

Valley Views



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Pastor Mike Hill



The Truth About God's Love

By Joyce Meyer, Christian Post Guest Columnist

The most important thing we can do as Christians is love God and love people. But before we can love anyone, we have to receive God's love. Because you can't give away something you don't have. So, do you really know that God loves you? It's one thing to understand that God is love and He loves you, but it's another to know and experience His love personally. What we believe begins as a thought, and as Proverbs 23:7 says, "As [a man] thinks in his heart, so is he". I like to say it this way: Where the mind goes, the man follows. If you need to get a deeper revelation of God's love for you, a good place to start is to meditate on this truth based on God's Word: "God loves me unconditionally!"

The Truth About God's Love

Many years ago when I was preparing to teach my first public message, I felt like God was speaking to my heart to tell people He loves them. At first, I wasn't excited about this because it seemed too simple, so I told God, "They already know that. And I don't want to just teach a little Sunday school lesson." But God showed me that many people don't really know how much He loves them, because if they did, they would act a lot differently than they do. God's love is amazing! First John 4:16 says God is love. And verse 18 says, "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear...". God's love can remove fear from your life. It's a medicine that can heal every wound in your soul: a broken heart, the pain of rejection or abandonment or any other hurt you've experienced. Romans 8:37 says "we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us." When you really know the love of God, you don't have to be afraid of making a mistake; you can step out boldly in faith to do whatever He's calling you to do. You know who you are in Christ and have confidence that you can do whatever you need to do in life through Him.

God loves you on purpose. He didn't get stuck with you – He chose you! Ephesians 1:4 says that "[in His love] He chose us [actually picked us out for Himself as His own] in Christ before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy (consecrated and set apart for Him) and blameless in His sight, even above reproach, before Him in love". When you know God loves you, you feel valuable, accepted and that you have a purpose. You know your sins are forgiven and you are free from guilt and condemnation. And no matter what you've done, you can have a new beginning in Christ.

I want to encourage you to be determined to know and receive God's love for you. Study scriptures about God's love and make them personal confessions you can declare over your life. Look at yourself in the mirror and say out loud, "God loves me! He chose me, actually picked me out for Himself to have a personal relationship with Him. I am more than a conqueror in Christ because He loves me, and His perfect love casts fear out of my life."

It's More Than a Feeling

Like I said before, the most important thing to God is that we love each other unconditionally. Love is not a theory or a gooey feeling; it's about how you treat people. And we start loving people with our thoughts. How do you think about people?

In 1 Corinthians 13:4-7, we read that "love endures long and is patient and kind; love is never envious nor boils over with jealousy, is not boastful.... It is not conceited (arrogant and inflated with pride); it is not rude (unmannerly) and does not act unbecomingly. Love...does not insist on its own rights or its own way, for it is not self-seeking; it is not touchy or fretful or resentful; it takes no account of the evil done to it.... It does not rejoice at injustice and unrighteousness, but rejoices when right and truth prevail. Love bears up under anything and everything that comes, is ever ready to believe the best of every person, its hopes are fadeless under all circumstances, and it endures everything [without weakening]." If you're going to walk in love, you have to set your mind and keep it set that you're going to walk in love. Our natural tendency is to be selfish, but the solution to overcoming a selfish, self-centered life is to love aggressively. Start with your thoughts and make this your confession: "I love people and I enjoy helping them." Galatians 5:13 says God has called us to live in freedom through Christ, "only [do not let your] freedom be...an opportunity or excuse [for selfishness], but through love you should serve one another." I've found that when I'm focusing on others and how I can bless them, I'm more peaceful and have more joy. Make it your business to put a smile on someone's face and do something that makes someone's life better every day.

Trust God to take care of you. If you stay busy trying to help others, you won't have time to worry about yourself. And you'll enjoy living a life of love.

Joyce Meyer is a New York Times bestselling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc. She has authored more than 90 books, including *Battlefield of the Mind* and *Do Yourself a Favor...Forgive* (Hachette). She hosts the *Enjoying Everyday Life* radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit www.joycemeyer.org. © 2015 Printed with permission of Joyce Meyer Ministries



We love because
He first loved us.
1 John 4:19

Elmsport U. Meth. Church Social Hall Restrooms

This is to give people a better understanding of the new restroom door operators. To open the door simply pass your hand slowly in front of the switch. The ladies room switches are on the wall to the right of the Boy Scout display case and on the wall over the cupboard in the ladies restroom. The men's restroom switches are on the wall in the restroom hallway outside of the restroom and on the wall over the sink in the restroom. The door will open and remain open for approximately 10 seconds so that the physically challenged can maneuver themselves in or out. The door can be opened or closed at any time by GENTLY and FIRMLY pushing or pulling on the door handle. If while the door is opening or closing it encounters interference the door will retract. Any movement in the restroom will activate the light. The light will remain on for 5 minutes after any or all motion in the room has stopped. The light can be turned off and on physically. Otherwise, the light will turn off automatically after there is no movement in the restroom for 5 minutes. The lock on the door is activated by rotating the lever to the left and deactivated by rotating the lever back to the right. If a person locks himself in the restroom the lock can be unlocked from the outside with a key which is located in the Boy Scout display case.

Elimsport Valley Parish,

Thank you so much for all the gifts you gave the Montgomery Food Bank during the year of 2018. All the gifts were very much appreciated. Thank you for caring for the needy people of the Montgomery area. Thank you so very much for the gifts of money each month.



Thanks again,

Footprints of Montgomery

A great big thank you to our parish for helping with our mission projects. We delivered a trunk load of soup to the Christmas committee. Everyone did an amazing job picking out gifts for our Montgomery kids. Also the donations of money helped us finish our shopping. We got gifts for 14 kids and each child/teen had a big bag of presents to open Christmas morning. We cannot do it without all your help! What a wonderful way to show these kids and families that people care!



Once again our Parish has spread God's Love through the Helping Hand's apple dumpling profits. Without your support, we would be helpless.

During the year of 2018, we were able to help financially; ramp entrance door, electric bill for young mother, Easter egg hunt, U.M. Home for children, funeral meals, helped a mother with traveling and lodging expenses while son was at John Hopkins Hospital, Montgomery Christmas Committee, Footprints of Montgomery, snacks for college students, Montgomery Performance Arts for trip to Washington D. C., helped pay some of a members medical bills, and gave gifts will Christmas Caroling. A total of \$4,207.55

A very Blessed Thank You for making it possible.



Son Light House

*130 Carpenter Street
Muncy, Pa 17756*

*Elimsport United Methodist Church
16145 S. Route 44 Hwy.
Allenwood, Pa 17810*

January 14, 2019

To: Members and Friends, Elimsport United Methodist Church:

On behalf of the Recipients, Volunteers and Board of Directors at the Son Light House, Thank You for the generous donation of "Cereal, Non-Perishable Food and Clothing" we received January 10, 2019 for the Son Light House.

We are truly thankful for your thoughtful support this year. We wish everyone at Elimsport United Methodist Church a happy, healthy and safe New Year.

The month of December, 607-Households received Food and Clothing or 1,518-Individuals, 533 - Youth, 639 -Adults, 346-Seniors and (10) New Household registered in December at Son Light House.

Son Light House depends on the Community and local support with both Food and Monetary donations and not to forget our Volunteers making it possible to provide this service to the many families in need during the year.

Gratefully with God's Blessing,

Ken & Delores Frey

*Ken and Delores Frey
Directors, Son Light House
Muncy, Pa 17756*



December 10, 2018

Elimsport UMC, Congregation
16145 S SR 44
Allenwood PA 17810-9421

Dear Friends:

This is to gratefully acknowledge your recent contribution in the amount of \$300.00. Your thoughtfulness means so much and we want you to know of our sincere gratitude.

During the past twelve months, the United Methodist Home for Children provided safe housing, food, clothing, counseling and care to dozens of central Pennsylvania children, many the victims of abuse and neglect. Your support, along with help from others who share our concern for children, makes our program possible.

May God bless you for your gift and for your heartfelt concern for our youth.

Gratefully,



Jeffrey A. Glass, MSW, LSW
Director of Programs in PA

Please retain this letter for tax purposes.
No goods or services were exchanged for this contribution.

5120 Simpson Ferry Road ♦ Mechanicsburg, PA 17050-3627
Phone: 717.766.7652 ♦ Fax: 717.766.5828
www.umhcservices.org



Awarded the
Pennsylvania Association
of Nonprofit Organizations'
Standards for Excellence Seal

The United Methodist Home for Children, Inc. is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization founded in 1917. Contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent of IRS tax laws. The official registration and financial information of the United Methodist Home for Children, Inc. may be obtained from the PA Dept. of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.



Sojourner Truth Ministries, Inc.

501 High Street Williamsport, Pennsylvania 17701 (570) 323-1797

<https://stmwilliamsport.org>

Dear Friends and partners,

We at Sojourner Truth Ministries want to thank you for your faithful support in furthering the work of ministering to others. With new leadership and direction, we continue to serve those on the edges of culture, trapped in struggles against hunger and homelessness, addictions, mental illness, domestic abuse and violence, job loss or chronic joblessness, and the full range of physical abilities. God has been faithful in his constant care and provision for those simply passing through, or who have landed with us for a season.

Your gifts (volunteer, prayer, or financial) have impacted lives in many ways:

*You have helped us reach out to hungry, hurting people with love, warmth, support, a hot meal, a devotion or prayer. **We've served over 15,000 lunches so far this year!** (plus breakfast 6 days per week)

* You helped to make Saturday Dinner Church a reality beginning in October. (brief, casual exploration of Jesus' love followed by a meal to all who come)

*You helped us to provide emergency food and clothing for those in need who came to us.

*We gave over 100 warm blankets for our first Warm-Up Williamsport event this fall.

* Your time has helped others to see and know the love of Jesus Christ.

* STM is working to strengthen connections in the community in order to better serve. We offer community service to individuals in lieu of paying fines, work training for individuals through agencies, help people navigate paperwork to get needed help, and even help people find gainful employment.

We invite you to celebrate the joy of giving generously of your time, talent, and financial gifts so we can continue to reach out to those who might otherwise fall through the cracks. STM is making a positive difference in the community! The needs are ever growing, and **STM needs your continued financial support**. Your support helps our outreach become a reality. Will you please give and continue to support this ministry?

You are invited to visit our website and our Facebook page to learn more!

May Jesus bless you~

Rev. C. Angelique Labadie, Director

Our Vision Statement... Sojourner Truth Ministry shall be a loving, spiritual, and inclusive Christian mission.
The Mission and Purpose of Sojourner Truth Ministries, Inc. Sojourner Truth Ministry loves all people, creates community, builds character, and equips us to be faithful disciples of JESUS CHRIST.

American Rescue Workers *Williamsport*



Community Outreach Ministries

The Men's Center Program

Men's Transitional Shelter

ARW Community Church

Retail Thrift Stores

Toys for Tots Distributor

4th Largest County Recycler

United Way partner programs:

Saving Grace Shelter

Social Service Center

Pastor Sam Astin, *Executive Director*

Dawn Astin, *Business Administrator*

November 26, 2018

Elimsport United Methodist Church

5 Gap Road

Allenwood, PA 17810

Dear Friend,

Thank you for your gift of \$300.00 to the American Rescue Workers.

Through your kindness we will be able to continue to assist thousands of families and individuals with basic daily needs such as food, clothing, shelter and emergency financial assistance. American Rescue Workers continues to provide 25,000 annual bed nights of shelter to men, women, and children who would otherwise be homeless. At the cost of \$16 per person per day, we truly could not do it without you.

Thank you again, and I look forward to your continued support.

Sincerely,

Valerie Fessler

Director of Development and Community Engagement

valerie@arwilliamsport.org

Thank you for
your generous
support of our
ministry!

No goods or services were provided in exchange for this contribution

When I Get Old

Lord, Keep me sweet when I grow old
And things in life seem hard to bear-
When I feel sad and all alone
And people do not seem to care.

Oh, keep me sweet when time has caused
This body, which is not so strong,
To droop beneath its load of years
And suffering and pain have come.

And keep me sweet when I have grown
To worry so at din and noise;
And help me smile, the while I watch
The noisy play of girls and boys.

Help me remember how that I,
When I was younger than today
And full of life and health and joy,
Would romp and shout in happy play.

Help me to train my heart each day
That it will only sweetness hold;
And as the days and years roll on,
May I keep sweet as I grow old.

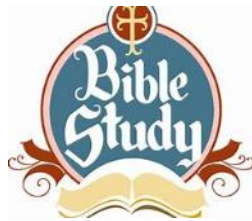
Oh, keep me sweet, and let me look
Beyond the frets that life must hold;
To see the glad, eternal joys;
Yes, keep me sweet in growing old.

-Mrs. J. A. Hazard

Community Breakfast is held Wednesday mornings from 7:00 - 9:00 am at the Elimsport Church.



Parish Bible Study is on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 at the Elimsport church. All are welcome.



There will be a Blood drive on Tuesday, February 5th from 2-7 in the Fellowship Hall.



- Items for March's newsletter are due February **20th**.
- Items for the weekly bulletin's need to be to the church office by **Wednesday** morning each week.

(Items received after these dates are not guaranteed to be printed.)

Just a reminder: Everyone is to check the mailbox in the back of the church.



Council on Ministries meeting was changed to this Thursday, February 7th at 6:30.



Elimsport Volunteers

Greeters for February

| | |
|-------------|----------------------|
| February 3 | Cathy Hill |
| February 10 | Les & Elenora Lutz |
| February 17 | Charlie & Pat Ulrich |
| February 24 | Sandy Foresman |



Acolyte Schedule

February

2/3 Elizabeth and Garrett
2/10 Samuel and Mallorie
2/17 Mitchell and Jackson
2/24 Garrett and Samuel



Attention fitness enthusiasts! All who are interested in free workouts can show up on Tuesdays and Thursdays (except when the FH is already booked) from 6:30-7:30 starting on November 8th. We will have a variety of workout DVD's we'll be showing on the TV in the fellowship hall. You may want to bring a mat and/or towel for floor work. We can develop a schedule of the type of workouts for each date as we become more organized. Any questions can be directed to Sharon Heintzelman or Christa McCormick.



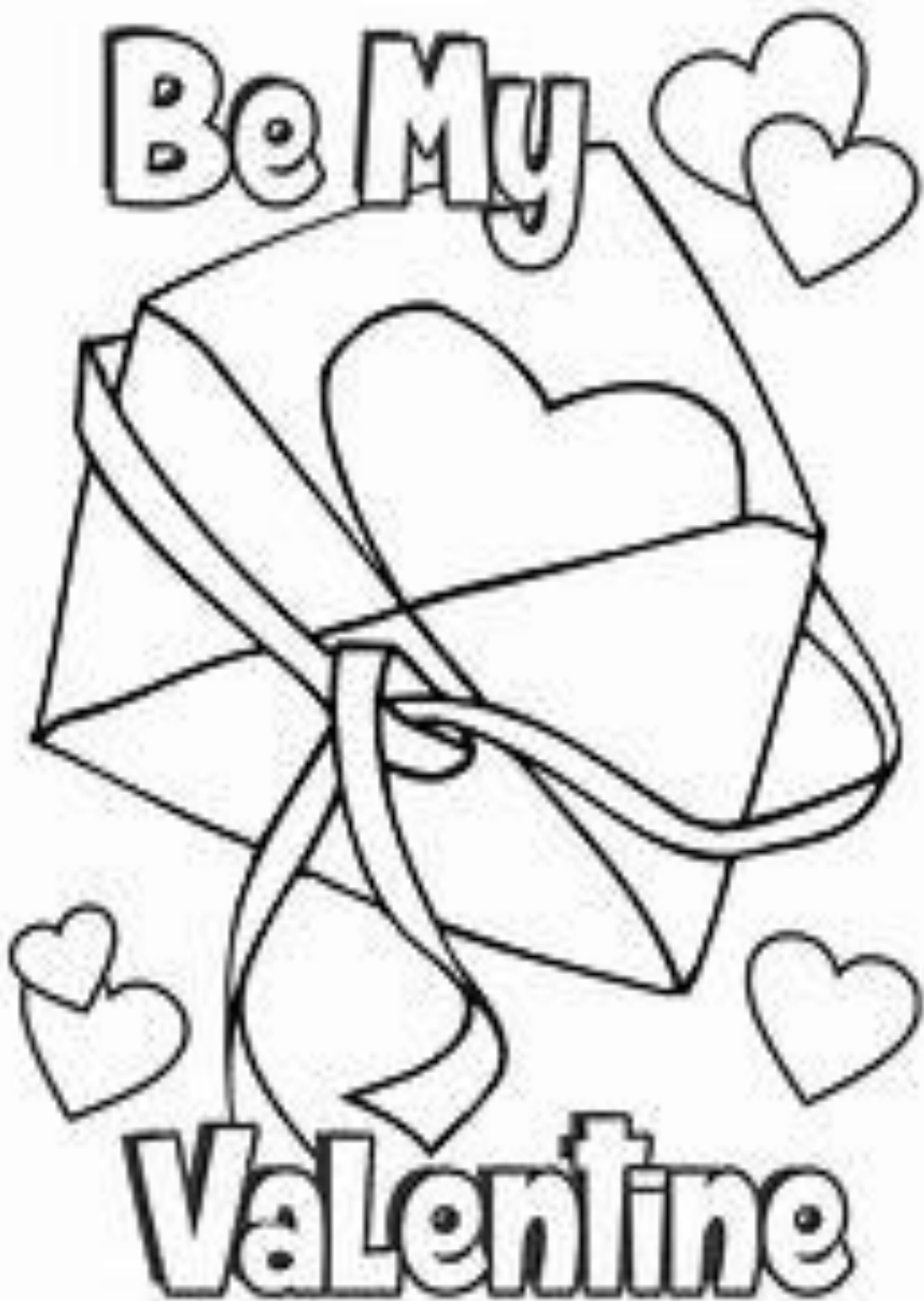
The Christian Crusaders will meet Friday, February 22nd at 5 pm in the Fellowship Hall for a potluck dinner. Meat is provided. The hostess will be Joann Stainbrook.



Pastor Mike will be in Ohio for continuing education this Friday and Saturday, February 8th and 9th.



Kid's Corner



ELIMSPORT VALLEY UNITED METHODIST PARISH

Worship Schedule:

Elimsport UMC

Worship 9:00 am
Sunday School 10:30 am

St. John's UMC

Sunday School 9:15 am
Worship 10:30 am

Parish Youth Group

Check weekly Bulletin for current schedule and events
(at Elimsport)

Parish Bible Study

Varies according to the season.

Parish Office:

16145S. RT 44 HWY
Allenwood, PA 17810

Parsonage Phone:

(570) 547-1386

Pastor Mike's Cell:

(570) 974-8590

Parish Website:

www.evpumc.org

Parish email:

elimsportumc@gmail.com

www.evpumc.org



For God so loVed the world
that He gAve
His onLy
begottEn
soN
thaT whosoever
believeth In Him
should Not perish,
but have Everlasting life.

-John 3:16

Our Mission Statement at Elimsport UMC



We gather together as a community of Christian believers to worship, fellowship, and to learn more about God. By the unity of the Spirit and the support of each other, we are able to reach out to the community and the world.

Our Mission Statement at St. John's UMC



The purpose of St. John's is to both evangelize and nurture. We are called to show God's love in our world by giving aid and by spreading the Good News of Christ. We in turn provide an atmosphere for nurturing where Biblical truths are shared enabling people to become spiritually enriched. By providing this, people will learn and through learning, become more effective witnesses.