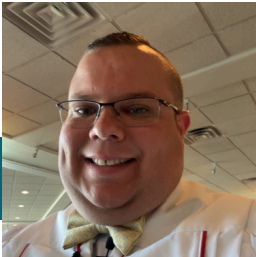


CHUM NEWS

February 2025 Newsletter

“Let all that you do be done in love”

(1 Corinthians 16:14)



A Message from the Pastor...

Pastor Samuel Mohn

Kids crack me up. One year when I was a Sunday School teacher, I had the kids in my class talking about love. They shared how they loved pizza and ice cream, Nike sneakers and cool clothes, snow days and summer vacation. They loved their family and friends, boyfriends and girlfriends. I was quick to remind them that while they may love all these things, the word love is really so much more than that. We do see love in family, in friends, in hobbies, we find love in the things in life that bring us joy. We see love in creation, but the truth is the same love we have for pizza is not the same kind of love we have for family.

Our world has many definitions of love, but we most commonly think about love in a romantic sense, or we toss the word love around so casually with food and what we're wearing, it loses its meaning. But, what if love, true love, meant more than just romance? What if there was a deeper, truer, more full expression of love? Great question! There is! Since it's February, and Valentine's Day is approaching, what better time to take a look at the different types of love.

One such type of love is where our mind goes most often, to Eros, which is the sensual or romantic love, the love we feel for our significant other. This is most often the love that is celebrated on February 14th, but again, love is so much more, it is multifaceted. There is also Storge, which is familial love, which is the love we feel for our family, between parent and child, a strong bond that cannot be broken. We've often heard the phrase "Brotherly Love"; and that is called Philia. Philadelphia is called the city of brotherly love. See the connection? This type of love is affectionate, yet not romantic. It is the love that is between good friends and those we wish good will toward. I imagine this is the love that Jesus had with his disciples. They started out as a ragtag group of people that Jesus gathered together and became the best of friends who did ministry together long after Jesus ascended to Heaven. I also believe this is just one of the expressions of love that we share with one another as we travel on our faith journey together ministering to our community.

And then there is Agape love. To me, this is love at the highest level and is by far the most special. It is the type of love that Jesus refers to again and again throughout His ministry and it is the love that all of the Christian faith encompasses. It is so much more than we could ever dream or

imagine. It is the selfless love of others. Agape is sacrificial love and is spoken of over 200 times in the Bible because this is the love that God has for us. This is the Love that God has for all humankind (yes, all!). Total, perfect, unconditional, sacrificial love, for us.

Jesus taught His disciples and thousands of others about Agape love, and He displayed it openly everywhere He went, from the countless healings to raising Lazarus from the dead and to dying on the cross for us all. Jesus was the perfect embodiment of agape love. Jesus is the finest example of love we have and it is the one we should all be striving to copy every single day....not just on Valentine's Day.

This Valentine's Day, find out for yourself how you can give love like Jesus. Make it a goal to put others first and to love generously, unconditionally, without expectations of anything in return. Love like Jesus! God will bless you for it in unbelievable ways.

Jesus loves you and so do I!
Pastor Sam

What's Cookin with Pastor Sam?

Reverse Chocolate Chip Cookies

**I adapted this recipe from one I found on a Hershey's white chocolate chips bag. My friends went crazy for them. They look beautiful plated, too.*

- 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2/3 cup dry Hershey cocoa
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened
- 3/4 cup granulated sugar
- 2/3 cup packed light brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 teaspoon cream
- 2 whole eggs
- 1 cup Hershey's Sea Salt Caramel Baking Chips
- 1 cup Nestle Toll House Premier White Morsels

Preheat oven to 350°. Line 2 baking sheets with parchment paper.

In a bowl sift the flour, cocoa, baking powder, baking soda, and salt.

In a mixer, combine butter and sugars. Mix until incorporated. Add eggs one at a time, mixing after each. Add vanilla and cream, and beat till fluffy. Add flour mixture slowly, and mix gradually. Turn off mixer. Use a spatula to push down the dough. Stir in the caramel chips and white morsels by hand.

Roll rounded teaspoons of dough into loose balls. Place on prepared sheet, and bake 9 to 11 minutes. Remove and cool on rack 2 minutes. (My oven is electric.)

History of Hymns: 'Welcome'

By M. Roger Holland II, Guest Contributor
Mark Miller

"Welcome"

by Mark Miller and Laurie Zelman

*Let's walk together for a while and ask where
we begin
to build a world where love can grow and
hope and enter in,
to be the hands of healing and to plant the
seeds of peace,
Singing welcome, welcome to this place.
You're invited to come and know God's grace.
All are welcome, the love of God to share
'cause all of us are welcome here,
all are welcome in this place.**

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Mark A. Miller (b. 1967) is one of the most prolific composers of our time, with well over two hundred compositions to his credit, ranging from anthems and other choral works to solo organ pieces and congregational songs. He often composes music to texts relating to inclusivity, social justice, hospitality, welcome, and reconciliation. Rev. Dr. Otis Moss III, the pastor of Trinity United Church in Chicago, Illinois, describes Miller as a musical griot. Moss further offers, "The music of Mark Miller becomes a post-modern psalm, soothing the anxious spirits of twenty-first-century pilgrims" (Moss, Foreword, *Revolution of the Heart*). In addition to his activities as a composer, Miller is a pianist, organist, singer, choral conductor, and educator. Miller is Professor of Church Music, Director of Chapel, and Composer-in-Residence at Drew University. He is also a Lecturer in Sacred Music at Yale University's

Institute of Sacred Music and Divinity School, and Minister of Music at Christ Church in Summit, New Jersey.

His hymn "Let's Walk Together" (2007) highlights the themes of inclusion and hospitality.

The text was written by Miller along with longtime collaborator and friend, Laurie Zelman, whom he met while Zelman was a seminary student at Drew Theological School in Madison, New Jersey (Doerries, *Canterbury Dictionary*). The three stanzas are anaphoric, each inviting the singer into an act of communal engagement—"Let's walk together" / "Let's talk together" / "Let's dream together." Biblical allusions throughout allow us to envision the beloved community (Rom 12:9–21; John 13:34–35; Acts 11:1–18).

Stanza 1 invites us to partner in the work of creating the beloved community. The last line of stanza 3 echoes James 3:18 where the biblical writer admonishes his audience to use heavenly wisdom to "plant seeds of peace," thereby harvesting justice (James 3:18 CEV). Stanza 2 alludes to the heavenly banquet, the Eucharistic meal, one where God invites all to partake of this life-giving food. Where Zelman writes that "joy will set the table" in this stanza, one may be led to recall the words of the psalmist in Psalm 23:5—"You prepare a table before me." Especially poignant in this stanza is the imagery of the Last Supper, particularly as depicted in John's Gospel where Jesus washes the feet of his disciples (John 13:1–17). This instructive act illustrates the servant-leader model, "where pride and power kneel to serve the lonely and the least." The third and final stanza illustrates a vision of the beloved community, much like the final book of the Bible, Revelation, which also describes the new Jerusalem, a holy city (Rev 21:1–2). In this stanza, the singer is

drawn into a world of unity, love, light, and joy, “where mourning turns to dancing,” a scriptural reference to Psalm 31, verse eleven.

The hymn was originally published as a choral anthem in 2007 by Abingdon Press under the title “Welcome” in their Mark Miller Anthem Series and in a congregational version in For Everyone Born: Global Songs for an Emerging Church (General Board of Global Ministries, 2008). More recently, the hymn has appeared in Worship and Song (Abingdon Press, 2011) and Voices Together (Harrisonburg, PA, 2020). It was sung at the gathering of the Eleventh Assembly of the World Council of Churches held in Karlsruhe, Germany, in 2022. In its dedication, Miller acknowledges friend Jeff Spelman, whose work in the church models hospitality and inclusion.

The melody itself reflects God’s presence. It begins on the third tone of the scale and seems to have already been in progress, perfectly illustrating the presence of God which existed prior to the persons who are being addressed. The beauty of the melody is in its simplicity and its ability to be easily learned and used in corporate singing. The “circle of life” is represented as well by the repetition of the first stanza text as the last stanza text. Simple flute or violin obbligato lines are also a beautiful addition to this melody, and the countermelody by the instrument can be woven in and out of the main melodic line, representing the ever-present Lord of our lives.

Outreach T-Shirts



If you would like a Church Hill Outreach T-shirt, or if the one you have is stained or worn out, please sign up with your shirt size.

The new shirts will be 50/50 polyester/cotton blend. I have a few shirts available and plan to order more soon.

The cost is already covered by donation. We just ask you join us for outreach activities and wear your shirt!

Adult sizes available: Small, Medium, Large, XL, 2XL

Youth size available: Large

February Birthdays

2/1 Brady Smith
 2/2 Scott Taylor
 2/3 Paul Harvey
 2/4 Janice Moliterno
 2/5 Larry Slimmer
 2/8 Dreylin Pekalla
 2/9 Joyce Chen
 2/12 Margaret Raupach
 2/15 Leslie Thomas
 2/16 Donald Bloom, George Gulgas
 2/17 Sue Cerny, Hazel Nicholas
 2/19 David Moyers
 2/21 Carter Denning
 2/26 Laura Yoder
 2/27 Taylor Tomlinson



Pastor Sam wants your input so he can prepare a Lenten Devotional Booklet.

Do you have a favorite scripture or Bible Story? Share the Bible verses or Bible stories and the reason why they are special to you with Pastor Sam by email, or if handwritten note, just assure it is legible.

Young people – if you enjoy drawing, you may create a black & white drawing that illustrates your favorite verse or story.

Deadline for input: February 23

Upcoming Events

- We will be having a **Soup Sale on Super Bowl Sunday** to support King's Kids/Youth for meals at Spring semester meetings. We will collect hearty soups (Chili, Cheesy Potato, etc.) on Saturday Feb 8th from noon to 2pm. The sale will go from 2 to 3pm on Saturday, and after church on Feb 9th. Valentine treats will also be available to purchase.
- **King's Kids and Youth Group** has resumed on Wednesday nights. See below for details:
 - 4:45pm - start time
 - 6pm - family meal
 - 7pm - pickup time
- **Grief Share** begins March 6 through June 5 at 6pm on Thursday evenings. Contact Jan Ferry for details.
- Save the date for this year's **Health Fair**: Saturday March 22 in Church Hill's Dining Hall and Lobby area. See Julia Catchpole for details.
- The **Children's Fair** will be on Saturday, April 5th. See Terri West for details.

February 2025

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|-----------|---|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 9:30 Bible Brew 10a Worship | 3 | 4 | 5 4:45-6:30 KK/Youth 7:30 Choir | 6 9:30 Pantry set up 10:30a Bible Study | 7 10-Noon Drive Thru Food Pantry Pastor Sam | 8 Soup Set Up Noon-2p Soup Sale 2p-3p ZOOM COS |
| 9 9:30 Bible Brew 10a Worship Soup Sale After Church | 10 | 11 | 12 4:45-6:30 KK/Youth 7:30 Choir | 13 10:30a Bible Study | 14  | 15 |
| 16 9:30 Bible Brew 10a Worship | 17 Presidents Day Office Closed | 18 | 19 4:45-6:30 KK/Youth 7:30 Choir | 20 10:30a Bible Study | 21 | 22 |
| 23 9:30 Bible Brew 10a Worship | 24 | 25 | 26 4:45-6:30 KK/Youth 7:30 Choir | 27 10:30a Bible Study | 28 | |

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ChurchHillUMC](https://www.facebook.com/ChurchHillUMC)

Worship with us Sundays at 10am!

**Church Hill United
Methodist Church**

189 Churchill-Hubbard Rd.
Youngstown, OH 44505

Livestream available at:

[www.youtube.com/@church
hillumc6144](https://www.youtube.com/@churchhillumc6144)

Our Team

Sam Mohn, Pastor

Jane Page, Director of
Worship

Carla Jenkins, Pianist

Terri West, Children's
Director

Deanna Slifka, Youth
Director

Joe Seifert, Sound Room
Tech

Charity Washington,
Custodian

Prayer Requests

Lee Elmo, Dora Baker, Ron Baker, Elaine (friend of Gay M.), Nancy Smith, Becky Paul, Helen Hess, David Moyers, Eileen Hawkins, Jeff Hawkins, Darlene Capitola, Andre Williams and Dianne, his mother, Jimmy Quinlan, Joette Sondheimer (Viv Seifert's sister), Les Thomas, Jane Doughton, Kevin Vara, Lori Vara, Carol Smith, Ron Miller (Ken Miller's cousin), Alma Knupp, DeeAnn (Carla Jenkins' sister), Samuel M, Ken Hunter, Clara Jones, John Baksa, Viv Seifert, Ellen Hardgrove, Carter Denning, the Essad family, Mark Hrabe, Julia Catchpole, and the students, teachers, military members and their families

Contact Linda Toepfer at 330-718-2361 for the current prayer list and to request prayers.

