

THE MESSENGER

Four Loves

February - the month of love. We use the word "love" in many contexts. I "love" dark chocolate, the Buckeyes, my wife Jackie, my family, and Jesus - among many others. I do not love, however, dark chocolate in the same way I love Jackie.

The ancient Greeks used four words for "love." C.S. Lewis, one of the outstanding Christian writers of the 20th Century, discusses these usages in his book *The Four Loves*.

Eros designates a primarily physical form of love that focuses on human nature in a biological sense with no interaction from an emotional or spiritual love.

Phileo signifies a connection with humans on an acquaintance level. The city of Philadelphia comes from two Greek words for "love" (**phileo**) and "brother" (**adelphos**) to create the city of "Brotherly Love."

Storge takes love to a higher level of intensity that moves beyond a casual association with someone to friendship.

Agape culminates in a sacrificial love that transcends our understanding as demonstrated in the love of Jesus that led Him to the Cross. This selfless love willingly and gladly places the interests of others above any selfish interests.

A huge gap exists between **eros** and **agape** since **eros** looks to satisfy a person's human needs at the expense of others while **agape** sacrifices one's own needs for the benefit of others regardless of the personal cost.

Christians often "love" one another in a **phileo** sense and sometimes with **storge**. In this month of love, let's consider how we can move on and up from **phileo** to **storge** and even to **agape**. Though we cannot love like Jesus, we can remember His selflessness and sacrifice as we respond to others at home or in church or wherever.

To whom can we show **agape** love this month ... and in the months to come?

Terry Bovinet, Senior Minister (February 2019)

Summit
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

church@summitchurch.org
330.836.2211
www.summitchurch.org

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FEBRUARY 2019

Birthdays and Anniversaries

10 - Rudy Howard
13 - Mary Branham
14 - Fred Sandels
15 - Mary Deist
20 - Mark McKee
21 - Dave R. Gould

Calendar

Sunday - February 3, 10, 17, 24
+ Life Groups (9:45 a.m.)
+ Praise and Worship (11:00 a.m.)

Tuesday - February 12
+ Prayer Night (7:00 p.m.)

Tuesday - February 19
+ Board Meeting (7:30 p.m.) and Elders' Meeting (8:30 p.m.)

Wednesday - February 6, 13, 20, 27
+ Life Group (7:00 p.m.)
+ Worship Team Practice (8:00 p.m.)
+ AA (9:30 p.m.)

Thursday - February 7, 14, 21, 28
+ AA (8:00 p.m.)

Sunday, February 24: Soupfest! Bring your secret recipe soup to share as we meet after our worship service. We will taste several soups, raise money for missions, and enjoy!

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