

The Vine

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

A publication of Valley Falls Christian Church

October 2024

IT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ELECTION IN OUR LIFETIME! DEMOCRACY IS AT STAKE! IF WE DON'T CHANGE COURSE NOW, WE WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO GO BACK!

We have heard these and so many other alarmist declarations in the last couple of months. We will continue to hear them until November 5 – or however long it takes to count the ballots.

How should a Christian make decisions concerning this and other elections? Jehovah's Witnesses (they are not Christian) do not vote and remain politically neutral because they claim that is what Jesus taught by his example and his teaching to be in the world but not of the world. They not only don't vote for candidates, they don't take policy positions nor run for office themselves.

There are Christians who have the same attitude. We shouldn't be involved at all. Our focus should be the Kingdom of God and preaching his gospel.

That contrasts with some of the words of our nation's founding fathers, who overwhelmingly believed in the Bible. They believed there was a definite correlation, or overlap, between living for God's kingdom and being a good citizen. It is a Christian duty to make this world as good as possible so his people can thrive.

John Jay, the first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, wrote, *"Providence has given to our people the choice of their rulers, and it is the duty as well as the privilege and interest of our Christian nation, to select and prefer Christians for their rulers."*

John Quincy Adams stated, *"In the chain of human events, the birthday of the nation is indissolubly linked with the birthday of the Savior. The Declaration of Independence laid the cornerstone of human government upon the first precepts of Christianity."*

What if there are no Christian options on a ballot? How do we decide if neither option is good? Do we sit out? Do we 'hold our noses' and choose the lesser of two evils?

On October 6, I will bring a message about Christian citizenship and how we might navigate some of these difficult decisions about whether to

vote and who to vote for. Also, for this month leading up to the election, I have provided some scripture selections for you to read and pray over that talk about choices, citizenship, discernment and government.

Mike

WISDOM TO CHOOSE

- Oct 1: Joshua 24:14-24
- Oct 2: Deuteronomy 30:11-20
- Oct 3: Ruth 1:15-18
- Oct 4: 1 Kings 3:3-14
- Oct 5: 1 Kings 18:20-40
- Oct 6: Psalm 5
- Oct 7: Psalm 16:5-11
- Oct 8: Psalm 20
- Oct 9: Psalm 33:8-18
- Oct 10: Proverbs 14:25-35
- Oct 11: Proverbs 16:1-25
- Oct 12: Proverbs 21:1-8
- Oct 13: Proverbs 29:1-8
- Oct 14: Isaiah 5:18-23
- Oct 15: Jeremiah 29:1-14
- Oct 16: Daniel 2:19-23
- Oct 17: Matthew 5:13-16
- Oct 18: Matthew 22:15-22
- Oct 19: Matthew 27:15-23
- Oct 20: Mark 11:15-19
- Oct 21: Acts 4:1-22
- Oct 22: Acts 4:23-31
- Oct 23: Acts 5:17-42
- Oct 24: Romans 13:1-7
- Oct 25: 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1
- Oct 26: Philippians 1:8-11
- Oct 27: Philippians 4:4-9
- Oct 28: 1 Timothy 2:1-6
- Oct 29: 1 Peter 2:1-24
- Oct 30: Revelation 21
- Oct 31: Philippians 3:12-21

KU CAMPUS CHRISTIANS MEAL - We will provide the meal for KU Campus Christians on Monday, Nov. 4th. We are planning to provide pasta dishes with trimmings and desserts. We are expecting 65-75 hungry students so we need your help and your food dishes. Talk to Cecelia for more details as to how you can be a part of this ministry. A sign-up sheet will be in the foyer.

SAMARITANS PURSE OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD - We hope you have donated or are gathering items for the boxes. It's been a month already; how time flies. This next month will fly just as fast and we need a lot more items to hopefully fill 20 boxes! October suggestions are:

- Oct 6 - T-shirts (2-14 years), flip flops, hair ties, barrettes.
- Oct 13 - socks and underwear (boys and girls), index cards.
- Oct 20 - crayons, coloring book, washable markers, scissors, ruler.
- Oct 27 - glue stick, tape, small flashlights, Stickers.

Remember - We will accept monetary donations. We will fill the boxes early November.

BAPTISMS - Let's give a warm welcome to Nate Gerety into the Family of God!

FALL FELLOWSHIP & HAY RACK RIDE is Sunday Oct 6th. Meet at the Reich's at 4 p.m. Hot dogs and buns provided. Please bring a side dish and/or dessert, lawn chair and a roasting stick if you have one. Come enjoy the time of fellowship.

OCTOBER IS PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH - Be sure to let Mike know how much we appreciate him and Gina.

CHRISTMAS SHOE BOXES for our shut-ins. We need shoe boxes to fill with food goodies and give to the elderly during the Christmas holiday. Bring them and place them in the foyer anytime. We plan to fill 30 boxes.

LADIES' CHRISTMAS PARTY is coming up in December. Please let Donetta or Cecelia know if you would like to host this year.

Men's Breakfast: Saturday, Oct 12th, 8 a.m. Tim is cooking.

Pocket Change for Progress: We take a special offering every 3rd Sunday 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

God's Last Message (until Jesus)

- | | |
|--------|--|
| Oct 6 | The Christian Citizen
Acts 16:35-39 |
| Oct 13 | God's Witness
Malachi 2:13-16 |
| Oct 20 | Jonathon Mitchell speaking |
| Oct 27 | God's Justice
Malachi 2:17-3:6 |

Communion Prep - Jay and Carol will now handle the communion prep each Sunday going forward. The designated Greeters will continue with the scripture reading.

Newsletter Items should be emailed to: news@valleyfallsc.org or Call Cecelia Ragan at (785)762-2195

Oct	Greeters	Scripture	Communion Devotion	Servers	Nursery
6	Barret	Brian	Jarret	Jay/Stan/ Steve /Jackson	Debbie/Malia
13	Spencer	Tiffany	Jarret	Jay/Stan/ Brian /Nick	Connie/Dakota
20	R Mitchell	Rhonda	Jarret	Jay/Stan/ Ray /Chad	Tiffany/Malia
27	Farr	Donetta	Jarret	Jay/Stan/ Clinton /Kyle	Aisha/Rhonda

Oct communion devotion and prayer: Jarret

Camera Monitor	Oct 6	Oct 13	Oct 20	Oct 27	
Sunday School	Jarret	Kevin	Donetta	Stephen	
Worship	Tiffany	Lori	Brian	Nancy	

Prayer Requests: Leah Brown, 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:

Aug 18 \$1082
 Aug 25 \$1648
 Sept 1 \$1436
 Sept 8 \$1566
 Sept 15 \$1030
 Sept 22 \$1927



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

October Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 3 Kevin & Nancy Gatzemeyer (1970)
- 5 Levi and Tannah Baker
- 12 Jocelin Thomas
- 13 Kyle & Laura Reich (2001)
- 16 Emma Branam
- 20 Jay Welborn
- 21 Lori Barrett
- 27 Courtney Nilges
Clayton Mitchell

Jr. - Sr. High Youth Group - School has started. We want to invite all students from 6th - 12th grades to join us Sunday evenings, 5-7p.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.



**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

October

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur/Fri	Sat
		1	2 7 p.m. Bible Study	3/4	5
6 4 p.m. Youth group and Fall Hay Rack ride at the Reich's	7 Crafters	8	9 No Bible Study	10/11	12 8a.m. Men's Break- fast
13 5 p.m. Youth group	14 Crafters	15	16 No Bible Study	17/18	19
20 5 p.m. Youth group	21 Crafters	22	23 7 p.m. Bible Study	24/25	26
27 5 p.m. Youth group	28 Crafters	29	30 7 p.m. Bible Study	31	