

The Vine

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

A publication of Valley Falls Christian Church

September 2016

OUTREACH 14TH ANNUAL FREE SCHOOL SUPPLY WRAP-UP

On July 30th, God blessed this outreach program with 30+ volunteers ready to model His love for us by serving others. Because of everyone's help and eagerness to serve, 204 children received new bookbags and supplies to start a new year prepared. We still received requests after the event, serving a total of 210 kids.

A huge thank you to EVERYONE for making this outreach successful.

Remember, this is a year long project, and we are already looking forward to next year! Donations are welcomed anytime, as are prayers and any fundraising ideas for the coming year.

All our praise to God! His blessings and grace abound!

Wayne wants to thank Tiffany Spencer for stepping up and helping finish this year's school drive and also for being willing to take on this project next year. If you have any ideas or questions please see Tiffany.

When Jesus took His disciples up the mountain and gathered them around Him, He began to teach them, saying:

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are the peacemakers... Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Then Simon Peter said, "Do we have to write this down?" and Andrew said, "Are we supposed to know this?" and James said, "What if we don't know it?" and Bartholomew said, "Do we have to turn this in?" and John said, "The other disciples didn't have to learn this!" and Matthew said, "When do we get out of here?" and Judas said, "What does this have to do with real life?"

Then one of the Pharisees present asked to see Jesus' lesson plans and inquired of Jesus His terminal objectives in the cognitive domain...

And Jesus Wept.

Proverbs for Politicians

I recently read an article by Dr. Michael Brown in which he encouraged Donald Trump to read one chapter from the book of Proverbs every day. He suggested to Mr. Trump that it would “almost certainly guarantee your victory in the November elections.” He continued, “In fact, if you put into practice what I’m about to share with you, you could become a fine president as well.”

I’d like to take that one step further. How about all of the candidates read a chapter of Proverbs every day? –**And actually start doing it!**

Day one: **Proverbs 1:7 (ESV)** *The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.*

What if our politicians feared God instead of polls, the media, focus groups or special interests? Wouldn’t it be great to see elected officials tell us they aren’t going to let the results of a survey dictate to them a policy that clearly violates the Bible? I know people would scream separation of church and state. So what? You aren’t forcing anyone else to read the Bible or believe it. You are exercising your right apply the wisdom you have learned from the Bible in the decisions you make as you govern.

Day four: **Proverbs 4:24 (ESV)** *Put away from you crooked speech, and put devious talk far from you.*

“I didn’t send any emails. O.K., I didn’t delete any emails. Well, I deleted emails, but they didn’t have classified information in them. Colin Powell told me to do it!” The lies just keep coming. Mrs. Clinton is viewed as quite untruthful by a majority of Americans.

Mr. Trump just can’t stop insulting people who disagree with him. Instead of debating finer points of an issue, his default setting is to begin name calling. Maybe by the middle of the month (day 15) he could figure out that is not a good campaign strategy when he reads **Proverbs 15:1 (ESV)** *A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.*

Day 6: **Proverbs 6:16-17 (ESV)** *...the LORD hates...hands that shed innocent blood.* I find it baffling that any politician can claim to be a Christian and still think abortion

is OK. In fact, it is a good thing that the Lord knows the heart and is the final judge, because it is hard for me to believe anyone can be saved and still believe that abortion should be legal.

Day 22 would merely serve to confirm sanctity of life policies based on the fact that we are all created in God’s image. **Proverbs 22:2 (ESV)** *The rich and the poor meet together; the LORD is the maker of them all.*

Day 10: **Proverbs 10:9 (ESV)**⁹ *Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but he who makes his ways crooked will be found out.* Can’t we just do the right thing and stop the cover-ups? Hilary, get a physical by a neutral group of doctors. Donald, release your tax returns. If you make a promise, keep it. If you later find that one of your key policy points is just impossible, admit it. Get rid of any shady dealings or back door deals.

The word fool or a variation thereof appears in Proverbs over 70 times. After reading through this book of wisdom, it would seem that just about every politician is a fool – and WE elect them! Here’s more.

Day 12: **Proverbs 12:15 (ESV)**¹⁵ *The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice.* For this proverb to actually be helpful to an elected official, they can’t surround themselves with ‘yes men.’ If all of your advisors already agree with you all the time, you will never be challenged to consider a different perspective. A little humility goes a long way and when a politician actually listens to the people he represents he might actually learn he doesn’t know it all.

Day 14: **Proverbs 14:31 (ESV)** *Whoever oppresses a poor man insults his Maker, but he who is generous to the needy honors him.* The Bible teaches that we should help the poor. It also teaches that we should value hard work (consider the ant...). I believe that adhering to proverbs could lead to policies that would get most people off of welfare and get them into a job while still making sure the ‘least of these’ don’t fall through the cracks. A hand up is always better than a hand out.

(continued on back page)

Recipe Swap

CHICKEN & DUMPLING CASSEROLE

½ c. chopped onion
½ c. chopped celery
2 garlic cloves, minced
¼ c. butter or margarine
½ c. flour
2 tsp. sugar
1 tsp. salt
1 tsp. dried basil
½ tsp. pepper
4 c. chicken broth
10 oz. frozen peas
4 c. cubed cooked chicken
DUMPLINGS:
2 c. buttermilk baking mix
2 tsp. dried basil
2/3 c. milk

In a large saucepan, sauté onion, celery and garlic in butter until tender. Add flour, sugar, salt, basil, pepper and broth; bring to a boil. Cook and stir for 1 minute; reduce heat. Add peas and cook for 5 minutes, stirring constantly. Stir in chicken. Pour into greased 13x9 baking dish. For dumplings, combine biscuit mix and basil in a bowl. Stir in milk with a fork until moistened. Drop by Tablespoons onto casserole -12 dumplings Bake, uncovered at 350* for 30 minutes. Cover and bake 10 minutes more until dumplings are done.

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

Donetta Farr as she recovers from open heart surgery.

Juanita Meyer- Dale Meyer's wife has advanced stage of cancer.

Arnolds- house closings and moving

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.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

3 Jay Farr
7 Ray Mitchell
Elaine Worner
13 Dawson Branam
19 Chad and Tiffany Spencer (2014)
21 Jaxson Temm
25 Kyle Reich
27 Kevin Gatzemeyer
28 TREY WATKINS
David Branam

(Names in CAPS in Mission Field)

BABY NEWS: Rylan Cooper Cook was born Tuesday Aug. 23 at 1:17 pm. He weighed 7 lbs. 10 oz. and was 20 inches long. Mother and baby are doing fine.

Serving in SEPTEMBER

Congregational Prayer:

Stan Farr

Scripture Readers:

4- Tiffany Spencer-

11- Christy Arnold- 2 Tim. 2:20-26

18- Erin Thomas- 2 Tim. 3:1-9

25- Joan Phillips- 2 Tim. 4:1-8

Nursery:

4-Debbie Gerstner/Caitlyn

11-Glee Hosler/Aleyna

18- Joan Phillips/Libby

25-Laura Reich/Jackson

Greeters/Ushers:

4- Spencer

11- Arnold

18- Thomas

25- Phillips

Lord's Supper Preparation:

4- Spencer

11- Arnold

18- Thomas

25- Phillips

Communion Table:

4-Stan, Jay

Clint Thomas, Chad Spencer

11- Jay, Stan

David Grove, Jake Mitchell

18- Stan, Jay

Wayne Arnold, Lance Turner

25- Jay, Stan

Ray Mitchell, Curt Gatzemeyer

Musicians

Worship Leader: David Grove

Organ: Leah Brown

Piano: Donetta Farr

Guitar: Mike Kirby, Clint Thomas

Mandolin: Erin Thomas

Church Offerings

July 31-\$1484.00

Aug. 7-\$1182.00

Aug. 14-\$2598.00

Aug. 21-\$1399.00

Our expenses average \$1500 a week.

MEN'S BREAKFAST: The men's breakfast is Sept. 10th at 8:00 am. David Grove will be cooking.

EYEGASSES: We 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.

BOARD MEETING: The board meeting will be on Wed. Sept. 14th at 8:00 PM.

THANK YOU: The church received a thank you from Marty Gatzemeyer for the gift card he received for graduation.

SEARCHING FOR M&M'S: Here is something to pray about...M&M's! Not the candies, but rather moms and mentors. Are there any moms in the church who would like to seek a deeper relationship and counsel of another more experienced Christian woman? Are there any more experienced women willing to serve as a mentor? Titus 2:3-5 calls the older women of the church to teach the younger women. Our M&M's could all occasionally meet together, separately in pairs, or just be available to each other for questions and counsel... whatever need suits the pair/group! Pray about this and let Erin Thomas know if you are interested by the end of September so we can start matching up our moms and mentors!

2016		SEPTEMBER					2016	
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY		
								
4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
2:00 PM Service at Midland		6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Elders				8:00 Men's Breakfast		
5:00 PM Youth Group								
11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
			6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Board Meeting					
5:00 PM Youth Group								
18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
10:00 AM Pocket Change for Progress			6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Elders					
5:00 PM Youth Group								
25	26	27	28	29	30			
			6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study					
5:00 PM Youth Group								

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

(Proverbs continued)

Current policies seem to ensure that people who are in poverty and rely on the government will stay there. Maybe there even would be a policy that would encourage and empower churches to get back into helping the widows and orphans.

Day 31: **Proverbs 31:28 (ESV)** *Her (the wife) children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her:*

All through the proverbs, the traditional family unit is championed. How refreshing! A husband (a man), a wife (a woman) and children all living in one home as a family. A family where discipline is given in love. A family where wives and husbands abide in love and respect each other. A family where the children are taught the fear and admonition of the Lord.

The proverbs were mostly written by Solomon, the wisest man who ever lived. He wrote them to his son. They are not 'written in stone' promises, but they are principles to live by.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Each of these principles is repeated throughout the Holy Bible. If not only politicians, but every one of us would live and govern by these principles, what a great country we would have!

Mike

Mission Lake Christian Camp is a ministry financially supported by this church. The MLCC annual meeting is Sunday, September 18 at 5 PM at Nortonville Christian Church. Supper will be provided and this will coincide with an area youth rally. Our youth group will attend. Our church needs provide 2 representatives to vote on board members at this meeting. This would be the only meeting you would attend! If you can represent VFCC at this one-time meeting, tell Mike.

Also, MLCC does need board members willing to meet six times a year and help out with work days, organizational committees and planning for future growth and improvements. It is a great ministry to the young people (and adults) of northeast Kansas. If you are interested in serving on the board of Mission Lake Christian Camp, please let Mike know.