

Jan/Feb 2024

Valmont VINTAGE

CELEBRATING *160 years* OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS!



Valmont Community Presbyterian Church



Pastor Eric

*Where are you, God;
And where are you not?
In the work of human hands;
In absence of heart or thought?
I want to pay attention;
Seeing every move and deed.
Show me where your grace flows,
Teach me all that I should heed.
I long to pray without ceasing;
So my faith may finally be sight.
So why, dear Lord, do I look for you?
Why use a candle when all is
light?*

A great poet, I am not. However, I find that composing these little devotional poems have become an integral aspect of my prayer life. So fre-

quently my words and thoughts strain to be prayer, failing to name the deep yearnings of my heart. Often my attention is worn thin by the demands of the world, making it difficult to stay focused on what really matters.

Here is where the poem is helpful. Constraining myself to a simple rhyme structure forces me think critically about what I want to pray. Enforcing a cadence on my sentences keeps my thoughts sharp and forward-moving. Asking my prayer to be structured helps me to be attentive to the act of praying.

Why bring any of this up? Here we stand on the far side of Christmas, and some of us may feel more distracted than peaceful and tired than hopeful. Lent is coming dreadfully early (with Ash Wednesday coinciding with Valentine's Day) meaning that Easter isn't far behind. It would be easy for us to keep up the break-neck pace of Christmas all the way to Easter, but is that what we want? Is that what the Lord requires of us?

I bring up poetry because I hope that we will allow ourselves some time to slow down. I hope that we will pay attention to what God wants to work in us and around us. In order to do that, we need to discipline our thoughts, focus, and open ourselves to meet with the Lord.

I pray that we all allow ourselves rest in Christ, who loves us and gave himself up for us. May we focus our attention on him.

In Christ,
Eric



Ask a friend to join you.

You Have A Friend At Valmont!

Worship at 10:30
Sunday School at 9:30

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

303-442-2135
www.ValmontChurch.org

Bulletin Board

Elders:

Peggy Moore
Steve Clem

Ruth Tisdale
Don Lewis

Clerk of Session:

Doug Myers

Deacons:

Cindy Sexton
John Olson

Debbie Clem

Treasurer:

Ruth Lewis

Church Administrator: *Ella Travis*

Choir/Worship Director: *Jack Harless*

Accompanist: *Stella Pradeau*

Pastor's Schedule:

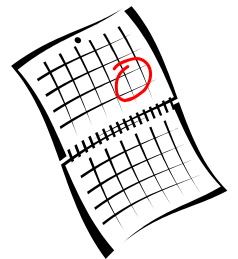
Sunday: Worship

Monday - Thursday: In the office and responding to email

Friday - Saturday: Weekend

Calendar

- 1/14 - Worship at 10:30am,
Adult Education at 9:00am, Communion Sunday
- 1/16 - Session at 10:30am
- 1/17 - Women's Association at 10:00am,
Choir Rehearsal at 5:45pm
- 1/21 - Worship at 10:30am,
Adult Education at 9:00am, Baptismal Remembrance
- 1/24 - Choir Rehearsal at 5:45pm
- 2/4 - Worship at 10:30am,
Adult Education at 9:00am
- 2/6 - Worship Team at 10:00am
- 2/7 - Choir Rehearsal at 5:45pm
- 2/11 - Worship at 10:30am,
Adult Education at 9:00am, Transfiguration Sunday
- 2/12 - Deacons at 3:30pm
- 2/14 - Choir Rehearsal at 5:45pm,
Soup Supper at 6:15pm,
Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00pm
- 2/18 - Worship at 10:30am,
Adult Education at 9:00am,
Communion Sunday, First Sunday in Lent
- 2/20 - Session at 10:00am
- 2/21 - Women's Association at 10:00am,
Choir Rehearsal at 5:45pm
- 2/25 - Worship at 10:30am,
Adult Education at 9:00am, Baptismal Remembrance
- 2/28 - Choir Rehearsal at 5:45pm



Weekly Activities

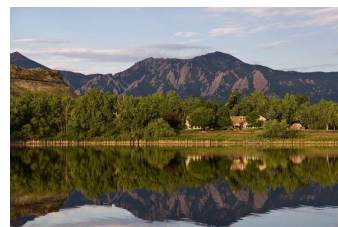
Sunday: Iglesia meets 3:00-5:00 pm

Monday: 2nd Monday—PEO meeting 12 –3pm
Deacons meeting at 3:30 pm

Wednesday: Women's Association meets
Third Wednesday (Sep-May) at 10 am
Session, third Tuesday at 5:30 pm
Iglesia meets 7-9 pm
: Choir 5:45-6:45 pm

Every Thursday: Iglesia meets 7-9 pm

Every Friday – Valmont Victors 8-10 pm



Pig Roasts and Potlucks



Easy Swedish Meatballs From Eric



Ingredients:

- ♦ 1 cup beef/chicken/vegetable stock * 1 cup heavy cream *3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- ♦ 1 tablespoon soy sauce * ½ teaspoon ground black pepper, or more to taste
- ♦ ½ teaspoon dried rosemary, crushed, or more to taste
- ♦ 10 ounces frozen cooked meatballs (pork, turkey, or vegetarian), thawed



Instructions:

Whisk together stock, cream, flour, soy sauce, 1/2 teaspoon pepper, and 1/2 teaspoon rosemary in a large saucepan over low heat until smooth.

Cook, stirring occasionally, until thickened, about 10 minutes.

Stir in thawed meatballs, and continue cooking until meatballs are heated through, about 5 more minutes. An instant-read thermometer inserted into the center of the meatballs should read at least 160 degrees F (71 degrees C).

Taste and adjust seasonings before serving.

Your recipe could have been here!



Shortbread Cookies from Marilyn M



- ♦ 2 cups sweet cream salted butter, softened by leaving for just one hour on counter (do not microwave)
 - ♦ 2 cups granulated sugar
1. Cream the butter and sugar until it is completely mixed
- ♦ 2 large eggs * 2 Tablespoons of Vanilla Extract * 4 teaspoons baking powder * 6 cups all purpose flour
2. Add the vanilla (seems like a lot, but needed for moisture) and 2 eggs and beat until light and fluffy
 3. Add the baking powder and mix.
 4. Mix in the 6 cups of flour--dough should be firm, but not dry or crumbly. If dough seems dry, add a bit more vanilla or a bit of milk and mix again
 5. Roll out a handful of the dough on a floured surface
 6. Cut out shapes with cookie cutters
 7. Bake in a preheated oven at 350 degrees for 6-10 minutes, depending on the size of cookies; Remove from oven when set and just starting to slightly brown around the edges.



Operation Shoebox award

Stacy Parriott gave us an award for being drop off location for Operation Christmas Child for 5 years.



Eric and Anneva attending the Nutcracker performed by the San Francisco Ballet

Santa Lucia Potluck





Ordination of our new
Elder Steve Clem,
Continuing Elder
Peggy Moore and new
Deacons, John Olson
and Debbie Clem.



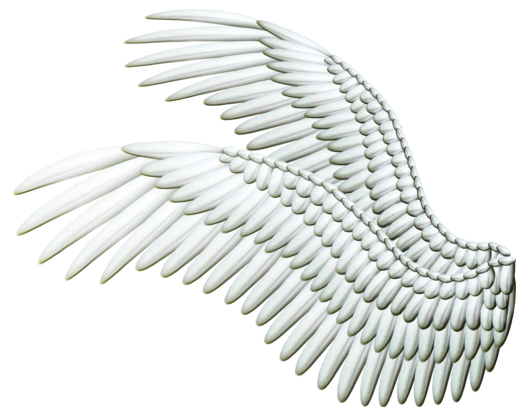
Anneva be-
ing ordained
as an elder.



About the Silver Wings Arts Program

The Silver Wings Arts Program will open next week at Valmont Church. It's a weekly, Monday - Friday, adult day program with a focus on art, movement, and music that's open to the public. There is a day charge and also a discount for church members. More information is on the flier posted at church for folks who want to enroll. The website is under construction until tomorrow. Give me call with any questions!

Warm regards,
Jocelyn A. Brown, PhD
Silver Wings Arts Program
970-480-7505



December 29, 2023

On the eve of the two-year anniversary of the Marshall fire, I'm pleased to let you know that this past August a replacement piano was purchased and delivered to our new home.

The entire summer of 2023 was spent visiting piano dealers and trying all different kinds of pianos. It was a fantastic experience that taught me so much about the beauty of grand pianos and the craftsmanship, knowledge and pride that goes into the building process. **Estonia, Yamaha, Fazioli, Steinway, Kawai, Bosendorfer and Mason Hamlin** are among the many piano brands that I enjoyed playing! At times the process was intimidating and overwhelming, but it was also exciting and thrilling when I was able to calm down

and enjoy the journey.

I would like to thank **Dennis Richmond** (piano tech extraordinaire) for the

countless emails/texts and phone calls during those months. Dennis reached out to local dealers on my behalf to let me know the details and extra inside information and never stopped encouraging me to keep on looking.

Joe Woods (Woods and Son Pianos) also deserves a shout-out! Joe supplied a decent rental piano (Mason Hamlin) after our family found stable housing and even offered a deal on a

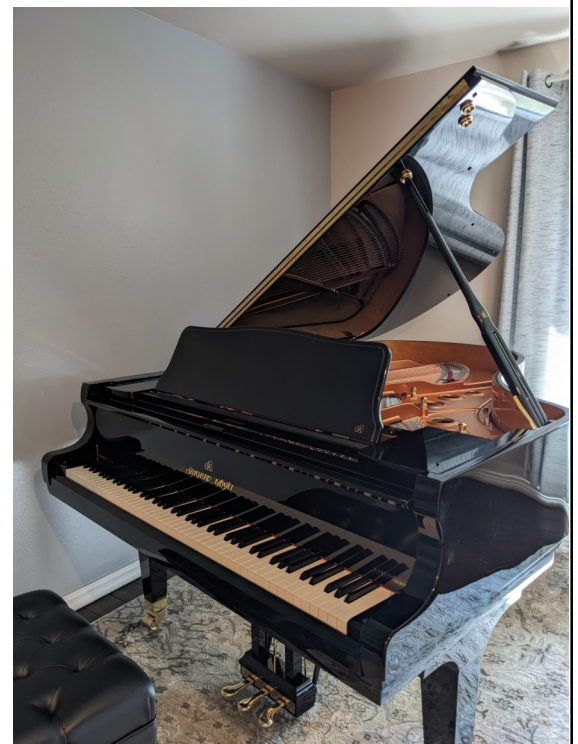
new Fazioli 212 that arrived direct from Italy last July. While it wasn't the right piano for me, I treasure the relationship I built with Joe.

And finally, thanks to **Paul Jarvis** at Boulder Piano Galleries. The beautiful **SK5 Shigeru Kawai** that I did fall in love with came from Paul's gallery. Enjoy the photos below. It's a beautiful instrument with a sweet singing tone and an incredibly responsive touch. I have been very happy with it and just love playing it every day.

To read more about Shigeru Kawai: <https://shigerukawai.com/>

I continue to be touched and humbled by the generosity and kindness of so many people, both friends and strangers, during those weeks after the Marshall fire. The love showered on me by the people at Valmont Church will never be forgotten. I am so grateful for you folks! A little part of each of you is in this amazing new piano that is now in my life. Thank you.

Stella



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

The music for the Christmas Eve service was so beautiful. Thanks to Jack, our new music director and our illustrious pianist Stella. Also thank you to the choir who sang 3 pieces, Jack sang a solo and the hand bells with a stellar performance

It was overheard, that this service was the most beautiful and emotional service they had ever attended.

A note from Jack:

I think one of the highlights for me was the song Peace, Peace. That song holds dear to my heart because of its beauty and inspirational message. Having the congregation join in singing with the choir is a very fun and unique experience that doesn't often happen in choral music. I particularly love the ending where we are singing two very different songs but then all end up on the word "peace" in the final chord.



The message of perpetual peace and unity is powerful during this time of year.



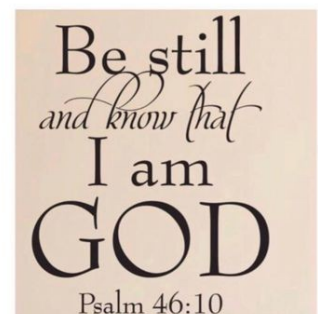
Jack singing Oh Holly Night

Names of our God:

The Rock, Christ, *Prince of Peace*, **Lord of Lords**, Light of the World, **Savior**, Deliverer, *Lion of Judah*, **Good Shepherd**, **Jesus**, I AM, *Abba Father*, **King of Kings**, Emmanuel, , **Meniah**, Alpha & Omega, **LAMB OF GOD**, BREAD of Life.

Mark your calendars ...

Soup Supper at 6:15pm,
Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00pm



Eric's Preaching Schedule

Date	Scripture	Sermon Title	Sermon Series	Church Calendar
January 7	Matthew 3:13-17; Philippians 2:5-11	Fulfilling All Righteousness	Baptism	Epiphany Sunday
January 14	Acts 8:26-40	Marrying Into the Family	Baptism	
January 21	Genesis 17:10-14; Deuteronomy 10:12-22; Acts 2:38-39; 1 Corinthians 7:14	Born Into the Family	Baptism	Communion
January 28	Acts 2:40-47; Galatians 3:23-29	Remembering Our Baptisms	Baptism	Baptismal Remembrance
February 4	Romans 6:1-14; Colossians 2:6-15	Baptized Into Death	Baptism	
February 11			[Guest Preacher]	Transfiguration Sunday
February 18	Luke 15:1-10	Celebrating the Lost	The Prodigal Church	First Sunday in Lent, Communion Sunday
February 25	Luke 15:11-32	Profligate Grace	The Prodigal Church	

Adult Education

As we prepare to enter into the Lenten season, I am planning on taking a big risk with the adult education class: *I am inviting you all to read the book that I've been writing and editing over the last year.* We will begin to discuss my book (currently entitled: *Recovering the Horizon of Death: God's Sacrificial Love and Our Finite Creation*) on February 18th, concluding it some time after Easter. As I am awaiting the final round of comments from readers, this will be an unfinished draft before I begin shopping it around for publication.

If you would like to participate in the class (or simply obtain an early copy), please let me know by February 1st, so I have enough time to self-publish the copies for the class. Depending on how many books we print, they will likely cost somewhere between \$15-\$25 each.

Thank you for your support in bringing me to this point, and please pray that I would have courage to actually go through printing these early copies for you all.

With fear and trembling,
Eric

Valmont Community Presbyterian Church

**160 years of loving God, caring for others
and being Christ's witness to the world.**

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 mgreever53@gmail.com or give to **Ella** in the office.

Publication Months: Jan, Mar, June (Summer), Sept, Nov.