



# Faith Christian Assembly February Newsletter

February 1, 2022

## Special points of interest:

- \* Pastor Sheri on our responsibility in keeping ourselves in the love of God page 1
- \* Gary Leming on The Love of God page 1
- \* The Power of Love and Appreciation page 2
- \* Earlene writes on love and appreciation ~ page 2

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## Keep Yourself in the Love of God *by Pastor Sheri Leming*

February is known as the love month. So as you can see, we have dedicated our February newsletter to talking about love. In Jude, we are instructed, "keep yourselves in the love of God".

Jude 1:20-21 NKJV, But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

Keep that love that we have for Him alive...even thriving. We are

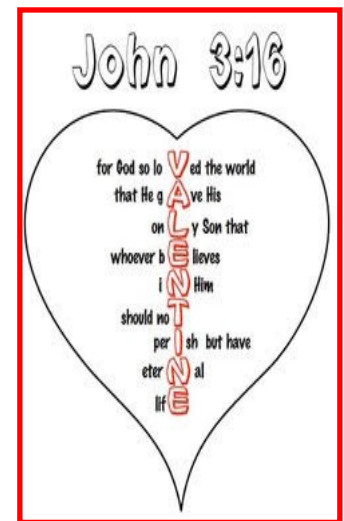
to engage our own efforts as if this depends on us, knowing full well that in His grace, "It is God who works in us..." [Phil. 2:13]

How do we accomplish this? In verse 20 we are instructed, "...building yourselves up on your most holy faith..." We are to do the work of establishing ourselves in the doctrines that have been laid out in His Word.

Do we realize that there is an all-out assault on truth in our culture? Do we know what we believe? And is what we believe truth as it is revealed in God's

Word?

*Continued page 2*



## The Love of God *by Gary Leming*

Lately Sheri has been talking about the parallel between the love of a parent toward their child, and God's love toward us. It is the deepest kind of love that chastens, reproves and corrects.



Do we echo Jeremiah's prayer? Jeremiah 10:24, NIV: Discipline me, Lord, but only in due measure—not in your anger, or you will reduce me to nothing.

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## Love and Appreciation *by Earlene Leming*

Helen Mroska was a Nun whose one assignment changed the lives of her students. During an angry class discussion, she told each child to list the names of every student on a piece of paper....and write ONE thing they liked about EACH name. Later, she gave each student their own paper, listing



Earlene Leming

all the nice things other students said about them. Each one said: "I never knew anyone felt that way!" Years later, Helen attended the Funeral for one student who had been killed in Viet Nam. After the classmates gathered at his family home, Mark's Dad said to her, "I'd like to show you something I found in my son's wallet." Opening it, he

removed a sheet of yellow, ragged paper that listed all the good things Mark's classmates had said about him. What made a boy carry a fifteen-year-old-paper everywhere...even to death in a rice-field halfway around the world? The answer is "Appreciation". Let's show God's love to others today by our words of kindness Philippians 1:3 "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you."

~ Earlene

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**"There is much at stake in how we respond to the love of God..."**

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## Keep Yourself... *by Pastor Sheri Leming continued*

If this is important to you, I invite you to our weekly Bible Study Wednesdays at 11am. Because this passage reminds us that we are responsible for our spiritual state, ""...keep yourselves in the love of God..."

There is much at stake in how we respond to the love of God.

St. Augustine of Hippo said: "Two loves make two cities; the love of God makes Jerusalem, the love of the world, Babylon; therefore, let every man but examine himself, what he loves, and he shall see in what state he is, and to what city he belongs."

Deuteronomy 10:12, NKJV

And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul,

2 Thessalonians 3:5, NKJV

Now may the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the patience of Christ

## The Love of God *by Gary Leming continued*

*continued from page 1*

Or David's? Psalm 139:24-25, NIV: Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

In the words of one of my favorite hymns:

***O love of God, how rich and pure!***

***How measureless and strong!***

***It shall forevermore endure***

***The saints' and angels' song***

## February Calendar

### SUNDAYS

Service Times: 10:30am and 5:30pm

Pre-service prayer 5:00 pm

Feb 6 10:30 am Communion service

### MONDAYS

Church Office Closed

### TUESDAYS

Church Office/Library Hours 10:00

am to 4:00 pm  
Call for appointment

### WEDNESDAYS

Bible Study 11:00 am

### THURSDAYS

February 17 Men's Ministry 1:00pm

February 17 Touch of Love Women's Ministry 1:00pm



### FRIDAYS

Church Office Hours 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Call for appointment

## The Greatest Gift—Ponder on This!

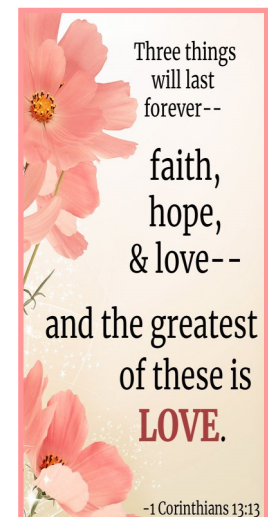
Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing,

And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.

Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely,

does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things...

1 Corinthians 13:1-7 NKJV



## FCA Men's & Women's Ministry Extending God's Love

Once a month the Men's and Women's Ministries of FCA come together in fellowship and fun, led by the love of God, to build community and faith amidst each group and beyond.

One of the highlights of the women's ministry, Touch of Love led by Linda Hernandez, is the tradition of having a "prayer pal." Every month prayer requests are exchanged

between the partners and as a result, everyday it can be said "I'm being lifted up in prayer and she really loves me." The cards, texts and calls are such a blessing to the "pals."

For the men's group led by Gary Leming and Ruben DeLaRosa, coming together once a month means the strength of like-minded individuals gathering to learn, support

and grow as "iron sharpens iron." They also look forward to activities together such as the annual golf tournament. And this month on February 17, their own Daryl Chamberlain will be bringing the Word.

If you live locally and are interested in joining, visiting, or just finding out more about these vibrant ministries, please call the church office at 562-598-9010.



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Faith Christian Assembly is a member of the Grace International Churches and Ministries, Inc., which was originally organized as the California Evangelistic Association in 1934. Beginning with one church, Colonial Tabernacle, located in Long Beach, CA the organization has since grown to include more than 3800 churches in the United States as well as in many nations of the world. It is now headquartered in Houston, TX, and overseen by an Executive Team and a Board of Directors, including as President Pastor Steve Riggle. Pastor Sheri Leming serves on the Grace International Missions Board and on the Grace SoCal District Committee.

## From the Desk of Pastor Sheri Leming



February Greetings to you all! How is your year going? We trust that you are doing well. We do know that in these uncertain times, we can put our hope and our trust in Almighty God, whose faithfulness never ends. We are excited about all that God has in store for 2022. We are grateful that you have joined us for this journey.

By now you should have received your letter of receipt for your giving in 2021. We thank you again for your obedience to God and your generosity in helping us ad-

vance the kingdom of God here at Faith Christian Assembly and abroad through both local and foreign missions. We are grateful for the provision of God.

We encourage you to renew your commitment to being in God's House for all of the church services and events that bring us together. We grow better together! And one thing I can safely say that we have learned these past 2 years is that we don't ever want to take these opportunities where we can experience the blessing of true

community for granted. It is a blessing to gather in God's House.

Deuteronomy 31:12, NIV

Assemble the people—men, women and children, and the foreigners residing in your towns—so they can listen and learn to fear the LORD your God and follow carefully all the words of this law.

Looking forward to Sunday,

*Pastor Sheri (and Gary) Leming*