







# **FALL** 2021

NEWSLETTER EDITOR, BRENDA DOMINGUEZ

# EXPLORE GOD WITH US SUNDAY AT 11A

### The Story Behind the Song: "How Great Thou Art"

When was the last time you were overcome by the greatness of God and the majesty of his works in creation? Was it when you gazed into the sky on a clear night with no streetlights to dim the twinkling billions of night-lights? When you drove through the Rocky Mountain passes, feeling very small next to those immense peaks? Peered out he windows as a blizzard raged all around your house? Jumped at the crash of thunder on a summer night? Say it with me: "O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!" (Psalm 8:1)

A Swedish pastor named Carl Boberg felt those very things and wrote a poem to express his worship. It came into English through Stuart Hine and has become a well-loved song, "How Great Thou Art"." Pick up your closest hymnbook and read the stanzas. They tell of the author's "awesome wonder" as he considers God's creation, his might and power, and his wonderful works. Made famous through the Billy Graham crusades, that song would be a wonderful soundtrack for your day today. We can lift up our eyes to the heavenly One whose power, passion, and purpose for us will never change. We are saft in his arms. (Time of Grace Ministries)

If you'd like to listen to songs that we do during our worship service, visit our "Fall Worship Set" playlist on Spotify.

Listen to our fall worship set online

### **SAVE THE DATE**

### **October**

01 | Marriage Workshop
03 | Church Potluck
8-10 | Women's Retreat
10 | Pastor Appreciation
12 | SWBA Annual Mtg.
26-27 | NMBA Annual Mtg.
30 | Trunk or Treat

### **November**

07 | Thanksgiving Potluck

#### **December**

05 | Christmas Potluck07 | Living Nativity15 | Christmas Youth Party31 | Church Game Night

#### **CHURCH ASSESSMENT RESULTS**

#### **STRENGTHS**

Gila Valley is a family friendly church welcoming people of all walks of life. The weekly preaching of God's word is biblically based and encouraging. The church has a healthy children's ministry with many serving the LORD and a growing Youth ministry. The church takes prayer seriously and is extremely friendly and hospitable.

#### **WEAKNESSES**

Gila Valley realizes it needs to do more for the community it desires to host feasible mission opportunities for children and adults. We have many volunteers leading in many different ways, but pray that God would send us more talented individuals to join our genuine and heartfelt mission.

#### **OPPORTUNITIES**

The church has a heart to minister to the elderly, especially those that are homebound and would like to explore opportunities to reach more hispanics in our community.

#### **THREATS**

There are hurt feelings and un-forgiveness towards brothers and sisters in Christ. The church has experienced a lot of pain and divisions over the last several years. The church is not unified in the future of the church. There are many members that desire a change of pace and fresh vision for the church, and there are others that are adamant that we shouldn't change anything. The church must trust God's sovereign plan, heal broken relationships, and be willing to do whatever it takes to reach people with the Gospel.

#### **SUMMARY**

Gila Valley is a healthy and thriving church with potential limited by disunity. Just under 50% of our assessment mentioned unforgiveness and disunity in the church. Also, just under 50% mentioned the need for more outreach in our community.

#### **NOTES**

Only 20 assessments were submitted reflecting about ½ of the churches average attendance and less than 20% of active church members. The lead servants (deacons) of our church have met to review and discuss each assessment and, the full results are available online to church and community members who request them via the church office.





THIS IS LIKE TOTALLY THE COOLEST THING THAT HAS EVEN HAPPENED IN THIS STABLE!

# EMPOWER THE CHURCH TO SHARE THE GOSPEL



Mission New Mexico Offering

Goal \$2,000

New Mexico Baptist Children's Home

Food Drive

**Lottie Moon Christmas Offering** 

Goal \$1,000

Samaritans Purse

120+ Shoe Boxes

**Unwrapping Hope** 

15+ Christmas Gifts for Cliff Schools

**Candy Boxes** 

65 Widows/Widowers



#### **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**

**OCTOBER 31-NOVEMBER 21** 

We are so excited to offer the online "Build your Box" on our website! This page will help us exceed our box goal. Thank you for helping Gila Valley share Christmas Joy and the gospel around the world.

### **LET'S BUILD 120 SHOEBOXES!**



### Scan the QR code to pack your box online

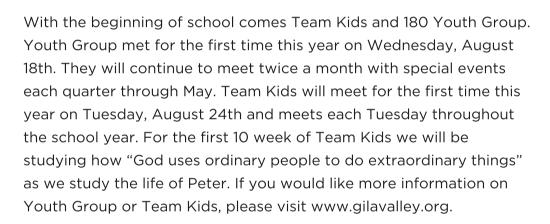


Shoe boxes will be available for pick up in the church foyer starting October 31st. Contact Janice Cooper or the missions committee for more information.

# God is working in a mighty way here at Gila Valley Baptist.

By: Anita Jackson, New Mexico Baptist Reporter

School is already back in full swing here in the Gila Valley. Gila Valley Baptist wanted to send the children in our community back to school with excitement. August 8th we hosted a <u>Back 2 School Bash</u> for all the families in the area. We teamed up with several family oriented organizations including Grant County 4-H, Girls Scouts, Amplified Therapy, and of course Cliff Schools to give families the opportunity to fellowship together as well as enjoy some fun activities. We thank all those who worked so hard to make this event a success.

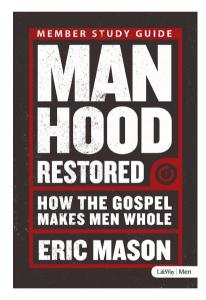


Our men's group just finished a six-week bible study titled <u>"Manhood Restored" by Eric Mason</u>. The study focused on the Biblical definition of manhood. We continue to pray for those who attended, that God will continue to work in their lives and families.

God is working in a mighty way here at Gila Valley Baptist. We are partnering with Pastor Mark Sprague to plant a church in the Glenwood area. <u>Frisco River Ministries</u> is currently meeting for Bible study each Sunday at 4:00 p.m. at the home of Mark and Julie Sprague. We ask that you pray with us for Mark and this new ministry.

We are excited to once again welcome Kolby King and 330 Ministries in mid-November. Watch our website and Facebook page for details of events and ministry opportunities while Kolby is in the area. We are so excited to experience God's work in the Gila Valley over the next few months. May God bless you and your church family.







# ENCOURAGE FAMILIES TO MINISTER TO THEIR CHILDREN



### **Date Your Spouse Idea**

Plan to spend the day with your spouse at the Catwalk in Glenwood. The Catwalk features romantic views with the sounds from local hot-springs running down stream. It cost \$10 to park your car, and picnic tables are available for use.

- Enjoy a walk together holding hands around the catwalk.
- Share a favorite memory with each-other and recreate it!
- · Read or recite a bible verse to each-other.
- Ask your spouse how you can pray for them - then hold their hand and pray.

# RECIPE TO MAKE WITH KIDS Easy Mini Pizza Bites

#### Ingredients

- 116 oz Pizza dough ready to bake
- 8 ounces pizza sauce
- 1/2-1 cup shredded mozzarella cheese
- 6 ounces pepperoni slices, cut in half

#### Instructions

- Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F.
- Spray muffin tin with cooking spray.
- Separate pizza dough evenly into twelve pieces. Gently stretch each dough and press them into the muffin cups.
- Place about a 1/2 1 tbsp of pizza sauce into each muffin. Then add cheese and pepperoni. Or use toppings of choice.
- Bake for 22-25 mins, depending on your oven, or until cooked through. You want dough slightly golden, and the cheese melted and bubbly. Enjoy!





Family Activity Sheet Scan to Download



### VALLEYYOUTH

Youth Group is off to a great start. We studying Matthew are currently focusing on the beatitudes and applying the principles in God's word to our lives. We are praying that a visit from Kolby King will be possible in November and look forward to how God will use his ministry to impact our group and community. We are also making plans for our 2nd quarter activity which will take place most likely in December. Watch for more details on upcoming activities as they develop. It's Fall Food Drive time and the youth group is once again challenging the classes at Cliff School to see which class can gather the most food for the NM Baptist Children's Home. Winning class and teacher/sponsor will win a prize. Thank you to all who support and pray for our youth daily.





# TEMkids

The Team Kids first lesson was on Jesus calling Peter to be his disciple and how Peter left everything to follow Jesus. The next study will be on Samson and then the Kids will start preparing for the Living Nativity.

Team Kids will hold their annual "Living Nativity" on Tuesday, December 7th starting at 6p at the Grant County Sale Barn. Please join us for refreshments in the Fair Exhibit building at the conclusion of the "Living Nativity".

Team Kids will be on a Christmas Break after the Living Nativity, until Tuesday, January 11th.

# EQUIP BELIEVERS TO GROW IN THEIR FAITH

### MARRIAGE WORKSHOP FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1ST, 7PM

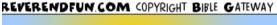


This seven session Bible study series, based on the book You and Me Forever from best-selling author Francis Chan and Lisa Chan, will challenge you to view your marriage like never before. These seven inspiring videos will help you dive deeper into the content of the book.

Childcare provided as requested.

### **Personal Spiritual Gift Survey**

- This Spiritual Gifts Survey will help you identify your God-given spiritual gifts. While there are many spiritual gifts, this survey covers the nine team- or task-oriented gifts used in daily life to do the work of Christian ministry.
- Every Christian has a dominant spiritual gift and many possess more than one. Through this analysis, you will discover your dominant spiritual gifts. You can then begin to concentrate on further developing your spiritual gifts as you exercise them in daily life and in your local church ministry.
- The following 108 questions or statements deal with your feelings and desires, so be sure to let your responses reflect your own opinions of yourself. As you read each statement click the button with the most accurate answer.
- Remember, this is a self-evaluation; there are no "right" or "wrong" answers. When you have completed the questionnaire you will be able to view a bar graph of your scores for each gift, a description of your dominant gifts, and several pages of personal analysis. You will also have the opportunity to print out the results.





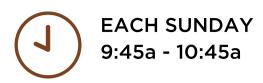
FAN OF ONLINE BANKING? MAY I RECOMMEND LAYING UP ALL YOUR ASSETS IN THE CLOUD?



"I looked, and the Ten Commandments don't say *anything* about running with scissors!"



### A SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS JUST FOR YOU!



# You are invited to be a part of a Sunday School at Gila Valley!

### **Devotional: Recognize the Lies**

The Bible says, "We are not ignorant of [Satan's] schemes" (2 Corinthians 2:11 NASB. His schemes include a step-by-step progressive plan of one lie that leads to another lie. The lies begin small with seemingly insignificant consequences and gradually grow large with more destructive repercussions. Lies such as:

I'M SO STUPID.

I CAN'T DO ANYTHING RIGHT.

I'LL NEVER CHANGE.

The only way to recognize the lie is to know the truth. We must know the truth so when a counterfeit comes along we recognize its lack of authenticity.

When someone is training to become a bank teller, he or she is taught how to recognize counterfeit money. However, the instructors don't teach what counterfeit bills look like; they teach what genuine currency looks like. They study the markings, the coloring, and the feel of real money, so when the counterfeit comes along, the teller can recognize it.

"THE BEST WAY TO SHOW THAT A STICK IS CROOKED IS NOT TO ARGUE ABOUT IT OR TO SPEND TIME DENOUNCING IT, BUT TO LAY A STRAIGHT STICK ALONGSIDE IT." - D. L. MOODY

God's Word is the only straight stick—the only measuring stick that matters. If Satan came to you in a little red suit with a pitchfork and announced himself as the devil, you wouldn't believe a word he said. But he is cunning and disguises himself as an angel of light (2 Corinthians 11:14). When he deceived Eve, he even quoted Scripture—twisted and distorted.

He has a collection of old tapes from your past, and he pushes rewind and play, rewind and play. Oh yes, he knows which buttons to push. He also uses personal pronouns like "I" instead of "you." The thoughts sound something like this: I am a failure. I am a loser. I can't do anything right. I'm ugly. The thoughts sound like you, feel like you, and before you know it, you think they are you. That's the reason it's so difficult to detect the lies. They sound just like us.

When it comes to the enemy, we don't have to outfight him, we just have to out truth him. But first, we have to recognize the lies we've been telling ourselves.

Jesus said, "You will know the truth and the truth will set you free." -John 8:3 It is knowing God's truth that will help us recognize the lies and reject them.

"You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world."- 1 John 4:4 (NIV)





We make disciples by empowering the church to share the gospel, equipping believers to grow in their faith, and encouraging families to minister to their children.