

The Vine

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

A publication of Valley Falls Christian Church

April 2024

Look at the world around us. It is such a mess. Our government just passed another 'emergency' budget to keep from shutting down. It is \$1.2 trillion for the year, and the fiscal year is already half over.

There are immigrants illegally surging at our borders. Not all are bad people, but with them comes criminals, sex trafficking, drugs and gang activity. Some are bad enough that their country of origin won't take them back.

Do you wonder how bad must their country be if they are willing to risk their lives to travel hundreds of miles in dangerous conditions to maybe sneak into the United States and not get caught?

Gas is expensive. Groceries are expensive. Everything is expensive. People are hurting.

Of course, we have politicians who tell us if we vote for them, they will fix it all. It is amazing that both sides of the political aisle tell us that democracy is on the ballot this fall. They say, "If you don't vote for our side, if we don't defeat the enemy party, we will lose democracy as we know it!"

Psalm 20:7 says, "Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God." Horses and chariots stand for armies. They stand for governments. We shouldn't base our hopes on governments and political leaders.

We need hope. Real hope, not wishful thinking. Biblical hope can be defined as the confident expectation of good, that what God has promised will come to pass.

Biblical hope is not wishful thinking because God has kept all his promises in the past (unlike politicians). He is all sovereign, all knowing, all powerful, ever present and all loving.

He can't be taken by surprise. He is great and he is good. His plans will come to pass. Even when things in this world seem hopeless, we can live in hope through Jesus Christ.

He teaches us to be content in all situations. When we are weak, then we are strong. If we become his slaves, we have freedom. We find true life when we finally die to ourselves.

Read, meditate on, and pray over the following verses in light of the hope we find in Christ. Read the context and chase related references.

Yes, we have to live in this world, but our hope is not in this world. Remember, Jesus said, "I have told you

these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." John 16:33

Mike

HOPE

- Apr 1: Luke 4:18-21
- Apr 2: Jeremiah 29:11-15
- Apr 3: John 3:13-21
- Apr 4: Psalm 25:1-7, 20-21
- Apr 5: Psalm 33:12-22
- Apr 6: Psalm 37:1-11
- Apr 7: Psalm 62:5-8
- Apr 8: Psalm 71:1-8, 14-18
- Apr 9: Psalm 119:43, 49, 74, 81, 114, 147
- Apr 10: Psalm 130:5-8
- Apr 11: Psalm 146:5-10
- Apr 12: Isaiah 40:27-31
- Apr 13: Lamentations 3:19-26
- Apr 14: Isaiah 42:1-4
- Apr 15: Matthew 12:15-21
- Apr 16: Matthew 1:18-25
- Apr 17: Luke 1:46-55
- Apr 18: Matthew 5:1-12
- Apr 19: John 4:13-14; 6:35, 39-40, 50-51
- Apr 20: John 14:12-21
- Apr 21: Romans 5:1-5
- Apr 22: Romans 8:18-30
- Apr 23: Romans 12:12; 15:12-13
- Apr 24: 1 Corinthians 13:7-13
- Apr 25: 2 Corinthians 4:7-18
- Apr 26: Eph 1:18; Col 1:27; 1 Tim 1:1; Titus 2:13; Heb 10:23
- Apr 27: 1 Peter 1:3-9
- Apr 28: 1 Corinthians 15:50-58
- Apr 29: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
- Apr 30: Revelation 21
- Apr 31: Revelation 22

GRADUATES: We will recognize our graduates on Sunday, May 19th during the worship service. If your child (or you) is graduating from the 8th grade, high school, technical school, or receiving a 2 year, 4 year or post-graduate college degree, Turn those names to Mike or email: office@valleyfallsc.org by April 21st. It is essential to have these in a timely manner so we can order gifts for our graduates.

VBS: There is a VBS meeting immediately following church on April 7. If you are able to help with VBS in any way, please plan to attend. It won't be too long! We need to set dates and gauge the amount of volunteer help available.

Campers: VFCC uses Flaming Spirit Camp for our youth camp. The church will pay half the camp fees for any student wishing to attend Flaming Spirit. The link is posted on the church website. You can also go directly to the Flaming Spirit website, flamingspirit.com. If you tell them the church pays half when you pay, they will bill the church. Important note: there are registration deadlines! You WILL NOT be able to drive up there and register on the day camp begins!

Church Cleanup Work Day - Saturday April 27. Starts at 9 a.m. to work on cellar door replacement, painting and other cleanup. See Steve or Brian for more info.

Service opportunity - Those interested in volunteering to work in the nursery during worship time, please contact Brittany Boyce at 785-217-0685 or the church at 945-6757.

Please Help! If you are in charge of an activity or mission through the year, let Donetta know dates and times so she can get it on the calendar now.

Alpha Christian Children's Home in Perry is asking for help to "stock the shelves". VFCC has provided financial assistance for the non-perishable items. But, if a church member would like to provide additional assistance for perishable items (fresh fruits, vegetables, milk and eggs), this can be done by a cash donation or gift card to Walmart. If you want to help, please call Jeff Mulpas, Alpha Director of Mission Development, at 785-760-6355 to coordinate your giving.

Men's Breakfast: Saturday, April 13, 8 A.M. Kevin 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 Youth programs and the School Supply Giveaway Fund.

Online sermon opportunity: For those who need to watch at home, the church service is available to live stream on YouTube. Previous services are also available on YouTube.

Subscribe to Valley Falls Christian Church YouTube channel to receive notifications.

Past sermon audio is available online at www.valleyfallsc.org.



Sermons

Apr 7	Walk Worthy of Christ Colossians 1:9-14
Apr 14	One with Christ Colossians 1:15-20
Apr 21	Proclaim Christ Colossians 2:1-5
Apr 28	Alive in Christ Colossians 2:6-10

Apr	Greeters	Scripture	Communion	Servers	Nursery
7	Barret	Brian	Brian	Jay/Stan/ Jarret /Charles	Debbie/Dakota
14	Spencer	Tiffany	Brian	Jay/Stan/ Brian /Steve	Rhonda/Aisha
21	J Mitchell	Jarret	Brian	Jay/Stan/ Ray /Chad	Brittany/Malia
28	Farr	Donetta	Brian	Jay/Stan/ Clinton /Kyle	Leane/Dakota

April communion devotion and prayer: Brian

Camera Monitor	Apr 7	Apr 14	Apr 21	Apr 28	
Sunday School	Jay	Charles	Tiffany	Kevin	
Worship	Carol	Ray	Jarret	Lori	

Prayer Requests: Larry Thomas, Freda Roberson, Leah Brown, Elaine Worner, Christy Arnold. Teachers and support staff in our schools. Israel, Ukraine and Afghanistan.

OUR SOLDIERS: 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.

Church Offerings:

Feb 25 \$ 981
 Mar 3 \$2569
 Mar 10 \$1279
 Mar 17 \$1526
 Mar 25 \$1279



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

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

April Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 4 Betty Smith
- 7 Tannah Baker
- 11 Debbie Gerstner
- 12 Aaron and Cheyenne Cook (2016)
- 13 Jozee Thayer
- 21 Destinee Pruitt
- 22 Erin Thomas
- 26 Susan Klawuhn
- 29 Stan Farr

JAMs - Wednesdays through the end of April, grades K-5, 3:30-5pm. Plenty of space still available. **Don't forget to pick up a prayer slip in the foyer to pray for the needs of our kids.**

Bible Study - Wednesday 7PM. We are studying the Minor Prophets.

Jr. - Sr. High Youth Group will now include all students from the 6th to the 12th grade.



**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: JAMs 3:30 -5PM
Bible Study - 7:00 PM

April

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