

The Vine

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

A publication of Valley Falls Christian Church

December 2019

Christmas is a season for giving. The church recently paid for a church wide registration for the International Conference on Missions. I know at least eleven people who attended, so technically the church 'made back' their investment.

However, it is hard to measure investments that way. If only one person went, yet came back to church on fire for missions and lit a fire underneath some other people and got us excited about doing some mission work, then the investment would still be worth it.

The church was recently visited by Phil McAfee and his wife Tabitha, missionaries to Brazil. In December, Jeff Mulpas with Alpha Christian Children's Home will be with us. Because of your heart to give, VFCC supports six different missions on a monthly basis. We are blessed to have a very giving congregation.

The church has gifted all of us with access to Rightnow Media. Hundreds of videos, teachings and Bible studies are available to stream at no charge. They have been used in individual study, during Sunday school class, and in the homes of our members. If you haven't signed up, information can be found in the church foyer.

Obviously, the church couldn't make these gifts to you if it wasn't for your regular gifts to the church! We are blessed to have a very giving congregation!

Another opportunity to give comes around every year as we adopt families for Christmas. Families who cannot afford Christmas gifts will be blessed because so many of you sign up to purchase gifts for those less fortunate.

Throughout the year, different families are helped by our benevolence as we are often able to help someone pay their water, electric or a different expense they cannot meet. Thank you!

Many donate time and energy to help keep the building looking and functioning right. As we begin work on the infant through kindergarten area, there will be people helping to tear out, repair, build and paint. We have a very giving congregation.

I believe we understand giving because we understand what God gave to us. **John 3:16 (ESV)** "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

Romans 3:23-24 (ESV) For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

Part of giving is giving up. When you tithe, you are giving up something else that money could have bought. When you give your time, you are giving up another activity you might have done.

At Christmas, we are reminded of Jesus' gift. Let us also remember what he gave up. He gave up the glory of heaven to be born in a stable in an obscure village. He gave up his Father's throne to be placed in a manger. He gave up his power as God the Son to be hunted by the madman Herod.

As an adult, he gave up privacy, convenience, comfort, sleep, his home, and ultimately his life in order to give us the gift of eternal life through his death on the cross and resurrection from the dead.

Yes, let's not forget Christmas is about giving. It is mostly about what God has given us, and how he has transformed his people into givers.

Acts 20:35 (ESV) In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

Mike



Sunday, Dec 1st
4 PM

With Cindi (Renyer) Area
\$25.00

In the VFCC Fellowship Hall
RSVP to Rhonda Mitchell
Make a little something for yourself or to
give away.

Ladies Christmas Party

WHO: The Ladies of VFCC

WHAT: Christmas Party

WHEN: Sunday, Dec 8th, 2:00 PM

WHERE: Nancy Gatzemeyer's home

BRING: A favorite snack to share.



Men's Breakfast: The men's breakfast will be Saturday, December 14th at 8:00 AM. Jay Welborn is cooking.

Pocket Change for Progress: We take a special offering of the pocket change you have been saving every 3rd Sunday during church. The money is divided between VFCC Youth programs and the School Supply Giveaway Fund.

Past sermons are available online at www.valleyfallscc.org. If you cannot access them this way, you may ask Pastor Mike for a cd copy.

Decorating the Church for Christmas, will be Sunday, Dec 1st right after church. Everyone, all ages are welcome to stay and help.

CHRISTMAS FAMILY ADOPTION: The church is adopting three families this Christmas. Instructions and sign up are in the foyer. Gifts are due by noon, Tuesday, December 10th.

Church Caroling: If there is enough interest the church will go caroling, Sun, Dec 15th, See Donetta if you're interested!

CHRISTMAS FOOD BOXES: We will fill the food boxes after church on Dec. 15th. We need wrapped shoe boxes, and food items to put in them. Suggested items: fruit, homebaked goodies, individually wrapped, pudding, jello, teas, crackers, applesauce, cocoa etc. We will need some help delivering boxes. These boxes go to shut-ins.

Children's Christmas Program: Sunday, Dec 22nd, at 10 AM. Plan to attend and support our children and their hard work.



Christmas Eve Service
Tuesday, Dec 24th
@ 7 PM
Everyone Welcome

Dec	Nursery	Greeters	Communion prep	Scripture reader	Communion table
1	Debbie/Lauren	R&R Mitchell	R&R Mitchell	R Mitchell Galatians 6:1-10	Stan/Jay/ Wayne A /Ray
8	Glee/Allison	J&A Mitchell	J&A Mitchell	A Mitchell Galatians 6: 11-18	Jay/Stan/ Clinton /Chad
15	Tiffany/Aleyna	Welborn	Welborn	C Brown	Stan/Jay/ Ray /Aaron
22	Cheyenne/Myles	Cook	Cook	C Thomas Matthew 1:18-24	Jay/Stan/ Jarret /Curtis
29	Aisha/Ashley	Farr	Farr	Farr Luke 12:13-21	Stan/Jay/ Clinton /Wayne F

December communion devotion and prayer: Jay Welborn

Prayer Requests: Rick Dorr, Frank Shrimplin, Janet Strang, Gina Runnels, Emma Dockweiler, Becky Arnold, Stan Farr, Clay Biester

OUR SOLDIERS: Curtis Mitchell, Aaron Cook, Jacob Mitchell, Matthew Branam, Noe Garza, Gary Flack, Dayton Flack

Church Offerings:

Oct 06 - \$ 1,877
 Oct 13 - \$ 1,979
 Oct 20 - \$ 1,219
 Oct 27 - \$ 670
 Nov 03 - \$ 2,672
 Nov 10 - \$ 1,277

Our expenses average \$1500 a week.

December Birthdays & Anniversaries

3 Matthew Boyce
 4 Allison Thomas
 13 Misty Eaton
 15 Mike & Gina Kirby (1984)
 18 Ray & Rhonda Mitchell (1982)
 20 Charlie & Clare Brown (1970)
 21 Dan & Janet Strang
 23 Judy Flack
 26 CHARLES WATKINS
 Chad Spencer
 28 Alucard Heinen
 30 Jacob & Kari Mitchell (2005)
 31 Jarret & Aisha Mitchell (2014)

(Names in CAPS in Mission Field)

Dear Church Family,

Thank you to those who gave us gifts and cards during Pastor Appreciation Month in October. Your friendship and partnership in the spreading the gospel is priceless!

In Christ,
 Mike and Gina

Mission Trip to Show Me Christian Youth Home, Friday Dec 6th. A small group of people are going to Show Me to spend time engaging with the kids on Christmas activities. If you have questions about or want more information about this trip, contact Carol Welborn.

Mike will be out of the office from Dec 9th-15th.

Sunday, Dec 15th –Jeff Mulpas from Alpha Christian Children’s Home will be at VFCC. He will share about the ministry during Sunday school and bring the message during worship.

No Youth Group Sunday, Dec 15th.

Bible Study **will not meet** Wednesday’s, Dec 11th, 18th, 25th or Jan 1. Study will begin again on Wednesday, January 8th, 7PM.



Valley Falls Christian Church

511 Oak Street
Valley Falls, KS 66088

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) – 5:00 PM

Midweek:

JAMs (grades K-6): Wed. 3:30-5:00 Bible Study: 7:00-8:00 PM

Sunday	Monday	Wednesday	Thursday	Saturday
1	2	4	5	7
2 PM – Midland 4PM-Make & Take 5 PM – Youth Group	6 PM – Sunflower Crafters	3:30 JAMS 6:15 PM – Worship prac 7:00 Bible Study	Friday 6 Mission Trip to Show Me	
8	9	11	12	14
5 PM – Youth Group	6 PM – Sunflower Crafters	3:30 JAMS 6:15 PM – Worship prac No Bible Study		8 AM Men’s Breakfast
15	16	18	19	21
10 AM – Pocket change NO Youth Group	6 PM – Sunflower Crafters	3:30 JAMS 6:15 PM – Worship prac No Bible Study		
22	23	CHRISTMAS DAY 25	26	28
10 AM VFCC Children’s Christmas Program 5 PM Youth Group	6 PM – Sunflower Crafters	NO JAMS NO Worship prac NO Bible Study		
29	Tuesday 24			
5 PM Youth Group	7 PM Christmas Eve Service			
	30			