



## Expectations

The start of the school year often brings about conversations of expectations. In my classroom, we spent a day talking about experiences students could expect to have this year, the type of work expected from them, and what they could expect from me as a teacher. It's hard to fulfill and uphold expectations when they aren't communicated. We make plans for the year, knowing that along the way, certain expected events are going to take place.

And then there is the unexpected. If you attended the Back To School Night, you know that the evening did NOT go as expected. Plans were laid out, preparations were made, and parents were fully expecting to hear from their student's teachers. Everything was as expected until the unexpected occurred - a tornado warning that had parents and teachers alike seeking shelter until the storm passed. While the evening did not go as planned, relationships were built and strengthened as we waited out the storm in small, stuffy rooms.

God is very specific about his expectations for us. He laid them out in the Ten Commandments, and his plans for the tabernacle are incredibly specific to the Israelites (down to the colors of the priestly garments and details of bells and pomegranates along the hem at the end of Exodus). God does not leave anything to chance, laying out clear, detailed expectations for His people to fulfill. But, because of sin, we find ourselves unable to fulfill those

**Continued on Page 2**



Pictured left are teachers *Karla Stahlecker* and *Jeanette Weilnau* at AP training. *Stahlecker* and *Weilnau*, along with *Dr. Lisa Meyers*, *Renee Brenner*, and *Patrick Winningham* participated in AP professional development training over the summer.

## Educating Minds in AP Courses

### VLHS students scores exceed state & global averages

Valley Lutheran students have a history of scoring above state and global averages on Advanced Placement (AP) examinations. The 2018-2019 school year was no exception as, on average, VL students outscored their state and global counterparts in all five of the areas offered - Calculus, English, Spanish Language, U.S. History, and Biology.

Valley Lutheran Academic Dean, *Dr. Lisa Meyers*, shared, "Once again, I was excited to see the solid performance of our students on their AP Exams! Scoring well above both state and global averages, 79 students earned potential college credit by taking their AP courses at Valley Lutheran."

There are a number of factors that play into the success of Valley students. *Meyers* commented, "Our students put in tremendous time and effort and can be very proud of their scores. The AP teachers participate in regular training during the summer and throughout the school year that prepares them to effectively coach students towards deep-level understanding and high-level demonstration of the required skills."

Valley celebrates the consistent dedication to educational excellence as demonstrated here within both the teaching staff and the students enrolled in AP courses.

# Expectations

Continued from Page 1

expectations, no matter how hard we try. Thanks be to God for His Son, who was our perfect sacrifice. He fulfilled those expectations in our place, without expecting anything in return.

God is also very clear on what we are still to be expecting - that He will return one day to bring all believers back to Him. He has even given us signs, warning of the behaviors that we might see as that day comes near. We don't have to be anxious or scared. Our God is a master of the details. God tells Jeremiah (29:11) that He has "plans for you" and brings comfort in clarifying that those plans are "to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future". He doesn't share what those plans are, but there is comfort in knowing they are in God's hands.

When plans don't go your way, or life throws you something unexpected, "Be still, and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10). Our God is all-knowing, all-powerful, and obsessed with the details!

*Mrs. Lindsay Mueller  
Guidance Counselor*

## VLHS Drama Presents...

TITLE: The History of Theater

BY: Matt Thompson

WHEN: October 24-26

TIME: 7 pm at VLHS

ADMISSION: \$5 for Students &  
\$7 for Adults

NOTE: Join us on a wacky and wild journey of the history of theatre as we relive various parts of theatre from all parts of the globe. This fun and ridiculous comedy will set the audience up for some very clever, very funny interactive moments as they travel in time through Greek theatre, the gladiators in Rome, the history of mime and more.



Valley's completed locker rooms feature new athletic lockers, personal bathroom facilities and an office for coaches.

## GROWING...and Not Done Yet!

The word "break" would not describe summer for the building and grounds at Valley Lutheran High School. All summer, dedicated builders, electricians, carpenters, and workers of all types made exciting progress on the building expansion of Valley's GROWING Campaign. With the summer work focusing primarily on the West end of the building, students returned in August to a new and more secure main entrance, new lockers throughout the building and fresh paint in all the hallways. The new locker rooms were ready just a few weeks after school started and the new multi-purpose room and weight room will become accessible as the overall construction project progresses.

But, we're not done yet! It's easy to forget that there is still a majority of the expansion project still to come - thanks be to God! Four new science labs, new music and art rooms, and a dedicated space for our special needs program is on schedule for completion at the end of December.

This Fall, we welcome you to come for one of our Hard Hat Tours. Contact the office to RSVP for a tour.

### October Hard Hat Tours:

- Thurs., Oct. 3 @ 9:00 am
- Wed., Oct. 16 @ 11:00 am\*  
\*come early and join us at 10:15 am for chapel
- Thurs., Oct. 31 @ 9:30 am

## Upcoming Events at VLHS

- Thur., Oct. 10th: Social Security Presentation - 6 - 8 pm  
RSVP to 790-1676 by Oct. 4
- Tues., Nov. 5th: Fall Info Night - 7 pm at VLHS  
7th and 8th grade students and families welcome!
- Sat., Nov. 9th: Holiday Bazaar - 9 am to 3 pm at VLHS
- Sun., Nov. 24th: Fall Instrumental Concert 3 pm at VLHS
- Sun., Dec. 8th: Christmas Concert - 3 pm location TBA