

# The Vine

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

A publication of Valley Falls Christian Church

June 2016

## CHINA EGGS

When I was in sales we were warned against counting on prospects that really were not prospects at all. They looked like a prospect, talked like a prospect and acted like a prospect. But in reality they had no intentions of purchasing our product. We called them "China eggs".

A China egg looks just like a real egg, all nice and shiny, but it will never hatch because it is made out of porcelain. God spoke of this same idea through Jeremiah in Jer. 17:11. "As a partridge that broods (lit. sits on eggs) but does not hatch, so is he who gets riches, but not by right; It will leave him in the midst of his days, and at his end he will be a fool."

Don't we sometimes put our hope in the wrong place or in the wrong person? It may be that we fail to "move on" to the next lost soul in sharing the gospel. The scriptures point us to times when our efforts would be better spent somewhere else. When the Jews in Corinth opposed Paul's teaching about Jesus being the Christ "he shook his garments and said to them, "Your blood be upon your own heads; I am clean. From now on I go to the Gentiles." (Acts 18:6) Sadly, there are some who look like brethren but prove themselves to be those we should avoid. "Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them." (Rom. 16:17)

Going back to our verse from Jeremiah, sometimes we put our trust in the wrong place. We think we have something but in reality, it will never "hatch". The person who "gets ahead" at any price will find that he has put his treasure in the wrong place. At the end of his life he will find that his "eggs" never hatched. "But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God" (Lk 12:20-21).

Perhaps the real lesson for us is this: "For we walk by faith and not by sight." (1 Thes. 5:17) Our greatest hope is that which we cannot even see with the naked eye. "...but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees?" (Rom. 8:24) But when we only trust in what we can see or if we put our efforts in that which will never produce anything, then we are sitting on China eggs which will never hatch!

## The First Reality Show?

I have an idea for a new reality TV show. Take a family of say eight or ten people. Put them all in one large boat for a year. Everything they need to survive is on the boat. For a year, they can't dock anywhere. They have no radio communication with the outside world. There are no rescue teams to save them from imminent danger when a major storm blows in.

Then just let the cameras roll.

We could call it Survivor: Pacific Ocean.

Would it be a ratings sensation or a flop?

Oh, wait! It has already been done. Around 6000 years ago or so. You can read about it in Genesis 6-9.

OK, there were no cameras. And the audience didn't seem to care about crazy old Noah building this giant monstrosity of a boat. (I wonder what the Home Owners Association thought of that?)

They didn't care, that is, until it started to rain...and rain...and rain...and it wouldn't stop. They didn't care until the ground broke open and the great fountains of the deep burst forth to cover the earth with water. They didn't care until they had gone to the highest land point they could find and the water continued to rise.

By then, it was too late. Soon, there was only an audience of one. Or should I say, One. God. All that was left were the contestants. Noah, his wife, his three sons and their wives were the only ones on the boat, but God had His eye on them the whole time.

I love the account of Noah for many reasons. I believe the great flood is a much better explanation for what we see in the world today than millions and billions of years are. The Grand Canyon, the fossil record, and our weather patterns can all be understood from a biblical perspective through the account of Noah.

From the time they entered the ark and God shut them in until they stepped out on land again was 370 days. Over one year.

With the same people.

In a boat.

With stinky animals.

Noah and his family made it through that with Noah leading as the patriarch and depending on the Lord.

I love Noah because he was very close to God. **Genesis 6:9** *These are the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation. Noah walked with God.* Noah also had a preacher's heart. God called Noah a preacher of righteousness. **2 Peter 2:5 (NIV)** *[God] did not spare the ancient world when he brought the flood on its ungodly people, but protected Noah, a preacher of righteousness, and seven others.*

It likely took 100 years or more to build an ark that was a football field and a half long out of hand cut and hand hewn wood. It had three levels and was 75 feet wide. Imagine as Noah was working on this creation ordained by God that people would stop by and ask, "Hey, Noah, what are you doing?" Noah would be able to respond about the wickedness of the world, the love and patience of God and the destruction and judgment to come. It probably didn't take long for Noah to become a laughingstock, yet he was faithful to God and continued to be a herald of righteousness. 100 years with zero converts. Many people would call that a failure.

Oh, that we could fail like Noah. That we could live righteous lives. That we would radically obey our Lord and Savior without worrying what the world thought of us. That we were able to wait patiently on the Lord as he delivered us through our storms and floods.

God gave us the rainbow as a sign for His covenant with us that he would never destroy the earth by water. Nevertheless, we still need some Noahs today.

We need people to preach righteousness because this world *'is corrupt in God's sight, and the earth [is] filled with violence (Genesis 6:11).'*

*(continued on back page)*

## Recipe Swap

### CORN DIP

3 cans Mexi- Corn, drained  
1 can Rotel, drained but save the juice in case needed if too thick  
1 cup mayonnaise  
1 cup sour cream  
1 ½ cup shredded cheddar cheese  
Onion, amount to taste  
Salt, pepper, garlic powder to taste  
Chili powder to taste.

Mix all together and add more seasonings and onion to taste. Add rotel liquid if needed to thin a little. Serve with tortilla chips.

Gina Kirby

### 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

Torey- Pat and Dave's granddaughter in OK  
Kyan- Pat and Dave's grandson  
Pat and Dave- guidance and wisdom as they have responsibility for Kyan  
Summer campers at Mission Lake Christian Camp  
Vacation Bible School

**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.valleyfallscc.org](http://www.valleyfallscc.org).

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

### JUNE BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARY'S

- 2 TABITA MCAFEE
- 5 Anna (Kirby) Helt  
Donna Slavens
- 6 Carol Welborn  
Brian & Lori Barrett (1992)  
Codi Haybarker
- 10 Amy (Hosler) Gilchrist
- 11 Sheldon McGuire  
Grant Haag
- 12 Christina (Hosler) Weber
- 17 Janet Strang
- 23 MATTHEW SHEAD  
Mackenzie Handke
- 24 Zevah Sears
- 25 Curtis Mitchell  
Bob Beightel
- 27 CHARLES & JODI WATKINS (1992)
- 28 Jay and Sheila Farr (2004)
- 29 Stan & Donetta Farr (1974)

(Names in CAPS in Mission Field)

**VBS:** Ocean Commotion starts June 6 and goes through the 10<sup>th</sup>. We will be decorating the church Sunday the 5<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM. Please come and help, there's always room for more help. Keep all the workers and children in prayer. The craft supply list in the foyer still has some open spots if you can help furnish something. Please wear your church shirt if you can, if you don't have one we have some extra.

## Serving in JUNE

### Congregational Prayer:

Clint Thomas

### Scripture Readers:

5-Erin Thomas- 1 Tim. 2:1-15

12- Joan Phillips-

19-Nancy Gatzemeyer- 1 Cor. 16:13-14

26- Helen Grove- 1 Tim. 3:1-13

### Nursery:

5-Debbie Gerstner/Libby

12-Laura Reich/Jackson

19-Glee Hosler/Caitlyn

26-Nancy Gatzemeyer/Nik

### Greeters/Ushers:

5- Thomas

12-Phillips

19-K & N Gatzemeyer

26-Groves

### Lord's Supper Preparation:

5-Thomas

12- Phillips

19- K&N Gatzemeyer

26- Groves

### Communion Table:

5-Stan, Jay

**Clint Thomas**, Curt Gatzemeyer

12- Jay, Stan

**Ray Mitchell**, Matt Branam

19- Stan, Jay

**Wayne Arnold**, David Grove

26- Jay, Stan

**David Grove**, Curt Gatzemeyer

### Musicians

Worship Leader: David Grove

Organ: Leah Brown

Piano: Donetta Farr

Guitar: Mike Kirby, Clint Thomas

Mandolin: Erin Thomas

## Church Offerings

April 24-\$1293.00

May 1-\$1671.00

May 8-\$1833.00

May 15-\$2596.00

May 22-\$1342.00

Our expenses average \$1500 a week.

### Valley Falls Christian Church has a website!!

[www.valleyfallsc.org](http://www.valleyfallsc.org)

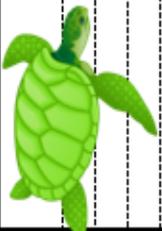
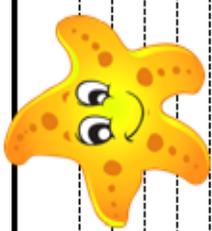
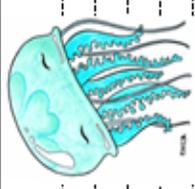
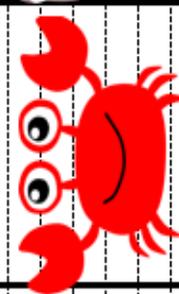
**MEN'S BREAKFAST:** The men's breakfast will be on June 11th. Jay Welborn will be cooking.

### OUTREACH- H.O.P.E. : 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL "SUPPLYING OUR FUTURE IN THE PRESENT"-

With school just ending it is hard to start thinking about purchasing new supplies for the next school year, BUT now is the time! Please place supplies in the blue container in the foyer. If you would like to make a monetary donation instead there will be a container available. These are just a few of the items that students will need: Red, Blue and Black ink pens, colored pencils, highlighters, 3x5 index cards, big pink erasers, loose leaf notebook, zipper pencil bag, glue and glue sticks, 3 ring binders, big boxes of Kleenex, paper- either wide or college ruled, pocket folders, wide notebook, college notebook, book bags, pencil boxes, pencils, color markers, paints. Mark Saturday, July 30, 2016, 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM on your calendars for this outreach ministry. We will be meeting to set up on Friday night July 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 PM at the Church Building. Please consider volunteering, even if you can only help for the few hours. There is lots of work to do before the door is opened. It is so rewarding to see the smiles on the children's faces and how appreciative the parents are for the help. Please show God's love to others just as He has showed His love to us in so many ways. If you can help please let Christy or Wayne Arnold know. "LET US NOT BECOME WEARY IN DOING GOOD, FOR AT THE PROPER TIME WE WILL REAP A HARVEST IF WE DO NOT GIVE UP."

NIV GALATIANS 6:9

**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.

2016		JUNE			2016	
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>HAPPY FATHER'S DAY</b> 			<b>1</b> 6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Elders	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>  2:00 PM Service at Midland 3:00 PM Decorating for VBS Sr. High Camp	<b>6</b>  7-9 PM VBS	<b>7</b>  7-9 PM VBS	<b>8</b>  7-9 PM VBS	<b>9</b>  7-9 PM VBS	<b>10</b>  7-9 PM VBS	<b>11</b> Men's Breakfast 8:00  Mowing at Camp
<b>12</b> Jr. High Camp	<b>13</b> 	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Elders	<b>16</b>  Cooking at Camp	<b>17</b> 	<b>18</b> Day Camp
<b>19</b> <b>I ♥ Dad</b> Jr. Camp	<b>20</b> 	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 5:00 PM Youth Group	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study	<b>30</b> 		

*Valley Falls*  
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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 – 5:00 PM

**Midweek Bible Study:**

Wednesday 7:00 PM

**About Mission Lake Christian Camp**

Mission Lake Christian Camp serves approximately 250 campers from 1st through 12th Grade each year through camps and held in the summer and retreats during the fall and winter. [www.missionlakeecc.com](http://www.missionlakeecc.com)

**COOKING AT CAMP:** It will be our turn to cook at camp on Thursday, June 16<sup>th</sup> and July 11<sup>th</sup>. We also need to furnish desserts for 2 meals. If you can help let Mike know.

**MOWING AT CAMP:** It will be our turn to mow at camp on June 11<sup>th</sup>.

**CAMP DATES:**

June 5-10: Sr. High Camp- grades 9-12  
June 12-17: Jr. High Camp- grades 6-8  
June 18: Day Camp- grades 1-2  
June 19-23: Junior Camp- grades 3-5  
July 9-10: Princess Camp (grades 7-12)  
July 10-15: Deeper Life Camp- grades 7-12

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

*(continued from page 2)*

We need men to lead their families and patiently wait on God.

We need believers who are radically committed to obeying the holy word of God!

Lord, send us some Noahs. Lord, let us be like Noah.

*Mike*

*On June 6, VFCC begins Ocean Commotion, our VBS program for this summer. It is a week long look into Noah and the Great Flood. Please pray that the gospel will reach the hearts of many young people this week. I would recommend each of us read and reread Genesis 6-9 and pray over these bible verses as we prepare ourselves to minister to others during VBS.*