

Jan/Feb 2016

Valmont VINTAGE

CELEBRATING *150 years* OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS!



Valmont Community Presbyterian Church



Pastor Eric

"It was impossible, therefore, that God should leave man to be carried off by corruption, because it would be unfitting and unworthy of Himself."

-Athanasius, *On the Incarnation*

As we move beyond the seasons of Advent and Christmas, we begin to ponder what exactly the Incarnation portends. Yes, we've been anticipating a king; and we've been shocked by the nature of this king; but how do we reconcile that this king is God become human? How can we accept such a bizarre turn of events? Surely he is either God playing human or human becoming

godlike. How can anyone be fully God and fully human?

Apart from considering the *how* of the Incarnation, we are also left to ponder the *why*: Why does God take this course? Why has God become human?

There are tomes of theological thought addressing the questions above, but I believe there are other modes of inquiry outside of rumination for touching on these answers. Ludwig Wittgenstein famously wrote: "It is love that believes the Resurrection," and I would suggest that it is love that believes the Incarnation as well. Why? If for no other reason, it was love that inspired these events in the life of God.

As the early church father, Athanasius posits in the quotation above, God could not leave us in our brokenness — the nature of God's love simply wouldn't allow for that! And so, God chose to enter our brokenness with us, out of love. It would be unfitting of God's love to do anything else.

The Apostle writes: "For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. I have been

crucified with Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me" (Galatians 2:19-20). It is in love that the Son is given to the world, and it is in love that we encounter the mystery of an Incarnate God. There are lots of systems and theories to explain how this all works, but none seem quite so real to me as the love of God that I've encountered in Jesus, who gave himself for me.

For the love of Christ,
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:

Ruth Lewis

Rex Craig

Mike Greever

Scott Starin

Clerk of Session:

Joyce Glazer

Deacons:

Don Lewis

Anne Harris-Cross

Cindy Sexton

Treasurer:

Ruth Lewis

Church Administrator:

Ella Travis

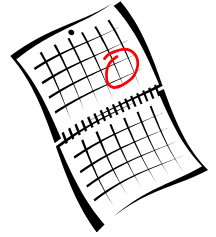
Choir/Worship Leader:

Mary Chapin Durling

Accompanist:

Madoka Asari

Calendar



1/10 - Elder and Deacon Installation

1/11 - Deacons at 7:30pm

1/12 - Round Pantry at 2:00pm

1/13 - Worship Team at 3:00pm

1/17 - Communion

1/19 - Session at 5:30pm

1/26 - Round Pantry at 2:00pm

1/31 - Eric out of Town

2/5-2/6 - Presbytery in Estes Park

2/8 - Deacons at 7:30pm

2/9 - Round Pantry at 2:00pm

2/10 - Ash Wednesday at 7:00pm

2/16 - Session at 5:30pm

2/21 - Communion

2/23 - Round Pantry at 2:00pm

2/28—Adam London - salmon lunch and mission talk

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 11 am

Choir practice 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



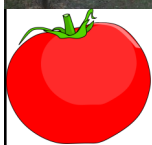


Community Garden

Page 3



Come join your community garden this next spring. David, one of the gardeners, produced a total of 1000 lbs of food not counting the approximately 15% he gave away.



* Basil: 5 lbs * Peppers: 19 lbs * Beets: 71 lbs * Beans: 106 lbs
* Zucchini: 89 lbs * Yellow squash: 34 lbs * Delicata squash: 38 lbs
* Tomatoes: 626 lbs * Tomatillos: 103 lbs



See Don, Dave or Mike about a plot!



Clues to the Answers to “Who Did What First” on page 7



- | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1) Genesis 40:20 | 2) Genesis 20:3-8 | 3) Genesis 3:4 | 4) Acts 20:9 |
| 5) Exodus 7:14-24 | 6) 2 Samuel 15-18 | 7) Esther 2:7 | 8) John 2:1-11 |
| 9) Esther 2 | 10) Genesis 3:24 | 11) Genesis 8:7 | 12) Genesis 3:24 |
| 13) Genesis 2:8 | 14) Genesis 1:30 | 15) 2 King 12 | |

Pig Roasts and Potlucks



Potato and Leek Soup From Mike's kitchen

Total Time: 1 hr Prep: 16 min Cook: 44 min Yield: 1 1/2 quarts soup, or about 6 servings

Ingredients:

- | | |
|--|---|
| ♦ 1 large or 2 small leeks, about 1 pound | * 2 bay leaves |
| ♦ 20 black peppercorns | * 4 sprigs fresh thyme |
| ♦ 2 tablespoons butter | * 2 strips bacon, chopped |
| ♦ 1/2 cup dry white wine | * 5 cups chicken stock |
| ♦ 1 to 1 1/4 pounds russet potatoes, diced | * 1 1/2 teaspoons salt |
| ♦ 3/4 teaspoon white pepper | * 1/2 to 3/4 cup creme fraiche or heavy cream |
| ♦ 2 tablespoons snipped chives | |



Instructions:

Trim the green portions of the leek and, using 2 of the largest and longest leaves, make a bouquet garni by folding the 2 leaves around the bay leaves, peppercorns and thyme. Tie into a package-shaped bundle with kitchen twine and set aside. (Alternately, tie 2 leek leaves, bay leaves, peppercorns and thyme together in a piece of cheesecloth.)

Using a sharp knife, halve the white part of the leek lengthwise and rinse well under cold running water to rid the leek of any sand. Slice thinly crosswise and set aside.

In a large soup pot over medium heat, melt the butter and add the bacon. Cook for 5 to 6 minutes, stirring occasionally, until the bacon is very soft and has rendered most of its fat. Add the chopped leeks and cook until wilted, about 5 minutes. Add the wine and bring to a boil. Add the reserved bouquet garni, chicken or vegetable stock, potatoes, salt and white pepper, and bring to a boil. Reduce the heat to a simmer and cook for 30 minutes, or until the potatoes are falling apart and the soup is very flavorful.

Remove the bouquet garni and, working in batches, puree the soup in a food processor or blender. Stir in the creme fraiche and adjust the seasoning, if necessary. Serve immediately, with some of the snipped chives sprinkled over the top of each bowl of soup.



Mac's Potluck presentation



Friends lunchin' & laughin' at Cindys



What is Happening



Christmas tree Gifts for 2015

Admiring the Christmas gifts for Attention Homes from generous VCPC congregation



Kenna & Erika baking cookies for Attention Homes



Hanging of the greens

HIGHLANDS HIGHLIGHTS

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



It seems that the majority of time Highlands staff has to deal with a crisis. The latest one was the server and backup systems failed. The server was down for over a week. Phil Miller spent many hours rebuilding the server and getting the basic systems back up and running. The data bases for the accounting and donor systems are being rebuilt.

The annual Christmas party was a great success with 95 people in attendance. The giving tree resulted in approximately \$6,000 in donations that Saturday and another \$5,000 pledged for 2016. As always, the food was outstanding. 2016 will mark the 70th anniversary of Highlands. Big plans for the celebration are under way, so watch for upcoming news.

The Council of Plains and Peaks Presbytery will meet the morning of January 9th, followed by a special called meeting of the Presbytery at 1 p.m. This meeting is to hear a report from Council regarding the financial needs of Highlands which includes the need to meet short-term obligations at Highlands of approximately \$78,000.00 (the balance of the mortgage payment and the line of credit), and the request from Highlands Camp Committee for \$200,000.00 additional support for the 2016 operating budget. Please keep these meetings and decisions in your prayers. Also, please keep the Highlands ministry in your prayers. It is your support that makes this ministry possible.

Blessings!!

Ruth Lewis

Highlands Camp Committee



Riddle ...

When asked this riddle, 80% of the kindergarten students got the answer, compared to 17% of Stanford University seniors:

What is greater than God,
More evil than the Devil
The poor have it,
The rich need it,
And if you eat it, you'll die?
Who are you going to ask about the answer?



Facts about Lent

The 40 days of Lent correspond to Christ's 40 days in the wilderness. The date of Lent is determined by the date of Easter. In A.D. 325 the Council of Nicea stated that "Easter should be observed on the first Sunday following the 14th day of the Paschal moon." Lent comes from the Old English word *Lencten* meaning "spring".



The wearing of the sackcloth and ashes is a custom going back to the Old Testament. Roman Catholics observe the custom on Ash Wednesday, using ashes of the previous year's Palm Sunday palms. The latest Lent can begin is March 10 and that will happen again in 2038. The earliest is February 5 and that happened in 1818 and did not occur during the 20th century. The 40 days of Lent does not include Sundays so the duration is actually 46 days!

During Lent, traditionally we give something up and/or add something.

What to Say to a Burning Bush?

Below is a list of characters who actually saw and spoke to God. Match the people with what they saw and their response to the heavenly visitation.

#	Person		God's Manifestation		Person's Reaction
1	Jacob	A	Three men	a	Decreed that anyone who spoke against Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego's God would be cut into pieces
2	Moses	B	Looked like a gardener	b	Made a huge picnic under a tree
3	Isaiah	C	The Lord stood above a ladder into the heavens	c	Ran to tell the disciples
4	Ezekiel	D	A still, small voice after an earthquake, wind and fire	d	Made a marker out of a pillow
5	Stephen	E	Talked through a burning bush	e	Ate a scroll, as suggested
6	Abraham	F	He was high and lifted up, and His train filled the temple	f	Complained that he was the only faithful servant left in the world
7	Nebuchadnezzar	G	Jesus standing at the right hand of God	g	Cried "Woe is me!" and an angel came and put a coal on his lips
8	Elijah	H	He was on a throne, half amber and half fire, surrounded by a rainbow	h	Told a crowd of people, who then stoned him to death
9	Mary Magdalene	I	Like the Son of God in the fire	i	Took off his shoes

Answer:

- 1, __, __ (Genesis 28:12-18) 2, __, __ (Exodus 3:4,5) 3, __, __ (Isaiah 6:1-7)
- 4, __, __ (Ezekiel 1:26 -3:3) 5, __, __ (Acts 7:55-58) 6, __, __ (Genesis 18:1-8)
- 7, __, __ (Daniel 3:24-30) 8, __, __ (Kings 19:9-14) 9, __, __ (John 20:14-18)

In the Bible—Who Did What First?

Who had the first birthday party in the Bible?

Who told the first lie?

What was the first of the 10 plagues of Egypt?

Who used the first pseudonym?

Where was the first beauty contest in the Bible, and who won?

Who wore the first bridal veil?

Who were the first exiles?

What is the first color mentioned in the Bible?

What is the first dream mentioned in the Bible?

Who was the first person to fall asleep during a sermon?

What was the first military coup in Israel?

Where did Jesus work His first miracle?

What was the first creature out of the ark?

Who planted the first garden?

Where was the first piggy bank?

Answers: Clues to the answers is on page 3.

Adult Ed. Schedule—The Parables of Jesus

Date	Parable	Matthew	Mark	Luke
1/3/16	The Nature of Parables	13:34-35		
1/10/16	The Sower	13:3-23	4:1-20	8:5-15
1/17/16	Hidden Treasure, Pearl and Net	13:44-50		
1/24/16	Unmerciful Servant	18:23-35		
2/7/16	Laborers in the Vineyard	20:1-16		
2/14/16	The Two Debtors			7:41-47
2/21/16	The Good Samaritan			10:30-37
2/28/16	The Rich Fool			12:16-21
3/6/16	The Faithful Servant	24:42	13:33-37	12:35-48
3/13/16	Lost Sheep, Money, Son	19:12-14		15:3-32
3/20/16	Lost Sheep, Money, Son (Cont.)	19:12-14		15:3-32
4/3/16	The Unjust Steward: and the Rich Man and Lazarus			16:1-31
4/10/16	The Unjust Steward: and the Rich Man and Lazarus (cont)			16:1-31

Eric's Preaching Schedule

Date	Primary Text	Title	Series	Church Calendar
January 3	Hebrews 4:14-16	Joy Keeter and "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"	Hymns	
January 10	Luke 23:32-43	Pearline Toney "Blessed Redeemer"	Hymns	Epiphany Sunday
January 17		Linda Smith	Hymns	
January 24	Philippians 4:4-9	Anne Harris Cross "Be Not Dismayed Whateer Betide"	Hymns	
January 31		Don Lewis	Hymns	[Out of town?]
February 7	Matthew 11:25-30	Cindy Sexton "Softly and Tenderly"	Hymns	
February 14	Job 1:1-22	Opening Narrative	Job	First Sunday of Lent
February 21	Job 19:23-29; 23:1-17	Job	Job	
February 28	Job 18:1-21	Friends	Job	
March 6	Job 32:1-22	Elihu	Job	
March 13	Job 38:1-7; 42:1-9	God	Job	

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.