



Little River
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
Serving The Church. Serving The Kingdom.

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February 2022 Edition

Your First Love

Do you remember your first love? Considering its February and Valentine Day, I thought I would speak about your first love. My so-called “first love” was back when I was ten or eleven years old. A little girl that lived in our neighborhood and rode a pink Schwinn bicycle and could run like a rabbit. I would always pick her for my baseball team, not because she was good, but because she was cute and could run. I remember asking my mother, “how do you know if you are in love?” I will never forget her answer. She said, “when someone is on your mind more than food.” I thought, Wow! I will never be in love. I guess what my mom was telling me was that you will know true love because the object of your love will control your every thought, time and treasure.

Jesus told the church of Ephesus thru his Apostle John in **Revelation 2:4**, *“thou hast left thy first love.”* In the verse’s prior, Jesus had nothing but praise for the church. He said, they were standing up to the task. He said, *“I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience...”* Ephesus was an active church, no faith without works here. Ephesus was the kind of church any of us would have been happy to be a part of. Jesus also said they were standing for the truth. He said, *“thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars.”* This church knew the truth, they knew the doctrine of the apostles and what they believed. As one preacher said, “They did not back up, they would only stand up for truth and would not shut up. They refused to compromise to the world around them. But the church of Ephesus also stood up to the Test. Ephesus, *“hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted.”* They had their enemies, and those who tried their patience, but they held true to the word of God.

So why did Jesus say, “they left their first love?” Simply put... like my mother said, “first love,” is not an order in which love comes, but a priority in your life. What Jesus was telling the church of Ephesus was their priority of love had changed. John put it this way in **1 John 3:18** *“My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.”* Love is to be a verb, an action word in our life. Love is not only the reason we serve our Lord, but also the result of our Lord. John continues later in his epistle to better explain love, and then says in **1 John 4:19** *“We love him, because he first loved us.”* Jesus loved us so much that while we were yet sinners, he died for our sins. He didn’t love us because of what we did, but despite what we did. Just like James said, “Faith without works is dead.” Jesus told the church at Ephesus that, “Service without Love is meaningless.”

In Christ service,
Bro. Bobby

*Happy
Valentine's
Day*



Reminder

Executive Team

Semi-Annual Meeting Planning

Monday, February 7, 6:00 p.m.

Mission Board Meeting

Monday, February 7, 7:00 p.m.

All meetings @ Baptist Center

ASSOCIATIONAL APPOINTMENT DAYS
With Don Spencer,
KBC Church Financial Benefits Director
Tuesday, February 22, 2022

Reasons to schedule an appointment

For Ministers & Treasurers who may have questions about:

- Their Financial Support Package and how it is structured
- How compensation in their church is reported to the IRS
- Ways they might be able to save taxes

For Ministers & Church Employees to discuss issues regarding their retirement planning:

- To enroll or reactivate participation in the Church Retirement Plan (SBC retirement plan)
- To review their contributions and investment choices
- For those approaching retirement to look at the various retirement options available to them

NOTE: Church Retirement Plan Participants will need to know how to access their account online – OR - bring a copy of their most recent statement with them. Due to privacy issues he cannot access accounts for you. If you can access your account then he can address any questions and issues you may have. If you have never set up on line access, he will help you do this when you meet.

Call now for an appointment (270) 522-7066.



February Calendar Of Events

- 7– Executive Team Semi-Annual Planning, 6 p.m.
- 7– Mission Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 8– Evangelism Training with Kenny Rager, 6 p.m.,
(The Way Youth Center)
- 14– Valentine’s Day
- 21– President’s Day
- 22– Associational Appointment Days with Don Spencer

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR JANUARY

	Regular	Special
Church		
Bethany	0	
Blue Spring	1,708.90	
Buffalo	0	
Cadiz	1,301.11	
Canton	790.69	250.00
Cerulean	881.00	
Crossroads	0	
Delmont	561.02	
Donaldson Creek	921.03	
East Cadiz	1,541.22	
Hurricane	400.00	
Liberty Point	643.20	
Locust Grove	673.00	
Maple Grove	400.00	
New Hope	197.67	
New Jerusalem	0	
New Light	50.00	
Oak Grove	280.58	
Ponderosa	381.72	150.00
Rock Front	200.00	
Rocky Ridge	158.00	
South Union	165.80	
Wallonia	0	
Misc. Income	600.00	1,810.00
Total	11,854.94	2,210.00
		14,064.94
Interest NOW Acc.	3.70	
Deaf Ministry		250.00
Mev Fredenburg Assoc. Missions Fund		1,700.00
Building Maintenance Fund		260.00
Subtotals	11,858.64	2,210.00
Total income		\$14,068.64
Monthly expense		\$9,623.54
Regular Fund		
Beginning Balance		41,550.90
Interest Received		3.70
Gifts		11,854.94
Trans– Contingency Fund		(100.00)
Trans– OMC		
Trans– Building Maintenance Fund		(100.00)
Trans– Mev Fredenburg Fund		
Expense Checks Written		(9,714.99)
Ending Balance		\$43,494.55
Treasurer: Louise Fuller 1/25/22		

