

## Forgiveness shows our love...

Thomas A. Edison is known to have invented the "light bulb". Did you know it took a whole team of men 24 hours to put just one together? After building the first one, a young boy was tasked with carrying it up stairs to storage. As he carried it nervously step by step, frightened to drop it – which he did at the top of the stairs.

It took another 24 hours for the entire team to assemble another light bulb. Finally, tired and ready for a break, Edison gave the bulb to the same young boy who dropped the first one to carry it up the stairs. That's showing love through forgiveness.

### Heaven's Very Special Child

A meeting was held quite far from earth;  
"It's time again for another birth."  
Said the angels to the Lord above,  
"This special child will need much love.  
Her progress may seem very slow,  
And she'll require extra care  
From the folks she meets way down there.  
She may not run or laugh or play,  
Her thoughts may seem quite far away.  
In many ways she won't adapt,  
And she'll be known as "handicapped".  
So let's be careful where she's sent,  
We want her life to be content.  
Please Lord, find the parents who  
Will do a special job for you.  
They will not realize right away  
The leading role they're asked to play,  
But with this child sent from above  
Come stronger faith and richer love.  
And soon they'll know the privilege given  
In caring for this gift from heaven.  
Their precious charge, so meek and mild,  
Is "heaven's very special child".

By John & Edna Massimilla

*Where Christ is cherished, family is loved and everyone is family!*



*"Let us not love  
with words or  
tongue but with  
actions and in  
truth."*

1 John 3:18



# GETTING CONNECTED

Publication of...

*Mt. Brydges Baptist Church*

11397 Adelaide Street South, Mt. Brydges, Ontario N0L 1W0 519-317-8659

[gdadams@xplornet.ca](mailto:gdadams@xplornet.ca), Edited by Pastor Dave Adams

February 2014



### Seeds of Kindness

Scatter seeds of kindness  
Everywhere you go;  
Scatter bits of courtesy –  
Watch them grow and grow  
Gather buds of friendship;  
Keep them till full-blown.  
You will find more happiness  
Than you have ever known.  
Gather every bit of love  
All that you can find,  
With it bind the broken hearts  
For love heals all mankind.

H.K. Baabe

### What's Inside...

- The Lighter Side
- Something to Think About
- Mark Your Calendar
- Forgiveness shows...
- Heaven's Very Special Child
- 1 John 3:18



**Show a sense of humour  
– pray for your enemies!**

### Modern Times?

In this day of high energy costs, the sign on the back of an Amish cart is encouraging...  
"Energy efficient vehicle: Runs on oats and grass – *caution!* Do not step in exhaust."  
And they tell us the smart car was the first energy efficient vehicle. Really?

**Join us each Sunday for Worship...**

**10:45am worship and praise**

**Thot: Love is a verb! Exercise it often with everyone you meet.**

## The Lighter Side...

After she woke up, a woman told her husband, "I just dreamed that you gave me a pearl necklace for Valentine's Day. What do you think it means?" "You'll know tonight." he said. That evening, the man came home with a small package and gave it to his wife. Delighted, she opened it to find a book entitled "*The Meaning of Dreams*".



## Something To Think About..

If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. (1 Corinthians 13:1) reminds us of God's love for us and of His deep desire for us to love one another.

Isn't it strange that we set a month aside to celebrate love in our lives? And it's that time of year again; you know - red hearts, pink roses, balloons, cards, candy, and animals that sing songs of love. Store shelves overflow with symbols of love.

Many will hope to receive mementos of love from those close to them - perhaps dinner in a nice restaurant, or a meal cooked for them. It's a great occasion to express love and appreciation for any of your loved ones, but it is just as important to show little acts of kindness the other 364 days of the year.

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.

And then there is this thing about loving one another. As Christians we should fill our days with showing love, not hate, for one another - and this means having *sincere* love for each other.

I heard a story of a certain churchwoman who loved to criticize others. Whether by gossiping, or by simply stating things up front, she had a reputation for being extremely hurtful. What made it worse though, was that she always disguised her remarks as helpful suggestions. She claimed to be speaking out of love, but all her words

did was hurt and discourage. I bring this up because in this age when so much is focused on bullying in our schools, I feel that hurtful speech has become all too common in the Church as well. While many at Mt Brydges Baptist Church have not access to the internet, (that is a blessing!) it is a place where the modern church has found a voice to post bitter messages and spiteful blogs. Ironically, after spending entire paragraphs detailing why others are going to Hell, many Christians finish up by saying "I'm just speaking the truth with love." But when we so loudly spew hatred, who can hear our love?

You can't love God if you do not love other people. It doesn't stop there however; the gospel is overflowing with verses telling us how the only way to know God is by loving others, even our enemies. The Apostle John recorded, "*We love because he first loved us. If anyone says, 'I love God,' and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from Him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.*" [1 John 4:19-21]

How do we demonstrate such love? Paul describes love in 1 Corinthians 13 reminding us that love is patient, kind, humble and considerate. Do we display these traits with those around us? Love is also forgiving. Do we forgive others for their mistakes and are we willing to forgive ourselves and try again when we mess up in our relationships?

Flowers will die. Candy gets eaten. Balloons will pop. Stuffed animals may stop singing. Cards may get lost or thrown away, but the love that is shared with one another, and God's love for us, will never pass away. "Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet My unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed," says the LORD, who has compassion on you." [Isaiah 54:10]

May you find little ways to show some acts of kindness to those you love before and after Valentine's Day this year. "*And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.*" [Hebrews 10:24]

## Mark your Calendar...

Sunday Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> - Communion

Tues Feb 11 & 25 **Kid's Club** 6:30pm

Weekly Messages...

*Walking in the Winning Way*

Thurs Feb 27<sup>th</sup> - MLHA Council Mtg hosted by MBBC - come & join us!