

Valley Voice

A True Story

A story this month: a young woman, brand-new to the military, decided that she wanted to be a volunteer mentor to a girl who needed more care than her family could give. She'd heard about Big Brothers Big Sisters, thought that sounded good, so started looking for a local chapter. She discovered that the nearest one was hours away, so she asked a simple question: "What do I need to do to start a chapter where I live?"

One thing led to another. Not knowing that "you can't do that," she did it – with a lot of help, but she did. And even though she was transferred out of that community only a few months later, that simple question, and a willingness to help, managed to change literally thousands of lives – people she never met, until she was introduced to some of them last month.

That young woman was my wife, Valerie, before we met. And that organization, now Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwest Florida, is now twenty-five years old. At the end of January, our whole family was flown back there so she could be recognized as the founder, the spark that built a fire in thousands of hearts.

At the formal dinner celebration, we met one young man, born into in the rough part of a rough town, who "told my mom that she was going to sign me up" – and is now finishing his medical degree. We sat in awe as we listened as several hundred people – all in formal wear for this event – raised hundreds of thousands of dollars that evening to invest in at-risk girls and boys.

The point of this story is as simple as her question was. You really don't know what your choices will lead to after you let them go, any more than you can guide or force the Holy Spirit. But who's to say what might come of your thought, your idea, your act – your prayer – a few years down the road? Even years after you're gone? Only God knows—plans—what good may come of your life, whether you know it or not. Choose good; choose God.



Rev. Lawrence R. DeLong, Pastor

APNC Update

The Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC) continues to search for the right person to fill our vacancy. We have received over 30 PIF's (resumes) from interested candidates and have begun to narrow the search selection.

Our vacancy is now posted nationally on line and in *Presbyterians Today* and *Presbyterian Outlook*, the two main Presbyterian publications. We expect to get many more PIF's from those to review also. As we narrow the lists, we are asking good potential candidates additional questions to help us narrow the list down even more to the ones we actually want to interview.

Please continue to pray for the unity of spirit within the APNC as we continue our work! We also ask your prayers for the financial support necessary to call this much-needed pastor.

We are often asked what our timeline is to fill this vacancy. Our response is, "*We will find the right person on God's timeline.*" God has already chosen a compassionate person with a heart for ministry for VPC! Our task is to be open to God's surprises in this process.



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Pets and Our Habits

Our pets know our habits.

When I lived in Minneapolis, in a time before personal computers, I had a cat named Max. Every morning before I went to work, I got up early, made a cup of tea and sat in a big green chair where I spent time reading the Bible and praying. Max saw his opportunity and always jumped into my lap.

Max eventually learned that this was a daily habit of mine. One day, I made my cup of tea, walked into the living room and there was Max sitting in the green chair waiting for me to sit down.

However, being the imperfect person I am, there were mornings when I didn't take the time for God. Life gets in the way – you know how it is. And there was Max, sitting in the green chair, waiting, reminding me that I needed to take time with God (and Max, of course). How could I refuse?

Today, I have two cats, named Barnes and Noble. Noble has noticed a recent habit of mine. I get up early, make a cup of tea, go to my desk and turn on the computer to read email and check up on my Bald Eagle webcams. Noble sees his opportunity, comes over and sits right next to the keyboard. He knows he will get pets and kisses from me as I do my computer work.

And, of course, being the imperfect person I am, I sit there thinking I will have ample time with God a bit later in the morning. Predictably, the morning whizzes by, I am late, and I head off to church saying quick prayers in the car.

One day as I made my cup of tea, my very smart cat was already sitting by the computer keyboard, waiting for my arrival. As I looked at the computer with Noble sitting by it, I thought of Max and realized I had developed the wrong habit.

I still have that green chair. It's time to use it again.

As I attempt to reorder my mornings, I share with you a prayer from one of my devotional books, *Seeking God's Face*:

"Joyous God, I confess my disordered heart seeks joy in so many dead ends. Remind me today of the primary purpose of my life – to glorify you and enjoy you forever."

May it be so,



Rev. Diane Christopher, Associate Pastor for Education & Outreach

Coming to VPC in February! ONLINE GIVING



If you manage your bills online, we're sure you'll like giving to VPC online. It's safe and secure, and you decide exactly when your gift is made and where it goes. Online Giving lets you set up a recurring pledge or a one-time gift to offering, missions, and many special collections. So, you'll be able to give the way you want.

Signing up for Online Giving will be as easy as 1, 2, 3...

1. Visit our website at www.valleypresbyterian.net
2. Click on the Online Giving link (**available by mid-February**)
3. Create your account

It's that simple!

Everything you always wanted to know about Online Giving but were afraid to ask....

How much does Online Giving cost?

It costs you absolutely nothing!

Is Online Giving Safe?

Online Giving meets the highest banking-level security standards set forth by the Payment Card Industry (PCI) to ensure safe and confidential transactions. In fact, your banking information is encrypted in the system and is not accessible to any users or administrators of the Online Giving system (both at VPC and our church

software company, LOGOS). When you manage your own account information, VPC never needs to handle checks or worry about locking up documents containing your account information. And you'll always be certain that your gifts are direct-deposited into VPC's account.

What are the advantages of Online Giving?

It makes it easy to give, even when you are unable to attend church. You never have to bring cash or checks to church. Giving electronically also helps VPC save money and plan its budget!

When will my contribution be deducted from my account?

Your electronic contribution will be debited on the date you specify on the "My Gifts" page of the VPC Online Giving system.

Can I put different amounts in gift funds and have all of them withdrawn at different times?

You can contribute to different gift funds at different times; you will just need to set up each one separately. You will receive a separate receipt for each one as you set them up.

What if I try Online Giving and don't like it?

You can cancel your authorization by cancelling your gifts and donation dates at any time.

Peace & Justice Committee Presents **SPAGHETTI DINNER** with Silent Auction & Entertainment

Sunday, March 2, 4:30 p.m.

Free tickets are available beginning February 16 at Mosaic of Peace table in Fellowship Hall and in the church office.

Please join us on Sunday, March 2, for this special dinner that is being held to raise funds for Judy Aguayo and Cara Bissell, our very own "missionaries," who are going to the Holy Land on a mission of peace sponsored by the Missions area of Presbyterian Church(U.S.A.).

>> Silent Auction starts at 4:30 p.m.

>> Dinner at 5:00 p.m.

>> Entertainment: Dorothy Reid, Director of Music at Tucson's Southside Presbyterian Church, will present her group singing Gospel and Jazz music at 6:00 p.m.

There is no charge for your ticket but distribution will provide us with a count for the dinner. A free-will donation will be requested.

Please support this fund-raiser and enjoy a fun-filled evening.

Children's Sunday School

Do you have a passion to see our children grow in their faith and to love God?

We are looking for teachers to teach our children once a month during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Curriculum is provided. If you are interested, contact Pastor Diane (625-5023).

ART GALLERY: During the month of February our Art Gallery will feature the beautiful paintings of Vera Anderson and Lois Young. Be sure to take time to enjoy a walk through our Gallery on Sunday mornings or during the week when our office is open (8-4). We thank these two fine artists for sharing their paintings with us.

Men's Weekday Bible Studies

There are two church-sponsored men's groups meeting during the week that would be glad to have you to join them.

The first one meets on Tuesday mornings at 8 a.m. They have been studying the book *More Than a Carpenter* by Josh and Sean McDowell. The group has decided to continue with this topic, but in more detail and from a slightly different perspective. *The Case for Christ: A Journalist's Personal Investigation of the Evidence for Jesus* by Lee Strobel will now be the focus of their discussion. A group of six to ten men meet at the Old Chicago Deli in the Green Valley Mall for one hour. The group meets for fellowship, food, and study. Dave Tompkins is the leader (399-3500).

The second group, with about five to twelve men, meets Wednesday mornings at 9 a.m. This group meets at the church for one hour in Classroom 1. The group is facilitated by Larry Phillips (777-8027) but focuses on group discussion. They are studying the Gospel of Luke using the NavPress study guide. Even if you just listen, your presence will be welcomed. Lessons are self-contained so join the group at any time.

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study

Now with coffee & cookies!

Please join other adults for the Adult Sunday Morning Bible Study. They are using materials from "The Present Word." All adults are welcome to join any or all of our classes. The class meets in Classroom 5 at **9:45 a.m.**, between Sunday morning worship services.

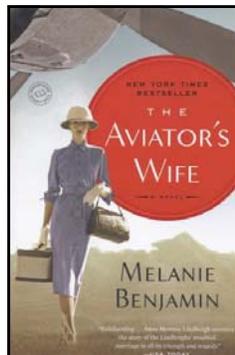
Please join the class as they discuss these passages and how to apply Biblical truths to our lives.

Valley Readers

Our book for February is *THE AVIATOR'S WIFE* by Melanie Benjamin. We will meet in Classroom 5 on Monday, February 24, at 1:30 p.m. Marcia MacDonald will be our discussion leader.

This book is a stellar historical novel based on the experiences of an extraordinary woman. Anne Morrow Lindbergh was the wife of wildly famous Charles Lindbergh. She was a pioneering aviatrix and accomplished author in her own right. Though their courtship is the stuff of every woman's romantic fantasy, time and reality combine to reveal a much different story. Plagued by tragedy and often stifled by her domineering husband, she eventually manages to carve out a quasi-independent life and career for herself. This is fictional biography at its finest.

We welcome everyone! Please do join us for an interesting and lively discussion. This book is in the Church Library. If you have questions, please call Anne Morrison at 399-0762.



DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR SHOEBOX IS?

Many people in our congregation opted to track their shoeboxes this year. This was done by paying for the shipping costs on line and receiving a label that could be tracked.

To date, only one person has reported receiving an email telling them the destination.

When you receive your email, please email me the destination of your box. I will make a map of all the destinations of shoeboxes from VPC.

Pam Campbell, 625-2911, hcampbell3@cox.net



Friendship Kettle Dinner

Sunday, Feb. 16, 5 p.m.

Dinner:

A delicious meal of Turkey with stuffing (or mashed potatoes), salad, vegetable and pumpkin pie will be served promptly at 5:00 p.m.



Program: "Love is in the Air"

At 6:00 P.M. join us in the sanctuary for a program of songs, poems and quotations on the subject of LOVE by Allen and Julia Saterbak accompanied on piano by Tamara Kahrmanis.

Tickets:

(\$11) will be on sale in the Fellowship Hall prior to and following both services on Sunday, February 2 and 9.

Volunteers:

The Kettle Dinner welcomes volunteers to help with serving, so if you are interested and would like to help, please sign up when you purchase your tickets.

SoulCollage® Workshop

Julie Miller will conduct four two-hour SoulCollage® sessions on Wednesdays in Classroom 5. The dates are March 19 and 26 and April 2 and 9 (9:30-11:30 a.m.). Come play, have fun, make cards, meet others, gain insight, and interpret your cards. Come to all or any sessions that you wish. At each session we will describe the process and make 1-2 cards.

This is an activity that combines art and spirituality. It is a gentle, playful way of exploring your inner self through creative expression. *This is a creative activity that anyone can do. You do not have to have any special art skills. You will create cards that will start a personal SoulCollage® deck.* These cards are made with cutout images. Through interactive activities with finished cards, you can increase personal awareness.

At this workshop, you will:

- ✧ Create one or two SoulCollage® cards,
- ✧ Explore the meaning of your cards,
- ✧ Meet others who are interested in this process,
- ✧ Learn how to use these cards as a spiritual practice.

Julie is a trained SoulCollage® facilitator, Stephen Minister, and Spiritual Director. All needed supplies (blank cards, pictures, glue, ruler, scissors) will be provided.

Because attendance is limited to twelve, please sign up for each session that you would like to attend at either the Christian Education kiosk on Sunday or call Julie at 232-3558.

Historical Jesus

**Wednesdays, beginning January 22
1:30 – 3:00 p.m., Classroom 5
Facilitator: Grant Stitt**

Who was Jesus of Nazareth? What was he like? For more than 2,000 years, people and groups of varying convictions have pondered these questions and done their best to answer them.

The significance of the subject is apparent. From the late Roman Empire all the way to our own time, no continuously existing institution or belief system has wielded as much influence as Christianity, no figure as much as Jesus.

This lecture series presents: (1) A Wide Range of Opinion, Even Among Scholars; (2) Discussion of The Principal Sources of Knowledge about Jesus; (3) The Challenges Scholars Face to Reconstruct the Real Jesus; and (4) Reconstructing Jesus' Life and Deeds. The source material for this lecture series includes all sources available to historians.

This video course is entitled “**Historical Jesus**” (part of the offerings of The Great Courses). This course is taught by Professor Bart Ehrman, Chair of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

If you would be interested in being part of a group to view and discuss this course, please contact Grant Stitt at stitt@unr.edu or 396-3549.

Dinghy Sharp's Books & DVDs

by Gordon Gray

Last fall the church was given a number of books from Dinghy Sharp's personal collection. These consisted of several versions of *The Night Before Christmas* story, which was written by Dinghy's great-great grandfather, Clement Moore. Also included in this collection was a VHS tape of Dinghy telling a group of children about the origin of the beloved Christmas story. The tape was created in the mid-1980s and permission was granted by the company that created the tape to produce a DVD version of this story to sell to VPC members and friends at a minimal cost. With the help of Carla Goings, who reproduced all the art work and pictures for the DVD cases, and Bob Puttock, who created all the DVDs, 250 were produced for sale.

Agreement was reached that the net proceeds from the sales of the books and DVDs would go for children's programs at the church. Books and DVDs were sold at the Christmas Holiday Sale and also in the Fellowship Hall on several Sundays in December.

I am pleased to report that we sold 245 of the DVDs, two were given as appreciation gifts, and three were placed in the VPC Archives. After the expenses of blank DVD discs and cases, the net proceeds were \$1,273.40.

Our thanks to Larry Sharp and everyone who helped in making this project successful. Thanks also to all our members and friends who purchased the books and DVDs. The legacy of Dinghy Sharp telling her favorite Christmas story will live on for future generations to enjoy.

Mission of the Month: Presbyterian Campus Ministry

WHAT IS PCM?

Presbyterian Campus Ministry (PCM) is a community of students at the University of Arizona and Pima Community College who are learning what it means to be embraced by God, follow the Way of Jesus, and trust the power of the Holy Spirit.

TUESDAY NIGHTS at the U of A! Dinner and Worship every Tuesday

6:00 p.m. Dinner & Fellowship – Local congregations provide a home-cooked meal for PCM students. This is great food for the body and the soul... and a great way for congregations to get involved and find out more about PCM!

7:00 p.m. Worship – PCM's Worship time is an informal and fun way for students to connect with God and grow in their faith. Students are invited to recharge their internal batteries and reflect on how God is working in their life through song, prayer, and creative sermons and lessons.

In addition to their Tuesday night dinner and worship, they also plan fellowship and service events – from movie nights and bowling to their annual Saturday of Service and Spring Break Mission Trip. PCM strives to offer students a caring and fun faith community where they can learn, grow, and be enriched while dealing with the every-day stresses of college life. Whatever faith background students are from, they are welcome to join PCM.

MONDAY FELLOWSHIP LUNCHESES at PCC DOWNTOWN!

11:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m. – Every Monday at the Downtown Campus, a diverse group of Pima Community College students meet for lunch and discussion. Congregation members provide the lunches.

PCM always welcomes church members to pray for and become involved in this new outreach!

“WEAVINGS”

Friday, February 21, 9:00 a.m.

This small group discussion is held quarterly here at Valley Presbyterian Church. The next discussion will be held on **Friday, February 21**, from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. in the Sweet Family Room. Patty Smith is our group leader and contact person for all Weavings discussions. If you have questions about participating, please contact Patty at 399-3084.

Weavings is an Upper Room publication that is issued quarterly. The Faith Formation Committee and the Church Library support this venture and have available five copies in the library for those who do not have a personal subscription. The timing of these mailings is tricky so we have learned that patience is definitely a gift.

The following is a quote from the “Writer’s Guidelines” at the website: <http://weavings.upperroom.org> (or simply type in Weavings Publication and you will get a selection of sites). *QUOTE*: “Weavings promotes a pattern of faithful living marked by prayer, community and engagement. Such living, to which laity and clergy alike are called, embraces all expressions of discipline and discipleship that mark the Christian’s response to God’s work of weaving together the torn fabric of life.”

Our February 21st discussion will be based on articles from the current publication entitled, **“Proclaim Release to the Captives.”** Each group member selects an article from the current publication and shares their thoughts with the group. For organizational purposes, we ask that you call Patty Smith well before the discussion to verify your choice of articles.

We use e-mail to keep in touch. All changes or special happenings will be reported by e-mail. Your e-mail contact is Janet L. Fitch (jfitch0504@cox.net).

REMEMBER: *With God’s help, we can learn to think differently and bring light into the lives of those in need.*

Pastoral Care

Parish Nurse News

Are you Planning Ahead? Join us Thursday, February 13, at 10:00 a.m. in the Spiritual Life Center. This program will discuss the Five Wishes program, advance directives, aging concerns, and planning ahead with health and finances.

Blood pressure screening will be on Sunday, February 23, between worship services. You may also have your blood pressure taken by the Parish Nurse during the week on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 9 to 11 a.m.

Chair Exercises: Balance, Strength, Flexibility, and having fun – they are all in the chair exercise class at VPC. Try them on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 10 – 11 a.m. Fee: \$25/month if attending three times a week, \$20/per month if attending twice a week. For more information or to register, contact instructor Mia Cooper at 204- 5264.

Tai Chi has been recognized to improve balance, flexibility, and muscle strength, and is included in fall prevention programs. Tai Chi classes are on Mondays at 2:30 p.m. The fee is \$2 per class to instructor. For more information, contact Roger Ederle at 399-0166.

Alzheimer's Support & Education program continues on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month, from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. in the Sweet Family Room. For more information or to register, contact the Alzheimer's Association at 520-322-6601.

Healing Soup Meal

Please contact the church office or Chris Erickson, Parish Nurse, if you know of someone who may need this meal.

Parkinson's support/exercise meets here Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 9 – 10 a.m.

We are Planning: Tuesday, April 1, at 8:30 a.m.

Your Voyage thru Healthcare: a presentation of navigating the healthcare system and advocacy.

Medical Minute for February

If you spend a lot of time at the computer, reading, or focusing on any one thing, you can forget to blink your eyes and they can get tired. Every 20 minutes, look away about 20 feet in front of you for 20 seconds. This can help reduce the eye strain.

SM Continuing Education

Congregation Invited

Carrie Klaege, Manager of Community Collect, will make the presentation at Stephen Ministry on Friday, February 14. Community Collect is a component of La Posada and provides information and connection to health, wellness and social services that are available in our area.

On Friday, February 28, the program will be *Recognizing Symptoms of Alzheimer's* and will be presented by Becky Gray, Barb Mengebier, and Gordon Gray.

Both programs will be at 9:00 a.m. in the SLC and are open to everyone who would like to attend.

Valentine's Day

Hearts and flowers and chocolates are standard fare this month, but for some of us, Valentine gifts are only memories. For those who have no special someone in their lives and for whom loneliness is a daily reality, I would like to present an option for you to consider: a Stephen Minister who visits you weekly in your home, who keeps all your conversations confidential, and who may become your new best friend.

Often folks think that they have to be in the midst of a tremendous crisis in order to "trouble" a Stephen Minister. But, that is not

true! We want you to ask for someone to walk with you through your loneliness. It may be for a couple of months, it may be for a year.

We have Stephen Ministers ready, waiting and eager to meet with you every week for as long as your need exists.

If you, or someone you know, could be helped by the listening ear of a Stephen Minister, please phone Gordon Gray (648-1500), Dave or Mary Frances Horton (648-2637), or Barb Mengebier (648-4279).



FEBRUARY is...

By Chris Erickson, Parish Nurse

February is more than just Valentine's Day. After reading all that February has to offer, here are the special month designations, National days, and Awareness days: Ground Hog day, Sinus Pain Awareness month, Canned Food month, Create a Vacuum day, Thank a Mailman day, National Weatherman's day, Lame Duck day, Wave All Your Fingers at Your Neighbor day, Send a card to a Friend day, National Chocolate Mint day, Winter Olympics, Boy Scout day, Black History month, Kite Flying day, National Organ Donor day, National Gum Drop day, Random Acts of Kindness day, National Pistachio day, National Tortilla Chip day, Love Your Pet day, National Weddings month, Public Sleeping day, National Tooth Fairy day, Polar Bear day, Tennis day, Care Reading day, Make a Friend day, National Grapefruit day, National Children's Dental Health month, American Heart month, Safety Awareness month, and Low Vision Awareness month.

So after reading all this – how is your vision?

Do you have a cloudy or blurry vision... poor night vision? Is there a glare? Are lamps, sunlight, and headlights too bright? Do you need frequent prescription changes in your eyeglasses or contact lens?

These are the most common symptoms of a cataract. Cataract is detected through a comprehensive eye exam that includes a visual acuity test, dilated eye exam, and tonometry (measures the pressure inside the eye).

Age-related cataracts develop in two ways:

1 - Clumps of protein reduce the sharpness of the image reaching the retina: The lens consists mostly of water and protein. When the protein clumps up, it

clouds the lens and reduces the light that reaches the retina. The clouding may become severe enough to cause blurred vision. Most age-related cataracts develop from protein clumpings. Cataracts tend to grow slowly, so vision gets worse gradually. Over time, the cloudy area in the lens may get larger, and the cataract may increase in size. Seeing may become more difficult. Your vision may get duller or blurrier.

2 - The clear lens slowly changes to a yellowish / brownish color, adding a brownish tint to vision. At first the amount of tinting may be small and may not cause a vision problem. Over time, increased tinting may make it more difficult to read and perform other routine activities. This gradual change in the amount of tinting does not affect the sharpness of the image transmitted to the retina. If you have advanced lens discoloration, you may not be able to identify blues and purples.

The risk of cataract increases as you get older. Other risk factors include: certain diseases like diabetes, personal behavior like smoking or alcohol use, environmental factors such as prolonged exposure to ultraviolet light.

There are several things you can do to lower your risk for cataract: wear sunglasses, have regular eye exams, maintain a healthy weight, quit smoking, take care of other health problems, and choose a healthy diet. Also, the symptoms of early cataract may be improved with new eyeglasses, brighter lighting, anti-glare sunglasses, or magnifying lenses. A cataract needs to be removed only when vision loss interferes with your everyday activities: driving, reading, watching TV. You and your eye care professional can make the decision together for surgery.

The "Eyes" of March are right around the corner.

(Information from National Institutes of Health/National Library of Medicine)

Passing on a Gift

Our Sunday School class children have been selling ornaments they made in December. You may have seen them around Christmas time in Fellowship Hall. The children have collected \$467 from sales of their beautiful ornaments. They are now giving this money to two organizations: the Heifer Project and Habitat for Humanity. Thank you for supporting this Children's Ministry project.

Outreach
Question

Have you helped
someone connect with
God's love today?

Outreach
Question



Couples Prayers

Compiled by Ren Verasco



February reminds us of Valentines: sending our love to each other with a simple card. But you know, God sends us Valentines every day of the year. And how can we respond? When couples pray together they receive God's love, trusting in His grace and confirming their love for each other throughout the year.

Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. – 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 RSV

A Valentine's Prayer

Doug & Judy Clark – Married December 17, 1960

Dear Lord, thank you for honoring the promise we made to you when we made our wedding vows. We love, honor and obey you because you are the center and guiding force in our lives.

As we approach this 53 year celebration of Valentine's Day, we remember the priorities that you established in our lives...God, family and work. It is this order which have fulfilled our love and life.

We pray in the year ahead that you would continue to bless our time and talents as we seek to glorify you and to make you smile. Amen

Prayer for Compassion

Dave & Mary Frances Horton – Married August 10, 2009

Dear Lord, thank you for extending Your love to us. Give us hearts to sense the needs of others and reach out in concern with Your care and love.

Thank you for bearing witness to the reality of Your love when we saw an elderly man caring for his wife in a wheelchair on the way into church; when we saw two new widows comforting one another in the parking lot; when we felt the touch of a friend in fellowship hall as she slipped by and said, "Hey guys!"

Oh, the choir and the pastor were terrific this morning, but Your love was more clearly revealed in sights, sounds, and touch.

Now we understand more clearly why You tell us not to forsake the gathering of believers: this is where we hear, see, and experience You in our midst.

Continue to pour out Your spirit on us and through us so that our joy will be full and others will know Your love.

Continue to show us Your love and compassion so that we may do likewise. Amen

Anniversary Prayer

Gordon & Becky Gray - Married June 20, 1964

Gracious God, again and again you have shown us that you are a God of love.

At all times, you are a friend and a companion to us. Your joy is always with us.

Your generosity invites us to partake in the banquet of life, to dance, to eat, and to celebrate your spirit and kindness to us.

You are always present with us as we celebrate our wedding anniversary, and you bless us each day in our day-to-day living.

You fill us with love for each other. We are grateful to you, our God, for the blessings that you have bestowed upon us in our married lives. Amen

A New Commitment Set in Prayer

Ren Verasco & Brook Grant – contemplating marriage

Our Father, who alone can make all things new, let us use your peace to gently and deliberately begin to untangle the snarls that have been entangling our lives.

May our faith in you lead us to know that which we can change and must so do, from that which can only be done by your hands.

Though we cannot know what you have planned to be before us, we trust that your Shepherd of Love will guide us there and we will be worthy witnesses of His holy name, Christ Jesus.

We pray, dear Lord, let your will be our journey and through Christ our savior, then so be our love, as He has made our lives now and forever without end. Amen

We invite you to share your prayers with us in the Valley Voice as an inspiration to others. Please email your prayer to Ren (roisystems@aol.com) or call 215-208-1940 to share your thoughts.

Wendy's Web




This month we have a change and some additions to our website that I would like to share with you. The first is a revision of our "Financial Support" page (found under the "Ways to Serve" tab). We have renamed it "Gifts and Giving" and have modified the content and added two new pages that can be accessed from there. One page is the "The Dr. George H. Pike Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care Endowment" which is dedicated to preserving pastoral care at our church. The other is the "Valley Presbyterian Church of Green Valley Foundation" which funds rare and unusual needs. Please go to the "Ways to Serve" tab, and select "Gifts and Giving" to find out about some of the ways generosity is practiced in our church.

To help you understand and explore all of the different ways to contribute, we have added a link to a website that has been set up for us by the Presbyterian Endowment Education Resources (PEER) Network to provide information to our community. If you have ever felt overwhelmed by terms such as trusts, annuities, bequests, estate planning, etc., please visit the PEER site and click on the various topics. It explains all of those things and more, and not just as it applies to giving to our church, but in a general sense that you can apply to other financial decisions. It can be found by clicking on the "explore options" button found on all of the pages I mentioned in the first paragraph.

I just invited you to click on various areas of the PEER page, so how do you know when clicking on something will actually bring up new information? Look at your mouse pointer on the screen. Unless you have changed your computer settings, it should look like an arrow or possibly a very thin, capital "I." As you move it around a web site, you will notice it sometimes turns into the shape of a hand with the index finger pointing upward, then back to an arrow or "I" as you keep moving. When it's an arrow, clicking shouldn't do anything. When it's a capital "I" it means you are in an area of text, and you can do things like highlighting and copying, for example. When it changes to a hand it means you are hovering over a link, and if you click there, you will cause something to happen such as opening a new page of information or downloading a file.

 **Valley Presbyterian Church**
(USA)
Oasis of Grace
www.valleypresbyterian.net

Anxiety, Depression, and You... Practical Steps to Take Control of Your Thoughts, Feelings and Moods in Eight Weeks

Join Holly Brown-Sisson, L.P.C. of Renewal Centers, Inc. for this insightful support group meant for individuals who chronically suffer from anxiety and depression. In eight weeks, you and your group members will learn practical, real-life coping mechanisms to deal with irrational thought processes, racing thoughts, panic attacks and depressive symptomology.

The support group is based on the national best-seller, cognitive behavioral therapy workbook *Thoughts and Feelings, Taking Control of Your Moods and Your Life*.

The support group runs for eight weeks and begins on Thursday, February 13 from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Risen Savior Lutheran Church, 555 S. La Cañada Drive.

The cost to participate in the group is \$25 a week, but if you choose to pay for the group when you register, your sessions will be reduced to \$20 a week. The cost of the workbook is also \$20.

**To register: please call by
Thursday, February 6
(520) 791-9974.**

Bangladesh: Challenges and Opportunities

Dave and Pam Lovett spoke to us in January of the growth of Christianity in predominantly Muslim countries.

On **February 7** at 2 p.m. in Classroom 1, Charlie Ashton will present a short overview of this new country: some basic information on geography, economy, social makeup, history, contemporary problems, and the possible significance for ambassadors for Christ, along with a bit of personal "testimony." Everyone is welcome!

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

February 18, 11:30 a.m.

On Tuesday, February 18, at 11:30 a.m., Women's Ministries presents *The Gathering* in Fellowship Hall.

RESERVATIONS will be open on **Sundays, February 9 and 16** at the PW Table after each worship service. We will enjoy a catered lunch served by **Miriam Circle**. Please pay the cost of \$9 when you make your reservation. (If you make a reservation and can't attend, we are still responsible for payment to the caterer.)

The **program** for February is the **Patio Sale Style Show** and we all know how much fun we experience with models from the Women's Ministries showing off outfits put together from donations to our Annual March Patio Sale. We want to say a **big thank you** to Dian Welsh and Ardith Nelson for coordinating this year's style show. Also, we appreciate all those who volunteer to be models.

Another feature will be a silver boutique for purchasing items donated to the Patio Sale.

Don't miss this opportunity to make a pre-purchase.

We are a mission-minded ministry and we count on your support for these monthly events. Invite a guest to celebrate with us and encourage each one to become involved in our worthwhile program.

PRESBY-GIFT OF THE MONTH: Cans of Soup for Green Valley/Sahuarita and Amado Food Banks. Your gifts are received for the entire month of February. You can bring them to the table when you make your gathering reservation or bring them on the day of The Gathering.

A special Thank You to our Circle Leaders. They keep us informed about our study meetings and give us a report on action taken at the meeting of the coordinating team. We thank our leadership for their attention to the details. Also, we thank Rev. Diane Christopher for preparing our study leaders for the lesson each month as well as thanks to the Circle Bible Study leaders. There is much to do and with God's help, we will continue to give hope to those who are in need.

Mission Quilts

Here it is the beginning of another year and already we are busy making and giving quilts away to those in need. First, I need to make a couple of updates/corrections on last month's Valley Voice report.

Since the article was written before the year was officially over, we are able to tell you now that our total of quilts made and distributed in 2013 was 280 for an in-kind \$ amount of \$7,700.

Second correction: our annual February "all-day" quilting session will be held on **Monday, February 3**. We start at 9:00 a.m. and you can stay as long as you want until 2:00 p.m. We bring our lunch and enjoy fellowship together. Come and join us in this fun time.

We had 23 ladies at our first session in January, and we are ready to have a good and productive year again. **DON'T FORGET:** we really can use more help and you are always welcome to come and join us.

If you need a ride, please call Jackie Denmark at 399-0393 and someone will pick you up and take you home.

Reading the Story of the Bible

Mondays, beginning January 27
1:30 p.m., Spiritual Life Center

It's not too late to join this 9-week class taught by Diane Christopher. Together, we will learn God's story. We will explore the dynamics of listening, understanding, and responding to God's story.

We will consider how the various books of the Bible fit into the ongoing story of God and His people. And, we will examine the different types of literature found in the Bible so we can interpret the story.

So, join us as we learn to read the Bible for life. A workbook is available for \$10.

Three Presbyterians, Two Catholics and a Jewish Woman

That's who showed up at Valley Presbyterian Church on Monday, January 20th for the viewing of the new Martin Luther King, Jr. movie: **KING**. It was a lively discussion. On Tuesday it was three Presbyterians and an un-churched woman from the community discussing King's "Dreams" and "Dreams to Power" from the Bible. Three of those attending read about this class from the *Community Calendar* in the Green Valley News.

Every one of us should see this movie...including all of our school-age children. The History Channel aired this movie in 2008, and it is now available in our church library.

Mission Breakfast Saturday — February 22, 8:00 a.m.

Valley Presbyterian Church is privileged to host Bert and Ben Wenke as guest missionaries for Mission Breakfast Saturday on February 22 at 8:00 a.m. Join us to enjoy breakfast and fellowship as we experience evangelism in action. Everyone is invited and welcome. Tickets are \$5 and will be available in Fellowship Hall on Sundays, February 9 and 16.

Crossroads Nogales Mission

Ben and Bert Wenke founded the Crossroads Nogales Mission in October 1995 after a combined 60 years of rescue mission work in other cities. Crossroads Mission is located in Nogales AZ, population 21,000. Across the border is Nogales of the Mexican state of Sonora, which has 10 times as many people. This mission is a Christ-centered recovery program serving the needs of individuals who need to develop life skills. These skills give the disadvantaged, homeless, and poor a better quality of life, both physically and spiritually. A full range of services allows men, women, and children the opportunity to obtain a productive and stable life.

Crossroads Nogales Mission started as a single homeless shelter for men and women. Today the mission has four shelters. Some of their services are: five programs for men and women, a domestic violence shelter for women and children, holiday meals, Crossroads Family Fellowship Center for church services, and Bible clubs for children five times a year.

STATISTICS FROM 2012:

MEALS 38,952	CHAPEL ATTENDANCE 29,510
BIBLES GIVEN OUT 403	DECISIONS IN CHAPEL 460
FOOD BAGS 17,026	CLOTHING 232,762 LBS
CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS 500	FAMILY FOOD BOXES 406
MEN SHELTERED 2,687	WOMEN SHELTERED 220
CHILDREN SHELTERED 280	LEARNING CENTER ATTENDANCE 120

No federal funds are used at Crossroads. In order to receive government aid, Crossroads Mission would have to discontinue church services, stop passing out tracts and bibles, and take Jesus out of all signage. As a result, all funding is dependent on the financial generosity of donors including our church. 92.9% of contributions are used for mission programs. Volunteers are greatly needed.

If you attended the Mission Breakfast on Saturday, January 18, you will remember the wonderful and enlightening message we heard from Dave and Pam Lovett. The delicious breakfast also received rave reviews and since several people asked about it, we are pleased to share the recipe that was used for the Egg and Sausage Casserole.

Egg and Sausage Casserole (From Lois & Tom Macfarlane)

Serving Size: 10; Preparation Time: 30 min.; Cooking Time: approx. 45 min.

- 6 extra large eggs, slightly beaten
- 1 pound colby jack cheese, grated
- 1 pint 4% cottage cheese
- 1 cup Bisquick® baking mix
- 1 cup whole milk
- 1 stick butter, melted
- 10 ounces Rotel brand canned tomatoes & green chiles -- drained well
- 1 pound Jimmy Dean regular sausage -- cooked and crumbled
- salt and pepper, to taste

Beat eggs; add the remaining ingredients and mix well. Pour into a greased 9x13-inch pan. Bake 45 plus minutes at 350 degrees (325 degrees if a glass pan is used). When knife inserted in middle comes out clean it is done (Can be put together the night before.)

The Dr. George H. Pike Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care Endowment

WHY AN ENDOWMENT?

A vital part of Valley Presbyterian's ongoing mission is to have a full-time Pastor dedicated to helping each person grow in the caring for others. This Endowment Fund was founded to ensure that Valley will always have an Associate Pastor whose focus is the ministry of Pastoral Care, thus assuring that each member of the congregation is touched by this ministry, especially the ill, the troubled, the dying, and the families of the deceased. This Endowment Fund exists as a designated account within the financial structure of Valley Presbyterian Church.

WHY IS IT CALLED GEORGE H. PIKE?

The Rev. Dr. George Pike occupies a unique place in the history of Valley Presbyterian Church. Having retired to Green Valley after an exceptional career first as a pastor, then at the national level working on the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s Bicentennial Fund, and later as Director of Development for Dubuque Theological Seminary (and candidate for moderator of the General Assembly), George stepped in as Interim Senior Pastor after founding pastor Rev. Joe Hawkins retired. His superb preaching and commitment to cultivating the spiritual gift of generosity carried the church well during the period between Rev. Hawkins and the calling of Dr. John Ross.

Then, once again, when Dr. Ross announced his retirement, George rose to the challenge of leading Valley through another interim, doing so with style and, especially, grace, as our congregation was once again prepared for a new Pastor.

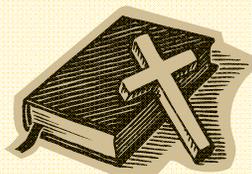
The Pike Endowment honors George, his wife Pauline, and their dedication to Christ, our church, and ensuring the future of this ministry.

HOW CAN I HELP BUILD THIS FUND?

Our goal is to have the fund balance large enough so that income from the principal will be sufficient to pay all of the salary and expenses for the Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care. A gift can be made in a number of different ways, including cash. We invite you to pick up literature that we have in the racks by the Welcome Desks in each narthex area. In addition, please do not hesitate to speak with any one of our Endowment Committee members listed below.

For more technical investment assistance, feel free to contact Bill Herf, Vice President and Branch Manager, Zeigler Wealth Management, 480-483-5984 (email: wherf@ziegler.com) or Stephen Keizer, Vice President, Ministry Relations of the Presbyterian Foundation, toll free 866-317-0751, or email him at stephen.keizer@presbyterianfoundation.org.

You may also contact a committee member for more information: Don Brooks (399-3959), Tommy Calhoun (203-8497), or Joby Donalson (648-5562).





News of Note

by Kay Albrecht



MARK YOUR CALENDARS WITH SOME MUSIC NOTES!

We are pleased to announce that on Sunday, February 2, the internationally-known opera singer, Susan B. Anthony, will be our guest soloist at the 8:30 and 10:30 services. Having just returned from a concert series in Sarasota, Florida, Susan will be singing, "Shall We Gather at the River?" arranged by Aaron Copland, and accompanied by Joel Pierce at the piano.

Born in Michigan, Susan B. Anthony has established a reputation as one of the world's leading sopranos. Twice named "Singer of the Year" by *Opernwelt*, she is a much sought-after guest soloist in the world's major opera houses.

Some of Ms. Anthony's recent appearances have included an "intensely dramatic *Ortrud*," from Wagner's *Lohengrin*, and master classes throughout Germany. Currently, Susan is Opera Director at Western Michigan University where she has been awarded an honorary Doctorate.

Susan is presently in Green Valley visiting her mother, Betty Hughes.



Monday, February 24, at 7:00 p.m. & Tuesday, February 25, at 2:00 p.m.

are the dates for this year's **Favorite Anthems Concerts**. The choir will perform anthems that were sung during services over the past year. As always, concert anthems were chosen from popular favorites of the congregation and choir. In addition, the following outstanding offertories will be included: Fred on the organ, "Adagio from Concierto de Aranjuez – J.Rodrigo" – (the one that sounds like Fred is playing the guitar); Joel's piano solo, "This Little Light of Mine" – arr. Mark Hayes; Katie Sayre will sing " Star Bright;" and our "new" barbershop quartet, **The Valley Four**, will sing, "Here Comes the Light."

The theme for this year's concert is, "I am the Light of the World." (John 8:12)

Tickets will be available at a table in Fellowship Hall starting Sunday, February 2, or in the Church Office and Chamber of Commerce during the week. In addition, members of the Sanctuary Choir will have tickets to share. Tickets are free, but will be required for admission.

Please take only the number of tickets you need and return any that you find will not be used.

A CD of the concert will be recorded and mastered by Gary Ray, and it will be available for purchase by the end of March.

10 Ways to Use a Mission Bookmark

by Martha Ashton, Mission Committee

Each month the Mission Committee of Valley Presbyterian Church has highlighted one of the non-profit agencies that we sponsor with an article in the Valley Voice, a "minute for mission" before services, and the distribution of bookmarks that feature the organization in a brief description and prayer. We ask that you use this bookmark to remind you to pray daily for that organization during the month.

Last month when volunteers were passing out the bookmarks, someone who already received one was offered another as he was leaving church. The response was, "No thanks – what would I do with two bookmarks?" This prompted me to brainstorm ways in which one could use more than one bookmark. I bet you can think of even more!

- A Bible bookmark
- A bookmark for *any* book
- A way to focus daily on Christ
- A prayer card at the dinner table
- Post on your refrigerator
- Post on your bathroom mirror
- Mail to a shut-in, requesting him/her to pray
- Pass along to somebody you just met in Green Valley
- Leave a bookmark on a public business counter
- Leave one at a neighbor's door



There's a place for YOU on the VPC Welcoming Team

After each worship service on Sunday, February 2, members from our Welcome Team will be available in Classroom 1 to talk with everyone interested in knowing about the program that is in the process of making VPC even more welcoming.

You can choose from 10 different ways to get involved (and with 9 of them there will NEVER be a committee meeting). These start with a 30-second commitment on Sunday mornings, all the way up to #10 which is serving on the Outreach/Membership Committee.

You will not be making a commitment by attending one of the meetings after church on February 2nd, but you will get enough information to be able to make a decision about whether helping with this ministry is right for you! (Could you help at a Welcome Center, call or write a visitor, help with social activities, or be at the Visitor's Corner after church, etc.?)

If you can't attend the meeting, but are still interested, please call Carol Bowley at 648-0960 or leave your name and number at the Church office.

You're a Winter Visitor? Potluck: February 9!

As a winter visitor or year round resident you are certainly encouraged to get involved in the life of the Church. But sometimes when you are the "new kid(s) on the block," it is easier to think about it than actually do it...

So... The Welcome Team invites all winter visitors to a potluck supper on Sunday, February 9, at 5:00 p.m. Enjoy a meal with others who are here for anywhere from a couple of weeks to six months. Discover others from your home state (and maybe even from your home town!) as you socialize and hear a little more about the opportunities at Valley Presbyterian Church beyond our wonderful Sunday morning services.

Sign up at the Visitor's Corner in Fellowship Hall on February 2 or 9. The main course and beverage will be provided; plan to bring a dish to share. There will be Green Valley door prizes!

P.S. Please feel free to sign up and bring a friend or two even if they haven't attended a service yet.

USED BOOK EXCHANGE

Saturday, February 15, 10:00 a.m.

FELLOWSHIP HALL

Bring your books and trade for someone else's.

Please bring your donations to the Church Library the week of February 9 so that the items can be sorted prior to the event.

FICTION and NON-FICTION

(hardcover and paperback)

RECORDED BOOKS

DVDs

Sponsored by the VPC Library Committee

NEEDED: laptop computers for the Children/Youth Sunday School class. When you upgrade your computer system...think about possibly donating your old laptop to the church (use it as a tax write-off). We can use more laptop computers for our Children's Computer Class. Thanks for thinking of us!

February 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>2</p> <p>7:45a Sanctuary Choir practice 8:15a Childcare-Nursery 8:30a Service of Worship 9:30a Welcome Team mtg 9:45a Adult Bible Study 10:15a Childcare-Nursery 10:30a Service of Worship 11:30a Welcome Team mtg</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8:30a Reading the Bible for Life 9:00a Library committee 9:00a Parkinson's exercise 9:00a Mission Quilts ("all day") 10:00a Chair exercise 1:30p Reading Story of Bible 2:30p Tai Chi class 3:30p Adult Off class 6:30p New Member class</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7:45a Morning Prayer 8:00a Men's Bible Study 8:30a AARP Driver Education 8:30a WM Coordinating team 9:00a NOC Leadership team 9:30a Prayer Ministry 10:00a Circle Bible Study Ldrs 10:00a Grief Recovery Wrkshop 2:00p Assoc Pastor Nom com 4:00p Friendship Kettle comm 4:30p If You Want to Walk class</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7:45a Morning Prayer 9:00a Men's Bible study 9:00a Parkinson's exercise 9:00a B Moore Bible study 10:00a Chair exercise 1:00p Mission committee 1:30p Historical Jesus 1:30p Outreach/Membership 2:00p NOC Weigh. Fellowship 5:00p The Source Service</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7:45a Morning Prayer 8:30a Pastoral Care comm 1:00p Alzheimer's Support 1:00p Hand Bells practice 2:00p Christian Centering Prayer class 2:00p Communion: La Joya 3:00p Communion: Silver Spgs 3:00p Memorial: Martha Sadler at La Joya 3:45p Sanctuary Choir practice</p>	<p>7</p> <p>7:45a Morning Prayer 8:00a Ministry of Presence 9:00a Parkinson's exercise 9:00a Stephen Ministers training 10:00a Chair exercise 2:00p Bangladesh: Challenges and Opportunities</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10:00a Memorial & Reception: Dick Smith</p> <p>8</p> <p>8:30a GV Genealogical Society Seminar</p>
<p>9 Annual Meeting</p> <p>7:45a Sanctuary Choir practice 8:15a Childcare-Nursery 8:30a Service of Worship 9:45a Annual Cong. meeting 9:45a Adult Bible Study 10:15a Childcare-Nursery 10:30a Service of Worship 10:45a Children's program 5:00p Winter Visitors Potluck</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8:30a Reading the Bible for Life 9:00a Parkinson's exercise 10:00a Chair exercise 1:00p Elizabeth Circle 1:30p Reading Story of Bible 2:30p Tai Chi class 3:30p Adult Off class 6:30p New Member class</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7:45a Morning Prayer 8:00a Men's Bible Study 9:00a Mission committee 9:15a Julia Circle 9:30a Prayer Ministry 10:00a Grief Recovery Wrkshop 10:00a PS Amigos meeting 1:00p La Posada Circle 2:00p Assoc Pastor Nom com 4:30p If You Want to Walk class</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:45a Morning Prayer 8:15a Crossroads Mission 9:00a Men's Bible study 9:00a Parkinson's exercise 9:00a B Moore Bible study 9:00a Faith Formation 10:00a Chair exercise 10:00a Finance committee 1:00p Lois & Miriam circles 1:30p Historical Jesus 5:00p The Source Service 6:00p Deacons meeting</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7:45a Morning Prayer 9:00a Faith & Health comm 9:00a Pato Sale Dept heads 10:00a Five Wishes 1:00p Hand Bells practice 2:00p Christian Centering Prayer class 3:45p Sanctuary Choir practice</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7:45a Morning Prayer 9:00a Parkinson's exercise 9:00a SM Continuing Ed 9:00a Stephen Ministers training 10:00a Chair exercise 10:00a SM Peer Review 11:00a Stephen Leaders</p>	<p>15</p> <p>10:00a Used Book Exchange</p>
<p>16</p> <p>7:45a Sanctuary Choir practice 8:15a Childcare-Nursery 8:30a Service of Worship 9:45a Adult Bible Study 10:15a Childcare-Nursery 10:30a Service of Worship 10:45a Children's program 5:00p Friendship Kettle dinner</p>	<p>17 Presidents Day*</p> <p>8:30a Reading the Bible for Life 9:00a Mission Quilts 9:00a Parkinson's exercise 9:45a Chair exercise 10:00a Reading Story of Bible 2:30p Tai Chi class 3:30p Adult Off class 6:30p Ruth Circle</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* (church office is open)</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7:45a Morning Prayer 8:00a Men's Bible Study 9:30a Prayer Ministry 10:00a Grief Recovery Wrkshop 11:30a WM Gathering & Style Show 2:00p Assoc Pastor Nom com</p>	<p>19</p> <p>8:00a Session Council 8:15a Crossroads Mission 9:00a Men's Bible study 9:00a Parkinson's exercise 9:00a B Moore Bible study 10:00a Chair exercise 5:00p Historical Jesus 5:30p New Member/Session 7:00p Session meeting</p>	<p>20</p> <p>7:45a Morning Prayer 8:00a Pato Sale sort/mark 1:00p Alzheimer's Support 1:00p Hand Bells practice 2:00p Christian Centering Prayer class 3:45p Sanctuary Choir practice</p>	<p>21</p> <p>7:45a Morning Prayer 8:00a Grief Ministry team 9:00a Parkinson's exercise 9:00a Stephen Ministers training 9:00a Weavings group 10:00a Chair exercise 10:00a Parkinson's Support Bd</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8:00a Mission Breakfast 10:00a Choir FA dress rehearsal</p>
<p>23 New Members</p> <p>7:45a Sanctuary Choir practice 8:15a Childcare-Nursery 8:30a Service of Worship 9:45a Adult Bible Study 9:45a Blood Pressure screen 10:15a Childcare-Nursery 10:30a Service of Worship 10:45a Children's program</p>	<p>24</p> <p>8:30a Reading the Bible for Life 9:00a Parkinson's exercise 10:00a Chair exercise 1:30p Reading Story of Bible 1:30p Valley Readers 2:30p Tai Chi class 7:00p FAVORITE ANTHEMS Concert</p>	<p>25</p> <p>7:45a Morning Prayer 8:00a Men's Bible Study 9:00a Pato Sale Volunteers 9:00a Creative Hands 9:30a Prayer Ministry 10:00a Grief Recovery Wrkshop 2:00p Assoc Pastor Nom com 2:00p FAVORITE ANTHEMS Concert</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7:45a Morning Prayer 9:00a Men's Bible study 9:00a Parkinson's exercise 9:00a B Moore Bible study 9:00a Worship committee 10:00a Chair exercise 11:00a Peace & Justice 1:30p Historical Jesus 5:00p The Source Service</p>	<p>27</p> <p>7:45a Morning Prayer 8:00a Pato Sale sort/mark 10:30a Faith & Aging class 1:00p Hand Bells practice 2:00p Christian Centering Prayer class 3:45p Sanctuary Choir practice</p>	<p>28</p> <p>7:45a Morning Prayer 9:00a Parkinson's exercise 9:00a SM Continuing Ed 9:00a Stephen Ministers training 10:00a Chair exercise 10:00a SM Peer Review 7:00p Tucson Chamber Artists concert</p>	

February Birthdays

1
 Florence Gilbert
 Ron Row
 Jean Snyder
 Nancy Gray

2
 Anne Ernsting
 Dick Ernsting
 Lois Rains
 Joyce Thompson
 Phyllis Days

3
 Phil Conklin
 David Rude
 John Pyburn

4
 Hank Huber
 Jo Hudson
 Barb Olson
 Doug Crosby

6
 Cathy Egender
 Judson Richardson

7
 James Clarke
 Marlene Farver

8
 Betty Everett
 Marge Lotz
 Heather Macleod
 Donna Page

9
 April Bondy
 Judith Roberts

10
 Lew Denny
 Gil LeClair
 Jerry Lindgren

11
 James Brackey
 Vern Feil
 Darlene Herrick
 Gayle Scott

12
 Alice Cook
 Diana Montgomery
 Joyce Wasson

13
 Marlys Riessen
 Ann Erickson

14
 John Pavlick

15
 Eloise Fredrickson

16
 Bobbie Richards
 Bob Smith
 Keith Steffy
 Jerry Wilhems
 Nancy Moses

17
 Carl Amstrup
 William Brackey

18
 Marge Barnum
 Joe Copeland
 Erma Hinds
 Judy Alkire

19
 Molly Andrews

20
 Peg Fite
 Enid Waldron

21
 Doris Wetzel

22
 Jean Benson
 Ramona Leland
 Connie Bacon
 Louise Martin

23
 Ingrid Benson
 Carol Blumer
 Ruth Halada

24
 Lila Plattner
 Anabel Reese

25
 Connie Ackerman
 Kathie Rusk
 Bill Isbell

26
 Betty Clapp
 Marian Fjare
 Glenn Lundell

27
 June Broviak
 Janet Dorer

28
 Rachel Cox
 Robert Lindley



We extend belated happy birthday wishes to Marian Hinkley who celebrated her 100th birthday on January 5th.

Daytime New Member Class

Tuesday, March 25, 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
AND
Thursday, April 3, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

For those of you not able to make our evening new member class, we have scheduled a daytime class. New member classes are designed to answer your questions and take you through the steps toward membership.

You may join VPC as a full, active member, or as an affiliate, retaining your membership in another church.

Contact Diane Christopher (625-5023) for more information and to register.

Community Food Banks

The Food Bank is able to purchase \$9 worth of food for every \$1 you donate. If you prefer to donate with other VPC members, please make your check payable to VPC (memo field: Community Food Banks), and the amount will be shown on your annual church giving statement.

You may prefer to donate food items which gives receivers more choices. Most needed *healthy* foods: Canned tuna or chicken in water, low-sodium canned vegetables, brown rice, whole grain pasta, canned fruits in natural juices, whole grain cereals, dry or canned beans and lentils, natural peanut butter.

The first Sunday of every month is donation day at VPC, but you may drop off food items directly at the Green Valley Food Bank (SE corner of Abrego and Continental), or Amado Food Bank at 28720 S Nogales Hwy (M-F, 7 a.m.-2:30 p.m.).

Next monthly collection at VPC: Feb. 2

Concert at VPC

Friday, Feb. 28, 7:00 p.m.

Tucson Chamber Artists, southern Arizona's professional chamber choir and orchestra, presents J.S. Bach's powerful and inspiring *St. John Passion* February 28, 7:00 p.m., at Valley Presbyterian Church.

This is a rare southern Arizona presentation of the work that established Bach's reputation as the world's greatest composer of sacred music.

For more information and tickets:

www.TucsonChamberArtists.org
or call 520-401-2651



AARP

Driver Safety

February 4, 8:30 a.m.

Are you a S.M.A.R.T. Driver? Sign up to take the new and revised AARP Driver Safety Course to find out!

The course is now the AARP SMART Driver and contains up-to-date information about changes over time in ourselves, our vehicles, and our roads.

The course is offered here in Spiritual Life Center on February 4, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Course fee is \$15 for AARP Members and \$20 for non-AARP individuals.

Please pre-register on weekdays in the church office. Payment is made to the instructor, Dale Kimes, on the day of class.

Patio Sale

A significant source of Mission giving for
Valley Presbyterian Church
To know Christ and make Him known in word and deed.

When

Thursday, **March 13** (\$5 cost): 8:00 to 4:00

Friday, **March 14**: 8:00 to 4:00

Saturday, **March 15**: 8:00 to Noon

Where

Throughout almost **all** rooms of Valley Presbyterian Church

Who

The sale is open to the community and region—in fact, people come from Tucson and Nogales to get a good deal. **All members and friends** of the Valley Church family are encouraged to participate in some way.

Why

The net proceeds of this sale go to ministries and organizations that **help people**. The recipients are chosen by the VPC Mission Committee. 100% of net proceeds are distributed outside of our walls.

How Can I Help ?

Donate an item (or items) for sale! Items should be in good condition—something that *you* would want to buy. Bring them by the church any time. A staff person will show you where they go and can provide you with a receipt. For larger items, feel free to call the church office (625-5023) and schedule a pick-up.

You can **volunteer** to be a worker by contacting the church office, or come to the Fellowship Hall on

- Thursday, February 20 at 8:00 a.m. to help sort through the donations, and/or
- Thursday, February 27 at 8:00 a.m. for another sorting day, and to the Sanctuary on
- Tuesday, February 25 at 9:00 a.m. for the **ALL-VOLUNTEER MEETING.**

All levels of skills are welcomed!

You are also invited to **pray** for the sale, the volunteers, the buyers and the recipients. Special prayer cards will be available beginning March 2 in Fellowship Hall.



Valley Presbyterian Church

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

Pastoral Staff

- Rev. Lawrence R. DeLong, Pastor
- Rev. Diane Christopher, Associate
Pastor for Education and Outreach
- Rev. Joe Hawkins, Pastor Emeritus
- Rev. Mary Beth McSwain, Hospital
Visitation Pastor

Mission Statement

*To know Christ and
make Him known
through word and deed.*

Join Us In Worship!

Traditional Worship Service

Childcare Provided

Sundays

December 1—April 27

8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

May 4—November 30, 2014

10:00 a.m.

The Source Worship Service

Wednesdays

5:00 p.m.

Holy Communion Celebrated
1st Sunday each month

The Valley Voice newsletter is published the first day of each month for the members and friends of Valley Presbyterian Church, 2800 S Camino del Sol, Green Valley AZ 85622.

Articles may be submitted for consideration to Georgia Puttock in the church office in writing before the 15th of the month by US mail, in print or by email to gputtock@valleypres.net.

It is helpful to have articles as email. Submitted articles may be edited for style and length.

A Word from the Worship Committee

“Worship is Faith in Action”

~ worship (verb)~

...behaviors that demonstrate love and respect for God through aspects of ceremony, especially prayer and song

Worship is an energy of life at VPC, and our worshipers are active participants! We do not attend services as passive observers waiting to be entertained, but we are actively engaged in a number of ways. To live is to grow, and to grow is to change. Our worship opportunities seek to stretch and grow us into the people that God desires for us to be.

During our services of worship, people are engaged in:

- Singing introits and hymns
- Participating in liturgical praise and prayers
- Reading scripture lessons from the pastor’s translation on the new *Worship Aids* page in the bulletin.
- Taking notes from the sermon on the *Worship Aids* page
- Using the *Worship Aids* page, to give feedback about what parts of worship “spoke” to them (music, liturgy, prayers, sermon, etc.)

~ Mission Statement ~

The Worship Committee at Valley Presbyterian Church exists to enable the congregation to worship and glorify God in ways that open our eyes and ears to Christ and the leading of His Spirit.

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish each other with all wisdom as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

And whatever you do, in word and deed, do it in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

Colossians 3: 16-17

The Worship Committee is grateful for your enthusiastic participation, and for your suggestions as we seek always to glorify God in every aspect of our worship!



PROMOTED TO GLORY



December 28	Ralph Hawthorne	survived by dtr Peggy Babcock
January 1	Teresina Bush	
January 4	Willis Greimann	survived by Patty Greimann
January 8	Russell Silliman	survived by Judy Silliman
January 9	Reuben Widmer	
January 16	Martha Sadler	survived by brother Dan Myers
January 20	Elmer Kress	survived by Lois Kress

Valley Presbyterian Church
2800 S Camino del Sol
Green Valley AZ 85622
(520) 625-5023

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Website: www.valleypresbyterian.net

Sundays

2 Services of Worship
8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

Deacons' Food Bank Score Card January

Cash (at Deacon's Collection point)	Year To Date	\$ 370.
Groceries	110 pounds	Year To Date 110 pounds

Next Deacon's Food Bank Collection: Feb. 2, 7:30—10:30 a.m.

Do You Have Trouble Hearing in Worship?

VPC has hearing assistance systems in both the Sanctuary and the Spiritual Life Center!

If you have hearing aids with the "T-coil" technology, there are loops to allow our receivers (available at the entrances) to feed directly into your own devices. Otherwise, we have over-the-ear headsets available – and, if you prefer, **you can use your own "earbuds" or other headphones with our receivers.**

Don't forget that sound quality varies throughout the Sanctuary. With a space that large, there are bound to be areas that are less "live" than others. Try another seat! You just might meet a new friend!

Annabelle & Vance's Special Event!

**Sunday, February 16
Fellowship Hall**

Between our Worship Services on February 16, we're going to have a celebration – and not just a run-of-the-mill moment of joy, but a celebration of **70 years of marriage** for Vance and Annabelle Davidson!

There will be Anniversary Cake and a chance to congratulate this wonderful couple (and long-time, dedicated, beloved members of VPC, who've done everything from Choir to our website and everything in between).

Don't forget to come to Fellowship Hall on the 16th and be part of the fun!

The Source Service of Worship

Wednesdays, 5:00 p.m.
Spiritual Life Center

Feb. 5 *Taizé*
Feb. 12 *Vespers*
Feb. 19 *Healing and Hope*
Feb. 26 *Praise*

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation of Valley Presbyterian Church is hereby called for February 9, 2014, at 9:45 a.m. (between the two Sunday Services of Worship), for the purpose of receiving the 2014 budget, committee reports, and the approval of the Pastors' terms of call for 2014.

*By order of the Session,
Eloise Fredrickson, Clerk*

February Early & Traditional Services of Worship

Feb. 2	Larry DeLong	"Scenes from the life of David III: Sacrifice" (2 Samuel 23:13-17)
Feb. 9	Diane Christopher	"David: A Man After God's Heart" (2 Samuel 11:1-15)
Feb. 16	Larry DeLong	"Scenes from the life of David V: Judgment" (selections: 2 Sam. 13-19)
Feb. 23	Larry DeLong	"Scenes from the life of David VI: Humility" (2 Samuel 16:5-14)