

Shepherd's Staff

February 2020

We gather to worship, we go to serve our Lord.

"You will be my witnesses...to the ends of the earth!"

Parkersburg Christian Reformed Church

Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m., 6:00 p.m. ~ Church School 10:45 a.m. ~ Life Plus Wed., 6:30 p.m.

Out of Joint

We had a visitor to our home recently that caused a little disruption to one occupant of our home. It seems that the high energy of a puppy is not what a three-year-old dog gets excited about. The audacity of an intruder coming in with a cuteness factor of 10 on a scale of 1 to 10 is not what makes one always welcome. After all, the three-year-old was once the cute puppy himself. But the stature of a little ball of fur compared to a ninety-pound dog leaves one at a distinct disadvantage. What does not help is that the puppy instantly gained the attention of all in the house simply by walking in. This is a lot to deal with as the one who is used to being the center of attention. When this happens to us we can feel the pain the grown dog was feeling. This out of joint attitude is not reserved to only dogs though. It seems we too can be caught out of joint at times in our lives.

The people of Israel had the same kind of issue with the "ownership" of God. They did not want to share the good thing they had going with the only true God who could move mountains, separate the sea to form dry ground and cause war to cease. Having God all to themselves was a great advantage they did not want to share at all, it seemed. Still the nature of being God's chosen people came with the intention of showing the benefits of having the Divine on their side so others would want to follow.

Are we also guilty of the same thought? Do we also wish to keep God for ourselves? This is an easy habit to get into. If we have to share the saving power of God we may not like what it may look like. Change in the way we do things is not always welcome in our hearts but in changing times may be a necessary way of life. In the church we are called to be the living Body of Christ. Any living being is subject to change that occurs simply because that is what living does to us. We change! Look in the mirror and we can see we are not who we were even a few years ago. Waist lines seem to expand for no good reason. Hair changes color or in some of us thins or leaves areas completely. Change happens.

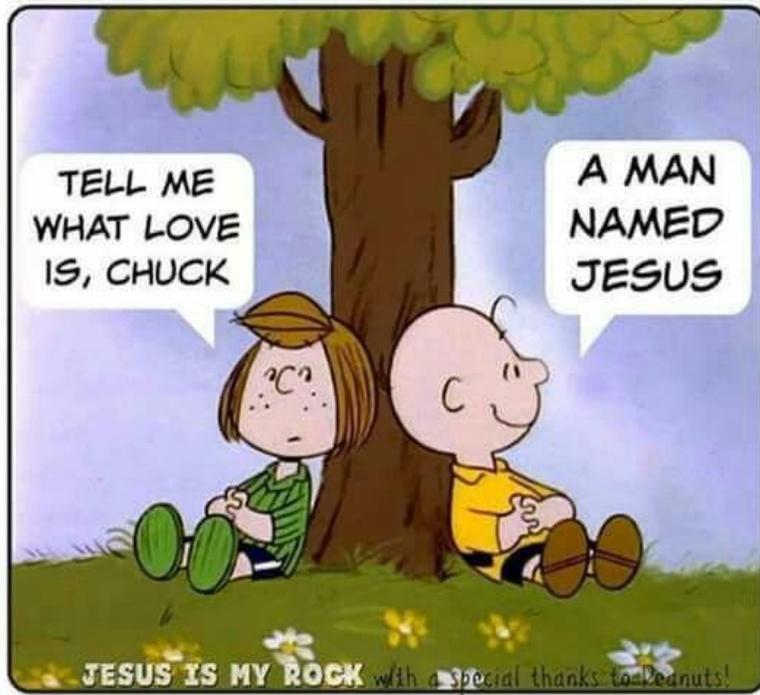
So why do we resist changing the way we think about God? Is it because we were told that God is unchanging? Is it because we look for anchors in our lives that are rock solid? God can be both rock solid but also adapt to the times. Look at the change that has already taken place. We worship in our own language and not Greek or Hebrew or even German for that matter. We sing praise songs and not simply the Psalms any longer. Yet God has not changed from the loving god who seeks our good when we hold fast to Him.

So what are we afraid of if a change comes our way? If we invite others to come and worship with us, can't we learn new songs? Can't we pray with longing hearts for the love of God to continue in us? Rather than worry about what is going on and letting our nose get out of joint, shouldn't we be more concerned with living out the calling we have to go and share the Good News?

Just think about what life would be like if everyone we met on the streets were a believer? How exciting it would be to greet everyone as a brother or sister in Christ. With no room for jealousy we can learn from each other and praise God in new and beautiful ways.

What is keeping you from sharing the Good News?

Pastor Rus



**LET ALL
THAT
YOU DO
BE DONE
WITH
LOVE.**

Happy
Valentine's Day

1 CORINTHIANS 16:14 NKJV



February Birthdays/Anniversaries



Happy Birthday

2/1 Andrew Haan
 2/7 Pat Prier
 2/8 Mackenzie Allspach
 2/10 Marlyn Allspach
 2/14 Nolan Prier
 2/17 Sharon Cordes
 2/24 Rodney Mulder



Reminder: If you have anything you'd like included in the Shepherd's Staff, please try to have it to Wendy Armstrong by the 20th of the month.

	<i>Greeters</i>	<i>Ushers</i>	<i>Sunday School Teachers[#]</i>	<i>Coffee*</i>
2/2	Clarence & June - S Dennis & Lois - N	Dale	Deb & JoLynne	Ken & Nancy
2/9	Dale & Angie - S Jan Johnson/Mary B - N	Joel & Kellen	Amy & Kay	Larry & Mary
2/16	Ken & Nancy - S Dennis & Sharon - N		Joel & Brandy	John & Karen
2/23	Don & Annie - S John & Karen - N	Gerald	Shelly & Kayla	Pat & Deb

*If you are unable to serve coffee on your Sunday as listed, please find your replacement. Thank you.

#The teacher schedule will be in the bulletin. You can always check the website as well- the bulletin is always on there (even before Sunday!!) www.parkersburg-crc.org If you need to change a Sunday, please call one of the teachers.

Valentine's Day Word Search

K S Q S J I V R T D S R Q G K
R Q Q T D M A B X U F N Q J J
K G D A S N L Y E U S F S N S
S V E E M B E R I G C E V O L
Q W Q R Q Q N I A W R A O C G
T Z E T G R T Z R E Y I N Q T
D Q I E E O I K Z F D R E D J
H O B N T P N W N O E F T G Y
X U T H C H E H V X E A L A T
N A G B P R E E Y B M T C B H
F O M G T U S A R L R K U T Q
I M T M Q S K U R A U N P E H
C A R D S K A A E T W I I G U
M C D I R R M H H X E P D P N
W Q K L Y S R E W O L F J O J

CANDY
CARDS
CUPID
DEAR
DOVES
FEBRUARY
FLOWERS
FRIENDS
HEART

TREATS
VALENTINE
SWEETHEART
RED
LOVE
KISS
PINK
HUG



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