

July Newsletter

Greetings

Hi church family! As surprising as it is, the summer for me has reached its end, and the new year of Bear Valley has begun. There is much to be excited for and tell you about in this update. I truly hope and pray God has continued to faithfully bless you as He has me over the past month.

Goodbye For Now, Foristell

I love the Bear Valley Bible Institute. It has and continues to provide growth in every area of my life, and for that, I am extremely grateful. That said, I also very much enjoyed my summer internship with the Foristell church of Christ. I was a healthy mix of slowing down from the BV pace while also continuing to learn, grow, maintain routine, and practice what I've learned at Bear Valley. The workload and assignments were diverse, intentional, and extremely beneficial. The minister I was privileged to intern under was knowledgeable, passionate, and truly cared about my growth and, by extension, the growth of the church around the world. And of course, the Foristell congregation was nothing short of friendly, welcoming, encouraging, evangelistic, and full of desire to fulfill the model of Christ's true church. I cannot express how truly blessed I've been to be a part of this awesome family and work, from the office to the countless meaningful friendships I made along the way!

Vehicle Update

This is another one of those portions of my newsletter where I try and fail to express my deepest appreciation for the generosity of God's people. When I began Bear Valley, I did not have a car, nor a dime saved to purchase one. Thanks to all of you, I was able to purchase a vehicle that, so far, has proven to be reliable (and prayerfully will continue to be!). Thank you so much for making this possible. I promise to use this as a tool to better serve God and others.

It Has Begun...

Time has blown by at a hundred MPH, and school is already back in session! Friday, the 1st of August, kicked off the 2025-2026 school year with freshmen orientation. Most of the upperclassmen (it sounds weird to even consider myself an upperclassman) also attended to show support to the new class and be refreshed on policies and expectations. One new change to note is that there will now be three two-hour classes on Tuesday and Thursday rather than two three-hour classes, bringing our quarterly total up to six classes at a time. That in mind, here are the senior class's first-quarter courses: The first week consists of a

short course taught by adjunct instructor Mike Vestal, on Homiletic II. This takes a dive into the expository method of developing sermons. Following that, MWF classes will consist of “Romans,” “How We Got the Bible,” and “Kings/Chronicles,” with TTh classes consisting of “Biblical Counseling,” “Jeremiah/Lamentations,” and “Letters of John.” It’s a lot, but that only means there is much room to grow this quarter. I hope you will pray for both BV classes as we take on the challenges of this new school year.

Closing

There is so much going on that I am excited and thankful for, and I am constantly reminded that it’s only because of your prayers, encouragement, and financial support that I’m able to be on this journey of growth. Thank you so much for your generosity and the investment you have made in me and God’s kingdom. God bless!



*Bear Valley Bible Institute 2026 & 2027 classes and staff.
The other Forstell intern (Ethan) and I passing out VBS doorhangers.
Aaron (minister at Forstell COC), his wife Cindy, and I at Bible camp.*



*Ethan and I crashing a few members' weekly breakfast trip to Golden Coral.
My roommates (Evan and Levi) and I back home after summer.
My new (to me) car.*