Appreciation and Anticipation

Standing at the juncture of the end of one year and the beginning of another calls for thanksgiving and confident expectation. God’s presence, provision and blessings for the past year give rise to thanksgiving. As the Apostle Paul discovered, even in challenging times, God’s grace is sufficient in every situation. (2 Corinthians 12:9) The assurance that God is working in the world and inviting us to join Him brings confident expectation for the future.

A new year is a time to remember the mission of preparing people to meet Jesus. We rejoice in those who during this last year have come to faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Many have grown in your relationship with our Lord. As we rejoice in these, we must remember that there are many around us who have not made that commitment to Jesus as Savior and Lord. Our commitment to preparing people to meet Jesus both in the Fox Valley and around the world must remain strong. Each of us must remain vigilant in watching to see the opportunities God will give us to help people come to faith in Christ. We are planning a major outreach event in April when Steve Carrier will be back using his feats of strength as an opportunity to share the gospel.

This new year will be one of intense planning, activity and opportunities to participate in the next phase of providing the building space necessary to accommodate the influx of people God is adding to the Valley church family. I have watched in amazement over the past couple of years at the people and resources God has provided in anticipation for this work. Just this past week an unexpected gift of $100,000 was given toward the building project. The present plans are to put in the foundation and basement in the Fall of 2019 with the main construction to take place beginning in the Spring of 2020.

Take some time to offer thanksgiving to God for His faithfulness in providing all you needed in this past year. As you face the new year, be open to how God will invite you to join Him in providing for the present and future generations to continue with the vital work of preparing people to meet Jesus.

Pastor Larry
Sunday Childcare

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Babysitter(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun 12/30</td>
<td>8:00 Babies-3yrs</td>
<td>Christy Watkins, Laura Mayo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:45 Babies</td>
<td>Melissa Leeser, NEED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:45 1-3 Yrs.</td>
<td>Jerry Sitor, Kelly Burns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 1/6</td>
<td>10:45 1-3 Yrs.</td>
<td>Bob Drew, Laura Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 1/13</td>
<td>NEED</td>
<td>Bob Drew, NEED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NEED</td>
<td>Kathie Steward, John Wolf</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Birthday Blessings!
26 - Casey Woodward
28 - Alexia Oppelt
29 - Paula Fredin
30 - Kenneth Chandler
30 - David Lennon
31 - Benjamin Larsen
31 - Kayci Anderson
31 - Al Jonen
31 - Charlie Orth
1 - Joseph W. Kelly, Jr.

Anniversary Wishes
1 Jerry & Sherry Sitor

$3.00 per person or $12.00 for a family of 5 or more

**Signup REQUIRED online or on the bulletin board by Sunday afternoon**

On The Menu:
January 2
Breakfasts for Dinner

W.I.P. (Women in Prayer)

Bread bank offerings will be collected Sunday, January 6th, 2019

Ladies, Our next monthly Prayer Time -
Saturday, January 5
Sharon Prahl’s home
8 - 9:30 a.m.

Our FOCUS: To lift up prayers on behalf of VBC and its many ministries and outreaches!

Questions? Karen Warren (kwarren8286@gmail.com or 920-716-3752) or Sue Shepard (heyludie@gmail.com or 920-470-9013)

Brethren, pray for us. I Thess. 5:25

Experiencing God: Knowing and Doing the Will of God study led by Pastor Larry.

**BEGINS NEXT SUNDAY!!!**

PLEASE COMPLETE THE 1st CHAPTER PRIOR TO THE 1st CLASS ON JANUARY 6th.

Register on-line at https://valleyconnex.org/ministries/sunday-bible-studies/ or contact Kim at 920-733-8823, valleysec@valleyconnex.org

Books are available in the church office for $15 each.
Weekend to Remember ® helps you and your spouse escape the distractions of life and focus on your relationship. Learn about God’s plan for a healthy marriage from leading experts. When applying their advice in your daily life, you and your spouse can:

- Improve communication
- Resolve conflict in biblical ways
- Increase your commitment to your marriage, resulting in deeper intimacy

**February 22—24, 2019**
Radisson Paper Valley Hotel

Look for the booklets & registration forms in the Lobby & Welcome Center. You may register now to get in on the **Buy One Get One FREE** offer! The cost per couple is then only $175.00. Please turn in your registrations with payment (made out to Valley Baptist Church) to Kim Ansorge, mailbox #4 in the church office. Questions? Contact valleysec@valleyconnex.org or call 920-733-8823.
Women’s Wednesday Evening Bible Study

Wednesdays
January 9-March 27
6:00-7:30 pm
Valley Baptist Cove
Room 3

Do you long for sweet times of fellowship with God, but find it challenging amidst the busyness of life, the distractions around you, or other frustrations that seem to hold you back? Then this class is for you! Join other women for a special time of learning and encouragement. Through weekly reading and class discussion, you will learn to create habits in your daily life that allow you to spend quality time with God for the purpose of getting to know Him better.

This study will include weekly reading in A Place of Quiet Rest, a short Bible reading assignment, and class discussion.

Sign-up sheets and books are available in the church lobby.

For questions, contact Paula Weber 920-585-5196 or gandpweber@gmail.com or Erin Long at 920-558-0206 or mrsjaredlong@gmail.com

Wednesday evening Nursery and Pathfinders classes available for children during this time.

Women’s Thursday Morning Bible Study

Thursdays
January 10- March 21
9:00-11:00 am
Valley Baptist Youth Center

Join other women for an exciting 10 week study of Ephesians. We’ll dig into our Bibles, studying this important book to learn about the riches of God’s grace which we have received in Christ. Our workbook by Keri Folmar will provide questions to guide us as we observe the text of Ephesians, interpret what it means, and apply these truths to our lives.

This study will include weekly homework (5 days/week) and class discussion.

Sign-up sheets and books are available in the church lobby.

For questions, contact Christina Warne at 920-213-6753 or christinaw1@sbcglobal.net

Childcare will be available for this study. Sign up at the table in the lobby. For questions, or to volunteer to serve in childcare, contact Paula Weber at 920-585-5196 or gandpweber@gmail.com.
The deep idols of Significance and Comfort drive many men into manhood traps that keep them from God’s best. Surface idols that can emerge include an unhealthy need of approval, an over-dependence on consumption and a tendency toward escape. Discover how to battle those idols with the provisions God has for us and free yourself to live the life of truth, passion, and purpose you were created to live. We will briefly review last month’s video teaching and then complete our Battle Plan to be a man controlled by God.

For breakfast we will be serving cheesy scrambled eggs, sausage, winter fruit salad with a touch of cinnamon, yogurt bar, hot oatmeal, and raspberry swirl rolls. Of course, there will be piping hot coffee, tea, and chilled juice wait’n for ya’.

So, bring a friend, bring your son, bring your son-in-law, bring a neighbor, but most importantly - bring yourself! (Ages 16 and up.)

If you missed any of the video teachings, you can contact the church office or Kurt Kielisch (cell 920-420-2181, email: kkielisch@gmail.com) and we will get it to you.

Mentoring: Man-to-Man

Has the Lord laid it upon your heart to reach out and help a brother-in-Christ? Do you yearn to play a role in another man’s life? Have you considered being a mentor?

We are desiring men who want to make a difference in another man’s life, jointly and with open honesty, to share God’s truth . . . a truth that radically changes lives. Is that you?

We will have an introductory training session on “becoming a mentor” after the January 5th Men’s Breakfast. This session will introduce you to the mentoring concept, mentor development and how we plan to implement it at Valley Baptist. There is no obligation to continue in this program if you find it is not for you. But you will not know that if you do not come and discover this for yourself. Lunch is included at the end of the training session.

Though you do not necessarily need to RSVP, we are providing lunch and need to have an idea on how many are to be served, so it would be helpful to contact either Justin Goza, or the church office to let them know you plan to attend.

Justin Goza—Ph: 920-360-0453 or Email: goza4it@gmail.com
Church Office Ph: 920-733-8823