

BLUE RIDGE

Inside this Newsletter

Sunday School	9:45 AM
Worship	11:00 AM
Bible Study	5:00 PM
Join us in person at Blue Ridge or On YouTube every Sunday!	

From My Heart

Welcome to the Love Month!

Love is the most talked about and least understood word in the English language. There is a TV ad running which asks a bunch of kids, "What is love?" They all take a stab at it, but one gives up and tells us to call the Love Doctor.

What does love mean to those who call Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior? I came across a great passage of scripture which talks a lot about love, it is found in John chapter 11. This chapter tells the story of Jesus and His friends: Mary, Martha, and Lazarus. Jesus had deep feelings for all of them. In verse 3 a message comes to Jesus which says, "Lord, the one you love is sick." Just so you understand, verse 5 says, "Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus." When Jesus gets to Bethany and sees how hurt Martha and Mary are at Lazarus' death it says he weeps and the crowd observes and says, "See how He loved him!" A stated fact is that Jesus loved them.

What do you do with folks that you love? If you are Jesus, you eat with them and hang out at their house every chance you get. What do they do together? Maybe they sat around the table and played Scrabble or told stories of how tough it was when they were kids. I am sure they talked about the Lord and I am sure they laughed.

Everybody's home is different. When we had folks come over to eat with us as soon as the meal was over we would pop up from the table and scatter. Dad would take folks out to the backyard to look at his latest project, Mom and the ladies would disappear into the kitchen or the living room, and if there were kids we would head to my room or outside to see the dog. Soon everybody would end up back in the den and it would be time to go home.

On one of my adventures leading youth during my summer breaks at seminary a nice family invited me over for dinner. After the meal, nobody moved, we just sat and talked. After two hours I got nervous, would the sun be rising, and would we still be sitting here? Magically after three hours the Father popped up from the table and it was time to go home.

I don't know what it was like at Lazarus' house, but I do know they all loved each other and when you love each other in Christ you not only have fun together, but you have a purpose together. Twice, Jesus makes it clear in verse 4 and 42 that all that took place with Lazarus and his family was for God's glory and so people's hearts would be opened to God and His Son.

It is a great joy to know all of you at Blue Ridge and Jackie and I both feel a deep love for all of you, but there is more. We not only share a love for each other, but a common mission. We are here together not just to enjoy one another (and that we do all the time), but to bring glory to God and to bring people into His Kingdom. At Blue Ridge we are not just in Love, but on Mission for our Savior.

I am hoping and praying that you will take time in February to express appreciation and encouragement for your brothers and sisters in Christ. Make a phone call, send a text, or a note to lift someone up. Take time to pray for your family of faith and for those in your world that are lost. Make a commitment to invite someone to hear the Gospel at Blue Ridge in February. Who knows what great things God will do!

New things Coming Up: Be a part of an online Bible Study entitled, "***My New Life***" It helps you build your life on God's Word. It will last 6 weeks, and I will drop the lesson every Monday on YouTube. If you would like a book, call me, or text me and we will begin as soon as the books arrive. Also, if you do not have a Sunday School Class you can join me at 9:45 AM in the choir room. Text me if you are coming so I can know how many to prepare for. Finally, this Sunday we will honor all our men and we will have a gift for every man that attends.

In His Love,

Bro. John

A Month of Sharing Jesus' Love in February

During this time of Pandemic, we are told to keep a distance from each other and wear a mask over our face when we are around others. We all know we need the fellowship of our fellow Christians, family, and neighbors. We need to know we are loved and cared for as well as experiencing the blessing of showing others we care and love them.

February 1

Reach out to Others Begins

February 7

February Worship Begins

February 14

Valentine's Day for Your Family

February 21

Invite a Friend or Family Member

February 28

Day of Prayer for our Church Family

Reach Out and Touch the Lives of Others!



Reaching Out in Jesus Love This Month

We at Blue Ridge are especially blessed with a family who loves our Lord and loves each other. Visitors always remind us of that as they are greeted by you at our Worship Service. This month we will have a Communication Station set up in the hallway for you. Take the time to pick up some postcards, address books, and lists of people suggested to contact. Some of our members are staying home for medical reasons and they miss us. Some are caring for their family members. Some are quarantined. They need to feel Jesus' love and our family's care and concern. Just a simple card or phone call can make a big difference.

Many in our church family have given clothing for the homeless and the men at the Renascence House for those rebuilding their lives. Some sweet people have given food for the long lines of people at the Elmore Food Pantry. You might want to join in these great ministries. You will be blessed! These are trying times and God is in control. Listen for His calling and practice love in action

Bible Study Classes Resume!



We will be safely distanced with masks available as we begin to resume classes at 9:45 on Sunday mornings. The Coed II Class has been meeting in the Fellowship Hall. Bro. John will meet with those without a class in the Choir Room at 9:45. Emily Riddle will meet with the Youth during the last half of Morning Worship for Bible Study and fellowship. Jackie Carney, Susan Bass, Shirley Davis, and Lorrie Sereneck teach the Preschoolers during Children's Church. If you would like to take part in these classes, please join us. These are comfortable, casual classes for beginners in the Bible and for those seasoned in their studies.



We want to express our love and appreciation to our God-given friends, Dr. Don and Mrs. Joyce Cheatham, James and Jody Mallonee, Drs. Cory and Marcia Stanley, and Brenda Chambliss for your never-ending love and care expressed to our church family. Your faithful gifts of your tithes and offerings make our mission for the Kingdom possible. We always pray for you and ask the Lord's blessings for you. We would love to see you as the Lord allows.



Your 2020 Contributions Are Here!

We thank Susan Hansen for preparing our giving records for this past year. Please call us at the church office if you have any questions.



Bringing Peace to the World Biblical Justice

Join us Sundays at 5:00 pm as we look at the Bible to help bring Peace to our world.



My New Life

An online Bible Study about how to build your life on God's Word begins this month. Let Bro. John know if you would like a book. We will start once the books arrive. A YouTube study will drop every Monday for six weeks.

Special Offering Thank You

Thank You

Our church has received a very generous offering from the family of Deetsie and Louis Rogers, our charter members, who have gone on to be with our Lord. This is from the Hansens, the Bennetts, and the Rogers families.

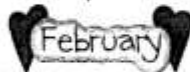
Our church has a received a very generous offering from our members Cindy and David Singleton.

Children's Ministry in February



- 7: Children's Church: Jackie Carney
- 14: Children's Church: Shirley Davis and Susan Bass
- 21: Volunteer Needed
- 28: Children's Church: Lorrie Soroneck

February Birthdays



- 3 Ken Owen
- 5 Avery Roney
- 7 Rocky Aldridge
- 12 Morgan Brown
- 19 Marilyn McGrady
- 25 Susan Hansen
- 29 Susan Bass

Love

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, so that whoever believes in Him will not perish, but will be saved."
John 3:16



Thank You, Blue Ridge Family

Thank you for your kind and thoughtful gift to the residents of Renascence. Gifts such as yours give the men reassurance that the community wishes them goodwill and success. It is such acts of kindness that enlighten the men the road to walk to make a successful transition back into the community.

Sincerely,

Susan E. Hunt, Program Director, Renascence
@outlook.com

"All we have comes from God and we give it out of His hand." 1 Chronicles 29:14

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your gift to the ministry of Samaritan's Purse. The Christ child brought the promise of everlasting hope to a world that was yearning for the long-awaited Messiah. "And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins" (Matt. 1:21). Today, people around the world still need to hear His Gospel message: that eternal hope can only be found through repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

That is the Good News our teams are bringing to people in more than 100 nations worldwide as Samaritan's Purse meets the needs of victims of war, poverty, disaster, disease, and famine. I am deeply grateful for your gift and prayers for our ministry. As you celebrate the birth of the Savior this Christmas season, may the peace of Jesus Christ reign in your heart and life. Thank you, and may God bless you.

Sincerely,

Franklin Graham

Thank You From the Family Sunshine Center, Hope and Healing

Dear Reverend Carney,

We are grateful! Grateful for your generous support and grateful to you all for making a difference in the lives of families and individuals who are suffering from domestic violence, sexual assault, or human trafficking. Survivors count on you each day, each month, and each year for life-saving services.

Your donation could mean a survivor who has suffered abuse behind closed doors for years gets the courage to call the crisis line. Your donation could mean a survivor who has only begun to know the true impact of violence on their lives, and the lives of their children know it's time to reach out for trauma therapy. For survivors who have been abused for the first time today, your donation may mean they visit our website to learn more about what is happening to them.

Because of you, hope and healing start at Family Sunshine Center. Many thanks for making Christmas merry and bright for our families!

Sincerely,
Tay Knight

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 36093



Join us every Sunday for Worship at 11:00 AM at Blue Ridge or on YouTube!
 Go to our Website www.blueridgebaptistchurch.net and click on the link.

How to Give Online

Unleash your generosity by giving through our safe and secure GiveThree65 digital platform.
 Visit www.blueridgebaptistchurch.net and click on the Secure Donations Page to begin the process.

FEBRUARY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Counting and Lock up David Fanchess	2	3 The Mid-Week Picker Upper 4:00 PM	4	5 If you are not in Sunday School join Bro. John at 9:45 AM in the Choir Room	6
7 Bible Study 9:45 Worship 11:00 Biblical Justice 5:00 PM	8	9	10 The Mid-Week Picker Upper 4:00 PM	11	12	13 Watch us on the Blue Ridge Baptist Church YouTube Channel
14 Happy Valentine's Day Biblical Justice 5:00 PM	15	16	17 The Mid-Week Picker Upper 4:00 PM	18 Remember you can give online at blueridgebaptistchurch.net	19	20 Join a new online class, My New Life, read Bro. John's article for details.
21 Biblical Justice 5:00 PM	22	23	24 The Mid-Week Picker Upper 4:00 PM	25	26	27
28 Biblical Justice 5:00 PM				Visitors on line web at blueridgebaptistchurch.net		
		January 2021 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	March 2021 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	November 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	Counting Up! Counting in February Online Study My New Life 2021 Year 47:00	2021 Year 47:00