

## Valentines Day Edition

*Let us love one another,  
for love comes from God*  
-1 John 4:7 (NIV)



### Everyday is Valentines Day with God

World view thinking says that Valentines Day is the traditional day for lovers to demonstrates the debt of their inner feelings for one another. The earliest known link between Valentine's Day and romance is found in Chaucer's poetry.

*Parlement of Foules* (1382) by [Geoffrey Chaucer](#)

*For this was no seynt [Saint] Volantynys Day  
Wahn every bryd comyth there to chese [chose] his make  
[mate].*

The Christian world view is to demonstrate the love of Christ everyday to those we have inner feelings for, as well as, those for whom we really don't share good feelings. Jesus said, "He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me..." (Matthew 10:31-38 NKJV).

Verses 34-39 indicate clearly that the Gospel is a divider of people. Christ is the Prince of Peace, and the Gospel is the message of peace, but when people confess Christ, they usually make enemies. Christ separates and makes the strongest natural ties of family and friends seem less important. Christians cannot serve Christ without taking up the cross; this means being crucified to self and bearing His reproach. To save our lives means to lose them but to lose our lives for His sake means to save them. "He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it." (Matthew 10:39 NKJV)

God gives us everyday to demonstrate His love to all of humankind. He rewards us for sharing with the less desirable (Luke 14:13-14)...

Don't ever be sad because no one shows you love. God has demonstrated His eternal love for you; *For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*" (John 3:16)

Pastor Joe



### Volume I, Issue I, Feb. 14, 2007

### A Love Connection that Catches the Attention of 'People'

There will be some familiar faces featured in People magazine. The Valentines Day issue, which hit newsstands last Thursday, will report on couples who were introduced by their mothers.

First lady, Mrs. Beverly Metoyer, along with longtime friend Adrienne Parrot, will detail how a carefully thought out introduction led to the marriage of their children, Sharyl and Corry.

"I had an opportunity to watch Corry grow into an extraordinary young man," says Mrs. Metoyer who works with Mrs. Parrot. "Corry is the type of person any mother would want for her daughter. He is respectful, loves his mother and most importantly, loves the Lord. For me it was a no-brainer."

Sharyl and Corry enjoyed a good 'old fashioned' courtship before they were married in June 2005 by her father, Dr. Joseph P. Metoyer, Pastor/Teacher of ACTS.

The two are currently expecting their first child.

[Go to page 2](#)

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#).

Questions or comments? E-mail us at [jmetoyer@acts-santamonica.org](mailto:jmetoyer@acts-santamonica.org) or call 310-393-4107

## ACTS Launches Youth Ministry

*“Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it.”*

Proverbs 22:6

ACTS, A Church That Studies, has launched an exciting new ministry specially geared to minister to children, youths and young adults. Darryl McKillian, Youth Pastor, will work with dedicated youth leaders to ensure that children and youths within the ministry are able to work biblical truth into the everyday fabric of their lives.

Youth leaders are able to receive children of all ages who wish to participate in the program. Classes are divided into the following groups: Infants and Toddlers, Preschoolers-Grade 1, Grades 2-5 and Grades 6-12. Youth liaison Jo Ann Black says that “the overall youth program takes on the shape of a funnel – wide enough at the top to bring youth in, but intentional enough at the bottom to accomplish our goals.” Leaders will be preparing spiritual food for young people by teaching them the Word of God in a way that will resonate with them.

Pastor McKillian echoes, “Our goal is also to get them to incorporate what they have learned into their lifestyle. Dr. Nathaniel Johnson said it best, ‘our young people shouldn't be influenced by 'peer pressure,' but rather they should be putting pressure on their peers.’”

Classes will be held second and fourth Sundays during worship service from 11am-12pm.

## Check her Out! Niya Powell in WOW Magazine



[www.wowmagazine.org](http://www.wowmagazine.org)

“The album speaks about the journey and process we have to go through to get to that day when Christ returns.”

*-Niya Powell on her debut album titled Some Day*

## Celebrating Black History All Year Long

“Freedom is never given, it is won.”

-A. Phillip Randall  
Labor Leader

We are all a part of Black History. How we choose to live our lives and serve the Lord will effect generations.

Be mindful of the legacy you will leave. (click on picture)



## ACTS Welcomes New Music Director



Robert Thomas has traveled from Nashville to Vancouver singing the Lord's praises and now he has blessed ACTS, A Church that Studies, with his musical gifts as the new choir director for High Praise and

Voices.

Introduced to ACTS by drummer, Darrell Harris, Robert says “I want to be a vehicle for the Lord to bless others through music...I hadn't really found a church that I could be comfortable [with] until I came to ACTS.”

Robert grew up in the Church of God in Christ so his musical background started early. Being blessed with the ability to sing, play the drums and write music, Robert has performed at the House of Blues in Los Angeles, was a member of the Sunshine Band and manages a number of gospel talent in his hometown of Portland, Oregon.

Robert's latest work can be heard in Tyler Perry's new movie, “Daddy's little Girl.”

“God is amazing,” says Robert “I want to see ACTS be blessed by me doing whatever I can!”

*You may visit Robert's webpage at*

## Pastor Joe to Facilitate Networks Seminar

February 17th—“Network” will facilitate a believers understanding of God's design for them in the Church. Discovering the tools God has empowered you with is what

“Network” is all about:

- Your Passion
- Spiritual Gifts
- Personal Style

Trinity Campus 1015 California Ave (SM)  
Judson Hall—8:00AM-3:00PM

[Go to page 3](#)

## **ACTS to Sponsor Celebrity Golf Tournament**

ACTS, A Church That Studies, along with the Interstate Believers Association will host their annual charity celebrity golf classic March 1, 2007 at the Pacific Palms Conference Resort in Industry Hills. Benefiting the Family Life Institute, an organization geared to restore the institution of family in America through education and collaborative efforts, participants will have the opportunity to support this endeavor through hole sponsorships, foursome packages and the chance to golf with celebrities.

The Interstate Believers Association is comprised of like minded senior pastors, burdened with the needs of family, who came together to function as an auxiliary to support the work of existing congregations and community groups nationwide.

Hosting workshops designed to meet the needs of the various types of family structures, ranging from re-married couples to blended families, the IBA is committed to maintaining a strong emphasis on Christian education, economic empowerment and strengthening families.

Participants in the classic will have the opportunity to win several prizes throughout the day including the "hole in one" 2007 Ford Mustang Grand Prize.

Proceeds from the event will be utilized to develop financial resources and scholarships administered by the Family Life Institute of the IBA.

Registration is open until February 23, 2007. For more information, contact ACTS at 310-393-4107.

## **ACTS Activity Calendar**

Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> @ Trinity Campus – Baptism (7:30PM)

Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup> - "Singles Retreat" (All Day – location to be announced)

Good Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup> @ Trinity Campus - "Tenebrae Service" (7:30 PM)

Easter Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup> @ Temescal Canyon Beach in Santa Monica Sunrise Service with "Live @ ACTS" and Pastor Joe preaching.  
Easter Sunday—10:00AM  
1231 Fourth Street (SM)

## **The History of Valentines Day**

Every February, across the country, candy, flowers, and gifts are exchanged between loved ones, all in the name of St. Valentine. But who is this mysterious saint and why do we celebrate this holiday? The history of Valentine's Day -- and its patron saint -- is shrouded in mystery.

St. Valentine's Day, we know it today, contains vestiges of both Christian and ancient Roman tradition. So, who was Saint Valentine and how did he become associated with this ancient rite?



One legend contends that 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 -- his crop of potential soldiers. Valentine, realizing the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret. When Valentine's actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be put to death.

Other stories suggest that Valentine may have been killed for attempting to help Christians escape harsh Roman prisons where they were often beaten and tortured.

According to one legend, Valentine actually sent the first 'valentine' greeting himself. While in prison, it is believed that Valentine fell in love with a young girl -- who may have been his jailor's daughter -- who visited him during his confinement.

## **Let's Celebrate!**

### **ACTS February Birthdays**

Damien Middleton-3rd  
Stacey McKillian-14th  
Jackie Elmore-18th  
Dykie Elmore-25th  
Sheila McKillian-27th

### **ACTS Anniversaries**

Amber and Demetrius Harris (6th year)-10th



[Return to page 1](#)  
[Return to page 2](#)