

The Vine

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

A publication of Valley Falls Christian Church

July 2017

OUTREACH-H.O.P.E. 15TH ANNUAL "SUPPLYING OUR FUTURE IN THE PRESENT" SATURDAY, JULY 29, 2017, 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

The school bell is about to ring and it is time to start bringing your donations for the 15th annual school supplies 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 300 students prepare for the new school year. God has really blessed this project and everyone who has participated. **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.

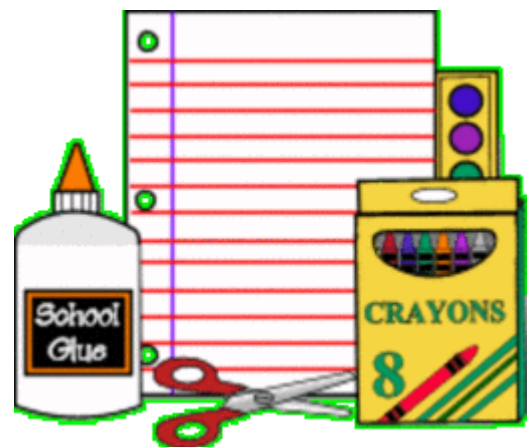
These are just a few of the items that students will need:

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 and paints.

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.

Lunch will be served for all workers afterward.

"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



Thoughts on Our Nation

In contemplating the state of our nation as we approach another Independence Day, I am discouraged. I am discouraged because Christians are intimidated into silence on college campuses. I am discouraged because bakers can't bake, florists can't create, filmmakers can't film, t-shirt makers can't produce, and blueberry farmers can't even participate in a farmer's market if they follow their deeply held Christian faith. (Google it).

I am discouraged that generations are increasingly falling away from Jesus and church attendance is seen as optional even among many Christians.

I am discouraged that abortion is still legal, that legislators continue to pass laws that violate Christian morals and that that immorality is taught as a normal option even to our elementary students.

This nation is on the brink of a moral abyss, and that is discouraging.

However, I am also encouraged. I am encouraged that people are fighting for the rights of Christians in the court system. I am encouraged that Christians are speaking out in the media and at universities in spite of being berated.

But most of all, I am encouraged because God is still on the throne. He doesn't need the United States or any other country to establish His sovereignty over all nations. I am encouraged that there are still thousands of strong believers in this nation, and millions worldwide.

I am also encouraged because every day that passes is another day closer to the return of Christ, when He will be on the throne and rule over a new heaven and a new earth with perfect peace and justice.

Until then, here are some Bible verses to ponder.

Psalms 33:12 (ESV) Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!

Isaiah 60:12 (ESV) For the nation and kingdom that will not serve you shall perish; those nations shall be utterly laid waste.

2 Chronicles 7:14 (ESV) if my people who are called by my name humble themselves,

and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

Proverbs 14:34 (ESV) Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.

Proverbs 28:2 (ESV) When a land transgresses, it has many rulers, but with a man of understanding and knowledge, its stability will long continue.

1 Timothy 2:1-2 (ESV) First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.

Matthew 28:18-20 (ESV) And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Revelation 5:9-10 (ESV) And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth."

Micah 4:3 (ESV) He shall judge between many peoples, and shall decide for strong nations far away; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore;

Romans 13:1 (ESV) Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.

(continued on back page)

Recipe Swap

TWISTED STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE

2 pkgs. Vanilla instant pudding mix
4 c. cold milk
2 c. cool whip
12 oz. prepared angel food cake, cut into cubes
1/3 c. orange juice
3 c. sliced fresh strawberries
5 oz. bakers white chocolate, grated

Beat pudding mixes and milk in large bowl with whisk 2 minutes. Gently stir in cool whip.

Place cake cubes in large bowl. Drizzle orange juice over cake, then toss to coat. Place half of the cake cubes in deep glass serving bowl; cover with layers of half each of the pudding mixture, strawberries and chocolate. Top with layers of remaining cake cubes, pudding mixture, strawberries and chocolate.

Refrigerate at least 30 minutes before serving. Store leftover dessert in refrigerator.

PRAYER REQUESTS

OUR SOLDIERS: Curtis Mitchell, Noe Garza, Aaron Cook, Jacob Mitchell, Matthew Branam

Our church, the elders, Mike and Gina and family

NEW ADDRESS FOR MATTHEW:

SPC Branam, Matthew
A Btry 2/130th FA
Camp Buehring
APO AE 09330

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Alpha Christian Children's Home is looking for a school paraprofessional. If you are interested there is a flyer on the bulletin board.

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

CRAFTING GROUP: Susan is trying to get a crafting group together. All kinds of sewing, stitching, crochet, knitting, cross stitch etc. She would like eventually to make items for sick people or babies. If you know how to do any of this or have always wanted to learn, she is meeting here at the church on Monday evenings from 6-8 PM. If you would like to come but that's not a good time or day please see Susan and possibly it can be set at a better time or day. All are welcome. You can contact her at sklawuhn@att.net or call her at 785-945-3815 or 816-390-3815.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 5 Laura Reich
- 8 Allene Mattox
Sheila Sears
- 10 Tiffany Spencer
- 11 PHIL & TABITA MCAFEE (1981)
- 16 Caleb Mitchell
- 17 Kaori Cazares
- 18 Curtis Smith
- 19 Abby GrandPre
- 20 Aleyna GrandPre
- 22 Mike Kirby
Jacob Mitchell
- 24 Christy Arnold
David and Helen Grove (1966)
- 25 Wade Boyce
- 30 Taylor Farr
- 31 CINDY SHEAD

(Names in CAPS in Mission Field)

Serving in JULY

Congregational Prayer:

Stan Farr

Scripture Readers:

2-Linda Durand-Psalm 33:6-12
9-Brian Barrett-Rom. 6:1-11
16-Tiffany Spencer-Rom. 6:15-23
23-Christy Arnold-Rom. 7:21-25
30-Erin Thomas-Rom. 8:1-11

Nursery:

2-Debbie /Aleyna
9-Brittany/Caitlyn
16-Laura/Jackson
23-Nancy/Aleyna
30-Cheyenne/Jackson

Greeters/Ushers:

2-Durand
9-Barrett
16-Spencer
23-Arnold
30-Thomas

Lord's Supper Preparation:

2-Durand
9-Barrett
16-Spencer
23-Arnold
30-Thomas

Communion Table:

2- Stan, Jay
Clint, Kyle
9- Jay, Stan
Ray, Jackson
16- Stan, Jay
Wayne, Chad
23- Jay, Stan
David, Brian
30- Stan, Jay
Clint, Andy

Musicians

Worship Leader: Erin Thomas
Organ: Leah Brown
Piano: Donetta Farr
Guitar: Mike Kirby, Clint Thomas
Mandolin: Erin Thomas

Church Offerings

May 28 - \$3104.00

June 4 - \$1354.50

June 11 - \$1439.00

Our expenses average \$1500 a week.

CAMP NEWS: Princess Camp (grades 7-12) is July 8-9; Deeper Life Camp (grades 7-12) is July 9-14.

VBS NEWS: The time has come! Vacation Bible School is scheduled for July 17-21, 2017 from 6:30-8:30 PM. We would love for folks to join us as volunteers. There is a sign up sheet in the foyer and opportunities for all interest levels from games to small group activities to crew leaders. Supply donations are wonderful too! There is a list in the foyer of needed materials. Thank you in advance for your help to make this year's event a success in spreading the message of Christ to the youth in our community

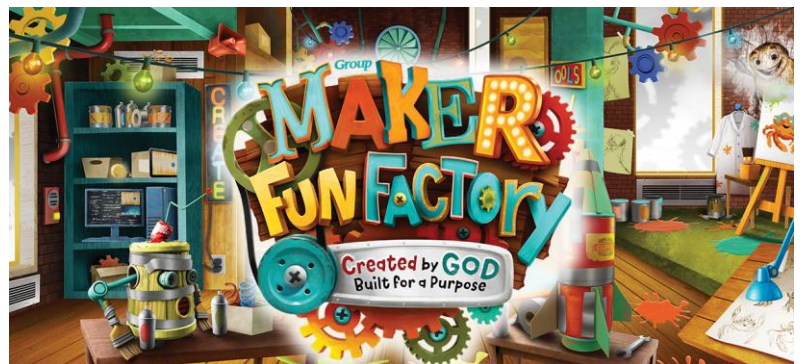
Upcoming gatherings:


Friday June 30, 2017 painting and poster making 7-9 PM

Sunday July 9th, 2017 final planning meeting after church

Sunday July 16, 2017 decorations and set up for the week of VBS- 1PM until done

Saturday July 22, 2017 take down and clean up 10am until noon



2017		JULY					2017	
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
							1	
2 2:00 PM Midland Worship Service 5:00 PM Youth Group	3	4 	5 7:00 PM Elders	6	7		8 Princess Camp	
9 Deeper Life Camp 5:00 PM Youth Group	10 	11	12 7:00 PM Board Meeting	13	14		15	
16  10:00 AM Pocket Change for Progress 5:00 PM Youth Group	17	18	19 7:00 PM Elders	20	21		22	
23 5:00 PM Youth Group 30 5:00 PM Youth Group	24 31	25	26	27	28  Set up for school supply drive 7:00 pm	29  School Supply Drive 8:00 am-12:00 pm		

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

(Nation - continued from page 2)

Joel 2:12-13 (ESV) “Yet even now,” declares the LORD, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments.” Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster.

Psalms 9:17 (ESV) The wicked shall return to Sheol, all the nations that forget God.

Joshua 24:15 (ESV) And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Micah 6:8 (ESV) He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Gal 5:1 It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

Mike

