Parkside Nazarene Church

23600 Hilliard Blvd Westlake, Ohio 44145 www.parknaz.org

# >> FEBRUARY MESSENGER

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## Worthy is the Lamb

### By LaVerne Kling

Valentines Day is a special day we express and show our love to one another. As followers of Jesus, every day we wake up we have the opportunity to express and show our love to the God who loves us. Jeremiah 1:5 says before we were born we existed in God's mind. Psalm 118:24 says, "This is the day the Lord has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it." Every day we can rejoice and be glad and worship God because, if our eyes and hearts are open and soft, we can see and feel his love in the world and in our lives. Rejoicing is not always easy; it's a choice. What we know in our head might be hard to walk out every day. We have to exercise our faith muscles. If you have a tough day ahead of you, remember Lamentations 3:22-23 that says God's compassions never fail, they are new every morning.

Faith is a gift from God to the believer. [Ephesians 2:8] Psalm 27(NKJV) anchors the faith of some struggling friends of mine and encourages them to wait on the Lord, to take heart and be strengthened. They wrote an encouraging word from God on a dry erase board in their home that says, "He is faithful, the One Who brought us to this place, to bring us safely through it." Belief in God, in his written Word, and in the power of prayer can result in things that will amaze us – causing us to praise and thank and worship him.

Jesus said to a doubting disciple Thomas, "You believe because you have seen me. Blessed are those who believe without seeing." [John 20:29] On another day, Jesus asked his disciples if on the day he returns [his 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming], will he find faith on the earth?" [Luke 18:8] <u>The Santa Claus</u> movie comes to my mind where the wise childlike elf Judy tells a struggling-to-believe-Tim-Allen that he is now the new Santa Claus, that "seeing is not believing, believing is seeing." That kind of stuck with me.

The other night I was watching the TV sitcom Everybody Loves Raymond, and Ray's preteen daughter, Ally, asks him why we are here if God wants everyone in heaven? Ray has this flummoxed look on his face because he was expecting a HOW question about birds and bees. After a few looong seconds he says, "Well...God is in heaven.....and heaven is crowded." lol The simple answer I shared with a friend years ago is we are here to worship and glorify God. We were created for his glory. [Isaiah 43:7] The universe declares his glory. [Psalm 19:1] We proclaim his glory every time we rejoice with our mind & heart & voice in him and in his grace and, supremely, in his redeeming Son Jesus Christ. "God created us to know him and love him and show him. And then he gave us a hint of what he is like – the universe." [John Piper "Why Did God Create the World?" September 22, 2012]

"Then I looked and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne...and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice: 'Worthy is the Lamb who was slain To receive power and riches and wisdom, And strength and honor and glory and blessing!" [Revelation 5:11-12]

Imagine billions of voices raised in heaven and on earth declaring "WORTHY IS THE LAMB" "GREAT IS THE LORD" "HOLY HOLY HOLY IS THE LORD GOD AL-MIGHTY". It's unimaginable – so are the things God has prepared for us. [1 Corinthians 2:9]

Song: See our Website and Facebook page (on 2/3) for the song, Glorify Thy Name as chosen by LaVerne to pair with this message.

Weekly Services: (services are in person and online)

Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Go to: www.facebook.com/parknaz/ or www.youtube.com Parkside Nazarene Church

Wednesday Prayer Meetings at 3:00 p.m. (in person only)

# The February Messenger Continued..

### **SIGNIFICANT FEBRUARY DATES:**

01: Scott Sharp's First Day

**04: Progressive Dinner** 

**05: Finance Committee Mtg** 

**07: Church Board Meeting** 

14: Valentine's Day

20: President's Day

24: CCC Closed: Teacher In-Service

26: Alabaster Sunday

## ebruary Birthdays

LaVerne Kling	05
Sydney Kolpien	- 11
Randy Whitney	21
Brian Murphy	24
Cheryl Szczepanski	26

#### **PRAYING FOR MIRACLES 2023**

- 1. That each of us will grow deeper in our walk with God...
- 2. That every person will become a part of a small group ...
- 3. That we will see a minimum of 5 new converts.
- 4. That we will increase the number of children  $\dots$
- 5. That we will increase the number of teens  $\dots$
- 6. That we will be able to begin new ministries for young families ...
- 7. That we would successfully launch a minimum of two Micro-churches.
- 8. That we will find ways to effectively minister to the families in our Childcare Center ...
- 9. That we would continue to be fervent in prayer...
- 10. That there will be a growing hunger in all of us to be filled with the Holy Spirit  $\ldots$
- 11. That our times of worship and preaching will be anointed like never before.

#### PARKSIDE CHILD CARE CENTER

Happy February! May you see love all around you! The New Year is here and we are all for it! We were thrilled to hear the news of the birth of



Miss Dova's (PreK) son, Liam. She began her 9 week maternity leave last month and is ready to take on her newest role as Mama! Congratulations Miss Dova!!!

And please welcome Miss Abby, our new Assistant Teacher in the Preschool 2 classroom!

We are preparing for our first Staff Inservice Day on **Friday, February 24.** The main focus of this day is team building and mental wellness. **Parkside will be closed to children and families as we take the day to learn and work together as a team.** 

We are starting to work on changes within the Infant 1 & 2 class-rooms, starting with classroom arrangement which includes purchasing new furniture! This is all made possible by a grant that we were awarded last year! We can't wait to see the changes the class-rooms will make as we move forward with these changes.

And remember... spread LOVE and HAPPINESS every day.

If you have any questions regarding the Child Care Center, please feel free to contact Cheryl or Pastor Marcella: 440-333-6643.

#### **PROGRESSIVE DINNER!!**

Saturday, February at 5:00 p.m. is the Progressive Dinner! We have hosts for Appetizer, Soup/Salad, Main Course and Dessert. Be sure to sign up so our hosts know how many to plan for! Contact the Church Office if you would like a ride and/or to carpool.

#### **NYC FUNDRAISER**

We are still working to coordinate a fundraiser with a local restaurant. For now, save the date for a Chili Cook-Off on Sunday, March 19 following the Worship Service. See Brian and Stephen Murphy if you are able to prepare Chili or help in another way.

#### LADIES MINISTRIES

MVNU is hosting Women's Auxiliary spring Conference March 17-18, 2023. Pam Tebow is the featured speaker. Go to: https://www.mvnu.edu/churchrelations/events/womensauxiliary for more information.

