change their mind but they were on a pretty tight schedule so they did not do any of the amusement parks. When I realized that they were not going to go to Disney I gave Mickey a call and we talked for a long time. Unfortunately he was not able to come over to Spring Hill to visit because this was around Martin Luther King, Jr. day and he also had a lot of things to do to get ready for President's Day in February. So, it was a little disappointing to not be able to see him, but I did get to talk with him and Minnie.

Mire was not able to go along on this trip because the little ones had to stay here to go to school so she filled me in on any happenings while we were away. I understand that while Pastor Lou Ann was away, Pastor Curt led worship and Sunday School and did visits. I know his support and willingness to fill in is greatly appreciated! And, how about the Children's message ROBERTA WILLS gave on the 26th!!! AWESOME!!!! I loved her use of geodes to demonstrate that we should always look past the surface because inside could be great beauty we would miss otherwise. This is definitely a good lesson as we look at Valentine's Day. I remember when I was a kid in school we always exchanged valentine's cards. I made sure that I had a card for everyone, but I didn't get a card from everyone else in the class. We should show children that just like geodes (rocks) that look dirty, dull and not so pretty but have a lot of beauty on the inside, so are people! Look past the outside and see their heart. In other words, don't judge a book by it's cover. I have an idea.....how about for this Valentine's day we all make a point of making sure everyone has a good Valentine's Day and let's tell everyone..... friend and stranger “I Love You!”

February's humor:

Q. Did Adam and Eve have a date?

**A. No! They had an apple!**

Q. What did the flame say to his buddies after he fell in love?

**A. I found the perfect match!**

Q. Did you hear about the bed bugs that fell in love?

**A. They're getting married in the spring!**

Some children were asked, “What is love?” One little girl answered, “Love is when your mommy reads you a bedtime story. True love is when she doesn't skip any pages.”

With our Love,

BLY and MIRE



# Friendship Squares

This tasty treat doubles as a game to play with a buddy.



## What you need:

- Graham crackers
- Chocolate chips
- Microwave-safe bowl
- Zippered baggie
- Scissors
- Raspberries
- Blueberries

## What you do:

1. Gently break cracker sheets in half to form squares.
2. Heat chocolate chips in microwave for 30 seconds. Stir, then continue heating for 30 seconds at a time until melted.
3. Spoon melted chocolate into baggie and snip a small triangle from one bottom corner.
4. On each cracker, squeeze chocolate lines to form a Tic-Tac-Toe board. Let cool.
5. Using the fruit as X's and O's, play Tic-Tac-Toe with a friend. The winner gets to eat the treat!

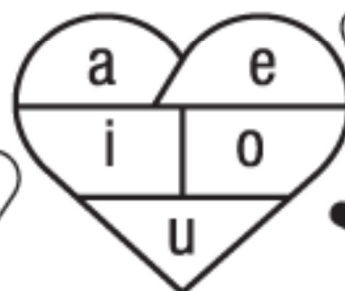


# A friend in Jesus

In the Bible, Jesus shares what it means to be a true friend.



Directions: Use the heart key to fill in the missing vowels from John 15:14, 17, NIV.



"Y \_ \_ r \_ my fr \_ \_ nds \_ f

y \_ \_ d \_ wh \_ t \_ c \_ mm \_ nd. ...

Th \_ s \_ s my c \_ mm \_ nd:

L \_ v \_ \_ \_ ch \_ th \_ r."

JOHN 15:14, 17, NIV

Answer: "You are my friends if you do what I command. ... This is my command: Love each other." John 15:14, 17, NIV