

Friendship International



FEBRUARY 10, 2023

LOVE MAKES THE WORLD GO ROUND

BY JULIE STEVENSON

Each year on February 14th, friends, family, and romantic partners take part in Valentine's Day, expressing love to each other in various ways. In America, typical gifts include cards, flowers (especially red roses), candy (especially chocolates), stuffed animals, balloons and more. Most young kids will exchange small Valentine cards, often with candy or a small item (think pencils and very small toys), in their classrooms. On and around this date, restaurants are typically packed with diners looking to celebrate with a nice meal out!

As we approach this celebration of love, let's consider what famous author C.S. Lewis defined as the four types of love in his book *The Four Loves*. You have:

1. Affection - often used for family and others you care for.
2. Friendship - very close, lasting bonds.
3. Romantic - reserved for your spouse or partner.
4. "Agape" love which is an unconditional God love - a selfless love that exists regardless of changing circumstances.

How will you celebrate this Valentine's Day? We have some suggestions for you in the newsletter below that may spark some of your own ideas as well. We recommend you don't overwhelm yourself, keep it fun, and simply make a point to genuinely let your loved ones know how much you care about them. **One thing is true, no one ever gets tired of hearing the words "I love you."**



UPCOMING DATES

February 10th	Valentine's Day Craft with Lisa
February 14th	Valentine's Day
February 17th	Parade of Nations (<i>wear something from your home country</i>)
February 20th	President's Day (<i>no school for Fayette County</i>)

Valentine's Fun with the Kids

Valentine's Day is a big celebration for the kids as well! Take time to celebrate your sweet kids this Valentine's Day.

Here are some fun ideas for you and your kids:

- Have a tea party with your kids. Dress up in fancy clothes together (or even silly costumes) and enjoy tea and muffins.
- Make homemade Valentine's Day cards together and send them to family.
- Take your kiddos on a Mother-Son Date or a Daddy-Daughter Date.
- Help kids FaceTime far away friends from your home country.
- Click below to download 2 free Valentine's coloring sheets we made for you!

[PDF #1](#)

[PDF #2](#)



Galentine's Day - Fun with Friends

Falling on February 13th, Galentine's Day is not an official American holiday, but it's being celebrated more and more each year! Galentine's Day is a day to celebrate your female friends.

Here's a few ideas for ways to celebrate the women who add the sweetness of laughter and encouragement to your day-to-day life:

- Write a card expressing your thankfulness for her friendship and send it in the mail.
- Go enjoy a cup of coffee together (we like Joseph-Beth's cafe or Coffee Times).
- FaceTime or Skype far away friends.
- Make your favorite dish from your home country and invite your friends for dinner. Sharing cultures is a beautiful way to extend friendship!



[VALENTINE'S CRAFT FOR KIDS + ADULTS:
CLICK HERE FOR "HEART PAINTING ON CANVAS"](#)



[FEATURED RECIPE FROM THE COOKING CLASS:
VEGAN MINISTRONE SOUP](#)