

# Valmont Community Presbyterian Church

We are grieving that we can't be there with you for Thanksgiving this year! We'd especially like to be because of all that's happened since last year. It was around last Thanksgiving that Stephen and Dottyanne first talked about doing a sabbatical trip of some kind and asked if we had any good ideas. In retrospect, we didn't know we were stepping on an escalator with them—until it started to move and we quickly found ourselves quite a bit higher than expected! How did that happen? It does look like God had something considerably bigger for all of us-not just Stephen and Dottyanne—than any of us knew.

Yeah, you can tell already that

## Ask a friend to join you.

You Have A Friend At Valmont!

Sunday School: 9:00 Worship Service: 10:30

3262 N. 61st Street, Boulder (61st Street & Valmont Road)

303-442-2135 www.ValmontChurch.org

we're still processing. Here's what it looks like to us at this point. For you it will be a significant new mission focus that none of us can predict. The global view from the top of that escalator is something else and the Birds won't be able to keep from sharing it. If the blogging they did during the sabbatical is any indication, stay tuned. And we are still digesting the significance of Valmont sending their pastoral couple into that big, Great Commission picture. Lots of churches support missionaries from other churches, and some send out their own, but we have never seen a church send their pastoral couple.

What is God up to? Here's our take, limited as it is. For Stephen and Dottyanne it will be God joining the dots of all they have ever learned and giving them new Kingdom applications for it:

They will take the battle principles they've learned from their two generations of military experience, and put it at the service of God's war on Satan's last strongholds.

They will support the Air Force concept that is so familiar to them of using aircraft and a lot of other technology to do what nothing else can do.

They will use their leadership his-

tory in unexpected ways. (Just wait and see!)

They will take what they've learned of shepherding at Valmont as a special gift of encouragement to their Wycliffe colleagues in North Carolina. Their life-long experience of major transitions will help them relate to those hyper-mobile people as few can

They will leverage their own experience of childhood and teen years in the military for the benefit of missionary kids at the JAARS Center with similar backgrounds of loss, change, and adjustment.

And only God knows what else!

For us Nelsons, all of this is God's pattern of doing much more than we ask or think, though it may not be easy. We have to admit we're already flinching at the thought of coming back to Valmont and finding that the Birds have flown. But they will be back from time to time to reconnect and bless you in new ways.

A good Thanksgiving to you all, in spite of change,

Stu & Edith Nelson

## **Elders:**

Claudette Moloney-Walpole Chris Brickey David Hustvedt Joyce Glazier

Clerk of Session: Deb Starin

## **Deacons:**

Ruth Tisdale Ken Crowe

Treasurer: Ruth Lewis



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## **Activities**

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

Every Thursday – Iglesia meets 7-9 pm



Every Friday – AA meets 8:00-10:00pm

Every Tuesday—Choir meets 7:00 to 8:30

11/20 - Annual Congregational Meeting

11/23 Thanksgiving Service at Niwot Methodist Church

11/27 - Advent begins

12/24 - Christmas Eve Service

12/25 - Christmas regular Sunday Service

### FPC HOLIDAY CONCERT SEASON

Submitted by Maggie of 1st Presbyterian Church

Glory of Christmas, we're inviting ANYONE to come join us to sing for it!

#### Do you like to sing?

Join the FPC choirs this season to sing for the annual Glory of Christmas!

Choir rehearsal dates:

Wed., Nov. 2: 6:30-7:30 pm

Wed., Nov. 9: 6:30-7:30 pm

Wed., Nov. 16: 6:30-7:30 pm

Tues., Nov. 22: 6:30-7:30 pm

Wed., Nov. 30: 6:30-7:30 pm

Sat., Dec. 3: 9-11 am

Wed., Dec. 7: 7-9 pm

Thurs., Dec. 8: dress rehearsal, 6:30-9 pm Fri., Dec. 9: warm-up at 6:15 pm, concert at 7 pm Sat., Dec. 10: 3 pm & 7 pm Concerts (dinner served in between)

Glory of Christmas Concert - a benefit for the Glory

Community

Fri., Dec. 9th, 7 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 10th, 3 p.m. & 7 p.m.

Tickets: \$10, \$5 for children 12 and under

For tickets, call Maggie, 303.402.6408, or visit FPC

during the week

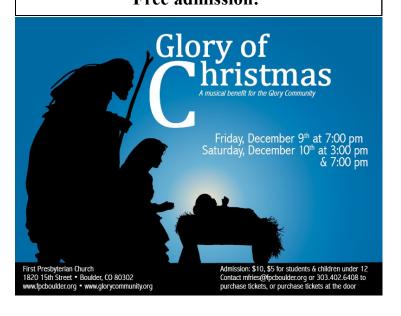
Tickets go on sale starting Nov. 20th

### **Christmas Bell Choir Concert & Hymn Sing**

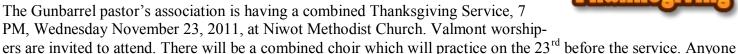
Bring your friends and family for a fun, family Christmas event!

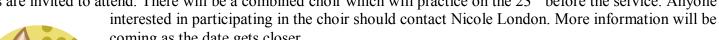
Sun., Dec. 18th, 4 p.m. in the FPC Chapel

Free admission!



### **Thanksgiving Service**





coming as the date gets closer.

Someone from Valmont can also be included in the service to read a prayer or to participate in some other way. Let Joyce Glazier know if you are interested in participating in the service.

Joyce Glazier, Elder

# Remember to pray for each other, our church and especially our elders during this transition period!





### **Moving Forward**

Valmont Session is currently searching for an Interim Pastor to serve at Valmont until we call a permanent pastor. Interim pastors have specific training in guiding a congregation through the transition process from when a called pastor leaves until the new called pastor begins serving a church. Interim Pastors have received training for this position as it varies from that of a

called pastor. Realized or not, the congregation typically goes through a time of grieving for the pastor who has left. This is one of the areas an Interim Pastor will help the congregation. Preparation for calling a new pastor includes a church wide 'mission study' to better understand the gifts of the church. This information is helpful in finding a good match for the church when calling the permanent pastor. The Interim Pastor will lead the mission study. The Interim Pastor will preach weekly at Valmont, conduct visitation, moderate session meetings and other daily business for the church.

The Session met with Dan Saperstein, Executive Presbyter of our Presbytery on October 12, 2011. Dan brought us four candidates to consider for our Interim Pastor. The Session has selected two candidates to start with for the interview process. Session will contact references for the two candidates then interview the candidates the week of October 24<sup>th</sup>. Both candidates live in Boulder or Longmont so no relocation expenses are expected to be incurred for either of these candidates. If neither of these candidates are a good match for Valmont, the session will proceed with interviewing the remaining candidates.

Session would like to have the Interim Pastor serving Valmont when Advent Season begins.

Joyce Glazier, Elder

## Pig Roasts and Potlucks



## Roasted Asparagus From the kitchen of Debbie G

## Ingredients:

- 3 pounds asparagus, trimmed
- \* 1/2 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
- Salt & freshly ground pepper to taste

### Directions:

- Preheat oven to 450°F.
- Toss asparagus with oil on a baking sheet with sides or in a large roasting pan. Spread in a single layer and season with salt and pepper.
- Roast asparagus, uncovered, for 15 to 25 minutes, or until tender. Serve hot or at room temperature.



From Stu and Edith

Hello ... all you Pray-rs,

Nov, 2011

One of our contacts is just back from hiking the Pacific Coast Trail: 2650 miles from Mexico north to Canada. At every point where the trail ran by a town, there were opportunities to get off and yield to the sundry pulls of civilization. You can imagine that was a test of strength and commitment, especially where the trail went through blistering desert or 400 miles of snow. The wildlife wasn't always friendly, either. We asked him, "What was the most important step you took?" He replied, "*The next one*."

That's a great picture of the life-journey most of our potential Wycliffe recruits are on. Many are starting college or other training, many are back at it, many are working to pay off student loans, many are looking for work to pay off student loans, many are trying to choose the next step—and it's all uphill. Hazards of their hike? The *many* voices calling from the sidelines:



- ♦ It's dangerous!
- Give up, it's too hard.
- Take a break, have some fun.
- ♦ Have a look at !!
- Charge it. You deserve it. Pay later.
- Now don't sign your whole life away up front!
- And what about all the huge needs right here at home?
- Just do a short-term thing. Then you can get on with your life.
- What about developing your career? You have to be successful to be secure.
- You're in charge here, you know, so keep those options open. You'll be glad you did.
- If you run off some place without getting married first, you'll be single the rest of your life!
- All that and you have to raise your own salary too?? That's weird. You've gotta be kidding!!
- Solid biblical grounding and spiritual maturity? Hmmm. Do you really need that?? What for???

(Continued on page 5)

## **DEACONS' NEWS BOX**

#### **Deacons news...**

Your Deacons for 2011 are Ken Crowe and Ruth Tisdale. Please help us do our job! We're waiting to hear from YOU

Caring Basket: OCTOBER/NOVEMBER Shoebox drive

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER BCSS Adopt-a-Family - gift cards



## TRADITION

Transition is often a stressful time. It can also be a time of looking at traditions to see if they have either outlived their usefulness or see if they are important to the body. I realize that when I took away the stool I did not ask, but it was a Stephen thing, so I did not think anyone would consider it a problem. The structure of our services, while may be rooted in the Presbyterian tradition, can also be varied by the congregation. This may be a time of trying some new things, changing the sequence, adding something. The worship committee is probably the place to give any ideas you may have about tweaking our worship time. I am sure they would welcome your input. If you don't know who to talk to, ask the



time. I am sure they would welcome your input. If you don't know who to talk to, ask the only person who really knows what is going on, Ella. My thanks to the Valmont portion of the body of Christ - Don Lewis

### (Prayer People from page 4)

The picture is pretty clear. If you set a goal to serve the King, you become a target of the Enemy. But it's more dangerous by far not to serve the King. God's way is fundamentally designed to bless us and others through us. The Enemy's alternate trail is fundamentally designed to destroy us and harm others through us. Prayer is the privilege God gives us of calling down safe passage for servants through the inevitable crossfire.



PLEASE PRAY that our contacts will recognize/resist Enemy tactics and take **the next good step.** 

THANK THE LORD with us for those who are moving ahead a step at a time, in spite of crossfire.

Along the Pacific Coast Trail there were "Trail Angels" who encouraged hikers in various ways. Our thanks to you who have been "Trail Angels" for us, praying us along our own long path. We're here because you're there.



### Ivan and Gabrielle's Trip to Valmont



When is the best time to take a road trip? When you have gas! Thankfully the good Lord provided all the petroleum we needed to travel from Washington State to New York and back. Our first stop was YOU, our dear

friends at Valmont Community Presbyterian Church in beautiful Boulder, Colorado. The Rev Bird, was kind enough to give us permission to camp out on the churches back lawn where we pitched our tent on the beautiful

green grass. About three o'clock in the morning on our first night we were awaken to a strange sound Chuuw, Chuuw, Chuuw... was it a katydid or cicada? No, it was water and not coming from the sky... apparently your automatic sprinklers work great and that's probably why the grass is so soft and green. Even though we have a pretty good Eureka tent with a



good rain fly, it is no match for a 20 to 30 PSI water sprinkler shooting at us from only 8 feet away.



So I quickly jumped out of the tent between passes and stood there in shock as the second sprinkler helps to awaken me into a full run. So here I am in the middle of the night running across the church lawn in my pajamas (underwear) thinking what can I do to stop the water. Can you believe

the first thing that came to my mind was... baby Jesus' manger! So I quickly ran to the pump house and there it was in the exact same spot that I left it in

2001. Needless to say that it worked fine in it's original function as a manger in our Christmas video, but I gotta say it makes a better sprinkler cover. Thanks go out to Don for not throwing it away sooner. A small piece of plywood is also good to have around and it put a damper on the second sprinkler. Although we were wet and cold this was certainly the funniest scene of our entire trip and it sure did not dampen our spirits.



We were married 9 years ago on this very spot

So wonderful to see you all!

Love in Christ, Ivan and Gabrielle

P.S. Here is a complete list of all states (in order) that we were blessed to visit on Road Trip 2011!

2. OREGON	
3. IDAHO	
4. UTAH	
5. WYOMING	
6. COLORADO	
7. NEBRASKA	
8. IOWA	
9. ILLINOIS	

1. WASHINGTON

0. INDIANA	
1. MICHIGAN	
12. CANADA	
13. NEWYORK	
14. MASSACHUSETTS	

14. MASSACHUSETTS
15. CONNECTICUT
16. NYC NEWYORK
17. CONNECTICUT
18 MASSACHUSETTS

19. NEWYORK
20. PENNSYLVANIA
21. MARYLAND
22. WASHINGTON DC

23. VIRGINIA 24. NORTH CAROLINA

25. TENNESEE 26. KENTUCKY 27. OHIO 28. INDIANA

29. ILLINOIS30. WISCONSIN

31. MINNESOTA

32. NORTH DAKOTA

33. MONTANA

34. IDAHO

35. WASHINGTON

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### **Isn't It Strange** - submitted by Bob S.

Isn't it strange how a 20 dollar bill seems like such a large amount when you donate it to church, but such a small amount when you go shopping?

Isn't it strange how 2 hours seem so long when you're at church, and how short they seem when you're watching a good movie?

Isn't it strange that you can't find a word to say when you're praying, but you have no trouble thinking what to talk about with a friend?

Isn't it strange how difficult and boring it is to read one chapter of the Bible but how easy it is to read 100 pages of a popular novel?



Isn't it strange how everyone wants front-row-tickets to concerts or games but they do whatever is possible to sit at the last row in Church?

Isn't it strange how we need to know about an event for Church 2-3 weeks before the day so we can include it in our agenda, but we can adjust it for other events in the last minute?

Isn't it strange how difficult it is to learn a fact about God to share it with others; but how easy it is to learn, understand, extend and repeat gossip?

Isn't it strange how we believe everything that magazines and newspapers say but.... we question the words in the Bible?

Isn't it strange how everyone wants a place in heaven but... they don't want to believe, do, or say anything to get there?

#### WHY GO TO CHURCH

(If you're spiritually alive, you're going to love this! If you are spiritually dead, you won't want to read it. If you're spiritually curious, there is still hope!)

A church-goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. "I've gone for 30 years now," he wrote, "and in that time I have heard something like 3000 sermons. But, for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all."



This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column, much to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

"I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I can't recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this. . .they all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!" When you are DOWN to nothing. . .God is UP to something! Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible! Thank God for our physical AND our spiritual nourishment!

## **Church Ladies With Typewriters**

Submitted by Judy

These sentences (with all the BLOOPERS) actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services:

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community. Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say 'Hell' to someone who doesn't care much about you.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow..

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered..

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

Potluck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - prayer and medication to follow.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

Ladies Bible Study will be held Thursday morning at 10 AM . All ladies are invited to lunch in the Fellowship Hall after the B. S. Is done.

The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the Congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.

Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.

The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 PM. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church Please use large double door at the side entrance.

## It's your Vintage

Anyone who would like to contribute articles, picture, recipes or anecdotes, please submitted by the 20th prior to publication month to Mike Greever via email at mgreever@prestigerealtygroup.com or give to

Ella in the office Publication Months: Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov.