

The Vine

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

A publication of Valley Falls Christian Church

February 2024

February is the month of love. If you try to find the history of Valentine's Day, you will find it is murky at best. There are three different Saint Valentines that people want to claim the day is named after. There is also a pagan Roman festival that others want declare is the source of the holiday.

Biblical love is, by far, deeper and richer than the romantic love celebrated at Valentine's Day. The ancient Greeks have several different words for love to express that depth.

Eros is romantic love. Storge is family love. While these words are from the ancient Greek that the New Testament was written in, neither appear in the Bible.

The Bible has Philia and Agape. Philia is brotherly love or friendship love between two people. That is why Philadelphia is named "The City of Brotherly Love."

Agape is unconditional love. God's love for us is agape love. It is 'John 3:16 love.' God calls on us to love (agape) Him as well as our neighbors.

Now I love bluegrass music. (That love is none of the above types!) The genre does a pretty good job of producing some Bible-themed songs. I'd like to share the lyrics of a song written by bluegrass artist Rhonda Vincent. It sounds like the right kind of love for February.

"You Don't Love God If You Don't Love Your Neighbor"

*There are many people
Who will say they're Christians
And they live like Christians
On the Sabbath day*

*But come Monday morning,
Till the coming Sunday
They will fight their neighbor
All along the way*

*Oh you don't love God,
If you don't love your neighbor
If you gossip about him,
If you never have mercy
If he gets into trouble,*

*And you don't try to help him
Then you don't love your neighbor,
And you don't love God*

This February, read, meditate on, and pray over the following verses that teach about love. Read the context and chase related references.

Mike

LOVE

- Feb 1: Jeremiah 31:3
- Feb 2: Lamentations 3:21-24
- Feb 3: Zephaniah 3:17
- Feb 4: Deuteronomy 7:6-13
- Feb 5: Psalm 25:6-10
- Feb 6: Psalm 136
- Feb 7: 1 John 3:1-3
- Feb 8: John 3:16-21
- Feb 9: Romans 5:6-11
- Feb 10: John 15:9-17
- Feb 11: Romans 8:31-39
- Feb 12: Revelation 1:4-6
- Feb 13: 1 Corinthians 13
- Feb 14: 2 Corinthians 5:14-21
- Feb 15: Ephesians 5:25-33
- Feb 16: Deuteronomy 6:4-9
- Feb 17: Mark 12:28-34
- Feb 18: 1 Corinthians 2:6-9
- Feb 19: Matthew 5:43-48
- Feb 20: Luke 10:25-37
- Feb 21: John 13:31-35
- Feb 22: Ephesians 3:14-21
- Feb 23: Ephesians 5:1-2
- Feb 24: Colossians 3:12-17
- Feb 25: 1 John 2:7-17
- Feb 26: 1 John 3:10-24
- Feb 27: 1 John 4:7-21
- Feb 28: 1 John 5:1-5
- Feb 29: Matthew 18:21-35

We Would Like to put the church's activities for the entire year on the calendar. 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. This would include activities such as: VBS, school supply giveaway, family hayrack ride and wiener roast, Sonrise service, food boxes and all Christmas and Thanksgiving activities, ladies' Christmas party, youth group activities, men's fellowship activities, men's breakfast, etc.

Natalie Barrett & Nicholas Gerety's wedding is Feb. 10th at 3 p.m. at Mildale Farms, 35250 W 199th St, Edgerton, KS. They invite the church family to come and join the celebration. For more info: theknot.com/Nick-Natalie

Youth Group Super Bowl Party at Jarret and Aisha's. Feb 11th - 5:00p.m.

THANK YOU - from **L.A.T.M.** For the VFCC generous gift to help publish books in the world's languages.

IF: Gathering 2024 - a two day event when women all over the world gather together, get equipped and discover the next step in their calling. Friday Feb. 23rd, 5:30p.m. to 10p.m. and Saturday, Feb 24th, 9a.m. to 4:30p.m. See Aisha for additional information.

Quarterly Carry-in Dinner is Sunday, Feb 25th after church. Bring a side-dish or two and plan to join us for fellowship and fun.

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.

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

NEED VOLUNTEERS - We need 1 or 2 to direct Vacation Bible School in 2024. See Aisha with questions and to find out what is involved.

Men's Breakfast: Saturday, February 10th, 8 a.m. Steve is cooking.

Bible Reading Plans for 2024 are in the foyer.

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, church service will be available to live stream on YouTube (and Facebook). Also available on YouTube, previous services.

Past sermons are available online at www.valleyfallsc.org.

Don't forget to subscribe to Valley Falls Christian Church YouTube channel.



Sermons

Feb 4	Rock of Ages Psalm 31:1-5
Feb 11	Amazing Grace Psalm 86:1-7
Feb 18	Onward Christian Soldiers Psalm 91:1-6
Feb 25	There Is a Fountain Psalm 103:1-5

Feb	Greeters Communion prep	Scripture	Communion Devotion	Servers
4	Spencer	Tiffany	Jarret	Jay/Stan/ Steve /Jackson
11	R Mitchell	Rhonda	Jarret	Jay/Stan/ Brian /Steve
18	Farr	Donetta	Jarret	Jay/Stan/ Ray /Chad
25	Gerstner	Debbie	Jarret	Jay/Stan/ Clinton /Kyle

February communion devotion and prayer: Jarret

Camera Monitor	Feb 4	Feb 11	Feb 18	Feb 25	
Sunday School	Kevin	Stephen	Donetta	Jay	
Worship	Lori	Brian	Nancy	Carol	

Prayer Requests: Leah Brown, Donnetta Farr - healing from surgery, Elaine Worner, Christy Arnold. Condolences to the families of Grace Thompson and Allene Mattox during this time of loss of their loved ones. Students, 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:

Dec 24 \$1658
 Dec 31 \$1310
 Jan 7 \$1840
 Jan 14 \$ 930



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.

February Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 7 Natalie Barrett
- 8 Aisha Mitchell
- 12 Jay & Carol Welborn (1965)
Cheyenne Cook
- 15 Kari Mitchell
Clinton Thomas
Nick Gerety
- 19 Janelle Thayer
- 20 Nancy Gatzemeyer
Hazel Moffet
Johnny Wistuba
- 22 Dakota Boyce

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.



**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

February

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur/Fri	Sat
				1/2	3
4 5 p.m. Youth group	5 1:30 p.m. Sunflower Crafters	6	7 3:30-5 p.m. JAMs 7 p.m. Bible Study	8/9	10 8 a.m. Men's breakfast 3 p.m. Nick and Natalie's wedding
11 5 p.m. Youth group Super Bowl party	12 1:30 p.m. Sunflower Crafters	13	14 3:30-5 p.m. JAMs 7 p.m. Bible Study	15/16	17
18 5 p.m. Youth group	19 1:30 p.m. Sunflower Crafters	20	21 3:30-5 p.m. JAMs 7 p.m. Bible Study	22/23	24 IF: GATHERING 2024 Fri 5:30 to 10p.m. Sat: 9a.m. to 4:30p.m.
25 Quarterly carry-in dinner 5 p.m. Youth group	26 1:30 p.m. Sunflower Crafters	27	28 3:30-5 p.m. JAMs 7 p.m. Bible Study	29	