

The Vine

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

A publication of Valley Falls Christian Church

August 2016

ONE DAY AT A TIME

The most useless thing to do: Worry

The greatest Joy: Giving

The greatest loss: loss of self respect

The most satisfying work: Helping others

The ugliest personality trait: Selfishness

The most endangered species: Dedicated leaders

The greatest shot in the arm:
Encouragement

The greatest problem to overcome: Fear

Most effective sleeping pill: Peace of mind

The most crippling failure disease: Excuses

The most powerful force in life: Love

The most dangerous pariah: A gossip

The World's most incredible computer: The brain

The worst thing to be without: Hope

The deadliest weapon: The tongue

The two most power filled words: I can

The greatest asset: Faith

The most worthless emotion: Self-pity

The most prized possession: Integrity

The most beautiful attire: A Smile

The most powerful channel of communication: Prayer

The most contagious spirit: Enthusiasm

The most important thing in life: GOD

CHURCH SIGNS

Faith is not believing that God can—it is knowing that He will.

He who moves a mountain starts by carrying away a small stone.

God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage.

Where Jesus guides, He will provide.

Faith moves mountains, Doubt creates them.

Unmet Expectations

What an exciting time as we celebrated 150+1 years serving Valley Falls. The food was great thanks to Tony and Julie Trower. The planning and decorations were very nice. I know several people helped with that, but a special thank you goes out to Linda Durand and Helen Grove for all the work they put into it. I truly pray that by God's grace and providence that VFCC will continue to serve this area for many, many more years.

And what a picture it was as so many stood out in the front lawn of the church as men dug up the time capsule that was buried 26 years ago. There was excitement in the air as the young people edged closer and closer to the hole. Then, a patch of white was uncovered. And it grew larger and larger!

There was a great expectation of being able to open the time capsule to see what was placed in it all those years ago. What was important to the people in 1990? What did they think represented this church during that time?

Well, it was hard to tell. The lid to the cooler had been crushed over the years. Water had seeped into the cooler and ruined almost everything. Now it wasn't excitement in the air, it was the stench of rotten water!

What did we do with that unmet expectation? We went in and ate! We had a good time of fellowship. We had quite a few visitors from the community who came and enjoyed a free meal. We didn't let this one thing get us down. Was it disappointing? Yes. Did it ruin everything? Absolutely not!

Sometimes people do let unmet expectations ruin everything. Things don't turn out the way they want them to, so they get angry or depressed. The result is that unmet expectations dictate to us whether or not we will have joy and peace. **James 1:20 (NIV)** *Man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires.*

We must realize that unmet expectations are a reality in life. If we try to understand them and react to them in a Christ like way, we will persevere through the expectations and continue to live in the joy of the Lord.

Sometimes unmet expectations are our own fault.

Unrealistic expectations: When Suzie got married, she thought life would be perfect. In spite of the counseling from their pastor and advice from her parents, she thought her marriage would be different from every other marriage in the history of the world. When they

had their first argument, she was crushed and cried for days. That is an unrealistic expectation. I'm not sure what to say about that except, "Stop it!"

New Christians often suffer from the same unrealistic expectations. They think that becoming a Christian will solve every problem. Their marriage will heal. Temptation to sin will disappear. They will never have financial worries again. Basically, life will be perfect. Unfortunately, the Bible makes it clear that 'in this world you will have trouble.' If they persecuted Jesus, he said his followers can expect persecution as well. We won't see a perfect world until we are in heaven with Jesus.

Also, don't place a high threshold of expectation on situations that are uncertain. This doesn't mean we must be pessimists or we can't hope for the best. It is kind of like the Royals season so far this year. A lot of people thought they would be back in the hunt for another World Series title. It could still happen, but there is always uncertainty going into a new sports season at any level. If the Royals, Chiefs, Jayhawks or Wildcats don't do as well as you thought they would, don't let it ruin your year! If we can get real with our expectations, we can avoid being downhearted when life happens to us.

Misunderstood expectations: Bob told his wife he wanted to take her to a show. Sally had been talking about the latest off Broadway stage play for weeks, so she assumed that is what he meant. When they pulled into the parking lot of the local movie theater and he pulled out the tickets to the latest super hero flick she was so disappointed and angry. Communication would help a lot of misunderstood expectations.

There were a lot of misunderstood expectations about Jesus. The Jews expected a conquering Messiah. Jesus communicated to his disciples on several occasions that he was a servant Messiah. He came to die for our sins and give eternal life to all who believe in Him for salvation through his resurrection from the dead.

One of the times he told the disciples he must die, Peter objected vehemently because it didn't meet his expectation of what a Messiah should be. Peter told Jesus that there is no way he was going to die like that.

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Recipe Swap

HAM AND SWISS STROMBOLI

1 tube (11 oz.) refrigerated French bread
6 oz. thinly sliced deli ham
6 green onions, sliced
8 bacon strips, cooked and crumbled
1-1/2 c. (6 oz.) shredded swiss cheese

Unroll dough on a greased baking sheet. Place ham over dough to within 1/2 inch of edges; sprinkle evenly with onions, bacon and cheese. Roll up jelly-roll style starting with a long side. Pinch seams to seal and tuck ends under. Place seam side down on baking sheet. With a sharp knife, cut several 1/4 inch deep slits on top of loaf. Bake at 350* for 26-30 minutes or until golden brown. Cool slightly before slicing. Serve warm. 6-8 servings

PRAYER REQUESTS

OUR SOLDIERS: Curtis Mitchell, Brandon Miller, Nic Byrd, Luke Cummings, Greg Morales, Ryan Kirby, Zach Stiffler, Josh Lackey, Dan Cook, Rick Heuertz, Steve Heinen, Ammin Spencer, Gates, Kobuszewski, Leslie Bolz, Austin Everhart, Noe Garza, Brandon Hammons, Ruth Churchill, Jason Cherry, Aaron Cook, Jacob Mitchell, Matthew Branam

Arland Grandpre-not feeling well and short term memory loss

Marvin Prebble had a stroke. He is improving but needs prayers.

Donetta Farr will be having heart surgery Aug. 9.

Arnolds- pray for their house to sell and for them to find a house in Valley Falls.

Chuck Toy-cancer
Darlene House-hospice

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.

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.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 2 Cody Church
Landon Mitchell
- 4 JENNA WATKINS
Logan Wichman
- 6 Becky Arnold
- 10 Amanda Hughes
Brian Barrett
- 12 Austin House
Clinton & Erin Thomas (2000)
- 14 Sarah & Chuck Toy (1971)
- 15 CYNTHIA MCAFEE
- 16 Christy (Smith) Dow
Kaitlyn Speer
- 17 RALPH & CINDY SHEAD (1974)
Tom & Shirley Harris (1980)
Kenzli Turner
- 18 Rhonda Mitchell
Linda Beightel
- 20 Melody Hosler
- 21 Carolyn Starkey
- 22 Caleb Gatzemeyer
- 24 Trichia Gatzemeyer
- 25 Hunter Dean McGuire
- 26 SARAH SHEAD
- 28 PHIL MCAFEE
- 30 Chris Dedeke
Cooper Taliaferro
Robert Kirk

(Names in CAPS in Mission Field)

Serving in August

Congregational Prayer:

Wayne Arnold

Scripture Readers:

7- Donetta Farr-

14-Carolyn Starkey-1 Tim.6:11-21

21- Linda Durand- 2 Tim. 1:1-18

28- Brian Barrett- 2 Tim. 2:1-13

Nursery:

7-Debbie Gerstner/Caitlyn

14-Laura Reich/Jackson

21-Nancy Gatzemeyer/Aleyna

28- Cheyenne Cook/Libby

Greeters/Ushers:

7- Farr

14-Starkey

21-Durand

28-Barrett

Lord's Supper Preparation:

7-Farr

14-Starkey

21-Durand

28-Barrett

Communion Table:

7-Stan, Jay

Ray Mitchell, Lance Turner

14- Jay, Stan

Clint Thomas, Curt Gatzemeyer

21- Stan, Jay

David Grove, Brian Barrett

28- Jay, Stan

Ray Mitchell, Aaron Cook

Musicians

Worship Leader: Erin Thomas

Organ: Leah Brown

Piano: Donetta Farr

Guitar: Mike Kirby, Clint Thomas

Mandolin: Erin Thomas

Church Offerings

June 26-\$1012.00

July 3-\$963.01

July 10-\$2406.00

July 17-\$1041.00

July 24-\$1028.00

Our expenses average \$1500 a week.

MEN'S BREAKFAST: The next men's breakfast will be Aug. 13, 8:00 AM. Stan Farr will be cooking.

POOL PARTY: The pool party is Sunday Aug. 7. It is for all ages!! 7-9 PM. Come take a refreshing dip to cool off from the hot summer weather and bring a snack if you would like.

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




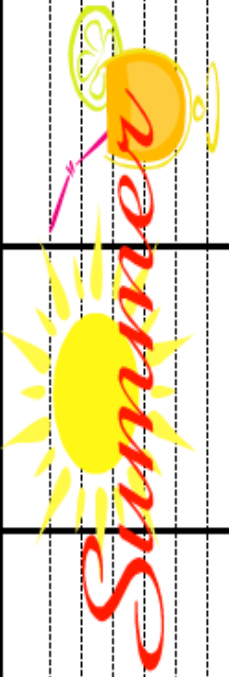
RECYCLING: We have a recycling box beside the copier in the office.

OUTREACH: Thank you everyone that helped make the school supply giveaway a success. Thank you committee for taking charge at a late date and pulling it off successfully. It is obvious that our church family does want to continue this great outreach so make room in your schedules for next year.

150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION: The 150th anniversary committee would like to thank everyone who helped make this event a success. A special thank you to everyone who pitched in with the cleanup. May God continue to bless our church.

MISSIONS: Matthew Carder will be sharing Sunday, Aug. 7th, during Sunday School about his mission, Beautiful Feet and will be preaching during church. Beautiful Feet is part of Heart of God and is supported monthly by the church.

CARRY IN DINNER: We will be having our quarterly carry in dinner on Aug. 28. Everyone is invited.

2016		AUGUST			2016		
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
							
7 Matthew Carder Preaching 2:00 PM Worship Service at Midland 5:00 PM Youth Group 7:00 PM Pool Party	8	9	10 6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Elders	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 Bible Study	18	19	20	
21 10:00 AM Pocket Change for Progress 5:00 PM Youth Group	22	23	24 6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Elders	25	26	27	
28  Quarterly Carry in Dinner 5:00 PM Youth Group	29	30	31 6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study				



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On the web: www.valleyfallsc.org
Find us on Facebook!

Mike Kirby, Pastor

You are welcome to join us!

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

(Unmet Expectations continued)

Matthew 16:23 (ESV) *But [Jesus] turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.”*

Harsh words. What can we learn from them? One, Satan will do everything he can to skew our expectations into something they shouldn't be. He wants to drive a wedge in our relationships with friends, families, our spouses and the Lord. The more we feel disappointed and angry, the better the field is for Satan to sow his seeds of discontent. Don't let Satan have a foothold because our expectations aren't met.

Second, we can probably eliminate all of our unmet expectations if we focus on the things of God and not the things of man (the world, our own flesh, what our culture teaches us to expect).

Colossians 3:2 (ESV) *Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.*

Finally, sometimes people really do let you down. A husband makes a wedding vow to be faithful until he and his wife are separated by death. It is very reasonable for his wife to expect him to keep that vow. If he commits adultery, he failed. His wife did not have an unrealistic or misunderstood expectation. What do we do? Jesus says forgive. He didn't say it was easy!

Remember, there is one person who will never let us down. **Hebrews 13:5 (ESV)** *...he has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”* If our faith and trust is in Jesus Christ, if we fix our eyes on Him and not on our circumstances, then we can have joy and peace even if things don't turn out the way we expect. **2 Corinthians 4:17-18 (ESV)** *For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.*

Mike