

Jan/Feb 2015

Valmont VINTAGE

CELEBRATING *150 years* OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS!



Valmont Community Presbyterian Church



Pastor Eric

Again [Jesus] asked, "What shall I compare the kingdom of heaven to? It is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour until it worked all through the dough." (Matthew 13:33)

As we slowly awake from the sluggishness of the sugar-comas that we've voluntarily endured this Christmas season, perhaps the last thing we want to hear about are more baked goods. Yet I put before you this tiny parable concerning God's kingdom. What is the Kingdom of God like?

Over the next several months (right up to the cusp of Easter) we will be considering what the God's kingdom is like through the lens of Jesus' Sermon on the

Mount. We will examine how some small act done in faith magnifies the love of God -- how in the secret of a human heart God's reign can become perfect. The Kingdom of God is God's future breaking into humanity's present, slowly transforming us into New Creation.

The good news of God's kingdom is that God is turning right-side-up our up-side-down world through the work of the Messiah. Jesus shows the way and provides the means by which we can live faithfully for God in the here and now; can live faithfully in our present world. The Sermon on the Mount assures us that we are not simply waiting around until we die and go to heaven, but rather that God has called for us to live with purpose -- called us to be a yeast that invests the whole dough with leaven. We are to be agents of God's New Creation; we are to be agents of God's kingdom.

What's more, this is not only something that we are to study and talk about, but rather are called to live. Valmont Church has the grave and wonderful mission of being God's people for this present world. We are invited to be agents in God's right-side-up activity in the greater Boulder area. We are truly honored, for we have a calling from God to

participate in God's saving activity. We are truly honored, for we have been brought together to announce God's kingdom!

I look forward to this year together of being God's leaven for this world. I pray that we will look for ways to challenge and encourage one another as we all listen and look for the Holy Spirit's guidance. The Kingdom of God is arriving, so let us look for ways to support its movement into our world.

Amen!

Eric

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 *Ella Travis*
Rex Craig *Mike Greever*

Clerk of Session: *Joyce Glazer*

Deacons:

Don Lewis *Anne Harris-Cross*
Cindy Sexton

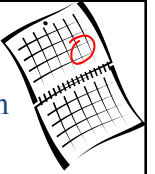
Treasurer: *Ruth Lewis*

Church Administrator: *Ella Travis*

Choir/Worship Leader:
Mary Chapin Durling

Accompanist: *Madoka Asari*

Calendar



Jan 13: 2pm Round Pantry at Westview Presbyterian

Jan 18: Communion Sunday

Jan 27: 2pm Round Pantry at Westview Presbyterian

Jan 31: 11 am Lunch - Alaskan London family from
 Unalakleet, AK get together

Feb 15: Communion Sunday

Feb 18; 7 pm: Ash Wednesday Service

Feb 26 and 27: Elder/Deacon Retreat

Feb 10: 2pm Round Pantry at Westview Presbyterian

Feb 24: 2pm Round Pantry at Westview Presbyterian



Weekly Activities

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

Every Tuesday: Women's Association meets
 Second Tuesday at 10 am

Art group meets 4th Tuesday at 9:30 am

Iglesia meets 7-9 pm

Choir practice at 5:45 pm

Every Wednesday:
 Yoga Class 9 am

Tremble Clef Choir 11 am

Session, third Wednesday at 5:30 pm

Every Thursday: Iglesia meets 7-9 pm

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

Every Friday – Valmont Victors 8-10 pm

SCRIPTURE VERSES

Romans 8:32-32 If God is on our side, who can ever be against us? Since He did not spare even his own Son for us but gave Him up for all, won't He also surely give us everything else?

I Peter 5:7 Let him have all your worries and cares, for he is always thinking about you and watching everything that concerns you.

Philippians 4:13 I can do everything through him who gives me strength.

Philippians 4:11 I have learned to be content in all situations.

Psalms 59:16 But I will sing of your strength in the morning. I will sing of your love for you are my fortress, my refuge in times of trouble.

Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you to prosper and not harm you. Plans to give you hope and a future.

Proverbs 23:5 Cast but a glance at riches and they are gone, for surely they will sprout wings and fly off into the sky like eagles.



Music Reflecting the Season

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Music is an integral component of worship at Valmont. Eric has clarity concerning musical choices: its role is to reinforce or echo the sermon's theme or church calendar. This function is readily illustrated in our music for Advent and Epiphany.

On the first Sunday of Advent, we prepared the church for the season. Each symbol was emphasized in a musical selection. The paramounts' colors reflected "preparing" and the choir echoed that with "keep your lamps trimmed and burning... the time is drawing nigh." The evergreen with its eternality and undying nature was reflected in *O Tannenbaum* while the lights—Advent candles and those throughout the sanctuary—came into musical representation in *Light of the World*. That particular anthem also reminded us that the Advent candles are the true light—Christ.

Moving into the rest of the season's themes of peace, joy and love, specific lines from the songs' lyrics highlight those themes. We heard (and sang) "there's a great joy 'comin'" and "Love, the Rose/Love, the Christ is on the way."

We conclude this most joyous season with Epiphany. The choir will share *In the Bleak Midwinter* whose last verse embodies a revelation and epiphanial moment of faith:

"What can I give Him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;

If I were a wise man, I would do my part;

Yet what I can I give Him: Give my heart."

Mary Chapin Durling



Pig Roasts and Potlucks by Popular Demand



Sausage and Tortellini Soup

Ingredients:

- * 2 14-1/2-ounce cans Italian-style stewed tomatoes
- * 3 cups water
- * 2 cups loose-pack frozen cut green beans or Italian-style green beans
- * 1 10-1/2-ounce can condensed French onion soup
- * 8 ounces fully cooked smoked turkey or pork sausage, halved lengthwise and cut into 1/2-inch slices
- * 2 cups packaged shredded cabbage with carrot (coleslaw mix)
- * 1 9-ounce package refrigerated cheese-filled tortellini
- * Shaved or shredded Parmesan cheese 1 large zucchini, quartered

Instructions

1. In a 4- or 5-quart slow cooker combine undrained tomatoes, water, frozen green beans, onion soup, and turkey sausage.
2. Cover; cook on low-heat setting for 8 to 10 hours or on high-heat setting for 4 to 5 hours.
3. If using low-heat setting, turn slow cooker to high-heat setting. Stir cabbage and tortellini into soup. Cover; cook for 15 minutes more. Garnish soup with shavings of Parmesan cheese or shredded Parmesan cheese. Makes 10 to 12 servings.

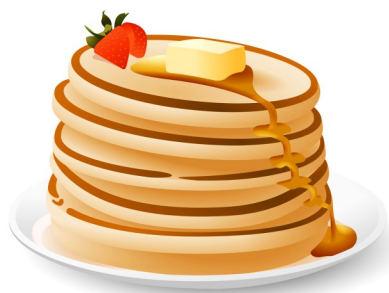




Thanksgiving Service

At St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church with our church and Niwot United Methodist Church.

Eric presented the sermon and Mary directed the combined choir.

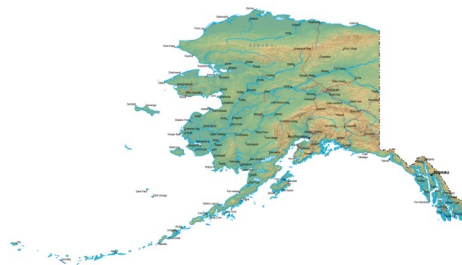


A Visit from Adam and Shirleen London

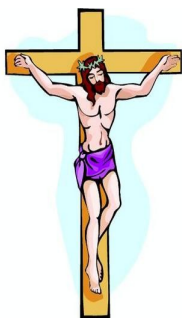
I'm excited to share that Adam and Shirleen London, and hopefully their 4 children (including a new little one born last month), will visit us to share once again about their ministry with Covenant Youth of Alaska (CYAK) in Unalakleet near Nome, AK. Some of you know that Valmont Church supports them as missionaries. Whenever they come to share about their work, it's always a very special time.

They will be with us at 11 AM, Saturday January 31st. They will prepare a blueberry pancake brunch for us, with reindeer sausage, fresh fruit; and we'll have juice and coffee. They will also share slides presenting their work with youth in Alaska. Please plan on joining us for a wonderful time of fellowship, and seeing what God is doing through this fine couple.

Judy



The Hanging of the Greens



Joplin Mission Update

For three years, Mitch locked his home from the outside. He worked nights and weekends to make improvements to his storm damaged home, but progress had stalled. Just five months ago he was still living with his grandmother.



**CELEBRATE
VICTORY
HELP US WIN
ANOTHER**

Mitch survived the Joplin tornado, but in many ways, he has been unable to move on. As his home stood vacant, and still showed the scars left by the tornado, he was constantly reminded of that tragic day.

Two weeks ago, we welcomed Mitch home at our 180th housewarming ceremony. This was a celebration not only for Mitch and his family, but the 179 families who came before him who were also spending that day in a safe, secure home. Thanks to you, we did this!

We're proud to announce that Rebuild Joplin has completed its mission. Every family on our waiting list is now home, and all signs point to a recovered and healing Joplin community.

As we celebrate the work accomplished in Joplin, we recognize that throughout the country, thousands of homeowners continue to lock the doors to their home from the outside. Rebuild Joplin knows that there is a persisting need for clarity and efficiency in disaster recovery and in this will be paying our gifts forward. Next week, we'll send tools and supplies to St. Bernard Project affiliates in Rockaway, New York and Monmouth County, New Jersey. Our hope is that these gifts will drive progress and ensure more homeowners can return home in a prompt and efficient manner.

Over three years, Rebuild Joplin has hosted over 10,000 volunteers, leveraging more than \$4,000,000 in construction cost savings for our homeowners. We've seen what we can accomplish, and we want to see it again in other disaster impacted communities.



Please, consider donating to Rebuild Joplin's **East Coast Fund**. These funds will directly impact the recovery efforts in New York and New Jersey, and ensure each disaster survivor can return home. Thousands of families continue to wait to return home, and with your help, we can change this.

Scripture with a Touch of Winter

~"As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease." ~**Genesis 18:22**

"It was You who set all the boundaries of the earth; You made both summer and winter." ~**Psalms 74:17**

"He says to the snow, 'Fall on the earth,' and to the rain shower, 'Be a mighty downpour.'" ~**Job 37:6**

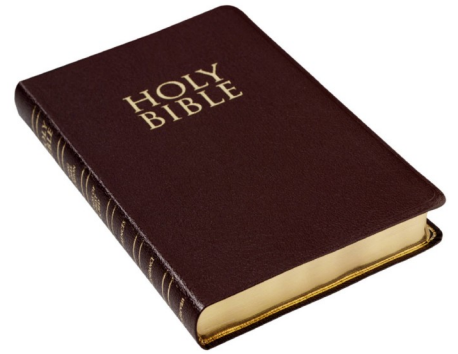
"Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!... He gives snow like wool; He scatters the frost like ashes. He casts forth His ice as fragments, Who can stand before His cold? He sends forth His word and melts them. He causes His wind to blow and the waters to flow." ~**Psalms 147:12-18**

"From whose womb has come the ice? And the frost of heaven, who has given it birth?" ~**Job 38:29**



Dear Valmonters,

We were in the Fellowship Hall after giving a recent update about our Wycliffe recruitment work when someone said, “***Where do all these people come from?***” Just goes to show we are sometimes too close to our work to make things clear. Maybe others of you also wonder where our recruits come from. Here’s a thumbnail answer.



For the most part they come via any or many of these: *Christian families, schools, churches, colleges, clubs* (in both Christian and secular universities), *camps, conferences, children’s work* like VBS, Child Evangelism Fellowship and others, plus *Christian media (both regular and social)*, etc., etc.

In other words, faithful Christian institutions, under God, are the *real* recruiters. As stewards of biblical (i.e., missional) values transmission, they together encourage lifelong obedience to God in everything. So it’s no surprise when some people sense from early childhood that God is nudging them toward missions. For others it’s a journey of discovery. But regardless, few potential recruits know how to “get there from here”—and the journey is always uphill. Many never make it as a result....

So potential recruits are plentiful, thanks mainly to our Christian institutions. But people to help them get where God wants them are very scarce! That’s where we come in. We follow up on the investments of Christian institutions by helping potential recruits discern the next good step in the often complex placement process. It’s mainly about guidance for the journey, born of our personal experience, in the light of current information, laced with prayer and encouragement.



Thank you, Valmonters, for your prayers for us! Please pray that we do our part very well. Just now we got messages from three people asking for prayer and input for tough spots in their journeys....

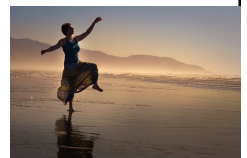
Dancing With God – Submitted by Debbie G.

When I meditated on the word Guidance,
I kept seeing "dance" at the end of the word.
I remember reading that doing God's will is a lot like
dancing.

When two people try to lead, nothing feels right.
The movement doesn't flow with the music,
And everything is quite uncomfortable and jerky.
When one person realizes that, and lets the other lead,
Both bodies begin to flow with the music.
One gives gentle cues, perhaps with a nudge to the back
Or by pressing Lightly in one direction or another.
It's as if two become one body, moving beautifully.
The dance takes surrender, willingness,

And attentiveness from one person
And gentle guidance and skill from the other.
My eyes drew back to the word Guidance.
When I saw "G: I thought of God, followed by "u" and "I".
"God, "u" and "I" dance."
God, you, and I dance.

As I lowered my head, I became willing to trust
that I would get guidance about my life.
Once again, I became willing to let God lead.
My prayer for you today is that God's blessings
And mercies be upon you on this day and everyday.
May you abide in God as God abides in you.
Dance together with God, trusting God to lead
And to guide you through each season of your
life.



Continued from page 6

“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, And do not return there without watering the earth And making it bear and sprout, And furnishing seed to the sower and bread to the eater; So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire. And without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it. For you will go out with joy and be led forth with peace; The mountains and the hills will break forth into shouts of joy before you, And all the trees of the field will clap their hands.” ~Isaiah 55:10-12

Eric's Preaching Schedule

| Date | Primary Text | 2nd Text | Title | Series | Church Calendar |
|-------------|------------------|----------|--|---------------------|----------------------|
| January 4 | Matthew 4:12-25 | | Who? What? When? Where? Why? How? | Sermon on the Mount | |
| January 11 | Matthew 5:1-11 | | Blessedness in the Kingdom of Heaven | Sermon on the Mount | Epiphany Sunday |
| January 18 | Matthew 5:12-20 | | Jots and Tittles | Sermon on the Mount | |
| January 25 | Matthew 5:21-42 | | It was Said... | Sermon on the Mount | |
| February 1 | Matthew 5:34-6:4 | | Be Perfect -- You Know, Like God | Sermon on the Mount | |
| February 8 | Matthew 6:5-15 | | Ritual Prayer and Transforming Reality | Sermon on the Mount | |
| February 15 | Matthew 6:16-24 | | Investing in Lamps | Sermon on the Mount | |
| February 22 | | | <i>Neutral Pulpit Sermon</i> | | First Sunday of Lent |



Round Pantry Needs

- ♦ Volunteers for the 3:45 and 5:45 shift
- ♦ Baby cereal, canned meat, fruit and 100% juice (non refrigerated)



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.