

The Vine

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

A publication of Valley Falls Christian Church

February 2013

CHILDREN IN CHURCH

A little child in church for the first time watched as the ushers passed the offering plates. When they neared the pew where he sat, the youngster piped up so that everyone could hear: "Don't pay for me Daddy, I'm under five."

A little boy was attending his first wedding. After the service, his cousin asked him, "How many women can a man marry?" "Sixteen," the boy responded. His cousin was amazed that he had an answer so quickly. "How do you know that?" "Easy," the little boy said. "All you have to do is add it up, like the Bishop said: 4 better, 4 worse, 4 richer, 4 poorer."

After a church service on Sunday morning, a young boy suddenly announced to his mother, "Mom, I've decided to become a minister when I grow up." "That's okay with us, but what made you decide that?" "Well," said the little boy, "I have to go to church on Sunday anyway, and I figure it will be more fun to stand up and yell, than to sit and listen."

A 6 year old was overheard reciting the Lord's Prayer at a church service: "And forgive us our trash passes, as we forgive those who passed trash against us."

A boy was watching his father, a pastor, write a sermon. "How do you know what to say?" he asked. "Why, God tells me." "Oh, then why do you keep crossing things out?"

A little girl became restless as the preacher's sermon dragged on and on. Finally, she leaned over to her mother and whispered, "Mommy, if we give him the money now, will he let us go?"

After the christening of his baby brother in church, little Johnny sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car. His father asked him three times what was wrong. Finally, the boy replied, "That priest said he wanted us brought up in a Christian home, and I want to stay with you guys!"

Terri asked her Sunday School class to draw pictures of their favorite Bible stories. She was puzzled by Kyle's picture, which showed four people on an airplane, so she asked him which story it was meant to represent. "The flight to Egypt," said Kyle. "I see... And that must be Mary, Joseph, and Baby Jesus," Terri said. "But who's the fourth person?" "Oh, that's Pontius-the pilot."

The Sunday School Teacher asks, "Now, Johnny, tell me frankly do you say prayers before eating?" "No sir," little Johnny replies, "I don't have to. My mom is a good cook."

Pastor Dave Charlton tells us, "After a worship service at First Baptist Church in Newcastle, Kentucky, a mother with a fidgety seven year old boy told me how she finally got her son to sit still and be quiet. About halfway through the sermon, she leaned over and whispered, "If you don't be quiet, Pastor Charlton is going to lose his place and will have to start his sermon all over again!" It worked.

What Do We Really Know About Love?

It seems everyone has something to say about love. No matter what degree of education or level fame one has reached, no matter what time period one lived in, everyone from every walk of life has an opinion about love.

Here are a few quotes from some famous people:

A loving heart is the beginning of all knowledge. ~ *Thomas Carlyle*

Where there is love there is life. ~ *Mahatma Gandhi*

I have found the paradox, that if you love until it hurts, there can be no more hurt, only more love. ~ *Mother Teresa*

Love is composed of a single soul inhabiting two bodies. ~ *Aristotle*

I have decided to stick with love. Hate is too great a burden to bear. ~ *Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Love yourself first and everything else falls into line. You really have to love yourself to get anything done in this world. ~ *Lucille Ball*

There are hundreds of songs with 'love' in the title and hundreds more about love. Remember Captain & Tennille singing 'Love Will Keep Us Together'? (If you were born after 1970, you probably don't remember that one!) How about Elvis crooning 'Love Me Tender'? 'I Will Always Love You' done by Dolly Parton, later recorded by Whitney Houston was a favorite at many weddings. The Beatles had numerous songs: All You Need Is Love, And I Love Her, She Loves You...the list continues. Country music fans will remember Randy Travis singing that his love was 'Deeper Than the Holler' and he would love you 'Forever and Ever, Amen.'

What we often see in our popular culture is those who fail at love or seem to know very little about it are lifted up as the experts because they wrote or sang a song about it or starred in a movie in which they fell in love, which is almost every movie ever made! Why would we listen to movie stars who have multiple divorces on top of other failed relationships that never made it to marriage tell us what real love is? Why do we let talk show hosts and their guests try to convince us it is all about what makes me happy?

Thomas Carlyle was a 19th century philosopher who left his Christian faith. He

should have known God's word says the fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, not love. Gandhi's worldview would never agree that true life only comes from Christ. Though we know that God is love, I doubt that was the intention behind his quote. While multiple generations have 'Loved Lucy', it appears that Lucy loved Lucy, too. The bible, however, says we are to love others before ourselves and take on the attitude of a servant.

People watch movies and think love is meeting someone and going to bed together. They think love is something we fall into and out of. Love is supposed to make us happy. If it doesn't, find someone else to love and move on. The world's view of love is a cancer upon our society. It is the world's warped view of love and self-importance that has given us millions of abortions, an explosion of STDs, an astronomical divorce rate and co-habitation before marriage – or just instead of marriage.

As for quotes about real love, look no further than God's word. *I have loved you with an everlasting love (Jer 31:3). You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself (Luke 10:27). Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you (Matt 5:44).* That is not even the tip of the iceberg!

In February, we are going to unpack 1 Corinthians 13 verse by verse. We will compare biblical love to worldly love and throw worldly love out the window! On Feb. 3rd we'll learn about The Importance of Love (1 Cor 13:1-3). Feb. 10th will bring us The Image of Love (1 Cor 13:4-7). We will wrap it up on Feb. 17th with The Endurance of Love (1 Cor 13:8-13).

Please read this chapter several times over as we get into God's word. Pray about the areas of your life where you haven't loved as God would have you love. Open your heart to the power of God's word to change it. Don't think of this as something everyone else needs to hear. Expect that it is for you and you alone and ask God to make you into a vessel of His love! When you submit to God's word on love, you can expect to see your relationship with God and with others explode!

Mike

Recipe Swap

RITZ'S GROUND BEEF WITH CHEDDAR DOME AND PICKLED JALAPENOS

½ lb. ground beef
½ small onion, finely diced
1 clove garlic minced
1 ½ tsp. garlic powder
1 ½ tsp. onion powder
¼ tsp. dried oregano leaves
1 ½ tsp. tomato paste
1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
3 Ritz crackers, crushed
16 Kraft Big Slice sharp cheddar cheese, slices
32 Ritz crackers
32 thin pickled jalapeno slices
Cook ground beef, onions and garlic in skillet till done. Season with garlic powder, onion powder, and oregano. Cook for a few more minutes. Add tomato paste and Worcestershire sauce; stir well. Cook 5 minutes until cooked through. Add crushed crackers to tighten up the mixture. Keep warm. Heat broiler. Cut rounds out of cheese using a 2 inch round biscuit or cookie cutter. You should get 2 rounds from each cheese slice; reserve scraps for other use. Top each cracker with 1 teaspoon of lightly packed beef mixture. Place a piece of jalapeno on each then top with a round of cheese. Set out on a roasting tray and broil for 1-2 minutes until cheese has melted and is bubbly.

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.

QUARTERLY CARRY IN DINNER: We will be having our quarterly church carry in dinner on Sunday Feb. 24th. Bring a dish or two and enjoy the fellowship.

SUPER BOWL PARTIES: The All church super bowl party will be at Welborn's house starting at 4:00 PM. This is on Feb. 3rd for those who don't know. Bring a snack.

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.valleyfallsc.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 be having our regular meeting on Feb. 9th at 9:00.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 2 JODI WATKINS
- 5 Mikey Cummings
- 6 Dennis Tichenor
- 7 Vera Welborn
- 11 June Dedeke
- 12 Jay & Carol Welborn (1965)
- 13 Nathan Hawk
David Grove
- 15 Kari (Haybarker) Mitchell
Clinton Thomas
- 18 Sarah Hollis
Steve & Georganna Carson (1965)
- 28 Beverly Cress

(Names in CAPS in Mission Field)

PRAYER CHAIN: Carolyn Starkey will be updating the prayer sheet very soon. The prayer chain is a list of people, willing to help call others and to pray for people in need.

Sometimes this is an urgent prayer need, but sometimes we use it to just inform people of changes or cancellations. If you are not on the prayer chain and would like to be, let Carolyn know. Also for those on the chain, let Carolyn know of any necessary changes.

MEN'S BREAKFAST: The men's breakfast will be on Feb. 9th at 8:00 AM.

Serving in FEBRUARY

Congregational Prayer:

Dennis Tichenor

Scripture Readers:

3-Carsons- 1 Cor.13:1-3

10- Farris- 1 Cor.13:4-7

17- Starkeys- 1 Cor. 13:8-13

24- Jarret- 1 Cor. 15:1-11

Nursery:

3-Debbie Gerstner

10-Laura Reich

17-Jo Tichenor

24-Rachel Arnold/Jarret Mitchell

Greeters/Ushers:

3-Carsons

10-Farris

17-Starkeys

24-Durands

Lord's Supper Preparation:

3-Carsons

10-Farris

17-Starkeys

24-Durands

Communion Table:

3-Stan, Jay

Steve Carson, Clint Thomas

10- Jay, Stan

Ray Mitchell, Andy Arnold

17- Stan, Jay

Dennis Turner, Cylus Tichenor

24- Jay, Stan

David Grove, Jarret Mitchell

Musicians

Worship Leader: David Grove

Organ: Leah Brown

Piano: Donetta Farr

Guitar: Mike Kirby,

Mandolin: Erin Thomas

Vocals:

Church Offerings

Dec. 30-\$854.00

Jan. 6-\$1924.50

Jan. 13-\$2564.00

Jan. 20-\$1611.00

Our expenses average \$1500 a week.

Valley Falls Christian Church has a website!!

www.valleyfallsc.org

OUTREACH MINISTRY HELPING OTHER PEOPLE EVERYWHERE (H.O.P.E.)

The church will be having the following fund raiser:
"A TOUCH OF CLASS" Elegant Dinner for
"SUPPLYING OUR FUTURE IN THE PRESENT"
(FREE SCHOOL SUPPLY PROJECT)

Candle Light Dinner-Music by pianist Matt Miller

Church Sanctuary, Sat., March 16th, 2013, 6:00 PM

Limited Seating—Reservations a Must!!

Cost: Bring new school supplies, socks, briefs or
monetary donation (100% will be used towards the
purchase of these items)

**Call by March 8th to make your reservation. Dennis
& Ronda Turner 785-945-3775.**

Lots of volunteers are needed so please see any of the
following to see where you can help.

Sarah Jane Hollis: Food

Linda Durand: Dishes

Jo Tichenor: Table Decorations

Laura Reich: Servers






Dennis Turner: Set-up/Take down

Ronda Turner: Advertisement

We are turning the sanctuary into an elegant dining
room and bringing out the good china, table cloths,
napkins and candles along with formal waiters.

MISSION LAKE CAMP RETREATS: The Men's
retreat is Feb. 1 and 2. The Women's retreat is Feb.
15-16. Registration forms are in the foyer.

**BRAND NEW DAY TOUR SPONSORED BY TOD
BECKER FOUNDATION:** Feb. 6th at 7:00 PM at the
Oskaloosa High School Gym.

2013		FEBRUARY					2013	
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
								
3  Super Bowl Party 4:00 PM at Welborns	4	5	6 6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Elders	7	8  SOS 9:00 AM 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast	9		
10 5:00 PM Youth Group	11	12	13 6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study	14 	15  Women's Retreat at Mission Lake Camp	16		
17 10:00 AM Pocket Change for Progress 5:00 PM Youth Group	18	19	20 6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Elders	21	22	23		
24  Carry In Dinner 11:30 5:00 PM Youth Group	25	26	27 6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study	28				

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

MINISTRY/ACTIVITY FOLDERS

The following folders will be placed on the table in the foyer beginning Feb. 3rd.

Activity Folders:

We are revamping the “ministry folders” and they have become “Activity Folders”. Following is an explanation of each folder. Each folder includes what has been done in the past, but new ideas are welcomed.

Fellowship—this can go on all year. This folder needs a home with someone who would be interested in planning activities to include all family members. Activities might include movie nights, game nights, a pizza night, a bowling night, putt putt golf, etc. Anything a family could do together would be included.

Sonrise Breakfast—this is held Easter morning. The chairperson would be responsible for coordinating the times with Mike. They would be in charge of getting men volunteers to cook and donations for food items.

Mother’s Day—responsible for planning the recognition of moms-usually during church.

Graduate Banquet—responsible for setting a time, place, sending out invitations, decorating and planning a little ceremony.

Father’s Day—responsible for planning the recognition of dads-usually during church.

Vacation Bible School—This person would be the director who would decide on a program, organize committees, decide on dates and prepare a schedule. VBS dates need to be approved by the board. May have this year’s VBS program taken care of but would still need a coordinator.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Thanksgiving Dinner & Soup Supper—you would be in charge of getting enough food for the church dinner, generally held the Sunday before Thanksgiving. Also being prepared with decorations and dishes and other supplies. A “take out” meal is generally provided to our shut in members before we eat. The soup supper is held in January on a rotation with the other churches in the community. We generally serve soups, relishes, desserts, etc.

Church Christmas Dinner—This person plans where the group would be eating and making the reservations if needed. Usually held the regular meeting date of Dec. board meeting (second Wed.) Have also done as a “progressive dinner” so other options are available.

Caroling—you would be in charge of setting the date and organizing times, rides, and snacks afterwards.

Christmas Program—Responsible for deciding on the program, organizing those involved with practices, and preparing scenery if needed. Usually held at 10:00 AM the Sunday before Christmas. There are plenty of programs in the office to review and use if desired.

If you chair and activity be sure and sign the master list on the table.

We are not limited to these activities and would welcome new ways to glorify God.

There are lots of persons who are willing to help the chairperson with the activities.

Please let Donetta and Christy know details before the date so that information can be placed in the bulletin and newsletter.