

# Valley Voice

## Thoughts for the Journey

Dear Friends,

The Season of Lent is upon us. The theme for this season is "Events on the path to Golgotha." The biblical understanding of Golgotha is the hill outside Jerusalem where Jesus was crucified. Another word that is a synonym for Golgotha is Calvary.

Originating in the fourth century of the church, the season of Lent spans 40 days (minus Sundays). For us, Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 6, climaxing during Holy Week with Holy Thursday/Maundy Thursday, April 18, Good Friday, April 19, and concluding the Saturday before Easter. April 21 is Easter, or The Resurrection of the Lord. Originally, Lent was the time of preparation for those who were to be baptized, a time of concentrated study and prayer before their baptism at the Easter Vigil, the celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord early on Easter Sunday.

Today, Lent is marked by a time of prayer and preparation to celebrate Easter. Since Sundays celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, the six Sundays that occur during Lent are not counted as part of the 40 days of Lent and are referred to as the Sundays in Lent. The number 40 relates to many biblical events, but especially with the forty days Jesus spent in the wilderness preparing for His ministry by facing the temptations that could lead him to abandon his mission and calling. Christians today use this period of time for introspection, self-examination, and repentance.

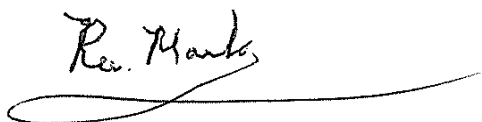
Lent has traditionally been marked by penitential prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Lent is really a preparation to celebrate God's marvelous redemption at Easter, and the resurrected life that we live, and hope for, as Christians.

Please join in the Lenten season by traveling with Jesus along the road to Jerusalem. The cross of Jesus is before us, the tomb of Jesus is inevitable and the promise of the resurrection of Jesus is awaiting us.

A few items for the journey ahead:

- **Patio Sale March 14-16.**
- **Sunday, March 24** Guest preacher is Rev. Yung Me Morris. She is the speaker for the Women of the Presbytery of de Cristo gathering that weekend.
- **Sunday, March 31** Rev. Dr. Mark Horton preaching.

Yours in Christ,



Rev. Mark A. Medina, Transitional Pastor

## In this Issue

<b><u>Activities:</u></b>	<b>Page</b>
Book Exchange	4
Faith & Health	19
Friendship Kettle Dinner	4
Gaslight Theatre	5
News of Note (Music)	6
Mission Breakfast	6
Opportunity to Help Homeless	3
Patio Sale Dates for 2019	6
Patio Sale News	12
Patio Sale Setup Help Needed	13
Playground	5
St. Andrews Trip	3
Taizé Worship	4
Valley Readers	4
Women's Ministries	5
<b><u>Classes:</u></b>	
Adult Sunday School	8
The Inquisitors	9
Liturgy of the Ordinary	8
Men's Weekday Bible Studies	8
Wednesdays in Lent	9
<b><u>Pastor Messages:</u></b>	
Diane Christopher	2
Mark A. Medina	1
<b><u>Other Articles and Info:</u></b>	
Lent and Easter Books	16
Blog Excerpt from the Rice's	14
Calendar and Birthdays	10
Casa Vida Nueva	7
Church Information	20
Congregational Care at Work	18
Lenten Devotional	9
Medical Minute	18
Milestones	15
One Great Hour of Sharing	17
Pam & Dave L.	17
Promoted to Glory	20
Session Notes	15
Sermons for March	20
Stephen Ministry	19
Wendy's Web	7
YOTO Card Making	13

## A Different Spin on Lent

Lent and Easter are my favorite times in the church calendar.

What is Lent? Lent is often described as a time of repentance, a time of soul repair, a time of mediation and soul searching. When described this way, it sounds all so very serious.

So let me put a different spin on Lent. The word "Lent" comes from the Old English word "lengten," which simply means "spring." Spring is a time when the days lengthen and new life springs forth. It is a time in the church when we anticipate the victory of the light of Christ over the darkness of sin and death. C.S. Lewis described Lent as a season of "happiness and wonder that makes you serious."

So yes, Lent begins with the reminder of our brokenness on Ash Wednesday, but as days grow brighter, we experience the wonder of God's redeeming grace. Just as we prepare for the big events in our personal lives, such as weddings and graduations, the season of Lent makes our hearts ready for remembering Jesus' death and resurrection.

This year, Lent begins March 6 (40 days before Easter, minus Sundays).

We will help you make your hearts ready for Jesus' resurrection. I am offering a class called "Liturgy of the Ordinary." We will take the ordinary things we do every day and learn how to make them holy (Tuesdays, beginning March 5, at 1:00 p.m.).

Look for the article called "Wednesdays in Lent" (page 8). Every Wednesday in Lent (starting March 6), we are setting aside a special time at noon for recitals and classes, and at 5:00 p.m. for Taizé worship.

And as we do every Lent, we offer a Lenten Devotional, which contains daily readings. This year, our devotional is "On Calvary's Hill" by Max Lucado. Lucado says, "Draw near to the Savior and prepare to celebrate the greatest miracle ever conceived." We encourage you to purchase one for yourself (\$5), and purchase one to give away to a neighbor, friend, or family member.

I encourage you to enter into Lent with your whole heart and soul, so you can wholeheartedly join in the celebration of the Resurrection.

Your pastor and friend,



Rev. Diane Christopher, Pastor of Discipleship

The Valley Voice is published each month. Please submit articles for consideration to [wendyk@valleypres.net](mailto:wendyk@valleypres.net) by the 15th of the prior month. Articles may be edited for style, length and content.

## An Opportunity to Help the Homeless

**Our Mission Committee is planning a church-wide effort to make bags of food for the needy.**

*Submitted by Mary Horn, Mission Committee Representative (520-282-1390)*

Matthew 25: 35 "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in."



Last April, our Mission Committee decided to try an idea shared by Lois and Tom McFarlane to assemble Ziploc bags of snacks and water to give to the homeless. Our plan was to have snack bags ready in our cars to provide to people who were soliciting help on the streets of downtown Tucson. We tried this project on a "small scale" within the committee first, and this year we want to widen the project to our full Congregation.

Our "food drive" for the homeless will take place in March, and we are asking the congregation to help fill the snack bags. We will be collecting a variety of 10 items to fill the bags. The 10 items are: bottled water, tuna and cracker packets, peanut butter cracker packets, cheese and cracker packets, granola bars, gorp/trail mix (in small packages), Vienna sausage, apple sauce cups/fruit snacks, peanuts, and wet wipes. Monetary contributions are welcome as well, and we will use donations to purchase items needed to complete the snack bags.

**We will collect these items before and after our services in Charter Hall on three Sundays: March 17, 24 and 31. We will assemble gallon Ziploc bags with the collected snacks on Tuesday morning, April 9, at 10:30 a.m. in Classroom 1** (following our Mission Committee Meeting). All are welcome to join us for the assembling.

Completed bags will have two destinations:

1. We will deliver many to The Hospitality House of the Salvation Army, who welcome individuals who are homeless.
2. Individuals in our congregation who wish to take some to keep in their cars to deliver to homeless people they encounter on our streets.

THANK YOU for helping with this outreach. We look forward to the opportunity to assemble many bags for those who have very little.

## Mission Trip to St. Andrew's Children's Clinic

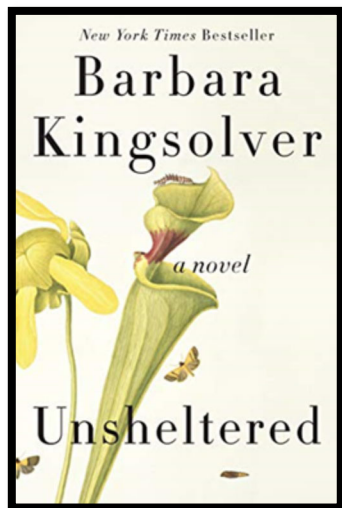
**March 7, 2019**

*Submitted by Kay Brouwer - Mission Committee Liaison to St. Andrews Children's Clinic*

Join our March 7 trip to see, firsthand, the wonderful mission happening in Nogales, Arizona at the St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. On the first Thursday of every month, volunteer doctors, nurses, and helpers will examine, diagnose and treat children for whom care in Mexico is not available nor affordable. We will leave in a car pool from the church parking lot at 9:00 Thursday morning, March 7. The tour will start at 10:00 and will last about one hour. We hope to eat lunch together after the tour. To sign up for this mission trip, contact Kay Brouwer 573-552-2313 or kkbrouwer1942@gmail.com. Kay will be in Fellowship Hall after church on February 24. Come there to find out more and to sign up for the tour.

## Valley Readers

Monday, March 25  
2:00 p.m. in Classroom 1



The March selection for Valley Readers is *Unsheltered*, a novel by award-winning writer Barbara Kingsolver. Appearing on numerous best-of-year lists for 2018, this book tells the story of two families living at the same address a century apart. Both families have led lives of trying to do the right thing but find themselves on the cusp of disaster. For these people the foundations of the past have failed to provide a foothold for the future. Join us for this discussion led by Helen Phillips. Please contact Anne Morrison for additional information at 520-399-0762.

## BOOK EXCHANGE

Saturday, March 2  
10:00 a.m. sharp  
in Fellowship Hall

Bring your books and trade for free items.

*Please bring your donations to the Church Library the week of February 25 so that the books can be sorted prior to the event.*

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**FICTION and NON-FICTION**  
(hardcover and paperback)

**RECORDED BOOKS**

**CDs**

**DVDs**

Sponsored by the VPC Library Committee

## Friendship Kettle Dinner

Sunday, March 24  
5:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

**Dinner:** A delicious meal of corned beef and cabbage with all the trimmings, plus dessert, will be served promptly at 5:00 p.m.

**Program:** At 6:00 p.m., join us in the sanctuary for an evening of Old Band Music from the 20's through the 50's, put together by a group of six talented banjo players.

**Tickets:** (\$13) will be on sale in Fellowship Hall prior to, and following, the services on Sunday, March 10 and 17.

**Volunteers:** The Kettle Dinner is in need of volunteers to help with serving. If you are interested and can help, please sign up when you purchase your tickets.

## Join us for Taizé Worship

Every Wednesday in March (Lent) at 5:00 p.m. in the Spiritual Life Center  
The next Taizé is March 6 - Ash Wednesday

If you have not experienced Taizé worship, please come for a service of beautiful music, candlelight, prayer and scripture. If all that isn't beautiful enough, these services will often feature guest musicians as well.

## Women's Ministries

**Presbyterian Women of de Cristo Spring Gathering, March 23 at 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

*Submitted by Carol Peeler, Moderator*

Hello to all. The women's Ministry has been busy with our projects.

In January, for the Presby gift we collected new white towels. There were also cash donations. We collected them with Southside Presbyterian Shower Program in mind. We were told they would not be needed for a year or more due to the construction at this time, and to give them to another church. We decided to ask Papago United Presbyterian. They were thrilled, so the towels and donations were delivered on Friday the 15th of February.

The January program was interesting with Kay Davison, Martha Ashton, Janice Potter, and Carol Peeler telling about their trip to the Church-wide Gathering in Louisville, KY.

As I write this, we are preparing for the Style Show on February 19. The menu will again be prepared using the VPC 40th Anniversary Cookbook. The recipes have all been so good! If you don't have your cookbook yet they are for sale at the Women's Ministry Table on Sundays. They make wonderful gifts if you already have yours.

The March Gathering has been canceled so we can all attend the Presbyterian Women of de Cristo Spring Gathering on March 23 at Valley Presbyterian Church. Rev. Yung Me Morris will be the speaker, and will talk about Exploring Trauma and Healing. Watch for the reservation form with additional information at the Women's Ministry Table on Sundays.

The April program will be presented by the Sheriff's Auxiliary on Fraud and Scams. This is open to all men and women but you will need a reservation. The cost is \$11, and this includes lunch. We should all be aware of the things to watch out for and what not to do.

## Playground

**April 5 at 3:00 p.m.**

*Submitted by Sally Ruschmeier*

Looking for fun? Come see the state of the art playground which VPC supported.

Where: Los Niños del Valle at La Posada

When: April 5 (rain date April 12) at 3:00 p.m.

We will get a tour and then see the kids in action. Fun!

## Gaslight Theatre

**Sunday, May 12 at 6:00 p.m. at the Gaslight Theatre**

Presbyterian Campus Ministry will have a Mothers Day fundraiser at Gaslight on Sunday May 12. The show is "Back to the Past" and the performance is at 6:00 pm. Tickets will be \$35 (\$16 is a donation to PCM). Valley will have 50 tickets available. You may make a reservation for tickets by contacting George Curtis at 520-625-2394 or by email at [crtkar9@cox.net](mailto:crtkar9@cox.net).



## News of Note

*By Joel Pierce*



There is a lot going on musically at Valley Presbyterian during Lent. Be sure to mark the following events on your calendar!

### Music in the Valley

March 8, 6:00 p.m. - The Tucson Arizona Boys Chorus

March 23, 3:30 p.m. - Tucson Pipers (Bagpipes and drums, in the front parking lot. Bring a chair!)

April 5, 6:00 p.m. - Scholarship Recipients' Concert

### Lenten Recital Series (Not ticketed)

March 13, 12:00 p.m. (reception to follow) - Joel Pierce (piano/organ) and Pam Coggins (oboe/English horn)

March 27, 12:00 p.m. (reception to follow) - Joel Pierce (piano/organ)

April 10, 12:00 p.m. (reception to follow) - Joel Pierce (piano/organ)

### Music Classes

March 20, 12:00 p.m. - "Inside the Music Ministry at VPC" (Spiritual Life Center)

April 3, 12:00 p.m. - "Church Music in the Middle Ages" (Spiritual Life Center)

April 17, 12:00 p.m. - "The Messiah: The Passion"

On Easter Sunday, we invite you to bring your own score of the "Hallelujah Chorus." We'll sing this wonderful work together as a congregation, as we once again rejoice in the Risen Christ. If you don't have your own score, one will be provided at worship that morning.

## Patio Sale Dates for 2019

Sorting takes place on Thursdays at 8:00 a.m.

**Sorting:** Mar. 7, Apr. 11, May 16, Jun. 20, Jul. 18, Aug. 15, Sep. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 7, Dec. 19

**Patio Sale:** March 14, 15 & 16 (set-up March 11-13)

**Holiday Sale:** November 22 & 23 (set-up November 20-21)

## Mission Breakfast - Care Receivers Wanted!

**Saturday, March 30 at 8:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall**

*Submitted by Doug Clark*

Mission Breakfast, March 30 at 8:30 a.m., will focus on services offered by Posada Life Community Services. Posada Life Community Services offers programs open to the public, with a mission to connect people to a better life through social interaction, education, and caring support. Regina Ford, Development Specialist, will give details of the many programs meeting the needs of the older needy. Adult Day Care Services, the Senior Lunch Program, Los Niños del Valle Preschool/Child Care, and unique counseling will be featured, as these programs can give options to care receivers and give caregivers much needed rest. Come, learn, and be informed of services you or your neighbor may require. Tickets for the Mission Breakfast on March 30 at 8:30 a.m. are \$5.00 and can be purchased before or after church March 17 or March 24. One more piece of the puzzle of Christian service will be explored, as volunteers are needed.



## Casa Vida Nueva para Niños, A.C. Home for Children (Orphanage)

*To the world you may be one person, but to a child, you are the world.*

### Home for Children Mission Breakfast

*Submitted by Reed Olson - Mission Committee*

On February 9, 2018 the Mission Committee sponsored a breakfast for Casa Vida Nueva para Niños. 132 people attended which included 13 people from New Life Church of God in Tucson, AZ and eight people from Home for Children (six of which were children). Donations of toilet paper, paper towels, and cleaning supplies were given to the Home. The kitchen staff needs special recognition for their super support (see photo on left). After breakfast, Reed Olson



gave an overview showing the past four years of support from VPC and the Green Valley community, then Elias and Myrna Herrera, Directors of the Home, gave their overview with a video. A special "Happy Birthday" cake was given to Myrna. Thank you all for attending and showing your love and support for these children. Next event is the March 23 trip to the Home – which is already filled up.



For most Apple and Android products (including smart phones, tablets, and sometimes computers), there is a feature called "find my phone" or "find my device" that you should be sure to turn on. This feature allows you to go onto a website from any computer, log into your account, and locate your device if it is lost or stolen. I

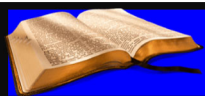
have personally used this feature when my daughter left her phone on a school bus. It pinpointed, with pretty impressive accuracy, right where her phone was, and we were able to retrieve it. It's To be honest, most criminals know enough to turn a stolen phone off so the feature can't work. However, even if the phone is off (such as if the battery died before you realized it was lost) you can often set it up to show you the last known location. Also, you may also be able to lock the phone or even completely wipe it, which you would want to do if it was stolen. Another common feature is that you can make your phone emit sound, so if it's somewhere nearby and on, but you still can't locate it, it will make noise even if it's on vibrate. Without getting too device-specific, I will give you some general areas to look to set this feature up.

You can find directions for various Apple devices at [support.apple.com/en-us/HT205362](https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT205362). For the iPhone and similar devices, though, you go into Settings, then your name, then iCloud. Scroll down until you see Find My iPhone, and slide to turn on Find My iPhone and Send Last Location.

For Android, it should be called Find My Device. There is a comprehensive article about setting this up at [www.androidcentral.com/dont-get-lost-set-find-my-device-soon-you-get-your-phone](http://www.androidcentral.com/dont-get-lost-set-find-my-device-soon-you-get-your-phone). It is often turned on by default, but in some cases it may not be installed at all. In those cases you can download the app from the Play Store.

When you need to use the service to locate your phone, you log into your iCloud account, making sure it's the same account that's set up on the device, or go to [android.com/find](http://android.com/find), again logging in with the same Google account used on your device. The links above provide more details and instructions.

Be sure to look at the links because sometimes additional settings need to be adjusted. For example, location has to be turned on for Androids. Those links should tell you everything you need to know to give you as much protection as possible against a lost or stolen device.



## Faith Formation

### Liturgy of the Ordinary: Sacred Practices in Everyday Life A Lenten Study

**Tuesdays, 1 p.m. in Classroom 5, beginning March 5**

Based on the book *Liturgy of the Ordinary* by Tish Harrison Warren, Pastor Diane will look at all the ordinary things we do each day – making the bed, brushing our teeth, checking email, sitting in traffic – and show us how to become aware of God's presence in our daily routines.

Books can be purchased ahead of time (\$13) at the Faith Formation Kiosk on February 24 and March 3, or in class.

From the book: "Take and read. Taste – not just the wine and bread, but the peanut butter and jelly, too – and see. The Lord is good. Every square inch of our lives, every second, is his."

Come and discover the holiness of your every day.

### Men's Weekday Bible Studies

**Tuesdays at 8:00 a.m. and Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m.**

***Two church-sponsored men's groups meet during the week,  
and they would be glad to have you join them!***

The first group meets on Tuesday mornings at 8:00 a.m. They are now reviewing Warren Wiersbe's "Be Loyal" on the Gospel of Matthew. A group of six men meet in the Media Room of the Silver Springs Retirement Community for fellowship and study and an all-around lively discussion. Anyone interested may join. Dave Tompkins is the leader (399-3500).

This group, with about six to thirteen men attending each week, meets every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. They meet at the church for one hour in classroom 1. The group is facilitated by Larry Phillips (777-8027), but focuses on group discussion. They use the NavPress Life Change Series study guide and are currently studying the gospel of Matthew. Join the group any time to participate in the discussion or just to listen. In either case, your presence will be welcomed. Lessons are self-contained so feel free to join the group when able.

### Forming Your Faith: An Adult Sunday School Class

**8:30 a.m. in Classroom 5**

Start your Sunday mornings with study and conversation. The class discusses the sermon scriptures being read during the worship service that day. Be enriched as you hear how God speaks to others through the scriptures, and then hear the thoughts of the preacher of the day. This class is open to all, so please join us.



## Faith Formation

### The Inquisitors Living the Questions

**Fridays from 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. in Classroom 1**

Last Spring, with “Living the Questions,” we started examining our faiths in an environment where participants could interact with each other and fine-tune our beliefs to make them more worth having and living. Join us on Fridays at 1:30 to continue discussing this topic. For further information contact: Grant Stitt (396-3549 or email [stitt@unr.edu](mailto:stitt@unr.edu)).

### Our Lenten Devotional: *On Calvary's Hill* by Max Lucado

Our Lenten devotional this year is by Max Lucado, bestselling Christian author and preacher. In his devotional, *On Calvary's Hill*, Lucado includes 40 readings for Lent that explore the final days in the life of Christ. He writes, “Draw near to the Savior and prepare to celebrate the greatest miracle ever conceived. Feel the passion. Sense the truth. Hear the promise. Death has no power.”

This devotional book is available for \$5 after worship at the Faith Formation Kiosk in the Fellowship Hall. We encourage you to B2GO – Buy Two, Give One.

You can also purchase this devotional for your e-reader.

Lent begins March 6.

## Wednesdays in Lent

**Beginning March 6**

Lent is the 40 days before Easter (not counting Sundays). This year it starts on Wednesday, March 6. It is a time of spiritual reflection, fasting, devotion, a time to walk with Christ to the cross.

This Lent, we are setting aside **Wednesdays at Noon and 5 p.m.** as a special time to do this.












#### **At Noon:**

- March 6 Ash Wednesday Worship Service (Spiritual Life Center)
- March 13 Piano/Organ Recital (Sanctuary)
- March 20 Class: Inside the Music Ministry of VPC by Joel Pierce (Spiritual Life Center)
- March 27 Piano/Organ Recital (Sanctuary)
- April 3 Class: Church Music in the Middle Ages by Joel Pierce (Spiritual Life Center)
- April 10 Piano/Organ Recital (Sanctuary)
- April 17 Class: The Messiah: The Passion by Eloise Fredrickson

#### **At 5 p.m.**

Taizé worship every Wednesday in the Spiritual Life Center

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
<div>31</div> <div>8:30 Adult Bible Study 9:15 Kids Room 9:30 Service of Worship 10:45 Confirmation Class</div> <div>Chris Fleischmann, Sherry Thompson</div> <div>March 2019</div>			
<div>3</div> <div>Communion Food Bank Collection 8:30 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Worship &amp; Communion at LaJoya 9:15 Kids Room 9:30 Service of Worship 10:45 Confirmation Class</div> <div>Lillian Deyerberg</div>	<div>4</div> <div>9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 9:00 Peace &amp; Justice Resource 9:00 Mission Quilting &amp; Pot Luck 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 10:00 AAUW Meeting 1:00 Emotionally Healthy Spirituality</div> <div>Punky Griggs, Stu Howerter, Marcia Koshollek</div>	<div>5</div> <div>8:00 Men's Bible Study (Silver Springs) 8:30 WM Coordinating Team 9:00 Patio Sale All Volunteer Meeting 9:30 Prayer Ministry 10:00 Women's Ministries Bible Study 11:00 NOC Meeting 1:00 Liturgy of the Ordinary 1:00 Pastor Nominating Committee 1:30 Buildings &amp; Grounds Committee 3:30 Joyful Spirit Ensemble</div> <div>Don Groendyk, Jim Mills</div>	<div>6</div> <div>8:00 Ministry Of Presence 9:00 Men's Bible Study 9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 12:00 Ash Wednesday 1:00 Worship Committee 5:00 Ash Wednesday Taizé</div> <div>Bill Streng</div>
<div>10</div> <div>Just Coffee 8:30 Adult Bible Study 9:15 Kids Room 9:30 Service of Worship 10:45 Confirmation Class 12:00 Patio Sale Set Up</div> <div>Nancy Fiorito, Dale Pryor</div>	<div>11</div> <div>8:00 Patio Sale Set Up</div> <div>George Boysen, Marilyn Kidd</div>	<div>12</div> <div>8:00 Men's Bible Study (Silver Springs) 8:00 Patio Sale Set Up 9:30 Prayer Ministry 1:00 Liturgy of the Ordinary 3:30 Joyful Spirit Ensemble</div> <div>Sue Wilson</div>	<div>13</div> <div>8:00 Patio Sale Set Up 8:15 Crossroads Mission 10:30 Lois Circle 12:00 Piano/Organ Recital 1:00 Miriam Circle 5:00 Lenten Taizé</div> <div>Cheryl Cooper, Sandy Vold</div>
<div>17</div> <div>8:30 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Worship at La Joya 9:15 Kids Room 9:30 Service of Worship 10:45 Confirmation Class</div> <div>Steve Kepler</div>	<div>18</div> <div>9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 10:00 Fellowship Committee 1:00 Emotionally Healthy Spirituality 4:00 Ruth Circle 7:00 GV Community Chorus Concert</div> <div>Larry Briggs, Mary Lee Haas, John Hofman</div>	<div>19</div> <div>8:00 Men's Bible Study (Silver Springs) 9:30 Prayer Ministry 11:30 Women's Gathering 1:00 Liturgy of the Ordinary 1:00 Pastor Nominating Committee 1:30 Finance Committee 2:30 GV Community Chorus Concert 3:30 Joyful Spirit Ensemble</div> <div>Dot Hofman, Joann Meigs, Lillian Reber, Joan Richards, Dianne Steinacker</div>	<div>20</div> <div>8:15 Crossroads Mission 9:00 Men's Bible Study 9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 9:00 Finance Committee 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 12:00 Inside VPC's Music 5:00 Lenten Taizé</div>
<div>24</div> <div>Just Coffee Stephen Ministry Commissioning 8:30 Adult Bible Study 9:15 Kids Room 9:30 Service of Worship 10:45 Confirmation Class 10:45 Blood Pressure Screening 5:00 Kettle Dinner</div>	<div>25</div> <div>9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 9:00 Mission Quilting 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 1:00 Emotionally Healthy Spirituality 2:00 Valley Readers</div> <div>Margaret Hammel, Bonny Rudy, Fred Steinbach</div>	<div>26</div> <div>8:00 Men's Bible Study (Silver Springs) 9:00 Creative Hand 9:00 Prayer Shawls 9:30 Prayer Ministry 10:00 Patio Sale Department Head Mtg 10:00 Publicity Committee 1:00 Liturgy of the Ordinary 1:00 Pastor Nominating Committee 3:30 Joyful Spirit Ensemble 5:30 Patio Sale Appreciation Potluck</div> <div>Ken Frahm</div>	<div>27</div> <div>9:00 Men's Bible Study 9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 12:00 Piano/Organ Recital 2:00 Card Making for YOTO 5:00 Lenten Taizé</div> <div>Anne Moore</div>
<div>31</div> <div>***See top of page</div>			

Thu		Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 9:00 Stephen Minister New Training Class 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 1:00 Memorial & Reception: Ann Bryant 1:30 Inquisitors Class: Living The Questions  Pam Coggins, Linda Kucera, Pat Sellars	<b>2</b> 7:30 Communion Prep 10:00 Book Exchange   Nicole Raymond
Service	<b>7</b> 8:00 Patio Sale Sort 9:00 Congregational Care Leaders 1:00 Alzheimer's Caregivers 2:15 Valley Ringers Rehearsal 3:45 Choir Rehearsal	<b>8</b> CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 9:00 Stephen Ministry Continuing Ed 9:00 Stephen Minister New Training Class 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 10:00 Stephen Ministry Peer Group 11:00 Stephen Minister Leaders Meeting 1:30 Inquisitors Class: Living The Questions 6:00 Music In The Valley: The Tucson Arizona Boys Chorus	<b>9</b>
Lunch Prep	<b>14</b> 8:00 Patio Sale 2:15 Valley Ringers Rehearsal 3:45 Choir Rehearsal   Arlis Lundell	<b>15</b> CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 8:00 Patio Sale   Sue Neuman, Marla Warfield, John Wood	<b>16</b> 8:00 Patio Sale   Shirley Pascal
Lunch Prep  Ministry with Joel Pierce	<b>21</b> 1:00 Alzheimer's Caregivers 1:00 GV Genealogical Society 2:15 Valley Ringers Rehearsal 3:45 Choir Rehearsal   Richard Bushong, Dick Davison, Jean Stewart, Robert M. Williams	<b>22</b> CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 9:00 Stephen Ministers Graduation/Communion/Retreat 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 1:30 Inquisitors Class: Living The Questions   Suzanne Bowers, Sheila Frahm, Don Moses, Katie Sayre	<b>23</b> 8:00 Women of Presbytery De Cristo 3:30 Bag Pipes   Caryl Thomas
	<b>28</b> 8:00 Session Meeting 2:15 Valley Ringers Rehearsal 3:45 Choir Rehearsal   Karen Brooks, Katy Danhof, Fred Landenberger, Carrie Malovich	<b>29</b> CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 1:30 Inquisitors Class: Living The Questions 7:00 True Concord Voices & Orchestra   Lance Barker, Ed Farver, Kevin Hawkins	<b>30</b> 8:30 Mission Fellowship Breakfast   Karen Bahnick, Jack Claton, Lynne Szabo

## Patio Sale News - Important Dates

*Submitted by Eloise Fredrickson*

What fantastic crews we have had for the last couple of sorts! We have had record-setting donations lately, so the need for help was great, and we got it! At the last sort, the volunteers worked through a massive amount of donated items in good time, and then stayed to clean up the entire hall so that it looked just like it did before the sort even started. Thank you so much to our wonderful volunteers!

Now begins the excitement for the big sale! Here are all the important dates:

- **Department Heads Meeting - Tuesday, February 26 at 9:00 a.m. in Classroom 5.** All department heads should attend.
- **All-Volunteer Meeting - Tuesday, March 5, at 9:00 a.m. in the sanctuary.** Please make every effort to attend.
- **Last sort - Thursday, March 7, starting at 8:00 a.m.** If you are still planning to donate items, please have them to the church by that time.
- **Patio Sale Set-up begins on Sunday, March 10 at noon** with the set-up of the tent in the back parking lot and clearing out all the rooms. Truckers will be bringing boxes and set-up gear as well, so volunteer help is needed. Come in your working clothes.
- **Set-up continues Monday through Wednesday** as departments set up their areas. The Valley Galley will have egg burritos and egg and sausage burritos for sale for breakfast. They will also be serving a free lunch on Monday and Tuesday for all workers, but the kitchen will be closed on Wednesday.
- **Pre-sale shopping for volunteers - Wednesday, March 13, starting at 2:00 p.m.**

# GIGANTIC PATIO SALE

**Thursday, March 14** from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00p.m.

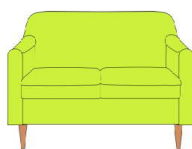
(\$5.00 Admission Thursday only)

**Friday, March 15** from 8:00 to 3:00p.m.

**Saturday, March 16** from 8:00a.m. to noon

(Bargain Day)

**17,000 sq. ft.** Of "Gently Used" Items



Furniture, Paintings, Housewares  
Appliances, Dishes, Glassware,  
Clothing, Tools, Electronics, Books,  
Linens, Jewelry, Games,  
Collectibles and so much more.



**Cash or US checks only.** Local delivery for small fee



2800 S. Camino del Sol, Green Valley, Az. 85622

Valley Galley Food Truck will be serving breakfast and lunch  
All net proceeds go to support VPC'S area missions

Website : [www.valleypresbyterian.net](http://www.valleypresbyterian.net) Phone 520-625-5023

Elsewhere in this issue you can find the dates of the sale.

We still can use more cashiers, truckers, and other volunteers. Please sign up at our table in Fellowship Hall after worship services.

Come one and come all for our fabulous sale! Find great buys and good fellowship!



## Join Us for Inspirational Card Making!!

Wednesday, March 27 at 2 p.m. in Classroom 5

*Submitted by Mary Horn - Mission Committee Liaison to Youth on Their Own*



Come join in the creative fun as we make cards to be included with stipend checks which are given to Youth on Their Own Students each month. We will meet for an hour- to- an hour and a half on the fourth Wednesday of the month, March 27 at 2 PM in Classroom 5.

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



## Patio Sale Setup Help Needed

On Friday, March 8 at 8:30 a.m.

We need to move the setup material from storage to the church. If you can help with this move, please be at the church back parking lot at 8:30 am. With enough help we should accomplish this move in a couple of hours.

## More Blog Readers Wanted (13 and Counting)

*Submitted by Doug Clark*

A blog reader is anyone with access to a computer who can type in “[bobandkristi.blogspot.com](http://bobandkristi.blogspot.com).” Have you ever wanted to read a missionary’s diary? Consider reading the real-life story of Bob and Kristi Rice, who share, on a weekly basis, the story of God working in their lives.

### **Knowing God as a Loving Parent**

I looked over and realized that the participants were listening intently, leaning forward and thoughtful as Omot taught about what might block us from experiencing God’s love as a ‘heavenly father/mother’. I couldn’t understand what was being said in the Anywaa language, but I could see that people were being touched. Later, I learned that Omot, who grew up in the town of Pochalla where we were currently sitting, was sharing his own story. As is typical in the Anywaa culture, his father did not show affection to his children. He gave orders rather than listening, and he expected results. It was not until Omot attended a training in Rwanda called Healing Hearts, Transforming Nations (HHTN) that he realized how this lack of love from his father had affected him, and he was able to experience God’s unconditional love in a deeper way.

Now, we were in Pochalla, seated in a shady clearing and conducting the same workshop we had experienced in Rwanda last year. After Omot shared his testimony, he asked participants whether there were things they lacked from their earthly parents. God, the only one who can love us perfectly and unconditionally, wants to make up for those things that we lacked and heal those wounds. After a time of silent reflection and prayer, Omot invited people who felt they had lacked something or been wounded by their father or mother to come forward and receive a hug from a man or woman standing at the front, to represent God’s embrace and offer healing and acknowledgement of those wounds from the past. This is not easy – facing pain of the past and seeking to forgive and heal. But many did, and would return to their seats to cry, to pray, to sing with the music in the background. It was truly sacred space, where people had opened themselves up to God and to each other.



*Participants write down things that they lacked from their parents.*

The following morning, we asked participants what they had experienced during that time. Mary was the first to offer her story. When she was two years old, her mother died in childbirth. Her father demanded the return of the dowry from his wife’s family, because he thought that Mary and the new baby would not survive without their mother. Mary was raised by her mother’s family, but always felt resented. When her younger brother grew up, their father agreed to help with his dowry, but communicated such a negative message to his son at his wedding that Mary’s brother later committed suicide. Mary felt alone and rejected, and wanted to curse her father’s family. She was a Christian, and had her own children, but still felt weighed down by the burden of rejection. During the

session on the father’s heart, she recognized the source of this rejection, and finally felt able to forgive and be released from the burden.

During the teaching, Omot emphasized the responsibility of parents to show love and affection to their children. He encouraged participants, most of whom were parents, to go home and tell their children that they loved them. The testimonies of how this went were both humorous and moving! One woman called

her son to come from where he was playing, but he was afraid to come, because he was afraid his mother wanted to beat him. Another woman shared that she had a daughter who was often stubborn, but she was able to affirm her daughter for her good qualities and say that she loved her. We hope that this 'counter-cultural' way of verbally communicating love to children will continue and spread in Pochalla, helping children to know they are valued and loved.

That was just the first day of this workshop focused on healing, forgiveness, and reconciliation. We continued to see God work over our three days together, and praise God for the ways He is bringing healing to people around Pochalla. Thank you to many of you who prayed for this workshop – truly, we were dependent on God and know that He heard your prayers. We will share more in our newsletter, but wanted to give you a brief taste of the impact of this significant workshop.

We are receiving many requests for these workshops that help people to experience healing from trauma, forgiveness, and a path to reconciliation that is based on Christ's work on the cross. Transport in South Sudan out to remote regions is expensive, but we know that there is great need in those places. If you would like to support this ministry, you can do so at the following link. Designate your gift for "reconciliation workshops. Link to give through Presbyterian World Mission: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/donate/e052148>.

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 our missionaries, and let me know if you have joined the blog brigade by telling me in person, or emailing [douglasclark68@me.com](mailto:douglasclark68@me.com).

## Session Notes from January

*Submitted by Charlie Ashton, Clerk of Session*

- The Annual Meeting of the Congregation is set for February 24 after worship.
- Our church will host the next meeting of Presbytery de Cristo on April 6.
- Approved a new office copier, five year contract, no cost increase.
- The transitional Pastor's salary and professional related expenditures reduced by \$6,000.00.
- Approved the addition of Carmen Nylund and Annie Stitt to the Personnel Committee.
- Approved and affirmed the entire Journey Ahead Group Report and placement in Session Minutes and records.



### SPECIAL BIRTHDAY MILESTONES!

Special birthday greetings to Arliss Lundell (14th) and John Hofman (18th) as they celebrate their **90<sup>th</sup> birthdays** this month.



# LENT AND EASTER BOOKS FOR STUDY AND REFLECTION VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH LIBRARY

(These books can be found in the bookracks on the round library tables)

***And the angels were silent.*** Max Lucado. (232.96 L96)

***Calmly plotting the resurrection: Lenten reflections for individuals and groups.*** Donna E. Schaper. (242 Sch1)

***Faces at the cross: a Lent and Easter collection of poetry and prose.*** J. Barrie Shepherd. (808.81 S7)

***First Easter: the true and unfamiliar story.*** Paul L. Maier (232 Ma28)

***The First Easter.*** Peter Marshall (252 M35)

***From Advent's alleluia to Easter's morning light.*** Ann Weems. (811 W41)

***Genesis of grace: a Lenten book of days.*** John Indermark. (222 In2)

***Jesus, the final days.*** Craig A. Evans & N.T. Wright. (232.96 Ev1)

***Kneeling in Jerusalem.*** Ann Weems. (242 W415)

***The last week: what the Gospels really teach about Jesus's final days in Jerusalem.*** Marcus J. Borg & John Dominic Crossan. (232.96 B64)

***Lent for everyone, Mark, year B.*** N.T. Wright. (242 W93)

***Listening at Golgotha.*** Peter Storey. (238.96 St7)

***Living with the seven words: daily devotions for Lent.*** John Alexander McElroy. (242 Mc15)

***Parables and passion: Jesus' stories for the days of Lent.*** John Indermark. (242 In2)

***Reliving the passion: meditations on the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus as recorded in Mark.*** Walter Wangerin Jr. (232.96 W18)

***The rising: living the mysteries of Lent, Easter, & Pentecost.*** Wendy M. Wright. (242 W92)

***Sensing the passion: reflections during Lent.*** Kevin Scully. (242 Scu4)

***Seven lasting words: Jesus speaks from the cross.*** Christopher R. Seitz. (231.96 Se4)

***Six hours one Friday: anchoring to the power of the cross.*** Max Lucado. (232.96 L96s)

***The six miracles of Calvary: unveiling the story of the resurrection.*** William R. Nicholson. (232.4 Ni52)

***Twice seven words: a meditation on the words of Jesus Christ before his death and after his resurrection.*** Agnes Sanford. (242 Sa5)

***A violent grace: meeting Christ at the cross.*** Michael Card. (232.96 C17)

***The way of the cross and resurrection: meditations for the Lenten season.*** John M. Drescher, ed. (242 Dr81)

***A way other than our own.*** Walter Brueggemann. (242 BRU)

***We have seen the Lord: the passion and resurrection of Jesus Christ.*** William Barclay. (223.9 B24)

***Were you there?: finding ourselves at the foot of the cross.*** Erik Kolbell. (242 K79)

## One Great Hour of Sharing

*Submitted by Ben Coppock*

During the Lenten season, we Presbyterians nation-wide join together to fulfill the needs of others during times of disaster. You may ask, "Where does our money go?" A gift to One Great Hour of Sharing enables the church to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, providing food for the hungry, and helping to empower the poor and oppressed. Please contribute by using the special envelope in the pew boxes, or use the regular pew envelope with a memo of OGH on your check made out to Valley Presbyterian Church.

## A Note from Dave and Pam L.

*Submitted by Ben Coppock*

*Dear Friends of Green Valley PC,*

*We want to thank you for the warm welcome we received again by everyone at GVPC! Thank you for the special opportunity and time together at the Mission breakfast, speaking at the Sunday service and then at the special open house at Doug and Judy Clark's home! Thanks to all who volunteered and helped to make this possible.*

*We want to take this opportunity to say thank you again for being mission partners with us for these last 4-5 years! Your prayer and financial support has enabled us to keep going forward in our ministry to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the most unreached peoples in the Muslim world.*

*We request you to continue to join us in living out Acts 1:8 as a lifestyle, and so do covet your continued prayers as we travel and minister extensively in countries like Iran, Pakistan and Bangladesh.*

*Yours in the Battle,*

*Dave and Pam*



Mission Sunday and Mission Breakfast have passed, but the impact of Pam and Dave L. are not forgotten. Their lifestyle of responding like a traffic light where you "go for Christ" unless He gives you a red light to stop applies to each of us. Their "go" stories and their testimonies were inspiring and challenging. To hear that almost half of the world is unreached for Christ opened our eyes to the challenge of evangelism abroad and under our own two feet.

Prayer requests:

- For protection and open doors for us and our teams in these three countries - Iran, Pakistan and Bangladesh.
- For more people to join us in helping to reach those who have never heard the Gospel among these unreached Muslim peoples.
- For wisdom for the right decisions and plans for the future of this ministry.
- For blessing and direction for their daughter Rachel and her family and for their son Justin.





## Congregational Care

### Congregational Care at Work

*By Parish Nurse, Chris Erickson, RN, BA, CFCN*

Many have asked, "What does Congregational Care do?" Congregational Care is a multi-faceted caring ministry. Here is just an example of how Congregational Care can help:

Mr. and Mrs. Doe have been very involved with Valley Presbyterian Church for 20 years, but now things have changed. John is quickly declining in health. Jane has stopped attending certain committees and does not drive. They used to be active and now are feeling lonely, and overwhelmed with life's changes and bills. A neighbor calls the church regarding John and Jane. She has become the caregiver to John and now has health changes. John will be going into an adult care home.

Congregational Care can help and care for this family of Valley Presbyterian in a number of ways: the Parish Nurse can visit, assess, and provide advocacy for them for changing health, life and all that might be affecting them, Network of Caring - caring for those in their neighborhoods/areas - can call and visit, Facility Visitation can visit John in the adult care home, Communication of Care to the Congregants can send cards and flowers to John and Jane, Stephen Ministry can visit with them if needed, Rideshare can bring Jane to church to increase her support for other activities, Extended Communion can bring Jane and John communion where they reside, Prayer Ministry can pray for both John and Jane, and a Prayer Shawl, which is prayed upon, can be delivered to them.

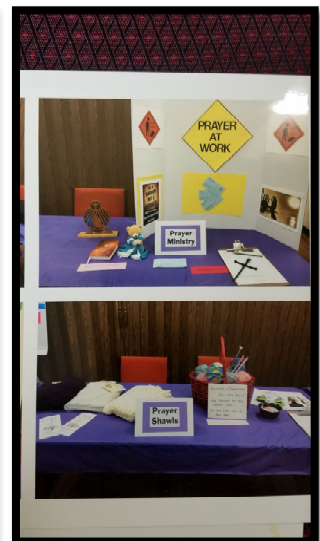
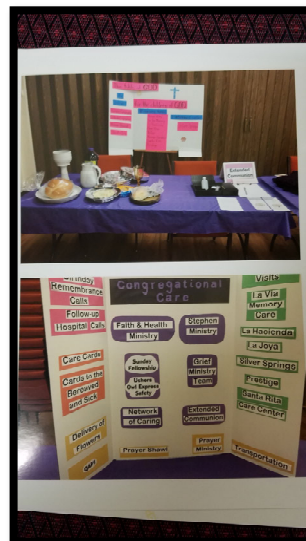
If you envision a large tree with branches and many hands on each branch that embrace everyone in its path, that is Congregational Care. Many branches, many parts, but all one body, one ministry working together to care for those in our congregation. If you know of anyone in the congregation that might need some extra care, please notify the church office (520-625-5023).

### Medical Minute

Live.Life.Healthy

Being optimistic can lead to a longer healthier life, lower blood pressure, healthy behaviors and a healthy heart.

### Congregational Care Sunday





## Congregational Care

### Stephen Ministers Made a Difference



*Submitted by Helen Phillips*

*Although my needs changed as I went from wife to caregiver to widow, my Stephen Minister's love and support remained a constant. She was **there at every stage of my journey**, helping me through some of the most difficult moments of my life—so I could begin to heal. ~Susan*

*When things seemed like too much to handle, **my Stephen Minister brought normalcy and calm**. With him by my side, I knew I could make it from one week to the next. I could feel God's presence when my Stephen Minister was there. ~James*

*When someone you love is terminally ill, people often pull back because they're scared and don't know what to say. But **my Stephen Minister stood with me through it all**—listening, talking, and helping me on the journey. It was so reassuring to know he was by my side.*

Andrew

Would you like a Stephen Minister? Call the church office at (520) 625-5023, or Peggi Briggs at (520) 965-9203, to share the blessings.

## Faith & Health and Parish Nurse News

Watch for many upcoming events, programs, and presentations on health starting this winter.



**Blood Pressure Screenings:** You may have your blood pressure taken during the week by appointment with the Parish Nurse. The next **Sunday blood pressure screening clinic** will be on **March 24**. Join us that Sunday, right after Worship services, in the Sweet Family Room for a blood pressure screening.

### **Movement & Exercise Classes Here at VPC:**



- **Parkinson's Support/Exercise** meets Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 9 - 10 a.m. For more information, contact instructor Mia Cooper at 204-5264.
- **Chair Exercise** classes are on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 10 - 11 a.m. There is a fee. For more information, contact instructor Mia Cooper at 204-5264.

**Alzheimer's Support & Education at VPC:** The Alzheimer's support group continues to meet on the first and third Thursdays of each month, from 1:00-2:30 p.m. in the Sweet Family Room. This support group helps to share feelings and concerns, and receive information. For more information, or to register, contact the Alzheimer's Association at (520) 322-6601.



The **Faith and Health Committee** will be training on the Virtual Dementia Tour® in the new year, and will be able to present this in the near future.



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



## Valley Presbyterian Church

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

vpc-office@valleypres.net

www.valleypresbyterian.net

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

### Pastors

Rev. Mark A. Medina,  
Transitional Pastor  
Rev. Diane Christopher,  
Pastor of Discipleship  
Rev. Joe Hawkins,  
Pastor Emeritus

### Staff

Joel Pierce,  
Director of Music  
Chris Erickson,  
Parish Nurse

### Mission Statement

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

## Sunday Worship

### Traditional Service of Worship

9:30 a.m. in the VPC Sanctuary

Communion served on first Sunday of each month

March 3	Say What?	Rev. Diane Christopher
March 10	Where the Road Will Take Us	Rev. Mark A. Medina
March 17	The Weeping Jesus	Rev. Diane Christopher
March 24	Turn Around! You're Going the Wrong Way!	Rev. Yung Me Morris
March 31	The Incredible Power of Waiting	Rev. Dr. Mark Horton

### La Joya at La Posada

9:00 a.m. at La Joya

Communion served on the first Sunday of each month

March 3	Rev. Don Jansma and Marti Long
March 17	Marti Long
March 31	Rudy Sweisfurth

### Taizé

**Every Wednesday in March, 5:00 p.m. in the Spiritual Life Center**

\* Note March 6 is Ash Wednesday.



### Promoted to Glory



January 23	Jerdiena Mapes (106 yrs. Old!)
February 1	Janice Cobb
February 3	Harold Jenkins
February 5	Jim Eckels

## Patio Style Show (see more photos on Facebook)

