

Sept/Oct 2015

Valmont VINTAGE

CELEBRATING *150 years* OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS!

PCUSA

Valmont Community Presbyterian Church



Pastor Eric

For the last several months I've been considering what is fundamental to being a human. Some people live under the assumption that people are fundamentally good and getting better all the time. Some think for the last several months I've been considering what is fundamental to being a human. Some people live under the assumption that people are fundamentally good and getting better all the time. Some think we're no good, horrible, very bad sinners. There is a growing movement asserting that we, along with all life, are simply a cosmic accident, with nothing but chance DNA differentiating us from any other species. Our scientific name — *homo sapiens* — posits that humans are "wise men." But how close are any of these thoughts?

The Bible takes a different tack: "What are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them? Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor" (Psalm 8:4-5). The Bible, staying true to its opening chapters, finds our beginning, valuation, and ends in God. The thing that makes us human is God's choice to place the Divine Image within us. But what does that image look like?

After rereading Henri Nouwen's *Life of the Beloved* with our class on Sunday mornings, I've come to believe that the most basic element of being a human is that we are the beloved of God. We are *homo amatus*, "the beloved man." One cannot be the beloved without a lover, and so too we cannot be human without God's love being poured upon us.

The Apostle John writes: *Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God, and all who love are fathered by God and know God. The one who does not love has not known God, because God is love. This is how God's love has appeared among us: God sent God's only son into the world, so that we should live through him. Love consists in this: not that we loved God, but that God loved us*

and sent God's son to be the sacrifice that would atone for our sins. Beloved, if that's how God loved us, we ought to love one another in the same way. Nobody has ever seen God. If we love one another, God abides in us and God's love is completed in us. That is how we know that we abide in God, and God in us, because God has given us a portion of the spirit. And we have seen and bear witness that the father sent the son to be the world's savior. Anyone who confesses that Jesus is God's son—God abides in them and they abide in God. And we have known and have believed the love which God has for us. (1 John 4:7-16, The Kingdom New Testament) ... Continued on page 3

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 Mike Greever
Rex Craig Ella Travis

Clerk of Session: *Joyce Glazer*

Deacons:

Don Lewis Anne Harris-Cross
Cindy Sexton

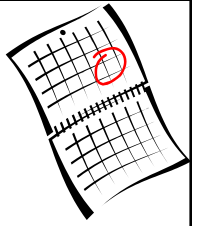
Treasurer: *Ruth Lewis*

Church Administrator: *Ella Travis*

Choir/Worship Leader:
Mary Chapin Durling

Accompanist: *Madoka Asari*

Calendar



Aug 23– Sept 7 - Eric is Out of Town

Sept 6	Bailey Phelps Preaching	
Sept/8	Round Pantry	at 2:00 pm
Sept 9	Worship Team	at 3:00 pm
Sept 13	Sunday School	at 9:00 am,
	Worship	at 10:30 am
Sept 14	Deacons	at 7:30pm
Sept 15	Session	at 5:30
Sept 20	Communion Sunday	
Sept 22	Round Pantry	at 2:00pm
Oct 4	World Communion Sunday	
Oct 7	Worship Team	at 3:00pm
Oct 12	Deacons	at 7:30pm
Oct 13	Round Pantry	at 2:00pm
Oct 18	Communion Sunday	
Oct 20	Session	at 5:30pm
Oct 25	Reformation Sunday	
Oct 27	Round Pantry	at 2:00pm

Weekly Activities

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

Tuesday: Women's Association meets
 Third Tuesday at 10 am

Art group meets 4th Tuesday at 9:30 am

Session, third Tuesday at 5:30 pm

Iglesia meets 7-9 pm

Wednesday:
 Yoga Class 9 am

Tremble Clef Choir 11am

Choir practice starts in September
 5:45 to 7:15 pm

Every Thursday: Iglesia meets 7-9 pm

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

Every Friday – Valmont Victors 8-10 pm

Women's Association

All women in the congregation are encouraged to join at 10 a.m. Tuesday, September 15 for our first Women's Association meeting of the Fall. We will be choosing the mission projects--both local & global that we want to support throughout the next year, electing officers & deciding what we want to study.

All who can are invited to participate in a potluck luncheon afterwards.

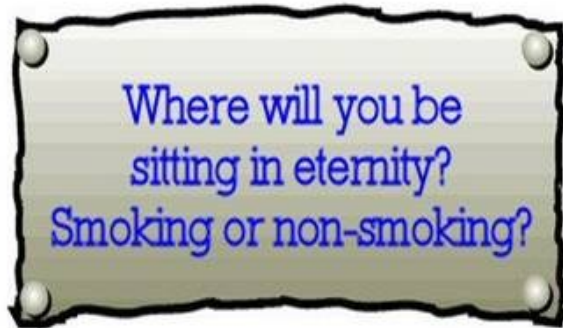
Blessings, Cindy





Continued from page 1 Here is the joy of being God's beloved: God's love does not end in us. As the vessel of our humanity is filled to the brim with God's love, we are meant to overflow with God's love for us, so God's love might flow through us to others. Being *homo amatus* does not arrest the movement of God's love, but rather opens a channel for it to enliven the world. May God's love become complete in us as we behave in the truly human way of the Messiah — may we become God's love for this world.

For the love of Christ,
Eric



Pig Roasts and Potlucks



Roasted Butternut Squash from Eric's kitchen

Ingredients:

- ◆ 1/2 butternut squash (I guess it depends on the size)
- ◆ 1 tsp. chili flakes
- ◆ Feta Cheese
- ◆ Olive Oil
- * 1/2 bulb garlic
- * 1/2 tsp. cinnamon (I may have used more)
- * Rosemary sprigs

Instructions:

Preheat oven 450. Peel squash and cut in slices. Arrange on roasting pan. Leave garlic in skin and crush slightly so juices will ooze while roasting. Scatter in pan. (Sometimes I do it this way and sometimes I take skin off and mince and scatter) Sprinkle chili flakes and cinnamon over squash. Season generously with salt. Pour a few glugs of oil over squash. Crumble feta and sprinkle over squash. Put rosemary sprigs on top (or sprinkle dry sprigs if you don't have fresh). Bake in oven 25 min or until squash is soft.



Spinach Balls from Ruth T.'s kitchen

Ingredients:

- ◆ 2 10-ounce pkgs frozen chopped spinach, thawed and drained.
- ◆ 2 cups grated Parmesan cheese
- ◆ 2 large onions, chopped
- ◆ 1 T. pepper
- ◆ 1 t. thyme
- * 2 cubs herb stuffing mix
- * 6 eggs, slightly beaten
- * 1 T. garlic salt
- * 3/4 cup melted butter or margarine

Instructions:

Combine all in a bowl and mix well. Shape into small balls and arrange on a greased baking sheet. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes. Yield: 3 dozen.





Eric and Dave on Mount Bierstadt

Apart from being in a plane, 14,060 ft. is the highest I've ever been.

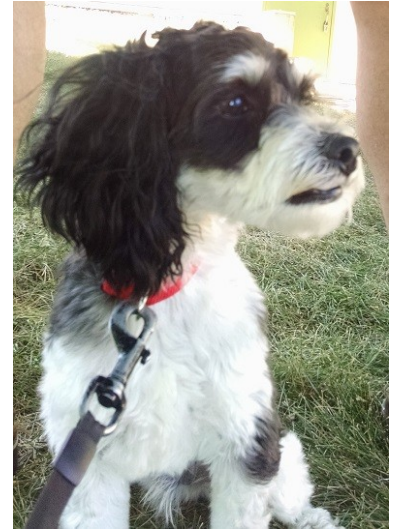
On July 14th, Dave Hustvedt took a colleague of his and me up to the acme of Mt. Bierstadt. Being a relative novice when it comes to ascending peaks, Dave's wisdom proved invaluable as he set our pace and brought us safely to the summit. The hike demanded some controlled breathing, but the view atop left me breathless — The mountains and valleys splayed before me stood as a revelation of God's beauty in the Rockies. The hike even had its foibles as we found ourselves caught in a downpour during the final leg of our journey.

All things considered, I can't wait for my next journey into the mountains.

Eric



VBS - A Lot of Fun!!!



**Deb's dog
Pogo.**

VBS - a lot of fun!!!

VBS kind-of happened on a whim this summer and almost didn't happen when we had to find a new meeting spot - at the last minute, on our very first day. There was a gas leak across the street, and the area was evacuated. A big thank you to Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church for opening their doors for us.

We studied the 10 commandments. We used "Group" material called Kids Travel Guide to the 10 Commandments. We studied each verse as written in Exodus, but also an expanded meaning as follows:

1 - You shall have no other Gods	Worship God Alone
2 - You shall not make any idols	God wants and deserves first place in your life
3 - Speak God Name with respect	Our words tell what's in our hearts.
4 - Set aside a special day for God	God gives us a day to refuel and remember him.
5 - Honor your father and mother	Honor means respect and obey.
6 - You shall not kill	Say no to violence! Say yes to life!
7 - Be true to your husband or wife	Keep your promises.
8 - You shall not steal	Be givers, not getters.
9 - You shall not lie	Always tell the truth.
10 - You shall not want what other have	Be happy with what you have.

The last day we finished with a bbq picnic and canoe rides around the lake. Fun was had by all!

Debbie Starin, Mike Greever, Pastor Eric and Debbie Greever are thankful for those who participated, your prayers for the program, and for the blessing it was teaching, and learning from the kids.



PDA Mission potluck at Valmont



The PDA group projects were all over Boulder County. The first project was near the tornado area north of Longmont - near Lyons,. They also spent one day up in Jamestown doing landscape restoration. Thanks to the many Valmont people who helped host the potluck. Anne

Fun on Carter Lake



Middle East: The Gospel Is Spreading

Tintome serves the persecuted church in the Middle East as a front-line worker watching the gospel spread and change lives in a predominantly Muslim region. Here is his story from the VOM website.

“My church has visited people in my own village and among the Syrian and Iraqi refugees, people are coming to Christ as persecuted believers live-out their faith.

“We have new people in our home groups and it’s an opportunity for them to hear the good news. We have focused in our weekly service on subordination to the Lord Jesus and bearing persecution that could happen to the church.

“For some reason, there is a significant number of Muslims coming to church, especially those women who wear the hijab. We also will go to the streets on daily basis during the breakfast time in the month of Ramadan and will share the love of Christ with Muslim people directly.

“As part of our outreach ministry, the church recently visited three villages, providing food to Iraqi and Syrian refugees.

“During one of the visits, we met a mother who was so excited to take the Bible. For some reason, they heard about the miracles of the Lord Jesus and wanted to read it.

“Also, a sheikh from the Muslim Brotherhood hosted us in his house – with the knowledge that we are from a church and we have a spiritual task from the Lord to serve others. He asked about the Christian faith and Christ, and he confessed proudly that he belongs to the Islamic State (IS), whose members are so courageous to punish those who do not believe in God, and IS applies the word of Quran literally.

“In a second village of Syrian refugees one of the Syrian refugee ladies was crying with deep sorrow because of the lack of interest in their people. Her family of eight people can't feed their children. They have difficult living conditions. They live in two bedrooms and don't have financial support.

“The family also has a son and daughter-in-law who are being detained by the Syrian army.

“We prayed with them in the name of Jesus Christ, they were impressed and asked for us to visit them again.

“In a third village, our group visited 10 more families. We met a man who asked about the character of Christ and why Christians believe he is the Son of God. We had a fantastic time explaining and sharing our faith with him and his wife. They listened carefully to know more and urgently requested a Bible to start reading.

“We also saw a 15-year-old boy who we evangelized during our last visit. He was looking for us. He saw our car and he had questions about the Bible.” Submitted by Don

Fun on Carter Lake

With the very qualified "Captain Rex" at the helm and his First Mate Cheryl scanning the waters to avoid colliding with other watercraft and buoys, several of us recently enjoyed a wonderful time on Carter Lake. Even though there was no fishing gear aboard, Pastor Eric seems to be talking about "the one that got away."

Please talk to Cindy if you're interested in going boating on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon before the cold winds of winter are upon us. If a day can be chosen that she and the boat are both available, and there's a willing "driver," the water awaits. Both boat & I are available Labor Day weekend - Cindy



“All God’s children got a place in the choir...”



The choir will start singing at church services in September. We will move into the season with a potluck and sing-through on Sunday, August 30 at 5:30 at Mike and Debbie Greever’s house.

I know there are some interested folks who cannot make the Wednesday night rehearsal. I want to try an experiment with an extra rehearsal on a Sunday. The rehearsal would start about a half-hour after fellowship time and focus on only one piece of music. That music—along with the rest of the anthems— would also be available as an audio file for practicing. We would fold everyone together for the warm-up rehearsal on the Sunday when we will be singing that particular anthem. In December, we’ll assess the experiment!

And speaking of experiments and adventures... I will be shoehorning in graduate classes this fall at UNC—Greeley. I have been accepted in the Masters program in choral conducting. My husband Russell and I moved here in the spirit of adventure (and to be significantly part of children’s lives) and I embracing this conducting program with the same esprit.

So the choir will enjoy my experimenting new conducting techniques and methods. And in my Vintage Valmont articles, the congregation will share in the knowledge and interesting information that comes my way...

... for example, I took a couple workshops this summer with a hymnologist who, through his research of over 40 hymnals, has ascertained that there are seven major strands of hymns... but that fascinating information is the topic for another article!



In the meantime, please join us at the August 30 potluck at 5:30 at the Greever’s house. Choir rehearsals are weekly on Wednesday night. Or consider joining us for the Sunday rehearsal. And feel free to chat with me at church or by email: marycdurling@gmail.com --Mary

Eric’s Preaching Schedule

Sept 6			[Guest Preacher]	
Sept 13	1 Peter 4:1-19	This Above All	Letters of Mission	
Sept 20	1 Peter 5:1-14	The Pastoral Symphony	Letters of Mission	Communion
Sept 26	1 John (Overview)	The Love Connection	Letters of Mission	
Oct 4	2 John 1-13	Nothing New Here	Letters of Mission	World Communion Sunday
Oct 11	3 John 1-15	Why Am I Here?	Letters of Mission	
Oct 18	Titus 1:1-16	Liars, Brutes, and Gluttons!	Letters of Mission	Communion
Oct 25	Titus 2:1-15	This Present Age	Letters of Mission	

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.

Deacons' Caring Basket

Thanks to the generosity of our congregation the Deacons' Caring Basket was able to contribute approximately 300 back-to-school items for some of the less fortunate students in our area. Some went to Trina Proctor for her music students and some went to Family Learning Center.

With the help of Cindy's granddaughter Kenna, and her eagle-eye for bargains) \$100 purchased enough school supplies to cover the back end of the suburban.

Deacons Caring basket for September/October will be Bags of Grace and Covenant Youth of Alaska (CYAK).

Your Deacons: Cindy, Don or Anne



Operation Christmas Child



We will collect items for shoeboxes Oct 11-Nov 1, with packing party Nov 1. Above and below are examples of a packed shoebox.



Ruth Tisdale & Cindy went to an Operation Christmas Child meeting in August. Janice, the young lady pictured with us was a recipient of a shoebox while living in an orphanage in the Philippines.



Pieces of Eternity



a piece of the past... Woodwind sounds floated eerily into the house on the night air—again. Our two little boys were in bed but restless. Stu needed to be up early for a long day of flying, and this was no lullaby. We were hearing the “magic flutes” that our Tairora neighbors used for calling demons. (We lived on the edge of our center for Bible translation and literacy work in Papua New Guinea, and the Tairora lived just beyond.)

a piece of the present... The Tairora now have their very own New Testament! Alex and Lois Vincent, translators who worked with the Tairora for many years, gave them the greatest of all gifts: *Scripture in their mother tongue, plus the literacy to read it.* Because of that, a young man named Ham left his job to attend Bible school, and is currently pastoring the church in his Tairora village.

a piece of the future by God's grace... Ham's wife, Weti, is burdened for the Tairora to have the Old Testament in their language. So she and Ham are studying Biblical languages, are hoping to study Translation Principles, and are encouraging four other Tairoras to get similar training so they can help. *Plus* they hope to provide Scripture translations for two other Tairora dialects, with the help of linguistic software called “Adapt-it.”



There were enormous difficulties throughout the history of this project, and we stand in awe of what God has done through the Vincents and all those who helped. Today, similar things are happening around the world in the face of every difficulty we can imagine and some we can't. The praise song based on Habbakuk 2:14 puts it well: “All over the world the Spirit is moving; all over the world like the prophets said it would be; all over the world there's a mighty revelation of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.”

Stu & Edith Nelson, Wycliffe



HIGHLANDS HIGHLIGHTS

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

On July 7th a lightning bolt struck the program office at Highlands. It blew out two windows and part of a wall. It also destroyed some equipment in the office. Fortunately no one was in the building at the time and there were no injuries. Allenspark Fire was called to be certain that there was no smoldering fire. This energy surge moved along phone and power lines and did the following damage:

All of Highlands phone and internet service was taken out along with home phone service and internet in some staff homes..

Damage to the server

The elevator is non-functional

In staff homes, they found phones with wires and boxes exploded apart.

Loss of personal equipment like phone and microwaves.



The insurance adjusters have been out and are working with the staff to begin repairs. The telephone and internet service has been restored. Estimates have been received for replacing phone and internet lines as $\frac{3}{4}$ of the original lines were melted. The elevator has been repaired and is back in service.

Summer camps have been completed and summer staff has returned to their homes. It is quiet without all the children on the grounds. Family reunions, quilting groups and retreat groups are now filling the hallways.

I hope you will keep the Highlands ministry in your prayers. It is your support that makes this ministry possible.

Blessings!! Ruth Lewis Highlands Camp Committee