



From Pastor Doug

February is the month we often think about love. Our communion offering is for Blanket Sunday in which we give to provide warmth and love for people in the midst of tragedies. We celebrate Valentine's Day which is a day for celebrating love. So for this month, a little story that reminds us of God's love for us.

A young father and his daughter were on a cruise, a "get-away" cruise because his wife/her mother had just died. Turning to one another to help relieve the pain, they huddled together on board ship. And on the deck of that ship the little girl asked her father: "Daddy, does God love us as much as Mommy did?"

At first, the father didn't know what to say. But he knew he couldn't side-step the question. Pointing out across the water to the most distant horizon, he said, "Honey, God's love reaches farther than you can see in that direction." Turning around he said, "And God's love reaches farther than you can see in that direction, too." And then the father looked up at the sky and said, "And God's love is higher than the sky, too." Finally he pointed down at the ocean and said, "And it's deeper than the ocean as well."

It was then that the little girl said the "darn'dest" thing. "Oh, just think, Daddy. We're right here in the middle of it all!" Yes, here we are. Right in the middle of God's loving embrace.

Small Group Prayer Study meets on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm at 182 Ash Ave., Mantua. If you have a prayer concern and cannot attend, but would like us to pray for you, you can text the request to 856-803-7803. If you have any questions at all about the Prayer Study, please call Elda Barger at 856-468-2072.

February 2nd our communion offering will be for Church World Service Blanket Sunday.

Through the generosity of CWS partner organizations, congregations, and individual supporters, our most vulnerable neighbors around the world can feel safe and keep warm with fresh linens and clean sleeping quarters. When our neighbors are in need, \$10 for a single blanket goes a long way.

Women's Community Bible Study led by Todd Hickman is held on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month. Coffee is served at 9:30 am, bible study begins at 10:00 am. Contact Ann Newcomb for more information.

The JUG Class again has Wawa coupons available. Wawa has announced that 2025 will be the last year these coupons will be available. Those purchased will expire at the end of the year. The cost is still \$5.00, which saves you at least 99 cents and benefits the JUG Class. We thank you for supporting this project over the years. The JUG Class

**Please stop by our table in McConnell Hall
to sign a Valentine's Day Card.
These cards will be sent
to United Methodist Communities
residents in Pitman**



To the Congregation of Mantua United Methodist Church,

We appreciate the members of your church supplying Christmas baskets to our PetPAL clients. Your ability year after year to do this for PetPAL clients is appreciated so much. Your organizers and volunteers are fantastic.

All of our clients expressed their appreciation for the food that will make their Holiday so much better.

PetPAL clients are seniors and people with long-term chronic illnesses with limited finances and companion animals. In most cases, their pet(s) are the only companionship they have. Your church's continued support of PetPALS of Southern NJ is appreciated not only by the Board of Directors, but also by our clients and their pets.

Thanks again to everyone for your generosity and efforts to make Thanksgiving better for our clients.

Happy Holidays,
Ken Sell
Board Member
PetPALS of Southern NJ

Mantua United Methodist Church invite
you to our Family Friendly

THE TACKY PROM

Anything goes! Dress up! Dress
Down! Mix-match! Just have fun

February 16
6:30-8:30

Bring "tacky"
Snacks to
share

Happy Birthday!

- 1 Joyce Wescott
- 2 Amy Durand
Jody Miller
Linda Rudisill
- 4 Brenda Anderson
Nick Colamarino
Alex DeMarco
- 8 Morgan Gallagher
Robert Hoskins
- 12 Joe Vincent
- 13 Erin Munch
- 14 Pam Baitinger
Ryan Borgersen
Molly Shannon



- 16 Chelsea Guarrera
- 17 Barbara Davis
Nancy Fink
Marilyn Heston
Karisa Wescott
Megan Yearicks
Morgan Yearicks
- 19 Anthony Dorisio
- 22 Kristin Baitinger
Marcie Daniels
- 25 Lynn Varner
- 26 Jimmy Heise
- 27 Isabel Elliot
Terry Grabert

Happy Anniversary!



- 6 Doug & Pam Baitinger
- 11 Pardam & Theresa Skalit
- 20 Joe & Judie Smith
- 28 Bryson & Michelle Biglin

United Methodist Men's

Chili Cook-off

February 22

6- 8pm

All Men and Young Men are invited. Make some chili to enter the contest or just show up to eat!

A bowl of chili with cheese and a red chili pepper on top. The bowl is red and has two handles.