

The Vine

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

A publication of Valley Falls Christian Church

July 2013

OUTREACH-H.O.P.E. 11TH ANNUAL "SUPPLYING OUR FUTURE IN THE PRESENT" SATURDAY, JULY 27, 2013, 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM

The school bell is about to ring and it is time to start bringing your donations for the 11th annual school supplies, new socks and briefs outreach project. Last year the project was greatly blessed by the outpouring of donated supplies and monetary gifts that we were able to help over 400 students prepare for the new school year. God has really blessed this project and everyone who has participated. **PLEASE NOTE THIS IS A TIME CHANGE FROM LAST YEAR. ALSO WE WILL BE MEETING ON FRIDAY NIGHT AT 7:00 PM TO SET UP INSTEAD OF DOING IT SATURDAY MORNING. WE WOULD LIKE HELPERS TO BE THERE SATURDAY MORNING AT 7:00 AM.**

Please place supplies in the blue container in the foyer. If you would like to make a monetary donation instead there will be a container available in the foyer.

These are just a few of the items that students will need:

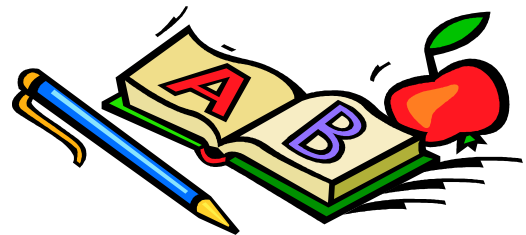
Red ink pens, colored pencils, highlighters, 3X5 index cards, color markers, big pink erasers, loose leaf notebook paper (wide or college rule), zipper pencil bag, glue and glue sticks, ball point pens, pocket folders, spiral notebooks (wide or college rule), 3 ring binders, book bags, pencil boxes, pencils, paints

DON'T FORGET THE SOCKS AND BRIEFS!

Watch for sign up sheets in the foyer and please consider volunteering even if you can only help for a little while. There is lots of work to do before the door is opened. It is so rewarding to see the smiles on the children's faces and how appreciative the parents are for the help. Every year the number of families that seek help have increased. Please show God's love to others just as He has showed His love to us in so many ways.

The Kansas Lions Mobile Health Screening Unit will also be available, at no charge, to anyone for the following test: 2 vision test, hearing, blood pressure, and blood sugar. For more information contact a Lions Club Member.

"LET US NOT BECOME WEARY IN DOING GOOD, FOR AT THE PROPER TIME WE WILL REAP A HARVEST IF WE DO NOT GIVE UP." NIV GALATIANS 6:9



Freedom

Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD... Psalm 33:12. I pray God's blessing and protection for all of us as we celebrate the freedom we have as a nation this Independence Day. There are some things going on that should make us wonder about those freedoms, though.

In April, a 14 year old boy was arrested for wearing a National Rifle Association t-shirt to school. Well, actually, there is a little more to it than that. He wore the NRA shirt to school. At lunch, he was confronted by a school official and was told to remove the shirt or turn it inside out. The student refused citing his first amendment right of freedom of speech. There is nothing patently offensive about the shirt (i.e. no profanity, blatant racism or sexual innuendo or images) and the school dress code did not prohibit the shirt. When the young man refused, the teacher began yelling at him which caused a scene in the cafeteria. The young man was suspended for disrupting the educational process and the arresting officer said he almost caused a riot.

Now this 14 year old student is charged with obstruction of an officer. Prosecutors have moved forward in actively pursuing the charge — the middle schooler could face up to a year and jail and a \$500 fine if found guilty. I am sure there are other details we are missing, but does this sound like freedom?

This year's valedictorian of the Joshua, TX high senior class was required to submit his speech for review to school officials. He was told that if he deviated from the approved speech at all, the microphone would be cut off. He did deviate and the mic was cut off. What is ironic is the subject matter that he began to talk about when he went off the approved script. Here are his words that caused the mic to be shut off:

We are all fortunate to live in a country where we can express our beliefs, where our mics won't be turned off, as I have been threatened to be if I veer away from the school-censored speech I have just finished. Just as Jesus spoke out against the authority of the Pharisees and Sadducees, who tried to silence him, I

will not have my freedom of speech taken away from me. And I urge you all to do the same. Do not let anyone take away your religious or Constitutional rights from you.

According to the boy's father, a teacher in the school, the principal threatened to derail his college career. "The principal came back to me later that day, June 7, and said that legally he could only send a personal letter to the Naval Academy and strip Remington of all honors related to character." Does that sound like freedom?

This is just a couple of examples of incidents that are going on all over our country. Incidents that I believe would make our founding fathers roll over in their graves.

Are our freedoms being slowly eroded in our nation? Is it possible that soon we won't be able to speak out against false religions like Islam or against biblically defined sexual sin without fear of reprisal?

I don't know where we are headed. I hope this is just a glitch in the history of the United States and we can get back on the right track soon. But if we keep heading down this path we must realize that God did not guarantee us the freedoms we have in this nation. We must be good stewards of the freedom that God has bestowed upon this nation, and we haven't done that. As a nation, we have drifted farther and farther from God. This is obvious from the entertainment choices we now have, the legislation that gets passed, the court decisions that are adjudicated and our public educational system (we have some great Christian teachers, and they are working hard in a broken system that has tried to abandon God – keep up the good work!).

Remember Peter, John and Paul all lived under the oppression of a Roman emperor, yet they were free. The Christians who were in concentration camps in WWII were free. Christians being persecuted in Muslim countries today are free. How are they free? They are free in Christ. *So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. John 8:36.*

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Recipe Swap

HONEY CHICKEN KABOBS

¼ c. vegetable oil
1/3 c. honey
1/3 c. soy sauce
¼ tsp. black pepper
8 skinless, boneless chicken breast halves, cut into 1 inch cubes
2 cloves garlic
5 small onions, cut into 2 inch pieces
2 red bell peppers, cut into 2 inch pieces
(can use other vegetables your choice, like mushrooms, zucchini, tomatoes etc.)

In a large bowl, whisk together oil, honey, soy sauce and pepper. Before adding chicken, reserve a small amount of marinade to brush onto kabobs while cooking. Place the chicken, garlic, onions and peppers in the bowl, and marinate in the refrigerator at least 2 hours (the longer the better).

Preheat the grill for high heat.

Drain marinade from the chicken and vegetables and discard marinade. Thread chicken and vegetables alternately onto the skewers.

Lightly oil the grill grate. Place the skewers on the grill. Cook for 12-15 minutes until chicken juices run clear. Turn and brush with reserved marinade frequently.

PRAYER REQUESTS

OUR SOLDIERS: Jacob Mitchell, Curtis Mitchell, Brandon Miller, Ryan Myers, Luke Cummings, Greg Morales, Ryan Kirby, Zach Stiffler, Josh Lackey, Dan Cook, Rick Heurtz, Steve Heinen, Ammin Spencer, Gates Kobuszewski, Leslie Bolz, Steve Grove, Austin Everhart, Noe Garza, Brandon Hammons, Ruth Churchill

Becky Arnold needs prayers for her eyes
Donna Johnston is in a KC hospital with viral meningitis and complications

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 be not be meeting again until fall.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

5 Laura Reich
8 Allene Mattox
9 Ronda Turner
10 Norma Bryant
11 PHIL & TABITA MCAFEE (1981)
16 Caleb Mitchell
17 Kaori Cazares
18 Curtis Smith
Stacy Gomez
20 Dennis & Ronda Turner (1973)
22 Mike Kirby
Jacob Mitchell
23 Jo Tichenor
24 Christy Arnold
David and Helen Grove (1966)
30 Taylor Farr
31 CINDY SHEAD

(Names in CAPS in Mission Field)

Serving in JULY

Congregational Prayer:

Jay Welborn

Scripture Readers:

7-Turner- Joshua 3:6-13

14-Welborn- Judges 6:11-18

21-Carson- Eph. 6:10-18

28-Farr- Judges 7:2-8

Nursery:

7-Debbie Gerstner

14-Jo Tichenor/Nik Branam

21-Sarah Hollis/Caitlyn Thomas

28-Laura Reich/Jarret Mitchell

Greeters/Ushers:

7- Turner

14-Welborn

21-Carson

28-Farr

Lord's Supper Preparation:

7-Turner

14-Welborn

21-Carson

28- Farr

Communion Table:

7-Stan, Jay

Ray Mitchell, Cylus Tichenor

14- Jay, Stan

Dennis Turner, Jarret Mitchell

21- Stan, Jay

David Grove, Andy Arnold

28- Jay, Stan

Steve Carson, Cylus Tichenor

Musicians

Worship Team: Erin Thomas

Organ: Leah Brown

Piano: Donetta Farr

Guitar: Mike Kirby, Clint Thomas

Mandolin: Erin Thomas

Church Offerings

May 26-\$1961.45

June 2-\$1739.06

June 9-\$1230.00

June 16-\$2648.00

June 23-\$983.07

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 July 13th at 8:00 AM. Dennis Turner will be cooking.

VBS NEWS: We had a wonderful VBS! We want to thank all those who helped in any way. Thanks to all the parents who let us have their children for the week. We had as many as 51 students one night. The kids were great and seemed to have a great time. God answered our prayers and blessed us with lots of kids. We also reached our goal of \$400.00 (we went a little over) for Alpha Christian Children's Home. If you would like to donate and didn't get a chance to, you can still give it to Carol.

BIBLE STUDY NEWS: There will be no bible study during the summer. They will be back in September.


SYMPATHY: We wish to extend our sympathy to the entire Farr family especially Jonathon and Jessica Mitchell at the loss of their baby girl Lucy Grace.

We also wish to extend our sympathy to the Vickie Crabtree Family (Jay Farr's mother in law), and Gene Breitsprecher family

60/40 CELEBRATION: Dennis & Ronda Turner are celebrating Dennis' 60th birthday and their 40th anniversary with a dinner after church on July 7th in the church basement. Please let them know if you can attend. No gifts please, your love and friendship are enough.

MOWING AT CAMP: It will be our turn again to mow at camp on Aug. 2nd. If you can help see Jay.

THANK YOU: The church received a thank you for the funeral dinner we served for the Gene Breitsprecher family.

2013		JULY					2013	
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SATURDAY	
	1	2	3 6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Elders	 Independence Day	5	6		
7 Dennis & Ronda Turner-60/40 Celebration 2:00 PM Midland Worship Service Deeper Life Camp	8 	9	10 6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Board Meeting	11	12	13  8:00 AM Men's Breakfast		
14 5:00 PM Youth Group	15	16	17 6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Elders	18	19	20		
21  10:00 AM Pocket Change for Progress 5:00 PM Youth Group	22	23	24 6:15 PM Worship Practice	25 	26 Set up for school Supply drive 7:00 PM	27  School Supply Drive 8:00 AM-11:00 AM		
28 5:00 PM Youth Group	29	30	31 6:15 PM Worship Practice					

Valley Falls Christian Church

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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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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Our freedom in Christ cannot be eroded. It can never be diminished. No one can take it away from you. His kingdom will never fall and be replaced by some dictatorial regime. Satan already tried a coup and he failed. Jesus' love endures forever and so does the freedom that comes with giving your life to Him.

A life in Christ gives us freedom from worry, freedom from emptiness, freedom from insecurity. In Christ we have peace, joy and love in abundance. No one can take that away from you. Most importantly, we have freedom from sin. We now have freedom from the penalty of sin. As we become more like Christ, we gain freedom from the power of sin. Someday we will be with our Lord and Savior and we will forever enjoy freedom from the presence of sin. Ah, blessed freedom – it is found only in Christ!

Mike