

# PROCLAIMER

## THE LOVE LETTER

Valentine’s Day celebrates love. The greeting card industry will reap the benefits this month as people send Valentine’s greetings to that special someone.

I am an incurable romantic. I won’t just buy Marilyn a generic card. I will take time finding just the right one, with the words that say exactly what I want to say. I’ve also been known to spend not only time, but a good chunk of change on a card to communicate how much I adore her. If I can’t find what I want, I have been known to enhance the message with my own! Words are important. They reveal what is in our heart.

Without descending into nauseating mushiness, I will admit that my heart has always skipped a beat when I have received a love letter from Marilyn. It seems like only yesterday that I would walk out of the grocery store where I worked and spot a colorful piece of paper inserted under my wiper blade on the windshield of my MG. Marilyn had been by! I would smell the perfumed fragrance from her touch. I would soak in every word and savor the message—how with every stroke of the pen she had expressed her love for me! I get excited thinking about it!

Well—God has written us a love letter. It is called the Bible! The psalmist showed how much passion he felt for God by how much affection He had for His Word. Can’t you just hear it pouring out?

*“Oh, how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day.” (Psalm 119:97)*

Our challenge to our church family has been to read the Bible through this year. The response has been overwhelming. But, as in any relationship, it takes some effort to keep the fire kindled. There will be some challenging passages along the way. We will get busy. A day or two will go by and the next thing you know we have stopped reading and our passion wanes. Don’t let it happen! Each day begin your morning by praying, *“Open my eyes, that I may see wondrous things from Your law.” (Psalm 119:18)*

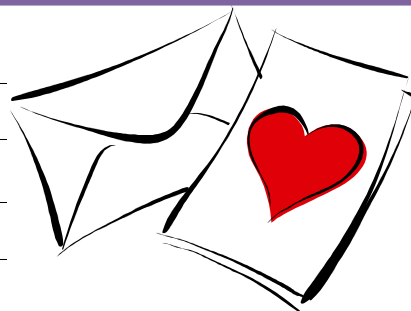
God’s love letter has been written. It waits for you to open it and He will open your eyes to wonderful truths, precious promises and expressions of indescribable love!

Submitted by: Dennis Thurman



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# February 2012



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 FLC Reserved for Student Ministry Activity 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM Deacons' Meeting 5:30 PM - 10:00 PM SOUPER BOWL OF CARING	30 6:00 PM - 10:30 PM FLC Reserved for BBA Basketball League 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Women's Weekly Winter Bible Study	31 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM FLC Reserved by Mike Smathers	1 7:00 AM - 7:30 AM Campus Life at Enka Middle School	2 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM FLC Reserved Mark Scholtz	3 7:27 AM - 8:00 AM Campus Life at Enka High School	4 YOUTH WINTER RETREAT TO SWO-BUS & VAN RESERVED 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM FLC Reserved by Carla Elliott
5 FLC Reserved for Student Ministry Activity 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM Deacons' Meeting 5:30 PM - 10:00 PM SOUPER BOWL OF CARING	6 6:00 PM - 10:30 PM FLC Reserved for BBA Basketball League 6:00 PM Missions Group Meeting, Fellowship Hall 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Women's Weekly Winter Bible Study	7 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM FLC Reserved by Mike Smathers	8 7:00 AM - 7:30 AM Campus Life at Enka Middle School	9 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM FLC Reserved Mark Scholtz	10 YOUTH WINTER RETREAT TO SWO-BUS & VAN RESERVED 7:27 AM - 8:00 AM Campus Life at Enka High School	11 YOUTH WINTER RETREAT TO SWO-BUS & VAN RESERVED 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM FLC Reserved by Carla Elliott
12 FLC Reserved for Student Ministry Activity YOUTH WINTER RETREAT TO SWO-BUS & VAN RESERVED 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM Sunday School Meeting	13 6:00 PM - 10:30 PM FLC Reserved for BBA Basketball League 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Women's Weekly Winter Bible Study	14 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM FLC Reserved by Mike Smathers	15 7:00 AM - 7:30 AM Campus Life at Enka Middle School	16 WOW Missions Group Home Meeting 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM FLC Reserved Mark Scholtz	17 7:27 AM - 8:00 AM Campus Life at Enka High School	18 YOUTH WINTER RETREAT TO SWO-BUS & VAN RESERVED 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM FLC Reserved by Carla Elliott
19 FLC Reserved for Student Ministry Activity 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Students "Xtreme Con- nections"	20 6:00 PM - 10:30 PM FLC Reserved for BBA Basketball League 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Women's Weekly Winter Bible Study	21 Region 9 Mission Rally in Fellowship Hall for Men, Women, & Youth-Supper (Free) at 6:00 PM & Program at 7:00 PM 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM FLC Reserved by Mike Smathers	22 7:00 AM - 7:30 AM Campus Life at Enka Middle School	23 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM FLC Reserved Mark Scholtz	24 7:27 AM - 8:00 AM Campus Life at Enka High School	25 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Concealed Carry Class-FLC Reserved
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# LIFE : Past, Present, Future.

**Past:** Unborn babies resided safely in their mother's womb until 39 years ago when the U.S. Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision legalized abortion. Since then between 51 and 55 million babies have been killed in the womb.

**Present:** An innocent baby is aborted about every 26 seconds. In addition, 40% of all babies are born out of wedlock – 70% of black babies. God's model of marriage – one man with one woman, be fruitful and multiply – is being ignored. There is a groundswell of those who seek to redefine marriage to include same sex unions. There is an increase in live-togethers, marriage is on the decline, homosexual couples and singles seek to adopt children.

**Future:** We must seek to guarantee the inalienable "right to life" for the unborn and encourage a healthy home environment for those who are born. Hopefully we will see the overthrow of the Roe v. Wade decision. This will be a lengthy process, including passing legislation such as the Life at Conception Act both at statewide and national levels. Also it will require a change in the U.S. Supreme Court membership. Justices are nominated by the president, confirmed by the U.S. Senate, and serve for life.

One of the current presidential primary candidates refers to a study which states three things that strongly contribute to young people's success: finish school, work hard, and don't have children until you are married.

**Goals:** After 8 years of effort, on May 8 North Carolinians will finally have the opportunity to vote to define marriage in our state constitution as between one man and one woman. Each side, pro and con, is organizing, forming committees, raising money and support, and preparing to do battle. This presents many opportunities for the Christian community. VOTE! Defining marriage, not redefining it, is the immediate goal. Along with that, we should provide information describing the disadvantages of raising children in a one parent home – such as likelihood of poverty, greater high school dropout rates, missing one parental role model, more likely involvement with alcohol, drugs, criminal activity and imprisonment. We should be helping develop healthy marriages, providing assistance and encouragement to single parents, and discouraging live-together relationships. We should support abstinence education and seek standards in entertainment that will uphold traditional marriage rather than glorify illicit relationships. Will you work, pray, and give toward these goals?

Submitted by: Gail Harding, for Christian Life & Public Affairs

## POLE CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

*"To reach people where they are  
and to move them to  
become like Jesus."*

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