

The Vine

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

A publication of Valley Falls Christian Church

April 2018

Mark 15:38 (ESV) *And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom.*

Jesus died at 3 in the afternoon. At that exact time, the priests were in the temple performing the evening sacrifice. What was going through the priests' minds when Jesus died?

Many of them had assuredly assumed their part was finished. The trial was over; they helped to make sure that Jesus was crucified for his 'blasphemies.' They had no need to be at the cross; they had temple duties to carry out.

How did they explain the darkness that covered the land from noon until three as they were preparing for the sacrifice? How would they account for the earthquake that occurred? Would they actually try to blame the torn curtain on an earthquake that didn't do any damage to the temple (at least there was no damage historically recorded)?

Would their opinion about Jesus change when they later found out that Jesus died the very moment of the quake and the tearing of the veil?

The exposure of the Holy of Holies, or the Most Holy Place, would have been alarming. Steps would have been immediately taken to preserve the sanctity of this inner-most room in the temple. This was the room where they believed the very presence of God dwelt.

Imagine the shocked priests carrying a makeshift curtain toward the Holy of Holies. It is held up above their heads so they don't accidentally gaze upon the Ark of the Covenant or the Mercy Seat that covered it. After hanging this temporary barrier up, they would remove the torn veil without looking at the inner room it was supposed to hide.

Eventually, someone would have begun the tedious work of sewing the veil back together.

They sewed the veil back together.

Jesus died so, through faith, his blood would cleanse us of all unrighteousness and allow us access to the throne of God. **Hebrews 10:19-20** *Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence*

to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh.

They sewed the veil back together.

Did they wonder how it tore from top to bottom? Did they stop to think that God Almighty himself tore the veil because Jesus' death and resurrection broke down the barrier between us? We no longer need a priest to go into the Holy of Holies on that one day a year to make atonement for the people. Our great and high priest Jesus died on the cross to make atonement for all mankind, for all who come to him in faith. There is never a need for another sacrifice. The Holy of Holies has been opened wide to allow all who believe complete access to the throne of God! **Hebrews 4:16 (ESV)** *Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*

They sewed the veil back together. Or at least put up a new veil.

As we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ this month, let us examine how we might be 'sewing the veil back together.' What barriers might we place between ourselves and God that Jesus died to destroy?

The soldiers at the cross declared, "Truly this was the Son of God." What of the priests? While some worked diligently to replace the torn barrier, maybe others thought it would be better left down. **Acts 6:7 (ESV)** *And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.* It would be interesting to know if any of these priests were present at the temple when the veil was torn!

The resurrection of Jesus Christ gives us access to the greatest gift God could ever give us – eternal life in his presence! May we never 'sew the veil back together' and place a barrier between ourselves and his holy presence!

Mike

REVIVAL COMMITTEE

If you are interested in being on a committee to plan and schedule a revival at VFCC in 2018, please contact Pastor Mike.

ALPHA CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Thank you for all who donated canned goods and paper products to Alpha during the month of March. The donations will meet many needs of the mission.

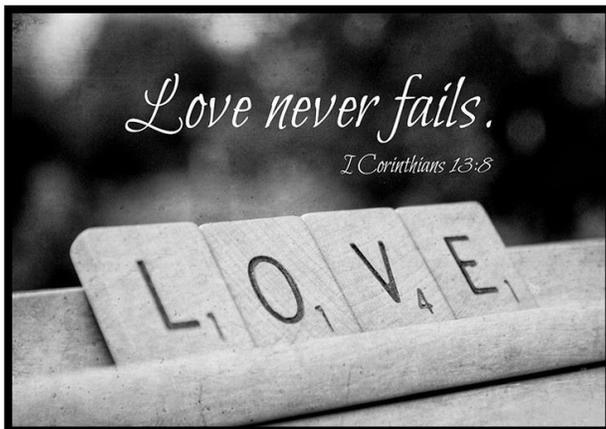
YOUR INVITED! WOMEN'S MINI CONFERENCE!

A Free Women's Conference
Cummings Christian Church
Saturday, April 28th,
10 am– 3 pm

Guest Speakers, worship music, free lunch, fellowship and prayer.
Please make plans to attend and bring your friends!

RSVP by April 10th to 913-370-5035/
913-709-6070

We look forward to fellowshiping with you and growing together!
Your sister in Christ,
Trisha Vessar



EASTER SONRISE SERVICE, Sunday, April 1st:
The service will be at 8:00 AM followed by breakfast at 8:30 AM. See Stan if you would like to help with the breakfast.

*GARAGE SALE FOR SCHOOL SUPPLIES:

Start stock piling your unused items for the all church garage sale in May. Proceeds benefit the School Supply Give Away. Jay and Carol Welborn are spearheading the event, contact either of them for questions or to volunteer. The event will be May 18th and 19th, during the VF City Wide Garage Sales.

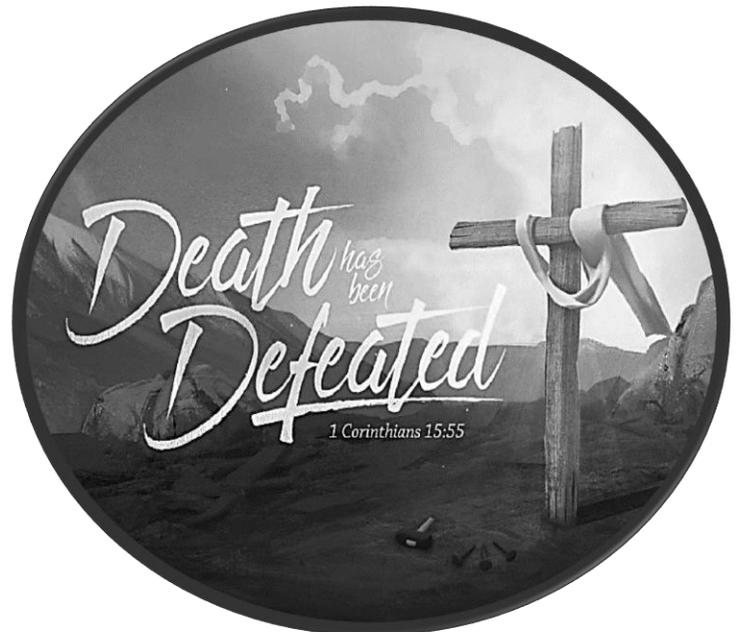
Men's Breakfast: The men's breakfast will be on April 14th at 8:00 AM. Jay Welborn is cooking.

Pocket Change for Progress: We take a special offering of the pocket change you have been saving every 3rd Sunday during church. The money is divided between Mission Lake Camp and the School Supply Giveaway Fund.

JAMs: Please sign up to provide snacks for JAMs at the table in the foyer. Don't forget to take prayer slips weekly to pray for the children's needs.

Copies of the sermons are available on cd by request:

If you would like a copy please see Mike. You can also listen to them online at www.valleyfallsc.org.



Serving in April

Apr	Nursery	Greeters	Communion prep	Scripture reader	Communion table
1	Debbie/ Alyena	Farr	Farr	Farr Acts 17:16-18	Jay, Stan, Clint , Chad
8	Glee/ Alison	Starkey	Starkey	Starkey Matthew 7: 7-11	Jay, Stan, Ray , Wayne F
15	Tiffany/ Ashley	Durand	Durand	Durand Matthew 7:12-14	Jay, Stan David , Curt
22	Cheyenne/ Caitlyn	Barrett	Barrett	Barrett Matthew 7: 15-23	Jay, Stan Clint , Kyle
29	Brittany/ Alyena	Spencer	Spencer	Spencer Matthew 7:24-29	Jay, Stan. Ray , Chad

April communion devotion and prayer: Wayne Arnold

Prayer Requests

Emma Dockweiler, Kelly Strang, Rachel Detring, Becky Arnold, Jim Starkey, Mission Lake Christian Camp-Dean's, volunteers, campers.

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

Church Offerings

Feb 18 - \$1,306

Feb 25 - \$1,553

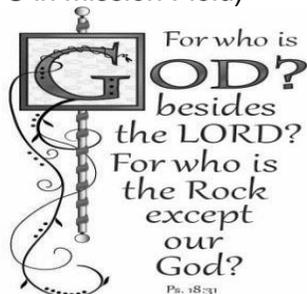
Mar 4 - \$1,389

Our expenses average \$1500 a week.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 4 Betty Smith
- 9 KatyRae Branam
- 10 Jordan Welborn
- 11 Debbie Gerstner
- 19 Martha Gilleece
- 22 Erin Thomas
Gary Meyer
- 29 Stan Farr

(Names in CAPS in Mission Field)



LOOKING AHEAD:

Mission Lake Christian Camp News/Needs:

Mike will Dean Jr. Camp, 3rd-5th grade, June 17-21

Volunteers needed during this week:

Worship Leader

Dorm Parents/Family leaders

Teachers

Volunteers may include, spiritually mature teens at Mike's discretion.

Summer Camp needs:

Maintenance staff for weeks of

June 3rd-8th

June 10th-15th

July 7th-13th

Can't stay all week? Volunteer for part of the week, will work with your availability.

Registration Volunteer, Sunday afternoons through camp season to get the campers registered and ready to go!

Camp Spit and polish day: Saturday, June 2nd.
Many volunteers welcome AND needed.



Valley Falls Christian Church

511 Oak Street
Valley Falls, KS 66088

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. 3:30-5:00

Bible Study: Wednesday 7:00 PM

Sunday	Monday	Wednesday	Thursday	Saturday
EASTER 1	2	4	5	7
8:00 Sunrise Service and breakfast No Youth Group		3:30 PM – JAMs 5:30 - Zumba 6:15 PM – Worship prac. 7 PM – Bible Study	1 PM - Elders	
8	9	11	12	14
2 PM – Midland 5 PM – Youth Group 5:30 - Zumba	6 PM – Sunflower Crafters	3:30 PM – JAMs 5:30 - Zumba 6:15 PM – Worship prac. 7 PM – Bible Study		8 AM – Men’s Breakfast
15	16	18	19	21
5 PM – Youth Group 5:30 – Zumba 10 AM – Pocket change for progress	6 PM – Sunflower Crafters	3:30 PM – JAMs 5:30 - Zumba 6:15 PM – Worship prac. 7 PM – Bible Study	1 PM - Elders	
22	23	25	26	28
5 PM – Youth Group 5:30 - Zumba	6 PM – Sunflower Crafters	3:30 PM – JAMs 5:30 - Zumba 6:15 PM – Worship prac. 7 PM – Bible Study		
29	30			
5 PM – Youth Group 5:30 - Zumba	6 PM – Sunflower Crafters			