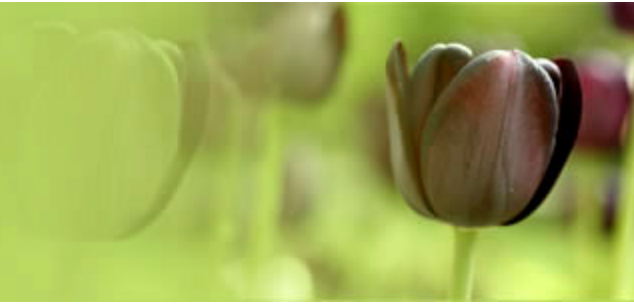


February 15, 2008

WFMCC Weekly

Falling in Love



To fall in love is easy, even to remain in it is not difficult; our human loneliness is cause enough. But it is a hard quest worth making to find a comrade through whose steady presence one becomes steadily the person one desires to be. -Anna Louise Strong

Dear Friends,

Despite what you might think, given the subject line of this email, this is not a torrid letter about my personal life :). Rather it is gives the nod to this Sunday's message on the first purpose of our lives. According to Rick Warren in the Purpose Drive Church, our first purpose is to love God back. As you may recall, I mentioned in the first of our sermon series on 40 Days of Purpose that God created us to love us. And isn't that a great feeling? To know that, regardless of what else is going on in our lives, God is actively, passionately loving us. It seems appropriate to talk about love given the fact that Valentine's Day was yesterday. It is a time when we celebrate love. Sometimes, however, what we call love is really nothing more than adrenalin, sometimes we determine what love is based soley on emotion. As the quote above intimates, however, there is more to love than warm fuzzies and valentines. More to love even than being with your beloved through hard times and fear. Love is supposed to change us, even as others are changed by loving us. This Sunday, we'll take a look at how we can actively love God out loud and how that can change our lives. I hope you'll be there to share the love.



Blessings and Peace,

Nori

In This Issue:

New addition! See February birthdays below

1. Candy Donations for Patsy's House

2. Wichita Falls MCC Men's Retreat

3. Lenten Sermon Series

4. Congregational Surveys Available

5. Stewardship Month Reminder

6. No Day But Today meeting

7. Break the Barrier Update

8. Thanksgivings and Prayer Requests

February Birthdays

If your birthday is this month and isn't listed, email nrost@wichitafallsmcc.org to be included

2/1 KD Johnson

2/1 Deon Winchester

2/4 Kevin Stone

2/5 Cassie Daley

1. \$566 raised for victims of hate crime in Jamaica!

Thanks to your compassionate generosity, WFMCC raised \$566 to help in the medical treatment of the three gay men who were viciously attacked in Jamiaca last week. You made a difference in their lives. You totally rock!

2. Wichita Falls MCC Men's Retreat

The next men's retreat meeting will be on February 17th at 1 pm, in the fellowship hall. If you identify as male and want to be a part of the WFMCC men's community feel free to join us as we grow together for our community!

3. What would you get if you put Rick Warren in Drag?

A special sermon series based on Warren's popular book, "The Purpose Driven Church" all queered up by transitional pastor, Rev. Dr. Nori Rost. That's right, beginning February 10, Rev. Rost will preach on diifferent chapters of this book, written by evangelical Christian Rick Warren. She will lead us through questions such as "What is my purpose?" "Why did God create me?" and others as together we explore the purpose God is calling WFMCC to, as well each of us as individuals. By looking at these important questions through the lens of progressive, queer Christianity, Rev. Rost will take us through a Lenten journey of eternal significance. And because it's a theme, we're going to be trying something new using our multi-media technology. On the weeks Rev. Rost isn't physically with us, she'll be providing the sermon via DVD. If nothing else, it should be fun just to see how it turns out. So plan on joining us every Sunday during Lent as we explore God's purpose for our lives and our church.

4. Last Chance for Survey!

This Sunday, February 17th, is the last day for you to turn in your congregational survey. The Pastoral Search Team will use the data from this

2/6 Ed Paul
2/9 Taylor Mull
2/10 Brian Vestal
2/12 Kathy Isaacks
2/14 Glenda Pruett
2/20 Ron Preston
2/23 Milan Caper
2/28 Chris Boren

survey in crafting a packet for prospective candidates. Please make sure you mail in or bring in your survey. And don't forget! We're celebrating this milestone in the process with a pot-luck after worship. Bring your favorite dish to share!

4. Break the Barrier Update

Many thanks to everyone who has been contributing to our Break the Barrier Fund. Our current total is now \$4,744! These funds are set aside each month to fund our dream of hiring a full-time director of music and worship. With the continued faithfulness and generosity of the WFMCC community, we can be assured that we will be able to make this dream come true.

We will taking up the Break the Barrier offering this Sunday, February 17, 2008. Please give as you feel God directing.

6. No Day But Today!

No Day But Today! will be meeting again on February 24th at 1 pm here at the church. Refreshment will be provided and everyone is welcome! Come join us as we work together to bring HIV/AIDS awareness to Wichita Falls!

8. Thanksgivings and Prayer Requests

Add your Thanksgivings and Prayers Requests to the Prayer Book in the foyer at church or email them to nrost@wichitafallsmcc.org

Thanksgivings for... 21 years of being here worshipping our God together. Praises that I found WFMCC! For daughters and husbands, for good health and medication. For friends and acquaintances that God puts into each of our lives -- may they continue to be a blessing!!!

Prayers for... Heather and her struggle with neck and arm pain and be with her boys Alex and Austin.

For Martha, Kathy, and family as we pray for Camilla's healing. For guidance for where I am to move. For Laretta. For Family and friends. For continued healing and strength for Steve Cash and John Forsythe. Continued healing for Max. For Beth, Kelly and her mom, Barbara, who

was diagnosed with colitis.

Wichita Falls MCC

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