

Valley Voice

Thoughts for the Journey

Dear Friends,

We are the Easter people living with the Risen Lord. "Do you believe in Easter?" Every day we are asked to proclaim the glorious day when Jesus broke the bonds of death and is resurrected for all who believe. We now experience the peace and reassurance of Jesus as he ascends to God's Heavenly Kingdom.

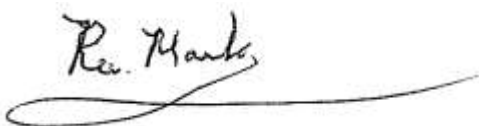
With the following prayer, we confess the risen Lord:

Our hearts are glad, our tongues rejoice, and we live now in hope - for you have made known to us the way of life in the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. With Thomas we confess that Christ Jesus is our Lord and our God! He breathes on us with the gift of the Spirit and the power of forgiveness. By the gift of faith we have eternal life in his name. Give us a share of that imperishable, unfading inheritance - new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead - and, believing in him, may we rejoice with indescribable and glorious joy. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

The Sunrise Easter Service at 6:00 a.m. and the Easter Service at 9:30 a.m. were truly wonderful services as we joined together in celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. What a glorious day!

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

Yours in Christ,



Rev. Mark A. Medina, Transitional Pastor

Looking ahead to the journey with more transitions:

- Prayers and good wishes go with **Joel Pierce** who has concluded his ministry here at Valley and moves to Maine. Thank you, Joel.
- Our prayers and good wishes go with **Wendy Kopera** as she too makes the move to Maine with Joel. Godspeed to you both.
- **Gay Larson** is retiring on June 3, 2019. We wish her lots of thanks as she begins a new path.

Report from the Pastor Nominating Committee

Submitted by Tommy Calhoun

The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) is hard at work seeking the Pastor Head of Staff that the Lord has already chosen for Valley Presbyterian Church. Our Ministry Information Form, which tells potential candidates about our church and what we are looking for in a Pastor, is on the Church Leadership Connection, which is a list of all the job openings for all the PCUSA churches. It is also on our Presbytery de Cristo website, our own church website, and advertisements are in the Presbyterian Outlook and Presbyterian Today magazines. We have already received around 25 Pastor Information Forms (job applications) and we are expecting to receive a total of around 90 applications. Stay tuned.

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Passing the Peace

During Lent, I was teaching a class called "Liturgy of the Ordinary" based on the book by the same name. The class took the ordinary things we do every day (such as waking up, getting out of bed, and brushing our teeth) and made them sacred by helping us discover the holiness of our every day.

On this one particular day, our topic was "Fighting with My Husband." It didn't sound like a great chapter until we found out it was about peace. The author of the book, Tish Harrison Warren, says, "I am increasingly aware that I cannot seek God's peace and mission in the world without beginning right where I am, in my home, in my neighborhood, in my church, with the real people right around me."

Peace begins at home. Even Jesus said so. In Matthew 5, Jesus said if you approach the altar of God (or a communion service) and realize that you have something against another, go and make peace with that person first.

Which brings us to the "Passing of the Peace" in our worship service. Yes, we get to meet and greet someone we don't know. But the main purpose of the passing of the peace is to turn to that person next to you and say, "The peace of Christ be with you."

By extending the peace of Christ to one another, we are acting out how we are called to live - to practice peace in our everyday lives, to bring the peace of our Peacemaker to all that we know, even in the small moments of our day.

"In the end, this practice each Sunday - the passing of the peace - is a prayer. We are asking that God would do something we cannot, so that we can extend peace, not of our own making, but of Christ's, our Reconciler."

So next time you extend the peace to someone in our worship service, look them in the eye and extend the peace of Christ that surpasses all understanding. Because "let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me" begins in that moment in church.

Peace,



Rev. Diane Christopher, Pastor of Discipleship

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



So technically, Moses is the first person to download files from the cloud using a tablet.

Notes from the April 8 Grapevine

Submitted by Charlie Ashton, Clerk of Session

FINANCE - Revenue shortfall for the 2019 budget is 11%. Giving is very seasonal: Holidays (and Fall and Winter) bring in more contributions, summers less, while winter folks are gone and others are on vacation. Treasurer estimated each family member unit has given \$1,200.00.

Weekly reports are placed in the bulletin to let the congregation know how the church is doing with respect to revenue, and to encourage folks to step up. Online donations are not counted; they are in the bank.

What about Foundation money? The interest earned each year is available for Session to use for capital repairs on the church, such as roof repairs, air conditioners, etc. It is not included in the operational budget.

FLOWERS - What is the situation regarding flowers? The item was taken out of the budget as part of budget cuts. The alternative is for personal donations to cover the cost (an estimated \$45.00 plus tax for each Sunday). In the recent past, the church has spent an estimated \$2,000 per year on these flowers. Information is available near the Women's table. An alternative is to create a calendar signup sheet divided into months with week line shown below. Otherwise, the church will not have flowers to give to the homebound and sick congregants.

STAFF - Are replacements being undertaken for employees leaving? The search, and subsequent interviews, for a part-time choir director, a part time accompanist, and a part-time custodian are underway.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - Bible school will be held this summer. Estimated cost is \$2,000. Funds do not come from the budget. Funds come from designated gifts.

MEMBERSHIP - Concern was expressed about people leaving the church. A membership committee is to be created. Two persons volunteered. One suggested remedy from the past is to hold a Saturday service, which has been tried and did not succeed.

OTHER COMMENTS - People are not accepting our situation. Question: Are we willing to step up and fill vacancies? More volunteers are needed.

We need to make a chart for donations (giving), and place it where all can see it.

We need to stop referring to our winter congregants as "visitors" as it is not inclusive and welcoming.

We have a responsibility to treat people with kindness and care, reaching out to all people and to welcome their presence here.

Session Notes from February

Submitted by Charlie Ashton, Clerk of Session

- Celebration of Communion by Intinction from June through September.
- Discontinue Youth Chat as a regular part of Sunday Worship, adding it back as appropriate.
- Grapevine to be held every other month.
- Accepted the resignation of Ruling Elder Richard Horn from the Session.
- Pledges have increased to bring in an estimated \$500,455.00, which would result in a deficit of \$46,057. It will probably be lower due to personnel changes. If each member gave an additional \$143.00, the budget would be balanced.

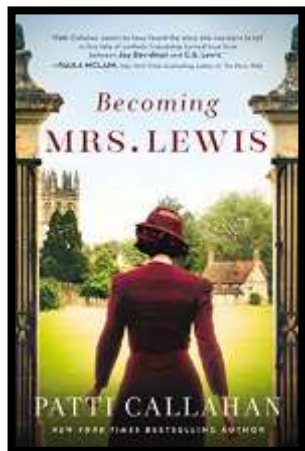
Valley Readers

Monday, May 20

****Moved to**

Monday, June 24**

2:00 p.m. in Classroom 1



An American woman of Jewish descent and an English academic and Christian writer seemed on the surface to have little in common. Joy Davidman first met C. S. Lewis through letters when she wrote seeking spiritual guidance, but on a trip to England they met in person and became friends. Joy was soon in love but Lewis was content with a platonic friendship until the shadow of tragedy fell over Joy and he realized how much he cared for her. This biographical novel of Joy Davidman's life has been described as persuasive, penetrating and luminous. Join us for a discussion of this work led by Rev. Diane Christopher. Contact Anne Morrison for additional information at 520-399-0762. **Please note that in May Valley Readers will not meet. That meeting has been moved to June 24.**

Women's Ministries

Salad Potluck - Tuesday May 21 at 11:30 a.m.

Submitted by Carol Peeler, Moderator

We are coming to the end of the Bible Study for this year. All of the circles did the last two lessons this April. I think all agree that this was a wonderful study. "God is Always With You." We will be looking forward to the next study that will begin in September. It is a study on the Ten Commandments.

We have used the recipes from our cookbook for the luncheons and they have all been wonderful. If you haven't got yours yet we still have some available. They are at the Women's table on Sunday mornings. They are \$15.00 each or two for \$25.00 and they make a wonderful gift. Make sure you get yours, too.

Our Gathering on April 16 was Scams and Fraud given by the Sheriffs' Auxiliary. It was a wonderful presentation and enjoyed by everyone.

We introduced the slate of officers for the coming year. Janice Potter, Moderator. Anne Morrison, Vice-Moderator. Liz Haynes, Secretary. Gee-Gee Smith, Treasurer. Gee-Gee Smith and Carol Peeler, Search Committee.

May 21, 2019 will be the last meeting until September and it is a salad potluck. The hostesses are the Coordinating Team. Get your recipes ready! It is also staff appreciation, so think about how much our staff does for us. All donations will go to them.

I have enjoyed two years as vice-moderator and one year as moderator of the Women's Ministry and thank all the officers who have helped me along the way to learn what to do and how to do it. The trip to Louisville K.Y. for the church-wide gathering was a wonderful experience. Thanks to all who support the Women's Ministry for all you do.

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.

A Note from Dave and Pam L.

Submitted by Doug Clark

Dear Friends of Valley Presbyterian,

Please be inspired by this story of work in the Rohingya Refugee camps which talks about a given name for Rohingya refugees new born child "Abraham" by a Christian.

I appreciate prayer also as I am teaching and training our Pakistan staff here in Lahore. For the next 2-3 days, we will do training for about 40 plus leaders from non-profits and churches across Lahore including our boarding leaders.

Blessings,
Dave and Pam

"Hi Josue bhai,

Thank you for sharing bible verses from Colossians 3:23-24 and Proverbs 10:24. It was encouraging me,

Here are some ministry update from Teknaf area. I have visited some Rohingya families last week. It was really blessings for me. I was visiting Domdomia Rohingya camp 1 week before and 1 Rohingya brother came to meet, me in the camp his name is Rosidul Islam (i know him well in Domdomia camp). After we greetings each other he invite me to go his home, i asked him any special reason to invite me, he smile and said "yes i have a new baby boy borned and we wanna give him a name. I Congressed him and said yes i wanna come, and he said "bhai i want you, you will give a name to my son that's why i came to invite you". I was quite surprised to hear that because he knew i am Christian (he knew that because he asked me during our building making in Domdomiacamp, he worked their as a carpenter-labour) and he want me to give his children name. I asked him question again are you sure you want me to Select the name for your son? He said he yes i want you for that. Then i said i am glad brother i feel honor, i will come to your house, and we fixed a date that was last week, and i said i will pray for your boy and i will ask God to help me select a good name for your son. After i come back i was prayed to God for a name then God showed me the name Prophet Abraham and to read Genesis and special chaptat 12: 2. Last week i went to Roshiduls home and saw the child and gave the name "Abraham" in front of their family and relatives and prayed for Abraham and their family. Everyone were happy to have this name and i was with them too!

I know Roshidul 7 months he is good people, when i go to camp he meet me. I didn't expect that kind of honour from a Rohingya refugee family, select name for child parents and grandparents usasuly do it in family, For the first time it was happen different there. Everyone came to see me when i went their house. I felt bless there with them.

Please give thanks for Roshiduls family i shared Prophet Abrahams stories with them. And i hold little Abraham and prayed for his future life, and also for others there.

Blessings
Ferdou."





News of Note

By Joel Pierce



Dear Valley Presbyterian,

What a joy it has been to serve in this faith community over the past seven years, first as a pianist, then through the bells, organ, and choir. Along the way I've met so many wonderful people and forged meaningful, lasting friendships. Music will always be a part of my life, and I hope it will remain a part of yours as well. I wish nothing but the best for this congregation going forward, and I do hope to hear from you when time allows (piercepiano@gmail.com).

Valley Presbyterian Church is truly a caring and compassionate congregation. I am so grateful for the love shown to me through your cards, gifts, and kind words of encouragement, especially over these last two months. I will be relocating to Topsham, Maine, and will be working as Director of Music and Organist at St. Alban's Episcopal Church in Cape Elizabeth. I will also teach music lessons to children in the area, and work as a pianist and organist in local musical ensembles. I plan to hone my skills through certifications from the American Guild of Organists, and begin work on a doctorate at some point.

One of my favorite texts is the Irish Blessing. It has been set by many composers, and the words are beautiful.

*May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back,
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
May the rain fall soft upon your fields, and, until we meet again
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.*

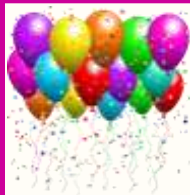
Blessings,
Joel

Music Ministry Notes

Submitted by Linda Freeman, Worship Committee

During the month of May you will notice new faces leading our music ministry on Sunday mornings. These will be people who are on our "substitutes" list and you may recognize them from having led worship in the past. The Music Search Team has received a number of applications for our Interim positions of Director of Music and Accompanist and is carefully reviewing, interviewing and considering all who have applied. We ask for your continued prayer support as we search for best leaders available to continue our wonderful Music Ministry.

For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Jeremiah 29:11



SPECIAL BIRTHDAY MILESTONES!

Special birthday greetings to Martha Jump (5/1) and Parkie Copeland (5/30) as they celebrate their **90th birthdays** this month.





Although I am moving to Maine with Joel, as of now I will continue to work for VPC remotely doing the Valley Voice, NOC directory updates, our website and sound recordings, and a few other things until further notice. If/when something is going to change we will let you know. I am going to miss seeing you all on Sunday mornings and throughout the week! Thanks so much for the warmth and kindness you have all shown me over the years. This is a very special congregation unlike any I've ever known, and I'm very sad to be moving away.

In the past I have talked about using an application called LastPass to store passwords in a secure way. The application has made some updates recently and I think it's better than ever.

LastPass has always been a program that securely stores login information so you don't have to remember, or write down (which is very insecure and easy to lose), all of your usernames and passwords, not to mention the website addresses you have to go to in order to use those logins. Now, LastPass offers even more. It's a place to store a variety of information, including sensitive information, that you may frequently type into form fields on websites, or that you simply may need to refer to now and then. Examples would include billing and shipping addresses, drivers license or social security numbers for you, your spouse, or your kids, bank account numbers, credit card numbers, and more. You are able to look this information up using a website or an app on your phone, and you can have LastPass fill in form fields online using that information if you choose. All of the information is easily searched by typing in a few letters. I cannot tell you the number of times I've tried to log into something and couldn't remember the password (because, as you know, they normally fill it in for you - until they don't!). Thankfully, I now pull out my phone (or open a web browser) and go to LastPass to get that information no matter where I am.

A feature that I haven't used often, but will since the latest update, is the browser extension. If you allow LastPass to install an extension into your website browser (which I recommend) they will place a small icon in the right edge of the top bar. You can click on the icon to see a drop-down list of options to fill in fields, or to save information. This will be very convenient when I'm trying to ship a gift and want to select an address other than my own for the shipping field, or when I want to log into a site where I have multiple accounts. Same for selecting which credit card I want to use.

One of the very useful features of LastPass is that it will create super-strong, unique passwords for you - and then store them - so you don't have to use the same few passwords for everything. Using the same password across various sites is extremely unsafe because one hack exposes several of your accounts. If you allow LastPass to set unique passwords for each account, especially sensitive accounts like bank logins, then your data is much safer. You can also set it up to use multi-factor authentications for those super sensitive accounts. This means in addition to needing a password, the site will require a second login step (like sending a code to your phone that you must then type in online) to make sure it's really you logging into the account. Tedious, yes, but extremely secure.

I know there will be a whole lot of people out there who are uncomfortable storing all of this information on the computer or online, but LastPass takes extreme care to protect your data. From LastPass: "Your data is encrypted and decrypted at the device level. Data stored in your vault is kept secret, even from LastPass. Your master password, and the keys used to encrypt and decrypt data, are never sent to LastPass' servers, and are never accessible by LastPass." This makes it incredibly difficult (dare I say impossible? Probably not, but close) to hack into all your passwords and other sensitive information. However, make sure you don't forget your Master Password!

The best part? LastPass has a free version that will do everything I've described. At one time the paid version (\$3/month or \$36/year) offered additional features on their phone app, but if I'm reading correctly, those features have since been incorporated into the free version (yay!). Try it out, maybe starting with information that isn't sensitive, and see how easy, convenient, and secure it really is. Then, burn those written lists of passwords!

Nogales Crossroads Mission

Submitted by Janice Potter

Valley Presbyterian Church has been a missionPartner of Nogales Crossroads for many years.

In 2018, our support from the Mission Committee and the Noisy Offering totaled, \$8,530.97. Many of their friends from our congregation sent their support directly.

Year-round, Valley Presbyterian members and friends make the 72-mile trip to the mission to prepare lunch for those on both sides of the border who truly could use a meal. Summer is always a time when food donations decrease, but somehow they find a way to feed the people who gather at their door. We need additional volunteers who will join in the lunch preparation. We need men to lift the heavy pots and pans full of the day's soup or casserole. We need people who will drive the team to Nogales. We will give you directions or pair you up with someone who has been to the mission before.

Send e-mail to janicepottr@aol.com if you can volunteer, even once, this summer. Call (520) 505-9944 if you have questions.

Coffee, Tea, and Thee!

Submitted by Anne Morrison

We have the coffee. We have the tea. It is the "thee" that we need!

Since February 2017 and the purchase of the Valley Galley, we have looked for various opportunities to meet and greet our neighbors and the greater Green Valley community. Now we want to get the Galley out of the back parking lot and into significant use for the summer. Here is an update of plans for the Galley for the summer season. It is being moved to the front parking lot and will be parked under the solar panels where we can access the power source. It will be opened Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 7:00-9:00 a.m., starting May 9. We will be selling beverages such as coffee, iced coffee, iced tea, juice, and water, plus some sort of treat. No baking skills will be required! We are looking for volunteers to help work in the Galley, so please let us know if you would like to have some fun meeting and greeting the walkers, bikers, dog owners, or anyone stopping to visit with us. We will be working in pairs of two so it is a great opportunity for spouses and buddies. Orientation will prepare you for the "job."

The main purpose for the Valley Galley is to be an outreach to our community, and here is a great example of a way to communicate with our neighbors. Please consider joining in this project, and email us the days and dates that work for you.

Anne Morrison
gvaz1058@cox.net

Lois Macfarlane
Tmacf@aol.com



Faith Formation

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 The History of Christianity: From the Disciples

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

The Inquisitors explores and attempts to understand "The History of Christianity from the Disciples through the Dawn of The Reformation," with Professor Luke Timothy Johnson. The course will address what are usually regarded as the more "religious" aspects of Christianity: its experiences and convictions, its beliefs and practices, its mode of worship and its manner of life. For more information, contact Grant Stitt (396-3549 or email stitt@unr.edu).

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 "Be Diligent," Warren Wiersbe's commentary on the Gospel of Mark. 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).

The second 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. They are studying John's Epistles 1, 2, and 3. 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.

What the Heck Do I Believe?????












Mondays, June 3, 10, and 17 at 1:00 p.m. in the Recreation Building at LaPosada

One day at work - lo so many years ago - a co-worker came up to me and said, "I understand who God and Jesus are, but what is this Holy Ghost dude? Is he the ghost of Jesus?" So I muttered something disjointed about the comforter who is with us always. This was not my finest hour.

Today I would describe the Holy Spirit as the force of God that can **change how I feel**. When I call on God for help because I don't like how I'm feeling impatient with someone - I believe that the Holy Spirit can and does change my feelings.

For three Monday afternoons in June (June 3, 10, 17), Pastor Diane and Linda Freeman will lead classes on how **you** can find words to describe what you believe. The classes will be at 1:00 p.m. in the Recreation Building on the La Posada Campus. We may also offer them at church, so read more in the June Valley Voice. By the way - anyone can come to the classes at La Posada - you don't have to be a resident to participate.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
May 2019			1 8:00 Ministry Of 9:00 Men's Bible 9:00 Parkinson's 10:00 Chair Exercise 1:00 Worship  Barbara Dittmer, Ruth Morris
5 Communion Food Bank Collection 8:30 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Worship & Communion at LaJoya 9:15 Kids Room 9:30 Service of Worship  Jim Bruner	6 9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 9:00 Peace & Justice Resource 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 10:00 AAUW Meeting  Peggi Briggs, Pam Karbowsky, Rod Lichtenberger, Catherine C. Williams	7 8:00 Men's Bible Study (Silver Springs) 8:15 STAFF MEETING 8:30 WM Coordinating Team 9:30 Prayer Ministry 10:00 Women's Ministries Bible Study 11:00 NOC Meeting 1:00 Pastor Nominating Committee 3:30 Joyful Spirit Ensemble	8 8:15 Crossroads 9:00 Men's Bible 9:00 Parkinson's 9:00 Deacons 10:00 Chair Exercise  Geri Berry, Janet H. Fitch
12 Just Coffee 8:30 Adult Bible Study 9:15 Kids Room 9:30 Service of Worship 10:45 Blood Pressure Screening  Dorothy Barker, Ann Stockdale	13 9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 10:00 Chair Exercise Class  Gloria Anson, Annamae Buchholtz	14 8:00 Men's Bible Study (Silver Springs) 8:15 STAFF MEETING 8:45 Mission Committee 9:30 Prayer Ministry 1:00 Pastor Nominating Committee 1:30 Buildings & Grounds Committee 3:30 Joyful Spirit Ensemble  Margot Elsner	15 8:15 Crossroads 9:00 Men's Bible 9:00 Parkinson's 9:30 Finance 10:00 Chair Exercise
19 8:30 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Worship at La Joya 9:15 Kids Room 9:30 Service of Worship  Dick Christensen, Kris McGrath	20 9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 10:00 Fellowship Committee 2:00 Valley Readers  Etta Stratton, Kenneth Taft	21 8:00 Men's Bible Study (Silver Springs) 8:15 STAFF MEETING 9:30 Prayer Ministry 11:30 Women's Gathering 1:00 Pastor Nominating Committee 3:30 Joyful Spirit Ensemble  Patti Bright	22 9:00 Men's Bible 9:00 Parkinson's 10:00 Chair Exercise 2:00 Card Making for
26 Just Coffee 8:30 Adult Bible Study 9:15 Kids Room 9:30 Service of Worship	27 MEMORIAL DAY - CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED  Jan Panhuis	28 8:00 Men's Bible Study (Silver Springs) 8:15 STAFF MEETING 9:00 Creative Hands 9:30 Prayer Ministry 10:00 Publicity Committee 1:00 Pastor Nominating Committee 3:30 Joyful Spirit Ensemble  Lois Blacker, Sandy Clark, Wanita Marshall, Chuck McCarty, Phyllis Nutting, Jeanne Truitt	29 9:00 Men's Bible 9:00 Parkinson's 10:00 Chair Exercise  Betty Patton

	Thu	Fri	Sat
Presence Study Exercise Class Committee Martha Jump,	2 9:30 Congregational Care Leaders 1:00 Alzheimer's Caregivers  Ben Coppock, Sandy Howerter	3 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 1:30 Inquisitors Class: The History of Christianity  Bill McGrath	4 7:30 Communion Prep 12:00 Carmarena/Sinohui Wedding  Janet Fitch, Danielle Pacheco
Mission Lunch Prep Study Exercise Meeting Class	9 9:00 Faith & Health Committee 10:30 Outreach Committee 1:00 Personnel Committee  Bill Scott, Bill Wheeler	10 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 1:30 Inquisitors Class: The History of Christianity	11
Mission Lunch Prep Study Exercise Committee Class	16 8:00 Patio Sale Sorting 1:00 Alzheimer's Caregivers	17 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 10:00 Parkinson's Board Meeting 1:30 Inquisitors Class: The History of Christianity  Norm TenBrink, Don Younker	18  Ted Smith
Study Exercise Class YOTO	23 8:00 Session Meeting  Barb Case, Jo Gibson, George Higginson, Jay Messerschmidt	24 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 1:30 Inquisitors Class: The History of Christianity  Doris Simmons, Janet Wagner	25  Dorothy Sturz
Study Exercise Class	30  Parkie Copeland, Ellie Higginson	31 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 1:30 Inquisitors Class: The History of Christianity  Katherina Harder	

Patio Sale News

As a wrap-up to our 38th annual Patio Sale, we celebrated and enjoyed each other and some great food at our March 26 potluck dinner. It was a fun time recognizing individual contributions while having a chuckle or two listening to Eloise's jokes.

At our annual Department Head follow-up meeting on March 26, we had a very positive exchange of ideas and decided we needed to:

- Find a different tent vendor who could better meet our needs at an acceptable cost.
- Do a better job of separating the "good from the bad" at our sorts and pickups.
- Find a source of outside help capable of assisting with picking up and moving heavy furniture.
- Be sure Department Heads know it is their responsibility to keep their respective volunteers informed of sort dates and other important information.

In April, two of the Amigos met with the Mission Committee and discussed ways we could better support each other's efforts and strengthen our relationship. We agreed that we would put together a report that shows the total number of dollars raised by the Patio Sale over our 38 years. That contribution number could be used to promote both groups. We also decided to have members attend each other's meetings.

Our gross sales number for the year so far has grown to \$81,400 as a result of internet sales and other miscellaneous sales. We are projecting that we will hit \$86,000 gross by year's end with the addition of our Holiday Sale and other sales. We are grateful to all our volunteers who make this level of success possible.

Financial Update

Submitted by Annie Stitt

The Finance Committee participated in the April 8 Grapevine and hopefully addressed some members' concerns regarding the current financial status. Please know that the committee is available to answer questions. The Committee met on April 17 to review the year-to-date financial status as of March 31, 2019. The financials show that we are remaining in a positive position as is anticipated at this time of the year.

The Finance Committee is watching the results closely each month. When we look at budget to actual, the revenues are down less than .5% from the year to date budget and expenses are also down approximately .5%. This puts us slightly ahead of budget as shown below:

	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Revenue	\$242,799	\$243,892	(\$ 1,093)
Expense	<u>\$204,688</u>	<u>\$205,875</u>	<u>(\$ 1,187)</u>
Net income (loss)	<u>\$ 38,111</u>	<u>\$ 38,017</u>	<u>\$ 94</u>

Of course, this is the strongest part of the year when our winter residents are still here and activities are abundant. April should remain strong as we were moving through the Lenten and Easter season. Likely we will see a downturn in May as people travel north. We hope that as people travel this summer they will remember their pledge commitments to keep the operations of the church moving along.

As previously reported, for 2019, the finance committee recommended to Session that we pay the annual per capita payment only as received. To-date we have paid \$7,413 that was collected in January through March which covers approximately 184 of the members. Based on the membership number of 496 on December 31, 2017, we will be assessed \$19,949, so we have only collected 37% of our assessment.

Hopefully, many more members will step up and pay the \$40.22 per member per capita (note: associate members pay their per capita through their home church).

A Note from Bob and Kristi Rice

Submitted by Doug Clark

Dear Doug and Judy and Members of Valley Presbyterian Church,

We greet you in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ! We hope that you are well, seeing God at work, revealing grace and truth in the midst of the turmoil in our world. We want to thank you again for your partnership with us in ministry and the church in South Sudan. The prayers and financial support from your church are a big encouragement to us and enable us to continue to serve with the people of South Sudan. We are very grateful, and we hope that God's work here is an encouragement to you also!

Bob is teaching Spiritual Formation this semester to two classes – the junior degree students and a class of diploma students. He traveled to Rwanda with some colleagues in February to explore how Nile Theological College (NTC) can more fully incorporate principles of reconciliation into their curriculum. The college held its first graduation since moving to Juba in December, and now some of those graduates are being sent out to plant churches in remote places. A new class of students started the four-year program in January. Kristi went to the town of Pochalla in January to conduct a healing and reconciliation workshop with some colleagues. We praise God for bringing inner healing and helping people be able to forgive – our most recent newsletter shares more about that workshop. Our church partner (SSPEC) hopes to organize more of these healing and reconciliation workshops, because so many people have been traumatized by war. Please pray for God to guide the process, open doors, and provide resources.

Thank you again for your faithful partnership with us! God provided all the financial support that we needed to meet our support goal in 2018 – thank you for your participation that helped meet that goal. We truly depend on your prayers for us and for the ministry through the church in South Sudan. We know that God desires to bring hope and healing through His people to this land that has suffered much. We pray each week for your church, that God's grace would fill all of you as you seek to share God's love and be His hands and feet in your community. If there are any specific ways that we can be praying for you, please let us know. We are hoping to visit you this year during our Interpretation Assignment (Furlough). We will follow up with another email within the next month or two. We would most likely come in the fall, late October or early November, if that seems to work for you. We were sad not to visit you in 2016, and grieved by the death of your pastor.

Together in God's Kingdom,
Bob and Kristi

Patio Sale Trucker Needs

Summer is a significant period for the Patio Sale. A large number of donations, at times the complete contents of a house, occur during the summer. Volunteers to help with pickups in the summer are therefore a critical need. If you would be able to help, let Dave Tompkins (520 339-3500) or George Curtis (520 625-2394) know your availability.

Patio Sale Dates for 2019

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

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

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

Tour of Los Niños del Valle Preschool/Child Care Posada Life Community Services

Submitted by Doug Clark

Welcome Valley Presbyterian Church Mission Committee!

I always like to remind members of Valley Presbyterian Church who visit, how instrumental your church was in creating this facility - a true gift to the Green Valley Community. Without Joe Hawkins, Joe Carroll, John Lendved, and many other members of your church, the ground you stand on would most likely still be a pecan grove. Your church came together back in the mid 1990s and set out to create a state-of-the-art, intergenerational day-care facility. It was the main mission of the church for several years as they spearheaded raising \$1,750,000 and made this dream a reality in 1997.

What an amazing gift for so many children and the community over the last 22 years and many more years to come. As you walk the facility and playground you should be proud of the ministers and members of your church who dedicated themselves and your church to make this all possible.

Again, thank you so much for your donations.

All the Best,

Bill McCreery, Director of Community Programs

PS. There is a plaque in the community center next door honoring those people and organization that contributed to the facility.



Congregational Care

Faith & Health and Parish Nurse News

Blood Pressure Screenings: You may have your blood pressure taken during the week by appointment with the Parish Nurse. Please make appointments through the church office. The next **Sunday blood pressure screening clinic** will be on **May 12**. 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.



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



Congregational Care

Random Acts of Kindness Take II

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

Random acts of kindness - have you ever seen any? Last fall, an article talking about random acts of kindness was in the Valley Voice. Within the last two weeks another came my way, and, once again, I could not believe it. I opened up the mail and there it was. This is really for me? Thank you Congregational Care Leaders!

Sometimes we just need a little boost, something that may say I am thought of...

At Valley Presbyterian, there is a large group that actually does just this, it is Congregational Care. Previously this group was several separate groups: Board of Deacons, Pastoral Care and another group, the CCTT or Congregational Care Transition team. Now all are one united as Congregational Care (with Board of Deacons oversight and support), the level of care and kindness has reached new heights, and it is growing.

And the next time when you are in Church watch what may happen and the acts of kindness that are given:

- Someone visits and provides extended communion and service right to where you live.
- Someone creates wonderful treats for Sunday Fellowship, and let's not forget the coffee.
- Someone drives you to the church from the parking lot in the Owl Express.
- Someone may usher and greet you before you even get into the door.
- Someone calls and visits you because they live in your neighborhood.
- Someone drives you to church because church is important to you.
- Someone advocates for you and your health, visiting you and keeping you healthy.
- Someone supports you during a grief class.
- Someone comforts you during a difficult time with gifts of reflections and caring books.
- Someone visits and listens, giving you full support during a difficult time.
- Someone makes a card signed the congregation and sends it to you.
- Someone beautifully rearranges the sanctuary flowers into arrangements and then another someone delivers them with a warm and caring smile and visit to you.
- Someone calls you on a birthday and greets you with a caring message.
- Someone makes a prayer shawl for you.
- Someone prays over these shawls and lifts up many other concerns for you.

These someones are the Congregational Care ministry and these random acts of caring are given every day, every week, every month, and every year. Congregational Care provides acts of kindness in VPC and they are all around us, showing this compassionate work to you and me. Care, comfort, and kindness may be given in random ways. If you or someone you know may need this please let the church office know.



Medical Minute

An early few signs of dehydration may be a headache or dry mouth.



Valley Presbyterian Church

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vpc-office@valleypres.net

www.valleypresbyterian.net

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

Pastors

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

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

May 5	Catching a Glimpse of the Risen Lord	Rev. Mark A. Medina
May 12	Handcrafted Christians	Rev. Diane Christopher
May 19	It's This New Thing We're Doing!	Rev. Diane Christopher and Rev. Valerie St. John
May 26	The Promise of the Lord's Presence	Rev. Mark A. Medina

La Joya at La Posada

9:00 a.m. at La Joya

Communion served on the first Sunday of each month

May 5	Rev. Barbara Streng
May 19	Gee-Gee Smith



Promoted to Glory



April 3	Bob Blaine
April 9	DeWayne Triplett
April 10	Joyce Wasson
April 24	Roger McFarland

Montlure Traveling Day Camp Returns!

June 24 - 28, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Montlure is our denomination's church camp, and they are bringing their Traveling Day Camp back to VPC this summer. Last year, the kids loved the camp so much that we decided to bring it back for an encore!

One week at Day Camp can serve as a powerful and life-changing experience in children's faith development. The Montlure counselors invest in the kids, and model what it means to live a life for the Lord. This is an amazing opportunity of outreach for our church as we bring the love of God to children in our area.

Here are ways you can be part of this experience:

- sponsor a child to attend camp (\$75)
- be a volunteer counselor (assist camp counselors)
- work at the registration table during camp
- host the camp counselors for dinner

On May 5, Kellie von Borstel, the director of camp, will be here to answer your questions and tell us more about the camp. Fundraising and volunteer sign-up will begin May 5. Look for our table on Sundays in Fellowship Hall. You can register your children online at Montlure.CampbrainRegistration.com.

Questions? Please contact Pastor Diane (625-5023) or Pam Karbowsky (648-4281).