

2021



Vallejo Central Newsletter

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY 101

Many bird species constantly call to each other as they fly from bush to bush and tree to tree. They're not just chirping for the fun of it; it's what keeps the flock together; mates never stray far from each other or youngsters from their parents. Every bird in the group recognizes the voices of all the others. That's how I want to be, frequently checking in with the Heavenly Flock and recognizing their voice when they try to communicate with me. It's vital. If a bird gets separated from the flock it may not survive; it wouldn't have the benefit of all those other ears and eyes to warn when danger's lurking around, and therein lies a second lesson!

Life in this world has more temptations to be on guard against than ever before. Temptations to hate, to indulge ourselves, to let our eyes get pulled in directions they shouldn't go, etc, are dangers just as real as a cat stalking an unwary bird. As our freedoms are being compromised one by one before our very eyes, it becomes all too easy to feel helpless and discouraged or even angry with our government. Feelings like these block our communion with Heaven. It's like getting lost from the flock. The cat pounces, and in a weak moment we yield to sin, and later, feeling alienated and guilty, we may be reluctant to ask forgiveness.

But Jesus is quick to forgive our mistakes. Remember the parable Jesus told of the "Prodigal Son? He always treats us just like that father treated his son when the son finally decided to come back home. Did he ball out his wayward child with things like "This has gone on long enough!" or, "If you ever do something like that again don't expect me to bail you out!" No, a thousand times no! Likewise Jesus wants you to stay close. The more often you talk to Him the clearer His voice to you becomes. And someday soon it will be face to face! Wow! By the way, the orange bandaid is helping.

Richard Brautigan, *Religious Liberty Leader*

*Men's Ministry
Presents upcoming events
BY Frank Gonzalez, Leader*

A pleasant walk (under 1 hour) for fellowship with men at Benicia State Park. We will meet at 2:00 PM, 2100 Columbus Parkway in the CVS parking.



Please, wear a mask. Dates: February 13; March 13 April 10; May 8

Senior Men's Visitation 2021



Please, wear a mask.

Dates: February 27; March 27;
April 24; May 23

Prayer List February 2021

How to Move Forward:

This month's article is from youversion.com 2021-01-05. We've all acquired patterns of behavior that form the basis of our daily routines. But what happens when our daily routines are suddenly changed? After spending a year embracing uncertainty, how do we start to move forward? The beginning of 2021 is the perfect time to reset our minds, look closely at our habits, and prepare our hearts for what God is going to do next.

Here are 5 ways to do that:

1. Set aside time with God every day.

You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. JEREMIAH 29:13
Start rebuilding healthy habits by making time with God your top priority. When you prioritize time with Him, you allow Him to renew your mind and change the way you think. One tool you can use to create a daily quiet time routine is Verse of the Day Stories. Start your day with a Story and get into the habit of letting God's Word speak to you. Ask yourself: At what times of day do I find it easiest and hardest to connect with God?

2. Fix your eyes on Jesus. Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. HEBREWS 12:1-2

Keeping Jesus at the center of your life will help you lay aside anything that might easily entangle you, and eventually, this practice will change the way you live. So today, take a moment to think about what might be keeping you from focusing entirely on Jesus. Try creating a Prayer in your Bible App and list the distractions you want to surrender. Then, set up a Prayer reminder to help you give those distractions over to Jesus every day. Ask yourself: What desires are keeping me from centering my life completely around Jesus?

3. Remember Whose you are. You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body. 1 CORINTHIANS 6:19-20. Everything you've sacrificed this past year will never compare to the ultimate sacrifice God made for you. So when you begin to grow discouraged, remember that God is eternally invested in your life. Your future is in the hands of Someone who loves you, and He wants you to become the person He created you to be. Ask yourself: What habits will help me glorify God more?

4. Start small. One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. LUKE 16:10. Growth takes time, so just pick something small you'd like to change, and start there. Consistently doing one thing well will make it easier to master other habits later. And if you miss a day (or five), give yourself grace. Starting small makes it easier to pick yourself back up and keep moving forward. Ask yourself: What is one thing I can start to master?

5. Invite others to join you. As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another. PROVERBS 27:17. We weren't meant to go through life alone. You'll find it easier to stay on track if you invite some friends to join you on your journey. Try finding a Bible Plan you'd like to read, and then commit to processing each Plan day together.

Prayer List Continued

Ask yourself: What trusted friends can I invite to join me? As you keep developing healthy habits, over time you will find yourself becoming more like the person God created you to be. It only takes a moment to get going, and these 5 steps are a great place to start. Pick the number you want to focus on first, and then stay committed to moving forward by applying this bonus step...Set Reminders to help you pursue what matters most Reminders are perfect for the times when you need some extra encouragement to continue to build good habits. And by setting up Bible App reminders, you'll always have a way to stay connected to God's Word and His will for you. Reminders are currently available for Bible Plans, Verse of the Day, and YouVersion Prayer.

Please pray for our church family members:

- Halima Acheson
- Luz Balmaceda, Valeria Balmaceda Pozo
- Tu & Trinh Bui, Timothy and Trevor
- Erlinda Daco
- Marquise Dominique
- JoAnna Gardner, Raymond and Alisa
- Jess & Edna Hidalgo
- Bill & Cathy Keating
- Joel and Yolanda Magbanua
- Sue Miller
- Charity Patricio
- Stephen Reyes
- Horace & Gwen Sugick
- Demetrio & Eunice Villar

A Word of Warning

Church members who enter the church by the side gate are warned that an unidentified male has been climbing the fence and may be living by the stairway. Please use caution when entering the side door. The situation is being monitored by church security.

Young Adult Women's Book Club

I ♥ Book Club

Starting fresh in the new year, Young Adult Ministries began the Young Adult Women's Book Club. We had our first meeting on January 7th and are reading *Confessions of a Christian Wife* by Dr. Heather Marie Thompson and published by Pacific Press. I was unsure what kind of response I would get, but a total of eleven women expressed interest and are reading a Young Adult Ministry provided copy of the book. We have been meeting every Thursday night via Zoom to discuss a few chapters read each week. The discussions have been enriching and the participation fantastic. We have been covering some deep topics on what it means to be a Christian in today's world, with honest conversations and a "no-judgment" zone. We are looking forward to our next meetings that will extend into March.

~ Angelina Gomez



Community Services helped 80 families in January. The following volunteers worked a total of 300 hours: Dale Hamlin, Emmy DeCastro Vega, Ed Politano, Rose Laugtug, Rudy Patricio, Carmen Velasquez, Luis Gomez, Pearlette Dobbins, Mel Quiba, Trinh Bui, and Fredericka Black. We are so grateful for the dedication of these volunteers to serve our community.

Church Board Motions for January

Motion 2021-001 2nd and PASSED Accepted the Board Minutes for December 2020

Motion 2021-002 2nd and PASSED Accepted the Financial Report for December 2020

Motion 2021-003 2nd and PASSED Approved the Treasurer Consulting Agreement effective January 1, 2021

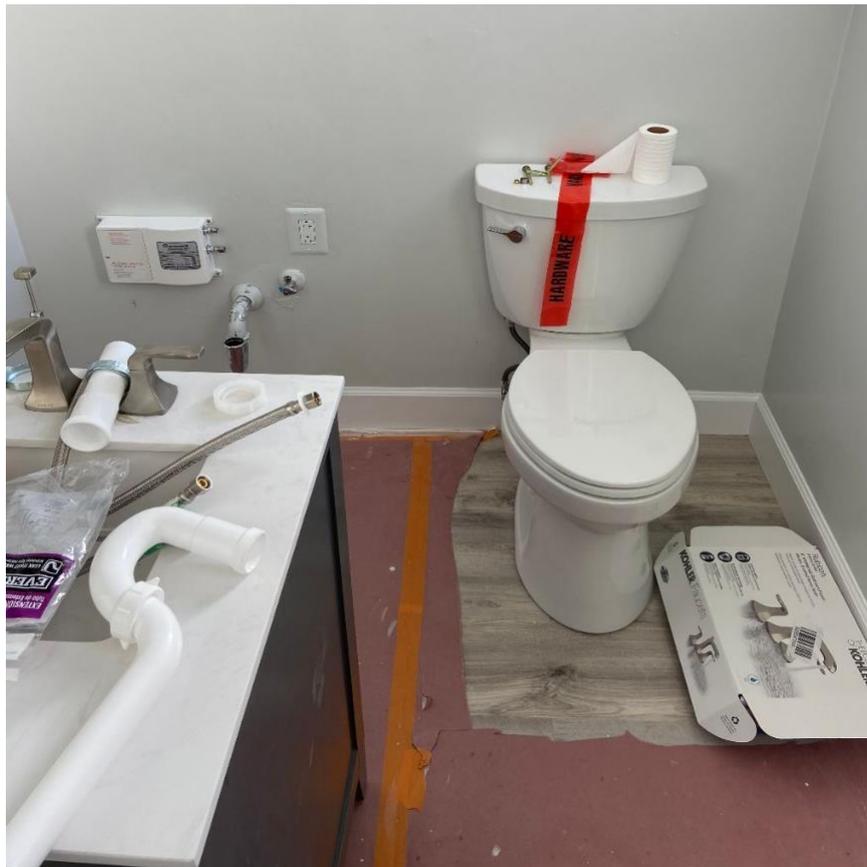
Adventurer Club Fundraiser

Hello church family and friends. It saddens us to confirm that due to COVID restrictions, we will not be able to host our traditional Valentine's dinner and auction this year. We were not expecting this pandemic to still linger a year later, but such things are out of our control. Although it is no substitute for a bidding war over a Star Wars Lego set, our Adventurer family and friends will be baking some delightful desserts for you to share with your loved ones. We will be taking orders the first 7 days in February, with the last signup on Sunday the 7th. Please visit the link below for dessert selections. You will then be able to pick up your treats on Saturday the 13th between 6pm and 8pm at the church fellowship hall.

A vertical poster for a Valentine's Day fundraiser. The background is a light pink color with a decorative border of pink and white frosting drips at the top. The text is centered and reads: "VALLEJO LIGHTHOUSE ADVENTURER CLUB PRESENTS" in a small, dark font. Below that, "Valentine's Day" is written in a large, elegant, cursive pink font. Underneath, "FUNDRAISER" is written in a large, bold, pink, sans-serif font. The next line says "Please support our Adventurer club by purchasing a treat online for your special loved one" in a smaller pink font. The dates "February 13 - 6-8p" are prominently displayed in a large, pink, sans-serif font. Below the dates, the pickup location is listed: "Pickup: Vallejo Central SDA Church 1111 Colusa St. Vallejo, CA 94590" in a smaller pink font. At the bottom of the poster, there are three illustrations of cupcakes: one with pink frosting and hearts, one with chocolate frosting and a cherry, and one with pink frosting and a heart. The bottom of the poster has a dark pink banner with the text "For details you may text Carlos (415) 298-8765 or Valerie (321) 439-7848" in a small white font.

Your Church Dollars at Work

As needed, the church trees are trimmed and pruned to stay looking neat and to deter rodents from climbing onto the roof and entering the building. Below you will see the upstairs bathroom renovations are almost completed. Your contributions to the church budget helps to fund these projects and many more. The Kitchen Renovation Design is almost complete and soon will be voted on by the church board so construction can begin.





Raymond Gardner Jr.	3
Abigail Marlow	4
Eleonor Napod	4
Alisa Gardner	5
Grace Maldonado	5
Samuel Aquino Jr.	6
Mercedita Delacruz	6
Donna Cox	7
Chelsey Delacruz	7
Harley Dicen	9
Roland-Elwin Daguna	10
Danielle Amador	11
Isaiah Jacob	12
Michael Brautigam	13
Lucena Fuchs	13
Danilo Ganancial.	15
Kaila Webb	15
Dale Hamlin	16
Fredericka Black	17
Tristian Ellorin	19
Mary Ann Johnson	19
Idaline Glos	21
Mel Quiba	24
Lenson Wong	27



Bible Quiz

The Disciples

Match the question with the answer on the right.

- _____ Which disciple was a tax collector?
- _____ Who were the first two disciples to be called?
- _____ Which disciple tried to walk on water, like Yeshua?
- _____ On which Feast did the disciples sing a psalm?
- _____ What event did Peter, James and John witness on a mountain with Yeshua?
- _____ What did Yeshua send two disciples to fetch on His triumphal entry into Jerusalem?
- _____ Which disciple betrayed Yeshua?
- _____ What did Yeshua do to each disciple during the Last Supper?
- _____ Which disciple looked after Mary after Yeshua's death?
- _____ What was Yeshua's final commission to His disciples?

1. Passover
2. Donkey and colt
3. Washed their feet
4. John
5. Make disciples
6. Peter
7. Matthew
8. Judas
9. Simon (Peter) & Andrew
10. Transfiguration



Please email:
llcpr@comcast.net
 if we have left out
 your birthday or
 with any other
 news.