

February 14, 2016

WELCOME



If you are a first time visitor please fill out one of our **Information Cards** available at the Information Center or in the Sanctuary. We want to thank you for joining us today as we celebrate God's grace and goodness together. Please be sure to introduce yourself to us and thanks again for coming.

This is the day the Lord has made!

Pastor Mills will be sharing from the Scriptures today.

Wed. Worship, Bible Study, and Prayer gathering Wed. Feb, 17, 7:00 PM

New Youth Video Series, Starting Today. "WHO IS GOD?" Foyer Room

Y/A meeting, Sunday, Feb. 28; 12:30 pm, after morning worship. Place TBA

ROCC Youth Gatherings—Friday Nights @ 7:00 PM @ PASTOR MARCO'S!

Good Friday Communion Meeting: March 25, @ 10:30 AM

EASTER, SUNRISE BREAKFAST at ROCC, Sunday, March 27, (Info. to Follow)

Youth "Overflow Convention", May 20-22, Waterloo, Ont. See Pastor Marco

Next Ball Hockey Game at ROCC, Sat. Feb. 20, @ 10:00 AM.

JUST FOR KIDS

Our children join us for worship in the main Sanctuary until they are called to the altar area for prayer. They will then attend Sunday School and will be supervised by our capable workers. Their special Bible lesson will conclude at the same time as the adult service.

On the first Sunday of each month (Communion Sunday) our children will stay with their parents in the main sanctuary for the entire service. Nursery will function as usual and be available every Sunday.

Nursery is supervised and available when the children are dismissed from the sanctuary.

The celebration called "Valentine's Day" which we enjoy yearly, is here once again. This year it has landed on a Sunday, the day of worship for most Christians, and with that in mind, I thought this would be an appropriate year to explain its Christian connection. All the expressions of love given with chocolates, flowers, jewelry, dinners-out, cards, etc. are indirectly connected to a Christian Priest/Pastor who lived a long time ago. Although his history is shrouded at times with politics and mystery his acts of love have had an impact. Approximately 150 million Valentine Cards are given annually, only second in number to Christmas Cards. I am sure Valentinus would be shocked with all the modern commercialization and methodology associated with his name. Nevertheless, Valentinus was apparently a pastor/priest who served in the third century, at Rome. After the Roman Emperor, Claudius II forbade young men to marry because he believed single men made better soldiers, Pastor Valentinus, "seeing the injustice in the decree", continued to conduct the marriages of young men and women in secret. He was eventually found out for that practice and also for helping imprisoned men; he was arrested. Before he was executed (270 AD.) for defying the Emperor; it is believed that he fell in love with his jailer's daughter. Shortly before he died he sent her a note and it was signed with the never forgotten words: "From your Valentinus" which became our modern "from your valentine".

In the fourth century Pope Gelasius declared that Feb. 14, was St. Valentine's Day which assisted with the connection and popularity of Valentinus and Love. Regardless of the exact history of this ancient Christian the Scriptures declare love as the greatest. Love expressed between a man and a woman in marriage is a precious gift from God.