



# The Vine & the Branches

January 2015

2015 -- What will a new year bring? Prayers for a great 2015 for all of our church family!

New Year's resolutions are not something I regularly do -- I prefer to make goals as they come, not just for a few weeks in January. But here are some suggested New Year's resolutions:

Pray every day. Connect with God through Jesus!

Read something from the Bible, and keep it in your heart every day. Even having a verse or two in our minds, so that in times of stress we can remember a promise.

Say thank you! Thank you to God, for giving us Jesus and salvation. Thank you to family, for putting up with our eccentricities and personalities. Thank you to friends, for being friends. Thank you to those who serve us in little ways, every day.

Happy 2015!

Karen Maas  
Vine and Branches editor

*May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer. Psalm 19:14*



## PRAYING TOGETHER

Every Sabbath morning, 8:45am, join us in the Prayer Room before Sabbath School and church. It provides us with a time to come together in praise and thanksgiving, and present the needs of members in prayer each week. The Prayer Room is the classroom across from the Mothers' Room, in

the back of the church foyer. -- Donna Schacher

\* \* \* \* \*

## From the Pastor's Keyboard

Dear Church Family,

I cannot believe 2014 is history. Lots of good and bad, fun and hard, happy and sad things happened this last year. For many of us we have felt pulled, twisted, pressed, stretched, and pounded with life. There is one thing that has remained constant, and that is our God and His love for us. The Bible says, "In the beginning God created..." Gen. 1:1 The Master was at work making master pieces. Later on in Genesis, God says it was good. He, the almighty, looked and said it was very good. He was pleased with His own work. One famous artist said "An **artist never** really finishes **his work**; he merely abandons it." Paul Valéry I believe Paul is partly right and partly wrong. A true artist, I believe, never abandons his work, he simply lets others enjoy it. Where I think he is correct is that "an artist is never really finished." I think of how God has created us and how amazing is his creation, even though there is sin here. God wants to finish the work he has begun in us. But does that mean that God is done with us, or will be? I believe that throughout eternity, God will continue to shape what he has made. We are "organic art" and are really never finished. Yes, finished as a created form or physical form, but never finished in a relational, or learning form. Why talk about this? It is because we must never feel we have arrived, instead we must always continually feel we are students. God is the artist and He wants to help us reach new potentials, new horizons, new heights. This year, plan on talking to God about where He wants you to go, grow, experience, and do, that will help you experience new growth in Him. Have a great month!

Love and prayers,  
Pastor Ballard

## Vegan Potato Curry

Ingredients:

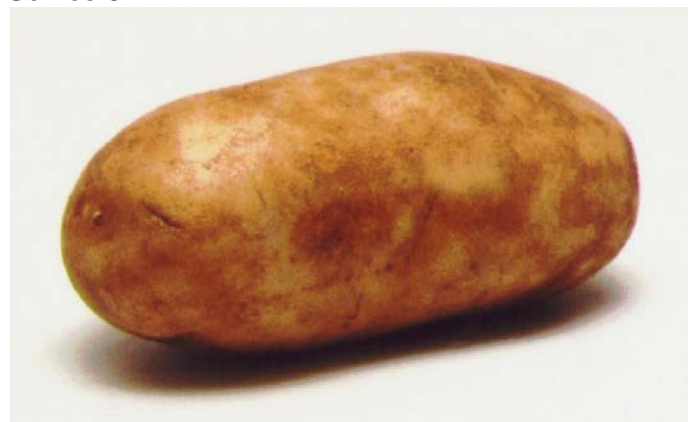
4 potatoes, peeled and cubed (I don't peel :))  
2 T vegetable oil  
1 yellow onion, diced  
3 cloves garlic, minced (I double this)  
2 t ground cumin  
1.5 t cayenne pepper  
4 t curry powder  
4 t garam masala  
1 - 1" piece ginger root, peeled and minced  
1 - 14.5 oz can diced tomatoes  
1 - 15 oz can garbanzo beans, rinsed, drained  
1 - 15 oz can peas, drained (frozen tastes better!)  
1 - 14 oz can coconut milk

Directions:

Place potatoes into a large pot and cover with salted water. Bring to a boil over high heat, then reduce heat to medium-low, cover, and simmer until just tender, about 15 minutes. Drain and allow to steam dry for a minute or two.

Meanwhile, heat the vegetable oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Stir in the onion and garlic; cook and stir until the onion has softened and turned translucent, about 5 minutes. Season with cumin, cayenne pepper, curry powder, garam masala, ginger, and salt; cook for 2 minutes more. Add the tomatoes, garbanzo beans, peas, and potatoes. Pour in the coconut milk, and bring to a simmer. Simmer 5 to 10 minutes before serving.

Serves 6





### January Birthdays

- 1 Bob Little
- 1 Leland Wilson
- 1 Trenton Wilson
- 2 Jennifer DeLeon
- 4 Sherrilynn Henley
- 5 Rich Hines
- 10 Christy Mayne
- 12 Jacob Edgy
- 17 Ruthie Carsley
- 18 Erica Edgerly
- 19 Dave McEwen
- 20 Sun Kim
- 20 Carissa Mahurin
- 20 Marcia Vilorio
- 21 Francois Rendon
- 22 Sherrie Mahurin
- 23 Laurie Dean
- 23 Troy Miller
- 23 Jaden Otte
- 28 Abigail Carsley
- 28 Marilyn Beecher
- 29 Francisca Black
- 29 Alexa Escamilla
- 30 Oiy Hawke



### January Anniversaries

- 10 Steve and Vicki Clevenger
- 27 Dennis and Bonnie Lampley

\* \* \* \* \*

**Pathfinders:**

January 3 -- Meeting 2:00pm - 4:30pm,  
followed by a staff meeting. Dress uniform!

January 17 -- 7:00pm, club uniform, honors

January 20 -- Meeting 2:00pm-4:30pm, club  
uniform.

January 24 -- District Bible Experience, dress  
uniform.

January 31 -- Pathfinder Sabbath, dress  
uniform.

\* \* \* \* \*

**JANUARY 24, 2015 -- Plan ahead!**

4:00pm -- Vonda Beeman in concert

5:15pm -- Soup/bread supper

6:00pm -- Church Business Meeting