

# THE VALLEY VOICE

VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH April 2023



## Immediate Plans

Submitted by: Pastor Craig Lindsey

### There's a lot going on at our church!

#### Holy Week

April 2, at 9:30 a.m. is Palm Sunday Worship with communion. Wednesday, April 5, at 5:00 p.m. Lenten Taizé in the Spiritual Life Center, a meal of soup and bread will follow in the Fellowship Hall. Maundy Thursday worship April 6, at 4:00 p.m. with communion on "The Meanings of Communion" then Good Friday Worship at 12:00 p.m. (noon). "Lessons and Spirituals" (Think Lessons and Carols for Good Friday).

#### Easter

April 9, Sunrise Service at 6:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. A continental breakfast will be served afterwards in the Fellowship Hall. 9:30 a.m. worship with communion and Chancel Choir.

**Memorial Services:** April 14, **Rev Mark Horton** at 1:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary and **Dave Tompkins** April 15, at 10:00 a.m. in Sanctuary.

**Music in the Valley Concert,** Sons of the Orpheus. April 15, in the Sanctuary at 3:00 p.m. Tickets are \$25.

**Wes Moulton's** Final Service at VPC will be April 16, at the 9:30 a.m. worship service. Along with commissioning of new Stephen Ministers & Leadership.

#### Classes:

*Bible Reflections* Mondays, April 3, 10, 17 and 24 at 1:00 p.m. in classroom 5. Continues with Pastor Craig, in person and on zoom.

*Seven Words*, Thursday, April 6, at 10:00 a.m. in classroom 1. Marie Valade is your teacher.

Continued on page 4.

## *In This Issue*

Sunday Worship  
Schedule

Holy Week

Easter Services

Women's Ministries  
Updates

Mission Committee  
Updates

Bible Study  
Opportunities

2800 S Camino del Sol  
Green Valley, AZ 85622  
Telephone: (520) 625-5023  
vpc-office@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 servanthood.

## Valley Presbyterian Church

2800 S Camino Del Sol  
Green Valley, AZ 85622  
(520) 625-5023

vpc-office@valleypres.net  
www.valleypresbyterian.net

Member of Presbytery de Cristo in The Synod of the Southwest,  
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

## Pastors

**Rev. Dr. Craig Lindsey,**  
Pastor/Head of Staff

**Rev. Diane Christopher,**  
Pastor of Discipleship

**Rev. Joe Hawkins,**  
Pastor Emeritus



**Sunday Worship**  
**Traditional Service of Worship**  
**9:30 a.m.**  
**Online and in Person**  
**[www.valleypresbyterian.net](http://www.valleypresbyterian.net)**

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## OUR VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN STAFF

Pastor Craig Lindsey-Pastor/Head of Staff.....[pastorcraig@valleypres.net](mailto:pastorcraig@valleypres.net)

Pastor Diane Christopher-Pastor of Discipleship..... [dianechristopher@valleypres.net](mailto:dianechristopher@valleypres.net)

Jamie Reed-Director of Music.....[jamie@valleypres.net](mailto:jamie@valleypres.net)

Wes Moulton-Organist/Accompanist.....[wmoulton@valleypres.net](mailto:wmoulton@valleypres.net)

Chris Erickson-Parish Nurse.....[parishnurse@valleypres.net](mailto:parishnurse@valleypres.net)

Suzanne Mandeville-Bookkeeper.....[suzanne@valleypres.net](mailto:suzanne@valleypres.net)

Cindy Johnson-Administrative Specialist.....[cjohnson@valleypres.net](mailto:cjohnson@valleypres.net)

Linda Hester-Administrative Specialist.....[lhester@valleypres.net](mailto:lhester@valleypres.net)

Steve Hart.....Custodian.....[steve@valleypres.net](mailto:steve@valleypres.net)

Randy VanHyfte.....Custodian.....[randy@valleypres.net](mailto:randy@valleypres.net)

Gabbie Bustamante.....Custodian.....

## **SUNDAY and HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE**

<b>April 2</b>	<b>Palm Sunday Worship</b>	<b>Pastor Craig</b>
<b>April 6</b>	<b>Maundy Thursday Worship with Communion Matthew 26: 6-50 "The Meanings of Communion" at 4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Pastor Diane</b>
<b>April 7</b>	<b>Good Friday Worship at 12:00 p.m. Lessons and Spirituals (Lessons and Carols)</b>	<b>Pastor Craig</b>
<b>April 9</b>	<b>Easter Sunrise Service at 6:00 a.m. with a Continental breakfast served after. Matthew 28: 1-10 " Afraid, Yet Filled with Joy"</b>	<b>Pastor Diane</b>
<b>April 9</b>	<b>Easter Worship at 9:30 a.m. with Communion and Chancel Choir</b>	<b>Pastor Craig</b>
<b>April 16</b>	<b>John 20: 19-31</b>	<b>Pastor Craig</b>
<b>April 23</b>	<b>Luke 24: 13-35 "God in the Ordinary"</b>	<b>Pastor Diane</b>
<b>April 30</b>	<b>John 10: 1-10, "Shepards and Thieves" Noisy Offering</b>	<b>Pastor Craig</b>



Rev. Dr. Craig Lindsey,

*From Pastor Craig*

## Thank you!

The week before Patio Sale someone said “Craig, if all of the Organ Installation Plans, Patio Sale, and Organist Search happen on schedule, you must really be loved by God!” That Sunday, we were able to serve Communion in Worship, then at La Posada, at Arroyo Gardens, at Silver Spring, at Canyon Valley, and with 5 home-bound parishioners.

The Monday morning of Patio Sale Set-up, we received an unexpected request to fly to Washington DC to say our Goodbyes to Judy’s Mom. Pastor Diane, Lead Amigo Carmen, and our Staff could not have been more empowering and supportive to us. We left our Spaniel Annie with a couple in the Church and drove to Phoenix, making every connection to Washington. There were glitches with the Organ Installation, which Wes Moulton managed, and Randy and Steve patched plaster. Returning to the Office Monday morning, the Patio Sale had set yet another Record for sales, the Organ Wiring and Speakers were all installed and the Console arriving Wednesday March 15<sup>th</sup>. I was back for the Scissor Lift to be removed, negotiated with a couple from the Border to take all of the furniture which had not sold (for FREE) and greeted GVCC for their Concert Rehearsal!

Sincerely, I do feel loved by God and by our Church. Not so long ago, if a pastor announced they needed to leave, there would have been great anxiety... Instead, this was one of the best organized sales ever (I even purchased a Breakfast Egg & Sausage Burrito Monday morning); the new Organ is ready for worship; our Church has advertised for our new Organist/Accompanist and our Organist Search Committee is meeting together; we have 6 Memorials in planning before mid-April; and we received the love and prayers from you in the passing of Judy’s Mom. Thank you for being the Church for us!

## *From Pastor Diane*

As I write this article for the April Valley Voice, it is mid-March. For the next month during Lent and Easter, we have six memorials. It is common knowledge among pastors that deaths increase during the holidays, particularly Christmas and Easter. When I tell people this, the next question is “Why?”

Scientists say people’s diets are a major cause. During holidays, people eat more rich foods, smoke more, exercise less. People are more stressed and sadder. People who don’t feel well as the holidays approach put off seeing a doctor so they can spend time with family at the holiday.

Whatever the reason, I consider it an amazing privilege to conduct a memorial around the holidays, especially Lent and Easter. We walk with Jesus towards his death and in his suffering only to sing with joy at the news of the Resurrection. As a person dies in this season, they are an example of this walk of suffering and the hope of the Resurrection.



Pastor Diane Christopher-Pastor of Discipleship

A couple years ago, I did a memorial for a gentleman who passed away the day before Easter. At his memorial, I said:

*On Easter, we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. And yes, even though the Resurrection is something that happened over 2000 years ago, we still celebrate it today. Because what it says is that Jesus is alive and is here among us today.*

*It also says that Jesus conquered death. Therefore, we have the hope that there is more after this life. That this earthly life is not the end. Because Jesus conquered death, we too will live eternally. And that is why we are here today...to celebrate the resurrection and the life that [ ] is now experiencing.*

As we go through these memorials, I hope you will participate. Even if you do not know the person, you come as a representative of Valley Presbyterian to uphold the family and celebrate the Resurrection.

He is risen. Alleluia!

## Immediate Plans Continued from front Cover.

### Classes continued.

The *Book: The Story of God* Thursday, April 13, 20, & 27 in classroom 5. Pastor Diane and Chuck Ramsay are your teachers. Past classes are recorded and available at valleypres.net.

*Overcoming Depression*, Starts Monday, April 17 and continues on Mondays through May 8, in classroom 1, with your teacher and Author of the book *Overcoming Depression*. Tom Lobb.

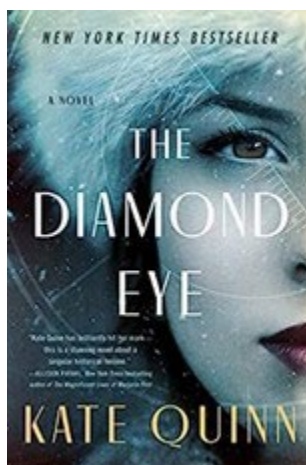
*Journey Through Grief*, Mondays and Thursdays starting April 10, in Classroom 5 at 9:30 a.m. facilitated by Carolyn Eubank Hill.

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### Valley Readers

2:00 P.M. – Monday, April 24, 2023

Classroom 1



Mila Pavlichenko's life revolves around her son and her library job until the Nazi invasion of Russia and Ukraine turns her into a soldier. She becomes a deadly sniper called Lady Death by the Nazis and eventually notches over 300 kills. Then she is sent on a good will tour of the U.S. and her life takes another turn. Historical novelist Kate Quinn has based her book on a true story. Please join Sheila and Ken Frahm for a discussion of this riveting World War II novel. Contact Anne Morrison for additional information at 520-399-0762.



# **Bible Study Opportunities at VPC**

## **BIBLE REFLECTIONS**

With Pastor Craig Lindsey

Mondays from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

In classroom 5 (zoom available)

This is a different kind of Bible study, that spends as much time as we need with each chapter and book. We will try to give background that is helpful and offers ideas about interpretations (even pronunciation of names), but what is most important is what you hear in the text.

To join by zoom go to <https://zoom.us/join>

Meeting ID: 294 281 2414

Password: Heaven

## **THE BOOK - THE GRAND STORY OF GOD**

With your teachers: Pastor Diane and Chuck Ramsay

Thursdays from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

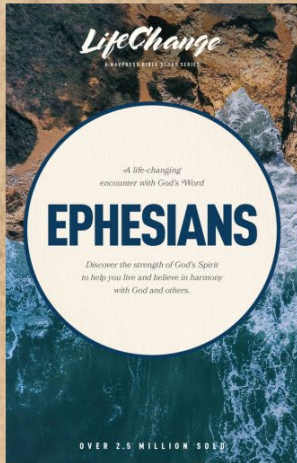
In classroom 5 .

The Bible is one big grand story of God. This class tells you that story by studying each book of the Bible and how they are all connected. Even though this class started in the Fall, you can join in anytime and not feel behind for each book of the Bible has its own story for us today. Here is our schedule for April:

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| April 6  | Maundy Thursday: No class (We invite you to the Maundy Thursday worship service at 4 p.m. as we remember Jesus' last meal with his disciples.) |
| April 13 | Ezekiel  |
| April 20 | Daniel   |
| April 27 | Minor Prophets   |

These classes are recorded and can be viewed on the church's website:  
[valleypres.net](http://valleypres.net).





# MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Ephesians 2:11 "Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (which is done in the body by human hands.)

**Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. in Classroom 1**

Come join the group anytime to participate in the discussion or come to just listen. In either case, your presence will be welcome.

We use the NavPres Life Change Series Study Guide, Studying Paul's letter to the Ephesians. This verse-by-verse study of Ephesians looks at a fuller need for Christ. It examines the truths about a believer's new identity of Christ. Also focusing on unity, holiness, submission, and steadfastness. In this Bible study participants will be encouraged to apply God's Word to your life. It includes historical insights, word definitions, discussion questions, assignments, and leader's guide. Books are available from Amazon or Christianbook.com.

The group is facilitated by Larry Phillips, 520-777-8027.



# **Journey Through Grief**

**Tuesdays and Thursdays**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Classroom 5**

**April 10, 13, 17, 24**

**May 1, 4, 8 and 11**

Valley Presbyterian Church will be offering a Journey Through Grief program held to provide those who are grieving a loss an opportunity for discussion to understand grief, support on the grief journey, and suggestions for a healthy way to grieve.

This unique program is eight 1 ½ to 2-hour sessions, meeting twice a week. Although based in faith, the program is open to anyone in the community. The program is free of charge and all materials are provided at no cost to participants.

It is being facilitated by Carolyn Eubank Hill, member of Valley Presbyterian Church and a Stephen Minister.

The next session will start on April 10 and will be held on Mondays and Thursdays through May 11. Contact Pastor Diane Christopher at the church to register 520-625-5023 or [pastordiane@valleypres.net](mailto:pastordiane@valleypres.net)

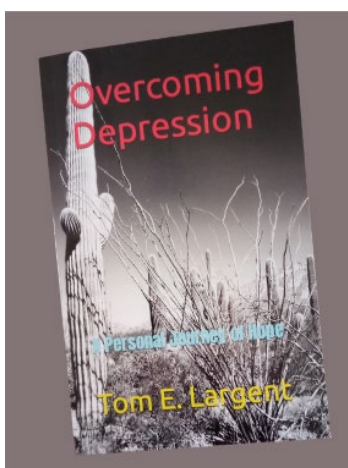
# Hope for Overcoming Depression

April 17, 24, May 1, 8

9:30 – 10:30 a.m. in Classroom 5

Your teacher: Tom Lobb

Do you know of someone who always seems to be "blue"? Do you have a friend who thinks negatively most of the time? Do you tend to be "down in the dumps" much of the time, or are you unhappy with the life that you have been dealt with? If so, your friend might have depression, or you might be struggling with a mental health issue.



Do not worry! Help is available in many forms. Mental health counselors are available to share concerns with. Taking medications is also an important possibility. Medical treatments are also available to treat any depression that might exist in a person's life.

Books and classes also exist for dealing with depression and its symptoms. Valley Presbyterian Church will soon be offering a class called Hope for Overcoming Depression. This class is based on the book “*Overcoming Depression: A Personal Journey of Hope*.” This class will emphasize the hope that God will help us overcome depression. It will cover the symptoms of depression, myths about this illness, the caregiver's responsibility and frustrations, how to survive depression, and other important topics. It will also discuss a medically-sound procedure for treating the brain.

If someone you know (including yourself) might have depression, this class could be a useful tool on the road to recovery from this malady.

VPC member Tom Lobb will be teaching this class using the book “*Overcoming Depression*”. He is the author of the text, which is based on his decades-long experience with this disease. Copies of “*Overcoming Depression*” can be obtained directly from Tom at [tomandnelda@gmail.com](mailto:tomandnelda@gmail.com), 505-388-6400, or in the church office. Books are \$5.

## PATIO SALE NEWS

*Submitted by Carmen Nylund*

Wow! What a sale we had on March 9, 10 and 11, 2023! On Thursday morning shoppers were lined up around the church building and there was a second line in front of the tent selling Furniture. Everyone wanted to be first in the door and find the best bargains. And they were not disappointed. Our dedicated volunteers were on site ready to sell, bag-up or box-up selected items and then direct them to other departments or to the cashiers. And many of these shoppers came back again on Friday and Saturday. It was amazing! As of March 17, the income from the Patio Sale is **\$103,699**, and additional amounts continue to trickle in.

Our Patio Sale would not be such a success without our hundreds of dedicated volunteers who give countless hours sorting, setting up, pricing, selling, interacting with shoppers and then cleaning up. We cannot say “Thank You” enough. And a special “Thank You” to all of our VPC Staff who were there for us every step of the way.

It is the goal of the Patio sale to raise money to support the Valley Presbyterian Church Mission Outreach Programs in Southern Arizona, Mexico, the Middle East and the Congo. It would be a perfect world if all of the income from the Patio Sale could go to support these deserving organizations; but in reality, we have expenses, and they continue to increase. Later on, this year, we will include a full financial report in the Valley Voice so you can see both income and expenses.

What’s next? We are planning a Holiday-Plus Sale this fall on November 9, 10 & 11. Not sure what it will look like, but there will definitely be sparkly stuff and lots of books. So, stay tuned. Thank you for your continued support of our Annual Patio Sale and the Holiday-Plus Sale.

The Patio Sale Coordinating Team

## **Blessings Abound**

### **Linda Norman and the Jewelry Committee**

We met some really nice people at the Patio Sale. A few were not so nice, but we said a prayer for them and let them go. Here are a few snippets of our interactions and conversations.

A 'younger' (50 ish) gentleman asked us what jewelry would be good for him. He bought a very nice silver and turquoise bolo tie. He came back on Friday and inquired about a small child's bracelet. He shared with us that he was going to give it to the granddaughter who lives with her grandmother – his neighbor-who loved to dress up in her grandmother's jewelry. He then inquired about volunteering during the sale. We gave him the information and told him we could really use his help and how much fun it is (as well as hard work). He came back on Saturday morning and gave us his contact information for volunteering. We invited him to church. He said it might fall down because he has not been to church in quite a while. I assured him he would be welcomed.

Another gentleman bought a bowl full of women's watches. We asked him what he was going to do with the watches. He said, "My wife really likes watches." I asked how many wives to you have? He replied, "10". We all laughed. It was a joyous moment.

Another young man slightly challenged came back 3 times to look at the same necklace for him. We had several pleasant conversations and he ended up buying the necklace after checking how he looked in the mirror several times. We thanked God for this young man and the opportunity to connect with him.

It was also fun to interact with the young families and children who came to the sale. We learned some things from them also. Examples: locket, cameos, and pearls are very popular with teenagers. Who knew?

We definitely felt God's presence and blessings in our successful sale.







*Caring for those in our congregation*  
***Faith & Health/Parish Nurse March 2023***

*Submitted by Parish Nurse, Chris Erickson*

Join us at Cardio-drumming; this class has just a few more openings. Cardio drumming begins at 9 am on Tuesdays and is once a week; a 30-minute exercise program for health, stress, and balance. Please email [parishnurse@valleypres.net](mailto:parishnurse@valleypres.net) for more information and/or for registration.

Keeping active helps to stay positive and healthy.

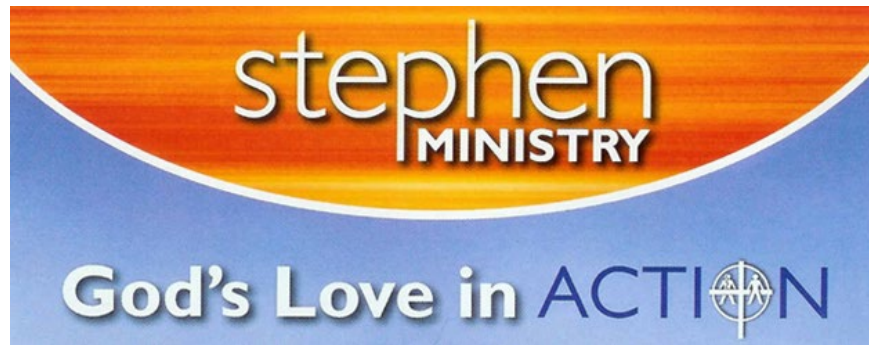
Drink plenty of water when you are exercising or are outside doing activities.



Blood pressure screening will be by individual appointment.

Join us on **Tuesday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM** in classroom 5 for the class: *When Is It Time?* A look into when the right time might be to transition into an assisted living or a different living situation. Join us for this interactive, informative, and planning class.

**Medical Minute:** According to the CDC, more than 1 in 7 (15% of adults in the US) are estimated to have chronic kidney disease. That is around 37 million adults.



by Jana Honermann, Stephen Leader Team Coordinator

“Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth.” Psalm 54:2, NRSV

I used to pride myself on staying calm during times of trouble. Hah-hah, no longer! Now I think that if only I can keep everything in my life well-organized and planned out, I will remain cool, calm, and collected. Hah-hah, the joke is on me! I cannot control everything in my life, so I wake up in the middle of the night, my thoughts racing hither and yon, creating anxiety and sleeplessness, resulting in a much more muddled brain and fatigued body the next day. Why can I not just let them go and give my worries to God?

I have come to realize that I actually am an anxious person. The more responsibility I take on, the more anxious I get. The more I care for people, the more anxious I get. So, I whine, complain, and agonize to God in the middle of the night (and to my husband). Do I believe that God hears me with all of my sighs, my complaints, and my everyday concerns?

Yes, God hears, and God responds. God comforts and loves me unconditionally. He provides me with a Stephen Minister who will listen to my fears, sorrows, and concerns. Somehow, they seem a little less daunting once I voice them aloud to my Stephen Minister. My Stephen Minister listens to me with care and compassion, just as God listens to me with care and compassion.

Yes, I believe that God listens to me. And yes, I believe that my Stephen Minister, through the Holy Spirit, listens to me.

What burden do you long to cast on the Lord? What is weighing you down? Imagine letting go of it. A Stephen Minister is ready to share that burden with you.

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This month our Stephen Minister trainees, Kathryn Duncan and Debbie VanHyfte wrap up their training. Stephen Ministers Commissioning Sunday will be held on April 16. Your prayers and support for them and all of our Stephen Ministers is greatly appreciated.



# **Music in The Valley**

Submitted by: Jamie Reed

**Please Join Us for this season's final**

**Music in the Valley Concert!**

**Saturday, April 15 @ 3:00 pm**



## **Sons of Orpheus**

Declared “Tucson’s Ambassadors of Song” by mayoral proclamation, Sons of Orpheus is Tucson’s premier male chorus. They were founded by Grayson Hirst with the aid of a University of Arizona Faculty of Fine Arts Incentive Grant award. Sons of Orpheus have performed at the White House, Notre Dame Cathedral, and Saint Peter’s Basilica.

Tickets are \$25.00 available at VPC office or at the door the day of the concert.

# Women's Ministries Luncheon

Tuesday, April 18, 2023  
at 11:30 a.m.

**Valley Assistance Services**  
**Your Helping Hand Forward**



Our April luncheon will feature our own Parish Nurse Chris Erickson, as featured speaker, as we enjoy a deli meal in the Fellowship Hall. Chris is executive director of Valley Assistance Services, an agency that provides support and help for many different needs in our area. The Presby gift will go to support these much-needed services. Cost of the lunch is \$11 and sign up will take place at the Women's Ministries table on April 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>.

If you knit or crochet, come by the Women's Ministries table to pick up a kit to make a prayer shawl or maybe some baby caps.

We are still collecting aluminum pull tabs to go to the Ronald McDonald house so bring those by the table.



**Presbyterian Women**  
**Presbytery de Cristo Spring Gathering**  
**April 15, 2023**  
**Southside Presbyterian Church**  
**317 W 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Tucson, AZ**  
**9:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.**

Submitted by Carol Peeler

The Spring Gathering of the Presbytery Women de Cristo will be held at the Southside Presbyterian Church in Tucson. At this meeting Judy Lindsey will be installed as the Moderator of Presbyterian Women of presbytery de Cristo., this is not the VPC Women's Ministries Moderator. Judy is elected to coordinate activities of the PW Presbytery de Cristo and will be representative to the national Presbyterian Church. Judy will be going to the national meeting in St. Louis, Missouri this year. At this meeting she will be reporting on and getting information to plan for activities of the PW. She will also be coordinating the fall Gathering, this takes a lot of planning for the time, speakers, entertainment and food.

Previous Moderators from 2014-2023 Dorothea Bailey, Shepard of the Valley Presbyterian Church in Safford, AZ. Bonnie Thompson, Northminster Presbyterian Church, Tucson, AZ. Cheryl Larson, Tortolita Presbyterian Church, Tucson AZ. Martha Ashton, Valley Presbyterian Church of Green Valley, AZ. Peggy Free, Immanuel Presbyterian Church, Tucson, AZ.

## **Samaritan Purse Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Update!**



In 2022 a huge milestone was reached by Samaritan Purse for Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes as the 200 millionth packed shoebox was received and sent since 1993. Gift filled shoe Shoeboxes were delivered to 175 countries and territories around the world. Over 9.3 million shoebox gifts were collected in the US during National Collection Week—the most ever! Many times, this is the first gift a child has ever received, and it opens doors for the Gospel in countries where Christians are scarce and cults are common.

We are very thankful and appreciative to all who participated in the operation this past Christmas season. These simple gifts continue to open doors for the local participating partners in remote and impoverished communities to share the Word of God's love for them.

200 million boxes total over the years...astounding when one thinks of it! And EACH box is important. EVERY box prayerfully packed in Jesus' name is special. One never knows how a life may be transformed by a shoebox, by a gift that asks nothing from the receiver in return, that brings a smile to a life that may have never known anything "new". Or have seen much in life but hardship.

Over 120 boxes were packed by individuals at Valley pres and returned this year, and we were able to pay for the shipping on all our boxes and include the greatest Journey Bible Study series for each because of the monetary donations to the program. All of this was a significant contribution, as 200 million boxes are reached by each box one by one, year after year.

We were notified that our boxes went as a unit to the Philippine Islands, reaching some islands that are remote and accessible by canoes and barges only. May you continue to pray for the child that received it. The Mission Committee could not do this project without you, and we are happy to be part of the global evangelical project. But to God be the Glory, forever and ever.



Mary Horn, Mission Committee Liaison to YOTO



**SUNDAY, APRIL 16**

Requested Items




Items can be placed in the plastic bin outside the Spiritual Life Center



**INSPIRATIONAL CARD**  
**MAKING APRIL 26, AT 1:00 P.M. IN CLASSROOM 5**



Our cards will now be included with the Mini Mall shopping that each student has access to.

**Don't forget to bring your change on Sunday, April 30.**

**Proceeds will go to help YOTO!**

### **St. Andrews' Children's Clinic Mission – April 2023**

Laura Romero, the executive director, said that about 40 children with volunteers and staff participated in the Clinic on March 2. There was a lovely snowfall that day. The children were delighted, but it made for a wet, cold clinic. Most departments provided services. More space needs to be created so that all departments can function well. The clinic had hoped to get more space by taking over an adjacent area of the building, but the county decided to let Pima Community College have that space. There is a large room at the back of the clinic which might be re-modeled to accommodate clinic services.

Donors have been very generous. One donor provided warm breakfast sandwiches from McDonalds for all the children, many volunteers and families. Juice was provided by the Clinic. Donors also contributed floor mats for the Physical Therapy department to use. The Rotary Clubs have been very supportive of the Clinic with donations. A lady who loves to bake brought cookies for everyone. She plans to continue her joy of baking for the benefit of St. Andrews' Clinic.

VPC is in the process of donating a large screen TV for the children to watch as they wait for appointments. Les Walter will get this installed later this spring. A temporary kitchen is available with a large refrigerator and microwave. A more adequate kitchen is needed.

At present, Laura feels they must limit services to 50 children. The children are vulnerable and must be protected from infections and diseases. The current space is congested, so numbers must be limited for the safety of the children. In the past, the Clinic was able to serve 250 children on the first Thursdays. That number is not possible now. The clinic is proceeding slowly but surely, and safely. It will be different than it was at the St. Andrew's Church, but it will be successful to meet the needs of many children.

The committee members suggested some solutions to the limited space. Kay will talk with Laura about these items and report in April.

The need for money, prayers and support continues. VPC has been very generous and helpful. The Clinic sends us their sincere thanks for all we do.



## Dave & Pam Lovett Operation Mobilization

*Submitted by: Doug Clark*

### GOOD NEWS FROM BANGLADESH

An astounding fact that excites us: 79% of Bangladesh's 169 million people are internet users. That is 112 million! Our response—build a team to post videos and share the good news on Facebook, YouTube, and Instagram. Our plan: direct users to an offline source where they can ask for a Bible and hear the gospel. Because tens of thousands more have no internet access, we plan to distribute SD cards loaded with 40 gospel videos and audio. In five districts we have already distributed 500 SD cards! Our intention is to meet those recipients, so please pray that God will open hearts to listen to God's invitation to salvation.

Pam and Dave Lovett from Operation Mobilization (OM)

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### Egg Casserole (from the March Mission Breakfast)

*Submitted by: Lois Macfarlane*

**Servings: 12**

**Preparation time: 30 minutes**

**Start to Finish Time: 1 hour 15 minutes.**

**Cook Time: 45 minutes.**

*Can be put together the night before. Cheddar-jack cheese works well also. Do not salt, the cheese is salty enough.*

**6 extra large eggs, slightly beaten**

**1 pint 4% cottage cheese**

**1 cup whole milk**

**10 ounces Rotel brand tomatoes & Green chilies, drained well, 1 pound jimmy Dean regular sausage, cooked and crumbled pepper to taste.**

**1-pound Colby hack cheese.**

**1 cup Bisquick baking mix.**

**1 stick butter, melted.**

Beat eggs, add the remaining ingredients, and mix well. Pour into greased 9x13 inch pan. Bake 45 plus minutes at 350 degrees. When knife inserted in middle comes out clean it is done.



# PRESBYTERIAN MISSION

Bob and Kristi Rice are our supported missionaries to South Sudan. Their communication tool to our congregation is through their blog- [bobandkristi.blogspot.com](http://bobandkristi.blogspot.com)- which they write twice per month. Only a portion of their inspiring story can be shared in the Valley Voice. Join VPC members who promise to pray and follow the blogs. *Submitted by: Doug Clark*

## **The Bee Sting**

South Sudan is no stranger to division, brokenness, and pain. At the highest levels of government, within the church, within families, and across communities, what separates us defines us and keeps us from one another. Since 2013 alone, not to mention two previous horrific civil wars which lasted almost fifty years, hundreds of thousands of South Sudanese have been killed during an ethnic, internecine, and bloody civil war. Fear continues to walk alongside us, uncertainty calls our name, and violence runs deeply as the most trafficked way of relating to one other.

Into this maelstrom of fear, uncertainty, and violence, has entered messages of healing, peace, justice, and reconciliation. These messages were most recently brought by leaders from the highest levels of the ecclesial and religious landscape known to our twenty-first century. It is almost unbelievable, but for the first time in five hundred years, an ecumenical peace pilgrimage was made by Catholic, Anglican and Protestant leaders to South Sudan. Pope Francis, Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby, and Moderator of the Church of Scotland Rev. Iain Greenshields responded to an invitation to come to South Sudan after South Sudanese political and ecclesial leaders visited the Vatican in 2018. To have participated in this historic event last week was an amazing privilege and an unforgettable blessing.

The events began in earnest Friday afternoon when the Pope arrived at the airport from Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo. As the last vehicle in a long line of cars going to the airport to welcome Pope Francis on a sultry Friday afternoon, we stopped, and I marveled at the thousands of South Sudanese lined up peacefully and joyfully along the road. The immediate line of persons held hands, serving as a buffer, a human chain, shielding all safely behind. Those behind were beaded with drops of sweat, the unforgiving sun bearing down as they sang choruses and danced, sweet smiles from young and old greeting me. One group of Catholic pilgrims walked nine days to Juba; a woman among them said, "When you have smelled and seen death and hopelessness, then you will search for peace with all the might that you have." The true and enduring strength of South Sudan was on full display as we waited for Pope Francis.



The next few days were a whirlwind of activity. On Friday afternoon the three faith leaders and other notable faith leaders among them visited the President and the five Vice Presidents at the Presidential Palace. On Saturday morning each faith leader spent time with their respective faith communities. The Presbyterian Church of South Sudan and the South Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church hosted a reception and worship service today for the Rt. Rev. Dr. Iain Greenshields, Moderator of the Church of Scotland, and Rev. Shavon Starling-Louis of the Presbyterian Church (USA), along with other members and leaders from both denominational bodies. It was a joyous occasion with almost sixteen thousand in attendance, including Spirit inspired worship through song and messages about unity, love, and our shared history and hopes for our shared future. It was an extraordinary event, and it served as a reunion of sorts as Kristi and I saw many church leaders whom we know and several of my former students. Entering into that worship space in its magnitude defies description. Seeing the smiling, joyful faces welcome us into the huge blue and white tent will forever be etched on my soul.

That afternoon we joined hundreds at Freedom Hall where Pope Francis and the others welcomed internally displaced persons from all over South Sudan. Three children from the IDP camp in Malakal shared their stories of life in the camp and the significant challenges they face regarding daily life and schooling.

To our surprise, Kristi and I were included with the ecclesial leadership community, both from South Sudan and abroad on the stage where the Pope and others led us in an ecumenical prayer and worship service. The following morning, I joined colleagues as we worshiped at the same venue, the John Garang Mausoleum, participating in the Mass with the masses. Both Saturday night and Sunday morning, it is reported that between fifty and seventy thousand people were present. Everyone who came walked long distances as there was no public transport in operation. Mama Lucia, a colleague and friend, told Kristi that she was so tired Saturday night when she finally arrived home after two hours of walking. Yet, she was there the next morning to help with a medical effort as people had no means to eat, had stayed at the worship site all night, and were now suffering from dehydration, lack of access to food and water, and a hot sun.



Pope Francis compares the challenges of South Sudan with the children of Israel leaving Egypt, finding themselves in a hopeless situation which requires God's intervention.



The crowds at the Sunday Morning Mass could take your breath away! The Red Cross was present to assist those who had waited all night without access to food or water. The choirs, singers and dancers help us worship as the Pope preached from the Gospel of Matthew, announcing that we are to be the salt of the earth, the light of the world!

By Sunday afternoon, all the notable visitors had left, but a palpable sense of hope continued to fill the landscape. On the following Friday, our friend and colleague Shelvis Smith-Mather connected us with Bishop Paride Taban, a notable Catholic bishop best known for his peace-making efforts over the last forty years. When asked about the Pope's visit, the aged and wizened bishop said to us in characteristic African proverbial fashion, "The Pope's visit is like a bee which came to us, stung us, and has now left us. We trust and pray that the 'itch of peace' left by his sting will remain."

**The past blogs read like a real-life novel, chronicling God in action through the writings of Bob and Kristi Rice. Please join me in following and praying for our missionaries and let me know if you have joined the blog brigade by emailing me [douglasclark68@me.com](mailto:douglasclark68@me.com).**



# Nogales, Crossroads Mission

By Les Walter, Crossroads Liaison

March 25<sup>th</sup> was the Mission Breakfast for Crossroads Mission. Alejandra Martinez, Director of Crossroads Mission, presented a presentation and talked about the needs of the mission.

April 1, Nogales Crossroads will have 20 hams for their Easter Dinner. They are expecting an attendance of 150 people. With leftover monies we will provide other items needed for their Easter Dinner, mashed potatoes and Easter candy for the kids. Four to six volunteers will be going down for serving in the kitchen.

We received a letter from Alejandra Martinez who reported increased marketing and improved fund raising. The letter entitled LIVES YOU TOUCH THIS MONTH notes facts like 640 nights of lodging, more than 2,638 meals for hungry men, women, and children, 855 families receiving food baskets. There were many referrals to other agencies as groups work together to help needy people in the Nogales area.

For more information of ways, you can help. Contact Les Walter at 520-870-3284 or visit Crossroads website at [crossroadmissionloglales.org](http://crossroadmissionloglales.org)



## Crossroads Sunday April 9

### Items need:

Non-perishable food items like canned soup, vegetables, tuna, chili, pasta, & rice.

Also hygiene items for men, women and children. Toothpaste, tooth brushes, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant and soaps.

The logo for PosadaLife Community Services features a stylized graphic of three interlocking loops in green and orange above the text "PosadaLife™" in a green serif font, with "Community Services" in a smaller green sans-serif font below it.

## *Celebrating Centenarians*

*Life expectancy is up as people are living longer than ever before, thanks to a number of factors including improvements in health science and technology. The nation's population is growing older with more people living to 100 than in decades past. There were 89,739 centenarians living in the United States in 2021, nearly twice as many as there were 20 years ago, according to data from the Population Division of the United Nations. Currently, one in 5,000 people in the U.S. are centenarians, or people who are 100 or older.*

### **Key Facts**

- The number of people living to 100 has doubled since the 1990s; however, research suggests that most people do not want to live this long.
- The will to live to an advanced age depends heavily on a person's values and perceived health status.
- The older and healthier the person is, the more they desire longevity.
- Top reasons for wanting to live a long life are curiosity, simple enjoyment, and maximizing time with friends and family.

### **Come celebrate with fellow centenarians!**

La Posada Community Services wishes to honor those centenarians living in the Greater Green Valley area on May 12, 2023, with a Centenarian Celebration sponsored by La Posada at Park Centre. Guests will be treated to brunch at the La Posada Community Center where we will celebrate our local centenarians' resilience, wisdom and contributions.

The Centenarian Celebration Committee is currently seeking out those members of our community who were born in 1923 and before to be a part of this event. Centenarians will be interviewed and photographed in April to be included in a celebratory booklet which will be presented to each of them at the brunch.

For more information call (520) 648-8131



# Stop Domestic Abuse

*Submitted by: Kara Fitzpatrick, Mission Committee Liaison*

**Hands of a Friend and the Genesis House shelter would like to thank the congregation** for and the church for the additional funding last month! Your gifts covered the cost of the 2 new washer and dryer units that have been delivered to Genesis House! We appreciate everything you do!

**Thank you from the Hands of a Friend staff and residents!**

**DaZee's continues to have good sales and is still in need of donations.** Your donations provide funding for Genesis House basics!

They are currently at capacity at Genesis House and in need of non-perishable food and cleaning items.

**Please drop off donations at:**

**If you would like to donate to Hands of a Friend, there are 4 ways to contribute:**

1. **Stop by the church office with a check.** Write Hands of a Friend on the memo section of your check or on the donation envelope.  
Hands of a Friend is a 501(c)3 Non-Profit that receives no governmental financial support and an Arizona Charitable Tax Credit Organization.
2. **Donate gently used or new clothing along with non-perishable food and cleaning supplies to DaZee's**
3. **Volunteer at DaZee's**
4. **Shop DaZee's** for great buys and meet the friendly, helpful staff.

**DaZee's is located at 231 West Dual Road, Suite D, Green Valley**

**Hands of a Friend truly appreciates all that Valley Presbyterian does for Hands of a Friend, DaZee's and the Genesis House Shelter.**

You can also visit the Hands of a Friend website for information at <https://handsofafriend.org/> and <https://dazees.org/>.



*Submitted by Kylene Joplin & Carol Stephens*



The items that are especially popular are CANNED FOOD! From Tuna fish and soups, to corn and beans, canned food is by far what people are looking for the most. Shelf stables proteins like peanut butter, as well as dry staples like pasta, rice and flour are extremely helpful.

Your donations are gratefully appreciated.





# NEW ASSEMBLE DATE FOR SNACK SACKS!!!



**Our Mission Committee says, “THANK YOU”  
for your support of the Salvation Army’s “Operation Chill Out.”**

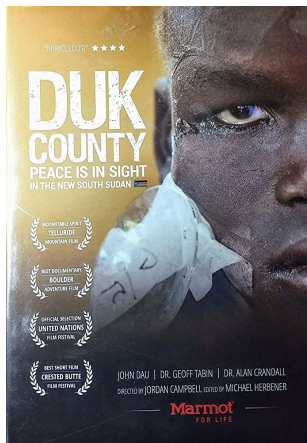
We have collected food and Gatorade Powder for the Salvation Army’s project to supply needed items to the homeless in the summer heat. We will be filling these sacks on Tuesday, April 11 at 10:45 in Classroom 1. Please join us. We hope to fill 200 bags!

Hope to see you there!!

Mission Committee Members,  
Ann Ball, Ed Storey, Mary Horn

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**A South Sudan Film  
*Peace in in Sight*  
(A Clinic Pastor Craig Founded)  
1:00 p.m. April 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Spiritual Life Center**



The film spotlights the sight restoring work of Dr. Geoff Tabin, and Dr. Alan Crandall, the two superstars in ophthalmology who perform back-to-back eye surgeries-transforming hundreds of lives. The film also features John Dau, one of the original “Lost Boys of Sudan” and a visionary for peace in South Sudan’s precarious new independence.

# April

**\*\*Turning 90    \*Over 90**

<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Birthdate Month/Day</b>
Carol	Willie	April 01
Robert	Campbell	April 01
*Jack	Troop	April 03
Dianne	Burke	April 03
Don	Christensen	April 03
Henry	Crook	April 03
Marilyn	Barney	April 03
Larry	Phillips	April 05
Maureen	Ramsay	April 05
Betty	Singleton	April 06
Gretta	Tameling	April 06
Sam	Eidson	April 07
April	Boysen	April 08
Jeff	Babcock	April 08
Sophia	Szabo	April 08
Helen	Phillips	April 09
Donna	Watt	April 10
Dave	Biggers	April 11
Fredric	Roeming	April 11 **
Joyce E.	Lambert	April 11
Marcia	MacDonald	April 11
Bud	Landry	April 11
Seth	St John	April 12
William	Thies	April 15



# April

**\*\*Turning 90   \*Over 90**

First Name	Last Name	Birthday Day/Month
Meagan	Jorgensen	April 17
Richard	Van Treese	April 17
*Lynn	Potter	April 18
Ernest H.	Bakker	April 18
Karen	Brumm	April 18
Karen	Backus	April 19
Carol	McDowell	April 20
Colton	Sayre	April 20
Doretta	Van Nimwegen	April 21 *
Jack	Cissel	April 21 *
L. Marvin	Clark	April 22 *
*Hilda	Trickey	April 25
Carol	McDowell	April 25
Joan	Bolin	April 25
Carolyn	Sitnick	April 26
Karen	Curtis	April 26
Rosemary	Mathews	April 26 *
*Barbara	Zauel	April 27
Gail	Gesell	April 27
Carolyn	Joling	April 28 **
Lela	Pavlick	April 28
Carol	Wilhems	April 29

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left blank

Valley Presbyterian Church April 2023							
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
						1 7:00am Communion Prep 11:00am Michael Valerinao Memorial	
2 Palm Sunday Food Bank Sunday 9:30am Worship Service 9:45am Children's Sunday School	3 9:00am Parkinson's Chair Exercises 9:30am Mission Quilters 1:00pm Bible Reflections	4 9:00am Women's Ministries Meeting 9:30am Prayer Ministry 1:30pm Sound Technicians 2:00pm Joyful Spirit Ensemble	5 9:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Parkinson's Chair Exercises 10:00am Chair Exercise Class 2:00pm Bell Rehearsal 3:15pm Choir Rehearsal 5:00pm Lenten Taizé 5:30pm Lenten Soup and Bread	6 Maundy Thursday 8:00am Communion Prep 10:00am Seven Words 4:00pm Maundy Thursday Worship	7 Good Friday 9:00am Parkinson's Chair Exercises 9:00am PEO Chapter DA 12:00pm Good Friday Worship	8	
9 Easter Nogales Crossroads Mission Sunday 6:00am Easter Sunrise Service/ Continental Breakfast After 9:30am Worship Service With Communion	10 9:00am Parkinson Chair Exercises 9:30am Journey Through Grief 10:00am Patio Sale Coordinating Team Planning 1:00pm Bible Reflections	11 8:45am Mission Committee 9:00am Cardio Drumming 9:30am Faith Formation Meeting 9:30am Prayer Ministry 10:45am Snack Sack For Homeless Assembly 1:30pm Buildings and Grounds 2:00pm Joyful Spirit Ensemble Rehearsal	12 9:00am Deacon Meeting 9:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Parkinson's Chair Exercises 10:00am Chair Exercise 10:00am Personnel Committee 1:00pm Miriam Circle 1:00pm Membership & Outreach 2:00pm Bell Rehearsal 3:15pm Choir Rehearsal	13 8:00am Patio Sale Sort 9:00am Faith & Health Committee 9:30am Journey Through Grief 1:00pm The Book: Story of God	14 9:00am Parkinson's Chair Exercises 1:00pm Rev. Mark Horton Memorial	15 10:00am Memorial for Dave Tompkins 3:00pm Music in the Valley Concert-Sons of the Orpheus	
16 Stephen Minister Commissioning YOTO Sunday Stephen Minister Commissioning 9:30am Worship Service 9:45am Children's Sunday School	17 9:00am Parkinson Chair Exercises 9:30am Overcoming Depression 9:30am Journey Through Grief 9:30am Mission Quilters 1:00pm Bible Reflections 1:00pm Women's Ministries Lunch Prep 2:00pm Foundation Meeting 4:00pm Ruth Circle	18 9:00am Cardio Drumming 9:30am Prayer Ministry 11:30am Women's Ministries Luncheon 2:00pm Joyful Spirit Ensemble Rehearsal	19 9:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Parkinson's Chair Exercises 10:00am Chair Exercise 10:00am Finance Committee 12:30pm Worship Committee 2:00pm Bell Rehearsal 3:15pm Choir Rehearsal	20 1:00pm The Book: Story of God	21 9:00am Parkinson's Chair Exercises	22	
23 9:30am Worship Service 9:45am Children's Sunday School 1:00pm Film Peace in Slight	24 9:00am Parkinson Chair Exercises 9:30am Overcoming Depression 9:30am Journey Through Grief 1:00pm Bible Reflections 2:00pm Valley Readers	25 9:00am Cardio Drumming 9:30am Prayer Ministry 10:00am When is it Time? 2:00pm Joyful Spirit Ensemble Rehearsal	26 9:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Parkinson's Chair Exercises 10:00am Chair Exercise 1:00pm YOTO Card Making 2:00pm Bell Rehearsal 3:15pm Choir Rehearsal	27 8:30am Session Meeting 10:00am Creative Hands 1:00pm The Book: Story of God	28 9:00am Parkinson's Chair Exercises 9:00am Stephen Ministry CE, Peer Group, Stephen Leaders	29	
30 9:30am Worship Service 9:45am Children's Sunday School Noisy Offering Sunday - for YOTO							