

## Pastor D's Letter February 13, 2022

There is an old camp song that is really just 1 John 3:1 put to music. Most often it is sung as a round. It is very simple and repeats twice.

Behold what manner of love the Father has given to us,  
That we should be called children of God.  
1 John 3:1 Berean Study Bible

February is the month we celebrate love. Prominent in this celebration is Valentine's Day. The first official Valentine's Day took place in 498 AD when Pope Gelasius declared February 14, St. Valentine's day. But what did Valentine do to become a saint? Legend tells of a priest named Valentine who in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD defied the Roman Emperor Claudius II and was beheaded for his stance against the decree of the Roman Emperor. How did Valentine defy the Emperor? Claudius believed that single men made better soldiers so he forbade his army to marry. Valentine defied the Emperor by performing weddings for young soldiers and their brides in secret ceremonies.

In modern culture, during February, we are enticed to buy Flowers, cards, chocolates, jewelry and other assorted gifts to "SHOW" our love to others. But God's word is clear:

Behold what manner of love the Father has given to us,  
That we should be called children of God.

And again,

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love, does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

1 John 4:7-11

Let me take this opportunity to not only remind you of God's love demonstrated by Jesus on the cross, but also to remind you to share with others God's love. A great way to start giving happens this Sunday. Sunday is the "Souper Bowl of Caring". Stick around and enjoy the food, but give generously to help the hungry.

Upcoming Services and Sermons:

February 6, 2022	The Temptation To Do Good By Evil Means.	Mt. 4:1-11
February 13, 2022	The Temptation To Hold Back Grace.	LK 6:6-11
February 20, 2022	The Temptation To Despair.	Mt. 26:36-56
February 27, 2022	The Temptation To Be Diverted From God's Call	Mt. 17:1-13
<b>Wednesday March 2, 2022 ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE</b>		<b>6:00 P.M.</b>

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him,  
So that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.  
(Romans 15:13)

Dr. D

## **NEWS UPDATES**

- Join us for **Fellowship after church** in the Fellowship Hall.
- NO ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL THIS WEEK - **SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY!**
- **WWN Bible Study this Wednesday (February 15th) Luke 3.**
- **MASKS ARE OPTIONAL** IN WORSHIP! Be considerate of those who choose to wear masks and maintain social distance.
- If you cannot come in person, we continue to broadcast our **SERVICE LIVE** every Sunday at 9 a.m.  
on <https://www.facebook.com/SierraVistaPresbyterianChurch/>. Our account is public. **YOU DO NOT NEED A FACEBOOK ACCOUNT TO WATCH.** If you come to worship in person or watch at home, **invite a friend to join you.** **Worship sheets** are available on our website at <https://www.sierravistayuma.com/> under the NEWS Tab.
- MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY, February 13<sup>th</sup> following Worship.
- If you wish to receive the monthly **newsletter** or know someone who wants to receive **Pastor D's Letter**, contact the church office with your email information.
- **THANK YOU for your CONTINUED FINANCIAL SUPPORT** of the church by giving in person, mailing a check, or giving ONLINE.