



EAT



LOVE

PRAY

VBC FAMILY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2018

Typically, when people make New Year's resolutions it often revolves around diets. Perhaps you made a resolution about your diet and maybe you have already broken your resolution. But don't be discouraged because I want you to make a resolution to Eat More. Specifically, I want you to make a resolution to Eat More Intentionally. It's a fact of life that we are all going to eat and most of us eat 3 meals a day. That comes out to around 1,095 meals per year that you will partake in. What I want to encourage you to do is be more intentional in your eating, not what you eat but who you eat with. To invite that friend, acquaintance, neighbor, golf partner, pickleball opponent, coworker or even a relative over for a meal. They may be a Christian or they may not be a Christian but reach out to them and go grab a meal together. While you are eating, Love them through encouragement, listening, burden bearing, laughing, building them up and maybe even sharing the Gospel. Then afterwards, on your own, Pray for them. Pray about their struggles, pray for their salvation, their family, their physical needs. Then Repeat. This is something we at Village Bible Church are calling Eat, Love, Pray.

Eat, Love, Pray, is a simple and intentional way of living life on mission. And it's this simple vision that we will encourage you to repeat over and over again as one way to live out the 2nd greatest commandment, "You Shall Love Your Neighbor as Yourself" (Matthew 22:39). There are some people that will never come to our church, but they will come over to your house for a meal. They are not a project to be worked on but a person to be loved with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. And it all starts with a meal.

This is not complicated but let me flesh it out a bit more:

-EAT, LOVE, PRAY is **NOT a program**. This is not a program but an intentional lifestyle of living life on mission in all that you do.

-EAT, LOVE, PRAY is **Intentional** - We are asking each one at VBC to prayerfully consider who they would like to encourage with the love of Jesus... and then ACT upon this intention and invite these friends over for a meal or out to dinner.

-EAT, LOVE, PRAY is **Evangelistic but NOT just Evangelistic** - Yes, we want you to make the most of every opportunity and even to share the Gospel with friends over a meal. But your aim is to love people in all sorts of ways. In addition, don't limit your love to those far from Christ but also take the time to love those in Christ who need the encouragement.

-EAT, LOVE, PRAY is about **Prayer** - Once you have had the opportunity to share a meal with someone then commit to praying for your friends on a regular basis.

-EAT, LOVE, PRAY is **Ongoing** - We want VBC to faithfully stay in this cycle of eat, love, pray. It's not a one and done approach. Eat, Love, Pray - Repeat.

As a church, we want everyone to be reaching out to those around us by sharing a meal (EAT), lovingly engaging with that person with the heart of Jesus (LOVE), and then committing to pray for them moving forward (PRAY).

Looking Toward Home,

Pastor Jason





Financial Report November 2018

Current Year to Date

JAN 1 - NOV 30, 2018

Prior Year to Date

JAN 1 - NOV 30, 2017

	Actual	Budget	Actual
Income/Collections	\$880,732	\$915,948	\$902,982
Expenses	\$867,390	\$896,224	\$846,643
Net Income (deficit)	\$13,342	\$19,724	\$56,339

♥ WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES ♥

- 01/10 Gary & Chris Rohwedder
- 01/18 Brad & Julie Drake
- 01/18 Lyle & Evelyn Wheatcroft
- 01/29 Craig & ZeeZee Volz

If you would like your wedding anniversary in our newsletter call the office and ask for Barbi! 501-922-0404



VILLAGE
BIBLE
CHURCH

Ministry Staff

Dr. Jason Lancaster, Senior Pastor

email - jason@vbchsv.org

Rev. Jim Neal, Associate Pastor

501-766-6789 email - jim@vbchsv.org

Rev. Levan Hubbard, Pastor of Worship & Care

501-353-3040 email - levan@vbchsv.org

Barbi Mirenda, Office Manager

& Assistant to Senior Pastor

501-922-0404 email - barbi@vbchsv.org

Mary Buffington, Administrative Assistant

& Media Consultant

501-922-0404 email - mary@vbchsv.org

Radio Ministry



Our radio ministry is designed as an outreach for the unchurched. Please remember to mention our broadcast to those you know who do not have a church home. Visit the Welcome Center and pick up some of the small imprinted cards to share with friends and neighbors. Sunday's sermons are broadcast on station KVRE (92.9 FM) at 9:00 am on Sundays. Note: Since the sermons are previously recorded, they will not be heard on the same Sunday as preached.

Mothers, do you hide your broken heart behind a smile each Sunday? Do you think you're the only mother riding a sickly, never-ending roller-coaster of guilt because of your child's life-style choices? Hide no longer! Come to the Hurting Moms Support Group where other roller-coaster mothers are ready to wrap their supportive arms around you, as we ride through this messy journey together.

Mark **January 5** on your calendar today so you don't forget.

Hurting Mom's Support Group – in the loft

First Saturday of each month 10:30—Noon

Besides our discussion of the book "MESSY JOURNEY" by Lori Wildenberg, we share prayer requests and talk about how God has encouraged us during the last month, be it through a verse, song, or a friend. From the book "MESSEY JOURNEY," we're learning how to build a relationship-bridge to our prodigal children. So far, we've learned: Bravery is the first plank to lay down when starting to build the bridge. Next, is to lay down the framework of unconditional love. Come, January 5 and learn the next steps in building a relationship with your child. We're only on chapter 3, so you're not behind at all. Come, listen, and share only when you feel comfortable in talking. To sign up contact Ruth Neal at ruthneal@aol.com with your name and phone number.

We'll get a book ordered, and to you before our January 5th meeting.



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN

John's gospel was written decades after the synoptics: Matthew, Mark, Luke. As Jesus's best friend on earth, John gives us the most intimate view of Jesus' 3 year ministry. He expected his readers to be acquainted with the earlier gospel writers, so 90% of what he wrote does not appear elsewhere.

Young John was a fisherman. He was apparently an early disciple of John, the baptizer; who pointed him to Jesus, the Lamb of God. Jesus called John and his older brother James to be disciples/apostles while they were mere teenagers. Both brothers had such quick tempers that Jesus nicknamed them "Sons of Thunder." Of all the N.T. writers, John writes with a stunning

economy of words. His version of the Christmas story is four incredible words: written from God's perspective. You will want to remember them.

Likewise, John is succinct when writing about the incarnation. He uses few words to proclaim the profound. Even a child can understand them. While the wisest of the wise cannot plumb their full meaning. This final gospel is a masterpiece of the Holy Spirit. He caused John, the elder, to recall surprising, beautiful insights to our Savior's ministry. Come enjoy this remarkable book January thru March, Fellowship Hall, each Sunday 10:45-11:45 am. Start a new 2019 habit: Sunday morning Bible Study. Taste the abundant life Jesus offers. You'll be glad you did.

Cheers!

Bob Warner

All members are encouraged to attend our Annual Congregation Meeting on Wednesday evening, January 23rd from 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm.

The annual meeting is a time to reflect on all that God has done in our midst during the past year and anticipate His blessings for the coming year. You will hear reports and VBC's vision for the future.

This is an important time in the life of VBC and it is time to recommit to the vision and mission of our church.

Meeting ONLY—No Potluck Dinner



Prayer Sheet and Newsletter Reminders

Prayer requests may be submitted at any time. You may call them in or send the request via email mary@vbchsv.org. Information to be included on the prayer sheet must be submitted by NOON on Thursday. The Prayer Sheet is printed and available on Thursday after 4:00pm.



The due date for the next month's Newsletter articles is usually the 15th of the month. As with the bulletin, information should be provided by email to mary@vbchsv.org or on digital media.

The newsletter is mailed by the 30th of each month.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

Your 2019 contribution envelopes will be available December 10th and can be picked up from the table in the church foyer marked "2019 Giving Envelopes." If you have not used these envelopes previously but would like to have a set please fill out a request form from the table located under the nametag board.

The envelopes are used to generate giving statements at the end of the year.

NEEDED: Audio Editor

Village Bible Church is looking for technical assistance on an occasional basis who is familiar with Adobe Audition and Adobe Premiere. Audio editing experience is a plus. Please contact Chris Schoenfeld, 501-538-8890 if you can fill this need.



The VBC Library

Expand your mind and heart with a fascinating book today!

FIND CHRISTMAS IN THE LIBRARY

Whether you prefer fiction, non-fiction or DVD movies, we have many in all three categories.

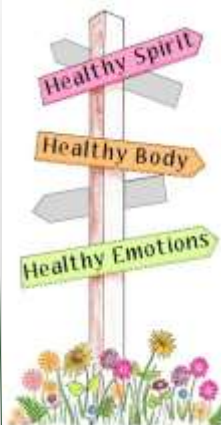
And for your reading or viewing pleasure, all the books and DVDs related to Christmas will be prominently displayed in the Library throughout December.



Ladies who are new to VBC will want to check out our 2019 Healthy Move class.

WHAT IS "A HEALTHY MOVE?" It is

- a Christ-centered class for women who are new to the Village and/or VBC to grow in their relationship with God and with other women by listening to concerns and challenges as they adjust to the changes



- * designed to help develop strategies to be healthy emotionally, spiritually, socially, and physically as they transition into a new stage of life.

- * The nine-week class begins on Wednesday, January 30. The group meets upstairs in the loft from 9 am until Noon. For more information or to register call the church or Dee Thompson (817) 455-8473.

Care

CORNER

If you have an emergency from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday –Thursday, call the office and they will reach the appropriate person for you. After hours, please call Pastor Levan, 501-353-3040. If I am not in town, there will be details on the answering machine as to who is available to assist you. Should you need someone Friday – Sunday, on-call personnel details will be on the answering machine at the church phone number, 501-922-0404.

Caring for you . . . Pastor Levan



Operation Christmas Child



Before these special shoebox gifts can bring hope and joy to children around the world, each shoebox has to be carefully inspected and made ready for overseas shipment. It was quite an experience and a blessing to be part of this huge undertaking at the Dallas processing center.

Transition to Worship

The prelude begins each Sunday Morning at 9 AM. The musicians work hard to prepare a musical prelude to transition from friendly conversation to a reflective atmosphere of worship before the service begins. Thank you for being aware when the music has begun and for giving others the opportunity to reflect and prepare to meet with God during this time.

INCLEMENT WEATHER ADVISORY

In case of inclement weather, you may check the following information sources for VBC service schedules or cancellations.

KVRE 92.9
(Village Radio Station)
KLEZ 101.5
(Village Radio Station)

VBC Website: vbchsv.org or
call the church office:
501-922-0404

2018 Christmas Concert

Thank you to Kurtis Sutley & Steve Petro for the wonderful photos!



Sing Noel sing
Noel Noel

Thank you to the Creative Arts Ministry for your beautiful mural of the three wise men and Bethlehem at sunset!





*The Missions Team
extends their sincere
thanks for your generous
gifts to the women
of Oaklawn Racetrack!*



**Church Office
Holiday Hours**

**Closed New Year's
December 31 & Jan 1**

Dinner Six

Dinner Six is a great opportunity to get to know some new folks or connect with old friends in a relaxed atmosphere. You will meet in a different “host home” each month (January—March). The host provides the entrée and the other ‘couples’ bring a salad or dessert. This is NOT limited to couples, it can be two friends, two singles and of course couples. What could be better than meeting new people, having fun and enjoying wonderful comfort food. Check your interest on the communication card in the bulletin or visit the display table. Questions, call Roxy Tooley, 501-922-0700.

DISCOVER VBC

The New Testament calls us to a high commitment to the Body of Christ on Earth - that is, the local church. Church membership is the outward expression reflecting our inner commitment to the Gospel message. Membership is much like believers’ baptism or the marriage ceremony as outward expressions of our inner beliefs. This class is designed for those who are interested in becoming members of VBC, as well as those who may want more information about our church. **Discover VBC is a two part series that will be held on January 20th and January 27th.** You may sign-up at www.vbchsv.org, or on the communication card in the bulletin. You may also call the church office at 501-922-0404, to reserve your spot.

New VBC Elder Dale Kastner



Dale Kastner is originally from Cleveland, Ohio and is a graduate of Valparaiso University in Indiana. He moved to Arkansas and then married Cheryl in 1979. The couple made Hot Springs Village their home and then became members of Village Bible Church in 1987. Dale began Casa Verde Landscapes and Garden Center which he ran for 30 years before selling to his brother-in-law, he continues working there today as an employee. Cheryl was a teacher at Jessieville Elementary for 40 years and you have also seen her around church as the previous leader of the Women’s Ministry Team. Dale is currently a Gideon and was a volunteer fireman in Hot Springs Village for 25 years. He enjoys fishing, coin collecting and traveling. He and Cheryl look forward to continuing to attend and serve Village Bible Church.



The VBC Staff would like to thank the congregation for your generosity in the Christmas gifts you presented us for 2018. We look forward to serving with you in the new year and pray God’s blessings on you and your families.

Benevolence FUND

This fund is used to aid our VBC family when there is a special need. Any donation to the fund would be appreciated, but should be over and above your regular giving amount. Please make your check payable to Village Bible Church and designate “Benevolence Fund” on your check or envelope. If you know of a need within our body, please notify any elder or pastor. Thank you.

Women's Christmas Fellowship 2018



You

FCA Winter Luncheon

When: Friday, Feb. 1st

Time: 12pm - 1:15pm

Where: VBC Fellowship Hall



Come hear testimonies from local students and coaches. Micah May, Director of South Central Arkansas FCA, will also be there providing updates and information about the ministry's impact on local schools. Plus, learn how you can get involved with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Enjoy a Sub sandwich, chips & soft drink for \$5

RSVP: Shirley Johnson 501.915.0654

Wednesday Morning Bible Studies

Women's 2019 Bible Study will kick off with a **Preview of Coming Attractions** on Wednesday, January 16th at 9:00 in the Fellowship Hall. All ladies of VBC are invited to bring a friend and be a part of this special event. The leaders will present a short synopsis of the study they will be leading and will give you the opportunity to ask questions and look through the materials. You will be able to register for a class that morning and then stay for a 90 minute lightning study overview of Revelation led by Marcia Gautier. Bring your Bible, a pen and some paper for taking notes! This will be a great way to begin the new year. You can also register at the Women's Bible Study table on Sunday, January 20th and January 27th. Payment for a study is requested at time of registration. Scholarships are available upon request. There are brochures available that fully describe the classes and we hope that you will look at them carefully and determine which one the Lord is leading you to be a part of.

Let's get into the Word together this year!

Sharon Trigilio and Donna Wetzel Women's Bible Study Co-chairs

Jesus Message to the Church: A Precept upon Precept Study of Revelation 1, 2 and 3

A 12-week study beginning Wednesday, January 30th at 9:00 & Thursday evening January 31st at 6:15. We will soak in this marvelous introduction to "The Revelation of Jesus Christ which God gave Him to show to His bondservants the things which must shortly take place". In chapter 1 we see the Resurrected Jesus. Then in Chapters 2 and 3 we read the letters that Jesus Himself wrote to the 7 churches in Asia and how He revealed Himself to each one. We will also take a sneak peek into the throne room of Heaven and into chapter 22 as Jesus brings HIS Revelation, and the Bible, full circle! This exciting study will draw you into a closer relationship with Jesus and give you a deeper understanding of how He describes kingdom life within His church and His return for her.

Study Leader: Marcia Gautier **Cost: \$25.00** *Men are invited to join the Thursday evening class

REFRAMING LIFE: Focusing on God when Life gets Sideways

A 7-week study beginning Wednesday, February 13th at 9:00. Do you need practical advice to help you process difficult situations? It is a challenge for you to view life's circumstances in light of God's sovereignty? Colleen Swindoll Thompson's study will help you learn how to "reframe" chaos, expectations and more. You will find encouragement with a mix of theology and practicality to help you "refocus" the way you see life's ever-changing circumstances in light of our unchanging God.

Study leader: Elaine MacIntire **Cost: \$12.00**

52 WORDS EVERY CHRISTIAN SHOULD KNOW

A 7-week study beginning Wednesday, February 13th at 9:00. Many who have been in church for years have only a vague notion about the meaning of central biblical or theological terms. Together we will look at 52 words organized into 8 major biblical categories with their concise definitions. We will explore Scripture to study the words in context and to see how the words are used throughout the Old and New Testament. If you want to gain a better understanding of 52 essential Christian terms this 7 week study is for you.

Study Leader: Donna Wetzel **Cost: \$10.00**

FASTING AND FEASTING: A HUNGER FOR GOD

A 7 week study beginning Wednesday, February 13th at 9:00. **Is fasting still relevant to the life of a believer today?** This study will teach you the key principles of biblical fasting. 1. The fact that God has ordained fasting that is acceptable to Him and 2. The fact that fasting will deepen *your personal relationship* with Him, giving you a hunger for Him and His righteousness. Using *Key Principles of Biblical Fasting* by Kay Arthur and Pete DeLacy as a study tool and resource, you will discover for yourself the impact spiritual fasting can have on your life.

Study Leader: Pam DeMorrow **Cost: \$10.00**

SEAMLESS: Understanding the Bible as One Complete Story

A 7-week study beginning Thursday February 7th at 6:15. Angie Smith's study covers the people, places, and promises of the Bible, tying them together into the greater story of Scripture. Whether you've grown up hearing Bible stories or you are exploring scripture for the first time, the full story of the Bible can be overwhelming. In this study you will gain a new understanding of scripture and discover a biblical context that reshapes and brings to life stories from the Old and New Testaments.

Study leaders: Cheryl Kastner and Julie Graves **Cost: \$14.00**

HEALTHY MOVE

A 9-week study beginning January 30th at 9:00. The Healthy Move class has been described as a lifeline and a "place to come meet your new best friends." Designed to help women transition into a new phase of their lives, the class will address emotional, spiritual, social and physical needs associated with retirement, moving, and more. The fun and cozy atmosphere of "the loft" encourages interaction with others while learning about our community, each other, and the Word of God. We will share lunch, take a field trip, and get acquainted!

Study Leaders: Alice Hill and Kathy Batjes **Cost: FREE**



Your VBC Elder Board



Larry Collins



Dale Kastner



John Batjes



Glenn McCaleb



Dennis Gullickson



John Sowers

The greeting, “Happy New Year” can bring a sense of relief, a sense of anxiety, or, for the Christian, a sense of joy in the Hope of God’s future blessings. “New” usually means change. What does He have in-store for us this coming year? First, let’s look back at VBC’s last year.

2018 was a year of change and challenge for VBC. We had several New major events take place that made significant changes within our church family. We had our Senior Pastor resign into well-deserved retirement. We went through a period of seeking and prayer before calling a New Senior Pastor. We lost our Executive Pastor to relocation, and asked an Elder to take that job as a New Executive Pastor. We chose New Elders and we added New leaders to fill significant ministry council positions. We experienced a flood resulting in New paint and carpet that resulted in a New look to the inside our church building, and very significantly, we added 32 New members to the VBC family. Whew!! That’s a lot of NEW in one year. Are we done? No way.

Change is inevitable. How we plan for it, or how we adapt to it, and look forward to how the Lord will use change to further His kingdom, lies at the heart of a strong Christian community. C.S. Lewis wrote, *“There are far better things ahead than any we leave behind”* Every change that occurred at VBC last year was a gift that strengthened the people of VBC. Those changes created stronger prayer warriors, allowed staff, and members, to stretch beyond their normal comfort zones to fit into all roles needed to further our church’s body life and mission statement - without missing a beat. Our congregation was never more unified, generous, loving, and committed to the gospel message! Through God’s blessing of those efforts, VBC has been gifted beyond our own human limitations. So, while we have gone through a great deal of change, and challenge in 2018, your Elders look forward to the great gifts and opportunities God will lay upon our congregation in 2019. We should all keep in mind is that the most important change of all is a New life in Christ. That is a New change we can, and must, commit to, and plan for, in His service. That is why we meet and labor in the Lord. Our circumstances may change, but...

“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of Lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.”

James 1:17

He never changes!

May the Lord bless you and Village Bible Church in this New Year.

- Your Elder Board

VILLAGE BIBLE CHURCH UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY

- 1 Happy New Year!
Office Closed
- 16 Women's Bible
Study Kickoff
- 23 Congregational Meeting
- 24 Overview of Revelation
- 30 Healthy Move &
Women's Bible
Studies begin



Village Bible Church ♦ 100 Ponderosa Way ♦ Hot Springs Village, AR 71909
Phone: 501-922-0404 ♦ Fax: 501-922-3697 ♦ E-mail Office@vbchsv.org
Website: vbchsv.org

**Applying the Bible
to daily life.**

Or current resident

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