

West Valley Church of God
 P. O. Box 343
 San Fernando, CA 91341

Pastors & Elders

Pastor: Wayne and Patty Mitchell
West Valley Elders
 Carlton & Judy Green
 Cornell Smith

Women's Ministry

By Edit Ancona

On March 3rd, we finally had our first Women Ministry meeting for 2018. The January meeting had to be cancelled due to many ladies being ill.

As usual, the room was lovely, being decorated with matching tablecloths and flowers, which created a very pleasant and inviting atmosphere.

The main speaker for the meeting was Patty Mitchell. We thought it will be very appropriate for Patty to share with the ladies interesting events from her life and some of her accomplishments so that we can get to know her better as our pastor's wife and as a member of our Women's Ministry group. Many heartfelt thanks to Patty for sharing with us interesting anecdotes from her life.

To our great surprise, Tillie made an unannounced visit with her two daughters Debbie and Laurie. Tillie's health is declining, but it was very

special to have her in our meeting. Tillie celebrated her 90th birthday a few weeks ago and we honored her with singing her the "Happy Birthday" song.

I do not want to forget to extend *a very big thank you* for all the delicious food that was provided by those attending. The variety of salads and desserts accompanied the main dish of tasty chicken on the skewers, rice and salad provided by the Ali Baba Restaurant.

Our next meeting will be on the first weekend in May and will be dedicated to motherhood. We are asking the ladies to think of some special and memorable events or sayings they associate with their mothers, or share with the group some special things they experience as a mother. We are looking forward to a very heartwarming May meeting. *All the ladies of the congregation are invited.*



Illustration by Sharon Mills

Editor's Corner

• Submissions for inclusion in "The Vine" are welcome **at any time**. We need your input! Please email to the editor (See right column) - in **10 point type, Arial font**, for easier placement.

Send submissions to:
TheVineEditor@aol.com -
Subject Line: Title of Article. **Time sensitive** submissions due **5th** of month for following month's issue. **News and Inspirational articles welcome any time.**

NOTICE... Many paintings shown in this publication are for sale. Check your old copies. Contact Editor.



"I am the Vine, you are the branches: He that abides in me, and I in him, the same brings forth much fruit: for without me you can do nothing."
 John 15:5

April 2018

West Valley Church of God -- "Come worship with us..."
Submissions: TheVineEditor@aol.com
 We meet at the Congregational Church of Northridge
 9659 Balboa Boulevard, Northridge, CA 91325
Saturday Service 10:30 A.M. - www.westvalleywgc.org

Tongues of Angels

Silvery chords of praise on golden tongues, exquisitely speaking, singing, prophesying, announcing... all are brought to mind when thinking of angels, how they communicate, and for what purposes. These are not all. One can only imagine the glorious sounds of multitudes of these angelic voices; or the terrifying, thunderous voice of just one, in warning. Powerful beings created to serve God to fulfill many functions according to His will.



Angels appeared to Abraham and Sarai with promises; to Lot with words of warning; to Mary then espoused to Joseph to announce a great miracle; to shepherds and kings to clarify and guide; prophets and unbelievers alike, to astound, silence, amaze, edify, and most of all to glorify He who sent them.

Yet, in all this, even if we were able to do such things, it would be meaningless without love. Love is the most powerful force there is. **1 Cor:13** - the "Love" chapter, tells it all:

Upcoming Events

• Bible Studies, Letters and other Events...see Weekly Bulletin and Bulletin Board.



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1Co:13:1: Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.

1Co:13:2: And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.

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"Tongues of Angels"... (cont.)

1Co:13:3: And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

1Co:13:4: Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,

1Co:13:5: Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;

1Co:13:6: Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;

1Co:13:7: Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

1Co:13:8: Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away.

1Co:13:9: For we know in part, and we prophesy in part.

1Co:13:10: But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.

1Co:13:11: When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

1Co:13:12: For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know

in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

1Co:13:13: And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.

As often as I think of this, I am reminded how difficult it is to perfectly perform. Yet, it should be one of our most urgent lessons. In this world of continually worsening conditions, it is increasingly more difficult to do this – amid crimes and injustices.

Much of the time, we are more involved in defensive; even offensive behaviors, perhaps unwittingly so, as we respond to others.

A word here; an action there; a thought somewhere else. All must be brought into conscious control at all times - as though we did not already have enough to do. We can only hope to accomplish a little of what is expected of us by allowing the LOVE OF GOD to be our guide; not our own, very suspect and selfish love. How else can we be emissaries of His will in us? Complete submission makes us feel so vulnerable, doesn't it? We feel unable to perform such things on our own. Yet, if we keep in mind the One to whom we submit; that He is all powerful; all loving; all protective, and a rewarder of those who come to Him... how can we worry? Whether we live or die, we are the Lord's -

Ro:14:8: For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.



Living Waters

Joh:13:34: A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

Joh:15:12: This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.

The Unashamed

According to Southern Nazarene University, this prayer was passed on by missionary Louise Robinson Chapman who served in Africa from 1920-1940. Years later the prayer became known as "The Fellowship of the Unashamed." It is unclear if the pastor was killed by Islamic or other forces in that part of the world, but it is known that he was martyred for his refusal to renounce his faith in Christ.

It is supposedly over 100 years old but I had never heard it before.

The Fellowship of the Unashamed

I am part of the fellowship of the unashamed. I have Holy Spirit power.

The die has been cast. I have stepped over the line. The decision has been made. I am a disciple of His. I won't look back, let up, slow down, back away or be still.

My past is redeemed. My present makes sense. My future is secure. I'm finished with low living, sight walking, small planning, smooth knees, colorless dreams, tamed visions, worldly talking, cheap giving, and dwarfed goals.

I no longer need preeminence, prosperity, position, promotions, plaudity, or popularity. I don't have to be right, first, tops, recognized, praised, regarded or rewarded. I now live by faith, lean on His presence, walk by patience, am uplifted by prayer and labor by power.

My pace is set. My gait is fast. My goal is heaven. My road is narrow. My way rough. My companions few. My guide is reliable and my mission is clear.

I cannot be bought, compromised, detoured, lured away, turned back, deluded or delayed.

I will not flinch in the face of sacrifice, hesitate in the presence of the adversary, negotiate at the table of the enemy, pander at the pool of popularity or meander in the maze of mediocrity.

I won't give up, shut up, let up, until I've stayed up, stored up, prayed up, paid up, preached up for the cause of Christ. I am a disciple of Jesus. I must go till He comes, give 'til I drop, preach till all know, and work till He stops me. And when He comes for His own, He'll have no problem recognizing me. My banner will be clear!

Sent in by Susan Thompson

