

The Vine

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

A publication of Valley Falls Christian Church

January 2025

There is a lot of folklore that proposes to tell us how hard the winter will be. One is, whatever date the first snow falls, there will be that many snows this winter. If I remember correctly, we had our first snow on November 30. I don't want 30 snows!

Maybe that yarn works for the Great Lakes area. I can understand that much snow in Buffalo. Hurley, Wisconsin, just off of Lake Superior, averages 155 inches of snow a year! Kansas is not equipped to handle that much. Thirty snows would just about guarantee snow cover for the next two and a half months.

There comes a time, at the end of every winter, when the crocuses begin poking out of the ground, even out of the snow if we have a late storm. Then we see daffodils, and the trees begin to green up. We know spring is around the corner.

On January first, though it is at the beginning of winter, I am already anxious for the new life of spring. New Year's Day is often when we want to do new things in our own lives as well.

We resolve to fix things in our own life. We want to lose weight, get healthy, fix relationships or move on from old ones.

Hopefully, you also want to grow closer to the Lord. In fact, that becomes a resolution of many people. They resolve to read the Bible through in a year, do daily devotions, or journal about their prayers or Bible study.

Unfortunately, like many other resolutions, they also have died long before the first tulip blooms in the spring.

We find resolutions in the scriptures. Job's resolution for purity looked like this: **Job 31:1** *"I have made a covenant with my eyes; how then could I gaze at a virgin?"* Daniel resolved not to defile himself with Nebuchadnezzar's royal food. Paul's resolution was a focus on Jesus. **1 Corinthians 2:2** *For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.*

Joshua challenged Israel to serve the Lord only. As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord! The people of Israel heartily signed on! Yet, if you read the book of Judges, you will see they broke that resolution very quickly.

This month's Bible readings lead us to think of newness. How God does new things for us and in us and in Christ we are new creations.

Hopefully, you can stick to your plans for 2025. I pray God does some new things in your life. As you grow closer to him, may he heal what's broken and allow you to see life with fresh spiritual eyes.

Mike

GOD DOES NEW THINGS NEWNESS

- Jan 1: Genesis 1-2
- Jan 2: Genesis 3
- Jan 3: Genesis 6; 9:1-17
- Jan 4: Genesis 15
- Jan 5: Exodus 24:1-18
- Jan 6: Hebrews 8:7-13
- Jan 7: Psalm 40:1-8
- Jan 8: Psalm 96; 98
- Jan 9: Isaiah 42:1-9; 43:14-21
- Jan 10: Isaiah 48:1-11
- Jan 11: Isaiah 65:17-25
- Jan 12: Jeremiah 31:16-34
- Jan 13: Lamentations 3:19-33
- Jan 14: Ezekiel 11:16-21
- Jan 15: Ezekiel 18:30-32
- Jan 16: Ezekiel 36:22-38
- Jan 17: Matthew 1:18-25
- Jan 18: Luke 1:26-38; 2:1-20
- Jan 19: John 1:1-18
- Jan 20: Mark 1:1-11
- Jan 21: John 3:1-21
- Jan 22: John 11:17-44
- Jan 23: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26
- Jan 24: Luke 24:1-12
- Jan 25: Acts 2
- Jan 26: Romans 6:1-14
- Jan 27: 2 Corinthians 5:11-21;
- Jan 28: Php 3:17-21; 1 Peter 1:3-9
- Jan 29: 2 Peter 3
- Jan 30: Revelation 21
- Jan 31: Revelation 22

Board Meeting is Sunday, Jan 5th immediately following church service.



Community Soup Supper and Service: The Unity Service and soup supper is Jan. 19th at VFCC. The soup supper is at 6:00 PM and the service is at 7:00 PM. The offering will go to the Community Christian Council and will mostly be used to help people with financial hardships in Valley Falls. We need a volunteer to head up the dinner and also volunteers to bring food. If you would like to help let Mike know.



Thank you! Mike and Gina would like to offer a heartfelt thanks for the generous gift this year. It is such a blessing to serve at VFCC!

Thanks from:

Mary Ann Reschke and Mary Jane Burns for Christmas boxes.
God's Storehouse for participating in the family adoption for Christmas.

Jr. - Sr. High Youth Group - We want to invite all students from 6th - 12th grades to join us Sunday evenings, 5-7 p.m. in the church basement.

New email address - to get items included in the newsletter: news@valleyfallsc.org
Or call Cecelia Ragan - (785)-762-2195.

Men's Breakfast: Saturday, Jan 11th, 8 a.m. Brian is cooking.

Pocket Change for Progress: Every 3rd Sunday, we take a special offering of the pocket change you have been saving. The money is divided between VFCC outreach and youth.

Online sermon opportunity: For those who need to watch at home, church service is live streamed on YouTube (and Facebook). Previous services are also available on YouTube. Subscribe to Valley Falls Christian Church YouTube Channel.

Past sermons are available online at www.valleyfallsc.org.



Sermons

Luke

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| Jan 5 | How do you raise the son of God?
Luke 2:46-52 |
| Jan 12 | Preparation
Luke 3:3-6 |
| Jan 19 | Sanctity of Human Life Sunday
Bloodline
2 Samuel 7:12-16 |
| Jan 26 | Temptation
Luke 4:1-13 |

Jan	Greeters	Scripture	Communion Devotion	Servers	Nursery
5	Barrett	Brian	Jay	Jay/Stan/ Steve /Jackson	Debbie/Malia
12	Gatzemeyer	Nancy	Jay	Jay/Stan/ Brian /Nick	Brittany/Dakota
19	Wistuba	Leane	Jay	Jay/Stan/ Ray /Aaron	Leane/Rowdy
26	J Mitchell	Aisha	Jay	Jay/Stan/ Clinton /Chad	Tiffany/Sawyer

Jan communion devotion and prayer: Jay

Camera Monitor	Jan 5	Jan 12	Jan 19	Jan 26	
Sunday School	Aaron	Charles	Tiffany	Kevin	
Worship	Nancy	Cecelia	Jarret	Ray	

Prayer Requests: Leah Brown, Mark Hanchar, Larry Thomas, Freda Roberson, Elaine Worner, Matt Cook, Nevaeh Rivera, Christy Arnold.

OUR SOLDIERS: Allison Thomas, Curtis Mitchell, Aaron Cook, Jacob Mitchell, Matthew Branam, Noe Garza, All of our troops and leaders. Our President, our nation and our government. (1 Tim 2:1-2) Decisions being made in our nation's leadership.

If you would like to be included on the text prayer chain, notify Donetta by text at 785-224-3497.

Church Offerings:

Nov 24 \$1193
 Dec 1 \$1673
 Dec 8 \$1690
 Dec 15 \$ 818
 Dec 22 \$2261



Gyve on line: Scan the QR code to download the Gyve app.

January Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 3 Kinze O'Neill
- 4 Emilee Mitchell
- 5 Liam Wistuba
Luke Wistuba
- 10 Matthew Branam
- 12 Leah Brown
- 13 Stephen Ragan
Jackson Reich
- 18 Shiloh Branam
- 19 Jarret Mitchell
- 24 Joel Nilges
- 27 Ashley GrandPre
- 30 Wayne Arnold
- 31 Linda Durand
Jr. O'Neill
Sheena Branam



**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) 5-7 PM

Wednesday: Bible Study - 7:00 PM

January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur/Fri	Sat
			1	2/3	4
5 5 p.m. Youth group	6 1:30 p.m. Crafters	7	8 7 p.m. Bible Study	9/10	11 8 a.m. Men's Breakfast
12 5 p.m. Youth group	13 1:30 p.m. Crafters	14	15 7 p.m. Bible Study	16/17	18
19	20 1:30 p.m. Crafters	21	22 7 p.m. Bible Study	23/24	25
26 5 p.m. Youth group	27 1:30 p.m. Crafters	28	29 7 p.m. Bible Study	30/31	