

The Messenger

Volume 23 No. 2

February 2023



The Newsletter of The United Church of Sandwich

"Passionately united to feed all people — body, mind and spirit — to the glory of God!"

Greetings,

I am excited to announce the planning of a new church ministry here at United Church of Sandwich. UCS will begin an affordable and safe after school program for the children of the community. The mission of the church is that we are *passionately united to feed all people — body, mind and spirit — to the glory of God!* We have often interpreted this mission in relation to food. Our ministries involving food are vital to the life of the church and this impact of the community.

I invite you to see the mission statement in new ways. Specifically, let's focus on feeding the mind and spirit of the community. I have presented the vision, opportunity, and means to the church leadership to offer an after-school program to the children of the community. Our church is focused on connecting with the community to offer meaningful support and resources. One need in the community is for qualified and effective care of elementary aged children during the hours of 3-6pm. Our church is also uniquely positioned to provide this to two community schools; Haskin Elementary School (K-3 Grade) and Dummer (4-5 Grade). We are the only church within walking distance of both schools. This would allow us to transfer the children safely to the church without the need of any vehicles.

We will be in ministry with this program on each school day by walking the kids to the church. The program will run to 5:30/6:00pm each day. Our initial program will be a 15 kids per day max. This will allow us to safely monitor and lead the children without chaos or problems. Each day, the After School Director, the Pastor, and 1-2 adult volunteers will be on hand to interact with the children. The goal is to have 1 adult for every 4/5 children.

Our church has also received a start-up grant to help cover initial costs. The church is dedicating financial resources and we will require a small fee from parents. The three prongs of financial support will cover costs. The cost will be far less than other after school programs, which will allow for families in financial need to find a safe place for their children in the afternoon. Our church will be hiring a new part time staff person to the church, and an After School Director to lead and facilitate the program. The rest of the adults will be comprised of volunteers. The goal is to become cost neutral for this program. The minimal fees will cover the costs for staff and insurance. We are focused on this ministry as an outreach. Our goal is to create relationships with families in the community in ways that provide positive connection and impact.

Our focus is not to bring new families into the church. This sounds counter-intuitive. However, we are striving this program to be a ministry. The focus is for the church to have a greater impact to the community. We will be a safe and healthy place for children to be at every school afternoon. We will be a place that offers parents peace of mind and support for their children. We will be a place that gives the Sandwich community another connection point with the church. Each focus is on the 'other'. If families are able to connect with the church and find a spiritual community here we will celebrate! That would be the results of God connected ministry. We hope for this, but we focus not on our own church, but the community. This is the foundation of servant ministry.



(Continued on page 2)

The program will start August 2023. We are spending the next 8 months planning and implementing the steps needed to get our program off the ground. It is my prayer that God will bless the seeds we are planting in ministry. Spiritual fruit will grow and the harvest will be plentiful! This is a ministry of the church and we will proceed together. What steps can you take to help us get this ministry off the ground?

1. Pray. Prayer will be the engine that drives the success. Over the next 8 months we ask that everyone includes the program in your prayers. Pray for wisdom, guidance, grace and strength.
2. Volunteer. We have 18 adults signed up to volunteer 1-3 times a month. The success of a children's ministry is based on the adults stepping forward to volunteer. Prayerfully consider joining the ministry as a volunteer.
3. Donate snacks and supplies (crafts & activities) for the program. (Lists will be shared in the summer as we approach the start of the program.) Or donate funds that will be used for supplies helping to lower the cost of the program. Allowing for a better chance at success.
4. Prepare to spread the word about the program with neighbors, family, friends and the community.

Together, we will take a leap of faith and follow Christ. We walk step by step in faith. However, we always remember that through Christ all things are possible! We will be sharing more updates through this spring as we complete the work needed through our church committees and the Administrative Council. Thank you for all that you do and Go God!

God Bless!

Pastor Tom Bourke

Sunday Scriptures & Sermon Series for February

"The Parables of Jesus"

February 5 Luke 10:25-37 ~ The Parable of the Good Samaritan

February 12 Matthew 18:21-37 ~ The Unforgiving Servant

February 19 Luke 10:25-37 ~ The Prodigal Son

"Come Follow Me"

February 22 (Ash Wednesday) Isaiah 61:1, Mark 1:16-28 ~ Called a Disciple

February 26 Isaiah 54:2-4, Matthew 5:38-42 ~ New Thinking

MISSION OF THE MONTH

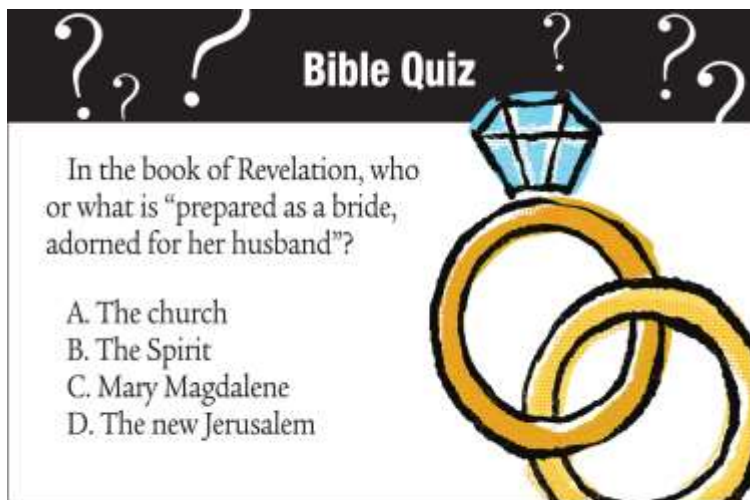
GOOD SAMARITAN FUND ~
of the Sandwich-Somonauk Area Churches

The Good Samaritan Fund seeks to assist families and individuals with emergency needs in our area. Funded by the local churches and administered by the Sandwich Police Department.

Vouchers are redeemed at local merchants for baby needs, groceries or gas.

Thank you for supporting this vital mission.

The Missions Committee



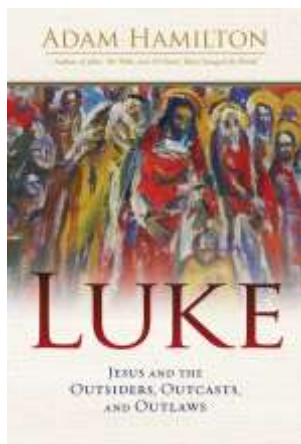
Bible Quiz

In the book of Revelation, who or what is "prepared as a bride, adorned for her husband"?

A. The church
B. The Spirit
C. Mary Magdalene
D. The new Jerusalem

(Note: The image shows two interlocking gold rings with a blue diamond on top.)

Answer: D (See Revelation 21:2)



Adult Lent Bible Study resumes Tuesday mornings, 10:00am, February 28 - April 4, in the Chapel. During the Lenten Season the book of Luke will be explored. Each book costs \$12. Please let Pastor Tom know if you have any questions and/or would like to order a book.

Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws

From Birth to Resurrection in the Gospel of Luke

Jesus came to lift up the lowly. Throughout his ministry to his final days on the road to the cross, we find stories of his relationships with ordinary, flawed, and unexpected people. He met, dined, and traveled with people who were not perfect. Many of them were struggling, some were outsiders or even outlaws. Whoever they were, from those he healed to the outlaws with him at his crucifixion, Jesus brought the good news of God's kingdom to those who most needed to hear it.

Pastor and bestselling author Adam Hamilton explores the life, teachings, death, and resurrection of Jesus as told in the Gospel of Luke. Through Luke's stories we find Jesus' care and compassion for all as he welcomes sinners and outcasts. As we study Luke and see Jesus' concern for those who were considered unimportant, we hear a hopeful and inspiring word for our lives today.



PLEASE JOIN BISHOP DAN SCHWERIN FOR A DAY OF INTRODUCTION, REFLECTION AND CONVERSATION ON YOUR DISTRICT IN FEBRUARY.

PRAIRIE SOUTH LAITY WILL GATHER WITH THEIR DISTRICT FOR AN EVENING CONVERSATION WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 7:00 TO 8:30 PM.
(UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED).

4th Weekend Drive

Thank you for your continued support of the 4th Weekend Drives.

The request will be for a "Diaper Drive"

February 25 & 26.

If you are able, please bring diapers any size or brand.

These donated items will be taken to Sandwich Church of the Nazarene for distribution.

**Follow Basics DeKalb County for more information. Thank you!
The Missions Committee**



Children's Sunday School,

9:00am,

Sunday mornings.

Check out the UCS website:

unitedchurchsandwich.org

for a link for the Children's Activity Bulletin.

Age appropriate worksheets may be found.

If you have any questions call, 815-786-9243

February Activities



Worship Committee will meet Sunday, February 12th, following the service.

Administrative Council meets Tuesday, February 14th, at 6:30pm.

Board of Trustees will meet Tuesday, February 21st, at 4:30pm.

Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee will meet Tuesday, February 21st, 6:30pm.

Finance Committee will not meet in February.



2022 Year End Statements may be found in the narthex. If you do not find one with your name please let the office know.
Thank You!

**Extra Pledge Cards,
Annual Church Conference Packets,
Upper Room Booklets, Lost & Found Items,
Pie of the Month/Membership Order Forms**

Finance Corner



Christmas has come and gone and we are well into the New Year!

Now is a great time to reflect on "How did we do financially in 2022?" There are two ways to look at the chart below. First, we finished the year with a deficit of \$14,741.45. We can continue to work harder to have our income meet our expenses. Secondly, our 2021 Fair Stand transfer was large enough to fund the deficit and enabled us to increase our general fund balance by \$8,258.55. Praise be to God for your never ending work at the Fair and faithful giving!

General Fund

	December 2022	YTD 2022
Brat Fest (net)	\$0.00	\$2,753.21
Pork Chop BBQ (net)	\$0.00	\$6,489.86
Pie of the Month (net)	\$2,690.00	\$4,018.38
Giving Income	\$13,515.01	\$147,128.19
Christmas Offering	\$3,155.00	\$3,155.00
Expenses	\$18,629.13	\$178,286.09
Difference	\$730.88	-\$14,741.45
2021 Fairstand Transfer		\$23,000.00
Balance 12.31.22		\$8,258.55

2023 Budget	
Total Income	\$150,870.00
Total Expenses	\$201,887.00
Deficit	-\$51,017.00
Profits from 2022 Fairstand help to reduce our deficit	\$32,000.00
Can you help us to lower our deficit to ZERO?	-\$19,017.00

If you have questions or would like to learn more, please see Pam Nehring or Linda Duy.

ASH Wednesday Service

7:00 pm at UCS.

February 22, Ash Wednesday will mark the beginning of the Season of Lent.

A time to go deep into our hearts, examine our lives, and learn to be holy.



**FREE Chili Lunch
Drive-Thru**

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

Sunday, February 12, 2023

12:00 — 1:30 pm Drive-Thru Only

Safe Health Practices Will Be Adhered To

United Church of Sandwich
512 Lions Rd, Sandwich
(across from Sandwich High School)
815-786-9243
www.unitedchurchsandwich.org

Homemade Chili, Cornbread & Dessert

Even if you aren't a football fan, swing by to warm your stomachs and hearts so we can support each other as a United community! This is a gift to everyone in the community as an act of kindness and joy!!

All who attend can enter to win a free Homemade Pie!

PIE OF THE MONTH EVENT

Our expert pie bakers have been busy baking delicious pies just for you!

Preorders and prepayment are required.



February: Cherry Pie
Order Deadline-February 3
Pickup Date-February 11

March: Apple Pie (2 crust)
Order Deadline-March 3
Pickup Date-March 11

May: Peach Pie
Order Deadline-May 5
Pickup Date-May 13

April: Triple Berry Pie (2 crust)
Order Deadline-March 31
Pickup Date-April 8

June: Strawberry Rhubarb Pie
Order Deadline-June 9
Pickup Date-June 17

PIE OF THE MONTH MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE

3 Month Membership - \$55.00 for pies offered April-June 2023.

The Membership gets you the pies at a reduced cost.

Memberships are not required to purchase any pie of the month.

Pies may be purchased baked or frozen (with baking instructions).

Pickup only — no delivery

The Church will be open from 9AM-11AM on the Pickup date.

Please use south entrance

Checkout the UCS website: unitedchurchsandwich.org

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Liturgists

02/05 Yvonne Perillo
02/12 Myrtie Warren
02/19 Kevin Duy
02/19 Kevin Duy
02/22 (Ash Wednesday) NA
02/26 Pam Nehring

Greeters/Ushers

02/05 Angie Miller & Jeff Larson
02/12 Gwen Fox & Chris Bagwill
02/19 Carole Strock & Earl Shaffer
02/22 (Ash Wednesday) John & Pat Hallaron
02/26 Matt & Joanna Olson

Northern Illinois Conference *Reporter*

United Church of Sandwich is a United Methodist Church and the connectional nature of our denomination is vital to our identity. Below is a link to the Northern IL Conference newspaper. to give you the opportunity to learn and discover the events and opportunities of the UMC at large. Please contact Pastor Tom if you have any questions on any topic that you read.

https://www.umcnic.org/media/files/Reporter/6-7-2021_web_reporter.pdf

Please send any email, phone number, and address updates such as winter addresses to the church office. Thank you!



Prayer List



If you would like to be added to the church email prayer list please contact the church office or Pastor Tom. If you are unable or uncomfortable leaving your home we have church members who are able to make necessary trips to pick up basic home and food staples. We want to be in support for you and let you know that you are family and are not alone. If you are one able to make short shopping trips for members, please let Pastor Tom know and you will be added to the resource list of people to call. Thank You!

February Birthdays & Anniversaries

02/02	Scott Rogers
02/07	Gerrad Dannewitz
02/08	Austin Carlson
	Jim Updike
02/10	Heidi Heiman
02/18	Kevin Duy
02/24	Joan Banko
	Pastor Tom Bourke
	Tucker Chrestman
02/27	Joanna Olson
<hr/>	
02/14	Kevin & Linda Duy

If anyone's birthday or anniversary has been missed please contact the church office. Thank You

Newsletter February 21 Deadline!

Please send any joys, concerns, photos, thoughts or informational articles to the church office.
815-786-9243

February 2023

Sun

Mon



Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

 <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.5em;">UCS Meals on Wheels Month</p>	1	2	3	4	
<p>9:00 Children's Sunday School</p> <p>10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online (Holy Communion)</p>	5	6	7	8	9
<p>12-1:30 FREE Chili Drive Thru</p> <p>9:00 Children's Sunday School</p> <p>10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online</p>	12	13	14	15	16
<p>9:00 Children's Sunday School</p> <p>10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online (Holy Communion)</p>	19	20	21	22	23
<p>9:00 Children's Sunday School</p> <p>10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online</p>	26	27	28		



The United Church
of Sandwich

512 E Lions Rd
Sandwich, IL 60548-2147

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



THE MESSENGER — FEBRUARY 2023



The United Church of Sandwich

512 E Lions Rd, Sandwich, IL 60548-2417

Church: 815- 786-9243

Email: ucssandwich@frontier.com

website: www.unitedchurchsandwich.org

Worship Schedule

Sunday, 10:00 am

Children's Sunday School, 9:00 am

Adult Bible Study, Tuesdays, 10:00 am

Church Office Hours

Monday — Friday, 9:00 am — 1:00 pm

Pastor: Rev. Tom Bourke

Office Hours: Monday–Thursday

9:00 am — 1:00 pm

or by appointment

Email: tombourkej@gmail.com

Mobile: 630-699-2474

Church Staff

Secretary: Donna Reiss

Tuesday–Friday, 9:00 am — 1:00 pm

Choir and Chimes Director: Kevin Duy

Organist/Pianist: Abi Mogge

Ministers and Missionaries: All Members

We are passionately united to feed all people —
body, mind and spirit — to the glory of God!

Leadership Team 2023

Church Council Chair

Sarah Stevens

Recording Secretary

Chris Bagwill

Treasurer

Linda Duy

Payroll

Pam Nehring

Financial Secretary

Pat Hallaron

Finance/Stewardship Chair

Pam Nehring

Staff/Pastor Parish Relations

Jerry Brown

Lay Leader

Jim Bernhardt

Trustee's Chair

Gary Anderson

Annual Conf. Delegate

Ken Young

Missions/Evangelism Chair

Phyllis Whitehead

Memorial/Endowment Chair

Bonnie Bernhardt

United Methodist Women

Bonnie Miller

Fair Stand Chair

Marilyn Steenwyk

Worship & Music Chair

Reid Heinekamp

Worship & Music Chair

Deb Seymour

United Church of Sandwich's

We invite you to view the new website for
contact information and to learn more about

United Church of Sandwich

www.unitedchurchsandwich.org



During Lent, many of us are reminded once again to examine our lifestyles and ask, "What can we do for others?" Part of faith formation at any age is compassion and offering a serving heart to our neighbors. Lent is a good time to commit to giving money to a project that helps those in need.

Collect coins during the season of Lent and then following Easter, donate the money. First determine where you would like your money to go. Maybe you have a community food bank that could use funds to purchase food for the hungry. Perhaps you could contribute to a larger project beyond your local community. Select an agency that would appreciate your contribution. Once you have selected a project, decide what coins you want to collect. You may want to contribute a quarter for every item on the giving calendar. You may want to simply collect loose change and give whatever coins you have for each item. Make a container to collect the money. Use a plastic tub, jar, or a coin bank that you aren't currently using in your home, decorate it and place it where it can easily be seen. Items on the daily guide will remind us of all we have and how little others may have. Each Sunday, pray for the project and the people who will benefit from your gifts. Giving begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes with Holy Saturday. Check them off as you go!

- ◇ February 22 - Ash Wednesday : A coin for every lamp
- ◇ February 23: A coin for every light switch
- ◇ February 24: A coin for every candle
- ◇ February 25: A coin for every flashlight (Include the one on your smartphone.)
- ◇ February 26: Pray today, thanking God for the gift of light.
Pray for those who live in darkness.
- ◇ February 27: A coin for every box of cereal
- ◇ February 28: A coin for every can of soup
- ◇ March 1: A coin for every type of bread
- ◇ March 2: A coin for every jar of jelly
- ◇ March 3: A coin for every bottle of salad dressing
- ◇ March 4: A coin for every jar of peanut butter
- ◇ March 5: Pray today, thanking God for the food you enjoy.
Pray for those who have no food this day.
- ◇ March 6: A coin for every ball cap or hat
- ◇ March 7: A coin for every pair of shoes
- ◇ March 8: A coin for every pair of jeans or pants
- ◇ March 9: A coin for every coat
- ◇ March 10: A coin for every t-shirt
- ◇ March 11: A coin for every sweatshirt
- ◇ March 12: Pray today, thanking God for clothing that protects you from the elements.
Pray for those in need.
- ◇ March 13: A coin for every ball or piece of athletic equipment
- ◇ March 14: A coin for every electronic video game
- ◇ March 15: A coin for every smart device (phones, tablets, etc.)
- ◇ March 16: A coin for every television

- ◇ March 17: A coin for every doll or stuffed animal
- ◇ March 18: A coin for every board or card game
- ◇ March 19: Pray today, thanking God for how entertainment is enjoyed in your home.
Pray for those who would be grateful to.
- ◇ March 20: A coin for every box of Band-Aids®
- ◇ March 21: A coin for every bottle of vitamins
- ◇ March 22: A coin for every box of tissues
- ◇ March 23: A coin for every bottle of hand sanitizer.
- ◇ March 24: A coin for every toothbrush and tube of toothpaste
- ◇ March 25: A coin for every cough drop found in your house.
- ◇ March 26: Pray today, thanking God for your health. Pray for those who are sick.
- ◇ March 27: A coin for every room in your home
- ◇ March 28: A coin for every electrical outlet in your home
- ◇ March 29: A coin for every chair in your home
- ◇ March 30: A coin for every desk in your home (virtual work/school)
- ◇ March 31: A coin for every bathroom
- ◇ April 1: A coin for every bed
- ◇ April 2: - Palm Sunday: Pray today, thanking God for shelter.
Pray for those who need shelter.
- ◇ April 3: A coin for every Bible
- ◇ April 4: A coin for every book of hymns or sacred songs in your home
- ◇ April 5: A coin for every cross in your home
- ◇ April 6: A coin for every prayer you say today
- ◇ April 7: A coin for every story of Jesus you can tell
- ◇ April 8: A coin for every person in your family
- ◇ April 9 - Easter Sunday : Pray, thanking God for Jesus and the many ways we can gather and worship God.

Pray for those who will receive the coins collected that they would see
God's presence through them.

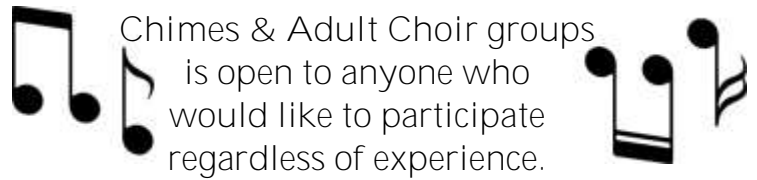
COLOR ME!





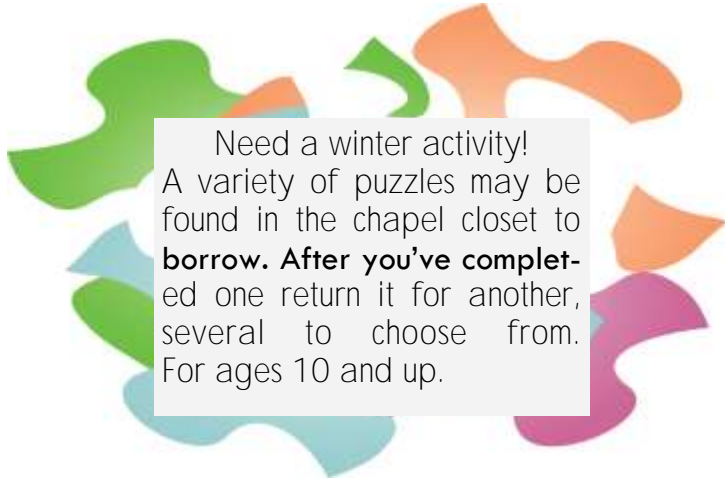
United Women in Faith will meet Monday, February 13th, at 9:00am. They will be working on their Valentine Outreach Program to shut-ins.

U'Niter's do not meet in February. Beginning March 6th, meetings will be at 1:00pm in the Friendship Corner.



Chimes & Adult Choir groups is open to anyone who would like to participate regardless of experience.

Practices are Wednesday evenings, 6:00pm and 7:00pm, respectively. Both current and traditional selections are enjoyed. If you would like to join contact Kevin Duy or Pastor Tom.



Need a winter activity! A variety of puzzles may be found in the chapel closet to **borrow**. After you've completed one return it for another, several to choose from. For ages 10 and up.



AmazonSmile Amazon plans to close their AmazonSmile program February 20, 2023. Thank you to those who selected UCS as your charity of choice when making Amazon purchases.



Community Lenten Breakfasts Announcement

The Sandwich/Somonauk Ministerial Association announces the return of Lenten Breakfasts. Everyone is invited to meet during Lent at the Federated Church of Sandwich to have refreshments, fellowship, and worship hour.

Please join them each Wednesday Morning from 9:30-10:30am, March 1 - 29.

We hope to see you there! Federated Church is located at 403 N Main St Sandwich.





Use the Bible Verse to fill in the blanks!

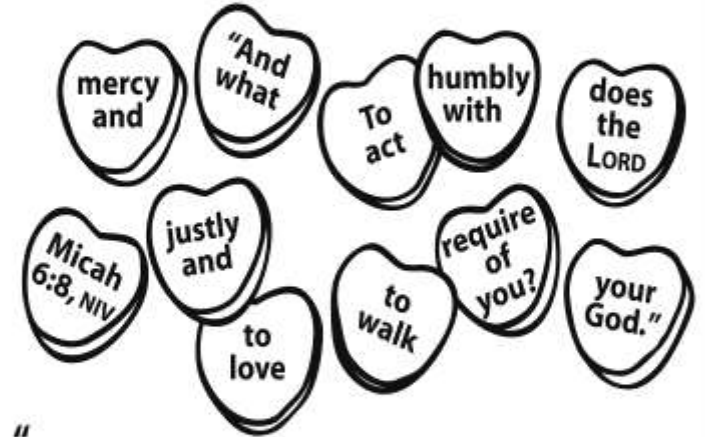
For so loVed the world
 thAt He His
 L
 E
 N,
 thaT
 I
 iN Him should not
 but havE life.
 (John 3:16, NKJV)



Conversation hearts

The world encourages people to look out for themselves and seek success, but in Micah 6:8, God tells us to live differently.

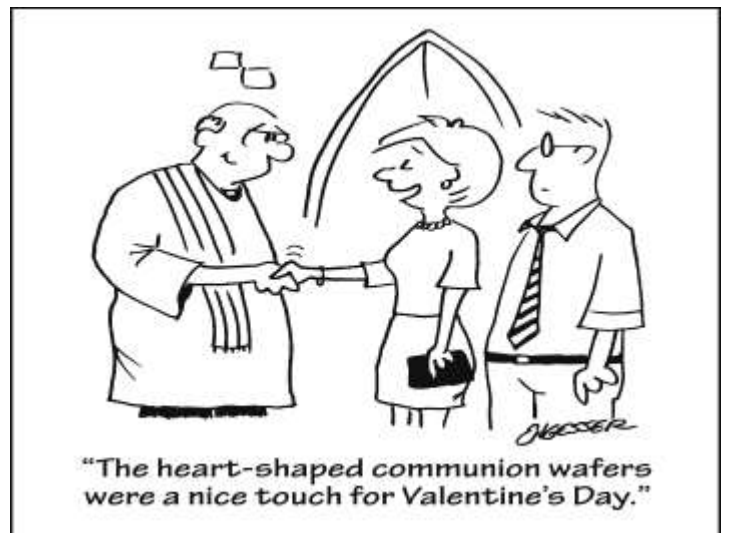
Directions: Put the conversation hearts in the correct order by writing the words on the lines below. Hint: Capitalization and quotation marks are included.



" _____
 _____ ?

 _____ " _____ 6:8 , _____

Answer: "And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8, NIV



"The heart-shaped communion wafers were a nice touch for Valentine's Day."

A friend
loves
 at all times.

Proverbs 17:17