



# Faith Christian Assembly

## February Newsletter

February 1, 2023

### Special points of interest:

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## How do You Show Love? *by Pastor Sheri Leming*

Gary Chapman wrote a great book several years ago spotlighting five of the ways people have of expressing and receiving love. The basic understanding of the book is that we have a variety of ways that we show others how we feel about them.

So, how do you do that to those around you? One of the simple, yet heartfelt ways that my husband shows his love every morning is that he makes coffee. We sit together in those first moments of our day and enjoy the heavenly brew. You might say that coffee is one of our love languages.

Did you know that it is biblical for the husband to make the coffee? Scripture clearly states...He-brews!

How Does God Show Love? Scripture is full of references to the awesome love that God

has for us. But I want to focus on one in particular...

Romans 5:8, NKJV But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

This is an unusual and remarkable manner of love that God exhibited. This love surpasses all that has ever been exhibited among people. He took our place; and in so doing, He saved us from dying eternally in hell. Sacrifice is the true test of love, and life is the greatest sacrifice man can make.

Desmond Tutu said this Scripture was his favorite verse: "Romans 5:8 sums up the Gospel wonderfully. We think we have to impress God so that God could love us. But he says, 'No, you are loved already, even at your worst.'"

What do we do with a love like

God's love? How do we show our love back to Him? Love like this, as Isaac Watts beautifully wrote: "Demands my soul, my life my all!"

What does it look like to fully give our soul, life and all to our loving heavenly Savior, who died for us while we were yet sinners? At the Wedding in Cana, Jesus' mother, Mary put our marching orders into one sentence in John 2:5. There is no one else in the world that we can trust with this command: "Whatever He says to you, do it" John 2:5.

No one ever received better instructions from anybody in all of history than these servants received from the mother of Christ when she told them to follow Jesus' orders. How do we show our love to God? By applying that exhortation to every single area of —our soul, our life, our all.

## Spiritual Training *by Earlene Leming*

In Deuteronomy 32:11, we read how God lovingly trains us spiritually. His purpose is to make us trust His Word. "Like an eagle stirs up its nest and hovers over its young, that spreads its wings to catch them, and carries them on its wings"!

The mother eagle builds her nest on the highest mountain peaks. She forms the nest from sticks and



Earlene Leming

stones, then makes a comfortable lining with feathers from her own body. When it is time for the eaglets to learn to fly, she begins removing feathers and makes it uncomforta-

ble to stay in the nest.

Learning how to fly can be frightening! The mother eagle begins with her baby on her back, but she soon abruptly dives, hurling her

young into the air! The little bird struggles frantically and plummets toward the earth. At the last moment, the mother swoops under her eaglet, breaking his fall, rescuing him as he lands safely again on her back. She repeats the process until the little bird discovers the thrill of flying and learns to take off on its own. May we learn to TRUST GOD and FLY ABOVE our problems!

~ Earlene

## Back to Basics *by Rose Seeley*

Going through the motions and still feeling a little "out of sorts?" Are your new year expectations dashed as things don't appear to be going as you hoped? You're not alone! At times like these, I'm reminded of what many athletes do when they're not performing at their peak and can't seem to get back on track.

That is, they go back to basics. Back to the things that made them successful to begin with. Basically speaking, we humans are made for connection – connections to our family, to our friends, neighbors, coworkers... but most importantly to our Maker. No social media or technology can replace those connec-

tions, neither can material things, or food, or activities. Our biggest joy, our greatest peace, and where we find life's most fulfilling direction can only be found in the most basic connection of all, to that of our Maker, God our Father and His Son Jesus Christ.

~ continued page 3

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***But seek first  
the kingdom of  
God and His  
righteousness,  
and all these  
things shall be  
added to you.***

***Matthew 6:33***

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## February Calendar

### SUNDAYS

Service Times:

10:30am and

5:30pm

Pre-service prayer

5:00 pm

February 5 – Com-  
munion service

10:30 am

**MONDAYS** - Office

Closed



*Happy February!*

### TUESDAYS

Church Office/Library

Hours

10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Call for appointment

### WEDNESDAYS

Bible Study 11:00 am

February 1—Health

Class 11:00 am

### THURSDAYS cont

February 16 - 1:00 pm

Touch of Love Women's

Ministry meeting

GriefShare—5:30 pm

weekly in Garden Room

### FRIDAYS

Church Office Hours

10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Call for appointment

### THURSDAYS

February 16 - 1:00 pm

Men's Ministry meeting

## Back to Basics ~ *continued from page 2*

He is the God of the Bible! Bring yourself back to the basics, and find connection where it matters most, in Him. One of the most important ways we can do that is through spending time in His Word.

"Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it.

Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do." Joshua 1:8

Here we are, a month into the new year and of all the resolutions that can be made, surely the most important is to spend more time in the Word, and this scripture reminds us that that is where we find true prosperity and success in life. A great way to get into the Word continually is to

use a Bible reading plan. It's not too late to start a plan that will take you through the Bible in a year! There are many plans available online and for printing, and a web search will take you right to many. If you need help finding a plan, we are here to help! Call or email us with your request and we can help you get started with a plan to suit your preferences.

"Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ..... For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

Matthew 6:31, 33-34



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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 4400 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 1, 2023

February Greetings to you all! We've already torn the first month off of our 2023 calendar! It is so good to know as we face the days ahead that 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 2023. We are grateful to our God for allowing us to journey together.

By now you should have received your letter of receipt for your giving in 2022. And if you regularly used the envelope system, you should have received our annual report. We are overwhelmed by all that God did through your giving in 2022! It was another record breaking year of giving to Missions! We thank you again for your obedi-

ence to God and your generosity in helping us advance 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 invite you to join us this first Sunday of February for our 10:30am service as we partake in Holy Communion together. This is such a rich time to partake together and in this way we can obey Jesus instruction to, "Do this in remembrance of Me."

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! We don't ever want to take these opportunities for granted where we can experi-

ence the richness of true fellowship. It is such a blessing to gather in God's House. Be sure to join us for **pre-service prayer** this Sunday at 5pm.

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.

"Prayers outlive the lives of those who uttered them; outlive a generation, outlive an age, outlive a world." –

E.M. Bounds

**Looking forward to Sunday,**  
Pastor Sheri and Gary Leming