



## Thanksgiving

Our human nature is to long for the things we do not have. We look at what we have but quickly notice that someone else has something that appears a little better, a little newer, a little more desirable. The Bible describes this as a war that rages within us. "Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul." ([1 Peter 2:11, ESV](#))

God, our creator, knows the toll that sin exacts on the human condition and wisely places a prohibition against indulging the tendency to focus on what we do not have: "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's." ([Exodus 20:17, ESV](#))

Yet, the most powerful deterrent to a life lived under the crushing burden of always wanting what you do not have is the teaching all through scripture to be thankful. An attitude of thanksgiving is one that comes from a focus on and grateful heart for what you have.

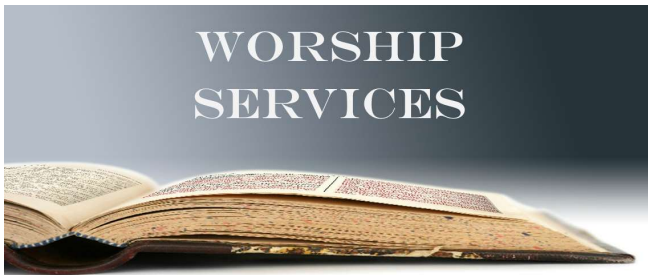
Holidays are hard for those who have suffered the loss of a loved one. It is appropriate to feel a sadness when one who we love and had such an impact on our lives is no longer at the family gatherings. Yet, there is that blessing of family and friends who are still an important and meaningful part of our lives.

Life is often hard. Sometimes we contribute to that reality. Other hard times beyond our control occur. In all these times we can have an attitude of thanksgiving. The Bible again gives the guidance we need in these words found

here and in multiple places throughout the scriptures: "Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name!" ([Psalm 97:12, ESV](#))

When our focus is on the LORD and His holy name, we always have a reason for thanksgiving. Those who have a relationship with God the Father through our Lord Jesus Christ have the assurance that nothing can separate us from the love of God which has been forever expressed in our Lord Jesus Christ. As we are faithful in our mission of preparing people to meet Jesus, we are laying the foundation for a great groundswell of thanksgiving to ascend to the throne of God as many give thanks to His holy name.

*Pastor Leung*



Services are recorded and can be found at [valleyconnex.org/sermons](http://valleyconnex.org/sermons).

**Worship  
Attendance**

Sunday  
11/21/21

8:00 am - 126  
10:45 am - 80

*Celebrate*

**BIRTHDAY  
BLESSINGS**

25 Bud Barger  
26 Patricia Hess  
27 Carol Jalonen  
28 Teaghan Fenske

**ANNIVERSARY  
WISHES**

29 Lee & Sue Neumeier



## ConneXion Café

12/1/21 ~ 5:15-5:45 p.m.

Chicken Pot Pie  
Over Biscuits  
Country Baked Apples

[Sign up](#) is required by Sunday.

You may sign up [HERE](#) or on the board by the kitchen.



*A Program of Prison Fellowship*

**THIS SUNDAY!!!**

**Due 11/28**

Gifts due

Questions? Click [HERE](#)

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# Simply Still

## Fixing Our Eyes On Jesus

Monday, December 6th 6:30-8:00pm

Join us at 6:30 for light refreshments and fellowship in the Welcome Center. Our formal program will begin at 7pm in the sanctuary. Open to all women and girls, middle school and up.

Ready your soul for this Christmas season by joining us for a guided hour of fixing our eyes on Jesus as we read Scripture, sing, and meditate on the Word together.

We know December marks the beginning of a busy season. That's why we'd like to offer you the gift of sixty minutes of fixing your eyes on Jesus alongside your sisters in Christ. In the quietness of Simply Still, you will have the opportunity to be spiritually strengthened to focus on eternal matters. Rather than "one more thing to do" this month, we hope you view this event as a "get to" as we join our hearts in seeking Him through His Word.

For questions, please see Erin Long or Beth Dunning.



Do you love babies? Do you love toddlers? Do you love ministering to parents? If you answered yes to any of these questions, please consider helping in our nursery at Valley.

We are looking to fill the nursery schedule for 2022.

The ages are babies-3 years old. We need volunteers that are willing to work either at the 8 o'clock service or the 10:45 service.

Please contact Jim or Hope at 920-716-0375 if you have any questions or if you want to volunteer.

# PRESCHOOL

NOVEMBER



## NOVEMBER

Children's Ministry  
[NEWSLETTER & DATES](#)



## NOVEMBER

Youth Ministry  
[NEWSLETTER & DATES](#)



Sign up to receive all Women's Ministry updates [HERE!](#)

November Newsletter

If you or someone you know has prayer requests, any ministry needs, or if you have any questions, please contact the staff at 920-733-8823 or email [valleysec@valleyconnex.org](mailto:valleysec@valleyconnex.org).



# VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

*Preparing People to Meet Jesus*



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