



*By Kristi Duensing
Youth Director*

YOP MISSION: The goal of our student ministry is to reveal the truth to teenagers about God’s love, equip them to have a Christ-like wisdom and offer themselves in service, in order to magnify God’s holy name.

Happy Valentine’s Day! Another chance for us to let people know how much we love them; and even more importantly, how much God loves them! And don’t forget to tell your mother you love her! :-)

Do you remember the story of St. Valentine? According to the church, St. Valentine was a priest near Rome around 270 A.D. Those who didn’t worship the Roman gods were imprisoned. One of them named St. Valentine continued to minister in prison and share the Gospel: Jesus was the only true God! One of the guards was a good man and adopted a blind girl. The guard asked Valentine if his God could help his daughter. Valentine prayed and the girl was given her sight. The guard and his whole family, 46 people, believed in Jesus and were baptized. When the emperor heard about this, he was furious that Valentine was still making converts even in prison, so Valentine was killed.

Valentine and the prisoner’s daughter (who was blind) developed a special friendship. Before Valentine was executed, Valentine had written her a note of encouragement and signed it “From your Valentine”. From this sad story, we now celebrate Valentine’s Day as a special day for expressing love and friendship.

Isn’t that great? Valentine knew what true love is. Not the wishy, washy infatuation that we call love today. Rather his definition comes straight from the Author of love itself, Jesus!!

YOP Activities for February:

- Wednesday, Feb. 4:** Study night with supper at 6:30 p.m.
- Sunday, Feb. 15:** NO Movie Night
- Wednesday Feb. 18:** Peace Youth Lenten Soup Supper 5:45 p.m.
- Feb. 28/March 1st:** Youth Trip to Omaha, working with Omaha City Mission, ice skating, attending Church of the Master for Sunday Youth Service. We are looking for a male sponsor, so if you want to hang out with us, contact me. You will have a great time....I promise! ☺

Do you have a favorite “love” verse? These are a few of my favorites:

John 3:16 *“For God so loved the world, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life”.*
1 John 4:9 *“We love because first loved us.” (I always think of Bible school when I hear this verse as we sang it over and over again!)Put your name in the blanks for this verse: It’s so fun!:*

*Psalm 91:14-16 Because He loves me, says the Lord, I will rescue _____. I will protect _____,
 for _____ acknowledges my name, _____ will call upon me and I will answer _____.
 I will be with _____ in trouble, I will deliver _____ and honor _____.
 With long life will I satisfy _____ and show _____ my salvation!!!*

May God’s love fill your heart to the brim!

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