# Jan/Feb 2017

CELEBRATING 150 years of God's Faithfulness!





**Pastor Eric** 

Throughout 2016 I took my cue from Calvin when he writes: "From this we may gather that man's nature, so to speak, is a perpetual factory of idols." (Institutes 1.11.8). The overarching theme of my preaching dealt with our idolatry — our tendency to worship sources of power and security other than the God of the Bible. This teaching was meant to call us to examine our fears and anxieties, the things that cause us to trust in the strength of the world rather than the suffering of Jesus.

However, now that we're entering into a new year, I believe the tenor of

my preaching will shift away from the temptation of idolatry and into the response of faith. James the brother of Jesus avers:

"But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing." (James 1:22-25)

Becoming a little-Christ rather than a little-self-serving-idolfactory is the mission of faith. Acting like Christ in the world is what faith looks like. We cannot simply come on Sunday mornings, glance at the Scriptures, and then go back into the world to behave as though we haven't been claimed by the grace of the gospel — this would be looking in a mirror and forgetting ourselves.

So this year we will be following after Jesus in our teaching, worship, and mission. We will be looking for ways to partner with God's work in the world through the equipping of the Holy Spirit. Let us consider what faith looks like and do everything we can to make that our appearance to the world. Let's look like Christ in our actions: let's reflect his glory.

In Christ. Eric

Ask a friend to join you.

You Have A Friend At Valmont!

**Sunday School:** 9am **Worship Service:** 10:30

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

303-442-2135 www.ValmontChurch.org

### **Bulletin Board**

Elders:

Ruth Lewis Doug Myers Cheryl Craig Scott Starin

**Clerk of Session:** Joyce Glazer

**Deacons:** 

Don Lewis Ruth Tisdale

Cindy Sexton

**Treasurer:** Ruth Lewis

Church Administrator: Ella Travis

Choir/Worship Director:

Madoka Asari

**Accompanist:** Stella Pradeau

# 

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 a

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 pm

Every Thursday: Iglesia meets 7-9 pm

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

Every Friday – Valmont Victors 8-10 pm

Art group meets 4th Tuesday at 9:30 am

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

#### Calendar

1/1 - Worship at 10:30am - Rev. Stephen Bird Preaching

1/6 - Epiphany

1/8 - Worship at 10:30am, Epiphany Sunday

1/9 - Deacons at 7:00pm

1/10 - Worship Team at 10:00am

1/10 - Round Pantry at 2:00pm

1/15 - Worship at 10:30, Communion

1/17 - Session at 5:30pm

1/24 - Round Pantry at 2:00pm

1/29 - Worship at 10:30am, Fifth Sunday Service

2/7 - Worship Team at 10:00am

2/11 - Presbytery at First Pres. Scottsbluff, NB

2/13 - Deacons at 7:00pm

2/14 - Round Pantry at 2:00pm

2/19 - Worship at 10:30am, Communion

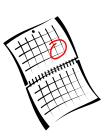
2/21 - Session at 5:30pm

2/26 - Worship at 10:30am

2/28 - Round Pantry at 2:00pm

3/1 - Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00pm





# Sunday School Party





After completing our fall material, including 4 week study of Advent, we took time to have a celebration. We are blessed to have Serenity and Charisma faithfully attending Sunday School. Cheryl Craig and Deb Greever

#### **Attention Homes Needs**

The early Christian leader, James the brother of Jesus, writes: "Religion that is pure and undefined before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world." As members of God's family at Valmont, I know that we take this command to heart. One way in which we will strive after our calling this year is by assisting in the mission of Attention Homes.

Attention Homes is a local organization serving the homeless youth of Boulder County, and the deacons will be collecting items for them through January 29th. Attention Homes youth make up is roughly 70% male and 30% female. Please consider purchasing the following items accordingly:

\* Emergen-C packets

\* Travel Size Deodorant

\* Cough Drops

\* Chap stick

\* Razors

\* Socks

\* Boxers

\* Women's underwear

\* Hand warmers

\* Warm winter gloves

\* Travel size lotion

Let us share the love of God tangibly by reaching out to the vulnerable population of homeless youth.

# Pig Roasts and Potlucks



## Chocolate-Cherry Crisp –from the kitchen of Debbie Starin

Heat oven to 350.

Task 1: Combine then set aside:

Ghirardelli dark chocolate brownie mix

\* 1/4 cup water

\* 1/2 cup melted butter

\* 1 egg

\* 1 cup oatmeal

\* 1/2 cup chopped walnuts

Task 2: Combine:

\* 2 cans good quality cherry pie filling

\* 1 square melted Ghirardelli dark chocolate (optional)

Task 3

Place the pie filling in an unprepared baking dish, approx. 9" x 9" or a little larger.

Place the brownie mix on top of the cherries. The brownie mix is very thick, so I lightly pat pieces of it and place it all over the cherries.

Bake for 30 - 35 minutes, until the cherry sauce bubbles around the edges and the top of the brownie is crisp. Serve with ice cream



#### A Wonderful Christmas Eve Service









#### Excerpt from "The Book Of Days" - Day 115

Teacher," I said, "How does one know the plan of God for one's life?"

"Come," he said. He led me into the chamber of Scrolls, opened the ark, removed the scroll, and laid it on the table. But he didn't unroll it.

"In the Psalms it is written, 'And in Your book, they all were written, the days fashioned for me, when as yet there were none of them.' So all our days are written in God's book before they come to pass. But in the Hebrew Scriptures, the work for book is *sefer*. And in the Greek of the New Testament Scriptures, the work for book is *biblion*, from which we get the word *Bible*."

"And what exactly do serfer and biblion mean?"

"They refer to a scroll, a rolled parchment. God's book is a scroll. His Book of Days is the Scroll of Days. The scroll holds the Word of God, the will of God, and the plans of God. So how does the scroll reveal His Word, His will, and His plan?"

He placed his hands on the knobs at the bottom of each roll. "You can only see what's inside the scroll," he said, "as it unrolls." At that, he began unrolling it. "So you can only see the fullness of God's plans for your life as they unfold...as he scroll unrolls. And unlike the books you've been used to reading, with a scroll, you *Continued on page 5* 

#### Music is in the Air

Happy New Year! Time flies so fast that it is hard to believe that it has been more than two years since I joined the Valmont community, and thank you all for welcoming me so warmly. I am so grateful and proud of the choir for the hard work and the musicality. The choir members often had to learn the music within a week when rehearsal schedules had to change, and they have always offered beautiful and soulful music every time they sung. I would also like to thank Stella, Eric and Ella for personally working with me so patiently and being flexible with me!

Beside the choir music, Valmont music ministry again visited local retirement houses for caroling and also performed hand bell music for Christmas eve service. Along with the choir practice and performances, anyone is welcome for caroling and hand bell choir: please let me know if you are interested next time (hand bell will most likely be offered during Lent season)! I am very much looking forward to making the musical activity even more thriving this coming year!

On a personal update, I joined the faculty at Colorado State University as an Instructor in Collaborative Piano in November. The workload at CSU is as challenging as performing and coaching more than 40 individual students' juries, recitals, and auditions, but people at CSU are also very welcoming and the busy schedule rather makes my soul vibrant!

Lastly, I would like to invite you all to recitals and concerts that Stella and I will be performing:

1/18 (Wed) 7:30 Andrew Brown Doctoral Cello Recital at CU Grusin Hall (Free)

1/30 (Mon) 7:30 Andrew Krimm (Altius Quartet) Viola Recital at CU Grusin Hall (Free)

2/3 (Fri) 7:30 Andrew Giordano (Altius Quartet) Violin Recital at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church (Free)

2/3 (Fri) 7:30 Cantabile ft. Stella Padeau Winter's Passing at the Stewart Auditorium (Longmont)

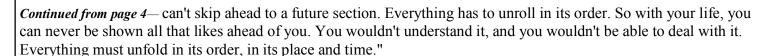
2/5 (Sun) 2:00 Cantabile ft. Stella Padeau Winter's Passing at First Congregational Church (Boulder)

\* Cantabile Tickets available on <u>cantabilesingers.org</u> or talk to Stella

2/26 (Sun) 2:00 The Boulder Public Library Concert Series: Geraldine Walther (Takács Quartet) and Madoka

Madoka

Music Director



"But what lies ahead in the scroll is already written, finished."

"So too God's plans for your life are already written and finished. And so it is written that He has prepared for us good works beforehand that we should walk in them. It's already there beforehand, but only unfold in it time. And notice, "He said, pointing to the words on the scroll, "everything in the scroll is connected. You don't see the words that haven't yet been unrolled, but the words you do see lead directly to them and foreshadow them. So with God's plan for you life; you don't see all that lies ahead, what hasn't yet been revealed, but the part you do see in the present foreshadows what lies ahead and leads directly to what is yet to be revealed. The key, therefore, is to live in the present. To live the present day and every present moment of your life in the fullness of God's will. And the words you see, living in the course of His Word, will lead you to the perfect will and the appointed destiny waiting in your unrolled scroll of days."

The Mission: Make the Word of God the plan for your day. Focus on fulfilling His Word over anything else, and you will be led to His perfect will.

Psalms 139:16: Jeremiah 29:11; Ephesians 2:10

Submitted by Joy Keeter and Kris Overfelt

#### **RENOVATION ACTION COMMITTEE!**

RAC group consists of Ruth T, Marlene, Cindy and Deb G. Mike is the Property committee's representative in the group. The funds raised as of end of the year is over \$11,500. Look for fundraising opportunities to be announced soon!



Please pray for this committee to guide them in the Lord's will. If you have any ideas, please contact a committee member.



#### A Bit on New Members at Valmont

October 30, 2016 saw the reception of several new members into our congregation. Here are short paragraphs of information about three of them. More will come in another issue as will vignettes of long-time members.

Peggy Moore comes from a family of homesteaders in this area. She attended Sunday School and activities in the old church with her grandmother, Lucy Holmes. She graduated from UNC in Greeley with a BSBA degree. She has returned to this area to live with her sister-in-law and take care of grandnieces and grandnephews. Peggy has one daughter who lives in Nashville.

Peggy worked in the insurance industry for many years and then as a work-camper in Florida before returning to Boulder. She enjoys gardening, painting and drawing, scrapbooking, and caring for pets. Adult coloring books have captured her interest.

Adrian Shin comes from Michigan, is a professor at CU-Boulder, is interest in music, arts, and outdoor activities. He was drawn to Valmont Church because of the family-like atmosphere and the beautiful location. His family includes his mother, a brother and sister-in-law, and one niece. Adrian has been elected to serve on the 2017 nominating committee.

Janet Zacharisen of Danish descent is a 4<sup>th</sup> generation Coloradoan. She has two sisters, one brother, and nephews and niece. She is an elementary school teacher. Her interests include gardening, cooking, and music. She has joined the choir.

#### A NEW BELL FOR VALMONT

Mary Wells, a long time resident of the Valmont area, passed away late in 2016. She had lived 96 of her 98 years in the home at the curve of 63<sup>rd</sup> and Andrus Rd. The farm had originally been the Boulder County Poor Farm from 1902 until 1918. It had provided long term care for the county's indigent. The property had been operated as a farm from 1897. In 1902 the county purchased the property which included 120 acres. In 1902, the county needed a larger facility and the property was sald. It is not also have any when the Wells family obtained

ger facility and the property was sold. It is not clear how or when the Wells family obtained the property. Mary had always wanted Valmont Church to have the bell. It is thought that the bell was originally on the poor farm. Ella Travis is going to go through old photographs at the library to see if it is in an old photo of the property. Mary's son said that the bell always was in the yard at the farm and she made him promise that he would give it to Valmont Church. It is now sitting on the floor in the corner of fellowship hall. We hope to learn more about the bell and figure out an appropriate place for it.

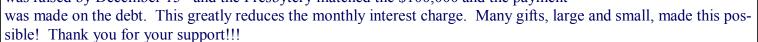
Submitted by Ruth L.



#### **HIGHLANDS HIGHLIGTS**

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

Retreat Center. The Presbytery of Plains and Peaks offered a \$100,000 matching grant challenge for donations made for debt reduction by December 31<sup>st</sup>. More than \$100,000 was raised by December 15<sup>th</sup> and the Presbytery matched the \$100,000 and the payment



The annual Christmas Party and auction was also a great success. The auction and donations raised over \$17,000. We are so grateful to the amazing artists and generous donors. As always, the appetizers were wonderful!! The kitchen staff goes overboard on preparing food for the party as well as for "everyday" meals and special events.

Adam Glazier was recognized as an <u>outstanding volunteer</u> at the Christmas party. He went up to Highlands several times during the past year, spending three or four days each time, cutting and splitting wood. He took his chain saws, trailer and other equipment needed. There are many dead trees on Highlands's property that need to be removed. He is also looking for people who would be willing go with him in 2017 to help. It is a great way to "get away" for a few days and enjoy the mountains. Consider the opportunity!!

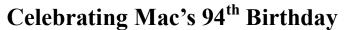
Blessings!! Ruth Lewis

# **News from the Deacons**

Deacons' Basket: See "Attention Homes Needs" article on page 3



## Making Music Magic Madoka and Andrew







#### **Eric's Preaching Schedule**

Date	Primary Text	<b>Secondary Text</b>	Title	Series	Church Calendar
Jan 8	Isaiah 60:1-6	Ephesians 3:1-12	Spoiler Alert	[One Off]	Epiphany Sunday
Jan 15	Matthew 3:1-17		Righteous Conundrums	Epiphany	Communion
Jan 22	Matthew 4:1-11		The Grand Inquisitor	Epiphany	
Jan 29			[Fifth Sunday]	[Fifth Sunday]	
Feb 5	Matthew 4:12-25		Popular with Losers	Epiphany	
Feb 12	Matthew 8:5-13	Isaiah 58:1-12	Marching Orders	Epiphany	
Feb 19	Matthew 17:1-13		Lost in the Cloud	Epiphany	Communion
Feb 26	Psalm 137:1-9	Matthew 19:23-26	Is Forgiveness Possible / God of the Possible	Forgiveness	Transfiguration
Mar 5	Galatians 2:15-21	Colossians 3:12-17	Forgiveness in Christ	Forgiveness	First Sunday of Lent
Mar 12	Matthew 18:21-22	2 Corinthians 2:5-11	Forgiving the Family	Forgiveness	Daylight Savings
Mar 19	Matthew 5:21-24, 43-48; 6:14	Luke 23:33-34	Forgiving the Neighbor	Forgiveness	Communion



#### **Have You Considered Pre-Planning Your Funeral Arrangements?**

You may be acquainted with Mike Murphy from Murphy & Associates. Mike has arranged for many funeral or memorial services at Valmont. Mike has offered to do a presentation at Valmont, lasting approximately an hour to be followed by questions and answers.

The presentation will touch on pre-planning benefits for traditional services and cremation and the many options available. He will also go over the concerns regarding social security death benefits and veteran burial benefits. Informational handouts will be available for all attendees.

Pre-arrangement can prevent over-emotional spending, gives people the independent feeling and knowledge that survivors will not be burdened with paying bills and protects your estate against inevitable inflation. Pre-arrangement is designed for the thinking person – providing dignity, reverence and growing beauty to deep founded traditional beliefs.

If you would be interested in attending a presentation at Valmont by Mike Murphy, please contact Joyce Glazier. If there is sufficient interest, a presentation will be scheduled.

#### 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.