

HOW TO LOVE EACH OTHER WELL

by Pastor Doug

“Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.” Eph. 4:2

Sometimes we have family members who can drive us crazy with all their dysfunction. There are those who are way too argumentative, or ones who love to pick you apart. Sometimes they just do things to annoy you, and they know they are pushing the right buttons. Even worse, they take great pleasure in your troubled response.

In our families and with our church family, God calls us to love well. That is why Paul wrote to the church in Ephesus to have the right attitude in dealing with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Paul wrote these words to a community of believers in Ephesus, but they are equally applicable in our homes. He is describing the quality of character and behavior that should govern all our relationships, not just those specifically within the Body of Christ.

Why would Paul take time to intentionally encourage the Ephesians to be “humble,” “gentle,” “patient,” and “to bear with one another in love?” Paul is no fool. He is fully aware of the sin in our hearts and knows that when we live in close proximity to others, tensions are bound to rise.

Let’s focus on the phrase *“bear with one another in love.”* Other translations say, *“make allowance for each other’s faults”* (TLB) and *“show tolerance for one another”* (NLT). What is striking about this is that Paul is not necessarily talking about the wrongdoings and sins that we commit against each other, though the phrase certainly applies to these kinds of situations.

Paul seems to have in mind *bearing with each other’s shortcomings and imperfections*. Little idiosyncrasies and differences in personality are often the soil for frustrations to take root. These frustrations can grow into a full-blown conflict if we’re not careful.

So, how do we respond when annoyed by someone’s attitude or frustrated by their point of view? Do we grit our teeth and begrudgingly put up with them?

No, Paul is calling us to a much higher standard.

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Worship Schedule

Sundays • 9:30 & 11:00 am

Medina Community Church exists to help people begin and grow in their relationship with God. Our relaxed, contemporary style provides an enjoyable atmosphere where you can investigate the claims of Christ, deepen your faith and meet some great friends along the way.

SERIES: BUILDING HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

- March 2 — Dealing With Critical People
- March 9 — The Needy People In Our Lives
- March 16 — Relational Strength
- March 23 — Guest Speaker, Terry Holley
- March 30 — Guest Speaker, Simon Bartos

Contact Us

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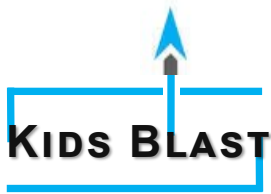
mccoffice@zoominternet.net
www.medinacommunitychurch.org

Doug Davidson — Sr. Pastor
Donna Spitzer — Family Ministry
Henna Hulme—Children’s Director
Matt Hulme—Youth Staff



Community Nights 2025

Join us for another six-week Community Nights beginning March 5th (Ash Wednesday) and continuing every Wednesday evening leading up to Easter. We'll have dinner together at 6:00 pm followed by an adult Bible study, a teen study, and Kids Blast. Great food, community-building time, and spiritual growth is on the agenda each week. Look for sign up sheets on the information desk at church.



Kids Blast resumes Ash Wednesday (March 5) from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Look for an announcement about our annual Nerf Wars 2025. Good time for parents and kids to come out and participate.



→ Sundays
5:00 to 6:30 pm



→ Sundays
6:00 to 8:00 pm



How to Love Each Other Well

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We are to *bear with one another, make allowances for each other's faults, and show tolerance for one another*—in **love**.

Of course, this is easier said than done, which is why we must be ever mindful of the way Jesus treats us.

Time and time again, we test the Lord's patience and how does He respond? He relentlessly bears with us in love. In fact, The Greek word for love Paul uses is "agape." It is used to describe God's sacrificial love for mankind. Agape love is embodied in the selfless love that Jesus displayed on the cross (see Romans 5:8) Jesus invites us to show His kind of sacrificial love to our family, people God brings across our path, and to our church family as well.

So, let's all search our hearts and ask the Lord to show us to whom we need to extend His kind of love.

Ask the Lord to help give you strength, patience, and grace to love them well.



We are pleased to announce that MCC will be hosting drive-thru Community meals on **Saturday, March 15th** from 6-7 pm for those in need. Meals will be handed out in a drive-thru lane. Volunteers will help guide guests to the meal pickup area. (All guests will be asked to remain in their vehicles.) We can always use drivers for meal deliveries at 5:00 pm and others to help with the drive through. Please consider how you could serve in this ministry.

For more information or to sign up please call or text
Emily Winans at (240)405-4003.

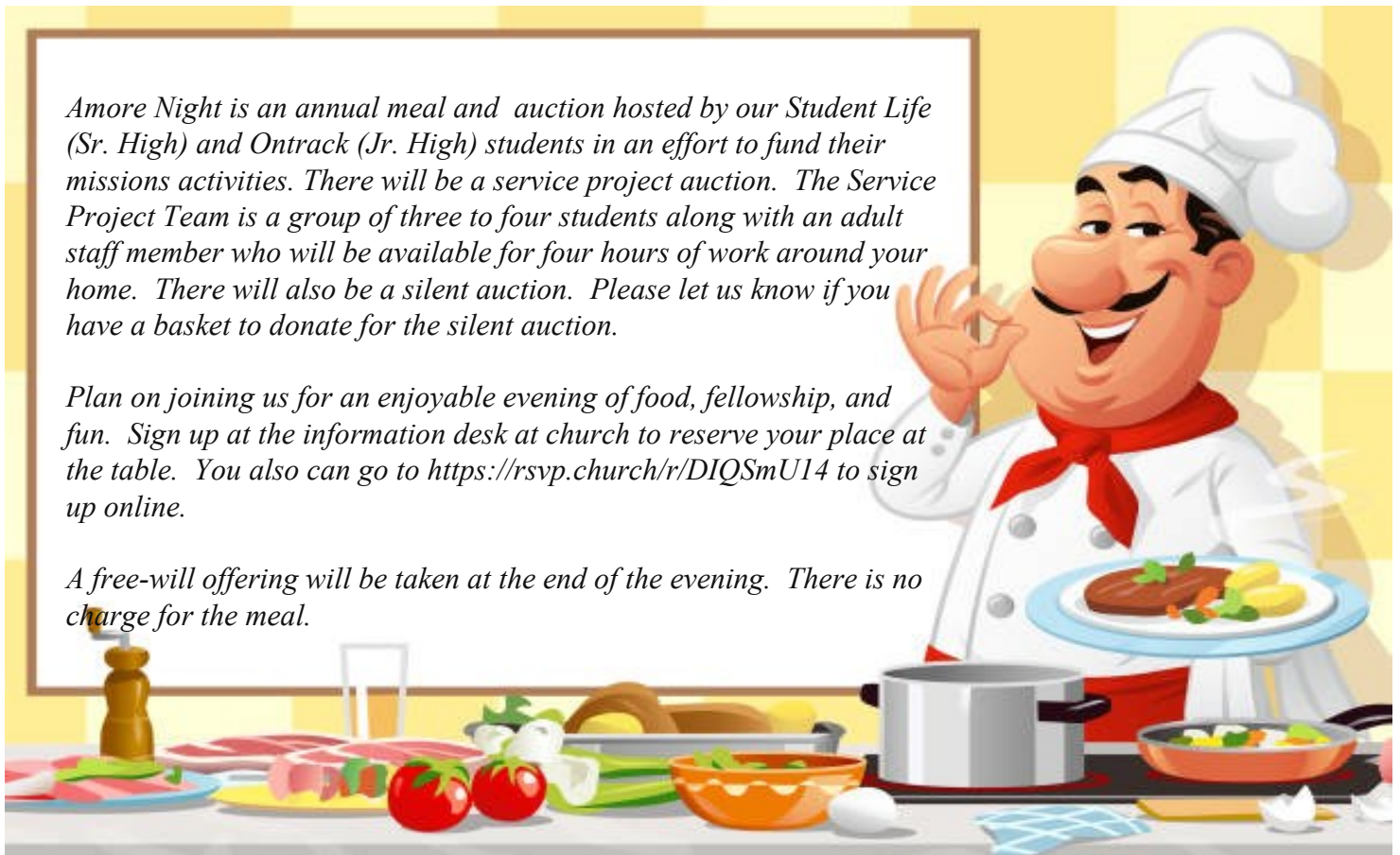
Amore' Night

March 14, 2025

Amore Night is an annual meal and auction hosted by our Student Life (Sr. High) and Ontrack (Jr. High) students in an effort to fund their missions activities. There will be a service project auction. The Service Project Team is a group of three to four students along with an adult staff member who will be available for four hours of work around your home. There will also be a silent auction. Please let us know if you have a basket to donate for the silent auction.

Plan on joining us for an enjoyable evening of food, fellowship, and fun. Sign up at the information desk at church to reserve your place at the table. You also can go to <https://rsvp.church/r/DIQSmUI4> to sign up online.

A free-will offering will be taken at the end of the evening. There is no charge for the meal.



**Dinner begins at
6:00 pm**

**Silent Auction
during dinner
(winners at 7:15 pm)**

**Service Project
Team Auction
begins at 7:15 pm**

women's ministry

MEDINA COMMUNITY CHURCH

Ladies Bible Study - Thursday night Bible Study will resume after Community Nights - tentative date April 24. We're looking at a twelve-week study by Nancy Demoss Wolgemuth called *Seeking Him - Experiencing The Joy Of Personal Revival*. If you have other ideas please pass them along to Kathy Summers.

First Breakfasts and Dinners - During the Winter months we do a first Saturday breakfast. We'll start the dinners back up in May after Community Nights. Please watch your emails for information on that. Also pass along any suggestions on restaurants.

As information on events and other activities become available we'll pass along that information. Please make sure to check your email. If you're not getting regular emails please let Kathy know at kathyksummers@gmail.com or (330) 461-1081 so she can get you on the list.

If you have ideas for things that our ladies could be doing please let Kathy know. We are always looking for new ways to serve and encourage.



Bahamas Mission Trip – Clothing/Food/ Personal Care Collection

We will be shipping donations of clothing, non-perishable food, and personal hygiene items to Nassau before we travel. In addition to personal donations, we would welcome your help with soliciting corporate/business donations if you're gifted in that way. Please see Teresa or Rob to discuss business-related donations.

We will be placing a donation box in the church in the coming days to collect donations of the following:

Clothing: any new or gently used apparel and shoes. All sizes/styles needed - in addition to spring/summer weather items, even long-sleeved shirts/long pants and sweaters/sweatshirts can be a blessing. Just no extra-cold weather gear. Please, only new socks/undergarments.

Pantry Items: any dry or canned foods - rice, beans, pasta, sardines, tuna, sugar, cooking oil, tomato sauce, canned vegetables, etc. Please, no glass.

Personal Hygiene: toothpaste/brushes, soap, sanitary napkins, deodorant, lotion, hair products, etc.

We will also be shipping a specific list of tools that our mission partners will be sharing as a special need - please see Rob or Teresa if you'd like to donate tool items, and we'll share the specifics.