

# The Vine

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

**A publication of Valley Falls Christian Church**

**November 2017**

## **TEN GUIDELINES FROM GOD**

**QUIT WORRYING:** Life has dealt you a blow and all you do is sit and worry. Have you forgotten that I am here to take all your burdens and carry them for you? Or do you just enjoy fretting over every little thing that comes your way?

**PUT IT ON THE LIST:** Something needs done or taken care of. Put it on the list. No, not YOUR list. Put it on MY to do list. Let ME be the one to take care of the problem. I can't help you until you turn it over to ME. And although MY to do list is long, I am after all God. I can take care of anything you put into MY hands. In fact, if the truth were ever really known, I take care of a lot of things for you that you never even realize.

**TRUST ME:** Once you've given your burdens to ME, quit trying to take them back. Trust in ME. Have the faith that I will take care of all your needs, your problems and your trials. Problems with the kids? Put them on MY list. Problems with finances? Put it on MY list. Problems with your emotional roller coaster? For MY sake, put it on MY list. I want to help you. All you have to do is ask.

**LEAVE IT ALONE:** Don't wake up one morning and say, "Well, I'm feeling much stronger now, I think I can handle it from here." Why do you think you are feeling stronger now? It's simple. You gave ME your burdens and I'm taking care of them. I also renew your strength and cover you in my peace. Don't you know that if I give you these problems back, you will be right back where you started? Leave them with ME and forget about them. Just let ME do my job.

**TALK TO ME:** I want you to forget a lot of things. Forget what was making you crazy. Forget the worry and the fretting because you know I'm in control. But there's one thing I pray you never forget. Please, don't forget to talk to ME- OFTEN! I love YOU! I want to hear your voice. I want you to include ME in on the things going on in your life. I want to hear you talk about your friends and family. Prayer is simply you having a conversation with ME. I want to be your dearest friend.

**HAVE FAITH:** I see a lot of things from up here that you can't see from where you are. Have faith in ME that I know what I'm doing. Trust Me; you wouldn't want the view from MY eyes. I will continue to care for you, watch over you, and meet your needs. You only have to trust ME. Although I have a much bigger task than you, it seems as if you have so much trouble just doing your simple part. How hard can trust be?

**SHARE:** You were taught to share when you were only two years old. When did you forget? That rule still applies. Share with those who are less fortunate than you. Share your joy with those who need encouragement. Share your laughter with those who haven't heard any in such a long time. Share your tears with those who have forgotten how to cry. Share your faith with those who have none.

**BE PATIENT:** I managed to fix it so in just one lifetime you could have so many diverse experiences. You grow from a child to an adult, have children, change jobs many times, learn many trades, travel to do many places, meet thousands of people and experience so much. How can you be so impatient then when it takes ME longer than you expect to handle something on MY to do list? Trust in MY timing, for MY timing is perfect. Just because I created the entire universe in only six days, everyone thinks I should always rush, rush, rush.

**BE KIND:** Be kind to others, for I love them just as much as I love you. They may not dress like you, or talk like you, or live the same way you do, but I still love you all. Please try to get along, for MY sake. I created each of you different in some way. It would be too boring if you were all identical. Please, know I love each of your differences.

**LOVE YOURSELF:** As much as I love you, how can you not love yourself? You were created by ME for one reason only—to be loved, and to love in return. I am a God of Love. Love Me. Love your neighbors. But also love yourself. It makes MY heart ache when I see you so angry with yourself when things go wrong. You are very precious to ME. Don't ever forget....

## A Thanksgiving Proclamation

“Just put your ‘John Hancock’ right there on the line.” Most of us know that means to sign your name. This term comes from the fact that as the President of the Second Continental Congress, John Hancock was the first to sign the Declaration of Independence.

Hancock also served as the first and third governor of Massachusetts. The following is his 1784 Thanksgiving proclamation as the governor. I have underlined what I consider some key phrases.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.  
By His Excellency, JOHN HANCOCK, Esquire,  
Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,  
A PROCLAMATION For a Day of THANKSGIVING.

*It being our indispensable duty as a people, in a public and religious manner, to acknowledge the preserving and Governing providence of Almighty God, and more especially to celebrate the Divine Goodness in the various blessings conferred upon us in the course of the year past.*

*I have therefore thought fit, with the advice and consent of the Council, to appoint, and do hereby appoint THURSDAY the Twenty-Fifth Day of NOVEMBER next, to be religiously observed as a Day of THANKSGIVING throughout this Commonwealth; hereby calling upon Ministers and people of all denominations, in their several assemblies, to unite with grateful hearts in celebrating the Praises of Almighty GOD, of His great goodness and bounty vouchsafed [given] to a sinful and unworthy people; particularly for the great and signal interpositions of His Providence in behalf of the United States in the course of the late contest, and that after being rescued from the dangers and calamities of war; peace has been restored to us, and that our public affairs are in so promising and happy a situation; for granting to us a plentiful harvest in the great abundance of the fruits of the earth; for the general health enjoyed*

*throughout this State during the course of the year, and preventing epidemical and mortal distempers from spreading among us; reviving our trade, navigation and fishery and protecting the same from the insults of Pirates and other disasters; for directing and succeeding our public Councils, and above all for continuing to us the light of the blessed Gospel, and securing to us our religious and civil liberties and privileges. And to join with their praises their earnest and humble supplications to Almighty GOD, for the pardon of our past ingratitude and other transgressions; and that He would grant that all instances of the Divine goodness may have an effectual influence for working a general reformation in all orders of persons among us; that so we may be that happy people, whose GOD is the LORD, and that ALL nations may bow to the scepter of our LORD and SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST, and that the whole Earth may be filled with His Glory.*

*GIVEN at the Council-Chamber in Boston, the 28th day of October, in the Year of our Lord, one Thousand seven hundred and eighty-four, and in the ninth year of the Independence of the United States of America.*

JOHN HANCOCK

This founding father of the United States of America proclaimed some things that would not be politically correct in today's culture. Using the office of governor, he did not see this as a violation of the 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment, nor did he see a necessary 'separation of church and state.' Instead, he encouraged the people of Massachusetts to be religious – but his definition of religious, according to the context of the proclamation, is overtly Christian.

He acknowledges the providence of Almighty God in the formation of this nation, her victory over the enemy and for the subsequent economic recovery and blessings.

But most of all, he asks his constituents to give thanks for Gospel and our religious liberties. He urges them to pray that all people would be reformed (converted/saved) and that all nations would bow to the Lord Jesus Christ.

Oh, that we had leaders like John Hancock today!

*Mike*

## Recipe Swap

### EASY PUMPKIN CREAM TRIFLE

- 1 pkg spice cake mix
- 1 pkg. instant vanilla pudding mix
- 1 c. pumpkin puree
- ½ c. water
- ½ c. oil
- 3 eggs
- 2 tsp. pumpkin pie spice
- 2 c. milk
- 2 pkgs. Instant cheesecake pudding mix
- 2 c. whipped topping
- 1 c. chopped toasted pecans
- 1 c. English toffee bits.

Preheat oven to 350\*. Lightly grease a 9x13 pan. Combine the cake mix, vanilla pudding mix, pumpkin, water, oil, eggs and pie spice in a large baking bowl; pour into prepared 9x13 pan. Bake in the preheated oven for 45-50 minutes. Allow to cool to room temperature. Cut the cake into 1 inch cubes.

Whisk together the milk and cheesecake pudding mix. Allow to set, about 2 minutes. Fold the whipped topping into the pudding mixture.

Layer 1/3 of the cake cubes into the bottom of a large bowl; top with 1/3 of the cream mixture and sprinkle with 1/3 of the pecans and toffee bits. Repeat layering until all ingredients are used. Refrigerate 1 hour before serving.

### PRAYER REQUESTS

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

**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](http://www.valleyfallscc.org).

**POCKET CHANGE FOR PROGRESS:** This will be a special offering every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday during church. The money will be split between Mission Lake Camp and the School Supply Giveaway Fund

### Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 2 Grace (Arnold) Farwell
- 4 Nolan Reich
- 7 Curt Gatzemeyer  
Avery Gatzemeyer  
Matthew & Brittany Boyce
- 9 Shelly Gatzemeyer
- 10 Tessa Haybarker
- 12 Eli Farr
- 13 Kati Haybarker
- 15 Joan Hosler
- 16 Brittany Boyce
- 18 Libby Phillips
- 20 Doris Bixler
- 21 Sheila Farr  
Melissa Scrivner
- 24 Curt & Shelly Gatzemeyer (2013)
- 25 Dodie Bolz

(Names in CAPS in Mission Field)

**YOUTH GROUP NEWS:** On Nov. 19 it will be from 5-6:30 (gets out ½ hour early)  
On Nov. 26 there will be no youth group.

**CHURCH SHIRTS:** Shirts have been ordered. There are many shirts in stock so if you missed out and still need one, see Donetta or Nancy.

**CHRISTMAS BELL RINGERS NEEDED:** The Salvation Army is looking for volunteers to ring bells this Christmas season. Thousands of our neighbors are helped every year with vital emergency assistance, including evening meals, pantry food assistance, and rent/utility assistance. Please go to [www.ringbells.org](http://www.ringbells.org) for more information on how you can make a difference.

## Serving in NOVEMBER

### Congregational Prayer:

Wayne Arnold

### Scripture Readers:

5- Erin -Romans 13:8-14

12-Donetta -Romans 14:13-18

19-Nancy -2 Cor. 4:15-18

26- Helen -Romans 15:1-7

### Nursery:

5-Debbie /Allison

12-Glee /Aleyna

19-Brittany/Jackson

26-Laura/Jackson

### Greeters/Ushers:

5- Thomas

12-Farr

19-K&N Gatzemeyer

26-Grove

### Lord's Supper Preparation:

5-Thomas

12-Farr

19-K&N Gatzemeyer

26-Grove

### Communion Table:

5-Stan, Jay

**Clint**, Kyle

12- Jay, Stan

**Ray**, Curt

19- Stan, Jay

**David**, Chad

26- Jay, Stan

**Clint**, Brian

## Church Offerings

Oct. 1-\$1101.00

Oct. 8-\$1752.00

Oct. 15-\$

Oct. 22-\$

Our expenses average \$1500 a week.

**CHURCH FAMILY THANKSGIVING DINNER:** The church dinner will be Sunday, Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> after church. Please mark your calendars and plan to stay. Lists will be coming out soon to sign up to bring food.

**HOLIDAY SEASON:** I know it seems like Christmas is a long way away, but it will be here before you know it. It is time to be thinking about the Dec. activities. We need to get the dates on the calendar so everyone can plan ahead to participate. If you are heading up any of the activities we've had before (caroling, cookie bake, ladies Christmas party, church Christmas dinner, food boxes, Christmas program) let Donetta or Christy know the date and your plans soon. We are open to any other ideas or activities too.

**CHRISTMAS BOXES:** We need to bring all shoeboxes, preferably wrapped but if not wrapped, the sooner the better. Also if anyone has extra wrapping paper that would be very much appreciated also. Please leave it in the foyer.

**COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE:** The community service will be Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> at the Methodist church at 7:00 PM. We need to furnish 2 pies. If you can furnish pies let Mike know.

**TIME CHANGE:** Don't forget to set your clocks back on Nov. 5th. Spring ahead Fall back!

**DECORATE THE CHURCH:** We will be decorating the church for Christmas on Nov.26<sup>th</sup> after church. Please plan to stay and help.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST:** Next men's breakfast will be Nov. 11 at 8:00 am. Charlie will be cooking.

**CHRISTMAS FAMILY ADOPTION:** The church will be adopting a family or two again this Christmas. Be watching for more details.

# 2017 NOVEMBER

SUNDAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	01 3:30 PM - JAMs 6:15 PM - Worship practice 7 PM Bible study	02	03	04
05 2 pm - Midland 5 pm - Youth Group	06 6-8 PM - Sunflower Crafters	07	08 3:30 PM - JAMs 6:15 PM - Worship practice 7 PM Bible study 8 pm Board meeting	09	10 8 AM - Men's breakfast	11
12 10:00 AM Pocket Change for Progress 5 PM - Youth Group	13 6-8 PM - Sunflower Crafters	14	15 3:30 PM - JAMs 6:15 PM - Worship practice 7 PM Bible study	16	17	18
19 10 am Pocket change for progress 11:30 am Thanksgiving dinner 5-6:30 pm youth group 7 pm christian council service	20 6-8 PM - Sunflower Crafters	21	22 HAPPY THANKSGIVING	23	24	25
26 Decorate the church for christmas following the church service no youth group	27 6-8 PM - Sunflower Crafters	28	29 3:30 pm JAMS 6:15 pm worship practice 7 pm Bible Study	30	01	02

*Valley Falls*  
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511 Oak Street  
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RETURN SERVICE  
REQUESTED

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 (grades 6-12) – 5:00 PM

**Midweek:**

JAMs (grades K-6): Wed. 3:30-5:30  
Bible Study: Wednesday 7:00 PM

**America's Christian Heritage:**

You do well to wish to learn our arts and ways of life, and above all, the religion of Jesus Christ. These will make you a greater and happier people than you are.

*The Writings of Washington*, John C.

Fitzpatrick, editor (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1932), Vol. XV, p. 55, from his speech to the Delaware Indian Chiefs on May 12, 1779.

While we are zealously performing the duties of good citizens and soldiers, we certainly ought not to be inattentive to the higher duties of religion. To the distinguished character of Patriot, it should be our highest glory to add the more distinguished character of Christian.

*The Writings of Washington*, John C.

Fitzpatrick, editor (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1932), Vol. XI, pp. 342-343, General Orders of May 2, 1778.

The blessing and protection of Heaven are at all times necessary but especially so in times of public distress and danger. The General hopes and trusts that every officer and man will endeavor to live and act as becomes a Christian soldier, defending the dearest rights and liberties of his country.

*The Writings of George Washington*, John C.

Fitzpatrick, editor (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1932), Vol. 5, p. 245, July 9, 1776 Order.

I now make it my earnest prayer that God would... most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility, and pacific temper of the mind which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion.

*The Last Official Address of His Excellency George Washington to the Legislature of the United States*(Hartford: Hudson and Goodwin, 1783), p. 12