

The Vine

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

A publication of Valley Falls Christian Church

March 2014

OUTREACH MINISTRY
HELPING OTHER PEOPLE EVERYWHERE (H.O.P.E)
The church will be having the following benefit:

“A TOUCH OF CLASS”
Candlelight Dinner
FOR
“SUPPLYING OUR FUTURE IN THE PRESENT”
(FREE SCHOOL SUPPLY PROJECT)

Music by Pianist Matt Miller
Church Sanctuary

Saturday, March 29th, 2014, 6:00 PM

LIMITED SEATING ---PLEASE CALL TO MAKE RESERVATIONS!!

**COST: BRING NEW SCHOOL SUPPLIES, SOCKS,
BRIEFS or MONETARY DONATION**

(100% WILL BE USED TOWARDS THE PURCHASE OF THESE ITEMS)

CALL BY MARCH 23rd 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

Ray & Rhonda Mitchell : 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.

Crushing Candy

I've been holding this in too long. I really need to come clean about an addiction I have been fighting for years.

It started way back in the 70s; I was probably only about 11 or 12. You know how they start. Give it to you for free to get you hooked and then wait for you to come crawling to them for the next, bigger fix. Yes, that's right – video games.

My older sister gave the family a pong game way back when it first came out (if you are under 40 and don't know what I am talking about, google 'pong video game'). That entertained for a while. Then we graduated to these little handheld football and baseball games made by Coleco – which were actually just little red dots moving around a baseball diamond that was painted on the screen.

It was when I got into high school that I graduated to the hard stuff. I could drive over to the video arcade and pump quarter after quarter into the likes of Pac-Man, Asteroids or Galaga. I could also drive over to a friend's house who had the 'brand new' Atari game system (again – google).

By the time I was in college, one of my favorite games was Tron. I got really good at it. No, I mean reaaalllly good! I found every Tron game in town and my goal was to put the high score on every one of those machines. I succeeded! Or did I?

You see, while I was able to outscore every person in the city of Lawrence, it took time away from my studies. It took money away from school expenses. I was victorious in the insignificant while I suffered in what was important.

I still like video games. When I got my first computer with Windows 95, it came with solitaire and Myst. Ever since, it seems every computing electronic device comes standard with 'time wasters' that can actually become quite addicting.

Today we have Nintendo, X-box and Playstation. We have phones and tablets that give us the ability to download literally thousands of games. Which brings me to the latest craze (this is embarrassing, but an addict cannot help himself, right?). Candy Crush.

Candy Crush was designed with the addict in mind. After five unsuccessful attempts to clear the board, you have to wait to accumulate more 'lives.' Or...you can beg friends to give them to you – like a junkie, or buy them like a high class addict! The point is, you can spend an inordinate amount of time playing games. Frivolous, meaningless, hardly life changing. I know I spend more time messing around with them than I should.

Maybe your game is Minecraft, or Bejeweled, or it is an X-box game. Maybe you don't do

games, but you spend a lot of time on Facebook or Twitter or Pinterest. Am I stepping on any toes yet? Let me continue. How much time to you spend in front of the TV? Or reading a romance novel?

Much of that activity is not evil in and of itself, depending upon the content. There are some video games, TV shows, movies and books that are an assault upon everything good and godly. I think you know what they are even if you engage in them (would you do it if Jesus was in the room with you?). But even the innocent fare cannot be the best use of our time.

I am not saying to give up enjoyment or entertainment. I am not telling anyone to relinquish your Candy Crush (or whatever your pleasure is)!! However, with all things, we need moderation – and I include this old video game addict with everyone else. My toes hurt too!

The apostle Paul wrote, "*All things are lawful for me,*" *but not all things are helpful.* "*All things are lawful for me,*" *but I will not be dominated by anything.* **1 Corinthians 6:12**

Peter wrote, "... *For whatever overcomes a person, to that he is enslaved.*" **2 Peter 2:19**

We are called to be slaves to Christ and Christ alone. Even the innocent and the mundane can enslave us if we have no self-control and do not put Christ and only Christ upon the throne of our hearts. It really comes down to how you use your time.

Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. **Ephesians 5:15-17**

Here is a challenge for everyone. Do a self-examination and see how much time you spend doing things that really have no eternal significance. Games, TV or sitting in front of your computer. Compare that to how much time you spend reading the Bible, praying or building real relationships that you can influence for Christ. Then, make a commitment to change your habits. As an example, spend at least as much time in the Bible as you do on Facebook. Spend as much time praying as you do playing silly games.

Romans 16:20 says, "*The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.*" I can make a pretty good guess that if you spend too much time crushing candy, God won't be using you to crush Satan. The time is short; let's use it well.

Mike

Recipe Swap

MEXICAN CHICKEN MANICOTTI

8 oz. manicotti shells
2c. cubed cooked chicken
8oz. shredded Monterey Jack cheese,
divided
6oz. shredded cheddar cheese
8oz. sour cream
1 small onion, diced, divided
4oz. chopped green chilies, divided
1 can condensed cream of chicken soup,
undiluted
1c. salsa
2/3 c. milk

Cook manicotti according to package directions. Meanwhile, in a large bowl, combine the chicken, 1-1/2 c. Monterey Jack cheese, cheddar cheese, sour cream, half of the onion, and 6 T. chilies. In another bowl, combine the soup, salsa, milk and remaining onion and chilies. Spread 1/2 c. in a greased 13x9x2 in. baking dish. Drain manicotti; stuff each with about 1/4 c. chicken mixture. Arrange over sauce in baking dish. Pour remaining sauce over shells. Cover and bake at 350* for 30 minutes. Uncover; sprinkle with remaining Monterey Jack cheese. Bake 10 minutes longer or until cheese is melted.

Christy Arnold

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

Serving in March

Congregational Prayer:

Steve Carson

Scripture Readers:

2- Grove-1 John 2:28-3:3

9-Mitchell- 1 John 3:4-10

16-Turner- 1 John 3:11-24

23-Welborn- 1 John 4:1-6

30-Carson- 1 John 4:7-10

Nursery:

2-Debbie Gerstner/Nic

9-Jo Tichenor

16-Sarah Hollis/Caitlyn

23-Laura Reich/Jarret

30-Glee Hosler/Nic

Greeters/Ushers:

2-Grove

9-Mitchell

16-Turner

23-Welborn

30-Carson

Lord's Supper Preparation:

2-Grove

9-Mitchell

16-Turner

23-Welborn

30-Carson

Communion Table:

2-Stan, Jay

Dennis Turner, Matt Branam

9- Jay, Stan

David Grove, Ben Trotter

16- Stan, Jay

Dennis Tichenor, Kevin Gatzmeyer

23- Jay, Stan

Clint Thomas, Curt Gatzmeyer

30-Stan, Jay

Ray Mitchell, Jarret Mitchell

Musicians

Worship Leader: Mike Kirby

Organ: Leah Brown

Piano: Donetta Farr

Guitar: Mike Kirby,

Mandolin: Erin Thomas

Church Offerings

Jan.26-\$1771.08

Feb.2-\$1395.11

Feb.9-\$3236.35

Feb.16-\$1433.00

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 Mar. 8th at 8:00 AM. Mike Kirby will be cooking.

TIME CHANGE: Time change will be Mar. 9th. Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour.

SYMPATHY: We send our sympathy to Dee Bayless' family at her passing.

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 in March.

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.

2014		MARCH				2014	
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
							
2 2:00 PM Service at Midland 5:00 PM Youth Group	3	4	5 6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Elders	6 	7 	8  8:00 AM Men's Breakfast	
9  Daylight Savings 5:00 PM Youth Group	10	11	12 6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Board Meeting	13	14	15	
16  10:00 AM Pocket Change for Progress 5:00 PM Youth Group	17 	18	19 6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Elders	20 	21	22	
23 5:00 PM Youth Group	24	25	26 6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study	27	28	29  6:00 PM Elegant Dinner	
30							

Valley Falls
Christian Church
511 Oak Street
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.

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.