

# The Vine

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

A publication of Valley Falls Christian Church

July 2024

After the summer solstice, the days begin growing shorter. Well, the days are still 24 hours, but we have fewer daylight minutes every day until the winter solstice.

One might say the darkness is growing. Oh, it is slow. You hardly notice it from one day to the next. When December rolls around, you think about it still being light at 9:30 instead of it being dark at 5:30. Then it seems sudden!

The spiritual darkness in our world is growing as well. The Bible depicts evil as darkness. God is light. Darkness stands for sin, the works of the devil, and anything opposed to God. Light stands for goodness, purity and all things that flow from God.

Isaiah 5:20 says, "Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!"

It really seems that the darkness that was slowly creeping is accelerating. Boys claiming to be girls compete against girls in sporting events and dominate. Not only do the girls lose opportunities to excel, they are put in vulnerable situations in locker room settings. We are told this is a good thing.

People who have been arrested for peacefully protesting at abortion clinics have been sentenced to years in prison while rioters and looters go free. We are told this is justice.

Catholics (this would include many Catholic politicians) who champion for the right of women to abort their child, against the clear teachings of the church, are called heroes.

A Catholic (Harrison Butker) who expresses his church's official teaching on marriage, sexuality, and abortion is called a misogynist, homophobic and transphobic.

Remember, as Christians we are not to be like the world. **Romans 12:2 (ESV)** *Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.*

Before you know it, summer will be over and school will begin again. There is a major election

this November. We have plenty of opportunities to live out the light of Christ in a dark world.

Read these scriptures about light and darkness, good and evil. Read the surrounding context if time permits. Pray that we can all be people of light.

Mike

## LIGHT

July 1: Gen 1:3-4; John 1:1-5  
July 2: Isa 9:2; John 1:9-10, 14  
July 3: John 8:12; John 9:5  
July 4: John 3:19-20  
July 5: John 12:35-36  
July 6: John 11:10; John 12:46  
July 7: Matt 5:14-16  
July 8: Luke 11:33-36  
July 9: Matt 6:22-23  
July 10: Psalm 24:3-4; 51:10; 96:9  
July 11: Romans 12:1, 9; 13:12  
July 12: 2 Cor 4:6; 7:1  
July 13: 1 Thes 4:7; 2 Tim 2:22  
July 14: Eph 1:3-4; 1 John 2:8-11  
July 15: Ezek 44:23; Hosea 4:6  
July 16: Gal 6:10; 1 Pet 1:22  
July 17: 2 Chron 7:14; Rom 1:18-21  
July 18: Prov 4:19; 1 Pet 2:9  
July 19: Php 4:8-9  
July 20: Php 2:14-16; James 1:27  
July 21: Eph 5:3-12  
July 22: Eph 4:17-24  
July 23: 1 Cor 10:21, 31  
July 24: James 4:7-8; 1 John 1:5-7  
July 25: 1 John 5:19; 3 John 1:11  
July 26: 1 Thes 5:21-22; 1 Tim 4:1  
July 27: Prov 22:6; Matt 18:6  
July 28: Rom 14:13-18  
July 29: 2 Cor 6:14-17  
July 30: Deut 18:9-14  
July 31: Eph 6:11-18; Rev 21:22-26

**Celebration of 50 years of marriage** - You are invited to the come and go dessert reception for Stan and Donetta, July 6th from 2-4p.m. in the VFCC Fellowship Hall.



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** is Monday-Friday, August 5-9 from 6p.m. to 8p.m. Ages pre-school - 5th grade. Aug 9th, 7:45p.m. - 8:15p.m. will be a VBS celebration for all VBS attendees. All VBS family members and church members are welcome to come enjoy summer treats and celebrate the week. Watch for more information as it becomes available. See Tannah Baker to volunteer to help and with any questions you may have.

**Vacation Bible School Work Day July 18th**, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the church. All volunteers, please plan to attend.

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

**If you would like** to be included on the text prayer chain, notify Mike by text at 785-817-6920.

**Board Meeting** - Sunday July 7th, following church. Board Members, please plan to stay and attend.



**Men's Breakfast:** Saturday, July 13, 8 a.m. Mike is cooking.

**Pocket Change for Progress:** We take a special offering every 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](http://www.valleyfallsc.org).

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



### Sermons

July 7            I Will Lead My Family to Love and Serve in the Church (Mike)  
Eph 5:33-6:4

**Tortured Texts** – commonly misunderstood Bible verses.

July 14            No Judging: Matthew 7:1

July 21            Gimme, Gimme: Matthew 7:7

July 28            All Things Good: Romans 8:28

July	Greeters Communion prep	Scripture	Communion Devotion	Servers	Nursery
7	Boyce	R Mitchell	Stan	Jay/Stan/ <b>Steve</b> /Jackson	Debbie/Aisha
14	Gatzmeyer	Nancy	Stan	Jay/Stan/ <b>Brian</b> /Steve	Brittany/Dakota
21	Welborn	Carol	Stan	Jay/Stan/ <b>Ray</b> /Chad	Connie/Malia
28	Gerstner	Debbie	Stan	Jay/Stan/ <b>Jarret</b> /Kyle	Aisha/Rhonda

### July communion devotion and prayer: Stan

Camera Monitor	July 7	July 14	July 21	July 28	
Sunday School	Charles	Tiffany	Kevin	Donetta	
Worship	Ray	Jarret	Lori	Brian	

**Prayer Requests:** Leah Brown, Larry Thomas, Freda Roberson, Elaine Worner, Matt Cook, Nevaeh Rivera, Connie Lillich, Christy Arnold. Our President, our nation and our government. Decisions being made in our nation's leadership. 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:

May 19      \$ 811  
May 26      \$ 827  
June 2      \$2638  
June 9      \$4806  
June 16      \$1526



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

#### July Birthdays & Anniversaries

5      Laura Reich  
10      Tiffany Spencer  
19      Abby GrandPre  
20      Aleyna GrandPre  
22      Mike Kirby  
            Jacob Mitchell  
24      Christy Arnold  
25      Wade Boyce  
28      Jade Thayer

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



**Return Service  
Requested**

Phone: 785-945-6757  
Email: [office@valleyfallsc.org](mailto:office@valleyfallsc.org)  
On the web: [www.valleyfallsc.org](http://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

## July

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur/Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4/5	6 Farr Anniversary- Fellowship Hall
7 Board Meeting 5 p.m. Youth group	8 Crafters	9	10	11/12	13 Men's Break- fast
14 5 p.m. Youth group	15 Crafters	16	17	18 VBS work- day 9am- 1pm 19	20
21 5 p.m. Youth group	22 Crafters	23	24	25/26	27
28 5 p.m. Youth group	29 Crafters	30	31		