

The Vine

I am the vine; you are the branches...John 15:5

A publication of Valley Falls Christian Church

September 2012

THE CONVENTION

Satan called a worldwide convention of demons. In his opening address he said, 'We can't keep Christians from going to church.' 'We can't keep them from reading their Bibles and knowing the truth.' 'Once they gain that connection with Jesus, our power over them is broken.' 'So let them go to their churches; let them have their covered dish dinners, BUT steal their time, so they don't have time to develop a relationship with Jesus Christ.' 'This is what I want you to do,' said the devil: 'Distract them from gaining hold of their Saviour and maintaining that vital connection throughout their day!' 'How shall we do this?' his demons shouted. 'Keep them busy in the non-essentials of life and invent innumerable schemes to occupy their minds,' he answered. 'Tempt them to spend, spend, spend, and borrow, borrow, borrow.' 'Persuade the wives to go to work for long hours and the husbands to work 6-7 days each week, 10-12 hours a day, so they can afford their empty lifestyles.' 'Keep them from spending time with their children.' 'As their families fragment, soon, their homes will offer no escape from the pressures of work!' 'Over stimulate their minds so that they cannot hear that still, small voice.' 'Entice them to play the radio or cassette player whenever they drive.' 'To keep the TV, VCR, CDs and their PCs going constantly in their home and see to it that every store and restaurant in the world plays non-biblical music constantly.' 'This will jam their minds and break that union with Christ.' 'Fill the coffee tables with magazines and newspapers.' 'Pound their minds with the news 24 hours a day.' 'Invade their driving moments with billboards.' 'Flood their mailboxes with junk mail, mail order,

catalogs, sweepstakes and every kind of newsletter and promotional offering free products, services and false hopes.' 'Keep skinny, beautiful models on the magazines and TV so their husbands will believe that outward beauty is what's important, and they'll become dissatisfied with their wives.' 'Keep the wives too tired to love their husbands at night.' 'Give them headaches too!' 'If they don't give their husbands the love they need, they will begin to look elsewhere.' 'That will fragment their families quickly!' 'Give them Santa Claus to distract them from teaching their children the real meaning of Jesus Christ' 'Give them an Easter bunny so they won't talk about His resurrection and power over sin and death.' 'Even in their recreation, let them be excessive.' 'Have them return from their recreation exhausted.' 'Keep them too busy to go out in nature and reflect on God's creation.' 'Send them to amusement parks, sporting events, plays, concerts, and movies instead.' 'Keep them busy, busy, busy!' 'And when they meet for spiritual fellowship, involve them in gossip and small talk so that they leave with troubled consciences.' 'Crowd their lives with so many good causes they have no time to seek power from Jesus.' 'Soon they will be working in their own strength, sacrificing their health and family for the good of the cause.' 'It will work!' 'It will work!' It was quite a plan! The demons went eagerly to their assignments causing Christians everywhere to get busier and more rushed, going here and there. Having little time for their God or their families. Having no time to tell others about the power of Jesus to change lives. I guess the question is, has the devil been successful in his schemes?

Labor Day

Labor Day. The unofficial end of the summer. Time for football to begin. It is a special time for family get-togethers, cookouts and picnics. That's all it is, right?

Well, not exactly. Labor Day actually has its history in the early labor movement in the United States. Some sources claim that Labor Day was first suggested by Matthew Maguire of the Central Labor Union in 1882. Others say it was Peter Maguire of the American Federation of Labor in the same year. The intent of the holiday was to show the solidarity and strength of the trade and labor organizations in America.

Oregon was the first state to make it a holiday in 1887. It became a federal holiday in 1894. Today we celebrate Labor Day on the first Monday in September. It seems to have lost the significant tie-in with the labor movement for most people as the years have passed. Many people just hope to have a long weekend so they can maybe head to the lake or make that last camping trip of the summer.

Have we lost the significance of labor in the church as well? I am not talking about a formal recognition of the labor movement within the church. I am talking about our labor for the Lord. A short study shows us that God is serious about the way we work for Him. The bible teaches us several things about our labor for the Lord.

1. Our labor doesn't save us.

Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV) For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- not by works, so that no one can boast.

2. God still requires us to work.

Ephesians 2:10 (NIV) For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. 2 Corinthians 9:8 (NIV) And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

3. God will equip us for our labor.

Colossians 1:28-29 (NIV) We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ. To this end I labor, struggling with all his energy, which so

powerfully works in me. Ephesians 4:11-13 (NIV) ¹¹ It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, ¹² to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³ until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

4. God will reward us for our labor.

1 Corinthians 15:58 (NIV) Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain. Ephesians 6:7-8 (NIV) Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men, because you know that the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does, whether he is slave or free. Hebrews 6:10 (NIV) God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them.

5. Refusing to work is not an option.

James 2:14, 17 (NIV) What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. James 4:17 (NIV) ¹⁷ Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins. And we all know the parable of the talents: Matthew 25:18, 30 But the man who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. ³⁰ Throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Jesus tells us "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." Matthew 9:37-38. We are the workers Jesus is talking about. He is calling us to go and make disciples, baptize them and teach them to obey Jesus' commands. He didn't say wait for a church program. He didn't say wait for permission from a church board or elders. He said go. I guess we better get to work.

Mike

Recipe Swap

CHICKEN ENCHILADAS

1 can condensed cream of chicken soup
½ c. sour cream
1 T. margarine
1 onion, chopped
1 tsp. chili powder
2 c. chopped cooked chicken breast
4 oz. can chopped green chili peppers,
drained
8 (8 inch) flour tortillas
1 c. shredded cheddar cheese

Preheat oven to 350*. In a small bowl mix the soup and sour cream; set aside. Melt margarine in a medium saucepan over medium high heat. Add onion and chili powder, and sauté until tender. Stir in the chicken, chili peppers and 2 T. of the soup mixture. Cook and stir until heated through. Spread ½ c. of the soup mixture in a 9x13 inch baking dish. Spoon about ¼ c. of the chicken mixture down the center of each tortilla. Roll up tortillas, and place seam side down, in the baking dish. Spoon remaining soup mixture on top and sprinkle with cheese. Bake 25 minutes in the preheated oven or until bubbly and lightly browned.

PRAYER REQUESTS

OUR SOLDIERS: Luke Cummings, Ryan Meyers, Jacob Mitchell, Brandon Miller, Greg Morales, Ryan Kirby, Zach, Josh Lackey, Dan Cook, Rick Huertz, Steve Heinen, Ammin Spencer, Gates Kobuszewski, Leslie Bolz, Steve Grove, Carl Herring, Austin Everhart
June Dedeke needs prayers.
Wayne Arnold
Curtis Mitchell had his wisdom teeth out.

NEW ADDRESS: Austin Kirby, OCC Box 1902, 1111 N. Main St., Joplin, MO 64801

COPIES OF THE SERMONS ARE AVAILABLE ON CD UPON REQUEST: If you would like a copy please see Mike. You can also listen to them online at www.valleyfallscc.org.

POCKET CHANGE FOR PROGRESS: This will be a special offering every 3rd Sunday during church. The money will be split between Mission Lake Camp and the School Supply Giveaway Fund

RECYCLING: We have a recycling box beside the copier in the office.

COLLECTING FOR ALPHA: Alpha Christian Children's Home can use Campbell soup UPC labels and lids, Best Choice UPC labels and General Mills Box Top Symbols coupons (Box Tops for Education.) We will have a box in the hallway outside the nursery under the mailboxes.

SISTERS OF STRENGTH (S.O.S.)-

(Mission Statement: We are a lifeline to glorify God through service to the church and community and to build personal relationships with our Christian Sisters.)

We will not be having our regular meeting until October.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

3 Jay Farr
7 Ray Mitchell
Elaine Wornor
13 Dawson Branam
18 Dee Bayless
19 Marvin Cummings
21 Jaxson Temm
25 Kyle Reich
28 TREY WATKINS

(Names in CAPS in Mission Field)

CONGRATULATIONS: Kari & Jacob Mitchell have a new son! Landon Paul was born Aug. 2nd and weighed 8 lbs. 9 oz. and was 21 ½ inches long. Everyone is doing well. They are stationed in Lakenheath, England. Congrats also to Grandparents Ray and Rhonda.

Serving in SEPTEMBER

Congregational Prayer:

Dennis Turner

Scripture Readers:

2-Carolyn Starkey- 1 Cor. 4:6-13

9-Rachel Arnold-

16-Tichenors- 1 Cor. 4:14-21

23-Arnolds- 1 Cor. 5:1-13

30-Thomas'- 1 Cor. 6:1-11

Nursery:

2-Debbie Gerstner/Jarret Mitchell

9-Linda Durand/Curtis Mitchell

16-Sarah Hollis/Glee Hosler

23-Rachel Arnold/Jarret Mitchell

30-

Greeters/Ushers:

2-Carolyn Starkey

9-Linda Durand

16-Tichenors

23-Arnolds

30-Thomas'

Lord's Supper Preparation:

2-Carolyn Starkey

9-Linda Durand

16-Tichenors

23-Arnolds

30-Thomas'

Communion Table:

2-Stan, Jay

Steve Carson, Jarret Mitchell

9- Jay, Stan

Dennis Tichenor, Clint Thomas

16- Stan, Jay

Ray Mitchell, Curtis Mitchell

23- Jay, Stan

David Grove, Andy Arnold

30-Stan, Jay

Steve Carson, Cylus Tichenor

Musicians

Worship Leader: Mike Kirby

Organ: Leah Brown

Piano: Donetta Farr

Guitar: Mike Kirby,

Mandolin: Erin Thomas

Vocals: Rachel Arnold, David Grove

Church Offerings

July 29-\$672.00

Aug. 5-\$2239.02

Aug. 12-\$870.00

Aug. 19-\$1972.00

Our expenses average \$1500 a week.

Valley Falls Christian Church has a website!!

www.valleyfallsc.org

MEN'S BREAKFAST: The men's breakfast will be on Sept. 8th at 8:00 AM. Jay Welborn will be hosting.

THANK YOU: The VBS received a thank you from the Valley Falls Food Pantry for the food that was collected and donated during VBS.

The Church received a thank you for sending the Valley Falls Food Pantry \$250.00.

EYEGLASSES: We now have a box in the foyer to put spare glasses in for missions. The lions club collects them and is able to reuse them in other countries that desperately need them. If you have any questions please ask Stan or Donetta.

BIBLE STUDY: Bible Study will start up again on Sept. 19th at 7:00 PM.

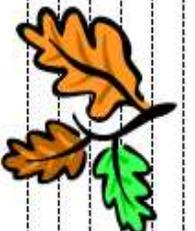
BOARD MEETING: The board meeting will be on Wed. Sept. 5th at 7:00 PM.

FOOD PANTRY: The church's food pantry is getting a little low. It just could use a little stocking up.

OPEN HOUSE: There will be an open house at Show Me Christian Youth Home on Sat. Sept. 8th.

REVIVAL: Our revival will be Sept. 9th thru the 12th. We will be meeting at the 4H fairgrounds. We will be serving a free dinner to the community every night. If you would like to help with the dinner see Carol Welborn. Dinner will be served starting at 6:00 PM. The revival service will start at 7:00. Nathan Smith will be preaching with horses, dogs and cows.

CAMP NEWS: The annual meeting will be on Sept. 23rd at 3:30 PM. Our church is allowed to send 2 voting members to the meeting. If anyone would like to go see Mike. Fall Retreat will be Sept. 21st – 23rd. This is for Jr. and Sr. High Youth. The cost is \$50.00. There will be a fall workday on Sat. Sept. 15th. The gates will open at 8:00 AM.

2012		SEPTEMBER					2012	
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
							1	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
	 Labor Day		6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Board Meeting 8:00 PM Elders			 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast Open House at Show Me		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15		
 Dinner 6:00 PM Revival Starts 7:00 PM	 Dinner 6:00 PM Revival 7:00 PM Patriot's Day						8:00 AM Camp Work Day	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22		
 10:00 AM Pocket Change for Progress 5:00 PM Youth Group			6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Elders		 Fall Retreat at Mission Lake Camp			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29		
3:30 PM Camp Meeting 5:00 PM Youth Group			6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study					
30	31							

Valley Falls
Christian Church
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Valley Falls, KS 66088

Phone: 785-945-6757
Email: office@valleyfallsc.org
On the web: www.valleyfallsc.org
Find us on Facebook!

Mike Kirby, Pastor

You are welcome to join us!

Sunday Service times:

Bible Study (all ages) – 9:00 AM
Worship – 10:00 AM
Youth Group – 5:00 PM

Midweek Bible Study:

Wednesday 7:00 PM

**OUTREACH
9TH ANNUAL FREE SCHOOL SUPPLY
WRAP UP**

Saturday, July 28th, God provided 54 volunteers (28 from this church), from 14 different churches, organizations and business to reflect His love to meet the needs of others. The fruits of the spirit were in everyone as they worked side by side to meet the needs of many thankful families.

Thanks to all of you who helped in any way through prayer, giving of your time, monetary gifts, donating supplies and clothing, hauling supplies and for the food and anything we forgot to mention!!!!

Arrival and set up time was set for 8 AM and people were lined up at 7:24 AM. At 10 AM the door was opened and there was a solid non stop line for 2 hours and 45 minutes. 399 students were equipped for the new school year.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Many supplies were depleted. Here are just a few of the items given away:

Book Bags-320
Pink Erasers-514
Pencils-4834
School Boxes-153
Crayons-268
Crayola Markers-203
3-Ring Binders-109
Wide Ruled Notebooks-476
College Ruled Notebooks-273
Pocket Folders-825
Wide Ruled Paper-270
College Ruled Paper-178

All the socks and briefs were given away as well.

This is a year long project and we are starting today to get ready for July 27, 2013. We are accepting supplies now!

Again, we just thank God and we give Him all the praise and glory.