

Loving The Unlovable

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Do you ever feel that way? We can chuckle over that statement, but if we're honest we recognize there are people we feel that way about. It's not surprising. People can be mean, cruel, insensitive and difficult. All people can. Even you. Even me.

Jesus gave us the commandment to love each other as He has loved us ([John 15:12](#)). Sure, that's easy for Him to say. He's God! He has the capacity to love. He even forgave those who crucified him while he was hanging in agony on the cross!

Why do we think it was easy for Jesus to love that way? Maybe it was...I don't know. Being divine, his capacity for love is infinite. When it comes to my



loving others, no matter how unlovable they may be, it doesn't really matter. What does matter is that I let Jesus in and let him love through me.

Jesus told us that he and the Father (God) are one. He also told us that he wants each of us to experience that union. That must mean that Jesus' perfect love can dwell in me and be expressed outwards to all those around me. Wow!

We really shouldn't be surprised that there are people who get under our skin and some who really just seem so rotten that we are revolted at the prospect of loving them. I'm sure there are people who've thought that about me. Remember, we are all sinners.

We Get To Change

As new creations in Christ we get to change. We become transformed by our spiritual rebirth and new way of living. Unfortunately, not everyone is delighted when you undergo that change (strange as that may seem).



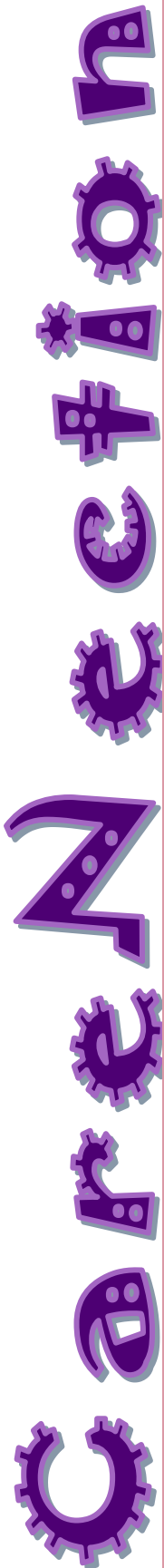
If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you.

That's more from John's gospel, chapter 15. It holds a key point. When you become a follower of Christ you are no longer part of the world's way of doing things. You've been chosen out of the world. You've turned your back on it. It's only natural that those who are still of the world will dislike, even hate, that.

As long as we are in the world we are going to experience persecution for Christian beliefs. Sometimes it will be overt, and at other times more subliminal. That should not change how we act. What we do is a reflection of what we believe, right?

Even though the world may hate what Jesus represents, God still loves the world. And the world can be pretty unlovable!

Remember,
"God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him" ([John 3:16-17](#)).



first Baptist church March 30th, 2017

Lifegroup prayer and praise

Dale Callan would like prayer for his children and his ex-wife. He also asks for prayer for his health and multiple injuries to his body.

Christina McVeay is asking for prayer for health issues, she will be having surgery on April 14th. She is also having financial stress due to her health issues and having to take time off work. She also asks for prayer for her family who have been drifting apart and are no longer attending church.

Carol Kelly's mother-in-law **Peggy Kelly** had a bad heart attack, she is in Colby, they are not able to operate.

Barb Lillard is still sick, please pray for a quick and full recovery.

Jim Webster needs prayer for a different car and for health issues.

Please pray for **Brooklyn McCormick** (4 yrs. old) She is limping again and the doctors are thinking she may need weekly IV treatments. We are afraid for her well being. Her juvenile arthritis seems to be getting worse. **David McCormick**

Breanna Gilson wants prayer for a healthy happy relationship and general happiness & well being & for a new apartment.

Jim Jodock received an e-mail from **Rich Downen**, Four weeks ago they found out that Lisa is pregnant, last week during the first ultrasound they could not find a heartbeat. They are full of hope and many are praying for resurrection of life, and for that little heart to start beating again. Please join their prayers.

Carol Kelly would like prayer for her husbands friends, **Les & Kelly Smith**, who are battling cancer. Also pray for **Carol's** sister **Sharon Mills** who is battling depression.

Marc Owenby asked for prayer for a friend & family, who is undergoing cancer treatment & unknown diagnosis & prognosis...He is currently in the hospital undergoing chemo & radiation treatments.

Sandy Porter was in the hospital again this week and returned home today, she is still fighting the bacterial infection.

Please keep the **Roullier** family in prayer as they grieve the passing of **Doug's** brother, **Dale**. And for direction for guiding Dales 18 yr. old son into the transition to adulthood & independence.

Donna Teachworth has asked for prayer for her very dear friends **Buddy & Cheryl Midkiff**, **Buddy** has been diagnosed with stage 4 Metastatic Melanoma in his liver and lungs. Pray that the family can find peace during this difficult time, they are strong Christians and are leaning on God. Pray for Gods guidance for the doctors.

Christen Weller's grandfather, **Leroy Pepper**, is now home with hospice care. Emails would be welcome, send them to waltergene@msn.com

Please continue to pray for **Jeanne Gilman** as she continues to heal from pneumonia.

Janet Duvardo has asked that we pray for her friend **Joy Mundy** who is a former FBC member. Update: The bone scan showed that there is no cancer in her bones!! No diagnosis yet, there are more tests this week. Joy says "Things have gone from black to gray." Thank you for your prayers

Doug Roullier needs continued prayer for shoulder healing (post-op) he is currently doing PT for it and is out of his sling.

Wendy Roullier's best friend, **Lori**, and her 4 kids, that they find housing and are able to move on, they are currently living with **Doug & Wendy**.

Pray for our Military

- **John Schwartz**—in Afghanistan—**Robin Schwartz** stateside in Everett.
- **Jason Peery**—Oregon National Guard—heading to Iraq for a year, brother of Jennifer.
- **Jonathan Michaels Estrella**—son of Sharon Boswell.
- **Jason Bjazevich**—Megan Owenby's husband—Army Special Forces— Stationed in N. Carolina.
- **Scott Harpell**—son of Brian & Lynne—Stationed at Fort Carson, CO.
- **Aaron Weston**—nephew of Ken and Kathy—Stationed in San Diego.
- **Eric Schmidt** — son of Gene and Pat Schmidt — Camp Fallujah, Iraq.
- **Benjamin Lagonia**—dear friend of the Naylor family—stationed in Manitoba.
- **Brett Love**—grandson of Wilma—Army National Guard—Serving at home.
- **Christian Chmielewski**—nephew of JoAnn Couturie' - in the Marines.
- **ENS Andrew E. Timpner** (fiancé to Christin Suthard) on deployment with USS Momsen.
- **Devin Abbitt**—nephew of Paul Abbitt - Marine, stateside.
- **Duane Neyens** brother to Kathy Chapman—Army National Guard —is back at his home base in So.CA.
- **Philip Ankney**-LCPL Afghanistan Cousin of MaryAnn Peterson.
- **Jeffrey Lillard**—son of Barbara Lillard — Srg. In Army, Stationed at Fort Lewis.
- **Aaron Chmielewski**—joined the Marines. Nephew of JoAnn Couturie
- **Shawn Berland**—deploying for 6 months
- **Andrew Sustaita**—serving on board the USS Abraham Lincoln



Lifegroup Happenings

all in the family

by *florence miller*

By increments, the news keeps getting better and better about **Jeanne Gillman** and her recovery. She is accomplishing more difficult physical therapy routines; her writing is improving; she stood for the first time in 37 days and she is beginning to be able to feed herself. Also, her respiratory status continues to improve, demonstrated by her spontaneous breathing throughout her recent therapy. Prayers work along with Jeanne's diligent therapy workouts.

Pastor Brian and Lynne just returned from an 11 day Israel Study Tour as part of his sabbatical. Their itinerary included such places as: **Mt. Carmel** where Elijah prayed down fire from heaven; a sail on the **Sea of Galilee**; **Tabgha**, the traditional site of the miracle of the loaves and fishes; the beach on the Sea of Galilee where Jesus restored Peter; the **Mt. of Beatitudes** where Jesus preached the "Sermon on the Mount,"; **Cana** where Jesus performed his first miracle of turning water into wine; **Nazareth**, boyhood home of Jesus; the **Jordan River** where some of their group were baptized; **Caesarea Philippi** where Jesus blessed Simon and changed his name to Peter; the **Holy City of Jerusalem** where they walked the **Via Dolorosa** and where they **walked the Mt. of Olives, the Garden of Gethsemane, the House of Caiaphas, Calvary and the Garden Tomb**. They found themselves moved many times to tears as they considered that they were walking quite literally where Jesus walked. And they encourage everyone to begin putting a little aside to one day take a trip to the Holy Land. Thanks, too, for your prayers for their safety.

Congratulations to Jan Dexter who retired after 26 years as a nurse at Providence hospital.

Sandy Porter unfortunately has been making round trips to Providence Hospital from Mt Vernon and was once again there this week, she is headed home again today. We pray for medical and heavenly comfort and cure!

Our friend, **Bill Deller**, had surgery this past Monday at the University of Washington hospital to determine what will be the next step in his cancer care. In two weeks, after the lab tests, it will be decided if more surgery is required. Our prayers are needed for Bill and the Doctors.

We failed to offer congratulations last week to **Derek and Emily Chilson** who welcomed a new baby girl on March 16th. Noelle Marie weighed in at 6 lb. 7 oz. and was 19" long.

Memorial Service (Celebration of Life) for Dale Roullier brother of **Doug Roullier**. A service will be held in the Pacific Room at 1 pm on Saturday, April 9th, Pastor Brian officiating. All are welcome to attend.

FBC delivered 70 pounds of food to the VOA on March 24th

NURSERY WISH LIST

Batteries: AAA, AA, C & D
2 Contoured changing pads
Diaper Genie II & refills
Wipes
Plastic Baby Gate
Extra clothes for Toddlers—Preschool
Thank you,
Pastor Alex & Christen

THE ADULT MINISTRY AND OUTREACH TEAMS invite you to hear Rev. Ray Schooler, Director of Development and Church Relations for American Baptist International Ministries. This Sunday from 9:00 – 10:15 a.m. at FBC in Room B106 ... he will be sharing about how God has been working through the ministry of I.M. and how we can continue to partner with them in reaching people for Christ.

Happy Birthday to...

David Karber.....March 30th
Jesse Moore....March 31st
John McKissick & Jan Dexter....April 1st
Sara Naylor.....April 2nd
Pat Alvarez, Ruth Linari & Cheryl Phillip.....April 3rd
Gerald Allen.....April 5th

***Adult attendance: 9:00am 73 & 10:30am 203 ***Children: 9am 22+ 6 — 10:30am 22 + 11

***Elementary: 9am 23 + 5 — 10:30 am 34 + 6

***Middle School: 18 + 4 — Youth Small Group: 13 + 3

April 1st, 11:30 a.m. is luncheon time for SAM members and guests. The program features Susie Tucker portraying the young missionary to China, Gladys Aylward. Among the many obstacles Gladys had to overcome to get to China, while there she brought whole villages to faith in Jesus Christ and at one time rescued 100 orphaned children by leading them on a grueling journey over the mountains. You must have already made a reservation.

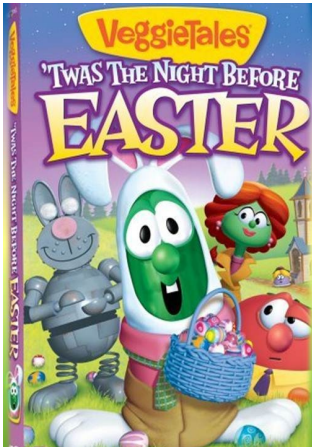
It is good to see Lois Tyselling back from Arizona (Tony is following later) and, again, it will be laughter time as Lois jokes in her charming, inimitable style.

S.A.M. Happenings

Lifegroup Contributing Opportunities

KIDZ CONNECTING CLASS

This five week Membership Class will be for kidz in grades 3rd - 5th who have been baptized or have already completed the Baptism Class and have the desire to take another spiritual step and become members here at FBC! Sign up in the church office or in the Kidz Rock check-in station. Classes will begin May 2nd and will be offered during the 9AM hour on Sunday mornings.



Preschool Movie Night
April 15th,
7:00 pm
Room CC#256

USHER CAPTAIN 2011:

April—**Darrell Olson**
Pete Sontra

COFFEE HOUR Schedule

April 3rd
Marty Visser
 Sunday AM

April 10
Florence Miller
 Women of Purpose

April 17th
Nate Hardy
 North Everett West

Just an update on Jeanne Gillman. She is progressing - Hallelujah! Yesterday she was able to stand with the help of a walker and was also able to feed herself pudding and applesauce. She was even able to give me a hard time about the burned (ever so slightly!) birthday cake last month from when we celebrated our guests birthdays. I really look forward to when she can be back in the kitchen and making the cakes herself!!

Prayer requests are many this week as I reminded our guests that God loves us and delights in answering our prayers and that we at FBC partner with each of them as they make their requests known to the God of the Universe. Please remember these needs this week as you spend time with all powerful, all knowing, always present King of Kings, Lord of Lords!

The following people would like prayer for:

RJ - Everything good in my life. And that my future is filled with happiness. Help me out God. please.

RO - My boyfriend and my family and friends

SD - people who are evil to turn to a good higher power

AF - My grandpa and my foster grandpa and for my school.

LH - All pests, insects, bed bugs and cockroaches to die today in my building where I lay my self to sleep.

JN - My mom, HC, with her cancers. My dad called and said she's not good at all. All the family is there except by sister and me. Please pray for us that we can come up with gas money to get there as it's 300 miles away in Chewelah. I want to see her before she meets God.

JK - That he be blessed with Social Security

B - T. I would like prayer for her hurting throughout her whole body inside and out. Please and God bless each and every one. Amen

RY - for SC that he will find a nice life to come for his dog and himself.

CH - All the children of the world. That the mothers would look out for them all and that the men would turn their hearts over to their heavenly Father. Amen

AN - myself. That I feel better soon.

J (little brother) - Please pray for R in hopes that he find a new home soon

MP - for M Jr and DP and children to stay safe and secure.

J - the struggles that life brings are nothing compared to the nightmares I have. Pray for that please to stop

JC - I need food. I am broke and have no help and no food stamps.

T - Family problems - lack of proper housing for pets and financial hardship

DJ - My happiness forever and that I may have a child before I die. thank you

PC - for my grand daughter K so she can be eating well without getting sick

FW - for God to stay with me

SC - the upcoming events in the world, the homeless, the sick, the unfortunate and Japan

DW - that things work out and finding an apartment and the funds she needs to move and deposits for everything.

A - for brother and son - both to be responsible. My health to improve and get a job and get disability meds straightened out.

A - For my mental illness, the voices in my head and renewed health

M - for the strength to come back to church and live like I know I should.

Amen ~ Chris

*Greeters needed Men & Women: call Carol Kelly, 425.210.8595.