

# BLUE RIDGE

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## From My Heart

**F**ebruary is the *Love Month*. At Blue Ridge you will have several opportunities to express your love in February. **First, you can grow in your romantic love for your mate.** Every Sunday we are walking through the Five Love Languages at 10:00 AM. If you don't have a Bible Study class I encourage you to join us. What is the class about? It is about helping couples to not "fall out of love". We live in a world where relationships fail all the time and the most common answer for their failure, "We just fell out of love". I remember hearing a song that describes how most couples feel when they first get married. One of the lines of the song goes like this, *"I can't help failing in love with you!"* That's how they feel; they can't help loving each other.

But then life happens, their job gets tough, the in-laws are trouble, somebody gets sick, and then you have kids and get really tired and poor. Suddenly love is not something you can't help, it is now a choice. You can choose to act loving and to help your help your mate feel loved or you can let things fall apart. The good news is that with God's grace this is where love really gets good. That's what we are focusing on every Sunday in February.

Second, you have the chance to attend a conference led by one of my heroes of the faith, Josh McDowell. The conference will be Sunday, February the 11<sup>th</sup> and we will leave from Blue Ridge at 4:00 PM. The title of the conference is *"Building Relationships that Last"* and it is free.

Third, you can express your love by participating in our **Blue Ridge Love Campaign**. We are asking everyone at Blue Ridge to do **3** in February. First, show love to your Blue Ridge Family. Send a card (those will be available Sunday) to someone in our

newsletter to let them know you miss them, to lift their spirits, or to tell of your appreciation for them. My Aunt Florence had the gift of cards, I rarely saw her, but her cards came in the mail all throughout the year. Those cards always brought me a smile and brightened my day. God calls us to lift each other up. We cannot win our world to Christ until we are willing to love God's family. Second, show love by inviting someone to church. We will have some great music and I will be continuing to preach through Joshua as we discover how to live in victory. The greatest gift you can give anyone is to let them experience the message of Jesus Christ. If you have invited them before, ask them again. Blue Ridge is a great place and it is filled with wonderful people. Your friend needs to become one of our friends.

Third, let God lead you to do a love project. Does yard work for your neighbor, take somebody to lunch, and give an extra gift to Blue Ridge. Let God speak to your heart. Gestures don't have to cost anything and sometimes a simple visit can mean the world to somebody.

This week a big number of our folks at Blue Ridge are offering a gift of love to the Mix Tecu Church in Montgomery. We will be putting the finishing touches on their church by painting three class rooms this Saturday. A good group will head down to paint and a bigger number have given donations for the project. You know that the book of Acts is still being written in Heaven and in it you will find our efforts to reach this previously unreached Indian tribe through some cans of paint.

One last word, I love Proverbs 11:25 *"He who refreshes others will be refreshed."* If you are a blessing then you will be blessed! **That means that I must be living among a group of blessed people, because you all are a blessing to me and my family!**

In His Love,

**Bro. John**



# Love Our Church Family in Love Month

 Reach Out to Everyone and Do an Act of Service

 Send a Card Expressing Your Appreciation

 Call or Visit Those You Miss in Sunday School and Worship

 Invite Someone to Church

*You will find cards and telephone numbers in the back of the Sanctuary.*

*"Do you love me enough to want to help me? Does it mean anything to you that we are brothers in the Lord, sharing the same Spirit? Are your hearts tender and sympathetic at all? Then make me truly happy by loving each other and agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, working together with one heart and mind and purpose." **Philippians 2:1,2***

*The results in the lives of those you encourage, and invite is the most impactful in their lives!  
A lot is at stake!*

*We Love Blue Ridge Baptist Church and Its People!*



## **Josh McDowell in Person!**

**Come hear Josh McDowell**

**All of our church family, whether married for 50 years, 5 or 10 years, or newly engaged are invited to join us on Sunday, February 11 at 5 pm as we go to Eastmont Baptist Church to hear Josh share, "Relationships That Transform", How to Build Families That Last. Josh McDowell is a well-known author and speaker who has inspired studies in our churches for decades. There is no cost to attend and we will take the church van or come along in your own car.**




Check out our website at [www.blueridgebaptistchurch.net](http://www.blueridgebaptistchurch.net) and see the latest events and pictures provided by our Webmaster, Jim Harris.





Our February Fellowship Meal takes place on Sunday, February 11, 2018 right after Morning Worship. Bring your favorite Sunday dinner dishes to share. Susan Bass and Shirley Davis are our hostesses and we will have a good time of fellowship as we enjoy the best cooks in town.

Be sure to sign up to serve as a Fellowship Meal host on the board in the church office hallway. You will need to bring the tea and bread and choose the table decorations you want to use. We have plenty of options for each month in our flower room.



Pick a partner and volunteer!


  
 Sympathy  
 Christian love and sympathy are expressed to Deetsie Rogers and family in the passing of her aunt, Lena Cunningham.

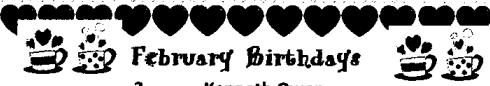
  
 We have members who have given from their extra time to enhance the beauty and upkeep of our church house and grounds. We thank Jim Harris for working to clean up the front parking lot. We thank Shirley Davis and Jim and Barbara Harris for cleaning the floors and decorating the tables for the Brotherhood Breakfast. We thank Susan Hansen for giving organizational boxes and trays for the church office, as well as serving dishes and storage items for the kitchen.

  
**21 at Brotherhood Breakfast Was Great!**  
**Blue Ridge Missions Project Underway!**  
 We thank Terry Graydon, Our Brotherhood Director for organizing this event on January 28 and all the great cooks who provided a big, hot breakfast for all who came. We thank Rev. Neal Hughes for speaking to the men about missions work going on around us. Our men will be part of the renovation of a church for a Mix Teco Indian tribe who have come to our country. Our men will paint rooms at the building provided by Highland Gardens Baptist Church. This is a project of the North American Mission Board and we are so happy to be a part of their coming to know Jesus as their Savior and Lord. Let Terry, Jim Harris, or Bro. John know if you would like to help through working or giving financially to cover costs of paint and equipment.



We thank our friends, Dr. Don and Joyce Cheatham in Kentucky and James and Jody England where James serves, for so faithfully sending their tithes and offerings to our church. Your gifts keep our church ministries active and continuing where things would be impossible otherwise. We love you and hope to see you soon.

   
**Congratulations to Our Heroes!**  
**Keith Pendley and Don Roney**  
 We are happy to announce the promotion of Keith Pendley to Detective and Bomb Squad in the Montgomery Police Department. Keith has been on patrol in dangerous areas for years, protecting all of us citizens.  
 Welcome home to Capt. Don Roney on his return from combat in the Middle East. We thank God for his service and sacrifice. We are so glad to have Emily, Avery, Evelyn, and Caroline back home with us at Blue Ridge as well.

  
**BRBC SOS**  
**BRBC Winter Olympics at Blue Ridge Challenge!**  
**Our Youth and Children had a ball challenging Don Roney and 5 other officers from the Squadron Officer's School from Maxwell right here in our Fellowship Hall! The officers came from Germany, Texas, and Ohio and they competed at their best. Each Blue Ridger had a SOS member on their team. They had a major snowball fight, bottle hockey, crab races, Speed Corn Hole, Jousting, and more and gave their best for an hour of play. We thank Don for bringing them to spend time with our kids. They will never forget this fun event. Thank you to Bro John and Jackie for decorating the arena and providing the games.**

  
**February Birthdays**

3	Kenneth Owen
5	Avery Roney
7	Rocky Aldridge
12	Morgan Brown
19	Jordan Williams
	Marilyn McGrady
25	Susan Hansen
29	Susan Bass

  
  
**February Children's Ministry**

4: Nursery & Toddlers: Bennett & Carney; CC: Aldridge  
 11: Nursery & Toddlers: Amy Brown & Carney; CC: Hansen  
 18: Nursery & Toddlers: Janet Johnson & Carney CC: Christena  
 25: Nursery: Bennett; Toddlers: Carney; CC: Hanson

**Blue Ridge Baptist Church**  
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Fellowship Lunch February 11<sup>th</sup>  
 Josh McDowell Conference February 11<sup>th</sup>  
 Youth Fundraiser Lunch February 18<sup>th</sup>

# FEBRUARY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
		Counting & Lock Up David Funchess		1 Jesus Among Secular Gods Sundays 5:00 PM	2 5 Love Languages Sundays 10:00 AM	3 8:30 AM Leave for Mission Painting Project	
4 Love Month Cards Invitations Projects 5:00 PM Discipleship	5 Visitation 7:00 PM	6	7 Prayer & Share 5:00 PM Youth and Mission Groups 7:00 PM	8	9	10	
11 Fellowship Lunch 4:00 PM Josh McDowell Conference	12 Visitation 7:00 PM	13	14 Prayer & Share 5:00 PM Youth and Mission Groups 7:00 PM	15	16	17	
18 Youth Fundraiser Lunch Discipleship 5:00 PM	19 Visitation 7:00 PM	20	21 Prayer & Share 5:00 PM Youth and Mission Groups 7:00 PM	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28 Prayer & Share 5:00 PM Youth and Mission Groups 7:00 PM		Visit us on the web at <a href="http://blueridgebaptistchurch.net">blueridgebaptistchurch.net</a>		
		January 2018 S M T W Th F Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		March 2018 S M T W Th F Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		Notes: Coming Up! Fellowship Lunch Youth Lunch	11-Feb 18-Feb
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