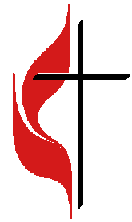




Lemont United Methodist Church
Sunday School



Notes to Parents

Dear Parents,

February 2006

Happy Valentine's Day! February has long been a month of romance. According to legend, Saint Valentine was a priest who served during the third century in Rome. When Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those with wives and families, he outlawed marriage for young men. Valentine, realizing the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages in secret. When his actions were discovered, he was put to death.

Valentine was willing to risk his life for the institution of marriage because he realized the importance of it. In Genesis 2:18, we learn that God said, "It isn't good for man to be alone; I will make a companion for him, a helper suited to his needs." Did you know that in general, married people live longer, happier lives than single people? Not only is a healthy marriage good for you, it is also good for your children! Did you know that the number one fear for children today is that their parents will divorce? By providing a healthy marriage, we can eliminate that fear from our children and help them develop strong self esteem.*

The best gift you can give yourself, your spouse, and your children this Valentine's Day, is a commitment to make the most of your marriage. Kids find out what a marriage is supposed to be by watching their parents. The column to the right contains tips to help us develop a healthy, lasting marriage. Take a moment to consider whether these are a part of your marriage. If not, how can you make them?

Yours in Christ,
Karin Peraino & Mary Rohrer

(*Quotes from "Making the Most of Your Marriage" by Dr. Kevin Leman)

Mark Your Calendar

Sunday, March 12th – St. Patrick's Day Bake Sale

Please plan to donate and purchase baked goods. Proceeds will help pay for the new Sunday School Curriculum that we are using this year.



Secrets of a Lasting Marriage



- ♥ **Focus on the Positive**
Always keep a mental list of your mate's outstanding qualities that is at least as long as your list of complaints and hopefully longer.
- ♥ **Remember Romance**
Make time for romance just like you would for anything else in your life
- ♥ **Be a Soul Mate**
Attend church and pray together
- ♥ **Communicate**
Set aside an uninterrupted time-slot to regularly talk—and listen—about important issues.
- ♥ **Make conflicts count**
Conflict is an opportunity for growth. Confront it; but fight fair. Marital vitality means much more than peace at any price.

(Adapted from an article by Neil Warren in Guideposts, Feb. 2005)

FaithWeaver

Introducing FaithWeaver Bible Curriculum – Weaving Faith Through Life!

Calendar of Lessons for February and March

Although we hope to see every student each week, we realize that schedules sometimes do not allow that. Below is a calendar of upcoming lessons so that you may review them at home with your child if he/she should have to miss.

Lesson & Date	Bible Story	<i>Scripture</i>	Key Verse	<i>Bible Point</i> <i>Ages 3-5</i>	<i>Bible Point</i> <i>Grades 1-HS</i>
Winter 2005-2006 (New Testament)					
10) 2/05	Jesus Heals, Prays, Preaches	Mark 1:29-39	Matthew 11:28	<i>Jesus cares for us</i>	<i>Jesus cares for us</i>
11) 2/12	Jesus Calms a Storm	Mark 4:35-41	1 Peter 5:7	<i>Jesus helps us when we're afraid</i>	<i>We should turn to Jesus when we're afraid</i>
12) 2/19	Four Friends Help a Paralyzed Man	Mark 2:1-12	1 John 1:19	<i>Jesus forgives us</i>	<i>Jesus forgives us</i>
13) 2/26	Jesus Blesses the Children	Mark 10:13-16	Mark 10:14b	<i>You are important to Jesus</i>	<i>You are important to Jesus</i>
SPRING 2006 (New Testament)					
2) 3/05	Jesus Teaches About Commitment	Mark 8:31-38	Romans 1:16	<i>I'm proud to follow Jesus</i>	<i>Following Jesus takes commitment</i>
St. Patrick's Day Bake Sale					
3) 3/12	Jesus Clears Merchants from the Temple	John 2:13-22	Psalm 95:6	<i>Worship is important to God</i>	<i>God wants sincere worship</i>
4) 3/19	Jesus Explains Why God Sent Him	John 3:12-21	John 3:16	<i>Jesus came to save us</i>	<i>God sent Jesus to save us</i>
5) 3/26	Jesus Notices a Widow's Giving	Mark 12:41-44	2 Corinthians 9:7	<i>God wants us to give our best</i>	<i>God wants us to give cheerfully</i>