

# The Vine

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

A publication of Valley Falls Christian Church

October 2017

## SUNFLOWER & MEADOWLARK CRAFTERS

Craft class continues to meet on Mondays from 6-8 pm in the fellowship hall. We invite anyone to come anytime, even if it's every other Monday or even just once a month. There is always something anyone can help us with even if you are not crafty. We learned to crochet and made a dish cloth. We learned to knit and made baby hats. Then we made small pillows and tied blankets. Now we are working on anti-ouch-pouch pillows for women who have had mastectomies and pillow cases for kids who have nothing to call their own. All these items are being donated to pregnancy crisis, nursing/assisted living homes, or neonatal units. We have almost exhausted our supplies, so would really like donations of flannel, fleece, material or even yarn so we can keep making and donating! And please join us anytime, we can always use more help. If you can't see, knit or crochet then you can stuff pillows or tie blankets. Thank you.

## FAMILY FUN FELLOWSHIP

Saturday, October 14 at 4:00 pm. We will be having our hayrack ride and cookout. Come join the fun and fellowship at Kyle and Laura Reich's home. 13849 Edwards Rd. Valley Falls.

Bring a side dish, lawn chairs, fishing poles and any outdoor games!

Table service, drinks, hotdogs and buns will be provided



## Where Families Grow

I enjoy when I am able to bring a children's message during our worship service. I love it when I see many young people with an eagerness to come up front and listen to what this old guy has to say. Some of their responses to my questions are hilarious, and I am sure some parents wait in fearful anticipation of what their children might say.

There was recently a particularly memorable message for the kids where a very young child kept saying something, but I couldn't quite understand what it was. OK, I didn't even come close to understanding, but the child just kept on saying it. Other kids began to giggle, adults joined in and pretty soon laughter filled the sanctuary.

I'm not sure the kids got the message that week, but I believe there was another message sent. We love kids. We want kids – the more the merrier!

I love it when kids worship with their families. I know many times, moms and dads get distraught because their toddlers are being noisy, their preschoolers can't sit still, their pre-teens don't pay attention and their teens are asleep! Parents, this probably bothers you more than anyone else! I don't mind the sounds of children during church. [By the way, if the sounds DO bother you or make it so it is hard for you to hear, please, I invite you to sit in the first few rows so you are closer to the speakers!]

Worshiping together allows families to grow together. During the week, kids are at school while mom and dad are at work. Different kids with different activities often have parents separated in the evenings and weekends trying to meet all the obligations of these activities. Church is a time when the family can be together and unify around what should be the most important thing in their life – Jesus!

For those who think, "What's the use? My kids are so noisy (the parents 'shooshing' their kids are often louder than the kids!) I can't even hear half of what is

going on. So why put in the effort to go at all?

Here is why. You are instilling a habit in your children and family. You are sending the message to them that church is worth it. We are a family and we love Jesus and this is what we do. It is not up for debate or discussion. We are the parents and you are the child and the child does not dictate the agenda of this family. I have never understood the family that decides to go to church – or not go – based upon whether or not the children want to go that week.

You are teaching them that the Bible instructs corporate worship and our family follows the Bible. Prayerfully, you are setting an example they will take into their families when they are older.

Church allows you to teach your children respect for God. The noise of the little children is like music to my ears, but church is also a time to begin to teach quietness and respect and the ability to sit. Small doses at first, based upon your child's ability and personality, so that by the time they are teenagers and young adults they can get everything out of the worship experience that God wants them to.

Church gives you the opportunity to make mentoring relationships that can help you with your families (can anyone say M&Ms?). I love the intergenerational relationships within our church. Young people who will talk to those of any age and older people who are willing to get down on a knee and look a child in the eyes to speak with them.

Contrary to what many people say, children are not the church of the future. They are the church today. If we don't embrace them, teach them and love them, there won't be a church in the future! Come let your family grow with us! *"Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven."* **Matthew 19:14 (ESV)**

Mike

## Recipe Swap

### BAKED ZITI

2 T. olive oil  
3 cloves garlic, minced  
1 large onion, diced  
1 pound ground beef  
1 pound Italian sausage  
Two 14.5 ounce tomato sauce or marinara sauce  
28 ounce can whole tomatoes with juice  
2 tsp. Italian seasoning  
½ tsp. red pepper flakes  
Salt and pepper  
1 pound ziti  
1 ½ pounds shredded mozzarella  
15 ounces ricotta cheese  
½ c. grated parmesan  
2 T. chopped fresh parsley, plus more for sprinkling  
2 eggs

Heat olive oil in a pot. Add onions, garlic, ground beef and sausage and cook until meat is browned. Drain off most of the fat. Add the tomato sauce, tomatoes, Italian seasoning, red pepper flakes, salt and pepper. Stir and simmer for 30 minutes. Remove 3-4 cups of the cooked sauce to a bowl to cool down. Cook your ziti until not quite al dente. Heat oven to 375\*. In a bowl mix 2 cups of the mozzarella, the ricotta, parmesan, parsley, eggs, salt and pepper. Drain the pasta and rinse to cool down then add to the cheese mixture. Add the cooled reserved meat sauce and combine. Add half of the pasta mixture to a large casserole dish. Spoon half of the remaining sauce over the top, then top with half of the remaining mozzarella. Repeat with another layer of the coated pasta and the remaining sauce and mozzarella. Bake until bubbling, about 20 minutes. Let stand about 5 minutes before sprinkling with chopped parsley to serve. 12 servings

**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

**RECYCLING:** We have a recycling box beside the copier in the office.

### Birthdays and Anniversaries



- 1 Ben Trotter
- 3 Marge Prebble  
Kaylee House  
Kevin & Nancy Gatzemeyer (1970)
- 12 Gary & Peggy Meyer
- 13 Kyle & Laura Reich (2001)
- 15 Helen Grove
- 16 Emma Branam
- 19 Karie Turner  
Randee Jo Gatzemeyer
- 20 Jay Welborn  
Marvin & Marge Prebble (1979)
- 21 Lori Barrett
- 22 Jessica (Farr) Mitchell  
Jason Sears
- 30 Lynzie Haybarker

(Names in CAPS in Mission Field)

### PRAYER REQUESTS

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

Vern Mitchell-Jessica Farr's father in law is in the hospital with severe stomach pain  
Dee Carder- Donetta's brother in hospital with possible hole in colon  
Angelica- Cheyenne's mom health and Cheyenne for strength while Aaron is deployed  
Becky Arnold is in the Rossville nursing home

## Serving in OCTOBER

### Congregational Prayer:

Ray Mitchell

### Scripture Readers:

1-Christy Arnold-Romans 11:11-16

8- Linda Durand-Romans 11:33-12:2

15- Brian Barrett-Romans 12:3-8

22- Spencer-Romans 12:9-21

29-Caroline Starkey-Romans 13:1-7

### Nursery:

1-Debbie Gerstner/Aleyna

8- Brittany/Caitlyn

15- Laura/Jackson

22-Nancy/Caitlyn

29- Cheyenne/Aleyna

### Greeters/Ushers:

1-Arnold

8-Durand

15-Barrett

22-Spencer

29-Starkey

### Lord's Supper Preparation:

1-Arnold

8-Durand

15-Barrett

22-Spencer

29-Starkey

### Communion Table:

1-Stan, Jay

**Wayne Arnold**, Jackson Reich

8- Jay, Stan

**David Grove**, Chad Spencer

15- Stan, Jay

**Clint Thomas**, Brian Barrett

22- Jay, Stan

**Wayne Arnold**, Andy Arnold

29- Stan, Jay

**David Grove**, Curt Gatzemeyer

## Church Offerings

Aug. 27-\$1377.00

Sept. 3-\$1709.00

Sept. 10-\$2692.00

Sept. 17-\$682.00

Sept. 24-\$1440.00

Our expenses average \$1500 a week.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST:** The next men's breakfast will be on Oct. 14 at 8:00 AM. Jay Welborn will be cooking.

**BABY SHOWER-** There will be a baby shower for Anna (Kirby) Helt on Oct. 21 at 2:00 pm in the church fellowship hall. Will have more details later.

**NEW BABY:** Chad and Tiffany Spencer are the proud parents of a precious baby boy. Todd Aaron was born on Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> at 2:07 pm. He weighed 8 lbs 7 ozs and was 20 inches long. Everyone is doing well.

**SHIRTS FOR SALE:** Do you or someone you know need a Valley Falls Christian Church shirt? We can only order with a minimum of 10 shirts so now is the time if you need anything. We have several shirts to choose from including zip and no zip sweatshirts, long sleeve t's and polos, short sleeve t's and polos, youth sizes and now toddler sizes. We have not carried the toddler sizes before so be sure and get one for all of your kiddos. We have a limited number of shirts in stock but will be ordering again soon so don't put this off. Remember a shirt would make a great Christmas gift!

**JAMS:** JAMS has begun for the school year and will meet every Wednesday, after school till 5:00 pm. It is open to kids in kindergarten-6<sup>th</sup> grade. Anyone wishing to help can serve picking up/walking kids from school, snack servers, music or games/crafts or as walking leaders. Let Erin or Tiffany know. Be sure and take the prayer slips from the pail each week and pray for their needs. Be sure and sign the snack list if you would like to help in this way.

**COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN COUNCIL:** We are looking for someone to represent VFCC in the Community Christian Council. For details, see Mike.

# 2017 OCTOBER

SUNDAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
01 2 pm - Midland 5 pm - Youth Group	02 6-8 PM - Sunflower Crafters	03	04 3:30 PM - JAMs 6:15 PM - Worship practice 7 PM Bible study 8 PM - Elder's meeting	05	06	07
08 5 pm - Youth Group	09 6-8 PM - Sunflower Crafters	10	11 3:30 PM - JAMs 6:15 PM - Worship practice 7 PM Bible study	12	13	14 8 AM - Men's breakfast 4 PM Hayride/cookout at Reich's
15 10:00 AM Pocket Change for Progress 5 PM - Youth Group	16 6-8 PM - Sunflower Crafters	17	18 3:30 PM - JAMs 6:15 PM - Worship practice 7 PM Bible study 8:00 Elder's Meeting	19	20	21 2 PM Baby shower for Anna Heit (Kirby)
22 5 PM - Youth Group	23 6-8 PM - Sunflower Crafters	24	25 3:30 PM - JAMs 6:15 PM - Worship practice 7 PM Bible study	26	27	28
29 5 PM - Youth Group	30 6-8 PM - Sunflower Crafters	31	01	02	03	04

*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!

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

**America's Christian Heritage:**

Now, more than ever before, the people are responsible for the character of their congress. If that body be ignorant, reckless, and corrupt, it is because the people tolerate ignorance, recklessness and corruption.

~ James A. Garfield, 20<sup>th</sup> president of the United States

“Providence has given our people the choice of their rulers, and it is the duty, as well as privilege and interest, of a Christian nation to select and prefer Christians for their rulers.”

~ John Jay, 1<sup>st</sup> Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court

**Mission Lake Camp Update**

As many people are now aware, the city of Horton has challenged the lease of the MLCC grounds and declared the lease invalid. MLCC sits on city owned property, but signed a 99 year lease with the city in 1986.

The city claims that it does not want to close down the camp or keep kids from having camp, but that it is not fair that MLCC has sole use of the land and that it violates the establishment clause of the U.S. Constitution.

The city desires to take back control of most of the grounds while still allowing the camp to have access during camp times and allowing the camp to keep their buildings.

The board of MLCC sees this as a potential slippery slope that will see the camp's rights and use of the grounds slowly erode until there is no longer a camp there.

The camp now has an attorney allied with Alliance Defending Freedom who will help the camp challenge the city's claims. A copy of his letter to the city is available to read upon request. We will keep you updated of any new developments. Please continue to pray for MLCC and the board of directors.