



# Newsletter

## Presbyterian Disciples Church

### February 2018



Chapel Chat—"Spirit-side Chats" — John Swisher, BCC Chaplain

Some of you may be old enough to remember President Franklin Roosevelt's "Fireside Chats". I'm just a little too young to remember hearing them, since he died about six years before I was born, but I remember a lot of people talking about them.

Here's what an internet site for SCHMOOP University says about them in "FDR's Fireside Chats" a series of 28 radio talks the president broadcast into the homes of Americans from 1933-1944:

"How did one man transform the government so radically, and so quickly? One secret to Roosevelt's success was his ["fireside chats,"](#) thirty speeches he gave over the radio (and later TV) during his presidency. In his fireside chats, FDR spoke directly to the American people as if they were close friends. The chats were crucial to building support for the [New Deal](#) and, later, to mobilizing the nation for [World War II](#). Many Americans came to feel like they were partners in their government with a man whose warm and understanding voice came right into their living rooms. As one businessman later said, "My mother looks upon the President as someone so immediately concerned with her problems and difficulties that she would not be greatly surprised were he to come to her house some evening and stay to dinner."[34](#)

Another secret was his political acumen. Like many great politicians, FDR was both idealistic and pragmatic. Behind the scenes, he was constantly "working the room," often bringing on-the-fence Congressmen to the Oval Office to win them over. Even some of the most monumental programs of the [New Deal](#) were planned around political expediency. For example, the payment scheme that keeps [Social Security](#) running was chosen not for economic reasons, but because FDR knew it would help get the program through Congress and keep it on the books.[35](#)

Today, both historians and economists continue to argue about how successful the [New Deal](#) really was. While the economy improved significantly under the New Deal, it certainly didn't end the [Great Depression](#); by 1941, there were still six million unemployed Americans.[36](#) Conservatives argue that it created a dangerous, quasi-socialist regime in the country. Others, like MIT economist E. Cary Brown, argue that the New Deal didn't go far enough. According to Brown's influential analysis, FDR didn't spend enough money "priming the pump" to truly stimulate the economy out of the Depression.[37](#)

Whatever effects the New Deal did have, everyone agrees that the country was ultimately rescued from the Great Depression by something else. Throughout the 1930s, trouble was brewing in Europe. [Adolf Hitler](#), who had assumed near-total control of Germany in 1934, became more and more aggressive in threatening his neighbors. Ultimately, it was [World War II](#)—the second major crisis of FDR's presidency—that would finally and completely lift the nation out of the Great Depression."

As I write this little column, the US Senate has failed to come to agreement long enough to keep the government in business. Perhaps we have it bad. But relatively speaking (and I've got some of the most incorrigible relatives so I know what I'm saying here), things could be worse. The government (Crown Prince) of Saudi Arabia just lifted a 35 year ban on public viewing of movies in their country. And guess what the first movie they showed was? The Emoji Movie!!! So how do you really feel about that?

In the next few months, I hope to offer a monthly "Spirit-side Chat" in these articles which I hope will inspire, engage, and lifting your hearts, minds, and spirits. God bless you and yours, take care, and stay warm!

Church Chuckle: Will Rogers is quoted as saying, "I don't make jokes. I just watch the government



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February 02, 2018—National Wear Red Day - a day when many people wear red to show their support for the awareness of heart disease. It occurs in America on the first Friday in February each year, where people wear red. Designed to warn women of their number one health threat, "The Heart Truth" campaign created and introduced the Red Dress as the national symbol for women and heart disease awareness in 2002 to deliver an urgent wakeup call to American women.

Heart disease is a class of diseases that involve the heart, the blood vessels or both. The causes of heart disease are diverse but atherosclerosis or hypertension are the most common. Additionally, with aging come a number of physiological and morphological changes that alter cardiovascular function and lead to subsequently increased risk of cardiovascular disease, even in healthy asymptomatic individuals.

Heart disease is the leading cause of deaths worldwide, though since the 1970s, cardiovascular mortality rates have declined in many high-income countries. At the same time, cardiovascular deaths and disease have increased at a fast rate in low- and middle-income countries.

Although heart disease usually affects older adults, the antecedents of cardiovascular disease begin in early life. There is therefore increased emphasis on preventing atherosclerosis by modifying risk factors, such as healthy eating, exercise, and avoidance of smoking tobacco. (With material from: Wikipedia)



Spread  
Joy



Upcoming Community Events

Community Soup Night  
02-08-2016

Location: Lexington VFW  
Free and open to the public  
6-8pm

Breakfast at Trinity UCC  
02-10-2016

Location: Trinity UCC Church  
Proceeds to benefit Habitat for Humanity.  
7-10am

Lexington Ministerial Alliance Mtg  
02-13-2018

Location: Restoration Branch Church  
6:30pm

Harvesters Food Drop  
02-19-2018

Location: Lexington United Methodist Church  
Open to the Public, no income guidelines  
9am

St. Patrick's Parade 2018  
03-17-2018

Location: Downtown Lexington  
2:00 PM

President's Day is intended to honor all the American presidents, but most significantly George Washington, our 1st President and Abraham Lincoln, our 16th President. Both Washington and Lincoln have birthdays in February and we celebrate those birthdays on Monday, February 19th this year.



A Huge Thank You to everyone who helped ring the Salvation Army Bell during the Christmas Season. The children did a Great Job and we brought in a good amount of money for the Salvation Army and our community.

Lafayette County Habitat for Humanity Fundraiser breakfast Saturday, February 10th from 7-10am. at \$5.00 per person held at Trinity United Church of Christ.



Pastor John Swisher will have an Ash Wednesday Lesson and Ashes on Wednesday, February 14th at 7pm in the classroom downstairs by the office. Everyone is invited to participate.

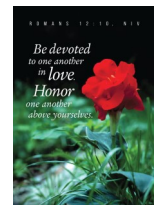
Confirmation Class will be held Sunday, February 4th during the Soup and Sandwich Fellowship Meal following worship service.



Board will meet again on Sunday, February 11th and Sunday, March 11th following worship.

**Lectionary Readings for February:**

- 04 – Isaiah 40:21-31; Psalm 147:1-11, 20; 1 Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39
- 11— 2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50:1-6; 2 Corinthians 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9
- 14 — Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Psalm 51:1-17; 2 Corinthians 5:20—6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
- 18 – Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15
- 25 – Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Psalm 22:23-31; Roman 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38



## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

08 – Drake Oetting  
 09 – Vanessa Summerlin  
 10 – Brenda Meyer  
 15 – Steve Saults  
 17 – Tymme Johnson  
 23 – Charles Rockhold  
 25 – Jack Wrisinger  
 26 – Bo Maze  
 29 – Zenden Myers



### We Pray for:

Mary Williams, Anne Brubeck, Betty Swisher, Linda & John Larry Marchetti, Lela Bryant, Doris Bradley, Larry, Kathy & Matthew Neil, Jake Means, Robert Smith, Steve Sellers, Chris & Stephanie Christenson, Roy Marchetti, Bill & LaVeda Cross, Lois Coulter, Bryant Family, Doak Family, Peggy & Duncan McGregor, Bev Waddell, Gloria Hutton, Carson Eby, Steve Harlow, Tom Bell, Mickey Simmitt, Ariana Fry, Alvera Johnson, Bill & Sherry Blass, Betty Dunford, Disaster Victims, Children in Belize, & Future of our church

The Presbyterian Disciples Church Board members are asking each and every congregant to become active with the church and join a Church Committee. There are several committees to choose from and it is a great way to get involved in your church and work together with all your church family to make the church all it can be.

### Building and Grounds

In charge of identifying and prioritizing building related issues and working together to resolve those issues.

### Christian Education

This committee works together to provide the best Christian education for our youth and adults. They also work with other churches to make Community Vacation Bible School Successful.

### Fellowship

The Fellowship Committee is in charge of fellowship meals and delegating duties for set up and clean up. This committee is also in charge of planning funeral dinners for congregants.

### Mission and Outreach

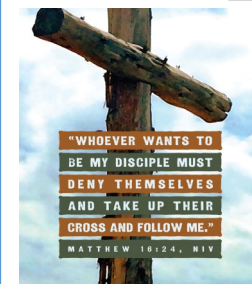
The Mission and Outreach Committee is in charge of planning ways to minister to our shut ins and support different missions in our community and beyond.

### Stewardship

The Stewardship Committee works together to complete the budget each year and keeps track of investments and financial contributions.

### Worship

The Worship Committee works together to make sure that worship duties in the church are covered, like, communion, offering, and lay leader. They also help collaborate on any special worship services.



Pray for the families of those that have passed on: Gary Ingram, Steven Looney, Ingrid Palmer, Benjamin Roy Reade, Judge James Lauderdale, Stephen Duncan, Tonya Eaton, Jessulyn Williams, Jim Wyse, Terri Allee, Arthur Brock

### Our Servicemen:

Bobby Maze, Bo Maze, Derek Morgan, Eric Morgan, MJ Myers, Mark Brubeck, Ryland Sims, Johnathan Lefholz, Brittany & Jimmy Register, Christopher Gerald, Phil Garrison

Al-Anon meetings are held at the United Methodist Church every Saturday at 10am.

Sunday, February 4th we will celebrate "Souper Bowl of Sharing" by bringing in food for the food pantry which is located in our church. We will also have a Soup and Sandwich Fellowship Meal following worship. Bring Soups and/or sandwiches to share with your church family.

We will be participating in our monthly loose change offering which will go to the Food Pantry on Sunday, February 4th. Thank you in advance for your donations and dedication to this mission.

It s that time of year again to start planning for Church Camp. The available camps can be found online at [www.heartlandcenter.org](http://www.heartlandcenter.org). Please see the office if you have any questions or what information about volunteering.

To keep up to date on current events and to see what visitors are seeing when they check out our town on the internet, go to the following websites:

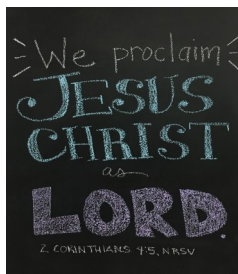
- [www.lexingtonmo.com](http://www.lexingtonmo.com)
- [www.historiclexington.com](http://www.historiclexington.com)
- [www.visitlexingtonmo.com](http://www.visitlexingtonmo.com)
- [www.lafayettecountymo.com](http://www.lafayettecountymo.com)

### Meeting Needs

“My neighbor’s material needs are my spiritual needs,” said 19th-century theologian Israel Salanter. In other words, when someone else suffers hunger and poverty, when people endure a natural disaster and lack shelter, when another human being is sick or injured — in all such cases, God calls us to action. And God knows that whatever we do to meet those material needs will meet our spiritual needs at the same time.

It might be our spiritual need to expand our horizons into neighborhoods, cultures or situations where we’re uncomfortable. We might need to grow in love for people different from us. By serving others, we might find our own sagging spirits nurtured with a sense of well-being or even joy. And as we reach out to help, surely we’ll notice others doing the same thing, and our spiritual need for renewed faith will be met.

—Heidi Mann



### A Heavenly Focus

“Why are not our hearts continually set on heaven?” asks 17th-century pastor and author Richard Baxter. Focusing on heaven stirs our faith, guards against temptation, eases suffering and makes us an encouragement to others, Baxter says. He urges: “Bend thy soul to study eternity, busy thyself about the life to come ... and let not those thoughts be seldom and cursory, but bathe thyself in heaven’s delights.”

### A Repentant Heart

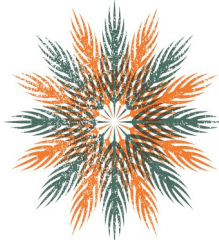
Until we taste the bitterness of our own misery, we will never relish the sweetness of God’s mercy. Until we see how foul our sins have made us, we will never pay our tribute of praise to Christ for washing us. ... If you would know the heart of your sin, then you must know the sins of your heart!

—William Secker

### Ash Wednesday Prayer

Merciful God, you called us forth from the dust of the earth; you claimed us for Christ in the waters of baptism. Look upon us as we enter these Forty Days bearing the mark of ashes, and bless our journey through the desert of Lent to the font of rebirth. May our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; our prayer, the chant of humble and grateful hearts.

—Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers



### Our New Home

A preacher who had always feared death felt powerless to comfort others who were facing it. Toward the end of his life, he moved to another house. When all the furniture had been packed, he lingered in the home where he’d raised his children and prepared many sermons. An assistant interrupted those reflections by saying, “Everything’s gone, sir, but the new house is better than this one. Come away.”

The preacher never forgot this lesson. God has prepared for his children a home infinitely better than earth — “an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands” (2 Corinthians 5:1, NIV).

### Married for a Mission

Jesus’ command to seek first God’s kingdom (Matthew 6:33) is a key component of successful, God-honoring marriages, writes Gary Thomas in *A Lifelong Love* (David C. Cook).

In fact, Thomas says being “married for a mission” can renew many unions in which partners think they’re merely incompatible. “My suspicion is that many of these couples actually suffer from a lack of purpose,” he writes. “Jesus’ words given to individuals in Matthew 6:33 are perhaps even truer in marriage. When we give away our life, we find it. When we focus outside our marriage, we end up strengthening our marriage.”



### “What Do I Have?”

What do I have, Lord, that you would need me as a servant?

Eyes, he said,  
to see the beauty in all that I’ve made —  
and my children as they travel life’s highway.

Hands, he said,  
to reach out and touch hurting souls,  
to give a hug or encouraging pat on the back.

Feet, he said,  
to lead my children through this world of strife  
and to help them run from sin and follow me.

Mouth, he said,  
to lift up your voice and sing praises to me  
so others may hear the joy in your heart.

Ears, he said,  
to listen to my still, small voice of love  
and to hear my children when they cry for help.

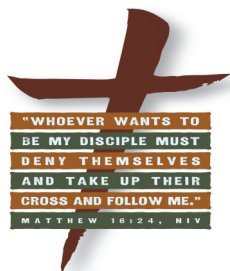
Heart, he said,  
so you may know the full love of my Spirit  
and love my children as I have loved you.  
—Thomas Butler

### The Gift That Gives

Love ever gives,  
forgives, outlives  
and ever stands  
with open hands.

And while it lives, it gives.  
For this is love’s prerogative —  
to give, and give, and give.

—John Oxenham



### +Christian Symbol+ Lark

Birds became prominent in Christian art during the Medieval and Renaissance eras. The lark came to symbolize the humility of the priesthood because it flies high and sings only when flying upward.



### 10 Biblical Ways to Love

1. Listen without interrupting. “To answer before listening — that is folly and shame” (Proverbs 18:13).
  2. Speak without accusing. “Be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry” (James 1:19).
  3. Give without selfishness. “The righteous give without sparing” (Proverbs 21:26).
  4. Pray without ceasing. “We have not stopped praying for you” (Colossians 1:9).
  5. Answer without arguing. “Better a dry crust with peace and quiet than a house full of feasting, with strife” (Proverbs 17:1).
  6. Share without pretending. “Speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of ... Christ” (Ephesians 4:15).
  7. Enjoy without complaining. “Do everything without grumbling or arguing” (Philippians 2:14).
  8. Trust without wavering. “[Love] always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres” (1 Corinthians 13:7).
  9. Forgive without punishing. “Forgive as the Lord forgave you” (Colossians 3:13).
  10. Promise without forgetting. “A longing fulfilled is a tree of life” (Proverbs 13:12).
- From various websites; all Scriptures NIV

### The Limited Power of Ashes

“The cross, with which the ashes are traced upon us, is the sign of Christ’s victory over death,” wrote Thomas Merton. “The words ‘Remember that thou art dust and that to dust thou shalt return’ are not to be taken as the quasi-form of a kind of ‘sacrament of death’ ... It might be good stoicism to receive a mere reminder of our condemnation to die, but it is not Christianity.”

Perhaps we should structure Ash Wednesday worship with the imposition of ashes early on. Then their dusty symbolism can be supplanted by the forgiveness-flavored bread and wine of Holy Communion. Yet even if the service you attend is laid out differently, remember that ashes mark you only temporarily. Jesus’ resurrection — and the empty cross of victory — assures you already of everlasting life, which begins now.

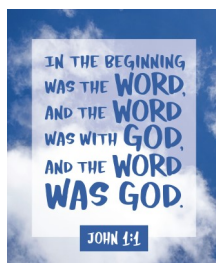
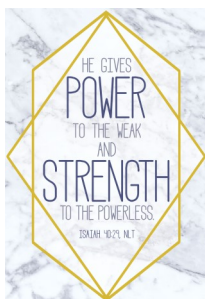


IT IS WELL WITH my soul

### In Awe of God

A feel-good gospel is attractive but not transformative, writes Michael Yaconelli in *Dangerous Wonder* (NavPress). “The nice, nonthreatening God needs to be replaced by the God whose very presence smashes our egos into dust, burns our sin into ashes, and strips us naked to reveal the real person within. A healthy, child-like fear should make us more in awe of God than we are of our government, our problems, ... our doctrines and agendas, or any of our other earthly concerns.”

Yaconelli urges Christians “to become people whose God is big and holy and frightening and gentle and tender and ours; a God whose love frightens us into his strong and powerful arms where he dares to hold us in his terrifying, loving presence.”



# Puzzle!

Search in all directions to find these words from the first seven chapters of Proverbs.

**WORD LIST:** covenant, delight, discipline, evil, father, fool, forsake, fountain, fruit, heart, honest, humble, insight, listen, Lord, love, neighbor, path, pleasant, poverty, protect, rebuke, sleep, son, teaching, tongue, walk, wisdom, youth

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



# A NEW COMMANDMENT

In John 13:34, Jesus offers important instructions for his followers.

*Directions: Figure out the pattern in each vertical line of letters. Then add the next letter in the sequence to the blank underneath, completing John 13:14, NIV.*

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCD...

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

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

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

JOHN 13:34, NIV

Answer: "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." John 13:34, NIV



## heart sandwich

Show your love by making someone this heartfelt snack on Valentine's Day.



### What you need:

- 2 slices of bread
- 2 heart-shaped cookie cutters (one large, one small)
- Lunchmeat and cheese (or peanut butter and jelly)

### What you do:

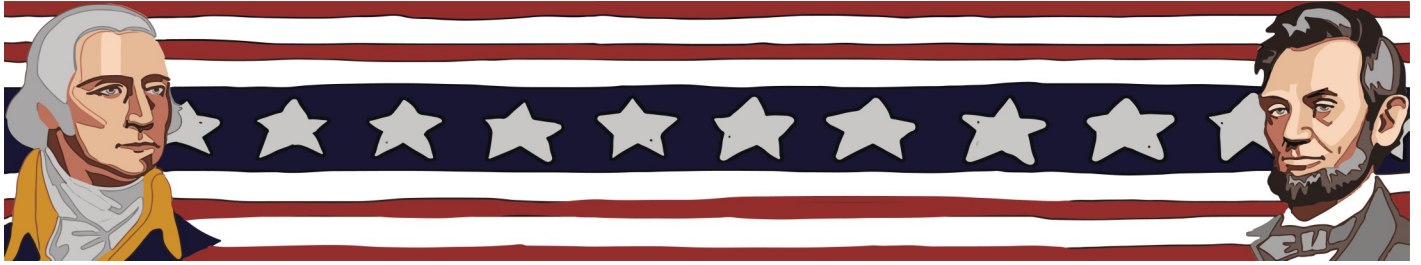
1. Cut a large heart out of each slice of bread.
2. Cut a small heart from the middle of one big heart.
3. With the small cookie cutter, make several heart shapes out of the meat and cheese. Place between the bread slices.
4. If you're using peanut butter and jelly, spread both onto the large, solid heart. Then place the slice with the small heart cutout on top.



"The heart-shaped communion wafers were a nice touch for Valentine's Day."



**Bible Quiz**  
 Paul declares that nothing "will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Which of the following does Paul specify as unable to block God's love?  
 A. death; life  
 B. angels; demons  
 C. present; future  
 D. height; depth  
 E. all of the above  
 Answer: See Romans 8:38-39, NIV



# February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 9-11 Food Pantry	3
4 Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday Fellowship Meal Confirmation Class	5	6	7	8 6-8pm VFW Free Soup Night	9	10 7-10am TUCC Breakfast
11 12pm Board Mtg	12	13 6:30pm Ministerial Alliance Mtg	14 7pm Ash Wednesday Lesson Valentine's Day	15	16 1-3 Food Pantry	17
18	19 9am Food Drop President's Day No School	20	21	22 8:30-11:30 Commodities	23	24
25	26	27	28			



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Rev. John Swisher



Worship Service 10:45am - 12:00pm  
Children's Church 11:00am-12:00pm  
All Are Welcome



Minister- Rev. John Swisher  
Organist- Perry Beam  
Secretary- Candy Myers  
Treasurer- John Morgan  
Custodian- MJ Myers  
Children's Church- Brittney Bayne