



The Mission Briefing

What color is February? I know it's a strange question, but we all have associations like this. For me, February is a rich red; it's a month characterized by love. We have Valentine's Day on the 14th. The VanArsdol family has a lot of birthdays in February. Needless-to-say this is a great month for connection for us. Let me suggest that our mission focus for February will be *connections*.

Relationships are core to being human and also core to the Christian faith. **How are your relationships doing?** I expect a variety of responses about this.

Recently, many of you have experienced painful losses, some a daughter, others a sister, and still others a father. A chunk of our family is hurting today. The reason loss is so painful is because connection is an essential aspect of living. If loss is the season you are in, know that your church family loves you and our prayers are with you. My counsel is to continue to lean into your hope in Christ and to embrace those who are still with you. Those connections: Jesus, the church, family, and friends are the ways God provides for us in times like these.

We are all going to experience relational loss. Knowing that, the wise thing to do is to prepare the best we can. It's really hard to prepare emotionally but we can prepare otherwise. This means that now is the time to do theological preparation, now is the time to build our trust in Jesus, now is the time to plug into the family of God, now is the time be with family, and invest in friends. If you have these, though grief rocks your world, you will have the resources to weather the storm and grow through it.

That's your homework this month:

- Theological Preparation:** There are all kinds of ways to do this. I would encourage you to keep it simple. Read through your One Year Bible prayerfully. Think about the redemptive story that God is telling. Relate to the characters. Apply what the Holy Spirit lays on your heart. Unlike other stories we read or watch on television, these stories will ground you in reality more.
- Build your trust in Jesus:** Start the morning by surrendering your day to Him. Commit to doing what He says, whatever that might be. Then, listen. This is going to stretch you and make you more mindful of His presence in your life. Go out of your comfort zone a little. You may find yourself walking on water.
- Plug into the family of God:** To some extent the pandemic has hampered this for us, but not entirely. The beauty of the church is its relational nature, which is bigger than any pandemic. If you cannot get with the whole Body of Christ in worship, then find a way to get with one or two. Call someone, Zoom, meet for coffee. You need that connection and so do others. In fact, every time I reach out to connect with someone, I end up feeling like the one God blessed.
- Be with family and friends:** Again, the pandemic is going to effect how you do this. Practice caution, use technology, yet also remember there is no reason to ration your hugs with those in your immediate household. Perhaps one fruit of the social distancing is the opportunity to refocus time and attention on those closest to us already. Spend time with your inner circle until you can branch out further later.

I have a theory about humanity that comes out of the Christian worldview. I think that those who connect with others, in consistently loving ways, feel the most alive. Why don't we test that this month? Love God and love others and see if, despite the circumstances, you sense more life in you. Jesus told us, "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full" (John 10:10b). Jesus doesn't promise the abundance of possession or immunity to sickness and loss. Jesus promises Himself. He promises to love you and be with you until the very end of age. He promises to enfold you into His forever family. This is true life in its fullness, this is connection!

Love you,
Pastor Kyle



We are moving forward with plans for
“Vacation Bible School 2021!”
For more info please contact
Tracy Renn 435-260-0246


Student Assistance Program

Hello Church Family,

You can be proud of our scholarship recipients and their accomplishments!



Jayelen Knowles is starting her final semester at the United States Naval Academy, where she is majoring in Mechanical Engineering. She has been accepted into submarine duty and will move to Charleston, SC, this fall to begin a year of Nuclear Power School before being assigned to her first submarine.



Robina Pals will graduate in May from Utah State University with a Bachelor of Science major in Accounting and a minor in Hospitality and Tourism. Her next step is to enroll in the Master of Accounting program and take the CPA exam. She works full time at Larson & Company in addition to taking classes.



Lauren Drake is majoring in nursing at Westminster College in SLC. This semester is going to be one of the hardest she's had, but by December 2021 she will be graduating with a BSN as an RN, specialty in the Pediatric Neuro ICU. She has been reassured of her love of nursing as she's worked shifts at Moab Regional Hospital as a COVID tester and CNA.



Kylie Haycock has been attending Salt Lake Community College online since August. After spring semester she will apply for the elementary education program at Utah Valley University and finish her education there. In addition to being a full-time student she is a full-time nanny, works at Swig soda shop two days a week and interns in a first grade classroom once a week.



Melissa Patrick is majoring in elementary education online at Colorado Christian University. In addition to her coursework she has had field experiences in fourth grade and first grade. Melissa works full time, is mother to Sienna and Preston, and is the church nursery attendant during Sunday worship services.



Ernestine Largo is in the RN Nursing Program at USU Moab Campus. She works at Moab Regional Hospital, is raising her children Talia and Seth, spends time with her daughter and granddaughter, and helps her mother, who lives in New Mexico, when needed.

Please pray for them to grow in their love of Jesus as they attend church and fellowship groups at college. Pray they will be strong witnesses for Christ among their classmates.

Student Assistance Program (SAP) Committee
(Linda Warren, Bernie Radcliffe, James Ritchey)



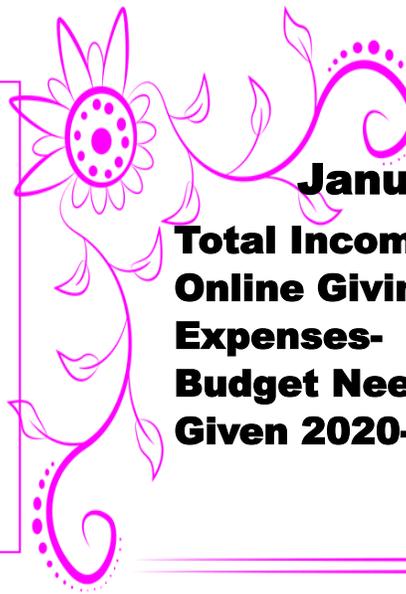
FEBRUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1.	2.	3. Men's Prayer Breakfast 6 a.m. at the Moab Diner	4.	5.	6.
7. 	8.	9.	10. Men's Prayer Breakfast 6 a.m. at the Moab Diner	11.	12.	8 a.m. 13.  Parents Night Out
14. 	15.	16.	17. Men's Prayer Breakfast 6 a.m. at the Moab Diner Board Meetings	18.	19.	20.
21.	22.	23.	24. Men's Prayer Breakfast 6 a.m. at the Moab Diner	25.	26.	27.
28.						



2/2) Talyn McCurdy 2/4) Marcia Lea 2/6) Kelly Green
 2/7) Brian Stotz 2/9) Mac McLean
 2/11) Jamie Carter 2/12) Josh Griffin, Dave Rigby
 2/15) Brycen Haycock 2/21) Brayden Hughes
 2/23) Daylen Haycock 2/26) Mandy VanArsdol
 2/27) Kanton VanArsdol

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January Fund Report

Total Income-	\$33,954.00
Online Giving-	\$8,840.00
Expenses-	\$22,931.00
Budget Need-	\$21,565.00
Given 2020-	\$33,954.00



Church News



Join us for

"Breakfast with Mandy"

*Saturday February 13th at 8:00 a.m.
in the Fellowship Hall! Hope to see
you there!*



Parents Night Out!

Saturday evening February 13th, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Feel free to bring you children to the Fellowship Hall for an evening of fun! Call Kelli for more information at 260-205-3035



*For your convenience, we now have "Deacon Fund" envelopes in the back of the sanctuary pews.
Thank you for helping those in need*