

Mar/Apr 2024

Valmont VINTAGE

CELEBRATING *160 years* OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS!



Valmont Community Presbyterian Church



Pastor Eric

"The foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength." - 1 Corinthians 1:25

The Bible is not known for its glowing remarks about folly. The book of Proverbs is especially pointed in its criticism of fools, saying things like: "A fool takes no pleasure in understanding, but only in expressing his opinion" (18:2) and "Let a man meet a she-bear robbed of her cubs rather than a fool in his folly" (17:12) and "Better is a poor person who walks in his integrity than one who is crooked in speech and is a fool" (19:1). The fool is dangerous because he is focused on his own opinion of himself and the world rather than being corrected by wisdom.

Believing that a person could bodily return from the dead, this was something most everyone in the ancient world could agree upon being folly. Maybe in the end of days, but not within the course of history. To stubbornly cling to such a belief was the height of ignorance, since we just don't see bodies come back to life after they are good and dead. And yet this is precisely what Christians claimed in the face of their neighbor's persistent criticism. *It's foolishness to believe in the resurrection!*

Paul recognizes as much in his first letter to Corinthians, going so far as to refer to Jesus' resurrection as "the foolishness of God." However, God's seemingly foolish choice proves to wiser than we fools could ever imagine — resurrected life is true within God's new creation.

So, with Easter falling so close to April Fools' Day this year, I suggest that we lean into the foolishness of God. Allow for yourself to look silly in your hope of Christ being resurrected from the dead. May you encounter the wisdom of weakness as Jesus lays down his life for you.

In Christ,
Eric

Elder/Deacon Retreat

The retreat was held at the Prairie Greens Clubhouse in Don & Marlene Brinings subdivision. Marlene & Don graciously hosted the event with homemade blueberry muffins and helped set up the kitchen for our "brown bag" type lunch secured by Pastor Eric. Those present were Steve & Debbie Clem, John Olson, Cindy Sexton, Peggy Moore, Ruth Tisdale, and Don & Ruth Lewis.



After opening in prayer, we engaged in a discussion of Luke 14: 25-35. Ending with the realization that a Christian's primary relationship centers around the triune God in all aspects of our earthly life.

Continued on page 4

Ask a friend to join you.

You Have A Friend At Valmont!

Worship at 10:30
Sunday School at 9:00

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

303-442-2135
www.ValmontChurch.org

Elders:*Peggy Moore**Ruth Tisdale**Steve Clem**Don Lewis***Clerk of Session:***Doug Myers***Deacons:***Cindy Sexton**Debby Clem**John Olson***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

3/3 - Worship at 10:30am,
Education Hour at 9:00am

3/4 - Elder/Deacon Retreat

3/5 - Worship Team at 10:00am

3/6 - Choir Rehearsal at 5:45pm

3/10 - Worship at 10:30am,
Education Hour at 9:00am, Daylight Savings Begins

3/11 - Deacons at 3:30pm

3/13 - Choir Rehearsal at 5:45pm

3/17 - Worship at 10:30am,
Education Hour at 9:00am,
Communion Sunday

3/19 - Session at 10:00am

3/20 - Women's Association at 10:00am,
Choir Rehearsal at 5:45pm3/24 - Worship at 10:30am,
Education Hour at 9:00am, Palm Sunday

3/25 - Choir Rehearsal at 5:45pm

3/27 - **Middy Maundy Thursday Service from
12:15-12:45pm at Valmont,
Maundy Thursday Service 7:00pm at St. Andrew**3/28 - **Good Friday Tenebrae Service at 7:00pm**3/30 - **Easter Preparations at 9:00am**3/31 - **Easter Sunrise Service at 6:30am,
Easter Breakfast,
Easter Worship at 10:30am,
Baptismal Remembrance**

4/2 - Worship Team at 10:00am

4/3 - Choir Rehearsal at 5:45pm

4/7 - Worship at 10:30am,
Education Hour at 9:00am

4/8 - Deacons at 3:30pm

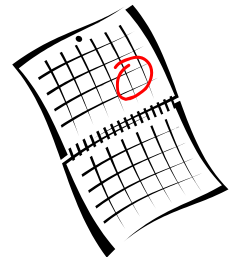
4/10 - Choir Rehearsal at 5:45pm

4/14 - Worship at 10:30am, Education Hour at 9:00am

4/16 - Session at 10:00am

4/17 - Women's Association at 10:00am,
Choir Rehearsal at 5:45pm4/21 - Worship at 10:30am,
Education Hour at 9:00am, Communion Sunday

4/24 - Choir Rehearsal at 5:45pm

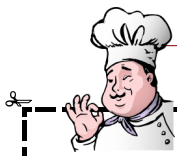
4/28 - Worship at 10:30am,
Education Hour at 9:00am, Baptismal Remembrance**Weekly Activities**

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

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



Pulled Pork Casserole From Food Network Sept. 2019 From Deb G



Ingredients:

- ◆ Cooking spray * 1 19-ounce can red enchilada sauce * 10 corn tortillas
- ◆ 2 cups pulled pork * 1 15-ounce can black beans or pinto beans, drained and rinsed
- ◆ 1 cup frozen fire-roasted corn
- ◆ 2 cups shredded Mexican shredded cheese blend (about 8 ounces)
- ◆ Sour cream, sliced scallions, sliced black olives and chopped fresh cilantro for topping.

Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Coat an 8-inch square baking dish with cooking spray. Spread 1/2 cup enchilada sauce in the bottom of the pan and top with 3 corn tortillas, slightly overlapping and cutting as needed to fit. Top with half each of the pork, beans and corn; sprinkle with 1/2 cup cheese. Top with 3 more tortillas and spread with another 1/2 cup enchilada sauce. Top with the remaining pork, beans and corn and sprinkle with another 1/2 cup cheese. Top with the remaining 4 tortillas; spread the remaining enchilada sauce on top.
2. Cover with foil and bake until hot and bubbling around the edges, 25 minutes. Uncover, top with the remaining 1 cup cheese and continue to bake until melted and bubbling all over, about 10 minutes. Top with toppings of your choice.

Soft and Chewy Oatmeal Raisin Cookies From Eric

Ingredients

- ◆ 1 cup (16 Tbsp; 226g) **unsalted butter**, softened to room temperature * 1/4 cup (50g) **granulated sugar**
- ◆ 1 cup (200g) packed light or dark **brown sugar** * 2 large **eggs** (preferably room temperature)
- ◆ 1 Tablespoon **pure vanilla extract** (yes, Tablespoon!)
- ◆ 1 Tablespoon (15ml) unsulphured or dark **molasses** (do not use blackstrap)
- ◆ 1 and 1/2 cups (188g) **all-purpose flour** (spooned & leveled) * 1 teaspoon **baking soda**
- ◆ 1 and 1/2 teaspoons **ground cinnamon** * 1/2 teaspoon **salt**
- ◆ 3 cups (255g) old-fashioned **whole rolled oats** * 1 cup (140g) **raisins** (see Note below)
- ◆ **optional:** 1/2 cup (64g) chopped toasted **walnuts**



Instructions

1. Using a hand mixer or a stand mixer fitted with paddle attachment, cream the softened butter and both sugars together on medium speed until smooth, about 2 minutes. Add the eggs and mix on high until combined, about 1 minute. Scrape down the sides and bottom of the bowl as needed. Add the vanilla and molasses and mix on high until combined. Set aside.
2. In a separate bowl, whisk the flour, baking soda, cinnamon, and salt together. Add to the wet ingredients and mix on low until combined. Beat in the oats, raisins, and walnuts (if using) on low speed. Dough will be thick, yet very sticky. Chill the dough for 30-60 minutes in the refrigerator (do the full hour if you're afraid of the cookies spreading too much). If chilling for longer (up to 2 days), allow to sit at room temperature for at least 30 minutes before rolling and baking.
3. Preheat oven to 350°F (177°C). Line two large baking sheets with parchment paper or silicone baking mats. Set aside.
4. Roll balls of dough (about 2 tablespoons of dough per cookie) and place 2 inches apart on the baking sheets. Bake for 12-14 minutes until lightly browned on the sides. The centers will look very soft and under-baked. Remove from the oven and let cool on baking sheet for 5 minutes before transferring to a wire rack to cool completely. The cookies will continue to "set" on the baking sheet during this time.

Books, Bibles, and Song Books

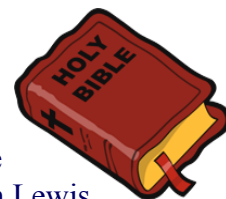
I am in the process of getting rid of some books stored in the chancel storeroom. It is an area that if we are not careful will become filled with all kinds of stuff. So, here are some things you can help with.

We have many Red Presbyterian hymn books from MCMLV (about 1950's). Most are well used, and I am in the process of destroying by recycling. Several though are in quite nice condition and are available to anyone that wants one. They will be on the ledge at the entrance to the storeroom.

We still have many Red and Black Revised Standard Version Holy Bibles. I will not be destroying them; they are in good condition. I have been inserting a \$20 in them and giving them to homeless people. At this rate it will take a while to dispose of them. Want to Help? Please!

Property committee needs to sort, organize, remove, label, etc. stuff in the storeroom to determine what stays and what goes. Want to help? Give me a call!

We have a significant size library of physical books. I think we should have a committee determine a criterion to keep or dispose of some. I do not intend to lead it. Is it calling your name? Don Lewis



Continued from page 1—Elder/Deacon Treat

Going forward, Pastor Eric outlined objectives for the day. Key elements to brainstorm were: Mission, Resources, History. Subset of elements under history were: What worked in the past? Is it sustainable? Who does such work help? He also included worship, officer training, and of course fellowship as objectives.



In our discussions, it was evident that deciding which local populations would benefit from our help. For example, would the elderly or young people benefit the most given our resources. Incidentally, we came up with quite an impressive list of resources.

In the middle of all this brainstorming to establish how our church would answer the call to "love thy neighbor as thyself". Pastor Eric gave us a hand out to read by Francis Spufford, titled Un-apologetic.



The afternoon went by quickly reviewing the Principles of Presbyterian Polity for which we were given a handout explaining in detail the different layers of the Presbyterian denomination. I personally found this very helpful.

We added some new ideas to improve how we represent the church and connect with our neighbors. Pastor Eric closed the meeting with prayer and communion. Submitted by Peggy

Morning Voice Submitted by Jack

For most people in the morning there can be quite a struggle to get the voice moving. Whether that's singing, humming, or even just keeping a conversation with the people we live with. Why does this happen? There are a few contributing factors to why your voice is struggling to "warm up" in the morning.

One factor is the buildup of fluid and excess mucus that can occur during the night. Sometimes the lack of drainage due to our sleeping positions can cause a lot of mucus build up resulting in a coughing fit in the morning in order to try and expel that mucus from the vocal cords. One simple solution that many have had success with is half a Mucinex before bed. Mucinex (the white and blue bi-layer tablets) is an expectorant -- meaning it thins the thick phlegm on or near our vocal cords. Expectorants and decongestants are different; decongestants will attempt to eliminate all mucus from our vocal cords, while expectorants will thin the mucus on our vocal cords -- this allows for natural lubrication to still occur.

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Marlene's Favorite Scriptures

At the request of several people, I will share some of my favorite scriptures because they have been life changing for me. I hope they will be encouraging for you. I could not have had so many favorites if it had not been for an in depth bible study; Community Bible Study, which is world wide and non-denominational. I have been honored to be a member and volunteer for 20 years or more. (member in recent years). God's word does cut through to our deepest needs and our greatest joys. Today I share I Thessalonians 5:16-18



"Be joyful always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." Being thankful has been an essential for me. Philippians 4:13 "I can do everything through Christ who gives me strength", There are stories connected with these, but think of your own story!! Love in Him who loved us first, Marlene .

Adult Education

We will continue our study of my book throughout the month of March, concluding our study on Palm Sunday. We will not meet for our adult ed. class on Easter Sunday.

Sunday Greeters

How about being a greeter for a single Sunday, 2 or 3 Sundays, or all the Sundays in a month? It's easy & fun to do, as well as giving you the opportunity to say hello, or more, to most VCPC people on a Sunday morning. If you are interested, please talk to Cindy and choose the Sunday(s) you want.



Continued from page 4—Morning Voice

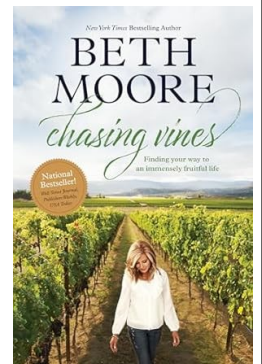
Sleeping position brings us to another factor that someone might wake up with a "morning voice". The flat positions of a person's body during a night of sleep can easily cause acid from our stomach to come up through our esophagus and lie on our vocal cords. Some people are more susceptible to acid reflux than others and those who have a lot of acid occurring at night can benefit from a few simple changes. One being the position they sleep in. If a person is lying down pretty much flat on their back the acid can more easily travel up the body. However, if someone were to lift the front end of their bed in some way so that the body was sloped a little more, the gravity would keep that acid down in the stomach where it belongs. If a person suffers heavily from acid reflux in the night, a pepcid or some form of antacid would be another avenue to attempt to keep that acid off of the vocal cords while sleeping. Long term exposure of acid on the vocal cords can result in some extremely damaging conditions such as: subglottic stenosis, squamous cell carcinoma, vocal paralysis, and intense vocal cord scarring. I hope this helps.

result in some extremely damaging conditions such as: subglottic stenosis, squamous cell carcinoma, vocal paralysis, and intense vocal cord scarring. I hope this helps.

Women's Association

The next meeting in on Wednesday March 18 at 10 am in Fellowship Hall. Besides watching video segment of "Chasing Vines" by Beth Moore, followed by a brief discussion, we will be making blankets for Project Linus.

Project Linus was started nearly 30 years ago by a woman in Parker CO with the purpose of providing special blankets to as many seriously ill and/or traumatized children as possible. If you wish, you can sew, knit, or crochet blankets, but if, like me, you do none of those things, but can tie a knot, we will have fleece to make into child-size blankets.





Men at Work

The fence outlining the entrance to the church's parking lot was mostly finished on Saturday March 2. Rex, Patrick, Steve C and Mike spent nearly 3 hours to get to this level. It did take all 4 of our efforts to accomplish this. We are looking at finishing the project once more supplies are delivered.



Mass with the Kids

Nina and Poppy (Deb and Mike) joined our granddaughters in their Mass performed by all kids. This Mass is on every Friday morning during their school year.



The Dynamic Duet

Debbie C. and Stella preformed a fantastic duet on the piano in December. We would love to hear more!

Valmont Amateur Astronomy Group

Update on the Valmont Amateur Astronomy Group (VAAG): As mentioned in some recent services, we are rebooting our observatory effort. Our 12-inch telescope is beyond economical repair, so we are investing in a new telescope with a 10-foot dome observatory to hold future astronomical events. In the past, we have had “star-party” events to view the heavens. This new observatory will increase our ability to hold future events, as the telescope will be permanently mounted, dramatically reducing our set-up and preparation time.

The estimated timeframe for our “First Light-Star-Party” for the new VAAG observatory will be late summer to early fall, 2024. Construction is planned to start in June.

In addition to astronomical events, we are planning to have guest lectures to discuss latest advances in astrophysical theories, space telescope technology as well as discussions on how faith and science are not mutually exclusive. Astrophotography is another key objective of the VAAG. The photo above is of the Horsehead and Flame Nebulas, in the constellation Orion. This photo was a one-hour exposure with a small, computerized telescope with a 2” aperture. Our new telescope will be 11” with significantly more capabilities for deep-sky photography.



The VAAG efforts are intended to provide entertainment, knowledge and fellowship to our members, as well as provide an outreach to the public to introduce our church to the community. Stay-tuned for more information on construction and event plans with opportunities to become involved. **Scott Starin**

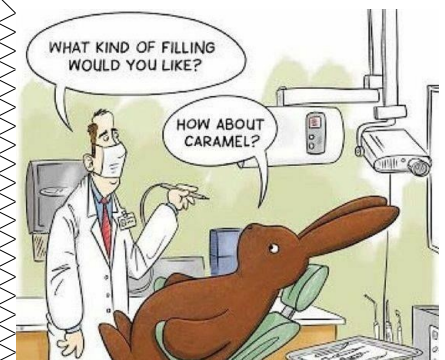
INVITATION

You are invited to join VCPC Women's Association this spring before we break for summer to make baby blankets for Project Linus. This non-profit organization provides handmade blankets to children 0-18 in the US who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need. Since 1995, 9,356,325+ blankets have been delivered to children in need. To learn more, go to www.projectlinus.org.

Come join our ladies who are making easy NO SEW THROWS of fleece material. No need to buy fleece, it is provided by Women's Assoc. And we will collect the finished blankets to deliver to JOANNs.

Come join us for fun & fellowship at VCPC fellowship hall every 3rd Wed. of the month until May at 10 am.

Submitted by your Women's Association



REALITY CHECK



Eric's Preaching Schedule

Date	Scripture	Sermon	Sermon Series	Church Calendar
March 3	Luke 15:11-32	Stingy Grace	The Prodigal Church	
March 10	Luke 15:11-32	Sacrificial Grace	The Prodigal Church	Daylight Savings
March 17	Luke 15:11-32	Have We Lost Grace?	The Prodigal Church	Communion
March 24	Luke 19:11-40	A Tale of Two Kings		Palm Sunday
March 31	Luke 24:1-9, 36-49; Luke 15:31-32	Homecoming At Daybreak		Easter Sunday
April 7			[Guest Preacher]	
April 14	2 Timothy 1:1-14	Fanning Into Flame	2 Timothy	
April 21	2 Timothy 1:15-2:13	Victory's Crown	2 Timothy	Communion
April 28	2 Timothy 2:14-3:9	Gangrenous Words	2 Timothy	

Holy Week Invitation

3/24—Palm Sunday



3/27 - Midday Maundy Thursday Service from
12:15-12:45pm at Valmont,
Maundy Thursday Service 7:00pm at St. Andrew

3/28 - Good Friday Tenebrae Service at 7:00pm



3/30 - Easter Preparations at
9:00am

3/31 - Easter Sunrise Service at 6:30am,
Fabulous Easter Breakfast, All are Welcome!
Easter Worship at 10:30am,
Baptismal Remembrance



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.