

March/April 2016

Valmont VINTAGE

CELEBRATING *150 years* OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS!



Valmont Community Presbyterian Church



Pastor Eric

For much of my life, I have puzzled over prayer.

What is prayer? What does it accomplish? Why do we do it? Can we persuade God to change things? Does prayer change us?

Despite my growing list of questions about prayer, I find the more that I do it, the more necessary it seems to my life... perhaps even to all life.

C.S. Lewis is attributed as saying: "I pray because I can't help myself. I pray because I'm helpless. I pray because the need flows out of me all the time, waking and sleeping. It doesn't change God, it changes me." I think there is a lot of truth in this claim. When we pray, we

are changed because we are tapping into the deep reality of the cosmos — a reality that is always around us, but of which we are not always aware. Prayer connects us with the ever-present, all-sustaining love of God. If we can hold ourselves in that love, then the Psalmist's assertion certainly becomes true is us: "Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart" (Ps. 37:4). As we delight in the Lord's presence, our heart will be taught what to desire.

The Cistercian monk, André Louf writes, "Prayer is the superabundance of the heart. [... The Word] has gone out from God and been sown in the good soil of the heart. Having now been *chewed over* and assimilated, it is regenerated in the heart, to the praise of God. It has taken root in us and is now bearing its fruit: we in our turn utter the Word and send it back to God. We have become Word; we are prayer."

In prayer, we hold ourselves in God's presence, and our heart is filled to a dangerous degree with God's love for the world. This will cause us to mourn injustice and suffering; it will cause us to rejoice in peace and grace. Prayer helps us live into and live out the Word of God.

There is so much more that I could write about prayer (and so much more still that I have yet to understand about it), but I think this is a good place to start. I also hope that some of you will consider joining me on a monthly basis to spend some time together, allowing for our hearts to be filled to superabundance. We will meet every fourth Monday at 7:00 p.m. to spend time with one another opening ourselves to encounter the ever-present love of God.

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

Cindy Sexton

Anne Harris-Cross

Treasurer:

Ruth Lewis

Church Administrator:

Ella Travis

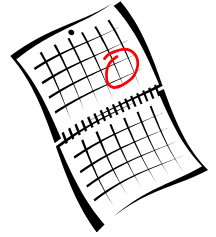
Choir/Worship Leader:

Mary Chapin Durling

Accompanist:

Madoka Asari

Calendar



3/4-3/5 - Elder/Deacon Retreat

3/8 - Round Pantry 2:00pm

3/12 - Valmont Work Day 9:00am

3/13 - Communion Sunday

3/14 - Deacons at 7:30pm

3/15 - Session at 5:30pm

3/20 - Palm Sunday

3/22- Round Pantry 2:00pm

3/24 - Maundy Thursday Service 12:00pm

3/25 - Good Friday Tenebrae Service 7:00pm

3/27 - Easter Sunday Sunrise Service 6:30am;

Worship Service 10:30am

3/28 - Contemplative Prayer Service 7:00pm

4/11 - Deacons 7:30pm

4/12 - Round Pantry 2:00pm

4/17 - Communion

4/19 - Session 5:30pm

4/26 - Round Pantry 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 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

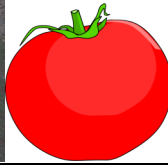




Community Garden

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Come join your community garden this next spring. Please contact us if you are interested in your own garden plot.



See Don, Dave or Mike about a plot!



Car in the Parking Lot

Say goodbye to the car in the parking lot. It is being donated to Make a Wish.



Be in Prayer!

Be in prayer for the Elders and Deacons as they will be on their retreat at Highlands on March 4 and 5.



Elders: Ruth Lewis, Mike Greever
Rex Craig, Scott Starin

Clerk of Session: Joyce Glazer

Deacons: Don Lewis, Anne Harris-Cross
Cindy Sexton

Think Pie and Kitchen

A potluck and pie auction will be on April 24 after worship service. Invite your friends. The auction proceeds will go toward the remodeling of the kitchen.



Pig Roasts and Potlucks



Grilled Salmon with Cucumber Dill Salsa From Debbie G's kitchen

Prep: 15 min Cook: 75 min Serves 4

Ingredients:

- ◆ Four 6 oz salmon fillets or steaks * 1 tsp cayenne pepper * Juice of one lemon * Salt
- For Salsa
- ◆ 1 C Veggie Dill Dip * 2 medium cucumbers, peeled, seeded & diced * 1 large tomato, diced
- ◆ 1 jalapeno, seeded & diced * 1 garlic clove, minced * 1/4 cup cilantro leaves, chopped

Instructions:

Rinse and pat dry salmon. Remove 1 cup veggie dill dip for salsa and set aside. In small bowl, combine remaining Veggie Dill Dip and cayenne pepper. Spread mixture over salmon and refrigerate for 2 hours. Brush off excess marinade from salmon and discard marinade.

Preheat grill to high heat. Lightly oil grates to prevent sticking. Sprinkle salmon with salt and place each piece skin side down, cooking 3 minutes. Turn salmon to other side and continue to cook for 2 minutes on high heat and move salmon to indirect heat for an additional 2 minutes or until salmon is cooked to desired temperature. Transfer salmon to a plate and sprinkle with lemon juice. For salsa, combine cucumbers, tomato, jalapeño, garlic, cilantro and 1 cup Dill Veggie Dip in a medium bowl. To serve, spoon salsa over salmon



Church Retreat



Nearly 30 members and friends of Valmont participated in an all-church retreat on February 13th, where we met at the Brining's clubhouse in Frederick for a day of considering how food, fellowship, and hospitality relate to our worship of God. Our time together incorporated teaching, song, opportunities to share, and (obviously) eating with one another.



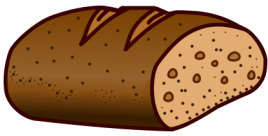
Deacons

For March Deacons Caring Basket will again be used to collect school supplies for Family Learning Center. The picture shows 2 of their employees with the many bags of schools supplies we donated to them last fall.

Cindy



A few Notes from Cindy



Because I love the fellowship surrounding the "breaking of bread together", all ladies of VCPC are invited to my home for lunch The 2nd Wednesday of each month, (except July). We usually potluck, but feel free to come even if you don't have something to bring--we always have more than enough. Feel free to invite a neighbor (or other friend) to join us--there is no agenda, except Food, Fun, & Fellowship.

Have you ever felt that your prayer time was spent with you doing most (maybe all) of the talking? That has certainly been my experience--by the time I'm through with my petitions, it's time to get other things done ;) Going to the Contemplative Prayer service that Eric has started, the 4th Monday of each month, offers the opportunity to sit quietly while hearing what God has to say to me. Hope others can attend and join in that experience as well.



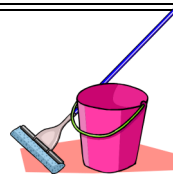
I recently heard someone say that on Sunday mornings we should be like Charlie in Willie Wonka's chocolate factory: act as if we have the GOLDEN ticket, because we do--we have the ticket to worship God together.
Kinda like that idea.



Spring Cleanup

The church is planning a cleanup date for March 12 with a backup date of March 19. The fun begins at 9 am. The church has some tools but bring any tools you would like to use at the church. The property crew has determined a list of "To Do" items. Here are just a few items. Do you see something that needs to be added to the list? Let us know!

Don, Dave and Mike



Inside touch up paint
Top to bottom cleaning on the church
Replace/repair pew connector
Pew stains and wood oiling
Organize the kitchen
Fellowship hall light bulb change
Paint Church 's outside trim
Fix / Repair Fellowship Ceiling
Replace closet doors in classroom
Remove power screen in office
Fix carpet snags
Remove cobwebs



HIGHLANDS HIGHLIGHTS

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



2016 has begun with some exciting news. At a special presbytery meeting in January, the Presbytery of Plains and Peaks approved \$100,000 in additional operating support for Highlands, along with a \$100,000 matching grant for debt reduction and debt service. This is a great help to Highlands!! If you are in a position to make a donation, consider making it to Highlands for the matching grant.

Highlands is a small city run by six full-time staff members, 10 – 45 part-time staff members and many volunteers. Highlands runs a water and wastewater system that makes it possible to offer this beautiful place in the mountains. These systems are 13 to 20+ years old. Regulations are changing and improvements will be required. Managing these big steps will be important work for the camp committee in 2016.



2016 will mark the 70th anniversary of Highlands. Big plans for the celebration are under way, including a camper reunion in August. Watch for upcoming news for all the events. Mark your calendar for the spring work day on May 14th. Many volunteers are needed to get the camp ready for the summer camp. It is a great opportunity to help out, to meet others and spend a great day in the mountains!

Blessings!!



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.



\$\$\$ NOTES FROM THE TREASURER \$\$\$

Valmont income for 2015 was \$121,392 with expenses at \$123,529. Thus we had a shortfall of \$2,137. We ended the year with \$29,251 in our operating account, \$4,006 in the memorial account, \$13,376 in our money market account and a CD valued at \$13,511. 2016. If you have any questions about Valmont finances, please feel free to talk to me. **It is YOUR money!**

At the annual meeting in November, the congregation approved that proceeds from the sale of gift cards would be used for remodeling and upgrading the kitchen. The women of the church are well aware of the needs in the kitchen. The use of grocery cards at Safeway or King Soopers is very easy! You purchase the gift card for the grocery store of your choice and pay the face value of the card. You spend it like cash or writing a check. 5% of value of the card goes to the church. Safeway allows you to purchase other gift cards by using you Safeway gift card. Example, if you are going out to dinner, pick up a gift card for the restaurant and 5% goes to the church. This works the same for department stores, Amazon, Home Depot and others. King Soopers does not allow you to do this. If you have any questions, ask Don Lewis or Shirley Crowe at the gift card table on Sunday morning.

Ruth Lewis,
Treasurer



Valmont Community Presbyterian Women's Group



Valmont Community Presbyterian Women's Group has been involved with Attention Homes for many years. Our mission stays close to their hearts, with one member recalling being in the Sunday School class where Judge Holmes talked about starting Attention Homes. Since 2011, the group has consistently made and delivered delicious home-baked treats for our youth. These last two years we were especially lucky to have the group organize a holiday gift drive at their church; resulting in more than 100 gifts for our youth. Attention Homes is full of gratitude for this great group of women!

Adult Ed. Schedule—The Parables of Jesus

Date	Parable	Matthew	Mark	Luke
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

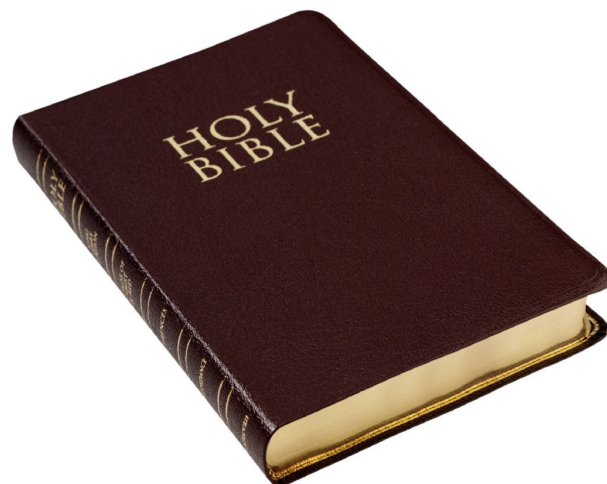
Date	Primary Text	Title	Series	Church Calendar
February 28		Adam London		[Guest Preacher]
March 6	Job 19:23-29; 23:1-17	The Appellant	Job	
March 13	Job 32:1-22	A Surprise Witness	Job	
March 20	Job 38:1-7; 42:1-9	Natural Law	Job	Palm Sunday / Communion
March 27	Luke 24:1-9, 36-49 Luke 15:31-32	Homecoming at Daybreak		Easter
April 3	Colossians 1:1-23	If A=B and B=C, Then...	Colossians	
April 10	Colossians 1:24-2:7	The Mystery of What's Lacking	Colossians	
April 17	Colossians 2:8-23	The Cave	Colossians	Communion
April 24	Colossians 3:1-4:1	Christ Clothes	Colossians	

A quick note from Stewart & Edith Nelson

There are changes in our lives. Here is our plans in brief:

1. Carry on our (portable) Wycliffe work.
2. Help Trevor and Dawn daily every way we can.
3. Find God's place for us in Boulder.
4. Go to WA the end of March to sell the property there.
5. Pack, move, and settle in Boulder.
6. Help the kids move home and business.

Stewart & Edith



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.