



- Worship
- Teaching
- Example



Volume LVX  
FEBRUARY 2015



# Lovilia Circuit Writer

*Our mission at the Lovilia United Methodist Church is to show the love of Jesus the Christ to our community through worship, teaching, example and tangible acts of love.*

## FROM THE PASTOR

Greetings! FEBRUARY!!

Someone has claimed that February is the love month. Since Valentine's Day occurs in this month – with its emphasis on love – that might be hard to argue against. While human love is vitally important, it is good to remember that “God is love” and that God’s love for us is what allows us to have eternal life. Since Ash Wednesday is February 18, and the season of Lent follows, we will all be reminded of what took place in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus to provide for such a blessing.

A few months ago I saw a posting on Facebook that I would like to share with you. I have no idea of the original source of the item, but I think it is well worth considering.

As I Live Each Day / May I Make A Difference  
And Touch One Heart . . . / Each Day It Is My Goal  
To Bring Smiles And Laughter / Into A Soul!  
Love, Peace and Happiness To All!

God’s blessings to all!  
Pastor Raymond Doser.

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Remember that Pastor Raymond Doser remains “on call” during the listed days off. When vacation plans take him out of the area, there will be another pastor “on call.”

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*In This Issue...*

**Pastor’s Column**

**Lectionary Scripture Readings**

**Birthdays & Anniversaries**

**Thoughts & Prayers**

**FEBRUARY CALENDAR**

## **LECTIONARY SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR SUNDAYS IN FEBRUARY**

- 1** – Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:2  
**8** – Isaiah 40:21-31; Psalm 147; 1 Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39  
**15** – 2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50; 2 Corinthians 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9  
**22** – Genesis 9:8-12; Psalm 25; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15

### **PRESENTATION OF THE LORD / CANDLEMASS – MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2**

Malachi 3:1-4; Psalm 84 or 24; Hebrews 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40

### **ASH WEDNESDAY – FEBRUARY 18**

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Psalm 51; 2 Corinthians 5:20b – 6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

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## **WORSHIP AT NURSING HOMES**

Worship service at Monroe Care Center is scheduled for Tuesday, February 24, at 10:00 a.m. Pastor Raymond Doser would welcome anyone who wishes to help with this endeavor.

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## **FAMILY ACTIVITIES**

Pastor Raymond Doser recently purchased a DVD of *Heaven is for Real*, the story of a small boy who had a near-death experience and told his family an amazing story that became a **New York Times** best-selling book and a dramatic movie (about 1 ½ hours in length). He would like to show it at the church if we can figure out a time that would work for a number of people. Sunday afternoon or night? Wednesday night? Perhaps share a meal? Discussion time following? February or March? Pastor Ray would welcome any ideas you may have.

## **TO THE MEN OF THE CHURCH**

Breakfast at Bussey UM Church basement February 7th at 7:00 A.M. The men of the Bussey Church prepare the meal, which is served at 7:00 a.m. A free-will donation goes towards the Personal Energy Transportation (PET) Project. Come and be a part of this important ministry!



**FEBRUARY**

- 8 Ed & Linda Weldon (A)**
- 10 Gail Lundstrom**
- 11 Norma Jean See**  
**Don Shelford**
- 12 Dana Lennie**
- 15 Amy Simmons**
- 21 Amber Powers**
- 24 Caitlin Conner**
- 26 Dola Doser**
- 27 Bill Conner**  
**Angie Kimball**  
**Andrew Hastings**  
**Gayle Hastings**
- 29 Jack Hastings**

Angie Geno, Teresa (Conner) Williams, Angie Kimball’s mother, Ernie Mercer, Milo McCombs, Haydee Waters, John Johnson, Nile Cook, Virginia Weldon, Judy Conner, Helen Baker, Max Bowman, Frieda Davis, Colleen Visser, our service men and women around the world, our shut-ins, and their caregivers and our leaders. Remember to offer prayers of thanks for each blessing we receive.

**COLLEGE STUDENTS**

- Melinda Kimball**, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls
- Jenna Ross**, William Penn University, Oskaloosa
- Breanna Ross**, Indian Hills Community College, Ottumwa
- Taylor Hastings**, granddaughter of **Gayle Hastings**, Indian Hills Community College, Ottumwa.
- Katie Williams**, granddaughter of **Norma Barnes**, Indian Hills Community College, Ottumwa.
- Christian Williams**, grandson of **Norma Barnes**, Indian Hills Community College, Ottumwa.

**LOVILIA UMW**

*by Goldie Kraber*

Greetings for this new year.

Our January meeting was planning our activities for 2015.

Our February meeting will be Thursday, February 5th at 1:30. Lesson leader and hostess will be Gayle Hastings. There will be a \$5. Valentine gift exchange. Bring a friend. If you have a favorite love poem, please bring it to share.

Lent will begin February 18th. Our "Day Apart" will be March 21st in Chariton. We prepare ourselves spiritually to celebrate Easter, which is early this year.

The theme of our year is to be a WELCOMING community to all with the love of God. We need to spread this welcome to all in our community and to others we meet during our daily lives.

Looking ahead, mark your calendars for our chicken noodle supper which will be April 15th.

If you have a project you want us to work on, please bring your idea to our meeting. We are a group whose goal is missions, near or far.

Q: What time of day was Adam Created?  
A: Right before Eve.

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An IRS agent went to a minister’s study. “Pastor” he said, “do you know a Mr. Karten?” “Yes I do.” “Is he a member of your congregation?” “Yes he is.” “Did he make a \$100,000 donation he’s claiming on his return?” “I assure you that he will!”

**KEEP THESE IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Please pray daily for Bishop Julius Trimble, our District Superintendent, Rev. Paul Smith, our Field Outreach Minister, Rev. Dr. Jaye Johnson, and your pastor.

Please pray also for our Conference Lay Leader, Margaret Borgen; our District Lay Leader, Sharon Spear, and the lay leadership and people of the church.

Please pray for the ministry of our sister congregation, Women at the Well UMC inside the walls of the Iowa Women’s Correctional Institute at Mitchellville and their pastor, Lee Schott.

**PLEASE NOTIFY PASTOR RAY OF ANY CHANGES OR CORRECTIONS TO ANY OF THE ABOVE LISTS**

# ***FEBRUARY CALENDAR***

## **1 – FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY -- HOLY COMMUNION**

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Worship 10:00 a.m.

## **2 – PRESENTATION OF THE LORD / CANDLEMAS**

Some of our Christian friends will be celebrating these events.

Pastor's day off.

5 – United Methodist Women to meet 1:30

7 – Men's breakfast at the Bussey UMC, 7:00 a.m.

Pastor Raymond Doser will be on vacation today through Friday, February 13. In case of emergency, please call an area pastor of your choice. Pastor Vickie Steffes, Attica, will not be available.

Pastor Neil Montz, Albia, will only be available February 10 – 14.

## **8 – FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

### **BOY SCOUT SUNDAY and/or SCOUTING MINISTRIES SUNDAY**

Guest speaker for worship will be Kim Jolly. In case of bad weather, contact her at 641-842-2059

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Worship 10:00 a.m.

14 – Pastor Raymond Doser to work on "catch-up" this Saturday.

## **15 – TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD**

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Worship 10:00 a.m.

## **16 – HOLIDAY: Presidents Day**

17 – Albia Area Ministerial Association meeting, 9:00 a.m.

18 – **ASH WEDNESDAY. Worship time to be announced.**

21 – Pastor's day off.

## **22 – FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT**

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Worship 10:00 a.m.

23 – Pastor's day off.

24 – Worship at Monroe Care Center, 10:00 a.m.

25 – Administrative Board, time to be announced

26 – Clergy Cluster at Oskaloosa, 10:30 a.m.

28 – Pastor's day off

**NOTE:** The 2014 Statistical Reports and other items will be worked on throughout the month. If you have information regarding the business of the church, please get it to Pastor Raymond Doser in a timely manner.

## **COMING:**

Palm Sunday – March 29

Holy Week – Monday, March 30 through Saturday, April 4

Easter – April 5

U.M.W. Time Apart, Chariton, Sat., March 21;

U.M.W. Mission Study, Knoxville, Thur., April 16.

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***WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU COME TO SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:00 A.M.***

***ALL AGES ARE WELCOME. COME HELP US STUDY THE WORD OF GOD.***

***WORSHIP SERVICES FOLLOWS - 10:00 A.M.***

*Candlemas is a Christian holiday celebrated annually on February 2. It celebrates three occasions according to Christian belief: the presentation of the child Jesus; Jesus' first entry into the temple; and it celebrates the Virgin Mary's purification (mainly in Catholic churches).*

### **Background**

Candlemas primarily focuses on Jesus' early life. Many Christians believe that Jesus' mother Mary presented him to God at the Temple in Jerusalem after observing the traditional 40-day period of purification (of mothers) following his birth. According to a New Testament gospel, a Jewish man named Simeon held the baby in his arms and said that he would be a light for the Gentiles (Luke 2:32). It is for this reason that this event is called Candlemas.

Many people believe that some of Candlemas' activities stem from pagan observances such as *Imbolc*, a Gaelic festival, or the Roman feast of *Lupercalia*. However, others have argued that there is too little evidence to shed light on Candlemas' substitution for these festivals. Either way, Candlemas occurs at a period between the [December solstice](#) and the [March equinox](#), so many people traditionally marked that time of the year as winter's "halfway point" while waiting for the spring.

According to some sources, Christians began Candlemas in Jerusalem as early as the fourth century and the lighting of candles began in the fifth century. Other sources say that Candlemas was observed by blessing candles since the 11th century. An early writing dating back to around 380 CE mentioned that a feast of the Presentation occurred in a church in Jerusalem. It was observed on February 14. The feast was observed on February 2 in regions where Christ's birth was celebrated on December 25.

Candlemas is known as the "Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple" in many eastern churches. Other traditional names in the western churches include the "Feast for the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary" as well as the "Meeting of the Lord". It is also Groundhog Day in the [United States](#) and [Canada](#) on February 2. According to folklore, the badger comes out to test the weather in the United Kingdom.

**LOVILIA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**1602 SOUTH E AVENUE**  
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**HAPPY**  
**VALENTINE'S DAY**



# LOVILIA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH BUDGET FOR 2015

(Approved 9/24/2014)

## CONFERENCE APPORTIONMENTS

General Church Apportionments	\$ 954.00	
Conference Ministries	\$ 3,382.00	
Conference Mission Giving	\$ 1,148.00	
<b>TOTAL APPORTIONMENTS:</b>		<b>\$ 5,484.00</b>

**DISTRICT ASKINGS** **\$ 187.50**

## PASTORAL SUPPORT

Salary	\$17,000.00	
Health Insurance / Pension	\$ - - - - -	
Travel Reimbursement	\$ 1,500.00	
Continuing Education	\$ 500.00	
Conference Attendance	\$ 200.00	
<b>TOTAL PASTORAL SUPPORT:</b>		<b>\$19,200.00</b>

## LOCAL EXPENSES

Pulpit Supply (5 Sundays)	\$ 250.00	
Water & Sewer	\$ 550.00	
Electric & Gas	\$ 1,800.00	
Office Supplies / Bulletins	\$ 250.00	
Postage	\$ 125.00	
Internet & Phone	\$ (pastor supplies own)	
Miscellaneous	\$ 50.00	
<b>TOTAL LOCAL EXPENSES:</b>		<b>\$ 3,025.00</b>

## COMMITTEE EXPENSES

Evangelism	\$ 100.00	
Christian Education	\$ 100.00	
Annual Conference (Lay)	\$ 75.00	
<b>TOTAL COMMITTEE EXPENSES:</b>		<b>\$ 275.00</b>

## INSURANCE

Property & Liability	\$ 1,600.00	
Workers Comp (Jester)	\$ 95.00	
<b>TOTAL INSURANCE:</b>		<b>\$ 1,695.00</b>

**TOTAL BUDGET FOR 2015:** **\$29,866.50**