

# The Vine

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

A publication of Valley Falls Christian Church

July 2022

We are almost halfway through Revelation. When one reads the news, it is difficult to understand why Jesus doesn't just come now. Can it get any worse? Of course, from simply reading the judgments in Revelation, we know it will get worse, but it sure seems like we are careening toward a day when Jesus will finally say, "Enough!" Then he'll take the church home and begin to judge the world for its sin.

**2 Timothy 3:1-4** *But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God...*

We are certainly in times of difficulty. Gas is at a record high. Inflation is through the roof. The stock market is tanking. Pro-life pregnancy centers have become targets for vandalism while Supreme Court justices are targets of violence. People holding traditional biblical values are under attack from the entertainment industry, academia and the current U.S. administration.

There is also worldwide violence and war as well as Christian persecution in communist and Islamic nations.

People are lovers of self. All you have to do is scroll through social media sights to see this is true.

Proud. There is wide recognition that June is an entire month of 'pride' dedicated to a sin condemned by the Bible – not to mention the sin of pride itself. The way the acceptance of this sin is accelerating, especially among teens, is not a good sign.

People are brutal with no self-control. That is obvious by the number of shootings. People with no respect for life callously taking the lives of so many surely points to end times.

Swollen with conceit. I am no longer surprised by those in the public eye that not only push anti-God, anti-biblical worldviews, but are so arrogant to think God [if they even profess a faith]

is on their side in spite of the scriptures declaring the opposite.

Their conceit amazes me when they discount those who disagree with them because of their biblical worldview as being 'on the wrong side of history,' as simply wrong, stupid or backwards. They even call anyone who disagrees with their worldview evil. "How could we even think that way?" they ask. Yet they are the ones condemned by the prophet Isaiah. **Isaiah 5:20** *Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness.*

While I am sure these people would accuse me of the very thing I complain about, Bible believing Christians must stand on the word of God and the millennia of standards that scripture has informed.

So why doesn't Jesus just come back? First, it is OK to long and pray for his return. John declared, "Come Lord Jesus."

Also remember, God is love. Yes, his justice will prevail. Judgment must happen because God is perfectly holy and just. But with his love comes patience.

To God, a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like a day. God is not slow as some count slowness, but he is patient with us so people will come to repentance. **Ezekiel 18:32** *For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live.*

As we move forward in Revelation and learn about more devastation to come, be encouraged. Not only will justice happen, we also see the restoration of creation.

Satan has already lost the battle. While he still fights, we know he will one day be eternally cast into the lake of fire.

**Revelation 21:1** *Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.*

No tears. No death. No mourning. No sin. No pain. We don't know the day or the hour of his return, but we know Jesus prevails! Be strong. Be courageous. Stay faithful. Have hope. Christian, you have a beautiful future ahead of you!

Mike



Calling all persons! Deb Gerstner is needing to restock her shoe box supply for the Christmas food outreach. This summer as you get a new pair of shoes, or when you're getting new school shoes, save your boxes and bring them in to Deb. Thanks so much for your help.



# BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, July 13<sup>th</sup>  
8 PM

**Men's Breakfast:** Men's breakfast will be Saturday, July 9th at 8 AM. Brian Barret is cooking.

**Pocket Change for Progress:** Please continue saving your pocket change for VFCC youth programs and School Supply Project. There is a bucket for your change anytime, not just the third Sunday.

**Past sermons are available online at [www.valleyfallscc.org](http://www.valleyfallscc.org).** If you cannot access them this way, you may ask Pastor Mike for a cd copy.

**On line sermon opportunity:** For those sheltering at home, church service will be available to live stream on YouTube (and Facebook). Also available on YouTube, previous services.

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



## Sermon Series, Scripture

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|---------|--|
| July 03 | <b>Independence Day</b><br>Voices<br>Revelation 11:15-19 (10-11) |
| July 10 | War<br>Revelation 12:7-12  |
| July 17 | Antichrist<br>Revelation 13:5-10                                 |
| July 24 | Harvest<br>Revelation 14:1-5                                     |
| July 31 | Wrath<br>Revelation 15:8-16 (15-16)                              |

July	Greeters Communion Prep	Scripture	Devotion	Servers	Nursery
03	B Boyce	R. Mitchell Rev 11:15-19	Stan Farr	Jay/Stan/ <b>Steve</b> /Brian	Debbie/Abby
10	Gatzemeyer	Gatzemeyer Rev 12:7-12	Stan Farr	Jay/Stan// <b>Jarret</b> / Jackson	Tiffany/Aleyna
17	Welborn	Welborn Rev 13:5-10	Stan Farr	Jay/Stan/ <b>Ray</b> /Chad	Brittany/Dakota
24	Durand	Durand Rev 14:1-5	Stan Farr	Jay/Stan/ <b>Kyle</b> /Clinton	LeAnn/Ashley
31	Gerstner	Gerstner Rev 15:8-16	Stan Farr	Stan/Jay/ <b>Steve</b> /Charles	Aisha/Rhonda

**July communion devotion and prayer: Stan Farr**

**Prayer Requests:** Becky Arnold, Christy Arnold, Emma Dockweiler, Ukraine & Afghanistan

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

**Church Offerings:**

May 01 \$5,418  
 May 08 \$ 551  
 May 15 \$1,554  
 May 22 \$ 967  
 May 29 \$1,215

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<https://gyve.io/give/valleyfallsc>



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**July Birthdays and Anniversaries**

5 Laura Reich  
 8 Allene Mattox  
 10 Tiffany Spencer  
 11 PHIL & TABITA MCAFEE (1981)  
 19 Abby GrandPre  
 20 Aleyna GrandPre  
 22 Mike Kirby  
 Jacob Mitchell  
 24 Christy Arnold  
 25 Wade Boyce  
 28 Jade Thayer  
 31 CINDY SHEAD

*Grow* in the  
 grace and  
 knowledge of  
*Jesus*  
 2 Peter 3:18

# 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 (grades 7-12) – 5:00 PM

**Midweek:**

Sunday	Monday	Wednesday	Thursday/Friday	Saturday
			1	2
3	4	6	7/8	9
5 PM – Youth Group	1:30 PM Sunflower Crafters			
10	11	13	14/15	16
5 PM – Youth Group	1:30 PM Sunflower Crafters	8 PM Church Board Meeting		
17	18	20	21/22	23
5 PM – Youth Group	1:30 PM Sunflower Crafters			
24/31	25	27	28/29	30
5 PM Youth Group	1:30 PM Sunflower Crafters			