

Hello friends!

The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it
Psalm 24:1

Where did January go? Anyone else besides me wondering that? Well, welcome to February – the month of LOVE!!!!

I am excited about some upcoming events that are coming up, and want as many of us to be a part as possible!

We rolled out a new crusade that will be First Seffner's stewardship theme for the year: **Giving God Our Best in All Things!** We will be encouraging one another to have an attitude of gratitude, and to live in and live out the abundance that God has given us. This will be broken up into 4 subthemes:

- ***January – March:** In Our Relationships – with God, with each other and with creation
- ***April – June:** By Participating in Christ's work – experiencing the joy of serving others
- ***July – September:** By doing our best with what we have been given – each of us has our own unique gifts and resources of time, money and talent to offer
- ***October – December:** By finding a healthy balance between work, rest, play, worship and service

Make sure you read this entire newsletter so you can find out what events are coming up in the month of February. We welcome all creative ideas on things we can do together as a church family that fit into these specific categories! For example, what could we do in the first quarter to show our LOVE for the earth on Earth Day in April? How many blankets and shoes can you collect from friends and family to show LOVE to people in our community on Seffner Street Outreach day in April? We will have a special dinner in February and March to just have fun and fellowship together as a way to celebrate how much we love each other. Sign up for the Sweethearts dinner put on by the youth in February! We would LOVE to see you there!

Don't forget to register for the **Gulf Central District Training** that is designed for small to mid-size churches like ours. It will be a great day of worship, learning, fellowship and fun. You will LOVE it! Register here: <https://www.flumc.org/eventdetail/gulf-central-district-learning-event-12267401>. It is quite a trek, so you may want to sign up in the Narthex to carpool.

It's never too early to start planning for our Easter Eggstravaganza that will take place on **April 13th**! Who doesn't LOVE a great outreach event? We welcomed over 200 people at this event last year, and hope to welcome even more this year! We will have a planning session on **February 17th** right after church in the Fellowship Hall. If you would like to be a part of this fun event, please be there! Free Cubans for everyone!!!! – but you need to let me know if you are going to be there so I can order one for you. We will also get together on **March 8th** at 6:30 p.m. for bag assembly – many hands make light work, and we all LOVE that! Also, we are in search of plastic eggs to stuff – you can leave them at the donation station. LOVE those plastic eggs!

Our theme Scripture for the year is a Psalm of David: *The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.* Everything we have belongs to God, and it is God Who has graciously given to us. Can we LOVE God by having an attitude of gratitude in the coming year, and live in and live out the abundance that we have been given? Let's encourage one another, and hold each other accountable!

I look forward to a great February!

Love in Christ,
Pastor Kathi