

The Vine

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

A publication of Valley Falls Christian Church

February 2016

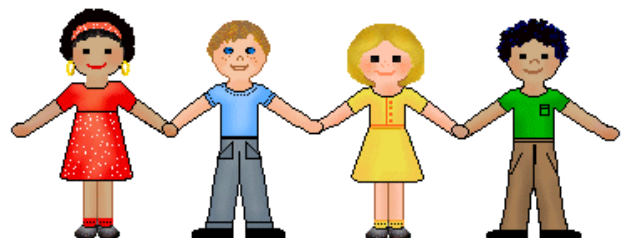
CHURCH ACTIVITY FOLDERS

These folders each contain information on the particular activity that the church participates in each year. They can be added to or subtracted from as far as what activities we do. Some we've done in the past include live nativity, float in 4 H parade, coat and hat drive, etc. Some of these could be done again if someone would like to be in charge. Sometimes our goals change and we find certain activities are not necessary.

The folders are in the foyer on the table. We need someone to chair each activity but then we also need several people available to help. Please take a look at them and see if there is a perfect activity for you to either chair or at least help with. See a board member for any questions you may have. Activities include: Mother's Day, Father's Day, Graduate Banquet, Thanksgiving Dinner (taken), Christmas Church Celebration, Vacation Bible School, Food Boxes (taken), and a few others. Please be in prayer for God's direction for you. We need someone who is really interested in being active in the activity they choose. Folders that don't get picked up, may get put away with the others mentioned above. If you think the activity is a good outreach for our church, please consider leading it. Some activity folders, like VBS or the Christmas Program, will require more time than others and now is the time to get going on both of these. Please help. These activities can not be accomplished without you.

FUNDRAISING FOR ALPHA CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

From Feb. 1st to March 1, 2016 several youth groups across Jefferson County will collect canned goods for Alpha Christian Children's Home in Perry, KS. It was established in 1972 to care for children in need and to teach them the love of Christ. For more information about the Home you can read the paper on the board. Here's a wish list: canned corn, green beans, peas, chili and other beans. Campbell soups, also UPC labels from Campbells, General Mills, and Best Choice. Here's more of a list of wants: Canned corn, green beans, peas, chili and other beans as well as Campbell soups, Velveeta, breakfast cereals, easy mac packs, ramen noodles, snack crackers, pudding cups, fruit juices, pancake mix, stuffing mix, canned chicken gravy, nacho cheese dip, cream of chicken soup, cream of mushroom soup, OTB salsa, taco kits, spaghetti sauce, salt and pepper, onion powder, parmesan cheese, Splenda, coffee, disposable cups and plates, HE free and clear laundry detergent (no Tide due to allergy to it) HE Gain laundry detergent, dryer sheets, Clorox wipes, water softener salt. On Saturday March 7th the youth groups will meet at Alpha to present the gifts.



(Pre) Spring Cleaning

Isaiah 26:3 *You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.*

Anyone who has been in my office knows that at times it doesn't look like a typical office. My filing system often looks more like a piling system. I can usually find which stack things are in, but perhaps not quite as quickly as I would like.

Books that won't fit on the bookshelf get stacked on top of the shelf. Papers that I am not quite ready to discard (but probably won't look at in the next year) get put in one stack or another, with the invisible label, "Look through this later."

When Gina walks into my office and the desk is clean, she knows I have a meeting!

Plus, there was the big shelf with all the balls. Nerf balls, basketballs, tennis balls, beach balls, ping pong balls, wiffle balls and a kick ball. Not to mention the water guns, pool noodles, home plate, a wiffle ball bat, orange cones and hula hoops. It looked more like an elementary PE teacher's office than a pastor's!

The building addition freed up space in the basement storage area, so I moved the shelf, and all of its contents, downstairs, making my office look more 'office like.' Once I did that, I began to sort through a few of the piles. I found old resources that were so outdated they were unusable and hadn't been used in years. I began to...(gasp) throw things away.

Now I know it isn't spring yet. Frankly, even in the spring, I don't get the bug to clean. Right now, however, I'm on a roll and hope to (slowly – be patient) continue to get rid of the clutter in my office.

This made me think of the clutter we carry around with us every day. It is a good idea to periodically evaluate the spiritual clutter we have and take measures to get rid of it.

Whether it is sin, trials, negative emotions or bad relationships that clutter our hearts and minds, those things will block us from having the joy, peace, and contentment we find in our relationship with Christ.

Here are some areas of clutter you might have:

The clutter: Fear.

The cleaner: Trust. Joshua 1:9 *Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."*

The clutter: Anxiety.

The cleaner: Trust. Philippians 4:6-7 *Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

The clutter: Bitterness.

The cleaner: Forgiveness. Ephesians 4:31-32 *Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.*

The clutter: Anger.

The cleaner: Self-control. Titus 2:11-12 *For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹² training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age.*

The clutter: Pride.

The cleaner: Humility. James 4:10 *Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.*

The clutter: Apathy.

The cleaner: Love for God. Revelation 2:4-5 *But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first.*

(continued on back page)

RECIPE SWAP

COBB DIP

- 8 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 1 c. sour cream
- 1 pkg. hidden valley ranch dip mix
- 1 c. chopped lettuce
- 1 tomato, chopped
- ½ c. shredded cheddar cheese
- ½ c. grilled corn
- ¼ c. bacon, cooked and crumbled
- ¼ c. blue cheese crumbles

Combine cream cheese, sour cream and dip mix and mix until smooth. Spread into the bottom of a 9 inch pie plate or similarly sized pan. Top with lettuce, tomatoes, cheddar cheese, corn, bacon and blue cheese crumbles. Eat with your favorite tortilla chips, crackers or pretzel flats.

PRAYER REQUESTS

OUR SOLDIERS: Curtis Mitchell, Brandon Miller, Nic Byrd, Luke Cummings, Greg Morales, Ryan Kirby, Zach Stiffler, Josh Lackey, Dan Cook, Rick Heuertz, Steve Heinen, Ammin Spencer, Gates Kobuszewski, Leslie Bolz, Austin Everhart, Noe Garza, Brandon Hammons, Ruth Churchill, Jason Cherry, Aaron Cook, Jacob Mitchell, Matthew Branam

Gary Baker- Karie Turner's uncle
Carolyn Colgrove-Matthew's grandmother, hip surgery
Sheri Welborn- health issues

School Supply Outreach Leader Needed

The school supply outreach helps hundreds of children from Jefferson and the surrounding counties each year get ready for school. After many years leading this venture, Ronda and Dennis Turner are stepping back to allow someone else to direct.

The groundwork has already been laid; the church needs someone to step in and continue the work that has already been done. If you feel called to service, this might be YOUR area!

If you are willing with the Lord's help to guide this outreach ministry, please let Mike, one of the elders (Stan Farr or Jay Welborn) or Ronda Turner know. Ronda is more than happy to help you get started and show you what is involved. We ask that the entire church pray about this as this ministry helps so many children.

A big thanks goes out to the Turners for their work and dedication in serving the Lord in this venture. All the glory belongs to God!

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.valleyfallsc.org.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 2 JODI WATKINS
- 6 Dennis Tichenor
- 7 Natalie Barrett
- 8 Aisha (Dively) Mitchell
- 12 Jay & Carol Welborn (1965)
Cheyenne Huber
- 13 David Grove
- 15 Kari (Haybarker) Mitchell
Clinton Thomas
- 18 Sarah Hollis
- 19 Steve & Georganna Carson (1965)
- 20 Nancy Gatzemeyer
- 22 Dakota Boyce
- 26 Evie Gatzemeyer
- 28 Beverly Cress

(Names in CAPS in Mission Field)

Serving in FEBRUARY

Congregational Prayer:

Clint Thomas

Scripture Readers:

7-Carol Welborn-Matt. 12:9-14

14-Donetta Farr-Matt. 22:34-40

21-Carolyn Starkey-Matt. 13:36-43

28-Shelley Gatzemeyer-Mark 9:2-8

Nursery:

7-Debbie Gerstner/Caitlyn

14-Laura Reich/Jackson

21-Sarah Hollis/Libby

28-Nancy Gatzemeyer

Greeters/Ushers:

7- Welborn

14-Farr

21-Starkey

28-Durand

Lord's Supper Preparation:

7-Welborn

14-Farr

21-Starkey

28-Durand

Communion Table:

7-Stan, Jay

Wayne Arnold, Curt Gatzemeyer

14- Jay, Stan

David Grove, Matt Branam

21- Stan, Jay

Ray Mitchell, David Grove

28- Jay, Stan

Wayne Arnold, Brian Barrett

Musicians

Worship Leader: Erin Thomas

Organ: Leah Brown

Piano: Donetta Farr

Guitar: Mike Kirby, Clint Thomas

Mandolin: Erin Thomas

Church Offerings

Dec. 27-\$

Jan. 3-\$1745.00

Jan. 10-\$2493.00

Jan. 17-\$834.00

Jan. 24-\$1252.97

Our expenses average \$1500 a week.

MEN'S BREAKFAST: The men's breakfast will be on Feb. 13th at 8:00 AM. Jay Welborn is cooking.








QUARTERLY CARRY IN DINNER: We will be having our quarterly church carry in dinner on Sunday Feb. 28th. Bring a dish or two and enjoy the fellowship.

BIG FOOTBALL BASH: On Sunday Feb. 7th there will be a get together at Farris to watch a certain big game. We're not supposed to name it because they have a patent so I've been told. Anyway the party starts at 4:00. Bring a snack and a game if you don't want to watch the game. The whole church is invited.

COLLECTING FOR ALPHA: Alpha Christian Children's Home can use Campbell soup UPC labels and lids, Best Choice UPC labels and General Mills Box Top Symbols coupons (Box Tops for Education.) We will have a box in the hallway outside the nursery under the mailboxes.

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

BABY SHOWER: There will be an all church baby shower for Jarret and Aisha Mitchell on Saturday Feb. 6 at 5:00 PM. They are expecting a girl. This will be a potluck with all the church invited, yes men too. Please bring a dish or two. Since we are hosting, the guests are not expected to bring food so please bring an extra dish. Thank you.

2016		FEBRUARY				2016	
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
1 	1	2	3 6:15 Worship Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Elders	4	5	6	
7  2:00 PM Service at Midland Big Game Party at Farris 4:00 PM	8	9	10 6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study	11	12	13 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast	
14  5:00 PM Youth Group	15	16	17 6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Elders	18	19	20	
21 10:00 AM Pocket Change for Progress 5:00 PM Youth Group	22	23	24 6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study	25	26	27	
28  Quarterly Carry In Dinner 5:00 PM Youth Group	29						

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On the web: www.valleyfallsc.org
Find us on Facebook!

Mike Kirby, Pastor

You are welcome to join us!

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Sunday Service times:

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

Midweek Bible Study:

Wednesday 7:00 PM

(Cleaning - continued from page 2)

The clutter: Impure thoughts and motives.
The cleaner: God's word. *Psalm 119:11* *I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you. **Hebrews 4:12*** *For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.*

It is never too early to begin spring cleaning in our hearts. Let's knock the dust and cobwebs out and let it sparkle with the love of Christ!

Mike

(All scriptures are from the ESV Bible unless otherwise noted.)