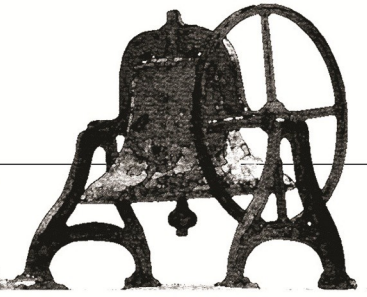


March/April 2021

# Valmont VINTAGE



CELEBRATING *150 years* OF GOD’S FAITHFULNESS!



## Valmont Community Presbyterian Church



THE Fellowship OF PRESBYTERIANS



### Pastor Eric

In recent days I have found myself turning to the wise counsel of Ecclesiastes. As someone who places a disproportionate emphasis on the reading of books and learning, I have often been chastened by 12:12, “Of making many books there is no end, and much study wearies the body.” Even more so I have felt the truth of how the King James translates 1:18, “For in much wisdom is much grief: and he that increaseth knowledge increaseth sorrow.”

We happen to live in a moment of time when the increase of knowledge does indeed seem to bring sorrow. Whether it’s being bombarded by 24-Hour news networks that need to keep reporting (or at least talking) about something in order to maintain revenue, or learning about the minutia of what people impulsively post online, we are constantly being fed more and more information. With the exception

of our friends and families having children or completing projects, I would wager that this glut of information we receive doesn’t make us any happier. More likely than not, we find ourselves in the exact opposite situation, where the weight of the world’s problems drags us down.

William Wordsworth, in a famous poem declares, “The World is too much with us[.]” For him this is an ironic truth, for while we are obsessed with spinning our wheels when it comes to the problems we humans create, we miss the marvels of creation right outside our doors. That is, we weary ourselves by focusing on learning about and thinking through worldly matters that we cannot possibly control — increasing our sorrow with each new bit of knowledge we acquire — while all the while ignoring the teacher who might calm our weary minds.

For Ecclesiastes, we are not simply placated by the natural world, but rather are instructed by the One who created all things. As the wise teacher assesses the world around him, he recognizes that wisdom, and not knowledge, ultimately satisfies, for wisdom is born of God. As 12:11 says, “The words of the wise are like goads, their collected sayings firmly embedded nails—given by one shepherd.” Wisdom is something that stirs us to action and offers us structure since it is ultimately given by God, our one shepherd.

So if you find yourself becoming enamored by the lure of information and knowledge; if you believe that you can somehow gain control through learning, then know this: *it is not learning, but God who can bring peace.* Each and every day people will try to tickle your ears with assessments about the state of the nation and the course of the future, but these words cannot satisfy. The pursuit of knowledge as a means of control is ultimately a pursuit of sorrow, for that is the only thing it shall reap. Recognize that the world, is indeed, too much with us, but that God is with us more still. May you take comfort in the wisdom of our God to put this world aright. May you give up the control of *knowing* and accept the wisdom of trust.

In Christ, Eric

### Ask a friend to join you.

You Have A Friend At Valmont!  
**Sunday School 9:00**

**Worship at 10:30**

3262 N. 61st Street,  
Boulder

(61st Street & Valmont Road)

**303-442-2135**

[www.ValmontChurch.org](http://www.ValmontChurch.org)

# Bulletin Board

## Elders:

<i>Cheryl Craig</i>	<i>Doug Myers</i>
<i>Debbie Greever</i>	<i>Anne Harris-Cross</i>

**Clerk of Session:** *Joyce Glazer*

**Deacons:**  
*Cindy Sexton*                      *Marilyn Howard*  
*Pearline Toney*

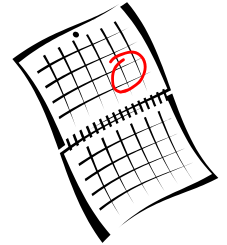
**Treasurer:** *Ruth Lewis*

**Church Administrator:** *Ella Travis*

**Choir/Worship Director:**  
*Dr. Andrew Brown*

**Accompanist:** *Stella Pradeau*

## Calendar



- 3/1 - Deacons at 10:30am
- 3/2 - Worship Team at 10:00am
- 3/3 - Zoom Fellowship at 1:00pm
- 3/7 - Worship at 10:30am,  
Education Hour at 9:00am
- 3/10 - Zoom Fellowship at 6:30pm
- 3/14 - Worship at 10:30am,  
Education Hour at 9:00am, Daylight Savings Begins
- 3/15 - Session at 5:30pm
- 3/17 - Women's Association at 10:00am,  
Zoom Fellowship at 1:00pm
- 3/21 - Worship at 10:30am, Education Hour at 9:00am,  
Communion Sunday
- 3/24 - Zoom Fellowship at 6:30pm
- 3/28 - Worship at 10:30am,  
Education Hour at 9:00am, Palm Sunday
- 3/31 - Zoom Fellowship at 1:00pm
- 4/1 - Maundy Thursday Communion at 12:15pm,  
Worship Service with St. Andrew at 7:00pm
- 4/2 - Good Friday Tenebrae Service at 7:00pm
- 4/4 - Easter Sunday Sunrise Service at 6:30am,  
Worship at 10:30am
- 4/5 - Deacons at 10:30am
- 4/6 - Worship Team at 10:00am
- 4/7 - Zoom Fellowship at 6:30pm
- 4/11 - Worship at 10:30am,  
Education Hour at 9:00am
- 4/14 - Zoom Fellowship at 1:00pm
- 4/18 - Worship at 10:30am,  
Education Hour at 9:00am, Communion Sunday
- 4/19 - Session at 5:30pm
- 4/21 - Women's Association at 10:00am,  
Zoom Fellowship at 6:30pm
- 4/25 - Worship at 10:30am,  
Education Hour at 9:00am
- 4/28 - Zoom Fellowship at 1:00pm



## **Pastor's Schedule:**

Sunday: Worship  
Monday - Thursday: In the office and responding to email  
Friday - Saturday: Weekend

## **Weekly Activities**

Sunday: Iglesia meets 3:00-5:00 pm

Tuesday: Women's Association meets  
Third Tuesday at 10 am

Session, third Tuesday at 5:30 pm

Iglesia meets 7-9 pm

Wednesday: No Choir until September

Every Thursday: Iglesia meets 7-9 pm

Every Friday – Valmont Victors 8-10 pm



## A Visit to Palm Springs, CA

A great time was had by Mike and Debbie visiting (and delivering their pie) Doug and Karen. The Black Ghost, Doug's '57' black convertible Thunderbird was also delivered from CO. We hiked the famous Bump and Grind trail, toured Sunnylands historic 200 acre mid-century modern estate and had wonderful meals at sunset (temperature in the 70s and low 80s).



## Pig Roasts and Potlucks

### Spaghetti al Limone With Asparagus—from Bon Appetit



#### Ingredients:

- ◆ 1 lb. Spaghetti
- ◆ 4 garlic cloves, smashed
- ◆ 8 large basil leaves
- \*  $\frac{2}{3}$  cup extra-virgin olive oil
- \* 4 3" long strips lemon zest
- \* 2 lemons, halved
- \* bunch of asparagus, trimmed/sliced
- \*  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. crushed red pepper flakes
- \* 2 oz. parmesan finely grated

#### Instructions:

- ◆ Cook pasta in a large pot of boiling salted water, stirring occasionally, until al dente. Drain pasta, reserving  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cups pasta cooking liquid.
- ◆ Meanwhile, heat oil in a large Dutch oven or other heavy pot over medium-high until shimmering. Add asparagus, season with salt, and cook, stirring often, until just beginning to take on color, about 1 minute. Add garlic, lemon zest, and red pepper flakes and cook, stirring, until fragrant, about 30 seconds. Remove from heat and let sit until pasta is done.
- ◆ Add pasta and basil to pot with asparagus mixture and return to medium-high heat. Squeeze juice from both lemons into pot and add 2 oz. Parmesan and 1 cup reserved pasta cooking liquid. Cook, tossing vigorously and adding more pasta cooking liquid if needed, until sauce is creamy and emulsified and pasta is coated, about 1 minute. Taste and season with more salt if needed. Remove and discard garlic.
- ◆ Divide pasta among bowls, placing a lemon strip in each, and top with more Parmesan.





## Pie Auction

Women's Association is extremely grateful for the bakers, Anne, Dottyanne, Peggy, Debbie G, Cindy, Stella, Eric, & Marilyn, and the buyers for the recent "virtual" pie auction. \$1430 was pledged and of March 2, \$1280 has been received. The auction far exceeded expectations and we're very thankful that we can help some of our favorite charities. Thanks again to all who participated, even if you were only watching and enjoying the action.



**Wow, six shepherd pies. Does Eric break the record for the most pies by one baker?**



**A new record. Debbie's Cherry Pie was delivered to Doug and Karen in CA. That is 1,007 miles away. Yes the pie was shared with Mike and Debbie.**



## Renovation Progress


Preparing for the next phase of the renovation. Unfortunately the permitting process is taking longer than expected so the ceiling work has not actually started. Standby for updates.







**Be part of the VCPC prayer chain! Contact Stella May or Cindy.**



Instead of the John I call my bathroom the Jim!  
That way it sounds better when I say I go to the Jim first thing every morning!!!

Happy First Day of Spring!!!  
Is it still c-c-c-cold where you live?



### HIGHLANDS HIGHLIGHTS

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



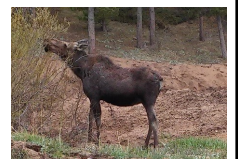
HAPPY NEW YEAR!!! We hope everyone had a wonderful Valentines weekend. Highlands hosted a special Valentines weekend for couples. Eighteen couples ventured up for the special event. Each couple had a separate room in the retreat center. Each room had either a king or queen sized bed. Dinner on Saturday evening was held in the dining room with separate tables spaced apart. The fabulous dinner featured beef wellington and a wonderful desert. Sunday morning brunch consisted of eggs benedict and country potatoes. A few of the people braved the cold for a short hike. It was a great get away in a safe environment.

If you might be looking for a family get away in a safe location, consider a few days at Highlands. It can be done without contact with staff members. There are two cabins with fully equipped kitchens where you can prepare family meals. Equipment such as sleds and snowshoes are provided for you to enjoy winter activities. These cabins are being advertised on websites such as Air B and B. If interested, call Highlands for details. The number is 303-747-2888.

The Highlands committee continues working on the proposed 2021 budget and to work with Presbytery council. Thanks to our very generous donors, Highlands is in a strong financial position. An investment committee was established to oversee the investments. This committee consists of individuals with backgrounds in finance and investments. We want to be good stewards of **all** donations as we move forward into the future. 2021 and beyond holds many unknowns.

Please keep the ministry of Highlands in your prayers along with the many generous donors, the hard-working staff, the volunteers, and the Highlands Camp Committee!!

Blessings!! Ruth Lewis  
Highlands Camp Committee



## Deacons' Basket

The plans for the Deacons Basket for the Year are:

January, February, March- CYAK—donations for the youth work that is being done in Alaska  
 April, May— EFAA--donations for the local Emergency Family Assistance Assoc.  
 June, July— Teacher-- donations for student supplies for under privileged school  
 August, September—Mother House---donations for non profit shelter for at risk pregnant women  
 October, November, December— Operation Christmas Child, Attention Home Gifts

Submitted by Pearline

Also, the Deacons would like to resume gathering cookies for Attention Homes. I will collect them at noon on the first Monday of each month at the church. - Marilyn



## Operation Christmas Child

Thanks to all of you who filled shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child and helped with the collection effort. As the drop-off location for the Boulder area, Valmont collected over 650 boxes this year. Valmont Church donated 26 boxes plus many that were filled online. The shoeboxes in these photos are all from the same person - there are 238!



## Good. Better. Best Read?

If you can clear time, I have a 354 page recommendation.

Genesis: A Living Conversation, Moyers, Bill D., 1996, Doubleday.

This is a ten chapter conversation that has stretched every ounce of my ability. It is a *great read* for couples. (I have longed for someone to converse with as I read.)

Moyers has gathered 38 notables with stunning credentials and assigned one Genesis story as the topic of the day. The groups are seven or eight strong and represent the three main faith groups that read, study and accept the texts. They ask daring questions and wrestle thoroughly with the rabbit trails. Moyers is both participant and narrator. The Jews speak of Midrash which has long intrigued me. There is history, culture and mystery here. If you are weak in Old Testament knowledge and want to tweak that a bit, this one will leap into your brain and leave a fire trail not soon quenched.

Jan



### “Sow in Tears - Reap in Joy”

(Psalm 126:1-6, MKJV) “When the LORD turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like those who dream. (2) Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue *with* singing; then they said among the nations, the LORD has done great *things* with them. (3) Great things *did* the LORD to work with us *and* we are glad. (4) Turn again our captivity, O LORD, as the streams in the south. (5) Those who sow in tears shall reap in joy. (6) *He who* goes forth and weeps, bearing *precious* seed, shall *doubtless* come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves *with him.*”

We do not know who penned this psalm, but we do know that it was written when the Hebrew people were returning from captivity in Babylon. The time in captivity was a very bitter time, and many tears were shed. But as the people wept, repented, and prayed for deliverance, their prayers were heard and answered. Then the time of return was a joyful time.

We read these Scriptures when we are under a heavy burden for our self, our loved ones, or for our community or nation. When tragedy strikes, we are stricken with grief and pray with passion for an answer. We are comforted in knowing that when we sow in tears that we will also reap in joy.

When we plant a seed, it requires water to break the hard-outer shell for it to open up and the plant to grow. As we pray with passion and tears, we are watering a hard situation. As we pray with faith, it is God who will break the situation and cause something beautiful to take its place.

Verses to meditate on are: (Psa. 126:5-6) “Those who sow in tears shall reap in joy. (6) *He who* goes forth and weeps, bearing *precious* seed, shall *doubtless* come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves *with him.*”

Pentecostalsoflebanon.com Submitted by Debbie S.

## Women's Association for 2021

Women's Association will meet at 10 a.m. Wed, Mar 17 (St. Patrick's Day). Since we will be meeting via Zoom, no need to worry about getting pinched if you're not wearing green. At 10:30 someone from TGTHR, (formerly Attention Homes) will be joining us to give an update on changes and how we can continue to support them

## Deacons and Women's Association

The **Deacons along with the Women's Association** received many thank-you notes for the financial gifts they gave - which is a big THANK YOU to our congregation.

Sarah's Home wrote "Thank you for your amazing donation!

efaa shared in their note that "with all the generous donations, we were able to help more than 1800 families impacted by COVID -19 with emergency food and financial assistance", as well as" finding housing for many people, and bringing some normalcy to people's lives at Christmas during the pandemic".

Mother House shared that they have given services to over 900 mothers since they began in 1982. Currently they have two little boys, one little girl, two happy toddlers, and two more babies on the way.

Attention Homes shared in their note that because of the "generous donations they received last year, they are now well stocked with toiletries and other essential items to continue providing for our multiple programs throughout the year".

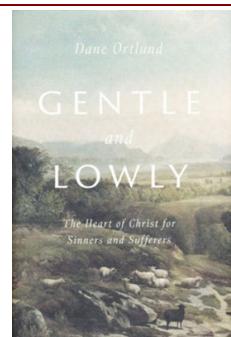
Adam London's ministry in Alaska shared how different 2020 has been. They have struggled financially, cutting their budget by 1/3, but still kept their coffee truck ministry going, their homeless shelter, and soup kitchen ministries going. Adam empathized with churches and the likelihood of reduced tithing, and encouraged people to continue giving how they could. Deacon's caring basket this month is Cyak, however if you would like to give extra support to them you can at [www.cyak.org/staff-support.html](http://www.cyak.org/staff-support.html) and select Adam London.

## Eric's Preaching Schedule

Date	Scripture	Sermon Title	Series	Church Calendar
March 7	Galatians 5:22-26; 2 Peter 1:1-11	Cultivating Self-Control	Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit	
March 14	Galatians 5:22-6:10	The Cultivated Community	Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit	Daylight Savings
March 21	Exodus 28:15-30; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26	Remember		Communion
March 28	Mark 11:1-11	Dangerous Plans	Eastertide	Palm Sunday
April 4	Mark 16:1-20	Bewildered Joy	Eastertide	Easter Sunday
April 11	Matthew 13:31-34	Overproofed Loaves	The Parables of Jesus	
April 18	Matthew 13:44-46	The Pearl of Minimal Price	The Parables of Jesus	Communion
April 25	Mark 4:26-29	Botany Lessons	The Parables of Jesus	

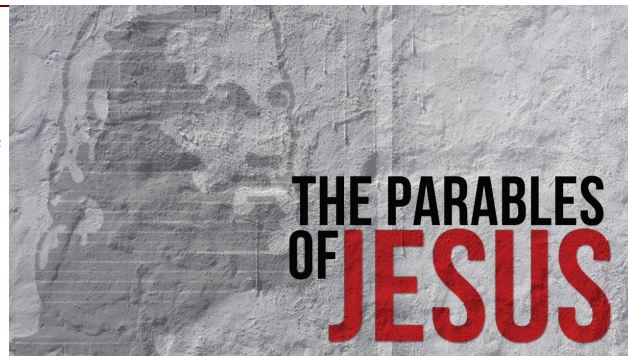
### Adult Education

Over the next several months we will be reading *Gentle and Lowly: The Heart of Christ for Sinners and Sufferers*, written by Dane Ortlund. This beautiful little book utilizes the Bible and wisdom from the Puritans to explore the nature of Jesus' heart. As this book mirrors the devotional literature of old, it doesn't matter whether you read every chapter or simply pop in and out of Sunday morning group when your schedule permits — you will be blessed by encountering the depths of love that emanate from the heart of our God.



### Preaching

After we wrap up our study on *Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit* in March, we will take some time to explore Jesus' Passion in late March and early April. This will take us into a study of some of Jesus' parables, which will sustain us through the remainder of the spring. Depending on how many experimental, hybrid worship services we have between now and Easter, we will also spend some time exploring the Christ Hymn found in Philippians 2.



### 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 [mgreever53@gmail.com](mailto:mgreever53@gmail.com) or give to **Ella in the office**  
**Publication Months: Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov.**