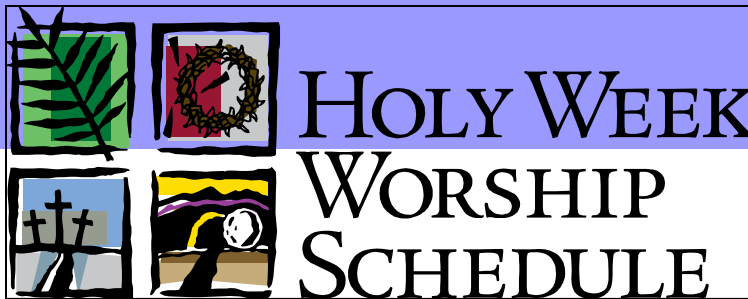


VALLEY VOICE

Volume 16, Issue 6

April 10, 2011



Palm Sunday Worship—9:30 AM
Sunday, April 17

Stations of the Cross—6:00-8:00 PM
Wednesday, April 20

Holy Thursday—7:00 PM
Thursday, April 21

Resurrection Sunday
April 24
9:30 AM



Inside this issue:

Join the Discussion	2
Women of Faith	3
Holy Week Activities	4
Butler's Pantry	5
Walking Faithfully	6
Thank You Volunteers	6-7

**Blue Valley
Christian Church**

12251 Lamar Avenue
Overland Park, KS 66209

Phone No:
913-469-8736

Email:
bluevcc@sbcglobal.net

Website:
www.bluevcc.org





(BY AARON JAMISON)

Check out the blogs and discussions on the Blue Valley Christian Church website and Facebook pages:

Recent BVCC blog articles include:

- House of the Risen Son (added 4/7/2011)
- The Little Wagon That Could (added 3/14/2011)
- Medical Play Dolls
- Becoming Reacquainted with Jesus
- Prayer for Young Adults
- Because I said So!
- Is Prayer Enough?



The recent "Join the Discussion" questions include:

- Do you have a sacred or special place you regularly go to communicate with or to experience God? (added 4/3/2011)
- Have you ever read the sacred texts of another religion? (added 3/27/2011)
- How do you understand the Holy Ghost or Holy Spirit?
- What about being Christian makes you smile?
- Where is God in a pluralistic world?
- Do you read Song of Songs as a literal expression of passionate love between a man and a woman or as an allegory for divine love?
- Do you believe in a literal Hell?

Aaron Jamison, BVCC Website and Facebook Site Coordinator has set up a new shortcut URL for those who visit the BVCC Facebook site regularly.

Check out <http://www.facebook.com/bluevcc>.

WOMEN OF FAITH

(BY KATHY DOBBELS, SPIRITUAL LIFE MINISTER)

*“Pray as though everything depended on God.
Work as though everything depended on you.” - St Augustine*

- What are your thoughts about prayer?
- Are you able to focus on listening and conversing with God?
- Do you invite the Creator into every aspect of your daily living or do you “save” the Holy for the really serious issues of your life?
- Do you think God hears our prayers, and if so, why do some prayers go unanswered?
- If God already knows what we are thinking, why do we need to pray?

If you are like me, you may have more questions than answers.

I would like to invite all BVCC women, to explore these and other questions, starting Tuesday, April 12. Join Rick Butler and myself for one hour every Tuesday until May 31. We will meet at noon with a time of conversation and then we will enter into prayer.

My hope is that this may develop into a fellowship and ministry in which we will open ourselves up to listening and praying, away from everyday distractions, for the needs of our local and world community, church, and one another. Each of us brings different experiences of prayer and praying to this group that I know can inspire all of us to become better disciples of prayer.

We will share a lunch occasionally too. I will bring homemade soup and bread to the first meeting on Tuesday, April 12th.

Hope to see you there!

Kathy



WOMEN OF FAITH

HOLY WEEK ACTIVITIES AT BLUE VALLEY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

- STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Family of Faith Christian Church will offer a Stations of the Cross Service on Wednesday, April 20. The service will be in the BVCC sanctuary, which will be open from 6—8 pm.

The service is a self-guided, participatory service. Worshippers move from station to station, following written guides at each one. The final station is communion.

Lisa Engelken, Pastor of Family of Faith, says that the service is a meaningful way to reflect on the events of Holy Week. All BVCC members and members of the community are invited and welcome to attend and participate.

- HOLY THURSDAY SERVICE OFFERED

BVCC is offering a Holy Thursday service on April 21 at 7 PM. The service will be in the sanctuary.

Traditionally the service focuses on either the Lord's Supper or Jesus' washing of the disciples' feet.

This year all four gospel accounts will be read: Mark 14:12-25 / Matthew 26:20-30 / Luke 22:14-27 / John 13:1-15. If the Table is central to our faith experience in what ways do these texts form, shape, and transform us?

As a discipline leading into Holy Week read these texts and ponder them. Then join with others in our community of faith as we worship together.



For those who enjoy the music of Gershwin, the Johnson County Community Chorus will present its Spring Music concert "Timeless" on May 15th at 3:00 PM. The concert is free to the public and is held in Yardley Hall on the campus of the Johnson County Community College. BVCC member Carol Bolton is a member of the chorus.

BUTLER'S PANTRY

On Turning Thirteen.

April 1, 2011 our Men's Bible Study group turned 13. Entered into adolescence. (There are those who would rightly point out that some of the humor shared at our study time is pretty juvenile.)

It is an amazing experience to be part of a group for more than a decade. Over time a bonding occurs that binds participants one to another in ways seen and unseen, known and mysterious.

Three of the men in the group have participated since the first Wednesday 6:30 AM call to study. The most recent joining came about 6 months ago. Currently there are 8 men participating.

Originally the group was called "Tool Time." But along the way the name changed to Men's Bible Study—identifying the purpose of getting together.

Across the years our focus has included studies of the Lord's Prayer and the Prayer of Jabez; world religions and men's relationships; Purpose Driven Lives and the Life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer (a theologian during WWII); men at mid-life and men at work. And, of course, studies directly from the Bible: Genesis, First Samuel, John, Revelation, Luke/Acts, and at present, an Introduction to the New Testament.

April 6, we met for breakfast and remembered our journey.

Current participants include Mark Dobbels, Rick Hughey, John Steinmetz, Harold Zimmerman, Jim Johnson, Aaron Jamison, Mark Holcomb, and Ray Polley. Among the remembrances touched on were the relationships that have formed; the delight in the Wednesday gathering serving as a bridge between Sundays; both laughter and light-heartedness as part of our time together, but also deep issues foundational to our spiritual journeys; and the observation that we learn to study, not just read, the Bible.

For 13 years the men of this group have gathered on Sundays to hear Jesus' words: "Do this in remembrance of me." For 13 years the men of this group have gathered on Wednesday mornings to hear Jesus' words: "Do this in remembrance of me." Thanks be to God!

Grace and peace,
Rick Butler

Walking Faithfully Together

The next Walking Faithfully Together gathering will be held immediately following worship on Sunday, May 1st. The Blue Valley Christian Church congregation is invited and encouraged to attend.

Thanks to all our volunteers things are “happening” at BVCC!



Volunteers have been creating medical dolls as a mission project for Children’s Mercy Hospital.

Thank you Nancy Boyer, MCC Coordinator, Marilyn Butler, Linda Kesler, Karen Slater, Veronica and Alyssa Sutton, and to all who provided financial assistance to fund this mission project.



Thank you volunteers—things are happening!

• Landscape Volunteers

Landscape volunteers have been busy sprucing up the landscaped areas in recent weeks around the exterior BVCC property sign and the church building. Warm dry weather has provided the recent opportunity for the volunteers to begin their mission work for the spring season.

The volunteers work on their own schedule, but you can definitely see the beauty in their work when driving by the church property or attending worship and other functions in the church building. The church office recently captured a picture of one of the volunteers clearing out last year's foliage.



Thank you volunteers: Ray Alderson, Jill Bryant, Bart Holcomb, Anne and Kelly Ingersoll, Andrew, Austin, and Amy Jo Jamison, Linda Kesler, and Karen Slater.

There are 5 landscaped areas which remain to be adopted. If you are interested in helping with this mission project, the sign up can now be found on the back table in the sanctuary, or you can call the church office to submit your request to help.

• First Impressions

Thank you to the volunteers who provide hospitality by doing a round of spot "picking up of the trash and checking on the toilet paper and hand towel supplies" for all of us who utilize the church building during the weeks we do not have a cleaning service in-house.



This mission work provides a great savings to the church budget, and makes for a great first impression for visitors who enter the building.

Thank you to our volunteers who signed during March/April: Ann and Harold Zimmerman, Karen Slater, Jan Harris and Connie Stokes, and Robin Smith.

If you would like to help with this mission, the sign up sheet is located on the back table in the sanctuary, or call the church office to check on available dates to help.