

INTO THE FOLD

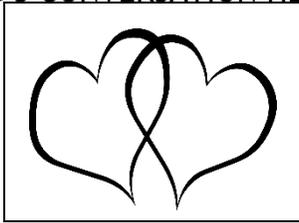
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February 2019



Ponderings by Pastor JoEllyn....

GOD'S CONVERSATION HEARTS



"...blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it."
" Luke 11:28

I've always loved those candy conversation hearts at Valentine's, how about you? The New England Confections Company, otherwise known as Necco, says that conversation hearts are the most popular of Valentine's candy. I read the history of the candy on the Necco website and it was quite interesting how the sayings being printed on the candy got started. Can you believe that the concept behind conversation hearts was started back when Abraham Lincoln was president?

I like the taste of those little hearts and it's one of those childhood candies that give sweet memories. I also like to use them to decorate cupcakes and cookies. What I like best I guess is those little sayings. "Kiss me!" "Be Mine" "Be True". I know today they say a few different things than the ones I grew up with.

Did you know that God sends us conversation hearts too? The things He left in His Word were left for us because He loves us. Each

conversation heart from God is sweet to the taste. We just don't sometimes read or pay attention to them.

Here are some of my favorites...

BE MINE -

God wants us to accept His love.
For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16

ALL MINE -

God loves us and will keep us.
My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. I and my Father are one. John 10:27-30

TRUE LOVE -

God loves us with true love as only He can.
I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with loving-kindness have I drawn thee. Jeremiah 31:3

LOVE ME -

God wants us to love Him.
Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself. Luke 10:27

I'M SURE-

God's sure of His love and wants us to know we have a future with Him.

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. John 14:1-3

SWEET TALK -

God's Word is His love letter to us.
How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth! Psalm 119:103

BE GOOD -

God tells us how to love Him back.
If ye love me, keep my commandments. John 14:15

TEXT ME -

God loves us so much He wants to communicate with us.
Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knows not. Jeremiah 33:3

Dear Friends and Family in Christ, know that there are more conversation hearts that the Lord left for us to see His love through. We just have to dig into His Word to find them.

Join me in prayer:

Generous and loving God, You love as only a parent can: without conditions and without limits. We ask You to

bless our families and friends. Help us to see that the love we experience from others is only a reflection of Your great love written on our hearts, something You created long before the Necco Company even thought of loving phrases. Be with us today as we gather and always as we work to be Your hands and heart in mission. AMEN.

Be Blessed, **Pastor JoEllyn**



The Creative Hands Group, Still thinking what the next mission

might be. If you have any ideas let Pastor JoEllyn know. Creative Hands can meet Thursdays, @ 9 am in the Adult Sunday School Room with the Quilters or if there would be a better time for you please let us know. Come, fellowship, share some fun & laughter and join Creative Hands...

Pastor JoEllyn has thought that making dog & cat beds (for the small animal shelter.) might be a good mission to undertake to benefit our community.. What do you think?

Bette's Pen:

Seems we just finished up Christmas and here we are with Valentines just a few weeks away... We are seeing the store shelves exploding with all things associated with love: Red & Pink Hearts, Balloons, Cards, Roses, Heart shaped boxes of Candy, heart shaped Reese's Peanut Butter Cups, (my favorite)

Hershey's' Kisses wrapped in red foil, and stuffed animals holding hearts with expressions of love.. The UMW are even having a Wild & Crazy Mad Hatters Tea in Feb. The best gift is knowing you are loved.. Every day Dave, Roseann, & I hug and tell each other "Love you". As do Cj, my sister, Deb, brother Joey, and my daughter, too, Tammie. It's often a hug fest when seeing friends.

Three years ago, I took my grandson Cj, out to get his mom a gift. As He searched through all the stuffed animals, looking for the perfect one for his mom, I spotted this one brown, incredibly soft, cuddly, teddy, with two black, round eyes and brown heart shaped nose, holding a fabric shaped red heart, embroidered with "Love You". I commented "Oh isn't he cute, I like him!" I figured he might choose that one for mom, but he didn't, instead picking out this teal green & white teddy holding a heart inscribed with "Love". It had sparkly green eyes and he knew it was perfect for his Mom..

We paid for it and I took Cj home. After I left for home, he dragged his mom back to the store hoping that the teddy bear with the heart shape nose was still there... It was and that bear sits, where I can look up at and be reminded every day of the love that my grandson, Cj has for me... It is so hard to comprehend, that as much as we love our family & friends, God loves us even more..

I read this online at CBN www1.cbn.com/devotions/. And it pretty much sums up what I would say.

It means a lot when family and friends want to spend time with you, share a meal, or just talk. God tells us in His Word how much He loves us. He promises never to leave or forsake us, to answer us when we call, day or night. He never slumbers nor sleeps. We need to tell Him how much we love Him 365 days a year as well.

Flowers will die. Candy gets eaten. Balloons will pop. Cards may get thrown away, but the love that is shared with one another, and God's love for us, will never pass away.

Jesus Christ has already proven He will do whatever it takes to demonstrate His love for His children. He left a sinless heaven to join humanity on a sinful earth because He loves us. He allowed himself to be ridiculed, tortured, beaten because He loves us. He felt the piercing agony of nails rip through his flesh because He loves us. The Son of God took the sin of the world and paid the highest price because He loves us.

Romans 5:8 states, "But God proves His own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Christ gave His life so we may be called sons and daughters of the King. What love! What incredible, all-consuming passion! To know we have a Father in Heaven who will pursue us, fight for us, and even die for us is a powerful love indeed.

Blessings & Peace be yours,
Bette

Saved by Grace.

EVENTS & MEETINGS 2019

UMW MEETING

**MAD HATTER TEA PARTY &
Sandwich Luncheon**

Got your Wild & Crazy Hat Ready?

Saturday Feb 9, 2019 @ Noon in the
Church Fellowship Room
Come have a HAT-tabulous
day with us....

UMW Cabin Fever FUNdraiser Event DATE CHANGE

Due to a conflict on
original date of Mar 9
Mar 23, 2019 5 – 9 pm.

Best Years

Wednesday February 20,
Noon Black Smith Shoppe

Ash Wednesday

Mar 6 Noon & 6:30 pm

Maundy Thursday

April 18th 6:30 pm

Good Friday

April 19th 6:30 pm

Easter Sunday

April 21st

Sunrise Service 7 am

Breakfast 8 am

Easter Service 9 am

More details on Lenten services
coming soon...

2019 Music Fest & Pulled Pork Dinner

Date for the 3rd annual Music Fest
has been set. Mark your Calendars.

Details to follow later.

May 18, 3:30 pm – 7 pm

“YOUR TREASURES”

OPEN AIR MARKET

SATURDAY JUNE 1ST, 2019

When does it stop being “Partly
Cloudy”, and become “Partly Sunny?”



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Max Lucado, **Anxious for
Nothing study has finished.**

**Our next study “Walking through the
Wardrobe...”** A devotional quest into
“The Lion, The Witch, and the
Wardrobe” (TLTWTW) by C.S. Lewis.
You are having a devotional study on
A fairy tale? You ask... J.R.R.Tolkien
author of the “Lords of the Rings”,
and friend of Lewis, says a fairy tale
echoes the Gospel of Jesus Christ, a
true story, a real life fairy tale that
crashed into the timeline of history..
The Kingdom we all long for, beyond
this world we know, is real after all.
Which of us in the not so distant past
of childhood, pushed past the clothes
in the wardrobe hoping to find an
entrance into another world? Come
& Follow the adventure of the four
Pevensie siblings, sons & daughters
of Adam & Eve as they explore the
Kingdom found at the back of the
wardrobe. Lucy, the youngest, the
one who’s the most curious, open
and willing— childlike faith— is the
first to fall into the otherworld.
Edmund, who falls for the
whisperings of an evil wintry queen;
the one who is willing to sell out his
siblings for another sweet treat.
Susan, the most cautious, and the
oldest, Peter, quickly takes action
when needed. And of course, The
mighty Lion, Aslan, who they search
for to come to their rescue... Do you
long to go beyond this ordinary life,
to find adventure in magical lands
like Narnia? The quest is not to be
taken lightly. You just may discover
there is another Kingdom out there:
closer than you realize, as near as
your heartbeat, just through that
door. Are you ready to take the first
step? (above excerpted from Walking

through the Wardrobe) Please come &
join us. The class meets at 10:30 right
after fellowship hour.

CHILDRENS CHURCH:

The Children continue with the
Winter Series of Deep Blue Connects.
Escorted by Asia, Kat, Caleb, & Edgar.



Thank you to those
who have given to
the Kings Club to
support the missions of our church.

**Kings Club Offerings for the month of
January include:**

Hugh Porter gave in memory of:
**Theresa, Andrew & Jennifer Porter
The Ken & Ella Porter**

Bette Schaefer gave in memory of:
**Joe & Marian Watnick
And In celebration of :
Deb Harris’ birthday 1-12**

*Kings club offerings go to support
the local missions supported by the
Missions and Outreach Committee.
Which includes The Rolling Prairie
Food Pantry, Hope Rescue Mission,
Broadway Christian Parish, the Local
Emergency Fund, and the Journey to
Bethlehem. Donations of any
amount are appreciated and
accepted.



The January 2019 meeting of Best
Years met at the Blacksmith Shoppe
hosted by Mary Kessler. There were
only 16 present due to so many
having winter colds & such.
Iva said grace.

Good Food & Fellowship was had
by all. Feb birthdays are Art Schuck
2/6, and Terry Nickerson 2/24.
No Feb Anniversaries...

Attendance gifts of homemade
cookies were won by: Harold Carlson,

Connie Galloway, Lester Chadwick, Ben & Karen Rison and Peg Zolman...

Others present were: Art & Rose Lenig, Ann Riedstra, Bette Schaefer, JoEllyn Chadwick, Annette Clark, Joe Knowlton, Myrna Everill, Bob Swanson, and guest Aaron Lullenberg.

Mary Kessler agreed to host the Feb 20th meeting and Connie Galloway will host in March.



14 Jim & Christy Brashear Jr.



- 04 Mary Eddy
- 05 Roxanna Hawkins
- 06 Arthur Schuck
- 06 Ciara Daley
- 07 David B. Wasielewski
- 09 Olivia Obenchain
- 09 Penny Melton
- 12 Rob Manuszak
- 13 Reuty Jack
- 14 David Wasielewski
- 16 August Schuck
- 19 Chris Watnick
- 22 Damien Chadwick
- 22 Chase Summerlin
- 24 John Sardeson
- 24 Howard Lange
- 24 Ken Watnick
- 24 Terry Nickerson
- 26 Neal Syverson
- 28 Karley Kinsey



If you have a need or you know someone that

needs prayers, Call Pastor JoEllyn and she will relay to the next person to activate the Prayer Chain.

Pastor JoEllyn's Cell phone # for After Hours Emergency & Prayer Chain Request
(219)-363-5061



FOOD PANTRY DONATION

Always Need plastic bags

FOOD PANTRY DONATION

February: Canned Pasta (spaghetti's or Ravioli)
Any cream soups, dish soap

20 Minutes with God

Dates, speakers and meal providers have been announced for this years, "20 Minutes with God" Lent series sponsored by the La Porte County Ministerial Alliance.

This year's host is Bethany Lutheran Church at 102 G St., La Porte.

The service starts promptly at noon and is followed by a light lunch.

Dates and speakers are:

- **March 13** — Roscoe Hoffman, River of Life Missionary Church Michigan City, with lunch provided by Hamilton Grove.
- **March 20** — Bob Vale, First United Methodist, with lunch provided by First United Methodist.
- **March 27** — Brian White, Salem Chapel Methodist, with lunch provided by Salem Chapel.
- **April 3** — Sally Wicks, Presbyterian Church of La Porte, with lunch provided by Presbyterian Church of La Porte.
- **April 10** — Dennis Meyer, Bethany Lutheran Church, with lunch provided by Bethany Lutheran.

Why do "Fat Chance" and "Slim Chance" mean same thing?

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Are we too Busy? We are only in the 2nd month of the

year and our daily calendars are so full of things we think we have to do, Maybe its time to get "Back to the Basics..



"The Basics Of Life" Lyrics 4HIM

Created for use at Santee Circle Community Church on October 10, 2009
We've turned the page, for a new day has dawned
We've re-arranged what is right and what's wrong
Somehow we've drifted so far from the truth
That we can't get back home
Where are the virtues that once gave us light
Where are the morals that governed our lives
Someday we all will awake and look back just to find what we've lost

We need to get back
To the basics of life
A heart that is pure
And a love that is blind
A faith that is fervently grounded in Christ
The hope that endures for all times...These are the basics,
we need to get back
To the basics of life

The newest rage is to reason it out Just meditate and you can overcome every doubt

After all man is a God, they say
God is no longer alive

But I still believe in the old rugged
cross And I still believe there is
hope for the lost
And I know the rock of all ages will
stand Through changes of time

BRIDGE

We've let the darkness invade us
too long
We've got to turn the tide
Oh and we need the passion that
burned long ago
To come and open our eyes
There's no room for compromise
We need to get back
To the basics of life
A heart that is pure
And a love that is blind

We need to get back
To the basics of life
A heart that is pure
The hope that endures for all
times... These are the basics,
we need to get back
To the basics of life

<https://www.letsingit.com/4him-lyrics-the-basics-of-life-d69ds69> LetsSingIt - The Internet Lyrics Database



Have you noticed the Upper Room
Rack is now firmly attached to the
wall with a framed look piece of
wood???? Or how about the new
wood name tag organizer????
They look super!!
Thank You, Harold Carlson...

Thank You, Tom Wheatbrook, for
plowing off the sidewalk from
parking lot up to the front doors,

then on down to the food pantry
doors. It is very much appreciated.



By Penny Derucki

Rolling Prairie United Methodist
Women-January 8, 2019
Our President, Barbara Parker
opened our first meeting of the New
Year with thirteen members present.
Our **devotions** for today, sharing **faith**,
given by Rose Lenig. Her message
for today comes in part from, *A
Grandmother's Love Lasts A Lifetime*.
Grandmothers are very special
people indeed. They care for the
family and light the way for future
generations by making time to share
their wisdom, their hopes, their **faith**,
and, above all their love. On sharing
faith...Faith can put a candle in the
darkest night-**Faith** is a spiritual
spotlight that illuminates one's path-
Faith sees the invisible, believes the
unbelievable, and receives the
impossible-**Faith** is the key that fits
the door of hope, and from Pope
John Paul II, **Faith** leads us beyond
ourselves.
We shared cares and concerns for
our members not able to be with us
today and for members of our
community as well. Our deserving
family was very appreciative of our
gifts which included a pair of "Prayer
Bears," dressed for the season by
Pastor JoEllyn and one of our church
cookbooks.

Myrna Everill read from our Prayer
Calendar. The **Mission Witness** today
comes from Andrea Reily Rocha
Soares, United Methodist Women
Regional Missionary, Latin America.
One day, for our youth discipleship
study, everyone brought a package of
his/her favorite ramen noodles. We
put all the noodles into the pot, mixed
them up, and served that unique
tasty dish. As we sat around the
table, the first courageous one to
take a bite of the veggies-pork-
chicken-shrimp-beef ramen said "I
am so happy to be here right
now...And I'm glad that our
friendship is way better than our
dinner!
Our Program today comes from
response | October 2018, the
magazine of women in mission.
Small and Mighty | Too often church
success is measured by numbers:
number of churches, number of
people in the pews, number of
dollars in the offering plate. What's
important is not the number but the
work these churches, people and
dollars do,
People and money are great
resources, but we can trap ourselves
by dreaming only of what could be
possible instead of **doing**, what is
possible.
Methodist founder John Wesley
emphasized the importance of small
groups in forming disciples.
However, the earliest Methodist
small groups, called classes, were
first created to collect money. The
classes were made up of about 12
people and assigned a leader who
would weekly collect a penny from
each member. It turned out these
weekly visits became a way
to check in on the lives, joys and
needs of the class members.

The United Methodist Women organize locally in units and circles. It makes no difference whether our numbers and funds are large or small, the United Methodist Women Purpose, remains the same.

We collected a penny from each of the thirteen members present today and put it in our **Thank Banks**. The World Thank Offering that is usually given in November, gives us an opportunity to respond to God's abundance and grace with spontaneous gifts of gratitude. By dropping a coin in the bank, we share our blessings with those who might be short of blessings. The funds collected are used in the total Program of Mission. To fulfill this mission, the United Methodist Women National Office has been involved throughout history with direct services, which include schools, hospitals, community centers and residential child care, among others, and advocacy for justice.

There are nearly 100 National Mission institutions and 121 international mission programs in 110 countries.

There will be a **Thank Bank** located just inside the Sanctuary Doors. We ask that you might join us in sharing our blessings with those who might be short of blessings by dropping a penny, some small change or whatever you choose into the **Thank Bank**.

Please join us for our Valentine Tea on February 9, 2019 at 12:00 noon at the church. Don't forget your hat, of your own design, crazy, beautiful, silly-there will be prizes!

Come, Join us... Don't forget we are saving you a seat.....

Fond Farewell, to our special friend...
Barbara Joann Nickerson

Another of our long-time members has left her earthly home. Although our hearts are sore, we rejoice that God called this special lady and our friend

Barbara Joann Nickerson

Home, to the place Jesus went to prepare for us... And she now has received the only complete healing there is, from the hand of God...

Barb kept her bags packed and She has reunited with her beloved husband Bob, Her sister Dorothy and Dorothy's husband Charlie Wheatbrook, and has joined the next adventure of their journey.

We will sorely miss you,
Barb....



Brad Nimitz (Health Concern: Sherry & Paul Iwaszewski son-in-law) Steve (Lung Cancer, Friend

Shannon Merrill) Nora Scott (shingles in eye, niece Mike/Deb Harris) Wayne Kirkham (kidney removed), Robert Adams (hospital, regulate blood pressure, hubby of Chris) Pam Dixon, (Chemo; ovarian cancer) Don Knowlton (mini stroke, brother Joe/Susan Knowlton) Betty Corbin (on mend from pneumonia) Richard Asvitt (kidney failure, brother Virginia/Dave Bradford) Bobette Elkins (on the mend) Scott Thieme (recovering, pneumonia), Dick Alm (hospital pneumonia) Ray Irons, (brain bleed) Sharon Welty (Aortic valve replacement, friends of Pastor JoEllyn)

Wendy Hoppe (Personal; Prayers for the whole family, friend of Barb Parker) Donna & Jerry Smith (Various Health Issues, friend of Chris Adams), Nisha (beloved cat Kathy Crass, kidney failure)

We have a few very special people in our church family that are struggling with various health concerns who wish to not be named. It seems, they all say there is someone else that needs it more. We are all in need of prayer, sometimes a little more at

times than others, Please keep their UNSPOKEN REQUESTS lifted in prayer, as God knows who each of them are and what it is they need. Give them strength Oh Lord, to deal with whatever their struggle... Let them feel your arms embracing them with your warm, wonderful, love.. Bless them with your Peace. Thank You, God....

Joys

Ray Irons, friend of Pastor JoEllyn, is doing fantastic. He is almost back into the full swing of life after the brain bleed.. Praise God!!!

A co-worker of Shannon Merrill's, Michelle, was found passed out in work parking lot, She was treated for Hypothermia. Pray for her complete recovery...



Jacob Adams US Army- States grandson Chris Adams
Craig Carlson, (pilot) US Air Force son Harold & Carrie Carlson
Matthew Chadwick us

Army - son
Lester & JoEllyn Chadwick
Michael Showalter Marines, grandson Wayne & Shirley Kirkham
Matthew Rompca Air Force nephew Shirley & Wayne Kirkham
Katelyn Williamson U S Marines
Daughter of Al and granddaughter of Jim Williamson

If you have someone serving and would like on our prayer list please let Bette know...

Please lift all those serving our country, who are struggling, for whatever the reason; being alone, illness, divorce, loss of job, loss of loved ones, going through the firsts after death of loved one. Give thanks for everything....

Hear our Prayers, Oh Lord!



When it comes to the month of February many of us think about Valentine's Day, but February is also **American Heart Month**. So there is no better time to think about your heart health than now. As the leading cause of death in the United States we need to make sure to take care of our heart. Here are some keys to keeping your heart healthy and strong.

- **Limit saturated and trans fats.** Saturated fats and trans fats are the fats that you find in meats, cheese, fried foods, pastry and baked goods, margarine, Crisco, butter, and dairy products. It's ok to eat these foods in moderation, but try to choose the lowest fat option you can, if possible.
- **Exercise.** Cardiovascular exercise is especially important for heart health. So take a walk, ride a bike, jog, dance, or swim. Just keep your body moving. Exercise has been shown to improve heart health by creating bridges in the vascular system that will bypass areas of clots or plaque build up. So try to accumulate at least 150 minutes of exercise each week.
- **Eat a variety of fruits and vegetables.** Fruits and vegetables contain antioxidants and these powerful chemicals help fight against chronic disease, including heart disease. Try to get a variety of colors and

types in your diet on a weekly basis.

- **Include monounsaturated and polyunsaturated fats.** The unsaturated fats can help improve our heart health when consumed in moderation. Unsaturated fats can be found in fish, olives, avocado, nuts, seeds, and some oils. The Omega 3 fatty acids are particularly helpful in improving our heart health, so try to include them more often in your diet.
- **Limit or quit smoking.** If you have never begun, do not start now and if you currently smoke, try to cut back or quit.
- **Be aware of sodium.** Sodium is regularly found in processed foods (anything in a box, can, or bag). Try to limit these foods and eat more whole foods that are not processed.

According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) "Heart disease—and the conditions that lead to it—can happen at any age. High rates of obesity and high blood pressure among younger people (ages 35-64) are putting them at risk for heart disease earlier in life. Half of all Americans have at least one of the top three risk factors for heart disease (high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and smoking)." Visit <https://www.cdc.gov/features/heartmonth/index.html> for more information.

Don't feel overwhelmed by this long list of things to change. Changing your lifestyle is about making small changes one at a time. So pick one

item on this list that you feel that you can improve on right now and work on it. Once you have mastered that then pick another one. Small steps can lead to big changes.

Heres to your heart health!
Gretchen Krivak MS, RD, CGFI



DLTK's Bible
Stories for
Children –

Psalms 139

A Child of God (You are special to God) by Sharla Guenther

This week you won't be hearing a story about someone from the Bible. Instead we're going to tell a story about you and God.

In the Bible there is a book called Psalms. David wrote some of the chapters in this book when he was feeling happy, sad and scared. In the story of David and Goliath you might remember that David was a shepherd and when he was out in the fields he would play music and write some of these songs and poems to God.

This psalm was added to the Bible (like all the other books of the Bible) because what he wrote was given to him from God. God gave David a talent for writing songs and He gave David the words and thoughts to write it down.

This psalm tells us a lot about God and how powerful He is. It also shows us just how much God is involved and cares for us.

David starts the psalm by praising God for always being there for him. He knows that God knows him inside and out and even what he's feeling, thinking and what he's going to do before he does it!

David knows that God is all around him cheering for him and giving him a hand along the way.

Knowing how much God cares about him and everyone else this way, David feels like smiling and

crying at the same time because he can't believe how great God is.

Have you ever seen your mom or dad crying after you did something really great? This was how David was feeling and I can imagine him thinking these things and crying big happy tears!

Next David thinks about where he could go to get away from God. He's not trying to get away but he's trying to think if there's any place that God wouldn't be able to find him.

Do you think there is a place you could go where God wouldn't be able to find you?

The way David describes it, I think of superheroes. Imagine you could fly as high as the moon or even higher; God would be there. Imagine if you could drill a deep, deep hole right to the middle of the earth, God would be there too!

What if you hid in your darkest closet? Would God find you? Yes! We might think it's dark and no one can see us but God is light, He doesn't see the darkness at all!

There is no place on earth or beyond that you could hide that God wouldn't find you. He is always keeping track of you! Hide and seek won't work with God, He knows where you're going to hide before you get there!

The next part David discusses is about before we were born! Do you think God knew you BEFORE you were born? The answer is yes!

God put you together when you were as tiny as a marble and even smaller! He had big plans for how you would look, what you would be like; He was part of it all.

He knew all about you when you were still inside your mother's tummy. Every tiny freckle, the color of your hair, even that one funny birthmark that you may have that no one else has, is all the work of God.

Even now God knows how your growing and changing, what you like and don't like. He has big plans for your life and He's hoping you'll keep looking to Him so you can be the very best you can be.

And another thing, God doesn't make junk! He made you beautiful and precious and in His perfect way. So don't let anyone make you think that you're not good enough or smart enough or pretty or handsome enough. You were planned and made by the God of the universe who made you special and different from everyone else!

God is so amazing! David started to think about all of God's thoughts. How many thoughts He must have? If you took all the sand from all the world and counted each small grain of it; God would still have more thoughts than all of that!

The last two verses David asks God to do some things for him. He asks God to search his thoughts and his desires. He wants God to see his loyalty and love for Him.

David wants to stay strong and be challenged by God. When we face difficult times, these challenges can make us grow stronger and count on God more. David welcomed these times so he could have a better relationship with God.

The last thing he asks God is that if there's any bad thought or sin in him that God would lead him away from doing that and help him find his way to God in heaven.

Throughout this chapter David talks about God's knowledge about every part of us from beginning to end. Realizing this, he accepts and asks God to search him and to keep him true and, on the path, to knowing and seeking God.

Who created you? Who gave you your hair & eye color, your height, and your personality? Are you beautiful? You are beautiful! You are

beautiful because God created you, He chose everything about you!

You are wonderfully made; do you know what that means? Wonderful means extremely good or delightful. Do you feel delightful? God delights in you because He loves you and He created you wonderfully! You, each one of you, is created by God! You were not an accident, He designed you to be you and He knows you. Did you know that God knows you? He knows exactly who you are because He created you to be YOU! He loves you!

*For You formed my inward parts;
You knitted me together in my
mother's womb. I praise You, for I am
fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are Your works; my soul
knows it very well. (Psalm 139: 13-14,
ESV)*

So, whenever you're feeling bad about yourself or alone, remember Psalm 139 and how you can never get away from God, He is always with us, cheering for us along the way.

Prayer: Dear LORD, thank You that we are not too small to know You as our God. You have created us; teach us about Your love today. We pray that we can deepen our knowledge of who You are. We love You, Amen.
<https://ministry-to-children.com/wonderfully-made-lesson/>



Above is a pic of the 2 bears Pastor JoEllyn made matching vests & blankets for, that was given to the two boys of our deserving Family.