



# The Proclaimer

**February  
2023**

## **Philadelphia Baptist Church**

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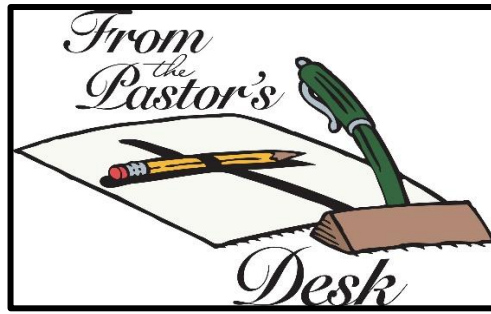
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**MARSHVILLE, NC 28103**



*Dear Family of God of Philadelphia,*

Let's begin this article with a few Valentine's Day jokes (Dad style).

**Q:** What did the cucumber say to the pickle on Valentine's Day?

**A:** "You mean a great DILL to me."

**Q:** What Valentine card did the light bulb send to the other light bulb?

**A:** "I love you a WATT!"

**Q:** What is a ram's favorite song on February 14?

**A:** I only have eyes for EWE!

Valentine's Day 2022 saw \$23.9 billion spent on gifts for partners, friends, pets and more. This year, it is estimated that the 53% of the population who celebrate Valentine's Day will spend on average more than \$175 each to express their love through candy, jewelry, cards, and/or an evening out.

While there is certainly nothing wrong with expressing our love to our spouse or girlfriend/boyfriend in this way, (In fact men, I encourage this.), the greatest way we can express love to our spouse is by living a faithful life of service to them each day. Find a way each day to do something kind for your spouse. Believe it or not, washing the car for her, or preparing a favorite meal for him, sending a text to express your love at lunchtime, or leaving a note of encouragement in a shirt pocket, on a consistent basis, may

**From the Pastor's Desk, continued**

mean more than a box of chocolates or a dozen roses once a year. This is especially true on those days when we really don't deserve to be loved.

God is our example. The Bible says that “*God demonstrated His love for us in that, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*” (Romans 5:8) Before we ever gave God a thought, He already loved us. On those days when we are doing nothing for Him, He still loves us. On those days when we are most unlovable, His mercy is still new each morning. (Lamentations 3:22-23)

God did not love us by having the angels write, “I love you” in the skies. He loved us by sending the best He had, His only begotten Son. Jesus died for us, because God wanted to have a lasting, loving relationship with us.

When it came to demonstrating His love for us, FTD was not fragrant enough, chocolate was not sweet enough, and Hallmark couldn't find the words enough to set us free.

May our Father bless you this Valentine's Day, and every day. It is a joy to serve our Lord with you. RCA

**Ladies' Prayer Breakfast**

**DATE:** Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>

**TIME:** 9:00 AM

**PLACE:** Beth's Restaurant

**Girlfriends in Christ**

Wednesday Nights • 7:00 PM

Check with Sherrie for location.

**FOOD PANTRY**

**ITEMS FOR THIS**

**MONTH:**

**Little Debbie Cakes**

**&**

**Lance Crackers**

## ***75 PLUS* News**

We had 16 senior folks join together to share laughs, food and joy. We meet the second Tuesday of each month in our Family Life Center. We invite you to attend if you are 75 Plus. Our last meeting, four of our older church members (men) were present (You can guess.) Thank you for your faithfulness. We thank Ralph for the delicious vegetable soup. Catherine shared a new recipe with us. We enjoyed it very much. Hope to see you and to celebrate Valentine's Day.

Bonnie Oster



### ***75 Plus* February Meeting**

**Tuesday, February 14 at 11:00 AM in the FLC**



### **Men's Dinner**

**Quincy's Restaurant**

**Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 PM**



## Bible Quiz



Fill in the blanks for three qualities Paul, in 1 Corinthians 13, attributes to love: "Love is \_\_\_\_\_; love is \_\_\_\_\_. ... it keeps no record of \_\_\_\_\_."

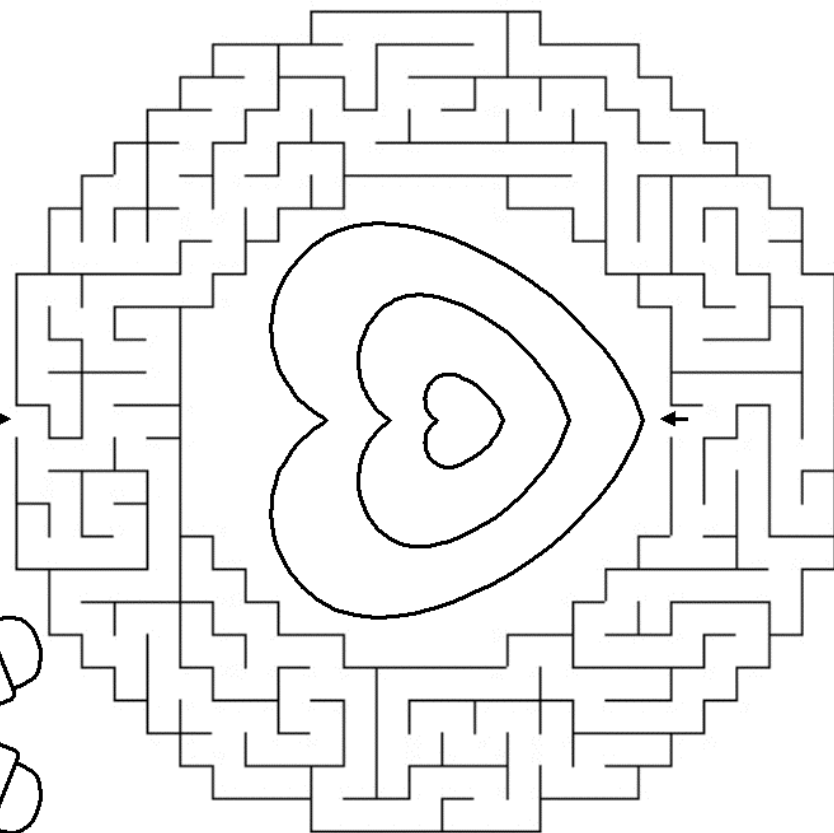
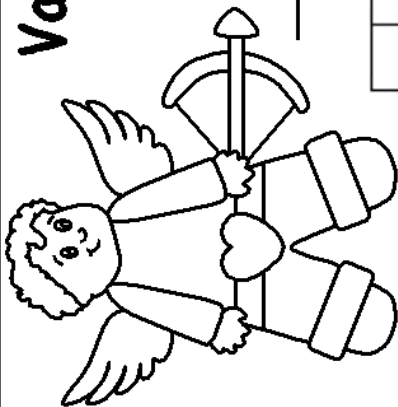
- A. challenging, important, the past
- B. childlike, innocent, injustice
- C. self-sacrificing, generous, finances
- D. patient, kind, wrongs



Answer: D (See 1 Corinthians 13:4-5, NIV.)

### Valentine's Day Maze

Help cupid aim for the heart.



## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Jason Lowery	February 2
Tessa Flowe	February 3
Teresa Lowery	February 3
Kadie Rickard	February 3
Marion Lowery	February 4
Wanda Aldridge	February 7
Gracie Mills	February 7
Christopher Knigh	February 8
Dalton Price	February 8
Joshua Stutts	February 9
Paige Wilson	February 12
Kalynn Forester	February 14
Gail Cave	February 15
Bennie Mills	February 17
Gwen Ratliff	February 17
Courtney Suggs	February 18
Jay Ashley	February 19
Lauren Duke	February 19
Amanda Forester	February 20
Lindsey Jenkins	February 20
Journey Suggs	February 20
Keith Autry	February 21
Tony Keith	February 21
Shirleen Tucker	February 21
James Helms	February 22
Kevin Clay	February 23
Marie Autry	February 24
Zeb Davis	February 24
Andrew Aldridge	February 25
Jan Ashcraft	February 25
Slater Speight	February 25
Annette Hagler	February 27
Dwayne Tucker	February 27
Ralph Baker	February 28
Nichole Mills	February 28
Alexis Ross	February 28




## 1<sup>st</sup> Week of March

Lane Haigler	March 1
Zack Porter	March 1
Melba Zimmerman	March 3
Luna Ann Rollins	March 4
Kyle Beard	March 7
Makayla Lowery	March 7
Chase Rushing	March 7

**Please contact Sheri at the church  
office to update the Birthday List.  
Thank you.**

## FEBRUARY 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<b>1 7:00 PM:</b> Adult Bible Study, Mission Friends in FLC, GAs, RAs, Girlfriends in Christ, Youth <b>8:00 PM:</b> Choir Practice	<b>2</b> Men's Dinner at Quincy's 6:30 PM	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> <b>9:30 AM:</b> Sunday School <b>10:30 AM:</b> Worship <b>4:00 PM:</b> AWANA <b>5:00 PM:</b> Youth	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> <b>7:00 PM:</b> Adult Bible Study, Mission Friends, GAs in FLC, RAs, Girlfriends in Christ, Youth <b>8:00 PM:</b> Choir Practice	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> Baby Bottles Due/Church Conference <b>9:30 AM:</b> Sunday School <b>10:30 AM:</b> Worship <b>4:00 PM:</b> AWANA <b>5:00 PM:</b> Youth	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>  <i>Happy Valentine's Day</i> <b>75 Plus</b> meeting in the Family Life Center 11:00 AM	<b>15</b> <b>7:00 PM:</b> Adult Bible Study, Mission Friends, GAs, RAs in FLC, Girlfriends in Christ, Youth <b>8:00 PM:</b> Choir Practice	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>



### **MISSION FRIENDS**

February 1<sup>st</sup>: FLC-Lesson: Lisa & Vanna; Snack-Lisa

February 8<sup>th</sup>: Lesson: Chad & Michelle; Snack-Sara

February 15<sup>th</sup>: Lesson: Vanna & Lisa; Snack-Luisa

February 22<sup>nd</sup>: Lesson: Michelle & Lisa; Snack-Ava

### **NURSERY WORKERS**

February 5<sup>th</sup>: Ava & Kyle Strawn, Lindsey Jenkins

February 12<sup>th</sup>: Skyla Anderson & Kelly Gouch, Kelsi

February 19<sup>th</sup>: Whitney Beard & Mindy Jenkins, Lindsey

February 26<sup>th</sup>: Luisa Price & Lisa Stutts, Alyssa

### **Children's Church**

February 5<sup>th</sup>: Luisa Price & Sara Clay

February 12<sup>th</sup>: Lisa Stutts & Kim Outen

February 19<sup>th</sup>: Kathy Brock & Jill Aldridge

February 26<sup>th</sup>: Ava Strawn & Sheri Bradshaw



Watch bulletins for our February Meeting details.



## AWANA NEWS, continued

We attended the NAMC in November. It was great visiting other Awana missionaries and getting ministry updates and additional information.

### Prayer Requests

- Please pray for Randy as he continues to battle chronic bronchitis.
- Kelsi, our granddaughter with juvenile diabetes, just received approval for a new pump. We pray this will stabilize her blood sugar levels.
- Our Granddaughter Savannah was able to remove her brace. Her broken ankle is finally healed.

### Ministry Goals

To continue visiting Awana churches and sharing the message of Resilient child Discipleship. To meet with Pastors and Children Ministry Leaders from non-Awana churches to discuss how they disciple the children of their church and communities. To continue raising support in the hope that I will soon become fully funded and be able to work longer hours.

Awana is a global nonprofit organization, fueled by the generous support of individuals, churches, and organizations as well as resource sales to accomplish our mission of equipping leaders to reach kids with the gospel and engage them in lifelong discipleship.

**Partner with us in reaching more children! [missionary.awana.org/Kathy-Brock](http://missionary.awana.org/Kathy-Brock)**



## FEBRUARY 2023, continued

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
19 <b>9:30 AM:</b> Sunday School <b>10:30 AM:</b> Worship <b>4:00 PM:</b> AWANA <b>5:00 PM:</b> Youth	20	21 Ladies' Prayer Breakfast at Beth's Restaurant 9:00 AM	22 <b>7:00 PM:</b> Adult Bible Study, Mission Friends, GAs, RAs, Girlfriends in Christ, Youth in FLC <b>8:00 PM:</b> Choir Practice	23	24	25
26 <b>9:30 AM:</b> Sunday School <b>10:30 AM:</b> Worship <b>4:00 PM:</b> AWANA <b>5:00 PM:</b> Youth	27	28				

### COMING IN MARCH

**Annie Armstrong Week of Prayer:** Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup> - Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>

**Ladies' Retreat:** Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup> - Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup>

**Chili, Bake, & BBQ Cook Off & Talent Show:** Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup>

**Men's Retreat:** Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup> - Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>

# **AWANA NEWS...** Kathy and Randy Brock | November - January 2023

Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:16

Thank you so much for helping us carry the fire of faith to the next generation!

I am truly blessed to have the opportunity to visit Awana churches. I see firsthand how Awana Ministry directors and their leaders, loving, caring adults, disciple their children. I hear the children reciting verses and interacting with their leaders as they learn stories from the Bible. I hear the laughter as they enjoy game time. I Praise God as resilient disciples are created in our churches.

## **Ministry & Equipping Highlights**

I visited Pine Grove Baptist Church, and while there, I joined the Cubbies class. Their leader Jackie Brooks had a lesson about *God or Idols*. The children had their index fingers in the air shouting 1 true God! 1 true God! I think they got it!

We attended the VAMC at the Billy Graham Training Center at The Cove in November with all the missionaries and some of the staff from the home office. It was a great opportunity to meet everyone and to receive excellent instruction on Reaching more Kids for the Glory of God!

It is such a joy to receive Sparky letters from the second grader in Sparks. At Waxhaw Bible Church, I had an opportunity to share the fun as I handed a response letter to a Sparky in person!

## **Impact Stories**

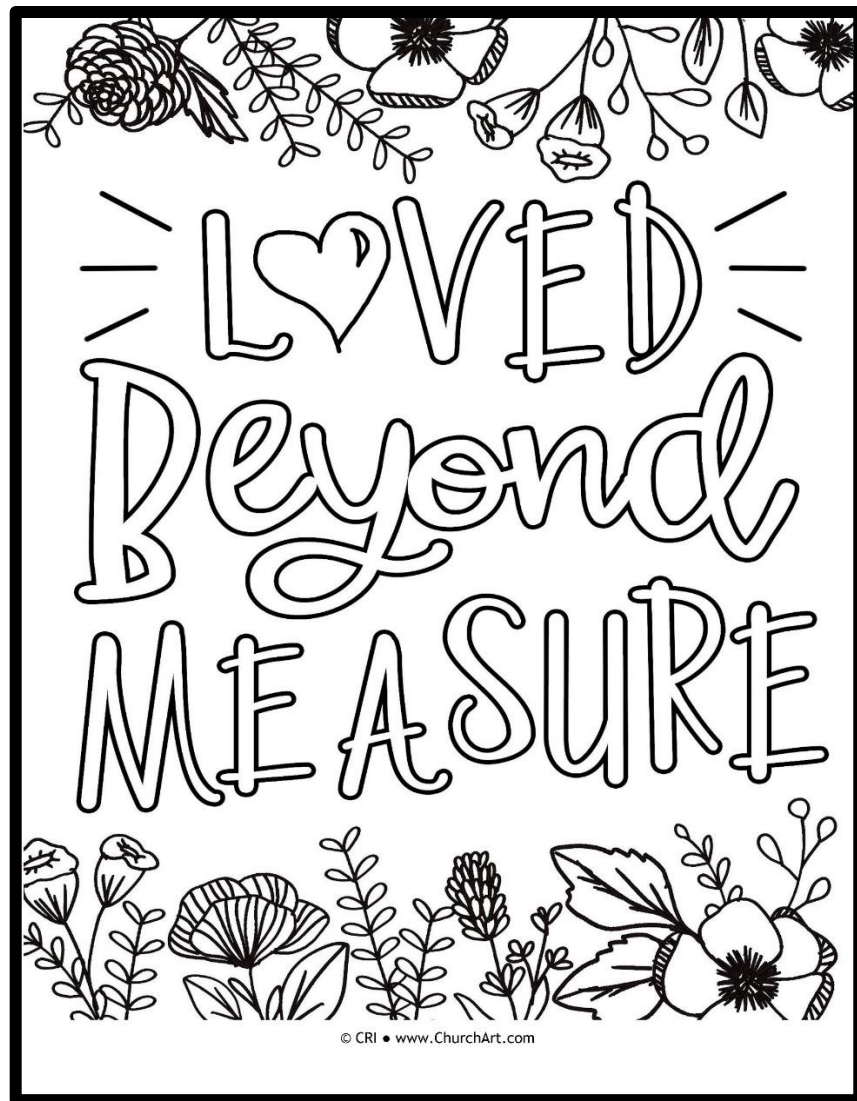
Awana Ministry Director, Robert Wildermuth at Waxhaw Bible Church, took me to the youth group meeting. They had just completed their bible lesson and were waiting for their opportunity to go to games. While they waited, they assembled into groups and had group prayers for their church, the children in their ministry, and those in their groups with requests.

At Woodlawn Baptist Church, I taught the large group lesson first to the Sparks and then to the T&T group. As I shared the Gospel, we discussed the verses on the Gospel Wheel. I was impressed as they recited the verses with me. They have the tools to share the Gospel wherever they go with whomever they meet. I pray they will be resilient and share the Gospel whenever God presents an opportunity.

## **Family Update**

Before Thanksgiving, all of our grandchildren came to our house and helped me decorate the tree. This year our oldest grandchildren could decorate the top of the tree and put the star on!

**continued...**



## H.E.L.P. Crisis Pregnancy Center

### Baby Bottles



Baby Bottles are here 😊. Please pick up a bottle to fill and return by Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup> or scan the QR Code on the bottle to “fill” virtually or text “GIVE” to: 704-997-3883. Thank you!



**SAVE THE DATE FOR  
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL  
Monday, June 19<sup>th</sup>**

-  
**Friday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>**