



# THE VISION

February 2017

*“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them and...teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you...”*

*Amen. Matthew 28:19-20*

February 14th is celebrated as Valentine’s Day. Historically, each year on February 14th, many people exchange cards, candy, gifts or flowers with their special “valentine.” The day of romance we call Valentine’s Day is named for the Christian martyr, Valentinus, who was killed on February 14th sometime in the 5th century.

I am presently reading David McCullough’s novel, John Adams. John and his wife, Abigail, were deeply in love with each other. The couple were often separated for long periods of time, so they corresponded through the mail for three decades. More than a thousand of their letters, chronicling everything from family business to the ratification of the Constitution, survive.

Long after they married in 1764, John continued to fill his notes with yearning and admiration for his bride. On one occasion, he wrote, “You are really brave, my dear, you are an Heroine.” Another letter noted, “A soul, as pure, as benevolent, as virtuous and pious as yours has nothing to fear, but everything to hope and expect from the last of human Evils.”

In return, Abigail penned some of American history’s most memorable love letters, documenting the enduring intimacy she shared with

her “dearest friend,” as she called her husband. “With an indescribable pleasure, I have seen near a score of years roll over our Heads, with an affection heightened and improved by time,” she wrote in 1782.

In another letter, she penned, “Nor have the dreary years of absence in the smallest degree effaced from my mind the Image of the dear untitled man to whom I gave my Heart.” Abigail also counseled John on political matters in her notes, famously telling him to “remember the ladies” while drafting laws for the newly independent United States. Would we call John and Abigail Adams soul mates?

Have we ever wondered what the Bible says about soul mates?

Once again, my friend Rev. Dr. Tom Lovern enlightens us; the term, “soul mate,” is not found in the Bible. We can find definitions from secular sources promoting the idea that a person for whom we feel a special bond, one perfectly suited to complement our temperament, or one who seems to bring out the best in us, is our soul mate. Married couples may believe their partner is their soul mate. Dr. Lovern

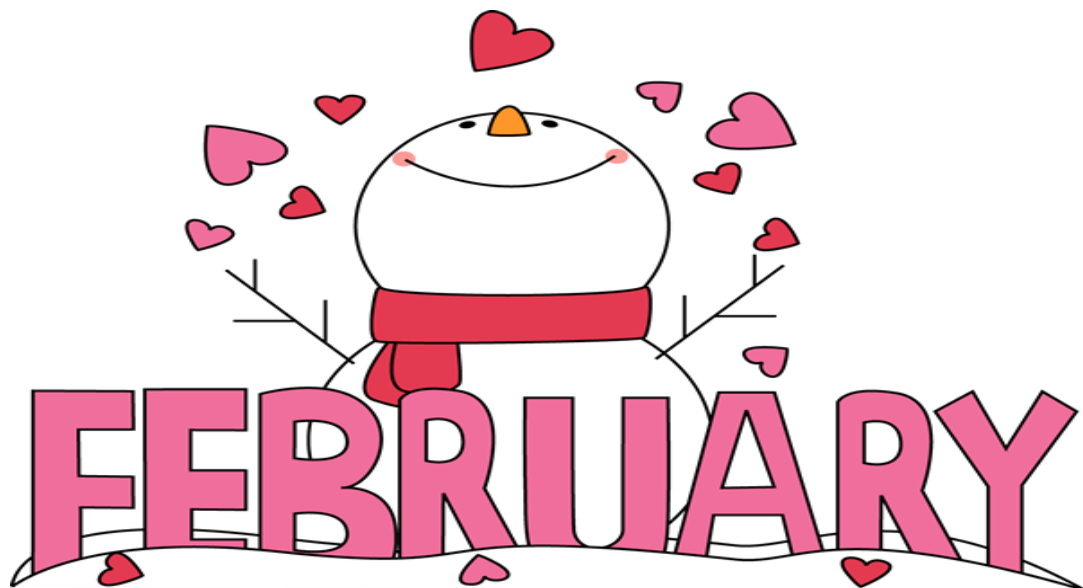
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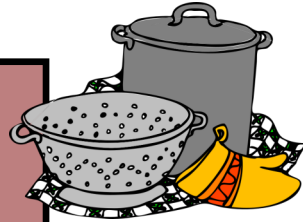
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**WMU BANQUET**

The WMU invites you to a banquet to be held February 18th at 6:00pm to kick off WMU week.

Ham and drinks will be provided. Please bring a salad, vegetable, or dessert to share.



**W.M.U.  
Announcements**

**SPECIAL SPEAKER**

February 19th the WMU will host a special speaker at the 11:00 service.

Following the service, please plan to come to the youth's spaghetti dinner. Proceeds will go towards the upcoming Standing Rock Mission Trip.

**Deacon of the Week**

- 2/5—Amy Boykin
- 2/12—Al West
- 2/19—David Crummett
- 2/26—Leslie Belvin

**Nursery Workers**

- 2/5—Beverly West
- 2/12—Pauline Littell
- 2/19—Tracy Williams
- 2/26—Devon Willard

**February Ushers**

- Barbara Mangrum
- Chris Hutson
- Keith Belvin
- Leslie Belvin

**February Tellers**

- Helen Spence
- Bill Breeden

**CHURCH  
WORKERS**

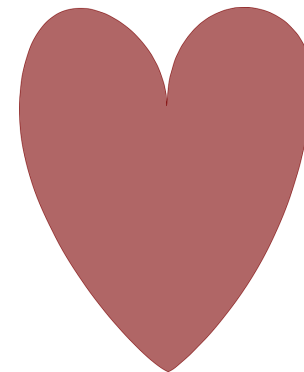
**Sun. Sch. Nursery**  
Sharon/Howard Warren

**Older Children's Church**

- 2/5—Sarah Saunders
- 2/12—Jennifer/Derick Hall
- 2/19—Madison/Seth Gandee
- 2/26—Charlene/John West

**Younger Children's Church**

- 2/5—Tracy Williams
- 2/12—Sonya Anthony
- 2/19—Denise Gandee/Mallory Wagner
- 2/26—Laraine Sentz/Rachel Wells



# Recipe Corner

## Chocolate Cherry Bars

- 1 pkg. Pillsbury Plus Devils Food Cake Mix (dry)
- 21 oz can cherry fruit filling
- 1 tsp almond extract
- 2 eggs beaten

### Frosting

- 1 c sugar
- 5 T margarine
- 1/3 c milk
- 1 c (6 oz pkg) semi sweet chocolate pieces

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Grease and flour 15x10 or 13x9 in pan. In large bowl combine first four ingredients. Stir by hand until well mixed. Pour into prepared pan. Bake 25-30 minutes or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. In small saucepan, combine sugar, margarine, and milk. Boil, stirring constantly 1 minute. Remove from heat. Stir in chocolate pieces till smooth. Pour over warm bars. Makes about 3 dozen bars. ENJOY!!



If you have any recipes that you would like to share please forward them to the church secretary for placement in future editions of The Vision.

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believes that only Adam and Eve fit that description.

The philosophy of soul mates comes from a myth traced back to the Greek philosopher, Plato. He taught that men and women were created in one body but separated by the gods. That leads to the idea that we must search until we find our "other half," or (as we men wisely say about our wives) "our better half." As your pastor, I do not think Plato should be our guide for love! The Word of God will always guide us in the ways of love!

Dr. Lovern concludes, the real answer lies in such scriptures as **Isaiah 43:7**; **Ephesians 2:10** and **Revelation 4:11** where we are taught that our true Soul Mate is Jesus Christ! We were created to bring Jesus pleasure, and Paul says in **Colossians 2:10** that Jesus completes us. When His Spirit indwells, and controls us, we move toward the same goal of glory to God; and that is a true soul mate!

On this upcoming Valentine's Day, may we rededicate our love to our families and to our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ!

Pastor Bud Goude

