

# The Vine

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

A publication of Valley Falls Christian Church

May 2023

There is hardly anything more divisive than politics. The hatred of one side for the other and vice versa seems more intense than it has ever been in my lifetime.

Stereotypes abound! Many red states think blue states are godless heathens. Blue states believe the red states are heartless fascists. Whoever has control wants to try to ram their agenda down the throats of the rest of the nation. Most people also believe if the controlling side is 'my side' that it's a good thing. If the controlling side is the 'other side' it is the end of America as we know it.

A go-to Bible verse for government is Romans 13:1. "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." God's purpose is for governments to act justly and wisely. When governments overstep their bounds, they are outside of God's will.

Another verse we may be familiar with is 1 Timothy 2:1-2. "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."

We should all pray for our leaders. I got the opportunity to do this in a very public way recently. I was asked by state representative Ron Ellis to be guest chaplain for the Kansas House of Representatives on April 3. It was an honor and a privilege to be able to begin the legislative body's session with prayer. Here is the prayer I lifted up to God that morning.

*Our Father and Creator,*

*As we approach a season of renewal and rebirth, we are reminded even by*

*the changing of seasons and the greening in nature of your grace, your goodness and wisdom. We are thankful for your loving involvement in the affairs of men and women and ask for your guidance in this chamber today.*

*In a world that is often chaotic, we pray for order and peacefulness.*

*In a world that is often dangerous, we pray for the safety and protection of all who are on these grounds today.*

*In a world that is often contentious and divisive, we pray for a spirit of unity and the ability to work together. Though there may be disagreement and even division, we pray that these issues would be handled in good faith and with grace toward one another.*

*Lord, we ask for your wisdom that comes from above and is pure, peaceable, open to reason, impartial and sincere.*

*We pray for the humility to see your purpose in and the privilege of serving the people of this state. Give us a heart to put others before ourselves.*

*Let us be steadfast in what is true and good. May we hear your voice above all the other voices trying to get our attention.*

*God, we pray your blessing upon this body and the state of Kansas.*

*In your loving and powerful name, Amen.*

Perhaps one more Bible verse should be included since there is so much acrimony in the congressional halls. Matthew 5:44 But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

We all should pray that leaders come to a saving faith and that their faith in Christ governs their agenda, no matter which side they are on!

*Mike*

KU Campus Christians will be at church on **May 7**. Middle school through adult classes will meet in the sanctuary to hear a report on the ministry during Sunday school. Matt Myer will bring the message during the worship time. **We will have a carry-in dinner following church.**



We will briefly recognize graduates during worship on May 21st. If you or your child is graduating from 8th grade, high school, college or technical school, let Mike know ASAP.

**VBS work day**, Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup>. Please plan to help us get ready for a fun filled week!



WHAT: VBS

WHEN: MAY 29<sup>TH</sup>-JUNE 2<sup>ND</sup>  
6PM-8PM

WHO: AISHA MITCHELL, DIRECTOR  
WHERE: VFCC

NEEDED: YOU TO VOLUNTEER, PLAN  
NOW TO BE A PART OF A FUN FILLED VBS

**Church Garage Sale/Bake Sale**  
Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 8 AM to 6 PM  
Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 7AM-3 PM

Please have items marked with prices and initials. Okay to start bringing garage sale items to church anytime now. Call Cecelia to make sure someone is there to receive items. All items not sold will need to be picked up and returned to owner.

If you have a favorite baked good you would like to bring to sell, they can be brought in Thursday or Friday.

Contact Cecelia Ragan, 785-762-2195 with questions and to volunteer time to help.

**Men's Breakfast:** The men's breakfast will be Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 A.M. Steve Ragan is cooking.

**Pocket Change for Progress:** Please continue saving your pocket change for VFCC youth programs and School Supply Project. There is a bucket for your change anytime, not just the third Sunday.

**Past sermons are available online at [www.valleyfallscc.org](http://www.valleyfallscc.org).** If you cannot access them this way, you may ask Pastor Mike for a cd copy.

**On line sermon opportunity:** For those sheltering at home, church service will be available to live stream on YouTube (and Facebook). Also available on YouTube, previous services.

Don't forget to subscribe to Valley Falls Christian Church YouTube channel



### Sermon Series, Scripture

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|--------|--|
| May 07 | KUCC Sunday-Matt Myer preaches<br>Things that matter to God<br>Mark 7:5-13 |
| May 14 | <b>Mother's Day</b><br>Prove it!<br>Mark 8:11-21                           |
| May 21 | A Most Important Question<br>Mark 8:27-38                                  |
| May 28 | Glory Revealed<br>Mark 9:2-8   |

May	Greeters Communion Prep	Scripture	Devotion	Servers	Nursery
07	Durand	Durand Mark 7:5-13	Jay W	Jay/Stan/ <b>Brian</b> /Aaron	Debbie/Kinze
14	Boyce	R Mitchell Mark 8:11-21	Jay W	Jay/Stan/ <b>Ray</b> /Chad	Tiffany/Abby
21	Gatzemeyer	Gatzemeyer Mark 8:27-38	Jay W	Jay/Stan/ <b>Steve</b> /Jackson	Aisha/Rhonda
28	Welborn	Welborn Mark 9:2-8	Jay W	Jay/Steve/ <b>Clinton</b> /Kyle	Brittany/Dakota

**May communion devotion and prayer: Jay Welborn**

**Prayer Requests:** Becky Arnold, Christy Arnold, Emma Dockweiler, Josh, Beth and their baby who is trying to come too early, Mary Breitsprecher in rehab

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

**Church Offerings:**

Mar 26- \$ 1,452  
Apr 02- \$ 2,071  
Apr 09- \$ 1,508  
Apr 16- \$ 1,866

Give to VFCC online through our partnership with Gyve at:  
<https://gyve.io/give/valleyfallsc>



Scan the QR code to download the Gyve app.

**May Birthdays and Anniversaries**

- 4 Charles Moffet
- 5 Gina Kirby
- 8 Lauren Thomas
- 10 Dan Strang
- 19 Glee Hosler
- 24 Jodee Thayer  
Gary Smith
- 27 Wayne & Christy Arnold (1978)
- 28 Malia Boyce

Church Board Meeting: May 10<sup>th</sup> @ 8 PM.



**Campers:** This summer the church will pay half the camp fees for any student wishing to attend church camp. We are going to let parents/kids choose between Mission Lake Christian Camp or Flaming Spirit Camp. You can find those schedules on the church website. You can also go directly to the camps' websites, [missionlakeecc.com](http://missionlakeecc.com) or [flamingspirit.com](http://flamingspirit.com). Important note: Only for those wishing to attend Flaming Spirit, there are registration deadlines. You WILL NOT be able to drive up there and register on the day camp begins!

We will promote students who are ready to move up to the next class on the morning of June 4. Everyone will meet before Sunday school begins in the fellowship hall for the recognition.

Hey men, mark your calendars. Jarret Mitchell is hosting a men's fellowship, Saturday June 17<sup>th</sup>. More details coming soon.

# 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!

**You are welcome to join us!**

**Sunday Service times:**

Bible Study (all ages) – 9:00 AM    Worship – 10:00 AM    Youth Group (grades 7-12) 5:00 PM

**Wednesday:** Bible Study-7:00 PM

Sunday	Monday	Wednesday	Thursday/Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4/5</b>	<b>6</b>
	No Sunflower Crafters	7:00 PM Bible Study		
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11/12</b>	<b>13</b>
Matt Myer guest Preacher 11:30 AM Carry in Dinner  5 PM – Youth Group	1:30 PM Sunflower Crafters	7:00 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Board Mtg		
<b>Mother's Day 14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18/19</b>	<b>20</b>
No Youth Group	1:30 PM Sunflower Crafters	7:00 PM Bible Study	Friday 8 AM-6 PM Church Garage & Bake Sale	7 AM-3 PM Church Garage Sale & Bake Sale
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25/26</b>	<b>27</b>
5 PM – Youth Group	1:30 PM Sunflower Crafters	6:30 PM Disciple Makers 7:00 Bible Study		
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>31</b>		
5 PM Youth Group	VBS 6-8PM			