



Daily

Forgiveness

It's February, so if you're anything like me, you've already lost track of your New Year's Resolution. I gave up making resolutions a few years ago because I was tired of looking back each December 31 and being frustrated with myself.

In a way, we go through this cycle each week. Each Sunday we show up at church a poor, miserable sinner. But we confess our sins, receive absolution, and take communion. We get a fresh start - a chance to change in the coming week. Then the next Sunday, we look back, and have the same crushing disappointment that many feel on December 31 when the goal was not accomplished.

The good news is that we have someone who has kept all His promises/goals. John 3:16: "For God so loved the world that He sent His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life." The promise God made to Adam and Eve to save them from their failure to follow God's command is the same promise He makes to us. The Father sent his Son to die for us; in Christ's death He took on all the times we failed ourselves, failed others, and failed Him. Thanks be to God for His mercy, grace, and forgiveness!

This year I tried something different. At the suggestion of a friend, instead of trying to make a resolution to change I resolved to learn. Each year he picks a new skill to learn; he uses the new year as a chance to better himself. In this way, come December 31 he

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Footings have been poured and the ground leveled in anticipation of wall construction on the west side of campus.

GROWING Campaign Progresses

Construction on west-end addition underway

There has been a noticeable buzz of activity at Valley Lutheran High School this school year, though it hasn't been restricted to the classroom.

Since breaking ground on the 30,000 square foot addition last fall, Valley has begun the building process in earnest with changes made to both the east and west sides of the building.

"Construction has begun on the west side of the building," said VLHS Development Director Kyle DeWees. "And everything is right on schedule."

A grove of trees was removed on east side of the high school in preparation

of actual construction over winter and early spring on what will be the new science labs, music room, art room, special needs room, and common spaces.

Therefore primary activity has been focused on the west side of the building in what what be new athletic facilities, locker rooms, and offices.

The area was cleared during the fall. Footings have been poured and foundation blocks laid in anticipation of the steel framed walls being constructed.

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has a chance to look back and see growth instead of disappointment. My goal for 2019 is to be moderately proficient in German, and, of course, to seek God's forgiveness daily.

- Becca Eifert,
Math teacher

VLHS Drama Presents...

Title: Final Dress Rehearsal

By: Jack Frakes

When: Feb. 14-16

Where: Peace Lutheran Church

Time: 7 p.m.

Admission: \$5 students, \$7 adults (includes a dessert)

Note: This is a one-act comedy in which a group of high school actors attempts to pull together their performance of Cinderella. As usual in the theatrical world, what can go wrong will go wrong.

Open Houses Scheduled

Do you want to know what makes Valley Lutheran a great place for education? Let us show you at one of the five remaining open houses scheduled for 2019.

Any interested students and their parents are invited to tour the school, meet teachers, and have questions answered. The dates are below.

- Feb. 19, 5-6 p.m.
- March 17, 2-3 p.m.
- April 14, 2-3 p.m.
- May 19, 2-3 p.m.
- June 18, 5--6 p.m.

Boys Soccer All-Americans

Concordia University Wisconsin released the 2018 Lutheran High School All-American boys soccer team, which recognized four VLHS student athletes.

Andrew Gunn was named a first team All-American, while Evan Beach was named to the second team. Ryan Fehn and Mason Strawn were named third team All-Americans.

Construction on west-end addition underway

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The athletic facilities are projected to be completed in time for the fall season next school year.

Once the walls to the athletic facilities are up and construction begins in earnest on the east end of campus, activity will increase with crews of construction workers, electricians, equipment, machinery, and more.

Already, the staff parking and athletic parking lots have made way for the mechanisms of building and progress.

"Admittedly, there are fairly minor inconveniences at this time," DeWees said. "But the students, faculty and staff have handled them very well."

While there has been progress in the area of building construction, fundraising for the campaign also continues. As of the end of December 2018, the campaign has raised \$7.8 million out of the \$10 million goal.

He also thanked Valley's current parents and grandparents who's giving at the end of 2018 unlocked a \$25,000 match opportunity from a longtime Valley donor.

"We're excited to continue working with our current parents, grandparents, alumni and association churches towards achieving our ultimate goal," DeWees said.

TVC recognizes Chargers for sportsmanship

Before Christmas break, the Tri-Valley Conference reached out to its member schools with the results of a poll of league coaches.

Coaches were asked to nominate the school that displayed excellent sportsmanship in their respective sport, and Valley was mentioned frequently.

"We've always believed that our conduct on the field of play is as important as the final result," Valley Athletic Director Eric Smith said.

"We're proud to see our student athletes be recognized for the way they handle themselves in athletic competition."

Football, boys and girls cross country, girls golf and volleyball were all recognized by the Tri-Valley Conference.



Fabulous 50's Dinner & Auction

It's time for the 16th Annual Valley Lutheran High School Benefit Dinner and Auction and this year's theme is Fabulous 50's. The silent auction starts at 5 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 23, at the Apple Mountain Conference Center. A fabulous dinner, entertainment, and a live auction will round out the evening. Join the fun while supporting VLHS programs:

- Register - \$65 person
- Become a sponsor
- Donate, bid on items
- Enjoy fabulous food

Visit www.vlhsauction.com or call 989-790-1676 for more information.

