



"THE LOVE BOAT"

*Holly Ridge Baptist Church
Casts Off On
Our Churchwide Valentines
Dinner
February 18th at 5:30*

*Menu by Bucky's BBQ:
½ Smoked Chicken
Macaroni and Cheese
Sweet Potato Crunch
Green Beans
Rolls
Cake
Tea*

*Tickets \$9.00 Per Person
Checks made to:
Holly Ridge Baptist Church
Give to Larry Kennedy
by February 5th*

(Continued from Front)

God is using Holly Ridge to show me His love. The friendly welcome, encouraging words, gift cards, hospitality, trust, respect, etc. that you have given to me are undeserved but dearly valued. We're told that love is kind. That is certainly true of the love expressed toward me and my family at Holly Ridge.

God is using my precious wife to show me His love. No one on earth knows my weaknesses and my sinfulness more than Dianna. Yet no one on earth loves me more than she does. That's amazing to me. Recently, I was struggling with a besetting sin and she patiently and gently offered to help me. She didn't get mad at me (though she rightfully could have). She didn't lecture me (though she probably should have). Instead, she chose to love even while I was still weak and even though I was still sinful. We're told that love is patient; so is your pastor's wife.

Thank you, Holly Ridge for your love. Thank you, Dianna for your love.

Thank you, Lord for actively loving me through these precious people. Please use me as a vessel of Your love toward them.

Volume XXI, Issue II February 2012

Pastor Josh Culbertson

From the Pastor

"Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us."

1 John 4:11-12

There's a phrase in those verses that doesn't seem to fit. Can you see it?

The first part tells us to love one another. The last part tells us to love one another. It's that middle part that seems out of place. "No one has ever seen God." Did John have a brain hiccup? Did he hit copy/paste at the wrong time? What does God's invisibility have to do with our loving one another?

Follow John's thought process... No one can see God. So how is anyone to know Him if they can't see Him? he seems to ask. The answer: people can see God in us by the way we love one another. That is a profound thought. Although God cannot be seen in Himself, He can be seen through the love that we show to one another.

You can *look up* and see God's love in His nature (4:7-8). You can *look back* and see God's love on the cross (4:9-10). But 1 John 4:12 says that you can *look around* and see God actively, presently loving you through the people in your life who love you.

To put it in February terms, *God is the Valentine behind your valentine!*

I want to point out just two people God is using to extend His love to me:

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**Sisters of the Heart
FREE!!!! Flea Market
Saturday February 25th
@ 10:00 AM
at the Church**

**Bring a Breakfast item to
share! Sign-up sheet on
the board**

**Coffee and Orange Juice
will be provided**

***Clean out your closets and
cupboards-get ready ready
for Spring! Do you have
unwanted items piling up?
Get them all together and
bring to the Church!!! Any
type of of item is
welcome...nothing is too
small or too big! Items you
may not need or want may
be a treasure to one of
your HR Sisters! This will
be a fun time of fellowship
and more practical than a
garage sale!***

**It is not necessary to bring
anything if you have
already cleaned out-please
come anyway and see if
there is something you
can use!**



Ladies 8 week Bible study,
Beth Moore's newest on the
book of James called Mercy
Triumphs, *****starting next
Thursday, February 2nd*****,
7-9 PM in the youth room,
please sign up on the sign
up board and the cost for the
book - \$15.

Video available at this link:
<http://www.lifeway.com/James-Mercy-Triumphs/c/N-1z10qpu>

Tammy Thackston
Ladies Bible Study
Coordinator



Tuesday, February 14th



Birthdays

- 2 – Amy Berger
- 3 – Dianna Culbertson
- 8 – Allison Benner
- 9 – Kim Holbert
- 11 – Gladys Freeland
- 12 – Kevin Hunter
- 14 – Vicki Fox
- 14 – David Benner
- 14 – Kirk Fowler
- 18 – Tanner Garrick
- 25 – Patti Hilburn
- 26 – Savannah Fox
- 28 – Ellie Rice



**First & Third Wednesday,
February 6 & 20 at 6:30 PM**
Elder Meetings

Wednesday, Feb. 8 at 6 PM
Ministry Council Meeting

**Wednesday, February
18th 6:15 PM**
Family Meal – Soup
Volunteers are needed.



*Please sign up on or before
Sunday, February 15th
where Mrs. Joan can
properly prepare.*

**Wednesday, February 15
at 7:00 PM**
Church Conference



“Whatever It takes.”

Week of Prayer
March 4 – 11, 2012

Ingathering at HRBC
March 11, 2012

Click on link for more
information:

<http://www.anniearmstrong.com/anniearmstrongpb.aspx?pageid=13304>