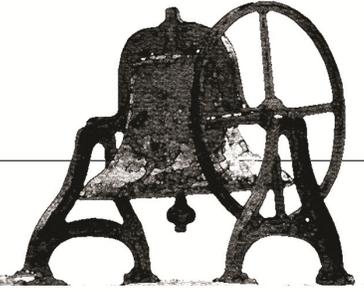


“Our purpose is to love God, care for others, and be Christ’s witness to the world”

Sept/Oct 2014

Valmont VINTAGE



CELEBRATING *150 years* OF GOD’S FAITHFULNESS!

Valmont Community Presbyterian Church



Pastor Eric

It is hard to believe that by the time this issue of the Vintage is in your hands, I will have been here at Valmont for over two months! During that time I have had the great pleasure of celebrating my first communion as a minister with you all, seeing kids attend VBS, sharing a bit about my life and views on ministry through my sermons, and quite a bit more.

I have enjoyed the beginning of our time with one another and am excited about what comes next. By the time you are reading this we will have begun our sermon series on Philippians, in which Paul encourages the church to live joyfully and humbly in service of God. Paul begins his letter with a prayer for the congregation, in which he asserts: "Of this I'm convinced: the one

who began a good work in you will thoroughly complete it by the day of King Jesus" (Philippians 1:6). I too am convinced that the good work the Lord has begun in our midst will be brought to completion for the sake of the Kingdom of God. I do not know where exactly God's work in us will lead us, but I am confident that it will be accomplished as we abide in King Jesus.

I am eager to continue in this work with you. I am excited to see where the Lord will lead us. I rejoice that we share in the communion of the Holy Spirit with one another. Because of these things, I will do my best to preach the gospel within this fellowship and to the Boulder area.

Over the next several months we will be examining what exactly the gospel is, and how we might translate it anew for the world in which we find ourselves. We will prayerfully be discerning how the Holy Spirit is moving here now, and asking God how we can partner with the work of the Spirit in this place. Like Paul, we say: "I don't reckon that I have yet overtaken [resurrection]. But this is my one aim: to forget everything that's behind, and to strain every nerve to go after what's ahead. I mean to chase on toward the finishing post, where the prize waiting for me is the upward call of God in King Je-

sus" (Philippians 3:13-14). We will be straining towards life in God, doing the work of Jesus in this world.

God has begun a work in us, so we might serve within the Kingdom. Let us strain forwards to this end. I am so happy for the work that was begun long before my time here, and grateful that I get to continue in it with you. I look forward for this time of abiding in King Jesus that we have ahead of us with one another.

For the love of Christ,

Eric

Ask a friend to join
you.

You Have A Friend At Valmont!

Sunday School: 9 am

**Worship Service:
10:30**

3262 N. 61st Street,
Boulder

(61st Street & Valmont Road)

303-442-2135

www.ValmontChurch.org

Bulletin Board

Elders:

Shirley Crowe *Don Lewis*
Rex Craig *Ella Travis*

Clerk of Session: *Joyce Glazer*

Deacons:

Judy Holmes *Anne Harris-Cross*
Cindy Sexton

Treasurer: *Ruth Lewis*

Church Administrator: *Ella Travis*

Choir/Worship Leader: *TBD*

Accompanist: *Denise Pelusch*



The Round Pantry needs food.

Grab a grocery bag in the sanctuary closet by the sound room.

Deacons' July Caring Basket

For September and October will be shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child . Judy

Weekly Activities

Every Sunday: Iglesia meets 3:00-5:00 pm

Every Tuesday: Women's Association meets
Second Tuesday at 10 am

Art group meets 4th Tuesday at 9:30 am

Iglesia meets 7-9 pm

Choir practice at 7 pm

Every Wednesday:

Yoga Class 9 am

Tremble Clef Choir 11am

Session, third Wednesday at 5:30 pm

Every Thursday: Iglesia meets 7-9 pm

Parkinson's yoga group 11:30-2:pm

Every Friday – Valmont Victors 8-10 pm

Fall Retreat

Fall women's retreat has been canceled. We hope to hold a mini retreat later in the fall.

Judy





A Day at John Gonacha's home:

Ten of us arrived Saturday 8/23 at 11 AM to help John Gonacha's daughters pack up the memories, memorabilia, furniture, dishes, linens, etc. from decades of a life John and Nancy lived well and beautifully in their home. We had a great time getting to know daughters Lori and Susan, and sharing the memories - especially as we enjoyed the treasures of Nancy's artwork, quilting, and



and their family pictures. Matt Starin outdid himself as the man of the hour, moving furniture from floor to floor; and Pastor Eric was usually right there with him. Ruth T was Debbie G's right-hand gal, as they arranged furniture, pictures, etc., for staging. The Greevers provided pizza and bottled water. We all had fun, although you may have noticed that some of us are walking with a few "hitches in our git-along," as our bodies are recovering! Thanks, everyone, for all the contributions towards our being the church for this very dear family. - Judy



Pig Roasts and Potlucks



Zucchini in Cream Dill Sauce from the Kitchen of Elaine

Makes 6 servings

Ingredients:

- ◆ 2 1/4 lb unpaired zucchini, cut in strips
- ◆ 1/2 cup water
- ◆ 1 tsp instant chicken bouillon granules
- ◆ 2 tb butter, melted
- ◆ 1 tsp lemon juice
- ◆ 1/2 cup dairy sour cream
- * 1 1/4 cup finely chopped onion
- * 1 tsp salt.
- * 1/2 tsp dried dill weed
- * 2 tsp sugar
- * 2 tb all purpose flour

Directions:

In a saucepan combine zucchini, onion, water, salt, bouillon and dill weed; bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer, covered for five minutes or until zucchini is just tender. Do not drain. Add butter, sugar & lemon juice. Remove from heat. Blend flour into sour cream. Stir about half the cooking liquid into the sour cream; return all to saucepan. Cook and stir until thickened and bubbly. Great way to use up extra zucchini!



Journal entry, August 21, 2014 by Judy

Today was a special day. When my husband was alive, and we were active in a small church in the Table Mesa area, we met a young couple, Kevin and Lisa. They were house parents in a very large home in Denver, known as Providence House. Adults with difficult backgrounds (addictions, homelessness, poverty) lived there, and our two friends were part of a team that provided security and a path toward healing, and - most important - an introduction to Jesus. Some years later Kevin became Executive Director of Providence Network, and we continued to be friends, and became partners in supporting this amazing ministry.

Kevin is no longer working for Providence Network. But it is still an exciting and growing ministry. This morning Don Lewis, Ruth Tisdale and I took a tour of the four Providence homes that exist today. They're all in downtown Denver, where many homeless hang out, and all the buildings are more than 100 years old! Two are "First Step," and provide grounding in learning how to be self-sufficient. Everyone who signs up, agrees to leave addictive substances in the past, to get a job, to participate in counseling, to attend a Bible study and church. After 18 - 24 months, many graduate and then have opportunity to live in an apartment in one of the two "Next Step" homes, at affordable rates. Denise Bourg, Development Director, who gave us our tour, said they are excited that the rent "Next Steppers" pay contributes 25% of the cost of new people coming into a First Step home. So they truly are paying it forward.

I am excited because this was only the second time I had visited a Providence Network home. I am excited because this type of life-changing ministry truly gives me hope that God is very much still Victor over sin and evil in our world, and I am excited because I had opportunity to share that outreach with Don and Ruth T. I am excited because Denise is only one of seven people who will share with us about their outreach programs at our Mission Forum on Saturday, September 27th.



After our tour, we enjoyed lunch in a French cafe nearby. Don suggested we go visit John Gonacha, since we were in the area! Ruth and I were on board. Don found John's new home at Heritage Club Mountain View pretty easily, and we were blessed to be able to see John comfortably situated in a lovely apartment, with his wife Nancy's handwork on the walls. Change is very challenging. I know John would appreciate our remembering him with cards, and I am making a commitment to do so!

Mission Forum at Valmont Community Presbyterian Church

Explore opportunities for mission and ministry in the Boulder/Denver area on Saturday, September 27, 2014 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Everyone is invited and lunch will be provided.

Speakers are: Jenny Langness, Executive Director of Real Choices;

Danielle Metcalf of Campus Crusade for Christ;

Lesley Jackson, Executive Director of Coal Creek Meals on Wheels;

Denise Bourg, Development Director of Providence Network;

Chad Molter of Boulder Shelter of the Homeless and

Nancy Miller of Operation Christmas Child;

Marnie Williams of Attention Homes



For more information, See Judy

Presbytery of Plains and Peaks Meeting

Time: October 24-25, 2014

Place: Westview Presbyterian Church in Longmont

This is a good time to attend a presbytery meeting to learn what is happening in our presbytery and to see the governing process of PCUSA.

Registration for meals will need to be turned in the week before the meeting.

See Joyce Glazier if you wish to attend all or part of the meeting.

HIGHLANDS HIGHLIGHTS

Highlands – *A Sanctuary for the Spirit, a School for the Mind, a Joy for the Heart and a Shelter in the Storm.*

Highlands has been very blessed. A generous donor offered Highlands a matching grant. \$100,000 was raised by June 30th and the donor matched it and gave an additional \$5,000. The line of credit has been paid off and the minimum principal payment on the mortgage was exceeded. We are very grateful for all the donors who support Highlands.

The fall work day is scheduled for September 13th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The summer cabins need to be prepared for winter. If you can help, please call Highlands so that lunch can be provided for you.

Many people have been enjoying Highlands this summer. We had two weeks when every room and cabin was in use. It required some volunteers to assist the housekeeping staff to get rooms and cabins ready. Everything was completed in time for the 4:00 p.m. check-in.

The annual Christmas party and auction is scheduled for December 6th. We would love to have your hand crafted items for the auction. You can talk to Marlene Brining or myself for more details.

Maria Shupe, the Executive Director at Highlands, has begun a three month sabbatical. This is a time for study, relaxation and rejuvenation. Several volunteers have stepped up to take over some of the responsibilities in her absence. We pray that Maria will enjoy her time away and be rejuvenated and energized.

I hope you will keep the Highlands ministry in your prayers.

Blessings!!

Ruth Lewis Moderator, Highlands Camp Committee



You always hear the usual stories of pennies on the sidewalk being good luck, gifts from angels, etc. This is the first time I've ever heard this twist on the story. Gives you something to think about.

Several years ago, a friend of mine and her husband were invited to spend the weekend at the husband's employer's home. My friend, Arlene, was nervous about the weekend. The boss was very wealthy, with a fine home on the waterway, and cars costing more than her house.

The first day and evening went well, and Arlene was delighted to have this rare glimpse into how the very wealthy live. The husband's employer was quite generous as a host, and took them to the finest restaurants. Arlene knew she would never have the opportunity to indulge in this kind of extravagance again, so was enjoying herself immensely.

As the three of them were about to enter an exclusive restaurant that evening, the boss was walking slightly ahead of Arlene and her husband.

He stopped suddenly, looking down on the pavement for a long, silent moment.

Arlene wondered if she was supposed to pass him. There was nothing on the ground except a single darkened penny that someone had dropped, and a few cigarette butts.



Still silent, the man reached down and picked up the penny.

He held it up and smiled, then put it in his pocket as if he had found a great treasure. How absurd! What need did this man have for a single penny? Why would he even take the time to stop and pick it up?

Throughout dinner, the entire scene nagged at her. Finally, she could stand it no longer. She casually mentioned that her daughter once had a coin collection, and asked if the penny he had found had been of some value.

A smile crept across the man's face as he reached into his pocket for the penny and held it out for her to see. She had seen many pennies before! What was the point of this?

'Look at it.' He said. 'Read what it says.'

She read the words, 'United States of America'.

'No, not that; read further.'

'One cent?'

'No, keep reading.'

'In God We Trust?'

'Yes!'



'And if I trust in God, the name of God is holy, even on a coin. Whenever I find a coin I see that inscription. It is written on every single United States coin, but we never seem to notice it! God drops a message right in front of me telling me to trust Him? Who am I to pass it by? When I see a coin, I pray, I stop to see if my trust IS in God at that moment. I pick the coin up as a response to God; that I do trust in Him.

For a short time, at least, I cherish it as if it were gold. I think it is God's way of starting a conversation with me. Lucky for me, God is patient and pennies are plentiful!

When I was out shopping today, I found a penny on the sidewalk. I stopped and picked it up, and realized that I had been worrying and fretting in my mind about things I cannot change.

I read the words, 'In God We Trust,' and had to laugh. Yes, God, I get the message.

It seems that I have been finding an inordinate number of pennies in the last few months, but then, pennies are plentiful! And, God is patient.

The best mathematical equation I have ever seen:

1 cross + 3 nails = 4 given

That's the whole gospel message simply stated.



What is the lake situation?

I am going with the idea that you do not know anything so I can cover it all.

Last September during the flood our lake was filled up with water from nearby Boulder Creek. When the flood receded our lake began to be emptied. In that process the berm (bank) on the north side was eaten away. Many fish were swept away and the only remaining fish and water were in a deep area on the northeast side.

During the flood the Boulder Creek actually found a new path away from our lake and the entrance to the Green Ditch inlet. The city and the ditch company contracted to reroute the water back to the prior route. To do that, they had to rebuild our berm. They have completed that but our lake is having a difficult time filling back. So, how does the water get in the lake?

The lake is considered a ground water pond. There is no inlet or outlet.

We have identified several small springs along the edge of the lake. This contributes a small amount to filling the lake. During the time the lake was dry we decided to build some habitat islands and improve the boat dock area. The cost to do this was fairly low and the LeftHand Excavation crew provided most of the work for free. We have had some fairly good rain during the past month which has helped considerably. We have identified a increase in the lake level of about 5 inches. We may need another 12 inches to cover the current ground to the south shore. That probably

will not happen until next spring, hopefully by Easter!

The lake water was our source for irrigating our lawn. With no water in the lake our grass initially had a difficult time. The boat dock area actually has some water in it so we have two small pumps which deliver water to the irrigation pump on the southwest side of the lake. It is a fairly

complicated procedure to get water for irrigation but several people know how to do it and the grass and garden areas are getting the needed water. Based upon how slow the lake is filling it may be a long time before we will be able to get back to normal. Our original irrigation pump decided it had had enough and failed. We had to replace it to again be able to irrigate. I would like to thank Adam Glazer for helping me replace the pump and consult on how to keep irrigation working. David Greever also contributed one of the small pumps and the church pur-

chased one small pump. It takes both of the small pumps to maintain the needed flow of water for the irrigation system pump.



August 24, 2014: Wonderful outside service, a great pot luck and choosing our favorite Nancy Gonacha painting to take home!



Lori and Susan, John Gonacha's daughters, shared many of Nancy's paintings and small quilts with our church. We are excited to have some of her lovely artwork in our church building and now in our homes. Thank you to Lori and Susan for sharing their folks with us in this very tangible way.

Nancy's Creations



Eric's Preaching Schedule

8/24—"Thank You Note" Philippians 1:1-11	10/5—"Subversive Joy" Philippians 4:2-23
8/31—"Life's Prerequisite" Philippians 1:12-30	10/12—"Translating Water" 1 Chronicles 5:11-17; Luke 5:33-39
9/7—"Return of the King" Philippians 2:1-11	10/19—"Scripture as Narrative Act I - Creation" Genesis 1
9/14—"Fear and Trembling" Philippians 2:12-3:1	10/26 [Guest Preacher]
9/21—"Zeal Transfigured" Philippians 3:2-11	
9/28—"Imitation is the Sincerest Form of Worship" Philippians 3:12-4:1	

Thought for the Day:

If God had a refrigerator, your picture would be on it.

If He had a wallet, your photo would be in it.

He sends you flowers every spring.

He sends you a sunrise every morning. Face it, friend - He is crazy about you!

God didn't promise days without pain, laughter without sorrow, sun without rain, but He did promise strength for the day, comfort for the tears, and light for the way.

Read this line very slowly and let it sink in...

**If God brings you to it,
He will bring you through it.**

Pass this message to people you want to bless

It's your Vintage

Anyone who would like to contribute articles, pictures, recipes or anecdotes, please submit by the 20th prior to publication month to **Mike Greever** via email at mgreever@rmprohomes.com or give to **Ella in the office**

Publication Months: Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov.