"Our purpose is to love God, care for others, and be Christ's witness to the world" VOLUME 20, ISSUE 6

Nov/Dec 2020

CELEBRATING 150 years OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

Valmont Community Presbyterian Church



Pastor Eric

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." Philippians 4:6

Words of comfort or a cudgel to beat us into shameful submission? How do we hear the words of Philippians today? We are well-over half a year into the realitydistorting nature of pandemic life; the General Election is surely to be contested and cause concern; and who can say what Thanksgiving and Christmas might look like this year... so wouldn't a little anxiety make sense just about now?

Surely the biblically literate will note that Paul penned these words in the midst of a prison sentence received for proclaiming the gospel. He couldn't be blamed for being anxious any more than we could. But does that piece of insight do anything to lessen the shame that we might feel about the fears gnawing us from within?

Perhaps by working our way backwards through the verse, it might just make sense today. Rather than beginning with the presence of anxiety, we should begin with the presence of our God — the one who is available to receive our prayerful requests. By doing so from a posture of gratitude, we realize how much we have already received from God, and thus have the confidence to voice our real, tangible, daily needs. This thanksgivinginfused prayer is made as petition, that is, it is spoken frequently, since our God doesn't grow tired of hearing from us - in fact God will hear from us in every situation, if we would but speak! And perhaps then, when we think about this attentive God who fills us with things to be thankful for — perhaps then, we can recognize that we need not be anxious.

Like everyone else, I do not know what tomorrow holds. I can offer no guarantees about which candidate will win and how the country will react. I don't know when we will return to a world without enhanced

health precautions. I wish I could promise my family that I'll be home for Christmas, but who can know what even tomorrow holds?

However, there is something that I can say with absolute confidence: "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." And since this is true, I know that I can live with thanksgiving despite the raging anxieties of the day. I know that we can all present ourselves before God.

In Christ, Eric

Ask a friend to join you. You Have A Friend At Valmont! Sunday School 9:00

Worship at 10:30

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

303-442-2135 www.ValmontChurch.org

Bulletin Board

Elders:	David Marga		<u>Calendar</u>			
Cheryl Craig Debbie Greever	Doug Myers Anne Harris-Cross		All annual reports are due on November 1st?			
Clerk of Session:	Joyce Glazer		11/1 - Worship at 10:30am, Adult Ed. at 9:00am, End of Daylight Savings			
Deacons: Don Lewis Pearline Toney	Cindy Sexton		11/2 - Worship Team at 10:00am 11/4 - Deacons at 10:30am, Zoom Fellowship at 6:30pm 11/8 - Worship at 10:30am, Adult Ed. at 9:00am			
Treasurer:	Ruth Lewis		11/10 - Session at 5:30pm 11/11 - Zoom Fellowship at 1:00pm			
Church Administrator: Ella Travis			11/15 - Worship at 10:30am, Adult Ed. at 9:00am, Communion Sunday Annual Congregational Meeting			
Choir/Worship Dire	ctor: Dr. Andrew Brown		11/15-11/19 - Eric is away for the CREDO Conference 11/18 - Women's Association at 10:00am,			
Accompanist:	Stella Pradeau		Zoom Fellowship at 6:30pm 11/22 - Worship at 10:30am, Adult Ed. at 9:00am, Christ the King Sunday 11/25 - Zoom Fellowship at 1:00pm			
onday - Thursday: In the iday - Saturday: Weekend	1		 12/2 - Deacons at 10:30am, Zoom Fellowship at 6:30pm 12/6 - Worship at 10:30am, Adult Ed. at 9:00am 12/0 - Zoom Fellowship at 1:00pm 			
			12/9 - Zoom Fellowship at 1:00pm 12/13 - Worship at 10:30am,			
Weekly A	ctivities		Adult Ed. at 9:00am			
Sunday: Iglesia meets 3:00-5:00 pm			12/14 - Session at 5:30pm 12/16 - Women's Association at 10:00am,			
Tuesday: Women's Association meets Third Tuesday at 10 am			Zoom Fellowship at 6:30pm 12/20 - Worship at 10:30am, Adult Ed. at 9:00am, Communion Sunday			
Session, third Tueso	day at 5:30 pm		12/21 - Blue Christmas Service at 7:00pm 12/23 - Zoom Fellowship at 1:00pm			
Iglesia meets	7-9 pm		12/23 - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 7:00pm 12/25 - Christmas Day			
Wednesday: No Choir	until September		12/27 - Worship at 10:30am, Adult Ed. at 9:00am			
Every Thursday: Iglesia n	neets 7-9 pm		12/30 - Zoom Fellowship at 6:30pm 12/31 - New Year's Eve			
Every Friday – Valmont V	ctivities 3:00-5:00 pm ciation meets t 10 am day at 5:30 pm 7-9 pm until September neets 7-9 pm Victors 8-10 pm		HAPPY NEW YEAR			
	Sec. 2		A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A			

Page 2

Pig Roasts and Potlucks

Instructions:

Preheat oven to 350°. Line a jelly roll pan with parchment paper and grease with cooking spray. In a medium bowl mix together flour, cocoa powder, and salt.

In a large bowl beat egg yolks until thick. Slowly add $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar and beat until pale then beat in flour mixture.

In another large bowl beat egg whites until soft peaks form. Add remaining ¹/₄ cup sugar a little at a time and continue to beat until stiff peaks form. Gently fold egg whites into batter in two batches.

Pour batter into prepared pan and spread into an even layer. Bake until top springs back when lightly pressed, 12 minutes.

Dust a clean kitchen towel with powdered sugar and invert warm cake onto towel. Peel off parchment paper.

Starting at the short end, use the towel to tightly roll cake into a log. Let cool completely.

Make filling: if using gelatin, place 2 tablespoons cold water in a shallow microwave-safe bowl and sprinkle gelatin in an even layer on top. Let bloom for 5 to 10 minutes, then microwave for 10 seconds until gelatin is runny-do not overheat!

In a large bowl, beat together heavy cream, powdered sugar, pure vanilla extract, and a pinch of salt, until medium peaks form. If using gelatin, strain and stream into whipped cream at this point while continuing to beat the cream. Refrigerate until ready to use.

When cake is cool, unroll and spread filling evenly over cake. Roll cake back into a log, using the towel to help create a tight roll. Place seam side down on a baking sheet and refrigerate until well chilled, 1 hour.

Make frosting: In a large bowl beat butter until smooth. Add powdered sugar and cocoa powder and beat until no lumps remain then beat in vanilla, heavy cream, and salt.

When ready to serve, trim ends and frost cake with chocolate buttercream. Dust lightly with powdered sugar and top with chocolate curls. Place cranberries and rosemary on log to create mistletoe.

Time 40 minutes

Serves 8

Total time 3 hours

Walnut Caramel Brownies—form the kitchen of Marlene

Ingredients:

- 1 German chocolate cake mix
- * 3/4 cup butter, melted
- 1/2 1 cup chopped nuts (your choice) * 1 cup chocolate chips
- 1 (11oz) package caramels ٠
- * 1/3 cup evaporated milk
- * 1/3 cup evaporated milk
- * For Caramel Mixture

Instructions:

Preheat oven to 350. Mix together milk, butter, and cake mix. Pat half mixture into greased 9x13 inch pan. Bake 5 min. While baking, make caramel mixture by melting caramels and 1/3 evaporated milk in microwave keep warm. Remove pan from oven. Sprinkle choc. chips and nuts on top, then spread caramel mixture on top. Drop rest of cake mixture on by spoonfuls. Bake about 20 min. Makes at least 2 doz.

Page 3

A bequest and an opportunity, God's Perfect Timing

Walter and Elizabeth Macintyre left Valmont Church a large financial gift in their estate. The session wants to let the congregation know about this bequest and our plans for the funds.

First a bit of history. Session has been discussing amongst ourselves (without Eric's knowledge) the need to help Eric be able to afford to purchase a home in the area. This discussion has happened off and on over a number of years. Loan assistance for a home purchase is not without precedent. Val-

happened off and on over a number of years. Loan assistance for a home purchase is not without precedent. Valmont Church loaned Stephen Bird \$30,000 to aid in his home purchase back in 1997 (which he repaid early). Also, the University of Colorado has loan assistance for their professors to purchase a home due to the high cost of living in this area. Housing prices in our area just continue to rise.

However, with renovation activities and uncertain finances, the time never seemed quite right. In May of this year, we started discussions again and in mid-July the session met (without Eric) and determined that the time was right. We had received a Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan for approximately \$20,000 which we expected would be forgiven. We had also received a waiver from Board of Pensions for three months benefits dues that small churches did not need to repay. Between those two sums and the continued generosity and faithfulness of the congregation during these uncertain times, we felt we could manage a loan. We decided we could allocate \$20,000 as seed money as the minimum that the church could loan to Eric to help purchase a house. We told Eric about this at our August 18 session meeting. Our plan was to ask members of the congregation for additional donations to increase this amount. Then on August 27 we received notice of the gift from the Macintyres.

Session had another meeting (again without Eric's knowledge) and agreed that by using some of the funds from the Macintyre donation, we could increase the amount that we could loan Eric for his home up to \$100,000. This amount is what we'd always hoped we could reach, but just didn't know how we'd reach it! Session has had several additional meetings to discuss how best to handle these funds. After meeting with

(Continued on page 8)



HIGHLANDS HIGHLIGTS

Highlands – A Sanctuary for the Spirit, a School for the Mind,

a Joy for the Heart and a Shelter in the Storm.

As of Saturday morning (Oct. 24) Highlands is still safe. With the fires that are raging in Colorado, they maintain a close watch on everything. Last week Highlands was contacted about opening to be an evacuation center and they immediately agreed. They currently have 33 evacuees along with many pets. Later the Boulder office of emergency management called and wanted everyone to go to Boulder to be put into hotel rooms. Maria explained that everyone had large dining room for distancing. The Boulder office reconsidered and agreed that Highlands was a good option. A senior staff member is spending each night at Highlands in the event of a mandatory evacuation or need to except more evacuees. Please continue to pray for the fire fighters, calmer winds, and containment of all the fires.

The annual Christmas Party and Auction is being planned for December 5 & 6 (2 p.m. to 4 p.m.). It will be an Open House and Gift Basket and Craft Sale. There will also be an online auction November 30 to December 6 for higher value items. Included is a 7 day/6 night stay at Agape' Anchor Villas is Luquillo Beach, Puerto Rico. Our many great volunteers will be celebrated on the Highlands website during the month of December. 2021 will be the 75th anniversary of Highlands.

Please keep the ministry of Highlands in your prayers along with the many generous donors, the hard-working staff, the volunteers, and the Highlands Camp Committee!! Also continue to pray for the firefighters, the evacuees and everyone affected by these fires!! It is an extremely difficult time for everyone!! II

Blessings!! Ruth Lewis Highlands Camp Committee



The Season of Advent

As we enter into the season of Advent, I realize that there are important services and activities that we are accustomed to taking place in the sanctuary. With that being the case, we are committed to making this season as joyful and contemplative as possible while also respecting the logistical difficulties of the pandemic.

For starters, we are committed to having the sanctuary open as a place for prayerful rest throughout Advent. The front doors of the church will be left unlocked on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 10:00am-2:00pm, and you are invited to use that space for prayer as needed. (If those times do not work for your schedule, please contact Eric to arrange something that does).

> On December 21st, the longest night of the year, we will hold our third Blue Christmas Service to recognize the grief that many of us will feel throughout this season. I am not entirely certain what this service will look like, but there will definitely be a Zoom option available for people to participate starting at 7:00pm.

Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will continue to be just that – - one celebrating Christ's light coming into the world. We will make sure to deliver candles to everyone who wants one, so we can illuminate our computer screens, homes, and hearts with this powerful symbol of Christ's light overcoming the darkness of the world. This service will be held at 7:00pm on 12/24.

"Troubles yet Peace"

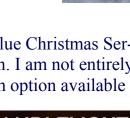
(Psalm 119:161-167) "Princes have persecuted me without a cause: but my heart standeth in awe of thy word. (162) I rejoice at thy word, as one that findeth great spoil. (163) I hate and abhor lying: but thy law do I love. (164) Seven times a day do I praise thee because of thy righteous judgments. (165) Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them. (166) LORD, I have hoped for thy salvation, and done thy commandments. (167) My soul hath kept thy testimonies; and I love them exceedingly."

The writer of Psalm 119 is unknown, but many scholars have considered that it could be David, Daniel, or Ezra. The reason for this is because each of these men suffered plots, slanders, persecutions, and afflictions. Yet, these

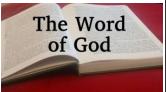
men also had a great appreciation for the Word of God. The psalmist states in verses 105 and 106 that the Word is a lamp to his feet, and he has taken an oath to live by its precepts. Because of this there is great peace between the believer and the Creator. As we read in verse 165, the account of the happiness of good men, who are governed by a principle of love to the Word of God, who make it their rule and are ruled by it.

As we make the Word our guiding force, we receive a peace that can only come from the Lord. Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid" (John 14:27). Such peace as the world can neither give nor take away. We may be in great troubles without and yet enjoy great peace within. Those that love the world have great vexation, for it does not answer their expectation; those that love God's Word have great peace, for it outdoes our expectation, and in it we have sure footing.

For us, nothing shall offend us because we live by the precepts that keep us from scandals, snares, or stumbling blocks. We are kept away from the things that will entangle us in guilt or grief. Now we see how we can live in Pentecostalsoflebanon.com Submitted by Debbie S. great peace.











Page 6



Deacons' Basket

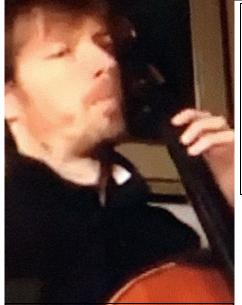
As with so many other things, our annual Giving Tree will be virtual this year. If you would like to give a gift to one of the kids at Attention Homes, please choose name & gift from list. PLEASE NOTE: You are NOT expected to give both the gift listed and the gift card--one or the other will do. When you choose the name, please let me (Cindy) or Eric know. Please wrap the gifts, or put gift card in nice Christmas card and bring to VCPC no later than Sunday, December 13. If you are unable to take gift to Church, please contact me 253-312-2294 and I will be happy to pick it up from you. Cindy



YOUTH IN CRISIS

Attention Homes Wish List

Youth Name	Present and/or Gift card	Youth Name	Present and/or Gift card	
Cole	Yahtzee/Target	Kate	Fuzzy Slippers/Amazon	
Ben	Skateboard/Safeway	Kennedy	Tie-Dye Kit/Dairy Queen	
Julie	Makeup Set/Sephora	Shayne	Paint, Canvas, Brushes/REI	
Greg	Alarm Clock/Ozo Coffee	Peter	Guitar Picks/Visa	
Сосо	Succelent Plants/Moosejaw	Marty	Kinetic Sand/Doordash	
Tish	Manicure Set/Ross	Rylynn	Electric Drum Set/Best Buy	
Jake	PS4 Contoller/Game Stop	Carl	Sketchbook and Sharpies/Foot Locker	
Jose	Day Planner/Amazon	Brandi	Crochet Needles and Yarn/Bed Bath & Beyond	
Morgan	LED Lightstrips/Kohl's	Chad	Headphones/Nordstrom Rack	
Rene	Fuzzy Blanket & Pillow/Grocery Store	Kelly	Lord of the Rings Books/McDonalds	
Justin	What Do You Mem? Game/Foot Locker	Brooke	Zen Garden/JCPenny	
Cassidy	Journal/Famous Footwear	Jordan	iPhone Charger/Trader Joe's	
Kailin	Perfume/Visa			



Our Church's musician by van Gogh!

Women's Association

We are continuing to meet via Zoom at 10 a.m. the 3rd Wednesday of the month until we get the go-ahead to meet in person. We had a Bible quiz in October and Marlene Brining had the most correct answers, 29 out of 38. Please let me know ideas you have for on-line meetings. Blessings, Cindy



For Christmas By Mother Theresa

IT IS CHRISTMAS every time you let God love others through you.

YES, IT IS CHRISTMAS every time you smile at your brother and offer him a hand.



Did you Vote?

You may receive your Vintage after the election on Nov 3. This year like several other years, I serve as an election judge for Boulder County. I have gotten a good look at how we handle the election with integrity. Because of the careful and thoughtful work, this election from the Colorado perspective should come out with the intent of the voters. As Christians we have a responsibility to be involved at some level in the workings of our government. It could be just voting, writing letters to the editor, serving on a local board, or being elected to office. What is very wonderful is that our founding fathers created a system that by and large has created freedom.

wonderful is that our founding fathers created a system that by and large has created freedom for you and me. That freedom is especially important as we worship our Lord in heaven. This freedom is not well permitted in many countries in this world. We will soon be making shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child to deliver to children all over the world. We pray that the message in these boxes will encourage them and help them understand that our Father in Heaven cares for them. In Him, Don Lewis





Dear Valmont,

Wow! Your donation to my music program at Longs Peak Middle School was so incredibly thoughtful and so appreciated for my low-income students. This has been such an incredibly difficult year for teachers and students in general. Your donation really gave me the financial assistance I needed to get through the beginning of this school year. Originally, I was planning on using the donation to purchase several more digital pianos for my piano pro-

gram. When COVID happened, and classes shifted online, I had to completely change my way of teaching.

Instead of using all of the donation to buy pianos, I used a portion of it to pay for my virtual music curriculum which I needed desperately when I started the year. I even planned on having to pay for it out of my own pocket since I couldn't access my school funds immediately. Because of your donation, I didn't have to!

The students learned about the history of American popular music (jazz, blues, country, folk, bluegrass, gospel, rock n roll, disco, and pop music) with me before I started my leave of absence, but will also be learning about the history of classical music, basic music theory, and composition with the curriculum you purchased as I've passed that along to my long-term sub for the remainder of this year.

The majority of the money will be saved for next year when I can purchase my digital pianos again. It looks like I still will be able to purchase 2 additional digital pianos (along with stands and benches) with what is leftover from my curriculum. I cannot wait to be able to purchase those for my students!

Thank you again from the bottom of my heart for such generosity during this season. It completely warms my heart knowing my Valmont family forever is looking out for me. My students have gone through SO much this year (several have lost

parents or grandparents to COVID). Thank you for allowing them to have a wonderful year of learning (even in my absence) where they can escape and enjoy learning music in the midst of all of the chaos. That means the world to them (and me)!

Love you all immensely,

Trina Proctor (Rex & Cheryl Craig's daughter)





Operation Christmas Child

For the third year, Valmont will be the Boulder area drop-off location for Operation Christmas Child shoebox collection. National Collection Week is November 16-23, and with the safety of all involved as a top priority, drop-off will be curbside only. If you would like to volunteer to help with collecting and putting the boxes into cartons, please let Ruth T. or Cindy know and we'll sign you up.

There is a supply of Samaritan's Purse shoeboxes, along with other supplies and information, in fellowship hall, so please help yourself to one or more boxes. If you would rather have a shoebox delivered to you, please contact Don Lewis who will also pick the box up when it is filled. One other option is to fill a shoebox online by going to samaritanspurse.org/buildonline.

Thanks so much for your support and participation in this opportunity to spread the good news to children around the world especially in these unusual times! Submitted by Ruth T.

Date	Scripture	Sermon Title	Sermon Series	Church Calendar
November 1	Philippians 3:12-4:1	Working for the Kingdom	Christians in America	End Daylight Sav- ing
November 8	2 Corinthians 5:11-6:2	Reconciling All Things	Christians in America	
November 15	1 Corinthians 1:4-9	Koinonia	[One Off]	Communion
November 22	Psalm 141;Revelation 22:17-21	Maranatha!	[One Off]	Christ the King Sunday
November 29	Luke 1:5-17, 57-66	Elizabeth & Zechariah	Comfort and Joy	Advent Begins/ [Fifth Sunday]
December 6	Matthew 1:18-25; 2:19-23	Joseph	Comfort and Joy	
December 13	Luke 1:46-55; 2:8-15	Shepherds	Comfort and Joy	
December 20	Luke 1:26-38; 2:4-7, 16 -21	Mary	Comfort and Joy	Communion
December 27	Luke 2:41-52	Why Are You Searching?	[One Off]	

Eric's Preaching Schedule

Adult Education

Starting on Sunday 11/15, the Adult Ed. Class will be studying Paul's epistle to the Ephesians. Join us throughout the end of Ordinary Time and Advent for this exploration of one of Paul's most-powerful explorations of what the Gospel means for our daily lives.

11/15 - Ephesians 1:1-23 11/22 - Ephesians 2:1-22 11/29 - Ephesians 3:1-4:16 12/06 - Ephesians 4:17-5:20 12/13 - Ephesians 5:21-6:9 12/20 - Ephesians 6:10-24

Continued form page 4—God's Timing)

Keith Wright from Thrivent (a Lutheran financial service company), we decided to put them into one of Thrivant's moderate risk Mutual Funds. This will allow us to have ready access as we prayerfully determine how to use the balance to further God's Kingdom.

While the loan to Eric may seem sudden to the congregation, God has been laying this in place for years.

God's timing is perfect!

Respectfully submitted by Valmont Session: Cheryl Craig, Anne Harris-Cross, Doug Myers and Debbie Greever

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, May, Jul, Sep, Nov.



