

Valley Presbyterian Church (USA)

Oasis of Grace



IN LINDSEY IS NOW ALL RE



**Celebrating our Church
and Pastor Craig Lindsey**

Annual Report to the Congregation 2024

Electronic copies are available on our website:

www.valleypres.net

OUR MISSION

To make Christ known through reconciliation while communicating respect and love to all people.

The principles we will follow to accomplish this are:

- Worship that glorifies God.
- Growing our faith in love, hope and the peace of Christ.
 - Caring for the children of God.
- Reaching out to the community and the world.
 - Seeking an attitude of servant-hood.

Congregational Annual Meeting
Sunday, January 26, 2025
10:30 a.m.

Annual Meeting of the Congregation of Valley

Presbyterian Church,

Green Valley, AZ, January 26, 2025

Congregational Meeting Called to Order by Pastor Craig Lindsey as Moderator

Agenda Items:

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Opening Prayer

Declaration of a Quorum

Suspension of the Congregational Meeting to Conduct Corporate Meeting

Call The Corporate Meeting to Order

Election of Corporate Officers: President, Treasurer, Clerk of Session

Closing of Corporate Meeting and Resumption of Congregational Meeting

Review of Session, Deacons, Committee Reports

Presentation of Terms of Call for Pastor

Other Business

Motion to adjoin

Close of Prayer

Staff

Pastor Craig LindseyPastor/Head of Staff..... pastorcraig@@valleypres.net
Jamie Reed..... Director of Music jamie@valleypres.net
Jan Brachel Organist/Accompanist organist@valleypres.net
Cindy Brown...Communications Coordinator/IT Specialist cbrown@valleypres.net
Linda Hester Business Office/Events Coordinator lhester@valleypres.net
Gilbert GuerraCustodian.....gilbert@valleypres.net
Martin LaMarche..... Custodian..... martin@valleypres.net
Alice SanchezNursery Attendant..... vpc-office@valleypres.net
Esmerelda Romero Lopez....Nursery Attendant.....vpc-office@valleypres.net
Chuck Dunlap.....Sound Technician.....vpc-office@valleypres.net

Craig Lindsey

Pastor, Head of Staff

Our staff have been amazing, stepping up and volunteering, always concerned with the needs of our church,. We have provided daily E Blast,

weekly bulletins and worship, monthly newsletter quarterly updated photo directories. In 2024 we had 59 worship services, two weddings, 24 deaths, 11 memorials, two baptism, 38 new members.

- We began the year with the retirement of our former Associate Pastor for Faith Formation.
- Presbytery Executive Brad Munroe provided a Workshop on the NT Epistles.
- 60 of us planned to go to the Holy Lands, which was cancelled due to the 10/07/2023 attacks.
- In February, Jewish Scholar Joel Hoffman preached on Biblical images of Evil and taught a class.
- We continued with my Monday Bible discussion reading Luke, Acts, John, Ecclesiastes, Ruth.
- Through Faith Formation we agreed that there are vastly different ways of reading the Bible.
- The Main Roof sustained damage in 2022, which Insurance paid to have replaced.
- At Patio Sale all Toilets and Sewers clogged, Clean-out buried beneath expansions of the building.
- We transferred the Church's Foundation and Pike Endowment to a local Management firm.
- Two new Custodians were hired, who have provided thorough cleaning and maintenance.
- Line Dancing Classes for 80 participants continued for fellowship.
- The Sound System Board upgraded to Dante technology and the Choir K Array Speakers installed.
- Maundy Thursday we shared a full Seder Dinner for 100 believers.
- Good Friday we had a showing of the Film "The Passion of the Christ" with discussion.
- We helped sponsor the Synagogue commissioning a new Torah, and 30 of us as Gentiles were invited to have their Scribe guide our hand as we actually each wrote a letter on the Parchment.

- Judy Aguayo and I were our Presbytery's Commissioners to the PCUSA General Assembly.
- Bud Landry taught a class on Creation-ism; and Adult Vacation Bible Camp was "GOD's Creation".
- We thoroughly revised and adopted a new Protection Policy for Boundaries Awareness.
- We developed a new relationship with the Tohono O'odham people.
- Beginning September we had 3 Adult Ed classes each week: Bible Study; Care Giving related to Dementia; the History of Christianity based on a book by Chuck Ramsay's Uncle.
- October 6th, we held a Celebration of the Church, with a catered Brunch for 200 following worship.
- We extended Internet Service throughout the building, upgrading the Modem to Commercial with increased security; and planned for a new Smoke Detector system.
- At Thanksgiving an Ecumenical Worship Service was held in our Sanctuary with the Desert Hills pastor preaching, 390 Jewish, Episcopal, Evangelical, Lutheran, Methodist and Presbyterian leaders and believers worshipping together, with offerings given to Food Pantries.
- Rev. Diane Christopher was elected Pastor Emerita.
- In Advent, we added to Bible Study, a class on Dr. Sues's Grinch, and Wednesday Advent Devotion.

This year also included several major transitions:

1. The Gifts & Memorials Committee and Session provided exceptional leadership making an undesignated major gift available for one time Gifts to make a difference to each of our Missions, the Montlure Camp, and planning complete renovation of our Kitchen.
2. The Planning Committee completed a year-long Mission Study which has been praised by Presbytery and our own membership for thoroughness and transparency in providing a clear portrayal of who we are. The Committee were incredibly supportive for me as Pastor.
3. Transfer of Bookkeeping from a PT Staff member to Outsourcing this service.
4. Resignation of our Parish Nurse due to other obligations.

Pastor Craig

Session

Moderator Rev. Dr. Craig Lindsey

Clerk of Session Maureen Ramsay

Treasurer Steve Ginader

Class of 2024

Judy Christensen

Jean Hein

Jim Luhring

Ed Storey

Class of 2026

Ron Darrah

Ellen Entwistle

Sheila Frahm

Jim Rusk

Kenneth Taft

Class of 2025

Frank Coggins

Joan Dakin

Steve Ginader

Maureen Ramsay

Class of 2027

Ed Storey

John Bentley

Roger Fisher

Martha Van Vactor

Board of Deacons

Moderator 2024 Bud Landry

Moderator 2025 Jana Honermann

Class of 2024

Sandy Green

Bud Landry

Sylvia Landry

Mary Lillie

Nancy Storey

Class of 2026

Bernie Nicholson

Chriss Bell

Sherry Darrah

Karen Holthofer

Trudy O'Leary

Class of 2025

Cheryl Conner

Jana Honermann

Sue Horton

Linda Piotrowski

Vacant

Class of 2027

Bud Landry

Sylvia Landry

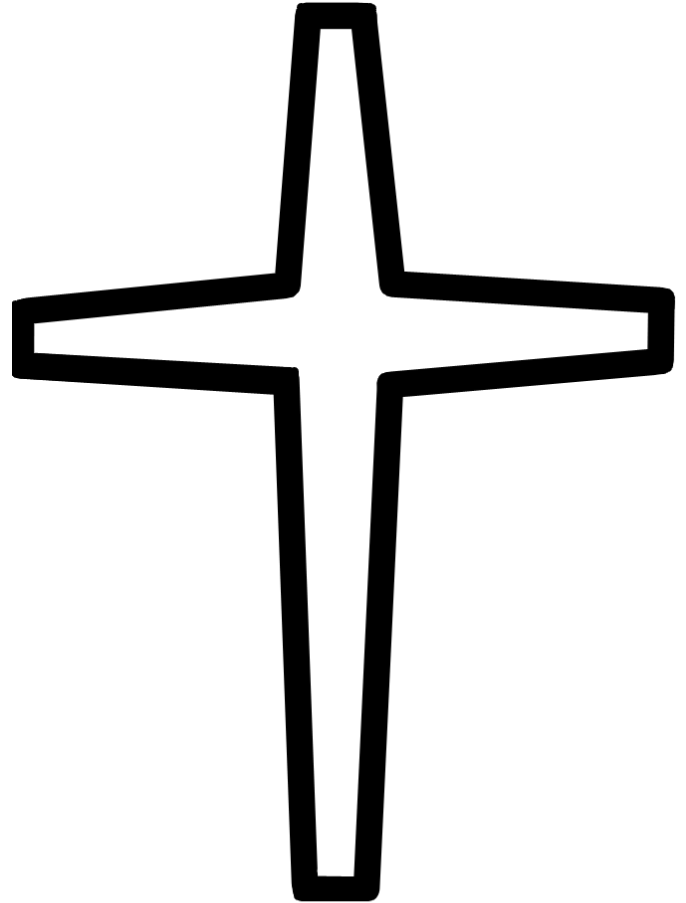
Lillian Richardson

Nancy Storey

Cheryl Stepp

In Memoriam 2024

Date	First Name	Last Name
1/23/2024	Rosemary	Mathews
2/02/2024	Ruth	Kroon
2/15/2024	Carol	Cikanek
2/24/2025	Roy	Romstad
4/09/2024	John T.	Pyburn
4/19/2024	Janet	Landis
5/20/2024	Julie	Pryor
5/26/2024	Linda	Romstad
6/09/2024	Darwin	Guinn
8/04/2024	Donald A.	Bahnick
8/10/2024	Judy	Clark
8/29/2024	Lois	Blacker
9/26/2024	Margaret	Preston
10/10/2024	Don	Bont
10/12/2024	Carolyn R.	Stevens
10/13/2024	Bill	Case
10/26/2024	Dorothy	Hofman
10/28/2024	Tom	Erickson
10/30/2024	Diane	Garnett
11/02/2024	Wally	Mullaly
11/30/2024	Mabel	Acri
12/18/2024	Richard	Bolin



Membership Changes

Gross Membership, December 31, 2023—414

Gross Membership, December 31, 2024—493

Building and Grounds 2024

Ron Darrah– Chair

Committee members: Dick Barney, Bill Woodrow, Mike Brouwer, Don Brooks, Don Nicholson, Eloise Fredrickson, Jim Luhring, John Howell, Kenneth Taft, Les Walter, Rick Nau, Staff, Linda Hester, Business Office /Events Coordinator, and Rev, Pastor Craig Lindsey, Pastor/ Head of Staff.

Committee Responsibilities: This committee is responsible for the effective management, maintenance, and use of the property, facilities, and equipment of Valley Presbyterian Church. Of primary importance is to ensure the facilities and equipment are safe, in good repair, and the grounds are clean and in good appearance. Membership is open to any member of the congregation.

Recognition: A special thank you to the custodial staff Martin La Marche and Gilbert Guerra for the work they have done this year to keep the church building and grounds in excellent condition. In addition, thank you to Linda Hester for her dedicated work in keeping the committee informed on issues, developments on important items and minutes at meetings.

Projects and accomplishments for 2024:

Roof Damage:

Additional roof damage was found in late 2023, we contacted the insurance company regarding the additional roof damage found. We sent a bid from Lynch Roofing, and the insurance paid the additional \$35,000. Lynch Roofing completed the repairs.

Kitchen Remodel:

In early April Maureen Brealey submitted a conceptual drawing on a new kitchen remodel. Later in the year architectural drawings were completed by American Design Consultants, Inc. and submitted to the Health Department and two local construction companies. We are awaiting final bids for the cost of construction. Construction should start around May 2025 and hopefully be completed by the end of July +/-2025.

The Gifts and Memorial Committee has set aside funds for the this project from a generous donation to the church early in the year.

Patio Sale On-site Storage:

Due to prohibitive cost of rental storage space, a proposal was presented to the committee to build 10+/- on-site storage units. After several months of discussion and study was discontinued. In the future Patio Sale will no longer be accepting or selling furniture therefore the space needed for storage has been reduced significantly.

Plumbing:

Beginning in March and lasting several weeks, several issues came up regarding overflowing toilets and clogged pipes. Due to the age of the church and additional construction over time it was necessary to have a plumbing company do a full analysis of our plumbing system. Toilets were snaked, piping was extensively cleaned, and some new pipes were installed. We are good to go for now (pardon the intended pun). The overall plumbing cost was \$17,000 of which the members graciously donated \$7,000.

Security:

Early in the year, the committee began discussions about a possible upgrade to the security system due to concerns about the system's age, the number of false alarms and the availability of modern technology. The security system for the church has been upgraded. We now have more reliable motion detection and cameras in all the important rooms within the church. The Pastor and the staff are no longer having to go to the church several times a week in the wee hours of the morning to check on a false alarms.

Valley Galley:

The Valley Galley has been put in the purview of the Buildings and Ground Committee. Maureen Brealey has taken over the leadership of this mission. Presently the Galley is available for on-site church functions and off-site outreach opportunities throughout the Green Valley/Sahuarita communities.

Sound System:

A new sound board has been installed and the old sound boards have been donated. The new board is more efficient and easier to use.

Termite Prevention:

As discussed earlier in the year, we have moved our termite service to Rick's Pest Control. It will be slightly more expensive at first due to termite installation tools in the ground. A contract was signed in October of this year.

Spiritual Life Center:

A concern was brought to the attention of the committee regarding a tripping hazard because of the Chancel in the Spiritual Life Center. Some people have tripped going down from the Chancel and some have tripped getting up on the Chancel. The Chancel could be removed, however if a speaker is at the same level as the audience, people in the back rows may have trouble seeing them. Several solutions are being discussed and this issue should be resolved early in 2025.

Deacons 2024

Bud Landry– Vice Moderator

The various caring ministries of Valley Presbyterian Church come under the auspices of the Board of Deacons as charged by the Session. Pastor Craig provided pastoral oversight as the deacons serve to fulfill the mission of each Caring Ministry, to support those ministries to the best of their abilities, and to support each Deacon in their oversight responsibilities.

The Board of Deacons consisted of the following hard-working individuals during Calendar Year 2024:

Class of 2025 –Jana Honermann, Cheryl Conner, Linda Piotrowski Sue Horton (for Clayton Messelt),
VACANCY

Class of 2026 - Sherry Darrah, Trudy O’Leary, Karen Holthofer, Chriss Bell, Bernie Nicholson (for John Agner)

Class of 2027 - Bud Landry, Sylvia Landry, Cheryl Stepp, Nancy Storey, Lillian Richardson
Cheryl Stepp, Nancy Storey, Lillian Richardson

The Board wants to thank Mary Lillie, John Agner, and Clayton Messelt who have moved on to deacon retirement. Their faithfulness and dedication to their fellow deacons and this congregation along with their love for all of you is a beacon of light and hope to me and affirmation that Christ’s true goodness exists. But you know that once a deacon, always a deacon and they may be called upon to help serve communion or extended communion occasionally!

Areas of Caring Ministry

Communication of Care (Birthday Calls, Care Cards, and Flower Committee) - Sherry Darrah

The flowers donated by church members for Sunday Worship are divided up into bouquets and delivered to homebound individuals, to those recently home from the hospital, or to those who are celebrating a special occasion. Over 180 bouquets were delivered to individuals throughout the year. Hundreds of birthday calls were made as well as many care cards were distributed to those who were ill.

Communion (Serving) - Trudy O’Leary

Communion was served on the first Sunday of every month during 2024. Communion was also served on Maundy Thursday, and Christmas Eve. Extended Communion was also served to individuals in their home or living facility.

We participated in Worldwide Communion Sunday in October using a variety of breads from cultures around the world. It has been the intent to use active Deacons and Elders for serving whenever possible. Ed Storey has been a tremendous help in securing Elders for the monthly Communion services. Betty Kiesle-Yoder assists each Sunday that Communion is served which is very helpful. Trudy O’Leary wants to thank all Deacons and Elders who have accepted the privilege of serving the Lord's Supper. The estimated number of individuals served traditional elements per service are as follows:

January— 297, February— 334, March—381, April—304, Easter—533, May—234, June—198, July—213, August—157, September—169, October—217, November—276, December—243, Christmas Eve—255.

These numbers are based on the assumption that all participating in worship, including the choir, are partaking of the elements.

Communion (Preparation and Clean-up) - Cheryl Conner

Preparation of the Elements for Communion was handled by the Prep Team which includes several Deacons and congregation volunteers as well as Pastor Craig Lindsey. Clean-up of the Elements following Communion service included the congregation volunteers and assigned Deacon. Heartfelt thanks to those willing hearts and hands.

Communion (Extended Communion) - Cheryl Conner

Extended communion was brought faithfully to those members of our church family who were unable to attend worship in the Sanctuary. Ordained Deacon and Elder volunteers took Communion to them either in their home or care facility in Green Valley. Many thanks to each of them for their faithful service. They extended Communion and visited with our church family members, keeping them connected to our Body of Christ at VPC.

Facilities Visitation

Facilities visitation was absorbed by the NOC at the beginning of the year and will be reported on in the NOC report.

Greeters, Owl Express, and Ushers

Every worship service requires three greeters, three ushers, two head ushers, and one owl express driver to welcome and make sure that each person who attends is comfortable before, during, and after the service. This requires a very large group of more than 50 people who rotate these duties throughout the year. In the past year, we have added five new couples and seven individuals as greeters and ushers.

There are eight Owl Express drivers who rotate generally once a month. Several drivers retired during the year, namely,

Jeff Babcock, Dave Stepp, John Agner, Mike Brouwer and Mike Yoder.

Currently our driver are: *Joe Bruce, Craig McFall, Joe Jackson and Jack Carter.*

Bud and Sylvia Landry are very grateful for these faithful and willing usher volunteers and working with them is a pleasure. They include:

Cheryl and Dave Stepp, Ed Schmidt, Lois and Tom Dierkin, Steve Larson, Sue Horton, John and Jan Agner, Lois and Tom MacFarlane, Betty and Mike Yoder, Mary Horn, Carol Willie, Phil and Karen Pitts, Don and Karen Brooks, Martha Van Vactor, Mike and Kay Brouwer, Bill and Judy McKinley, Steve Larson, Ellie Hargleroad, Elsie Ophorst, Karen Woodrow, Lillian Richardson, Maureen Brealey, Gary Heintz, Katie Carter, Helen and Larry Phillips, Rob and Pat Pearson, Jan Farrington, Julie Ginader, Kim Moss, Patti Bright, Rick and Kandi Gentis, Bruce and Diane Campbell, Patti and Jay Messerschmidt, Lesley Bruce, and Craig and Kris McFall.

Journey Through Grief Ministries

Carolyn Hill and Deb Jones facilitated the Journey through Grief Workshop. The program was offered two times in 2024 and provided a safe place for about 13 individuals who were grieving.

Journeying through Grief Books

In 2024, the complete series of books has been distributed to 12 individuals, thus the ministry has been completed for them. Two individuals started receiving the books but then requested to not receive the remaining books. One individual died within months of her spouse, having received only the first two of the books in the series. There are currently 10 individuals who are receiving the books.

Many thanks to those who have or who are providing the books to the grieving: Patti Bright, Bill Woodrow, Jana Honermann, Linda Piotrowski, Helen Phillips, Carolyn Hill, John Bentley, Kathryn Duncan, Bob Lillie, Deb Jones, and Dale Honermann.

Head Ushers—Bud Landry

The Head Ushers have a great deal of responsibility during the Sunday Service, from assuring congregational security, to establishing an accurate attendance count, and overseeing and leading the general offertory. Two Head Ushers for each service monitor the congregation for possible medical intervention as well as general pre- and post-service to the chancel (lighting and extinguishing the candle, providing water for the pastors, and removal of the flower arrangement). There was one annual in-person meeting (November 21, 2024) to help insure uniform knowledge of Head Usher responsibilities.

Many thanks to:

Rudy Sweisfurth, Ed Schmidt, Ron Darrah, Bob Campbell, Bruce Campbell, Phil Pitts, Roger Fisher, John Bentley, Bill Woodrow, Betty Yoder, Sylvia Landry and Bud Landry.

Network of Caring (NOC) -Nancy Storey

The mission of the Network of Caring (NOC) is to support the core value of relationship and fellowship within Valley Presbyterian Church. This is accomplished through a program of congregational contact where trained contactors stay in touch with the people within our church on a regular basis via phone calls, texts, or home visits. The catchment area for VPC has been geographically divided into 11 areas, each with a leader, and about 30 contactors. The area leader is available to help with any special needs. Contactors keep their area leaders up to date with the results of their calls. The area leaders meet quarterly.

The NOC areas were:

ABREGO NORTH: (24 households) Area Leader: Verla Bakker
ABREGO SOUTH: (38 households) Area Leader: Verla Bakker
CAMINO DEL SOL NORTH: (43 households) Area Leader: Cheryl Stepp
CAMINO DEL SOL CENTRAL: (29 households) Area Leader: Lorna Corso
CAMINO DEL SOL SOUTH: (55 households) Area Leader: Jan Farrington
LA CANADA NORTH: (44 households) Area Leader: Jean Hein
LA CANADA SOUTH: (45 households) Area Leader: OPEN
LA POSADA: (35 households) Area Leader: Martha Jump
QUAIL CREEK: (42 households) Area Leader: Jan Panhuis
SAHUARITA/TUCSON: (27 households) Area Leader: Sylvia Landry
SOUTH OF GREEN VALLEY: (4 households) Area Leader: Donaldina Joung

NOC—Memorial Receptions—Sylvia Landry, Nancy Storey, Cheryl Stepp

There were eight memorial receptions hosted by the NOC during Calendar Year 2024.

Prayer Shawl/Prayer Bear Ministry - Sandy Green

The Prayer Shawl/Prayer Bear Ministry is a symbol of unconditional love that has been made with prayers and blessings for the recipient. Starting January 2024 to January 2025, 29 Prayer Shawls and 26 Prayer Bears have been given to others so they feel less alone and feel the arms of Jesus wrapped around them.

The response to requests for additional prayer shawls in the E-Blast has been very good. In 2024, 36 shawls were donated and have been blessed. The shawls are made by church members and friends of church members. This year 8 Prayer Shawls and 7 Prayer Bears were available to the church community after the church service on December 11, 2024. They were available “to help make Christmas special to someone.” 4 Prayer Shawls and 6 Prayer Bears were picked up.

On December 17, 2024, there were 22 shawls, 21 bears, and 11 unblessed shawls available. 2024 has been another good year for sharing with others for this ministry.

Prayer Ministry—Betty Singleton

January - December 2024 the Prayer Ministry met every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. The team is made up of devoted women led by Betty Singleton. The women involved are Peggy Babcock, Joan Dakin, Laurel Erickson, Sandy Green, Jean Hein, Kylee Joplin, Gerry Pearson, Maureen Ramsey, Betty Singleton, Nancy Storey, and Sara Henniger. The group prays for the needs of the congregation, the Green Valley community, mission projects, and world concerns.

Stephen Ministry—Jana Honermann

This ministry consists of highly trained individuals who provide Christian confidential and non-judgmental listening, compassion, and the gift of presence to those who are going through a difficult time in their life. An expanded Stephen Ministry report is included elsewhere in this document.

Sunday Fellowship—Karen Holthofer and Chriss Bell

We serve cookies, coffee, lemonade and water to the congregation following the Sunday Worship service every Sunday throughout the year (with occasional exceptions such as July 4 when there is another event planned). The busiest time begins in November and continues into April as that is when our seasonal attendees are here. During this time, we serve between 100 and 200 guests about 150 cups of coffee and about 30-35 glasses each of lemonade and water, as well as 12 to 15 dozen cookies, which are provided by various groups within the church, as follows: 1st Sunday of the month—Choir, 2nd Sunday—Elders, 3rd Sunday—Deacons, 4th—congregation, and if there is a 5th Sunday—Stephen Ministers. During the other six months or so, the numbers dropped to about 100 to 125 guests served around 75 to 100 cups of coffee and about 25 to 30 glasses. each of lemonade and water, as well as 9 to 12 dozen cookies. Our congregants enjoy meeting old and new friends with a cookie and beverage, and many sit at the tables and stay for an extended time. We really think fellowship time is very valuable to promote friendships and to help welcome new people to the church.

Faith Formation 2024

Linda Freeman, Chair

The Faith Formation Committee provides opportunities for us to ***Learn the Basics, Deepen our Faith and Share Our Beliefs.***

Over the course of the year, we offered classes, study groups and programs to help both children and adults more fully form and develop their faith through studying scripture, exploring the historical Jesus and the church, and learning how to live our faith.

18 individuals answered the call to write or suggest an E-Blast devotion to use as one of the two our committee supplied every week throughout the year. That's over 100 instances of people sharing their faith!

it was our desire to connect with everyone in whatever way works best for them:

- In the classroom: for both children and adults,
- Through broadcasting classroom gatherings,
- As part of E-Blast communications,
- By supporting Men's and Women's Bible studies,
- By distributing Daily Devotionals during Lent and Advent,
- With organizing a successful Adult Bible Camp for 3 mornings this summer, great fun!
- Amid book discussion groups,
- Through the Little Lending Library in our community,
- Providing a cool place to gather and discuss a movie during the sizzling summer months.

We support a well-appointed library that supplies excellent resource material in the form of print, DVDs and CDs. We are continually advertising new acquisitions and inviting everyone to enjoy this learning center. ~Library items circulated—687 ~New items acquired -91 ~Valley Readers attendance –218 ~ Little Free Library - constant use, refurbished by users and Patio Sale donations.

Together with Pastor Craig Lindsey and being led by the Holy Spirit, *may we all continue to grow our knowledge and spiritual selves during 2025.*

Linda Freeman, Chair; Dick Davison, Devotions; Liz Haynes, Secretary; Joan Dakin, Session Liaison. Pam Karbowsky, Youth and Children Studies; Tom Lobb, Adult Studies; Marcia MacDonald, Adult Studies. Marie Valade, Adult Studies; and Anne Morrison, Librarian

Fellowship 2024

Jim Rusk-Chair

The Fellowship committee works with Pastor Craig and the church staff to present and promote Fellowship activities for the congregation.

2024 was a busy year for the committee which hosted and/or assisted with the following activities:

- January – Pastor Diane’s retirement party.
- February – Shrove Tuesday/Fat Tuesday, Pancake Supper.
- March – Sedar Meal.
- April – Line Dance Party.
- June - 4th of July “Picnic”.
- October – Pastor Craig’s 40th anniversary celebration.
- November – Thanksgiving Dinner.
- December – Line Dance Party.

The committee thanks everyone for their work and support throughout the year and looks forward to another “active” year in 2025.

Committee Members: Jim Rusk, Chair, Ron Darrah, Vice Chair, Marcia MacDonald, Secretary, Sherry Darrah, Member, Chris Fleischmann, Member, Tommy Thompson, Member and Pastor Craig Lindsey, Staff.

Finance 2024

Steve Ginader—Treasurer

The role of the finance committee is to provide advice and to respond to direction from the Session for the management of Valley Presbyterian Church finances.

Committee members include: Sheila Frahm – Chair, John Bentley, Jana Honermann, Bill McKinley, Annie Stitt, Roger Fisher, Suzanne Mandeville – Bookkeeper, Steve Ginader – Treasurer and Pastor Craig Lindsey – Staff.

Changes to the Church's financial processes in 2024

1. We transitioned our primary bank from BMO to Southwest Heritage. In conjunction with the change, the committee made the decision to lower the funds in each bank to the required minimum to conduct daily operating expenses. All other liquid funds are deposited in laddered CD's with our broker, Raymond James.
2. In March, right before the patio sale, we contracted with Southwest Heritage bank to rent a check scanner. After seeing how successfully it worked during the sale, we now scan all checks received by the Church from any event or service directly to the bank for deposit. This process allows the Monday morning counters to handle and record only the cash received.
3. Steve, Annie and Suzanne conducted a thorough review of the Church's custodial accounts. These are holding accounts within the operating budget set up for a specific use. After review, the committee recommended closing nine inactive accounts and to assign responsibility for the 12 active accounts to appropriate committees for review each month.
4. Bookkeeper Suzanne Mandeville will be stepping down at the end of 2024. Thank you, Suzanne, for your seven plus years of service! Based on discussions by the Personnel Committee, using recommendations from the mission study, the decision was made to outsource Valley's bookkeeping operation in 2025. In October we contracted with Paro Finance & Accounting to hire Kristin Tucker. Kristin started working with Suzanne and Annie in November to begin the transition.

Outside and internal financial reviews

1. The 2022 outside financial review was presented to the committee in February by accountant Matt Frey. The committee reviewed Matt's recommendations and accepted one for implementation. To achieve more oversight and accountability, the Church treasurer is now reviewing the credit card statement monthly.
2. The 2023 internal review was conducted in March by Steve Larson, Tommy Calhoun and Liz Haynes. Their recommendations are still under review by the committee.
3. Several large undesignated bequests received at the end of 2023 and early 2024 were invested in layered CD's at Raymond James. The gifts and memorials committee, with direction from the Session, decides how to allocate these bequests.

Looking ahead to 2025

1. A balanced 2025 operating budget was approved by session. It includes ample funds in both operating and capital reserves to handle unexpected expenses.
2. The 2024 year-end report and 2025 Church budget presented with this report show that our finances remain in good shape and, with the funds invested in the Church foundation, we are positioned well for the future.

Finance 2025 Budget

Valley Presbyterian Church 2025 Budget Worksheet

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1			2024 Annual Budget	Actual Expense YTD 7/31/24	Projected Expenses 2024		2025 Requested Budget
2		Income:					
3		Church Support	730,460	461,399	762,000		750,000
4		Per Capita	8,759	5,980	6,200		7,400
5		Other Income	22,079	16,792	28,000		23,000
6		Investment Income	3,582	10,647	20,000		10,000
7		Restricted Fund Used	15,150	6,645	11,391		-
8		Other Funding	65,000	32,500	65,000		72,000
9		From Operating Reserve	-		-		19,473
10		Total Income	845,030	533,963	892,591		881,873
11		Expense					
12		Personnel Expenses	470,920	260,365	446,340		505,993
13		Per Capita	18,053	10,531	18,053		18,588
14		Administrative Expenses	61,600	35,486	59,508		67,200
15		Buildings & Grounds	80,022	49,453	80,780		95,822
16		Committee Expenses	30,100	11,074	18,985		30,000
17		Nurse Program	3,100	1,391	2,384		2,000
18		Deacons	7,500	643	1,902		3,300
19		Stephen Ministry	1,450	382	1,025		1,720
20		Faith Formation	10,300	2,670	6,610		5,500
21		Membership	1,400	352	830		1,400
23		Fellowship	3,000	(525)	-		5,000
24		Mission Expenses	131,985	65,345	131,985		120,000
25		Music Expenses	5,500	1,816	4,225		5,500
26		Outreach	16,000	7,721	13,764		14,400
27		Stewardship	600	-	-		750
28		Worship	3,500	2,614	4,639		4,700
29		Fees paid out for Wed/Mem/Event		3,298	5,654		-
30		Total Expense	845,030	452,614	796,683		881,873
31		Net Ordinary Income	-		95,909		(0)

Foundation 2024

Jim Rusk– President

The Foundation board oversees the management of the VPC Foundation. Monies generated through the investment of these funds is dedicated for Capital improvements for Valley Presbyterian Church.

2024 Activities:

- * In January, the board added two members: Ken Frahm and John Green.
- Thanks to the church’s sound financial condition and available capital reserve funds there was no necessity to provide funds for capital improvements in 2024; therefore 2023 income remained invested during the year.
- The board established a special subcommittee to re-evaluate both the Bylaws and the investment strategy for the Foundation..
- Based on subcommittee recommendations, the Board approved the following actions:
 - ◇ An Investment Policy was established for the Foundation that changed the focus of the investment strategy to provide for future growth
 - ◇ The Bylaws were amended to properly define the use of Foundation Income
 - ◇ Assets were moved to a new investment management firm.
- Bylaw and investment policy were all approved by the Session
The board will host a “Giving Forum” in the spring of 2025 with our new investment management advisor Bill Stevens of Generous Wealth Advisor.

Board Members:

Jim Rusk, President, Judy Christensen, Vice President, Annie Stitt, Secretary, Steve Ginader, Treasurer, Jana Honermann, Member, John Bentley, Member, John Green, Member, Pastor Craig Lindsey, Staff.

Gifts & Memorials 2024

Judy Christensen and Ed Storey, Co-Chairs

The purpose of the G&M committee is to administer memorial gifts given to the church that are not designated for a specific purpose or ministry of the church. In late December 2023 the church received two significant gifts without designation as to how the money should be used.

To this end, a renewed committee was formed consisting of April Boysen (legacy member from the previous committee), Trudy O’Leary, Helen Phillips, Bob Campbell, and Jim Rusk; as well as the Pastor & the Treasurer, as ex-officio members. Our first task was to update the prior Committee’s Charter, Procedures and Responsibilities.

All church Committees were notified of the available funds and a request for proposal (RFP) form was developed and transmitted to committee chairs.

We reviewed both the available funds and the requested projects. Our goal, as stated in our Charter was to *Make a Difference in the World, Glorifying God*. Church Committee Chairs submitted projects and those that met our criteria were forwarded to Session for final approval. Sessions' guidance was that for gifts greater than \$50,000, 20% could be used to support Missions, and the remainder to support other church projects. A total of about \$150,000 has been given to local mission partners, Border charities and PC-USA supported causes. Seventy thousand dollars, in addition was approved to support Montlure Camp (PC-USA) in Northern Arizona and \$25,000 to fund VPC's new Scholarship Committee. About 13 projects, primarily local, have been approved. Some have been completed.

The biggest project, as requested by the Buildings and Grounds Committee, covered elsewhere, is upgrading of the kitchen. Adequate funds still remain to cover this project.

In 2025 the committee will continue to monitor the status of all approved projects, to ensure all are accomplished; as well as administer any additional requests and funds that become available.

Respectfully submitted,
Elders: Judy Christensen & Ed Storey, Co-chairs

Gifts and Memorials Project Status up as of January 2025

NAME	AMOUNT	STATUS
Hands of a Friend	\$13,710	All of the work has been completed as of Nov. 24. Some tiles were not perfectly matched, but otherwise all is work done.
St. Andrews	\$15,065	A few tables have arrived, with more to order.
Papago Roof	\$25,100	Roof replaced in October. Complete.
NAAF	\$2,500	They are in planning stage and are ordering needed supplies.
Montlure Camp	\$70,000	With our funds, have enough to complete the National Environmental Policy Act review. Hope to be completed in 2026.
Casa Nueva	\$40,000	Project is complete and working at of October 8.
VAS Shade	\$13,800	HOA has approved. Waiting for county approval Nov. 23
Crossroads	\$38,500	Once work started the condition of the building turned out to be more decrepit than expected. As a result the dining room is being remodeled and consumed all of the funds.
YAV Bikes	\$1,400	Bikes have been purchased and accoutrements. Completed Sept. 24
Scholarships	\$25,000	Preparing the documentation to begin asking for applications.
Campaneros	\$25,000	Funds approved by Session Nov. 21. Need better understanding of the timing of the construction.
Building in Juba	\$25,000	Funds approved by Session Nov. 21. as a matching grant. Rice's of PCUSA are working in matching part.
Kitchen	\$300,000	Waiting on building permit. The plumbing, in particular, is more complicated than first expected.

Membership-Outreach 2024

Ellen Entwistle, Moderator

The committee continues to contact all Newcomers who list any contact information on the Fellowship Pads reaching out with a friendly email or phone call. The office administrative specialists continue to keep the Church Picture Directory and database up to date.

Accomplishments

- Pastor Craig held three rounds of membership exploration classes. A total of 38 members were added. Of these, four were affiliate members, five were transfers, and 29 were received by reaffirmation of faith.
- We have 423 members, 64 affiliate members, six ministerial members, and 159 regular attenders as of December 31, 2024.
- The committee identified 474 visitors over the year through the fellowship pad process. Many visitors do not sign the fellowship pad.
- The committee decided to discontinue the practice of sending postcards to new residents. The cost was very high and the response was negligible.
- The church continues to advertise in the KGVY Community Quarterly as well as the Sahuarita Sun and the Green Valley News.
- We are very fortunate to have a team of devoted people help us on Sunday mornings. Patti Bright coordinates the Welcome Ministry. Each Sunday, the two Welcome Centers, one on the fountain side and one on the office side, are staffed with smiling volunteers who are able to see that questions are answered, and people (especially visitors) are feeling at home. In addition to this, the Visitor Table in the Charter Hall is also staffed each Sunday by a different set of volunteers. There is information available to visitors who wish to learn more about our church. The committee is very grateful to Patti Bright and her team of volunteers for their faithfulness to serve.
- Lillian Richardson serves as the telephone caller to visitors who sign the fellowship pad. Ann Bont serves as the church attendance recorder. Many thanks go to them for what they do.

As always, our goal is to reach out to seasonal and year-round regular attenders to include them in all aspects of the life of the church. We strive to encourage them and to facilitate their interest in membership. We also use the local newspapers to make our presence in the community known.

Mission Statement: The Membership Committee will actively invite, welcome, receive and care for all people so that they will find a spiritual home and discover the unending richness of life in Christ.

Committee Members:

Ann Bont

Patti Bright

Lorna Corso

Lois Macfarlane

Sue Neuman

Lillian Richardson

Pastor Craig Lindsey

Linda Hester, Business Office & Events Coordinator

Mission 2024

Doug Clark— Chair, Ed Storey—Co Chair

ANNUAL REPORT 2024 Mission Committee

Mission is our Christian opportunity and responsibility! We, the members of Valley Presbyterian Church (VPC) Mission Committee, are given the privilege to invest in missions for the congregation. Our purpose is not only to dispense our congregation's mission giving of \$130,000 for 2024 but also, to keep our Christian missions in the forefront of our collective minds. Our 19 mission programs are local, regional, and international which includes our missionaries, Kristi and Bob Rice in the South Sudan and Dave and Pam Lovett in the dangerous unreached for Christ world of Iran, Pakistan, Bangladesh and South Asia. Our goal is that each member of the Mission Committee contacts their specific mission unit on a monthly basis and share the mission's news and joy with the VPC. We share our information in our minutes, E-blasts, Valley Voice articles, church bulletins, and through our specific programs outside of the budget. This year, four Mission Breakfasts occurred: Valley Assistance Services, Youth On Their Own (YOTO), Amado- Green Valley Food Bank, and Posada Community Life Services. Noisy offerings the fifth Sunday of the year raised funds for Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) program, Hand of a Friend, Crossroad Nogales Mission, and for missionaries Pam and Dave Lovett. Mission Breakfasts and Noisy Offering raised over \$5,866. Contingency funds from the budget and from gifts were given to our funded agencies for short-term emergencies. 90 Samaritan Purse's Children Christmas Boxes plus online orders were given to children internationally. Many programs including Back to School donations and Inspirational Card Making for YOTO, Food Bank Walk, partial funding for Thanksgiving turkeys and Christmas hams for Crossroads Nogales Mission, and a Christmas trip and gifts for Casa Vida Nueva para Niños (orphanage), were completed. The Session through the Gifts and Memorial Committee allocated from undesignated church bequests \$175,000 for mission projects. This money funded structural programs for Hands of a Friend, St Andrews Clinic, Papago roof repair, Casa Vida Nueva para Niños, Crossroads Nogales Mission, YAV bicycles, Compañeros en Misión, and a building in Juba, South Sudan. Total giving including pass through giving for 2024 exceeded giving for 2023 again demonstrating the mission involvement of the congregation. These programs of giving and gifts fill important needs and help us meet our goal to be a "Mission Minded Church".

Our 2024 Mission Committee: Doug Clark, Chair, Ed Storey, Co Chair, Maureen Brealey, Kay Brouwer, an Farrington, Mary Horn, Kylene Joplin, Reed Olson, Linda Piotrowski, Jan Schoeben, Linda Walters, Judy Aguayo, Mary Horn, Deb Jones, Steve Larson, Eileen Vella,.

Respectfully, Doug Clark

Music Department 2024

Jamie Reed

2024 was quite a year!

Our Chancel Choir continues to grow in repertoire variety, number of members, and varying musical growth.

Our Valley Ringers have gone through changes in members and has not missed a note.

In 2024, The Joyful Spirit Ensemble played almost monthly for church Sunday services. In 2024 they played for the Presbyterian Women's gathering in April, and for Valley Assistance Services "Empty Bowl" fundraiser in February.

This year we welcomed guest musicians from our congregation, Green Valley/Tucson, and University of Arizona. We were blessed with the talents of Robyn Marshall, Pam Coggins, Ellen Entwistle, Mike Finkelstein, Lily Grubert and Catherine Kim.

Our Music in the Valley 2023/2024 Season included "Let's Go to the Movies," our annual Choir Concert featuring Darnell Roulhac, and a special concert featuring the talents from the Graduating Musical Theatre Senior Class. Each concert had an attendance of 100-300 audience members. Our 2024-2025 season began in December with the Puertá – Vázquez Duo. Our season will continue until April 2025 with our Annual Choir Concert in January, Harpist, Christine Vivona in February, The University of Arizona 2025 Graduating Musical Theatre Class in March, and Sons of Orpheus in April.

We are hoping for 2025 to FINALLY bring new robes, as well as continue to grow musically.

Staff

Jamie Reed - Director of Music

Jan Brachel - Organist/Accompanist

Volunteer Staff

Kylene Joplin - Choir Librarian

Linda Freeman - Choir Secretary

Music Committee

Jamie Reed, Jan Brachel, Karen Bahnick, Ken Frahm, Pam Coggins (through Oct./Nov. 2024,)

Bobbie Richards, Ellen Entwistle

Pastoral Associate Members: Rev. Dr. Craig Lindsay, Senior Pastor and Head of Staff

Nominating Committee 2024

Joan Dakin & Ed Storey

Joan Dakin (Elder)	Lee Ann Calhoun
Jean Hein (Elder)	Tommy Calhoun
Trudy O’Leary (Deacon)	Sue Horton

Our Purpose: To recruit Elders and Deacons for the upcoming 2025 openings (Class of 2027) who are willing and able to perform the responsibilities of our church to carry on the work of the Lord as we are directed in the Bible and the Presbyterian Book of Order. The following people were contacted have agreed to join the Elders and Deacons in caring for our church community.

Elders:

Ed Storey (second term)
John Bently (Elder class of 2023)
Roger Fisher (Deacon class of 2022)
Martha Van Vactor

Deacons:

Bud Landry (second term)
Sylvia Landry (second term)
Nancy Storey (second term)
Lilian Richardson
Bernie Nicholson (two years, filling in for John Agner, Class of 2026)
Sue Horton (one year filling in for Clayton Messelt, class of 2025)
Dale Honermann (one year, filling in for Joyce Lambert, class of 2025)

2025 Nominating Committee:

Lee Ann Calhoun
Tommy Calhoun
Anne Morrison
Elders two to be determined
Deacons one to be determined

This committee continued into January 2025 to recruit the 2025 Pastor Search Committee, and added Maureen Ramsay and Anne Morrison to the committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Dakin, Chair

Patio Sales 2024

Carmen Nylund—Coordinating Team Leader

The Mission of the VPC Patio Sale is to provide financial support for Valley Presbyterian Church's designated mission and outreach programs in southern Arizona, Mexico and missionaries abroad with semi-annual patio sales.

In March, all Departments were represented except Shoes & Purses at the Annual Patio Sale and we took over as much of the church building as was available to us along with tents in the front and back parking lots. Once again, we were overwhelmed with the number of shoppers and the income from the sale was \$90,184.66.

A second sale, the Holiday Plus Sale, was held in November. This sale included holiday items of all kinds, a wide selection of books, specialty items, a bake sale and handcrafted items created by local artisans. The income was more than \$8,837.

Estate Sales were a new venture for the Patio Sale Team and it has been very successful. We started by holding sales when the homeowner wanted to donate everything in their home to the Patio Sale. This saved us from packing up items to be sold at the Patio Sale and keep them out of storage. The cost of doing an Estate Sale is minimal. The income from Estate Sales for 2024 was \$19,217.

At the time of writing this writing, the income and expense report for 2024 was not available. We will include it in a Valley Voice article when it becomes available.

Following the March 2024 Annual Patio Sale, a difficult decision was made – after 43 years of Patio Sales, the Coordinating Team recommended to Session that “we no longer accept household furniture as donations and we do not include furniture for sale as part of the Annual Patio Sale.” The Session approved the recommendation. There were two main concerns that were instrumental in leading us to this decision – financial and the human resources aspect. First, for the last two years, the furniture department had lost money due to the cost of storage units, tent rental and the cost of moving the furniture from storage to the church. Secondly, our volunteers are getting older and we had a concern for our trucking crew when it comes to lifting the heavy furniture. We felt it was only a matter of time until there was a serious injury or damage to some's property. This will definitely change the face of Patio Sale and in all likelihood, will affect the income from the sale.

Patio Sale Coordinating Team
Carmen Nylund, Chris Schorr,
Nelda Lobb, Jim McDougall

Personnel 2024

Frank Coggins, Chair

2024 saw our administrative and staff personnel adjust to changes and new challenges as we began the year without an Associate Pastor. Outside responsibilities took more and more time away for the Parish Nurse and we were finally able to outsource our accounting and bookkeeping requirements. Additional duties and responsibilities were placed on our existing staff as we sought to develop plans for the future ministerial needs of our church. A Mission Study was implemented to determine why and how we are moving forward and made recommendations to continue the positive and smooth operation of our church prior to the retirement of our Head Pastor and during the brief period between the current and new Head Pastor. Your committee has worked diligently to ensure the stability, effectiveness and overall well-being of our staff and team members as they continue to demonstrate a commitment to achieving God's purpose for our Church.

Goals and Accomplishments for 2024

Remain committed to evaluating and supporting all our personnel in working for God and our church in a safe, healthy, and productive environment;

- Maintain a committed, productive, cooperative working team at VPC, following clear guidelines in the most cost effective manner .
- Assist our Pastors and committees in providing the staff needed to ensure that the job performance standards and functions are met and a smooth transition occurs if required.
- Monitor job requirements and update job descriptions, adjusting hours and staff as needed to meet budget targets and staff and committee succession planning.
- Monitor job requirements and update job descriptions, adjusting hours and staff as needed to meet budget targets and staff and committee succession planning.
- Reviewed, revised, and added position descriptions to reflect the recommendations of the Mission Study that resulted in staff changes and new titles
- Reviewed appropriate manuals and handbooks to keep them current and up to date, and implemented required training for our staff, elders and deacons and set dates for additional training for our volunteers and congregation
- Reviewed and adopted the Youth Protection Policy and Code of Conduct previously submitted as a draft in 2014

The following are recurring events or tasks for which the Personnel Committee is responsible and which were accomplished during the past year.

- Annual Report of Personnel Committee to Session—January
- Annual Congregational Meeting and associated reports—January
- Employee benefits, set group and select benefits—October/November
- Board of Pension report—September
- Explanation of benefits to staff—November/December
- Personnel appreciation —ongoing
- Employee evaluations – October/December
- Review Committee Membership Terms—December
- Schedule Boundary Awareness Training—November

Terms of Call --- Valley Presbyterian Church

The personnel committee has approved an increase for 2025 of 2.5% across the board for all personnel. The Professional Expense and Study Leave for the Head of Staff, Senior Pastor, had been transferred to his effective salary for 2021 and will continue going forward. The vacation time for Head of Staff, Senior Pastor will continue to include five Sundays. The personnel committee has also approved a "Sole Pastor Annual Consideration" of \$25,000 to recognize the additional responsibilities of a single Pastor beginning January 1, 2024. This consideration is not to be included in "Effective Salary" as approved by the Board of Pensions and will be paid as a one-time employer contribution to the Pastor's Individual Retirement Savings Plan at year end.

Reverend Dr. Craig Lindsey, Head of Staff, Senior Pastor

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Effective Salary (includes Housing)	\$104,756.79	\$102,201.75
Pension/D & D	10,475.67	10,220.18
Medical Insurance	27,761.00	29,638.50
One Time contribution to 403B Retirement Plan	<u>25,000.00</u>	<u>25,000.00</u>
Total	\$167,993.46	\$167,060.43

Changes in Staff:

Losses

Diane Christopher
Erickson, Chris
Hart, Stephen
Kent, Robert D.
Mandeville, Suzanne
Snow, Joseph R.

Additions

Guerra, Gilbert A.
Kent, Robert D.
LaMarche, Martin W.
Romero Lopez, Esmeralda Y.

Personnel Finance

Session approved a motion from Personnel Committee for a budget for 2025 that included a 2.5% increase across the board for all personnel.

The Personnel Committee in conjunction with all other committees worked with the Finance Committee to reduce expenses where possible to meet a balanced budget. Efforts to develop staffing proposals consistent with current needs resulted in the Personnel Committee ending the year about \$2,000 under the Personnel Budget.

Personnel committee members

Annie Stitt, Carmen Nylund, Sheila Frahm, Liz Haines, Bill McKinley, Judy Christensen, Frank Coggins

Planning Commission Report 2024

Steve Ginader - Chair

The Planning Commission was formed after our church got special permission from the Presbytery in June 2023 to embark on this study before Pastor Diane retired. They provided us with an outline of what they expected us to include in our report. The committee members were: Steve Ginader, Maureen Ramsay, Dick Horn, Eloise Fredrickson, Ellie Hargleroad, and Bud Landry. With Pastor Craig's guidance, we began in late summer to accumulate data. We interviewed many long-time members and most of the former pastors to get a feel for what the church was like at various times in the past. We took all the information from the previous study that was done in 2007, after Rev. John Ross left. We looked through all previous annual reports and information about previous building projects, former staff members, church organizational charts, mission projects, etc. We assembled financial information and history from all previous reports. We went through multiple community and demographic studies of the Green Valley area provided by PC(USA). We consulted the Green Valley Council about future planning for the area.

The congregational self-study outline included five basic areas of study. They were **History and Description, Demography, Community Study, Beliefs and Practices, and Documents**. A history of the church from 1977-present was written and included a section on each senior pastor's tenure, the current pastor's job description, and an employee history including a complete list of employees for the last ten years and the current employees' areas of responsibility. The demographics of church membership including worship attendance, pledges, financial history, and funding sources were included in the report.

The commission then looked at the Green Valley Community including data presented by the Green Valley Council and MissionInsite reports prepared by ACST Technologies of Florence, SC. The Presbyterian Church (USA) provided the ACST reports. They provided a comprehensive study on the beliefs and practices of Green Valley residents as well as predictions for future changes.

The congregation was surveyed to determine the strengths, challenges, and opportunities of the church. The three greatest strengths of VPC were determined to be: 1. Mission-oriented, 2. Caring, 3. Welcoming. The three most significant challenges are: 1. An older staff, 2. Developing the ability to "think outside the box" to develop new programs. 3. Adapting to changing generational needs and cultures.

The last section of the report included the following documents: Head Pastor Job Description, List of Employees for 10 years, VPC Organizational Structure, List of Committees who report to the Session or Deacons, Register of Pastors, and Implementation of the 2024 Study.

The Mission Study was presented to the Presbyterian Commission on Ministry. They accepted the study and granted permission for Valley Presbyterian Church to 1. Begin a Pastor Search without the need for an Interim Pastor. 2. Within 6 months following the Call of that next pastor, a Search Committee will be elected to Call an Associate Pastor, such that VPC will have both a Pastor and an Associate Pastor. 3. New Position Descriptions and Titles have been approved by Session to promote from within our Staff: Administrative Specialist 1 (Linda Hester) became the Business, Office and Events Coordinator and Administrative Specialist 2 (Cindy Brown) became the Communications Coordinator and IT Specialist.

The Planning Commission was decommissioned at the May 2024 Session meeting with the session's thanks.

This Mission Study will now be used by the upcoming Pastor Search Committee to define our church's needs in the process of finding a new pastor. Normally, a pastor search committee would have to do this type of mission study prior to searching for a pastor. Also, this same Mission Study can be updated and used for an associate pastor search after we call a head pastor.

Scholarship Fund 2024

Ron Darrah, Chair

Committee Responsibilities:

The Scholarship Committee is responsible for awarding scholarships from the Larry DeLong Memorial Scholarship Fund and the newly chartered Valley Presbyterian Church Scholarship Committee. The committee and the church treasurer will monitor the awarded funds until they are fully expended or returned to the church.

Projects and accomplishments for 2024:

New Charter:

Shortly after the beginning of the year, the committee reviewed the existing charter and drafted a new one using the existing charter as a guide. The committee approved the new charter in February, and it received approval from the Session at the March Session meeting.

Larry DeLong Memorial Scholarship Fund:

As of the Spring Semester, all the funds in the Larry DeLong Memorial Scholarship Fund (LDMSF) have been expended on students who have graduated or committed to current scholarship recipients. The last student to receive an LDMSF scholarship was Sophia St. John.

Ongoing Scholarships:

The newly chartered Valley Presbyterian Church Scholarship Committee has been funded by the Gifts and Memorial Committee. The committee has awarded \$25,000 for scholarships moving forward.

Committee members: Ron Darrah, Chair, Gail Barker, Lillian Richardson and Sue Horton.

Stephen Ministry 2024

Jana Honermann - Stephen Leader Team Coordinator

Stephen Ministry started out the year with two trainees, Donna Faulkner and Dale Honermann, joining the Stephen Ministry Training Class at Desert Hills Lutheran Church. VPC's two trainees, completed the training successfully, graduated, and were commissioned in April.

The Stephen Minister retreat was held on April 5 with a book study on the newly released book by Stephen Ministries on "Empathy."

The active Stephen Leaders are: Patti Bright, carolyn Hill, Jana Honermann, Deb Jones, Bob Lillie, and Linda Piotrowski. The active Stephen Ministers are: John Bentley, Kathryn Duncan, Donna Faulkner, Dale Honermann, Joyce Lambert, Linda Norman, Helen Phillips, Bill Woodrow, and Karen Woodrow.

My heart is full of thanks for every one of our past and present Stephen Ministers. They may never know the full impact they have made in this world. But God knows. Well done, good and faithful servants!

Worship Committee 2024

Joan Dakin, Chair

The purpose of the Worship Committee is to assist our Pastor(s) and musical staff in providing for meaningful worship of God, which includes Services and special events.

Members: Joan Dakin (chair) Eloise Fredrickson, Linda Piotrowski, Trudy O’Leary, Ken Taft, and staff, Pastor Craig, Jan Brachel, Jamie Reed. Roger Hicks and Paul Stumpffig resigned for health reasons.

The year 2024 was rich in special events and interfaith services:

- January 28 Kirk’n the Tartans with a bagpiper and an acknowledgement of the indigenous ancestral lands upon which the church stands.
- February 4 Joel Hoffman (a Torah Scholar) from Beth Shalom Temple preached and offered a class after service. (Later in the Spring members were invited to celebrate the new Torah at Beth Shalom)
- March 28 Maundy Thursday Seder Meal for 100 participants
- March 29 Noon Good Friday Service with choir
- March 31 Easter Sunrise Service and 9:30 am Service
- April 20 Presbytery Gathering at VPC
- May 2 Four churches participated at VPC for the National Day of Prayer.
- Summer We had a few guest preachers while Craig was on vacation, and the choir did not wear robes through August.
- October 1 Blessing of the Animals
- November 27 Ecumenical Service which included four other local churches and the synagogue.
- December 3 Midweek Advent services: “The Women of Advent”
Longest Night Service
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

We also revised the Worship Committee Charter.

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Women's Ministries 2024

Lesley Bruce, Moderator; Gail Gesell, Vice Moderator

The purpose of Presbyterian Women:

Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves

- To nurture our faith through prayer and Bible Study.
- To support the mission of the church worldwide.
- To work for justice and peace.
- To build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (USA) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.

The ways that occurs at VPC includes:

Monthly Bible Studies:

La Posada Circle is led by Leah Bohor and Linda Freeman. They meet the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 11:30 for lunch and fellowship followed by the Bible Study.

Miriam Circle is led by Liz Haynes. They meet the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 1pm in Classroom 1 at the church.

Ruth Circle is led by Sue Horton. They meet the 3rd Monday of the month at 3pm in Classroom 5 at the church. Monthly Gathering Luncheons have a ministry focus and each month's Presby Gift (Offering) supports that ministry.

2024 Gathering Luncheons:

- **January:** Sheriff's Auxiliary Volunteers – How to Volunteer at SAV / Training program (SAV)
- **February:** Style Show – Patio Style Show coordinators, Cheryl Stepp, Betty Kiesle-Yoder, Karen O'Rourke (BIRTHDAY)
- **March:** Wear Your Easter Bonnet and Favorite Memories of your Mother (**GENESIS HOUSE**)
- **April:** Café Justo Tommy and LeeAnn Calhoun (**FRONTERA DE CRISTO**)
- **May:** Salvation Army Holly Farik (**SALVATION ARMY**)
- **September:** Introduction: "For Everything, A Season; A Study of the Liturgical Calendar" (**YOTO**)
- **October:** Genesis House / Da-Zees Style Show (**HANDS OF A FRIEND**)
- **November:** Tohono O'odham tribe and (Native American Advancement Foundation) (**NAAF & THANK OFFERING**)
- **December:** VPC Laughing Ladies, Play "What's On TV?" and Sing-A-Long Christmas Songs (**CROSSROADS MISSION**)

Presby offerings during 2024 supported Salvation Army, Frontera de Cristo: Douglas/Aqua Prieta Border Ministry, Sheriff's Auxiliary Volunteers, Genesis House, YOTO, Crossroads Mission Christmas Meal, NAAF (Native American Advancement Foundation) and the annual PCUSA Thank and Birthday Offerings. We support the Ronald McDonald House by donating beverage can top tabs. These tabs are delivered to the Ronald McDonald House in Tucson where they are taken for recycling and funds are used by the Ronald McDonald House in Tucson.

In addition to the monthly circles and luncheons, ladies of the church attended:

2024 Spring Presbytery de Cristo Gathering which was held at Valley Presbyterian Church on April 27th. Our speakers were Doug Abrams and Hoka from Frontera de Cristo: Douglas/Aqua Prieta Border Ministry .

2024 Fall Presbytery de Cristo Gathering was held on October 7th at Tortollita Presbyterian Church, Tucson where our speaker was Chris Casanova, Moderator of the Presbyterian Women Synod of the Sun.

Three of the ladies of the church attended the Presbyterian Women's Churchwide Gathering in St. Louis, MO on August 9-11. Two of the ladies were sent using Scholarship Funds from our Women's Ministries.

Mission Quilts Patti Bright leads this ministry which meets on the 1st and 3rd and 5th Mondays of the month. The finished quilts are given to various mission projects.

Baby hats and sweaters and older children/adults hats and mittens/gloves given to various mission projects supported by VPC

Prayer Shawls are crocheted or knitted by the ladies of VPC and are given to the Deacons who then prepare them for blessing in November.

Women of the church are encouraged to join one or more of the ministries offered. Information is available at the Women's Ministries table in fellowship hall after worship two Sundays of the month.

Our Gathering Luncheons are open to ALL; it is not required that women belong to any of the Circle Bible study groups. We also invite men to attend our luncheons – sometimes as wait staff and others just as interested parties. So invite your friends – male or female to get involved.

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