

Valley Voice

Thoughts for the Journey

Dear Friends,

The journey for Valley Presbyterian Church is now set on a new path to take this congregation into the future. The Session has discerned the new path for the church and a new Mission Statement will lead us to a desired future.

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

The principles we will follow to accomplish this are:

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

Each one of us is asked to reflect on its importance as we seek to embody Christ in our lives and in the life of Valley. Each committee, board, and group is asked to make this part of your times together. Yes, some of you will want to ask more questions and some of you will want to begin making this Mission Statement the driving force to become a Missional Church.

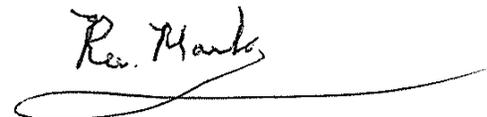
Second Corinthians 5:16-21 lays the foundation for The Ministry of Reconciliation among us. The Apostle Paul wrote the Christian community in Corinth these words: ¹⁶ *From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way.* ¹⁷ *So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!* ¹⁸ *All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation;* ¹⁹ *that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us.* ²⁰ *So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God."*

The Confession of 1967 (9.06) furthers this understanding of healing through reconciliation. "God's reconciling work in Jesus Christ and the mission of reconciliation to which he has called his church are the heart of the gospel in any age. Our generation stands in peculiar need of reconciliation in Christ."

I invite you to join the journey as followers of Christ.

A few items for the journey ahead.

- **World Communion Sunday** is October 7.
- **Rev. Dr. Linda Lloyd concludes her ministry as the Interim Associate Pastor of Care October 22. Please join us on October 14 as she preaches her last sermon. A reception follows Worship that Sunday.**
- **A Gaelic/Celtic traditional Ceilidh Service** will be held on Wednesday, October 24 at 5:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. This is a time of shared food, singing, stories and simple hospitality. Please join us.



Rev. Mark A. Medina, Transitional Pastor

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Small Spiritual Practices

A couple of months ago, I wrote in this space about trying a new (but small) spiritual practice each morning. Before I leave my bed each morning, as I sit up, I cross myself and say, "I am a beloved Child of God." I don't think my life has changed dramatically, but it gives me peace to say such a reminder each morning.

I am now going to start a new (but small) spiritual practice as I get into bed in the evening. Before I tell you what it is, here is where it comes from: in the Jewish culture, the day begins in the evening with the setting of the sun. This comes from the creation story in Genesis where it says, "And there was evening and there was morning."

Think about this. If we think of the day beginning in the evening, then our day begins with rest. With sleep. We begin our day by appearing to accomplish nothing at all. Eugene Peterson (the author of *The Message*) says this, "The Hebrew evening/morning sequence conditions us to the rhythms of grace. We go to sleep and God begins his work."

What if we went to sleep believing that God accomplished something wonderful in our lives while we sleep? John Braille, a Scottish pastor, said that in Christ, we "wake up better [people] than when we went to sleep."

So, here is my new spiritual practice: each night as I prepare to crawl into bed, my prayer will be: "As I sleep tonight, Lord, work in my life."

Not only do our day lives shape us, but our nights as well. Enjoy the gift of sleep, my friends.



Rev. Diane Christopher, Pastor of Discipleship

Operation Christmas Child

Submitted by Janice Potter

It is time to shop for "Wow!" toys, children's clothing, hygiene items, and school supplies. Valley Presbyterian Church will participate again in this Samaritan's Purse ministry that has given shoeboxes filled with gifts to needy children in 100 countries.

Watch the church bulletin as a reminder that **the shoeboxes are available for pick up on October 28 and November 4**. We will also accept your own shoeboxes wrapped in bright Christmas paper. **The filled shoeboxes must be returned by November 11** in order to move them on to the next drop-off location.

Dearest Valley Presbyterian Church,

We have had quite a year together and now our paths diverge. What an incredible time it has been! I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve with you, to journey alongside you for a time, and to grow and learn from such a wonderful family of choice. Being with you has been a time of challenge and a time of joy. The challenge to create something new together to support congregational care engaged us as people of faith. Our ability to collaborate and cooperate in this process has been a joy to me. We have spent time getting to know one another, listening to and learning from one another, and in walking faithfully side by side. God's grace gave us the strength and patience to persevere and we accomplished what we set out to do together.

Your ability to extend grace and warmth to my son and me has touched me deeply. I have loved seeing Jacob through your eyes and appreciate your genuine care for him as well as for me. As you know, he keeps me real – keeps me grounded. You have blessed me with the opportunity to soar – to explore what is possible in ministry together.

I have been reminded, again, about what is vital to me in ministry. Meeting you where you were and journeying for a time together has enabled me to witness God's presence and grace in the life of this congregation. The affirmation provided by you for our ministry together has blessed me greatly. I will leave you with a deeper sense of my faith, my calling, and my ability to trust in God's faithfulness. You will remain in my prayers always as I ask for God's presence to continue to be felt by you as you move into your future. Your spirits have touched mine and I believe that connection will remain strong. Once someone has touched my life, I am forever changed. You have been connected to me now and I will carry a sense of you with me forever. Thank you, beloved family of choice. As we depart, one from another, I pray you will journey into your future remembering what it is that God desires of us – to seek justice, love, kindness, and walk humbly with our God.

Blessings always,

Linda

Rev. Dr. Linda Lloyd, Interim Pastor of Care

Proclamations of the Clergy

Letter to the Congregation on Sunday, September 9, 2018

By Ruling Elder Marcia Macdonald

Friends,

As a Ruling Elder on Session here at Valley, I speak to you today on behalf of the Session.

The Session would like to share with you their ongoing decision to support our pastors as they fulfill their calling to preach and proclaim God's Word in the way they know best. Yes, there has been some controversy in the way one of our pastors preached this past June.

At the regular Stated Meeting of the Session on August 23, we had an open discussion of the situation.

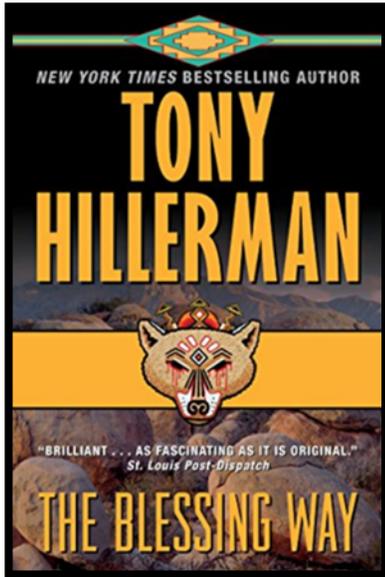
As a result of the discussion, the Session affirms the right and responsibility of all our pastors to preach sermons informed by the Scriptures and their consciences. We know that pastors may, at times, present moral issues that also impinge on political viewpoints and that may be controversial to some.

We invite you to discuss any sermon that our pastors preach with them directly. They are always willing to hear what you have to say.

Thank you and may God continue to bless us all.

Valley Readers

Monday, October 22
2:00 p.m. in Classroom 1



Navajo Tribal Police Lt. Joe Leaphorn has a challenging job made more complex by the cultural and physical environments in which he works. His newest murder case has him reluctantly considering the possibility of supernatural influences as he works a crime scene with no physical clues. *The Blessing Way* is the first of Tony Hillerman's Leaphorn/Chee series for which he received multiple honors, including recognition from the Navajo Nation. Please join us for this discussion of a Southwest-themed mystery led by Gee-Gee Smith. For additional information, please contact Anne Morrison at 520-399-0762.

Women's Ministries

October 16 at 11:30 a.m.

Submitted by Carol Peeler, Moderator

We have been working on the things that make our Circles great. There are books for Bible study, cookbooks with recipes from our own church congregation, a circle sign-up sheet, and sign-up sheet for the luncheon. Some of the things we do are displayed on the Women's Ministries' tables, like sewing and knitting. Please stop by and talk to one of the ladies at the table if you have questions.

Our next Grand Circle will be on October 16 at 11:30 a.m., and the cost is \$11. You can make reservations on October 7 and 14 after worship. The program will be "Peace and Justice in the Holy Land" with speaker Judy Aguayo. We must have reservations so we will know how many lunches to prepare. Remember - you don't have to be a member to come to Women's Ministry. You can bring your neighbor or a friend (just to be sure you sign them up) and let them know we welcome every woman. The Presby Gift this month will be for the Woman's Empowerment Center AIDA Refugee Center.

We are sending out an invitation to all women for the **FALL PRESBYTERY WOMEN'S MINISTRIES' GATHERING. It is Saturday October 20, 2018 at Northminster Church in Tucson.** Keep that date open and look for more details at the Women's table on Sundays. Peggy Free will be presenting a program on her trip to Indonesia with the Presbyterian Women USA.

Taizé Worship is back!

First Wednesday of every month
in the Spiritual Life Center

Taizé worship was developed by a group of monks in the small village of Taizé, France. Every week, thousands of young people come and worship three times a day with the monks. This style of worship and its music are so popular that it has spread all over the world. 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 guests musicians as well.

Grief Recovery Workshop

Begins Monday, October 1 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. for five weeks

The purpose of the workshop is to discover the stages of the grief process, find healthy ways to deal with the pain and loss, and to begin the healing process. Facilitators for the workshop are Lynne Szabo, M.A., M.F.C.C., and Jan Woerner. Call the church office (625-5023) to reserve your spot.

It's Time to Sign Up for Supper Clusters

By Carmen Nylund, Organizer

A new year for Supper Clusters will begin in January 2019 and it is time to sign up if you want to be part of one of these groups. Last year, 82 people participated and we formed nine Clusters. Feedback has been very positive and many of the groups will continue meeting through this December.

If you missed the September article in the Valley Voice, here is a brief recap – Supper Clusters are small groups of people (usually eight) who attend worship at VPC. “Clusters” may include VPC Members, Snowbirds, Regular Attendees, Couples, and Singles. The group gets together once a month to share a meal, spend time with new friends and/or renew old friendships, and just spend time getting to know each other better.

You can sign up at the “Supper Cluster” table in Fellowship Hall beginning Sunday, October 7, or you can complete the form below and bring it, or send it, to the church office. Sign-ups will continue through November and Clusters will be organized in December so you can start getting together in January. If you have questions, stop by the Supper Cluster table and I will be happy to chat with you.



SUPPER CLUSTER SIGN UP FORM **(Please Print)**

NAME(S) _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY & ZIP _____ NEIGHBORHOOD _____
(Desert Hills, Quali Creek, e.g.)

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

Full time resident? _____ Part time resident? (Please indicate months you are in GV)

Comments: _____

Please return the completed form to the church office or drop it by the Supper Cluster table in Fellowship Hall beginning Sunday, October 7.

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 commentary "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 Wednesday mornings at 9 a.m. This group meets at the church for one hour in classroom 1. The group is facilitated by Larry Phillips (777-8027), but focuses on group discussion. They use the NavPress Life Change Series study guide. They are 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.

The Inquisitors

The History of the Bible: The Making of the New Testament Canon

Continues on Fridays at 1:30 p.m. in Classroom 1

On Friday, September 21, the Inquisitors will begin a six-week study of The History of the Bible: The Making of the New Testament Canon. There can be no question that the New Testament is the most important book—or collection of books—in the history of Western civilization; it is by far the "bestseller" of all time, since the invention of printing. However, many people today do not know a lot about the New Testament, including such basic facts as what books it contains, when they were written, by whom, when, and for what purpose; how the books were copied and transmitted down through the ages; and when and why they came to be collected together into a canon of Scripture. This course will examine these questions and more.

The class meets from 1:30 - 3:00 and views and discusses the Great Courses course entitled, "The History of the Bible: The Making of the New Testament Canon." The professor is Dr. Bart Ehrman, Professor and Chair of The Department of Religious Studies at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Professor Ehrman is one of the world's leading scholars on the New Testament.

Adult Confirmation Class

Mondays at 1:00 p.m. in Classroom 5

Do you understand what you believe? And why? Do you understand the basics of your faith? Using the curriculum for the youth confirmation class, Pastor Diane will explore the beliefs of our faith.

The topics for October are:

- Oct 1 Is the New Testament more important than the Old Testament?
- Oct 8 Is God male?
- Oct 15 Am I really supposed to believe that Mary was a virgin?
- Oct 22 How can God be "three-in-one?"
- Oct 29 Did Jesus really go to hell?

This class will continue throughout the year. Come to all, or come based on the topic of the day. Learn with our youth, and review the wonderful truths of Christianity and how they apply to our lives.

Exploring Membership Class

**Tuesdays, October 23, 30, and November 6
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. in Classroom 5**

Do you want to learn more about Valley Pres? Are you wondering how you can be more involved? Perhaps you are thinking about becoming a member. The Exploring Membership Class is designed to answer your questions and take you through the steps toward membership.

In this class, you will explore the wonderful reasons to join a church, and what it means to be Presbyterian. You will discover all the different service opportunities this church has to offer. You will meet the pastors and leaders, and many others who give their time and talents to serve Christ through Valley Pres.

If you decide to join, you will meet with the Session on Thursday, November 15 at 8:00 a.m.

Contact Pastor Diane Christopher to register (625-5023).

Interpersonal Skills for Conflict Transformation

October 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 at 2:00 p.m.

The Peace & Justice Committee invites you to join them in informative classes on conflict resolution and transformation.

Our resource book is *Waging Peace* by Rev. Brad Munroe

Topics:

- Smoldering Fires
- A Strange & Wonderful Place
- A Web of Triangles
- The Righteous Mind
- Finding One's Voice

Holiday Patio Sale Coming in November

Friday, November 2, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Saturday, November 3, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Are you storing Christmas or Thanksgiving decorations that you never use? Are they taking up space in your closets or your garage? Now is the time to bring those that are still in good shape to the church so they can be sold at our annual Holiday Sale. We accept holiday-decorated dishes and glassware, holiday linens, wreaths, trees, tree decorations and lights, outdoor decorations, wrapping paper and ribbon – almost anything associated with the holidays.

Holiday Sale Volunteers Needed!

Volunteers are needed to help set up the sale on Wednesday, October 31, and Thursday, November 1, and to staff the tables and cashier positions during the sale. Put the dates on your calendar now and then either leave your name at the office or contact Eloise Fredrickson (648-7317) or Lorna Kitchak (262-994-9508). You may also contact them for any questions you might have.

Holiday Sale/Bake Sale

It is time to get those ovens working again.

We will be selling: **CANDY, SWEET BREADS, BARS and HOLIDAY-THEMED COOKIES**, and don't forget those **CINNAMON ROLLS**, at the Holiday Sale. Please consider supporting the sale by making something delicious that we can sell.

Please bring your items to the church kitchen on Thursday, November 1, from 9 a.m. - noon.

Come to the sale and shop, and have a bowl of soup and a goodie for lunch with us.

Anne Morrison (399-0762) and Lois Macfarlane (625-7049) will be overseeing this part of the sale. Contact them for any questions you might have.

Help Needed Moving Holiday Sale Items from Storage to the Church

We need to bring the boxes for the Holiday Sale from storage to the church on the afternoon of Tuesday, October 30. If you are able to help with this task, be at the back parking lot of the church at 2:00 p.m. This should not take long.

Patio Sale Dates for 2018

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

Sorting: October 11

Holiday Sale Setup and Sale! October 31- November 3

Sorting: December 13

Hands of a Friend Annual "Black & Blue No More" Fundraiser

October 27, 2018 at American Legion Post 66, 5-10 p.m.

Submitted by Doug Clark



Dinner - Dancing - Prizes - Surprise

Entertainment provided by Gene Mann Karaoke - Maddy & Hula Dancers

Cost: \$35 per person or \$245 for a table of 8

Wear Hawaiian or Black & Blue

Call Hands of a Friend (520-647-9906) for tickets, or stop by DaZee'S

Hands of a Friend (Manos Amigas) provides shelter for victims in need of escaping domestic violence, elder abuse, sexual assault, and human trafficking. We facilitate additional needs and services through advocacy for victims requiring legal, financial, immigration, medical, educational, employment, transportation and permanent housing solutions.

Come show your support for Hands of a Friend's Genesis House Shelter by attending their Annual "Black & Blue No More" Fundraiser.



Taste and See that the Lord is Good (Psalm 34:8)

**Second Fridays of the Month, October-February (excluding December)
9:00 a.m. in the Spiritual Life Center**

Stephen Ministers bring distinctively Christian care to those in need. This fall, our continuing education classes will be open to any congregational member who might like to learn more about distinctively Christian caring. We will be looking at different aspects through the book, Christian Caregiving: a Way of Life by Ken Haugk. The second Friday of the month will be devoted to this with a variety of speakers. Join us in the Spiritual Life Center at 9 a.m. ***Mark your calendars now for October 12, November 9, January 11, and February 8, in order to get a taste of Stephen Ministry.***

October 21 will be Stephen Ministry Sunday. Following the service, we invite everyone interested in learning more about this ministry to join us for special tasty treats in Classroom 1, and have your questions answered about training, commitments, etc. Our next training class begins January 4! Is God calling you to this new ministry? If you want more information now, contact Patti Bright, (520) 305-3275.

Come taste and see how good the Lord is through serving in Stephen Ministry!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
	<p>1</p> <p>9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 9:00 Mission Quilting 9:30 Grief Recovery Workshop 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 10:00 AAUW Meeting 1:00 Adult Confirmation Class 1:00 Building & Grounds 2:00 Conflict Transformation</p>	<p>2</p> <p>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 3:30 Joyful Spirit Ensemble</p> <p> Barbara Bentley</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8:00 Ministry Of Presence 9:00 Men's Bible Study 9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 1:00 Worship Committee 5:00 Taize Worship</p> <p> Barbara Eidson, Muriel Wagner</p>
<p>7</p> <p>Communion Food Bank Collection 8:30 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Worship & Communion at LaJoya 9:15 Childcare 9:30 Service of Worship</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 9:30 Grief Recovery Workshop 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 1:00 Adult Confirmation Class 2:00 Conflict Transformation</p> <p> Carmen Nylund, Tommy Thompson</p>	<p>9</p> <p>8:00 Men's Bible Study (Silver Springs) 8:15 STAFF MEETING 8:45 Mission Committee 9:30 Prayer Ministry 2:00 Personnel Committee 3:30 Joyful Spirit Ensemble</p> <p> Dee Mechem</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8:15 Crossroads Mission 9:00 Deacons Meeting 9:00 Men's Bible Study 9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 10:00 Lois Circle 1:00 Miriam Circle</p> <p> MaryAnn Campbell, Jim Eckels</p>
<p>14</p> <p>Just Coffee 8:30 Adult Bible Study 9:15 Childcare 9:30 Service of Worship</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 9:00 Mission Quilting 9:30 Grief Recovery Workshop 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 1:00 Adult Confirmation Class 2:00 Conflict Transformation 4:00 Ruth Circle</p> <p> Ruth Dunham, LaRue Haff, Betty Weide</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8:00 Men's Bible Study (Silver Springs) 8:15 STAFF MEETING 9:30 Prayer Ministry 11:30 Women's Gathering 1:30 Finance Committee 3:30 Joyful Spirit Ensemble</p> <p> Kathy Gullen, Ray Esparza</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8:15 Crossroads Mission 9:00 Men's Bible Study 9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 10:00 Chair Exercise Class</p> <p> Jim Egly, Judy McKinley</p>
<p>21</p> <p>Stephen Ministers Sunday 8:30 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Worship at La Joya 9:15 Childcare 9:30 Service of Worship 10:00 A Taste of Stephen Ministry</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 9:30 Grief Recovery Workshop 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 1:00 Adult Confirmation Class 2:00 Valley Readers 2:00 Conflict Transformation</p> <p> Janice Potter</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8:00 Men's Bible Study (Silver Springs) 8:15 STAFF MEETING 9:00 Creative Hands + Knit & Chatter 9:30 Prayer Ministry 10:00 Publicity Committee 1:00 Exploring Membership Class 3:30 Joyful Spirit Ensemble</p> <p> Pam Peake</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9:00 Men's Bible Study 9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 2:00 YOTO Note Writing 5:00 Ceilidh Service of</p> <p> Joshua Jorgensen, Ray Sayre, Jan Woerner</p>
<p>28</p> <p>Just Coffee 8:30 Adult Bible Study 9:15 Childcare 9:30 Service of Worship 10:45 Blood Pressure Screening</p> <p> Tom Allen, Sherry Harsh</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 9:00 Mission Quilting 9:30 Grief Recovery Workshop 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 1:00 Adult Confirmation Class 2:00 Conflict Transformation</p> <p> Virginia Crook, Russ Hartley, Jennet Parker, Jenny VanTreese</p>	<p>30</p> <p>8:00 Men's Bible Study (Silver Springs) 8:15 STAFF MEETING 9:30 Prayer Ministry 1:00 Exploring Membership Class 3:30 Joyful Spirit Ensemble</p> <p> Herb Andrews, Gail Barker, Herman Klap, Gail Seibert, Nancy Tompkins, Kathy Woodard</p>	<p>31</p> <p>9:00 Men's Bible Study 9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 4:00 Halloween Tailgate</p> <p> Phyllis Camp, Dick Chvala, Doug Clark</p>

Thu

Fri

Sat

	<p>4</p> <p>9:00 Congregational Care Leaders 1:00 Moses 1:00 Alzheimer's Caregivers 2:15 Valley Ringers Rehearsal 3:00 Communion at Silver Springs 3:45 Choir Rehearsal</p> <p> Vera Anderson, Esther Grimsley, Carol Rude</p>	<p>5</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 1:30 Inquisitors: The Making of the New Testament Canon</p> <p> Georgie Eberhardt, Darwin Guinn, Marti Long, Mike Peake</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7:00 Communion Prep</p> <p> Jean Hein</p>
Lunch Prep	<p>11</p> <p>8:00 Patio Sale Sorting & Marking 9:00 Faith & Health Committee 10:30 Fellowship Committee 1:00 Moses 2:15 Valley Ringers Rehearsal 3:45 Choir Rehearsal</p> <p> Judd Briggs, Meghan Erickson</p>	<p>12</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 9:00 Stephen Ministers Continuing Education 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 10:00 Stephen Ministry Peer Group 11:00 Stephen Ministry Leaders Meeting 1:30 Inquisitors: The Making of the New Testament Canon</p>	<p>13</p> <p> Don Bont, Jim Callahan</p>
Lunch Prep	<p>18</p> <p>1:00 Moses 1:00 Alzheimer's Caregivers 1:00 GV Genealogical Society 2:15 Valley Ringers Rehearsal 3:45 Choir Rehearsal</p> <p> Ed Duthaler, Diane Hartley, Hercilia Hill, Judy Pember</p>	<p>19</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 10:00 Parkinson's Board Meeting 1:30 Inquisitors: The Making of the New Testament Canon</p> <p> Pat Bruner</p>	<p>20</p> <p>10:00 Congregational Care Retreat</p>
Worship	<p>25</p> <p>8:00 Session Meeting 2:15 Valley Ringers Rehearsal 3:45 Choir Rehearsal</p> <p> Del Harsh, Jeannie Longnecker</p>	<p>26</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 9:00 Parkinson's Exercise 9:00 Stephen Ministers Continuing Education 10:00 Chair Exercise Class 10:00 Stephen Ministry Peer Group 11:00 Stephen Ministry Leaders Meeting 1:30 Inquisitors: The Making of the New Testament Canon 6:00 Music in the Valley: Joel Pierce & Russell Ronnebaum</p> <p> Mack Chesnover, Kitty Gnau, Nancy Lammers</p>	<p>27</p> <p> Dave Appleton</p>

Party & Scavenger Hunt

October 2018



Casa Vida Nueva para Niños, A.C. (New Life Home for Children)

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

Sign up for the next trip to the Home for Children (orphanage)

Article by Reed Olson



The next trip to the Home for Children in Nogales Sonora MX will be Saturday, October 13.

See Reed Olson after church in Fellowship Hall September 30 and October 7 to sign up and receive the trip details.

Or, contact Reed to sign up: 520-269-7829, email: olsonr1@cox.net.



RISE Scholastic Achievements, Inc.

"With RISE, the children have HOPE."

A Green Valley, AZ based 501(c)(3)

On September 8, Norma Baker organized and led a group of six adults on an educational trip to Casa Vida Nueva Para Niños in Nogales Sonora, MX, sponsored by RISE Scholastic Achievements. Their goal was to teach the children how to sew - a skill that will help them later in life. They brought with them six sewing machines (two of which were later donated) and all the materials necessary for training 15 girls and boys on how to sew sachet bags, pillows and draw string bags. The class lasted six hours to the excitement of the children. This is the second trip Norma has coordinated. These trips have developed into a hands-on "making a difference" mission. The next trip will be in late October. Contact Reed Olson if you want to participate: olsonr1@cox.net.



Session Notes from September

Submitted by Charlie Ashton, Clerk of Session

On August 3 and 4, the Session voted by e-mail to add the following to the Call for Congregational Meeting on August 12, 2018: To nominate and elect members to the 2018 Nominating Committee.

For the Stated Session meeting on August 23, 2018:

- Approved the new structure for Congregational Care under the Board of Deacons.
- Approved the Parish Nurse creating a Release of Information for members in facilities.
- Approved a transfer of \$2,331.62 from Gifts and Memorials to cover the cost of a new refrigerator.
- Scheduled a joint meeting of Session and Deacons for September 18, 2018 at 10 a.m.
- Appointed the following Elders to be Commissioners for the Presbytery meeting of August 25, 2015: Judy Aguayo, Carol Peeler, and Liz Haynes.

For the Called Session Meeting on September 13, 2018:

- Approved the Call for a Congregational Meeting for September 23, 2018 after the Service of Worship to have the Nominating Committee nominate, and the congregation elect, Ruling Elders and Deacons to the Classes of 2020 and 2021.
- Adopted a new mission statement for the church: To make Christ known through reconciliation while communicating respect and love to all people.

Excerpt from the Rice's "Embracing Hope" Blog

Submitted by Doug Clark

Visitors!

Rev. Derek Macleod, is the pastor of St. Andrews-Covenant Presbyterian Church in Wilmington, NC.

Rev. Paul Hensley is a close friend from Fuller Theological Seminary. He is an Anglican priest.

Revs. Derek Macleod and Paul Hensley have braved the ominous and foreboding travel admonitions to South Sudan provided by the US State Department. They have found ways to mollify the fears expressed by family, friends and church members. They have come to see us in South Sudan with a determined and courageous spirit, and a willingness to fully engage with us, our neighborhood, our church partners, our students, and our friends. They have encouraged us. They have given us new eyes to see our life here in a new light. They have spoken prophetic words of hope. They have represented well not only their churches but also the Risen Christ. Their coming has put "wind into our sails!" They have reminded us that we are not alone.

Visitors! What would we do without them? One of the many proverbs we learned in Congo says, "Nzubu kayi ne benyi, neafue," or in English, "A home that does not have visitors will die." You can bet your bottom dollar that we are grateful for Paul and Derek. May the Lord bless them for sharing with us the joys and challenges of life here in South Sudan.



Donate to Our Mission Partners at No Cost to You

Arizona residents can donate to **Qualifying Charitable Organizations** and receive an offsetting credit on their state tax return. A married couple can donate up to **\$800** and an individual can donate up to **\$400**. And, your Arizona Charitable Tax Credit donation is **separate from and in addition to** the foster care and public and private school tax credits.

Several of our mission partners are considered to be **Qualifying Charitable Organizations** by the Arizona Department of Revenue. This means that we can give to these mission partners and receive a 100% credit against the Arizona tax liability we would otherwise have to pay. The amount of tax credit in any year cannot exceed \$400 for a single taxpayer and \$800 for a couple filing a joint return. It also cannot exceed your Arizona tax liability for a given year, though any excess can be carried over to be applied to a future year. You have up to April 15, 2019 to make a donation and claim the credit on either your 2017 or 2019 tax return.

The following VPC mission partners currently qualify for the tax credit:

- Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona, in both Amado and Green Valley
- Crossroads Mission in Nogales
- Hands of a Friend
- Valley Assistance Services
- Youth on their Own

VPC is a qualifying pass-through organization, which means you can make your donation check out to VPC and indicate on the check that the funds are to be passed on by VPC to the charity. This enhances the support of VPC to the mission partner.

The mission committee at VPC encourages any of us who are Arizona residents to be sure we fully utilize this tax advantage to support the organizations listed above. Tax forms 301 and 321 are attached to your AZ tax return to claim this credit (see www.azdor.gov).



How funny that my last article was about having credit card numbers stolen because since that time, both Joel and the church had a card compromised in that way. In both cases, the bank notified the cardholder immediately, and aside from having to destroy the cards and get new ones, no harm was done to the cardholders. Whew!

If you have a computer (or perhaps a peripheral device like a printer or external hard drive) that is acting up, here are the first three things I would always try:

1. Reboot the computer. Sometimes it's just that simple, so give it a shot.
2. Check for Windows Updates. This is particularly important if you tend to keep your computer off when you aren't using it. Windows update wants to run when the computer is idle, so if it's never idle, updates may not install. Make sure to let Windows check for, and install, updates regularly.
3. Run an antivirus program. I recommend manually running Malware Bytes (free version) even if you have another antivirus running all the time. Sometimes it will find things others do not.

If you have questions for me, I am almost always in my office on Tuesday mornings from 9-noon, or by appointment on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons from noon-4, and I can always be reached by email (wendyk@valleypres.net).



News of Note

By Joel Pierce



October is one of my favorite months. The long, hot summers are over and the cool evenings and days begin to set in. I can finally break out my warm blankets, sweaters, and pumpkin spi-.... Oh wait, this is Arizona! We may have a little while longer until it gets truly cool, but at least we can keep that ice scraper packed away in storage. However, October does bring new life into the music ministry at Valley Presbyterian. Choir rehearsals and bell choir rehearsals have begun, and our monthly Taizé services have resumed on the first Wednesday of every month at 5:00 p.m. The Joyful Spirit Ensemble is also in full swing! I want to thank the new members of both the Sanctuary Choir and the Valley Ringers for adding their voices (and bells!) to our ensembles. You, along with our current members, make music at Valley Presbyterian outstanding, and add to our songs of praise to God. If you have an interest in singing, ringing, or playing Orff instruments, please see me after any Sunday service. Do you have friends in your neighborhood or other social circles who love to sing? They're invited too!

A reminder: The first concert in the Music in the Valley series is October 26 at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Joel Pierce and Russell Ronnebaum will play four-hand piano! Tickets are available in Fellowship Hall after any Sunday worship service, from the front office during regular business hours, or from the Chamber of Commerce.

October 26th will be the first "Music in the Valley" Concert at 6:00 p.m. The Valley Galley will be open in the front parking lot at 5:00 p.m. with coffee and dessert. Please come and purchase the dessert of your choice before the concert.

Mission Breakfast 2018-2019

Submitted by Doug Clark

Mission Breakfasts have been at Valley Presbyterian Church for six seasons (21 events), and represent a way for you to become personally immersed in missions. Missions are a defining function of being a Christian! Many often say that a church without missions is a club! Putting a face and story with our Valley Presbyterian Church's missionaries, and our supported agencies, is a gift from God meant to help evangelize, energize and excite you as a growing Christian. Not only is information shared; but also the needs of others become real, touching your heart and motivating your mind. Each of our mission agencies has great needs, but the greatest need is prayer. How can you pray if you don't know the need? How can you know the need if you are not informed? One opportunity to receive this information is to attend a Mission Breakfast.

Our next Mission Breakfast is November 10, 2018 at 8:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall when we host Patty O'Berry, Founder/CEO, of Hands of a Friend. Tickets for breakfast are \$5.00 and will be for sale October 28, and November 4 in Fellowship Hall. Please come and be inspired, informed, and invigorated. In God's economy, Luke 6:38 New International Version (NIV) says, "38 Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." Give of your time and energy and be informed, for God is no debtor, you will be blessed.

Are you ready for another Tailgating Party?

It's been awhile!

VPC'S TAILGATE PARTY MAKING A COMEBACK

ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31 4:00 P.M.

WITH A HALLOWEEN TAILGATE PARTY



Yes sports fans, it's that time of year; pre-game shows, stunning plays, cheerleaders, heartbreaking mistakes, play-by-play commentary and halftime extravaganzas...and of course, GOOD OL' BRAGGING RIGHTS! Michigan State or Iowa? U of A or ASU? What is your favorite team?

On Wednesday afternoon, October 31 at 4:00 p.m., our VPC Tailgate Party will be making a comeback!

Tailgating parties traditionally take place in a stadium parking lot, but those will be no match for the one planned this year in our own parking lot. This year we ask you to park your car around the new solar parking shade. Tables for food (potluck) to be shared will be placed under our new solar parking shade. The Valley Galley will be at the party selling those delicious smoothies and a surprise dessert!

So, park your vehicle, set out your lawn chair, show off your favorite team shirt and hat, or wear a Halloween costume. Start your grill and be willing to share "social" foods like sandwiches, bratwurst, Buffalo wings, hamburgers, chicken legs, ribs, or small appetizers like deviled eggs or meatballs, and brag about your favorite team. The church will provide paper plates, napkins and utensils. Bring your own drinks!

Remember, it's a tailgate party, so everyone will be expected to keep in the spirit of the party. Be ready to have fun! Enjoy mingling with other members of our congregation, sharing and sampling food. It's a party!

Later in the afternoon as the sun begins to set, everyone will relocate their lawn chairs and our Associate Pastor Diane Christopher will lead us in open-air fun-filled Worship.

More information will follow, but in the meantime, mark your calendar for Wednesday October 31, dust off those team shirts, search for those tasty appetizer recipes, and get ready for the VPC HALLOWEEN TAILGATING PARTY!



Valley Assistance Services Fundraiser at Tubac Jacks

Friday, October 29 from 5 to 8 p.m. at Tubac Jack's

Valley Assistance Services, a long-standing mission partner of VPC, is holding a fundraiser at Tubac Jack's on Friday, October 29. The event will feature a Mexican buffet, cash bar, music, and a 50/50 raffle. Ticket prices are \$20 for adults, and \$10 for children under 12 years. Tubac Jack's is located at 7 Plaza Road, in Tubac, AZ. Tickets may be purchased in advance at Tumacookery, Jane's Attic, The Goods, Valley Assistance Services, or from Chris Erickson at VPC (limited tickets the night of the program at the door). All proceeds benefit the Neighbors Helping Neighbors program, a transportation and friendly visitor program.

More About Per Capita

By Eloise Fredrickson

In 2019, the per capita amount will be \$40.22, which is a slight increase from last year.

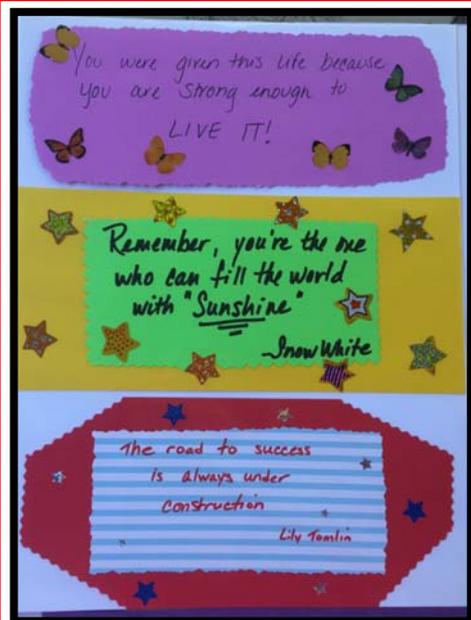
Last month I wrote about the six agencies that are a part of the Office of the General Assembly. To keep them operating, their part of the per capita is \$8.95.

\$25.27 of the per capita amount will go to Presbytery de Cristo, which is the local governing agency. Every Presbyterian church belongs to a presbytery. Arizona has only two presbyteries – Presbytery de Cristo in southern Arizona and Grand Canyon Presbytery in the northern half. A presbytery is responsible for helping churches get started as well as helping churches disband. It also oversees the relationship between pastors, sessions, and congregations. It serves as the church for the clergy, so it ordains them and supports them as they serve their congregations. It sees that commissioners get elected to higher governing bodies such as the synod and the General Assembly. It trains officers such as the presbytery executive and the clerks of the sessions, and it helps churches in the presbytery with insurance coverage and obtaining loans. (Thanks to Tommy Calhoun for his description of the duties of presbyteries.) There are 171 presbyteries in the PC (USA).

The synod is the next level of government in the Presbyterian Church. There are 16 synods in the PC(USA), and ours is the Synod of the Southwest, which gets \$6.00 of the per capita amount. The synod covers all of Arizona and New Mexico and is staffed by three people. The following is quoted from its website:

There are two meetings of the Synod each year, with representatives and staff coming from each of the presbyteries. Our largest challenges are development and redevelopment, training of our lay leaders, and border (refugee) ministries. With regard to our urban communities, we are discovering that what we need to do is to address the needs and composition of those areas immediately surrounding our churches. The specific areas to be concentrated on are worship style, community service, program offerings and leadership styles.

Per capita is the only source of funding the Office of the General Assembly, the synod, and the presbytery get to support their missions and carry out their work. When you think about it, it is quite a deal for \$40.22.



Calling All Note-Writers!!

Wednesday, October 24 at 2 p.m.



Plan to join in the fun and creativity on October 24 at church. We will gather to write some inspiring notes to YOTO students that will be placed in the envelopes with their monthly stipend checks. We'll have inspirational sayings, markers, and stickers in abundance to choose from! We hope to see you there!! See examples of what we'll create on the left.

If you have questions, please call Mary Horn (282-1390), VPC Mission Committee Liaison to YOTO.

Random Acts of Kindness

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

We have all heard the phrase "Random Acts of Kindness." Have you ever seen any? Within the last two weeks, two happened to come my way. Sometimes when things are not going so well, there in the midst of stress or distress, frustration, tiredness, or whatever you may be feeling at that time, here comes a random act of kindness. Now, I am not one to have a lot of luck or be lucky, so when these random acts came my way, I could not believe it. I actually asked the person giving me a free receipt of food, "Are you sure, are you really sure?" When receiving the other, "These are for me, really?"

Let's relate this to everyday life and health. What happens to us when something happy, delightful, kind, or caring comes into our life or changes our life and health for the positive.

At Valley Presbyterian, there is a large group that actually does just this: Congregational Care. Over the last 11 months or so, Congregational Care became something a lot of people have hoped for. Previously, we had several groups working on congregational care: the Board of Deacons, Pastoral Care and another group, the CCTT or Congregational Care Transition Team. Now all of those are united as one group called Congregational Care (with Board of Deacons oversight and support). The level of care and kindness has reached new heights.

Just watch what may happen, and the acts of kindness that are already being given:

- Someone visits and provides extended communion right to where you live
- Someone(s) create hospitality and wonderful treats for Sunday Fellowship
- Someone makes sure you can get a ride from your car to the church
- Someone ushers and greets 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 sits and listens to you during a grief class
- Someone comforts those during and after grief with warm gifts of reflections and caring books
- Someone supportive visits and listens to those experiencing grief, giving them full support during a difficult time
- Someone makes a card on behalf of the congregation and sends it to someone who may need a little extra good wishes
- Someone beautifully rearranges the flowers from the sanctuary into five floral arrangements, then another someone delivers them with a warm and caring smile and visit
- Someone calls those who have birthdays and greets them with a caring message
- Someone makes a prayer shawl and another someone prays over these shawls and lifts up many other concerns

Random acts of kindness are all around you at VPC. These someone(s) provide care to so many in the church and in the community. These caring ways are demonstrated every day, every week, every month, and every year. Congregational Care provides acts of kindness, but more important, a world of love!



Promoted to Glory



August 31
September 17
September 21

James C. Pickard
Eva Kreisher
Roger Stubbs

Faith & Health and Parish Nurse News

Caring for Those in our Congregation: Congregational Care

Flu Clinic coming soon at VPC: Watch the bulletin and E-blast for more details.



Blood Pressure Screenings: You may have your blood pressure taken during the week on Tuesdays & Thursdays, from 9 - 11 a.m. with the Parish Nurse.



The **Sunday blood pressure screening clinics** will begin again **October 28**

Movement & Exercise:



- 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.

Medical Minute

Pumpkins are full of fiber, magnesium and iron. But did you know that they are 90 percent water?

Hunger Walk News

Submitted by Betty Kiesle-Yoder

We had thirteen walkers for the September 15 Hunger Walk. Everyone had a great time, and good snacks were served afterwards. We raised over \$1500! Thanks so much to all of you who sponsored us. We don't have an exact total of monies yet, but our VPC team is in first place, so we are the champs! Go team go! My goal was \$1,000.

Mark your 2019 calendar for September 19. We will try to beat 2018 with more walkers and money.



SPECIAL BIRTHDAY MILESTONES!

Special birthday greetings to Betty Weide (October 15) as she celebrates her **90th birthday** this month!





Valley Presbyterian Church

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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. Dr. Linda Lloyd
Interim Pastor of Care
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

October 7	One Table Welcomes All	Rev. Mark A. Medina and Elder Eloise Fredrickson
October 14	God Is Calling	Rev. Dr. Linda Lloyd
October 21	Christian Caregiving	Stephen Ministers
October 28	Personal Priest	Rev. Diane Christopher

La Joya at La Posada

9:00 a.m. at La Joya

Communion served on first Sunday of each month

October 7	Rev. Diane Christopher
October 21	Eloise Fredrickson

Taizé

Wednesday, October 3 at 5:00 p.m. in the Spiritual Life Center

Gaelic/Celtic traditional Ceilidh Service

Wednesday, October 24 at 5:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

TO PROVIDE FEEDBACK OR COMMENTS TO THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE, PLEASE SUBMIT AN ONLINE FEEDBACK FORM AT WWW.VALLEYPRESBYTERIAN.NET/WORSHIP (OR CLICK ON THE WORSHIP TAB FROM ANYWHERE ON OUR WEBSITE). THE FORM IS IN THE BOTTOM-RIGHT CORNER OF THE WORSHIP PAGE.

Gaslight Tickets for Scrooge

Sunday, November 18 at 6:00 p.m. at the Gaslight Theater

Submitted by George Curtis

If you reserved tickets for the Campus Ministry fundraiser at Gaslight, they will be available in Fellowship Hall on Sunday October 21 and 28. Remaining tickets will be on sale on Sunday November 4 and 11. You can still reserve by contacting George Curtis (625-2394).

Gaslight has increased the ticket price to Campus Ministry from \$17 to \$22.27. As a result, we have raised our price from \$30 to \$35.