## **April 7: Sunday Worship Leaders**

**Songs:** Randy Grossman **Opening Prayer:** Rick Smith

Communion-presiding: Clem Rosenberger III

Communion-serving: Justen Traxler, Jason Tennant, Kendal Grossman Scripture: Nolan Grossman

**Scripture Reading:** Esther 3:1-7

**Sermon:** 

**Closing Prayer:** Caleb Smith

Remarks: Steve Maul

**Communion Prep:** Laurie Barron

# **April 14: Sunday Worship Leaders**

**Songs:** Jason Tennant

Opening Prayer: Clyde Shaffer
Communion-presiding: Carl Nulph

Communion-serving: Scott Waltenbaugh,

Jesse De La Rosa, Garret Elder **Scripture:** Randy Grossman

**Scripture Reading:** Esther 3:8-15

Sermon: Brandon Foresha
Closing Prayer: Matt Fisher
Remarks: Clem Rosenberger III
Communion Prep: Laurie Barron

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Ladies' Bible Study: April 18 on Prayer. Every other Thursday at 1:30 pm at the building.
- Tuesdays at 6:30pm: See Frank or Lorrie if you are interested in evening visiting.
- Every Wednesday at 1pm: a group gathers at the building for visiting. See Ben or Brandon.
- **Sunday afternoon studies:** Please sign up to teach a lesson from the new study book on table in foyer.
- The teens are collecting kids clothes (2T-8) and hard candy to send to the school in Africa. They will be sending a care package. *Everything needs to be in Today.*
- The teens are also collecting gift cards for our 3 college students.
- We will be collecting items again for Honduras. For example: Soaps, small bottles of shampoos, cream rinse, q-tips, toothbrushes, toothpaste, lotions, hand wipes, sanitizers, wash clothes, deodorants, combs, Kleenex etc. We'll collect until May. There will a box in the foyer.
- **April 13 at 5:30pm:** We are having a dinner and a dessert auction. If everyone could bring dessert to be auctioned off please. It's to help pay to ship our pews to Honduras. *Donations appreciated*.
- April 27 at 9am: Brother's Day at Indiana church of Christ.

### **PRAYER REQUESTS & UPDATES**

- Cathy Sagi's surgery went well. She can't put weight on her foot for four weeks. Please pray for her recovery.
- Julie delp's granddaughter, Kiera, is having seizure like symptoms. Has been to both AMCH & children's.
- Tom, brother in law of Julie, is having heart attack symptoms & is at ACMH. Please pray for Kiera, Tom, & their families at this time
- Prayers for Randy Lukehart's family....his mom is on a decline and it doesn't look like she's going to come out this time.
- Please keep Ray Umbaugh in your prayers. He has been diagnosed with Non Hodgkin Lymphoma. He fell after his colonoscopy, and has been admitted to ACMH to begin treatments.
- Please pray for the Foresha family as Brandon's uncles, Tim Smith and Butch Foresha, have both passed away.

# WELCOME TO Kittanning Church of Christ



## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

213 Blaney Road, Kittanning, PA 16201

(Behind the Dairy Queen)

Sunday Morning Bible Class: 9:30 AM Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 AM Sunday Evening Service: 6:30 PM Wednesday Eve Bible Study: 7:00 PM April 7, 2024

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 344 Kittanning PA 16201

**f** Kittanning Church of Christ Group

www.kittanningchurchofchristpa.org

kittanningpacoc@gmail.com

Phone: (724) 545-9020

#### **MINISTER**

Brandon Foresha.....(724) 525-4111

## **ELDERS**

Steve Maul ......(724) 859-1878 Brian Steffy ......(724) 664-2064 Ben Wright ......(724) 549-2805 Clem Rosenberger III ...(724) 859-1204

## **DEACONS**

Ryan Barron ......(724) 841-1405 Justen Traxler .....(501) 272-8736

## Options for accessing services:

- Join us on Facebook at Kittanning Church of Christ Group
- To listen via phone, call in at 1-408-418-9388; at prompt enter code 797 046 235
- For **Webex conference** go to:

https://kittanningchurchofchrist.my.webex.com/meet/clemdebby.

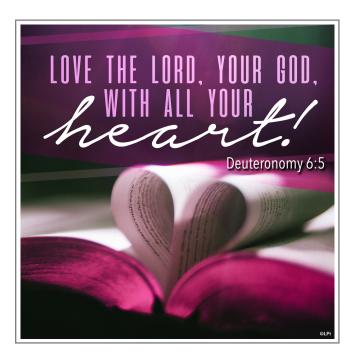
You will likely have to download Webex program on a computer or cell phone app. Follow instructions from the link. **Meeting # is 797046235** 

**PLEASE MUTE YOUR PHONE** if you use Webex and are not asking questions or commenting. If you have questions about Webex, please call Debby at (724) 954-4776.

\*\*Remind App text message system: To sign up and receive messages please text this Number- 81010 with this Message- @32f4df

# "Introduction of Love in the Old Testament?"

The Hebrew word for *love* appears more than 250 times in the text of the Old Testament. This number of occurrences should come as no surprise to anyone who is familiar with the content of God's word. Love serves as a pivotal motivation, an unconditional expression, and a powerful reaction in the relationship between God and humanity. אהב (or "ahav") can be defined as the "affection or attractive force found between two parties" (Holladay, 5). Interestingly, the two parties in which the love is



exchanged can consist of divine, human, or animal and it can even extend to inanimate objects.

The first instance of אהב does not appear until the 22<sup>nd</sup> chapter of Genesis. Though, it is in this inceptive appearance of Genesis 22:2 that love establishes its gravity. Prior to Genesis 22, God made a promise to Abraham which included the gifting of a land to his offspring (Gen. 13:15). As Abraham's relationship with God developed, he eventually speaks to God regarding his lineage, "O Lord God, what will you give me for I continue childless" (Gen. 15:2). God affirmed and reassured Abraham numerous times that he would indeed bear children through Sarah (Gen. 15:4,5; 17:16). Abraham and Sarah

found themselves in a state of disbelief after getting news that she would bear a child; for this seemed impossible to someone of her age (Gen. 18:12,13). As the narrative progresses, the reader discovers God as one who keeps His promises as He provides Isaac to the elderly couple (Gen. 21:2). Isaac's birth was much more than a miracle; it was an event that highlighted the power and faithfulness of the Lord.

Here's where things get interesting (as if the miracle of Isaac's birth wasn't cool already). After Isaac had grown and Abraham had sojourned, God commanded Abraham to rise, take his son Isaac, and offer him before the Lord. Though it is in this very command that God observes, "your son whom you love" (Gen. 22:2). That's the first instance of the word. Additionally, the Hebrew is identified as QAL perfect, 2<sup>nd</sup> person masculine, meaning, it is God who is looking and witnessing the אהב (ahav) that a father has for his child. Isaac was one of the most cherished gifts that Abraham had received and his affection for him was obvious.

In establishing the foundation of Israel's holiness, the Lord commanded to "love the Lord with all of your heart, all of your soul, and all of your might" (Deut. 6:5). If anyone seeks to follow God, it requires the utilization of one of the most powerful actions/emotions given to humanity: אהב. God instructs that this love is to be powered by all that an individual has in their character, all that they have in their identity, and all that they have in their strength. When one fully comes to terms with giving all that they think, seek, and do for God, they understand how love becomes the propellent that moves a faithful relationship through the most difficult and most joyous of occasions of life.

While love can be a one-sided affair, such is not the case on God's behalf. God is one who continually loves and shows that love through unwavering steadfastness. In the chapter after Deuteronomy 6 and the instruction of the Shema, God reminds the listener of His love for them. Deuteronomy 7 begins with how God has destined His people to prosperity, success, and blessing on the condition that they follow Him. The intent of God is unveiled in Deuteronomy 7:8, "it is because the Lord loves you." This use of אהב appears as a noun feminine singular construct. God is indicating His love is something that embodies who the Lord is and what He does. Later in the text, in 7:13, God's love is described as a verb QAL perfect; something that God does for His people. Love is who God is and what He does. When we love, we are perfectly representing God's truest attribute. So, love. Love your family, love your friends, love your enemies.

- Tyler King, Mt. Carmel church of Christ, Athens, AL



April 11 - Nathan Rosenberger

April 12 - Susan Lee



April 18 - Clem Jr. and Helen Rosenberger

Text or email announcements and prayer requests to: Stephanie 724-398-9329 steph@grafxloft.com



🝊 Cast all your anxieties on Him, because 🕨 He cares for you.



- 1 Peter 5:7

Thank you for attending services with the church who meets in Kittanning! We invite you to study and worship with us again.