

We are the Feet of Jesus

Last month, Valley Vision shared a story entitled, "We are the Hands of Jesus" in which we highlighted the origins of Valley's Global Awareness Club (GAC). If you didn't read the article, the quick summary is that the GAC was founded with the intention to share the love of Jesus through their service to others in both a local and global setting.

But Valley students are not only the hands of Jesus. They are His feet, too. They are continually nurturing their faith as they attend daily chapel and through assignments and discussions in their daily classes. It's through this nurturing that Valley students generously give of their time, talents, and abilities as they serve those around them.

In Matthew, Jesus says, "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me. I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me. ... 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'" (Matt. 25:35-36, 40; ESV).

In the recent month, Valley student clubs humbly participated in projects helping those in need. The clubs did

not ask for recognition, and, in fact, the clubs likely do not know we're highlighting them here.

- **Valley's Protect Life Club** is a student led club that promotes respect for life from the moment of conception to a natural death. In November, Protect Life organized and sponsored a diaper drive, matching donations from students with donations from the club's funds. Protect Life delivered a total of 1,400 diapers and 2,000 wipes to Beacon of Hope in Saginaw.

- **Valley's French Club** sponsors a child, Moussa, through Compassion International. Moussa is 17 years old and the French Club has been sponsoring him for just under a year. A monthly sponsorship fee is sent to Compassion International, as well as extra money for gifts at his birthday and at Christmas. The club has been selling fresh crepes once a week to support their sponsorship.

- **Valley's Key Club** participated in a local project that provides toiletries, gloves, hats, and other basics to local men and women in need. Key Club sponsored 76 boxes that were donated to a local homeless shelter. Key Club members collected monetary



VL's Key Club students pose with wrapped gifts for an area homeless shelter.

donations and shopped together for items. Boxes were packed and wrapped after a personal note was placed in each box.

- **Valley's Global Awareness Club** organized a packing party for Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse. Students worked together to pack 215 shoeboxes!

These snippets highlight a few of the ways students live out their faith, a variety of ways in which they act as the hands and feet of Jesus, serving those near and far in love.

Valley Lutheran is proud to be a high school where students can explore and develop their passion(s). From National Honor Society to Environment Club, French Club to Protect Life Club, students have a wide-variety of extra-curricular opportunities that help shape them into well-rounded high school graduates!



215 shoeboxes were gathered together under the cross at a chapel service in late November.

Booster Club Chicken BBQ

Sun., Jan. 12
11 am - 1:30 pm

VLHS Gym - Dine-In or Carry Out
\$11/Half, \$9/Quarter Chicken

Menu: Chicken, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Corn, Coleslaw, Pie, & Beverage

Proceeds Support Valley's Drama, Athletic, and Music Departments

Life (and what it means to God)

January is Protect Life month. Recently, Pastor Stahl assigned his Theology classes to reflect on “life” and what that means to God. Abbey Hambaum’s response is here, in devotion form. Hambaum is a senior and graduate of St. Michael’s Richville.

Scientifically speaking, the term life distinguishes animals and plants from inorganic matter, as life has the capacity for growth, reproduction, and continual change preceding death. As a Christian, life is much more than that. Life is having the Breath of Life in us. Life is living for His glory. Life is belonging to God’s holy family.

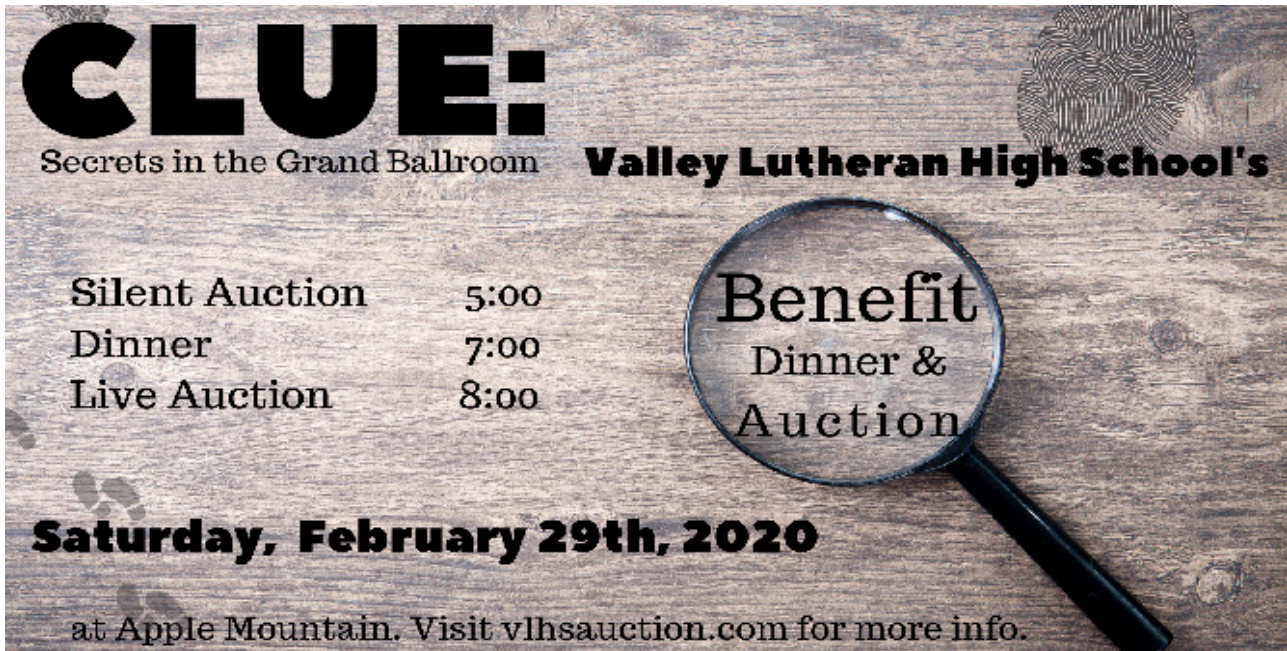
In Psalm 139:13-16 we read “For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. My frame was

not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.”

These four verses detail how God knows everything about our life, even before we were made into physical form. He saw us when we were unformed (v. 16) and He loved and cared enough about us to “knit” us together in our mother’s womb (vs. 13). My grandma knits. It’s done with patience,

love, and diligence to ensure each and every stitch is just right. That’s what God did with us – knitted us together with patience and love, ensuring we were put together just right – just the way He wanted us.

Our lives are so valuable to Him that He sent his only Son to die for us. We take comfort in the knowledge that while we will experience pain and likely death upon this earth, our Heavenly Father has secured our eternal home for us. Our life will not end at our earthly death, our life will continue in paradise forever, with our God.



CLUE:
Secrets in the Grand Ballroom

Valley Lutheran High School's

Silent Auction	5:00
Dinner	7:00
Live Auction	8:00

**Benefit
Dinner &
Auction**

Saturday, February 29th, 2020

at Apple Mountain. Visit vlhsauction.com for more info.

Valley Lutheran Announces Retirement of Executive Director

Valley Lutheran’s Executive Director, Dr. John Brandt, has announced his intent to retire from VLHS following the end of the 2019/20 school year, effective July 31, 2020. After four decades of faithful service, Dr. Brandt has devoted nearly his entire career in education to improving the lives of students and families from throughout the Great Lakes Bay Region.

Dr. Brandt began his service to Valley Lutheran as a teacher and athletic coach in 1979. In the following years, Dr. Brandt entered administration first as the athletic director and then principal. He was named Executive Director in 1999.

Under Dr. Brandt’s Christian leadership, VL has continually remained a top academic institution in the Great Lakes Bay Region and has achieved national recognition. He has guided the school to be a Christ-centered environment that educates minds, nurtures faith, and cultivates leaders prepared to engage the world.

Most recently, Dr. Brandt has shepherded the GROWING Campaign – the largest school building and expansion project since the school began serving students on its McCarty Road campus in 1979.

The Valley Lutheran Board of Directors has already begun the process for moving into the future, focusing on finding a leader that will build on Valley Lutheran’s strength and position as a leader in Christian education for future generations.

Announcements concerning plans to honor Dr. Brandt’s legacy will be made later this year.

