

The Will to Love

It's the time of year for love. Florists are selling roses by the dozen, candy makers are repackaging their chocolate in red boxes with hearts galore, jewelers are displaying dazzling gems for the unsuspecting male, and card stores are covered in a sea of red. What is all this commerce about? What is this thing called love?

In Jesus' day there wasn't a commercialized holiday like Valentine's Day, but love was still a hot topic. The Greeks actually had several words for it. "Eros" was seen as the love that attracts someone. It is the love rooted in appeal, the love that lures; it is the love of desirability. Eros love was just as popular in the 1st century as it is today. "Phileo" is another word used by the Greeks for love. This has been called a familial love; a love of family and friends. It is a love that is drawn to others because of friendship. It is a love for those who have a common bond. A third word occasionally used by the Greeks for love was "Agape". Agape was a term that was basically obscure until it crashed into the world like a tidal wave through the teachings of Jesus Christ and the revelation of Scripture. It is the love that loves because it wills to love. It is the love that desires to love.... even if it is not loved in return. It is love that chooses to love.

The Bible teaches us to imitate God. That is a pretty tall order, and there is no greater way to be like God than to love, to love with agape; the love of the will. Paul expresses this with clarity when he writes, "Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God." (Eph. 5:1-2). The purest form of God-likeness is the will to love. It is this love that Jesus spoke of when he told his disciples, "If you love me you will keep my commandments." It was the question Jesus posed to Peter when the fisherman was bound in the guilt of his failure; "Peter, do you love me?" It is this agape love that is meant to define us, a love that directs and shapes us, a love that is visible in the decisions and priorities of our lives. The Bible teaches that this is what motivates God's work in the world. Romans 5:8 says, "... God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." God-like love moves us to action. God-like love is not immobilized by sentimentality and nostalgia, but is missional, proactive, and decisive.

Now don't get me wrong. Eros love has its place in courtship and in a marriage! And the Phileo love between friends and family truly sweetens our days here on earth! But nothing, nothing, takes the place of that deep pool of Agape love that anchors us when the drives of Eros love have withered and the feelings of Phileo love have been tested. Today's view of love is so often tied to emotions, a love that is primarily about how we "feel". Now it is truly normal for us to have a love that touches our emotions. Jesus wept at Lazarus' tomb and onlookers said, "See how he loved him!" (Jn.11:36). Christ held the love and affection for Lazarus and his grieving sisters just as we do for those we care for, but Jesus' love for Lazarus, and the world, was not limited to emotions, feelings, or circumstances. Instead, Christ displayed a love that not only drove him to the cross for Lazarus and the rest of us as well, but also produced words of forgiveness for his murderers as he hung dying. That is the kind of love that is in us through Christ. In Romans, Paul tells us that "....God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us." (Rom 5:5). This love is an overcoming love that motivates us to do things we could never do, nor would want to do otherwise.

We are never more like God than when we love like He loves. When we are able to love, even if it seems that everything is trying to pull us toward unforgiveness, bitterness, and revenge, we are living in God's kind of love. Yes, Cupid may spark the flame of Eros with his mythic arrow, but only the Holy Spirit can ignite the true blaze of divine love in a human heart, a love that comes from a decision, not just a mood. One of the greatest signs of God working in our lives is when we feel his love raised up in our hearts, a love that propels us to obey Him, love Him, love others, and live with a peaceful soul. So, let the red hearts, the cards, and the roses remind you of that love which will never let you go, and may it also remind us that God can cause us to love like he loves.

NATIONAL WEAR RED DAY® FE8.5

National Wear Red Day is Friday, February 5





Heart disease and stroke kills 1 in 3 women every year. Be informed,

know your body, get healthy!

February 6 – 10:00 AM at Deep Creek Friends **Yadkin County Historical Society**

The meeting will begin in the Sanctuary. Discussion about the Bond School House Affair One of the most important battles in the Civil War happened at the school house located on the hill across the branch behind the church. The rock,



which served as the step to enter the building and for a long time still had blood stains from the battle, was moved to

the edge of the field. However, in a recent walk, it could no longer be found. New information continues to arise concerning just who all was involved in the battle. For years, families just did not talk about it. Join the group for interesting conversation especially if you have information.

February 7 at 9:00 AM - Monthly Meeting will meet in the Fellowship Hall

Come participate in the business of the meeting. Breakfast refreshments will be provided by Ministry and Counsel member, Phyllis Barnes.



February 7 – Super Bowl Sunday 3:25 PM in Santa Clara, CA

6:25 PM our time, the **Carolina Panthers vs Broncos**

Remember: Bring your SOUP to 11:00 AM

Worship for Yadkin Christian Ministries. See pg. 4

February 21, 11:00AM Worship

Daryl Bodie, Guest Speaker (See page 3.)

NOTE Change of Date

Sunday, February 21 @ 7:00 PM

Leadership – All Committee Meeting

All members of all committees and other interested persons are encouraged to be present.

<u>February 28 – Christian Education Meeting</u>

Fellowship Hall @ 9:00 AM

February 28 - Ministry and Counsel

Church Lounge @ 6:00 PM

Special Music for Worship Services - February

Congregation 14th Deep Creek Choir Bill Terrell

 $21^{\rm st}$ 28^{th} Deep Creek Choir

Submitted by Vickie Warden

Greeting the People - February

Leon & Janet Robbins

14th Jay & Angie Brendle

21st Michael & Sara Ray

28th **Tracy Ray**

Submitted by Teresa Welborn

Children's Church Assistants - February

Noel & Holly Hutchins

21st **Rhett Steelman**

Submitted by Angie Brendle



Nursery Workers for Worship — February

7th Mark & Teresa Welborn

14th **Roger Holt and Audra Holt**

21st Tommy & Cathy Shore

Brenda Shore and Priscilla Shore 28th

Submitted by Vickie Warden

Sanctuary Flowers -February

Barclay/Steelman Sunday School Class This month, contact Donna Hutchins

to place flowers for a special occasion.

Submitted by Donna Hutchins

Presiders for Worship - February

Louis Shore

14th Phyllis Barnes

Ruby Brendle 21st

28th Wiley Shore

Submitted by Ministry and Counsel

Worship Message with the Children - February

14th Roger Holt

28th Lacey Smitherman

Submitted by Ministry and Counsel

Choir Practice - February

Sunday, 7th at 4:00 PM Sunday, 21st at 5:00 PM



Looking Ahead

March 13 - Senior Citizen Appreciation Day

11:00 AM Worship and Fellowship Lunch **Honoring our Seniors**

Bring food to share

March 13-16 - REVIVAL

Sunday through Wednesday nights at 7:00 PM With Ricky Sessoms as Speaker Special Music each night

See page 3 for information from CE for other events

Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00 PM

(Come a little early and enjoy a meal.)

Growing Up before Growing Old:

Moving from Religion to Relationship

Hebrews

Studying the book of Hebrews . . . Written to church folks like us — shows how to grow as followers in the midst of troubles; explains who Jesus really is and how that changes everything; guides the way from just churchiness to a vibrant relationship with God.

Come, join the group for stimulating study.

Join The YAMS on <u>Sunday Mornings</u> Sunday School at 10:00 AM each week. What does scripture say that being a true follower of Jesus is about?

Angie

Announcements from CE:

- Winter Jam is February 27th. Tickets are \$10.00. Jared will be taking the Youth. Anyone in the church is also welcome to attend.
- **During revival** in March, CE will have a packet of activities in the foyer for the children. Children will stay in the sanctuary during revival.
- Easter Egg Hunt will be March 26th at 11:00 AM.
- VBS is scheduled for June 5th 10th.
 More information will be available at a later date.

Quaker Lake art prints are on sale! Formerly sold to raise money for the new conference center fund raiser at \$100 each, now \$25 each including tax and shipping. Email kenreb50@gmail.com or call 336 879-1340, cell 336 953-5870. Also, Quaker Lake note cards \$4 per box, by pick up only.

February 21 – Guest Speaker for Morning Worship

And –

Sunday School Appreciation Event

ALL SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS:

The Christian Education Committee would like to show you appreciation on **February 21st** following the service. We will provide lunch for the Sunday School teachers and Daryl Bodie will be speaking to all of the teachers shortly after lunch.

Daryl is the Director of Doctoral Studies at Carolina Graduate School of Divinity and a pastor at The Fellowship Church in Greensboro. Daryl obtained his D. Min., from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School and has a true gift and passion for teaching. He is very familiar with the Quaker denomination and has been invited by NCYM to lead sessions for pastors in the past. He will also be speaking in our worship service that morning.

Sarah Ray

Thursday, March 3 at 7:00 PM

All Friends Meetings in Yadkin Quarter
Quaker Business Practices

An Educational Seminar sponsored by Yadkin Valley Quarterly Meeting Hosted at Forbush Friends Meeting

Speakers: Etta Florence Winslow and Don Farlow

Both are experienced in leadership roles

OUAKER LAKE PRINTS FOR SALE



Food for the Hungry

I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for Me." Matthew 25:40

Dear Friends,

During 2015, Yadkin Christian Ministries gave help to Yadkin County families 6,139 times. A total of 25,886 bags of food were dispersed.

These are difficult times for many.

We ask you to participate in "Souper Bowl Sunday" on February 7. Please bring cans of soup to place at the altar. There will be a young person at the door to receive your monetary gift for the ministry as you leave the service. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



Also remember "Empty Bowls." This is our big fundraiser, which will take place on Tuesday, March 8. It's time to purchase your \$20.00 ticket, for which you will receive lunch and a piece of pottery of your choosing.

We covet your prayers as we serve our Lord through this ministry.

In His service,

Phyllis Barnes

DEEP CREEK QUAKER MEN

February 14

Enjoy the fellowship while cooking breakfast beginning at 7:00 AM.

Meet and eat in the Fellowship Hall Followed by Devotional time and Business

Circle #1 Will meet February 8 at 6:00 PM **Church Lounge**

Program/Devotions - Brenda Adams **Hostess – Gladys Adams** Phyllis Barnes

QYW Valentine Banquet Monday, February 15th @ 6:30 All Couples &/or Individuals Invited **Cost is \$15 each** (includes two meats, two vegetables, salad, rolls, dessert, sweet/unsweet tea)

DCF Fellowship Hall Please let Jean Hutchins know if you will be able to attend by Sunday, February 7th

Children welcome Pizza provided If you helped last year you were a part of this:

2015 Report from Yadkin Christian Ministries

Number of times families came for assistance	6,139
People fed and helped in families	21,041
Food bags given to those needing help	25,886
Families given fuel for heating	402
Clients helped with electric bills	691
Clients receiving medication	460
Families helped with rent	78
Assistance helping with water bills	36

Money values of assistance provided:

J 1	
Food	\$308,414
Electricity	\$86,262
Fuel for heating	\$18,734
Water	\$1,259
Rent	\$12,933
Medication	\$16,410
Cooling fans	\$814
Miscellaneous	\$131
2015 Total Value of assistance	\$444,144

Rules to Live By: The Queries from North Carolina Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice

Missionary Enterprise – Do you use your spiritual gifts in serving humanity as God grants you light to see such service?"





From Angie:

Children's Church at 11:00 AM

February 7th - "Joseph's Family"

Volunteer: Noel and Holly Hutchins

February 21st - "Moses' Family"

Volunteer: Rhett Steelman

Friends Of Jesus Meetings: February 7th (4:00-5:30) "Ruth's Family" See below . . . 💚

February 21st - (4:00-5:00) "Hannah's Family"

Snacks: Rhonda Moran

**** Friends Of Jesus

PLEASE NOTE above change in dates and times for this month.





YOUTH & JR.YOUTH





February 7th: Dogs @ 4:00; Youth @ 5:00

February 20th: Annual Ski Trip! Meet at the church at 7:30am! See Jared for details.

February 21st: DOGS @ 4:00; Youth @ 5:00

February 27th: Winter Jam in Greensboro

Time TBA.



In March of 1886, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle,

adopting his mother's gift of storytelling and juggling his medical career with a desire to become a known author, produced one of the most well-known characters of all time. Sherlock Holmes. While Holmes was not considered by Conan Doyle to be his best or most interesting work, his readers would say otherwise. The readers quickly fell in love with Sherlock Holmes and his extraordinary abilities in criminal case work and resolving mysteries. Holmes appealed to the reader's imagination and left them on the edge, wanting more. Finding favor with The Strand Magazine, Doyle's character gained an even greater fame among a larger audience. His ability to notice the most minute of details was unmatched, lending him to be relied upon heavily by Scotland Yard. Readers could hardly wait to see what details he would notice that the average human would miss. We stand to learn a lot from Mr. Holmes and how he examines the scene.

In January, the Youth and DOGS started new studies on the Gospel of Mark. We will be taking several weeks and looking at the account that the writer provides about the life of Jesus. Each gospel portrays the Savior in a unique light and we are excited to see how Mark has painted his picture of the Messiah. We began in chapter one and spent our time together looking at all we could learn from the beginning of the book's first chapter.

I began by challenging the students to look at passages in the Bible in two ways. First, I explained that any time you are looking at a certain passage to look at the surrounding text. That is to say, always read before the main passage and after the main passage to get a better understanding of the context. By doing so, you gain an understanding into what is really going on in the present situation and learn big picture facts such as setting, time, characters involved and the events. Just as Sherlock Holmes would come to the scene of a crime and be briefed of all the big picture details, we must do the

same with passages of scripture to get a grasp on the situation at hand.

Second, I explained to the students that in order to gain a fuller understanding we must do as Sherlock and examine the details. After getting a working grasp of what is going on in the larger passage, it is time to focus in on a particular passage and re-read the passage multiple times. In each reading, look at every word and try and grasp something new that is taking place or that went unnoticed in your prior readings. Look at how the words connect to each other and how sentences connect to paragraphs. Examine any characters present and see what can be learned about them. This is a time to examine the minute details and start putting together the scene's place in the larger context. In doing so, we learn a great deal more about God's Word. When we discover new details that we glossed over prior, it is that

Sherlock might say, "Elementary!" It is these moments that the Word brings us new life and an excitement to dia deeper and to know more about God, his nature and his love letter to us.

understanding in our journey.

moment that we say Aha or as

In our session, we spent some time examining Mark, chapter one, and looking for details that we did not see in prior readings. We took some of these details and were able to apply them to our lives today, giving us new understanding of how God works and how he uses his people. We watched a clip of one of the new Sherlock Holmes movies and ended our session with a challenge to read God's word carefully, looking for the details that may give us deeper

May you be blessed as you study His word and you learn new and exciting things!

Blessings, Jared

CONGRATULATIONS

KATE SHORE CELEBRATES SPECIAL BIRTHDAY



Kate Shore enjoyed her 95th Birthday celebration at Sander's Ridge hosted by her family. A steady stream of friends, neighbors and family came to wish her well throughout the afternoon. It was wonderful to see how many came to see her! She smiled and visited with everyone. Granddaughter Tracy said "She is a blessing to our family!!" Kate is pictured with Great-granddaughter, Alli Jones and Alli's mom, Tracy Ray.

BEULAH WARDEN CELEBRATES BIRTHDAY

It was Sunday Morning Worship at Deep Creek when Kate Shore stood to be recognized for her birthday as the congregation sang. As she stood, she called the congregation's attention to her friend Beulah Warden, whose birthday is the same day. January 11th, Beulah celebrated her 89th birthday. She is now a resident at Yadkin Nursing Center, and thanks to Kate, the congregation sang for her along with the others. Happy Birthday Beulah! Beulah became an official member of Deep Creek Friends in 1939 when she was 12 years old.



SHORE BROTHES FARM RECEIVES AWARD



On January 26, at the Yadkin County Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting, Shore Brothes Farm was presented the Farmer of the Year Award by CMS of Yadkinville. Jack, Louis, and Tommy were surprised by the award and are very deserving. They work countless tiring hours planting, caring for, and harvesting the crops and caring for the herd of Charlois cattle. Several family members were present to see them presented the "Well Deserved Award!" Great job Shore Brothers Farm. Luke, Louis' son, after graduating from college, has returned home adding his technical knowledge to the farm and much needed help including operating the combine.

OUR YOUTH ARE BASKETBALL CHEERLEADERS



Two of our Youth, **Kaylee Shore** and **Destiny Ray**, were Basketball Cheerleaders for Starmount Middle School. On Wednesday, they completed the season and their cheerleading careers at the Middle School after cheering for all four seasons, including Basketball and Football, in 7th and 8th grades.

Can You Help These Students?

Brenda Wilson is a Brownie Scout. She is selling Girl Scout Cookies. See her at church.

Trevor Collins is in high gear with the SHS Band Fundraiser. Check out his brochure for the goodies. Everything from candies to cookies, candles to containers, and magazines to figurines. Orders and payments are due by February 8. Contact Trevor or Mom, Ginger Holt, or see him this Sunday at church



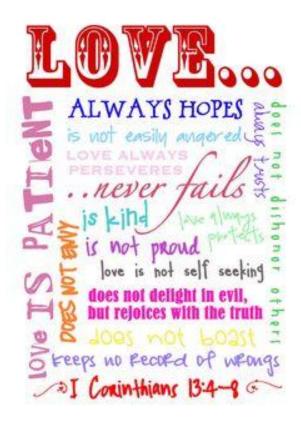
The following information is included by request. Be specific when you pray and send notes.

*This color indicates an addition or change from last month.

Among those requesting prayer:

Pray for special needs of members, friends and relatives and celebrate God's care. *Contact the editor for information*







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Deep Creek Friends Aleeting





- Do you have a friend or relative that would enjoy *The Encourager*? Send address.
- Please send any change of address.
- Are you receiving *The Encourager* in error or you no longer wish to receive it? If so, let us know.
- Send suggestions, news, information, announcements or materials that you would like included in *The Encourager*.

Thanks to all who have contributed to this issue.

Next issue – March, 2016

Deadline for news – February 28 Send Information and Materials to:

e-mail: wshore@yadtel.net

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Phone: 336 679 8466 *Shelby Shore*

Published at Shore House, Ink

Church Address: 1140 Deep Creek Church Rd. Yadkinville, NC 27055 Phone: 336 961 4404 deepcreekfriends@gmail.com Pastor: Randy Quate Clerk: Walter Shore Director of Children's Ministries: Angie Brendle Director of Youth and Jr. Youth Ministries: Jared Warden