



Lewiston Church of Christ September 18, 2022

 **MESSENGER** *Growing Friendships, Families & Faith.*

Weekly Services

Sun. Bible Study 9:45 AM
Sunday Worship 10:45 AM
Sun. Day/Evening Groups
Wed Bible Study 6:30 PM

MINISTER

Joel Solliday: 208-743-2711

ELDERS

Joe Bieren: 208-305-1136

Doyle Dawes: 208-836-5718

DEACONS

Education: Rick Richardson
Finance: Tom Hill
Outreach: Mark Whittaker

AREAS OF SERVICE

Building: Ken Vogtman
Custodian: Hannah Bolm
Fellowship: Joe/Carrie Bieren
Grounds: Cody/Doyle Dawes
Sing Ministry: Timauri Stearns
Secretary: Renee Hill
Technology: Eric Kjorness
Technology: Cody Dawes

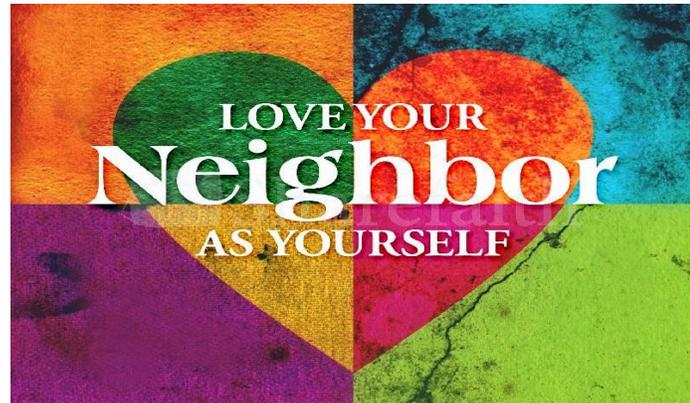
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Web Site:
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Class & Sermons online
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Monthly Service Schedules:
Posted in the foyer. Please find a replacement if you will be gone.



The Alternative to Slander

*"A perverse person spreads strife,
And a slanderer separates close friends."
(Proverbs 16:28)*

America apparently loves slanderers. We elect them left and right. Candidates who discuss the issues honestly gain little ground but those who throw tons of mud make it to the top of the mountain.

Are you a racist? And extremist? A fascist? Are you "deplorable"? Are you a "threat to democracy? Are you a xenophobe? A homophobe? A transphobe? A liar? A lunatic? How about a conspiracy theorist? These are just a few of the slanderous accusations so popular in public discourse today.

Who was the Psalmist talking about when he wrote the following?

He does not slander with his tongue,
Nor do evil to his neighbor,
Nor bring shame on his friend. (Psalm 15:3)

Answer: the one who may reside in the Lord's tent (Ps. 15:1).

Let's go back to the very first reference to slander in the Bible: "You shall not go about as a slanderer among your people," (Leviticus 19:16). In the very next verse, we are instructed not to hate fellow countrymen. Immediately after that, the text forbids the taking vengeance or holding a grudge.

Fine! But what is the alternative to all these popular forms of hostility and hate? Leviticus wastes no time answering:

*"...but you shall love your neighbor as yourself; I am the Lord."
(Leviticus 19:18)*

Joel Solliday

