

Bartholo Newsings

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, P.O. Box 906, High Spings, FL 32655
<http://www.stbartshighsprings.org/> www.facebook.com/stbartshighsprings
386-454-9812

February 2018 Vol IX Issue 2

-----Vicar's Message-----

Grace, peace, and the love of our Lord and Savior be with you.

My first thought to our members is stay warm. We have had some hard freeze warnings and that means we need to be extra careful. We expect cold weather in the winter but being in Florida we don't expect temperatures in the teens and twenties. We moved our services to the Parish Hall in order to stay warm. I expect we will return to the historic Sanctuary at the beginning of Lent. In the meantime I ask your help to set up the chairs and tables after our services. Our Junior Warden who is responsible for set ups could sure use the help.

February is a special month for me. It was in February 2011 that I started this wonderful ministry with the families of St. Bart's. We have developed some great friendships in our work for the Lord. We have much work yet to do. Right now my biggest concern is reaching out to our members that come maybe once a month to attend more frequently. We have many more members than those that show up on Sunday. This is a concern to me because growing in the Spirit requires attentive faithfulness to the teachings of our Lord. It is my primary function to shepherd our members in their lives with the Holy Spirit. Jesus says passionately, "Do this in remembrance of me." Jesus gave His Life for you and His Church.

Ash Wednesday is February 14th and marks the beginning of Lent. Lent is that time of the year to straighten out our lives and make every effort to come closer to our Lord. We have New Year resolutions but those are secular driven. Lent resolutions are heavenly and lead to a healthy soul. I opened this message with being extra careful in the cold weather and now I say be really extra careful not to develop a cold heart towards our Lord. Attend church on Sunday; take communion, and pray often. I promise you that so much change for the good will come into your life.

Our Annual Parish Meeting will be February 18th. If you are interested in a Mission Board position or being a Delegate to Diocesan Convention please contact our Senior Warden, Charles Jones. You need to be received or confirmed Episcopal, 18 or older, pledging member and faithful in attendance for one year i.e. known by the members as dedicated to the work of St. Bart's. Mission Board meets usually on the third Sundays of the odd months after the 10 am service.

Pancake Supper begins at 5 pm on February 13th. Ash Wednesday Services at noon without Eucharist and 6pm with Eucharist.

Much love to all in Christ, fr lance+

Editor's Note

. We hope you are enjoying the Newsletter and we welcome your comments and suggestions.

Deadline for next issue is February 18th.

Contact: Annette Jones - (386) 454-8585 pgrscoot97@aol.com



In this newsletter you will find children's answer to the question, "What does Love mean to you and who will be your valentine this year?".

There are two kinds of love. Our love. God's love. But God makes both kinds of them.

~Jenny, age 8



Greetings From the Senior Warden..... Charles Jones 386-454-8585

I've always wondered why churches have steeples and I have finally found one explanation. I found it interesting and think you might also.

Until quite recently, accurate clocks were either nonexistent or very expensive. In fact, standard time wasn't invented until the nineteenth century, so even when clocks became common, each person set his clock by the sun, which meant that they could differ considerably. The time of day was very approximate—for example, in the New Testament, everything happened at either the third, sixth, or ninth hour. People told time by the position of the sun, which is part guesswork, and on overcast days they had to go by feel.

So you can see that until very recently, it was impossible to fix Sunday morning worship at, say, 9:30 and expect everyone to show up on time.

In the beginning, Christian worship was at sunrise. Sunrise and sunset are the only two times of day about which everyone can be unanimous without accurate timepieces. But after Christianity became legal, pious Christians wanted to worship at different times of the day and on all days of the week, so it became necessary to develop some means of announcing the time of worship to the public. Church buildings acquired bell towers for this purpose, and they evolved into today's steeples. Now that we have accurate and inexpensive watches, we don't need church bells to tell us when to set out for church. So steeples have become decorative—though I understand that their original function is beginning to return. Synagogues do not have steeples for the simple reason that ringing a bell on the Sabbath violates the Law.



Steeple are more or less a western European innovation. Churches in Bavaria, Austria, and points east have historically had domes, not steeples. Steeples have never been a feature of churches in Africa or Asia, either.

If There may be other reasons for church steeples but I like this one. If you have more on this "pointed" subject, please share it.

Chas.



My Valentines are my mom and dad, because they take good care of me. They love me and give me food and water. ~Tovis, age 8



Children's Activities and Family Fellowship



Sunday School Teaching Schedule for 10am Services

| | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Feb. 4 th : | Samantha Cherie | Feb. 11 th : | Sheryl Betty |
| Feb. 18 th : | Samantha Cherie | Feb. 25 th : | Sheryl Cornelia |

Upcoming Children & Youth Events

- ~ Wed. Feb. 7th at 7pm: Youth Group
- ~ Tues. Feb. 13th at 5pm: Pancake Supper
- ~ Wed. Feb. 14th at 6pm: Ash Wednesday service
- ~ Wed. Feb. 21st at 7pm: Youth Group
- ~ Wed. Feb. 28th at 7pm: Youth Group

How **YOU** can help our Youth ~

After spending all day in a classroom environment, our youth would love a place of comfort, relaxation, and fun. So we came up with the idea to have a coffee/cocoa bar. We already have received AWESOME donations: two beautiful recliners & ottomans and a gorgeous bright red Keurig with some

K-cups to get us started. A HUGE thanks goes out to Ben & Dot Hill and Carol Griffin!!! Our youth have come up with a Wish List of items they think would make their room perfect.

- Paint for the walls
- Bean bags and more comfortable seating
- An area rug
- Curtains for the window
- A coffee table
- Small lamp for the end table
- Floor lamp

VBS planning will start soon. We will watch the Decorating DVD after church on February 8th. Please join us if you want a sneak peak of our theme and would like to help in our set creation. Adults & youth only, please, so we can keep our little ones surprised!!

~~~~~  
I love my grandmother and grandfather. I will love them forever. Valentine's Day means a lot to me, especially caring and sharing love with my family. ~ Emily, age 6



### *February Birthdays*

Feb 1 – Seth Diepersloot  
7 – Ben Hill  
9 – Dawn Fifer  
Curt Tibbitts  
11 -- Calvin Hencin  
16 – Annette Jones

### *Anniversaries in February*

9 – Jim & Peggy Addington  
23 – Debra and Mike Wright



*Congratulations to Each of YOU! If your name does not appear here, please contact your editor (Annette) to have it added for next time.*

---

---



Love means giving hugs and kisses. My Valentine will be my dog Skippy this year.

~Emmie, age 8



Chalice Bearers/ Acolytes - February

2/4 - wes/ Gabby

2/11 - Gregg/Samantha

2/18 - Margret/Gabby

2/25 Annette/Samantha

Lay Readers - February

2/4 - Gregg Pelfrey

Beth Treese

2/11 - Gabby Harris

Margaret Palmer

2/18 - Debra Wright

Annette Jones

2/25 - Gregg Pelfrey

Samantha Shiver



Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen.

~Bobby, age 5



## ☞☞ Lessons for February ☞☞

**February 4th:** Isaiah 40:21-31; Psalm 147:1-12,21c; 1 Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39

**11th:** 2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50:1-6; 2 Corinthians 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9

**14th: Ash Wednesday:** Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Psalm 103; 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

**18th:** Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-9; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15

**25th:** Genesis 17:1-7,15-16; Psalm 22:22-30; Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38

\*\*\*\*\*  
And the final child's response -- and the best:



God could have said magic words to make the nails fall off the cross, but He didn't. That's love.

~Max, age 5



## Valentine's Day and Love

Submitted

Valentine's Day is a special day of the year. There are parties, chocolates, cards, and candy with "Be Mine" written on them. Other than all that, where does Valentine's Day come from?

There are several stories about a priest named Valentine who performed secret marriages when an emperor ordered that no young men should be married because they would be better soldiers in the war.

Another story is about a man named Valentine who fell in love with a girl while he was in jail. Just before he died he wrote her a love letter and signed it, "From your Valentine".

I don't know if these stories are true or not, I guess it doesn't really matter. I think the important part is: that we know what love is and know where it came from.

The Bible tells us that love is from God and that God is love. The neat thing about God's love is that it's not a feeling to him, he can't fall out of love with us. He loves us even when we're not loveable and when we're grumpy or doing bad things. He loves all of us no matter what.

The tricky part is loving others like God loves us. God's love is much different than the mushy kissy stuff that you see on TV or all around you. It's not bad to be mushy with your family but sometimes its harder to show other people how you love them. We can't just go around kissing everyone to show them our love!

There is a special kind of love we can have for others, it's called agape love. This doesn't have to be mushy love, just see people as God would see them. Pretend for a day that you have special glasses on and that everyone you see you love just because God loves them, like the way you love a mom or dad, brother or sister.

I'm sure you'll run into somebody you don't think deserves your love or you just don't want to love at all, but God loves them and if we love God we are supposed to love them too.

Who exactly are we supposed to love?

- \*Love God
- \*Love yourself
- \*Love your family
- \*Love your friends
- \*Love your neighbors
- \*Love your enemies

What are some ways that we can love God? It's not as hard as you think. How do you show others you love them? We talk to them, try to get to know them better, listen to them, and sometimes we do things for them.

We can do all these things for God. We might not be able to touch Him but we can pray to God, read the Bible and learn about him, obey Him and do the things he asks us to do.

We are also supposed to love ourselves. This doesn't mean that we should think we're better than everybody else. We get this from a Bible verse that says do for others as you would want them to do for you. This means we should take care of ourselves. Things like looking before we cross the street, eating our vegetables, and getting a good sleep at night are ways we can do that. Remember that if you're a Christian the Spirit of God lives inside us and he wants us to treat ourselves with respect.

Loving our family is hopefully pretty easy. Even though we get mad at our parents sometimes because they don't let us do something, we still love them. Just remember that you are part of a family and nothing will ever change that. You should always be able to depend on each other and they'll be the ones to tell you the truth before anyone else.

Loving our friends should be easy because we pick the people we want to be friends with. The thing is, sometimes when we disagree with our friends we think we don't have to be their friend anymore, but God's love would ask us to forgive them and try to work things out.

Do you know who your neighbors are? Neighbors aren't just the people who live next to you but are everyone you might run into. I don't want to encourage you to run up to strangers but think about helping others with love. By helping an elderly lady who needs help with her groceries, returning a wallet found on the street, or even praying for people on the news that are in trouble are just a few ways to love a neighbor.

I hope you don't have any enemies but there will always be someone that you don't get along with or believes the opposite of what you believe. There are many, many people that don't believe in God and that purposely do things that hurt him and God still loves them. Loving people that bully us or our friends seems impossible, but it's not with God's help. By asking for God's help we will be able to love our enemies easier when we just can't do it on our own.

Learning to love like God takes a long time and takes God's help. It's easier to love than to hate, so have lots of fun learning to love God and everyone around you!

\*\*\*\*\*



## Hostess List for February



Feb 4 – Pot Luck

Feb 11 – Cornelia

Feb 18 – Jane/ Stefanie

Feb 25– Tracie/Chad/Ben

Note: If you would like to volunteer to provide a light snack and drink, please contact Cornelia Swann 386-454-3505.

## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

**Wednesday, Jan 31 – Spaghetti Dinner and Talent Show** -- There will be bread, salad, tea/juice, and of course, delicious pasta, cooked by our Fr/Chef at a requested donation of \$7.00 per person. Donated desserts are needed for sale, as well. Come have dinner and enjoy all the talented folks in our church family.

**Tuesday, Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>** – Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. 5 PM Other details to be announced.

**Wednesday, Feb.14<sup>th</sup>** –Ash Wednesday services – Noon (no Eucharist) and 6 PM (Eucharist)

**Sunday, February, Feb.18<sup>th</sup>** – Annual Parish Meeting.

\*\*\*\*\*



### Garden News

--Lisa Rhan

It's been a very cold winter so far with several heavy frosts, and things can look pretty brown and drab this time of year. Thankfully in our area, there are many plants that do tolerate the frost and stay green and/or alive. But even in the coldest of climates the 'evergreens' supply a glimpse of green amongst the white snow, a glimpse of ever-present life.

What is an 'evergreen' anyway? It is a plant (tree or shrub) that has leaves throughout the year. Now, evergreens DO lose leaves, but each tree loses its leaves gradually and not all at once; some leaves stick while others are dropping. Interestingly, being evergreen can also be an adaptation to low nutrient levels in the soil, but this is getting into the science of why and how an evergreen does what it does, the stuff behind the scenes.

Now, I suppose there are lessons to be learned from the evergreen. We've all experienced hard times. Usually, hard times make us feel more like the deciduous tree type, though, that drops all of its leaves, not just some leaves. These times can hit us physically or spiritually. Yet even during hard times there are moments when we still smile and laugh, enjoy time with friends, admire beauty in nature or experience the love of God---little things that help us feel more evergreen, strength that helps us adapt to times of low nutrient levels!

Thankfully, God has reasons and methods going on behind the scenes that we are not aware of. Whether evergreen or deciduous, nature provides visual backup to many Scriptures that teach us that God is with us all the time, even in the winter, working behind the scenes to lead us back to **SPRING**



Please make the following changes and additions to your St. Bart's Directory until we reprint the needed pages.

Changes/Updates

Ashley, Joan – remove—Deseased Nov. 1917

Lorincz, Diane – No email

Rhan, Lisa Email chages: [lisarhan@gmail.com](mailto:lisarhan@gmail.com)

Scianimanico, Joe, Sharon and Gussie: Mailing address: PO Box 1579, High Springs, FL 32655

Shiver, Ed ,Sheryl and girls Address: 19513 NW 240 Lane, High Springs, FL 32643

Change Michelle Shiver's birthday to: Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>

Tibbits, Carla Land Line: 540-731-1607 Email: [carlatibbits@gmail.com](mailto:carlatibbits@gmail.com)

Tibbits, Curt Address: 273 Hidden Place, Bonners Ferry, Idaho 83805

Walden, Evelyn Address: PO Box 4758, Dowling Park, FL 32064

Additions:

Forzly, George & Lee – Address: 5525 NW 234<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Alachua, FL 32615  
Email: [BLFGator13@yahoo.com](mailto:BLFGator13@yahoo.com) Telephone: 386-474-0671  
Birthdays: George: May 6<sup>th</sup> Lee: May 13<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: October 10<sup>th</sup>

Hinote, Cindy – Address: 355 SW Magnolia Lane, Ft. White, FL 32035  
Email: [hinotecjoy@aol.com](mailto:hinotecjoy@aol.com) Telephone: 863-446-0476

Boyle, Neil & Susan  
Address: 17994 NW 177 Avenue, Alachua, FL 32615  
Email: [nsboyle@nsboyle.com](mailto:nsboyle@nsboyle.com) Telephone: 386-518-3108