THE POWER OF LOVE

‘…God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.’
1 John 4:16 NIV

When Dr E Stanley Jones preached a sermon on love in India, a church leader told him how a layman, whom he loved and had helped, was making trouble and threatening to split the church. The frustrated clergyman asked Dr Jones what to do because, in this case, love didn’t seem to be working. ‘Increase the dosage!’ retorted Jones. Our self-centred nature would have us believe that happiness comes when we get what we want and all of our needs are met. Yet, when we do get a better job, or a bigger house, or a bit of fame, we find ourselves empty because these things don’t bring us lasting joy and fulfilment. They actually whet our appetite for more—and around and around it goes. Peter Gillquist said, ‘Every time we have a chance in any way to flesh out the love of God to others, our joy cycle gets fulfilled all over again.’ St. Francis of Assisi may have expressed it best in his famous prayer: ‘Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy. Oh Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.’

Source: The UCB Word for Today.
Sabbath School Program

WELCOME: A warm welcome to all our visitors and guests today! If you are visiting for the first time, or if you are returning to worship, we pray that you will be blessed and find the love of Jesus here today.

TITHES & OFFERINGS: Today’s offering is for Local Church Budget. Thank you for your gift today! Please give generously when waited upon by the deacons.

ONLINE GIVING NOW AVAILABLE: Please visit the SDA website at www.stjohnssda.org

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT: Rom 13:8 “Keep out of debt.” Amplified. “Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another.” What ever it takes, work toward being debt free. But don't stop there. Work toward being able to help someone else in need. - Eph 4:28.

ADVENTURERS: the Program for all the younger people, will begin tomorrow Sept. 20 at 2:00 p.m. For more information contact Jenny Purcell or Nikki Norine.

4TH QUARTER SCHEDULES: Schedules were put in the mailboxes today for those without computer services. Schedules will be posted on our church website and also emailed to those for whom we have email addresses. A copy of the SS Schedule and the Worship Schedule can be seen on the bulletin board, near the mailboxes.

AVALON REGION EVANGELISM TRAINING THIS WEEKEND (CAMP WOODY ACRES): Join us this afternoon at Camp Woody Acres for continued training with Pastor Chris Holland and Evelyn Cole-Kissing. Schedule in Foyer.

CYC NATURAL DISASTER FUND: Thank you to all who supported this fund. A cheque for $3645 has been sent and generous thanks received. A report was presented from the front superintendent: Margaret Moore, Randy Noseworthy, Pratt Saunders and Paul Veber to serve as the Pre Nominating Committee. They have agreed to serve and, along with Pastor Ollila, will meet after church today to formulate a list of members to contact to serve on the Nominating Committee. Please pray for the nominating process and pray for the Lord to guide YOU in how you can serve in His work.

FOOD BANK NEED: During our Soup Suppers for the community, we have been placing some grocery items on a table for guests to pick up a few things as needed. Since most of our guests are single people, we have a need for items that will provide a meal with protein for one person – individual soups, cans of beans, tins of tuna and salmon are particularly needed. If you are able to donate any of these type of items, there is a donation box in the foyer marked FOOD BANK.

SUNDAY SOUP SUPPER: will continue in the fall on the first, third and fifth Sundays of the month. Sign-up sheets for September and October are posted now. Please sign up if you are able to cook or serve.

LAWN MOWER: Our church mower is in need of servicing. Anyone skilled in this task and willing to take a look at the mower, please let Pastor Ollila know.

OFFICIAL GOOGLE CHURCH CALENDAR ONLINE: The St. John’s SDA Church has an official Google Calendar that is regularly updated with the latest church calendar items. Google Calendar may be synced to any mobile device, PC, or Mac computer. Visit www.stjohnssda.org for more information.

YOUTH ACTIVITY: Sabbath School members and any other junior-high or high-school aged youth are invited to a hiking/geocaching outing next Sabbath afternoon, September 26. Please see Trudy for details.

STEWARDSHIP: Mike/Georgina Somerton for picking up the bulletins

MOWER: Anyone skilled in this task, please let Pastor Ollila know.

THANK YOU: a warm thank you is extended to those who visited, sent cards, brought food and gifts, sent get well wishes on Facebook, many phone calls, took my place teaching Sabbath School Class, doing my SS Superintendent duties, those who did my plato phone duties, to Mike/Georgia Somerton for picking up the bulletins, and certainly not least the many prayers that were ascending on my behalf during my convalescence from the car accident and then surgery – it was a long two and a half months. Your thoughtfulness/kindness will be forever remembered. Although I am not fully recovered I am on the road to recovery for which I have been told that it could take up to a further six months, so I ask that you would continue to keep me in your prayers. Love, and blessings to you all – Alice Brown.

THEOLOGY TRAINING FOR DEPRESSION: September 23rd and 30th (Saturday) Depresssion Recovery Training 7:00 pm.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD: Delivering the Good News of God’s love is what Operation Christmas Child is all about. This upcoming fall and Christmas season, our church will be participating in this ministry, packing shoe boxes to be delivered to poor and hurting children around the world. An information letter, shoe boxes and packing pamphlets will follow in the coming weeks. In support of this program, the children and youth will be presenting a special Christmas program on December 4 with an emphasis on Operation Christmas Child. If you require further information at this time, please speak with Stephanie Anthony. Thank you for your support.

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