

THE VALLEY VOICE

VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH October 2023



South Sudan Missionaries Bob and Kristi Rice

Submitted by: Pastor Craig

Thank you to all those who came to listen to Missionaries to South Sudan, Kristi & Bob Rice, at the Mission Breakfast, at Worship and the Open House.

Kristi told the story of a woman of the Murle tribe who was moved to name her hate of the Nuer tribe for the killing they had done to her family. She is confronting the hate she had to confess the sins she had committed. In response, a Nuer man confessed wrestling with his hate for the Murle and acknowledgement of what he had done to them. Out of which, this woman and man created a new song naming their hurts and promising forgiveness as their work of reconciliation.

Kristi and
Bob Rice.



Mission Breakfast

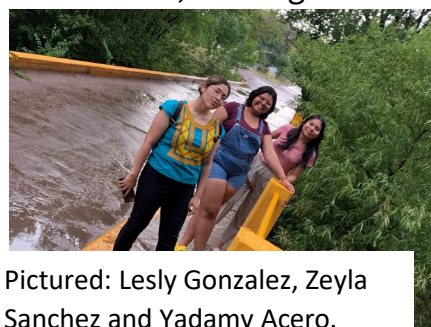
The next Mission Breakfast will be November 18, 2023, at 8:30 a.m.

The breakfast will benefit YAV (Young Adult Volunteers). The breakfast is \$5.00 and is prepared by our own VPC cooks.

The tickets will be available for purchase Sundays November 5th and 12th after worship in the Fellowship Hall.

We hope you will join us to hear about the YAV program, what it does, and possibly meet some of these young volunteers.

Here is a picture of three of new volunteers, starting this fall.



Pictured: Lesly Gonzalez, Zeyla Sanchez and Yadamy Acero.

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Supper Cluster

Clerks Corner

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

OUR MISSION

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

The principles we will follow to accomplish this are:

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

Valley Presbyterian Church

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

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

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

Pastors

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

Rev. Diane Christopher,
Pastor of Discipleship

Rev. Joe Hawkins,
Pastor Emeritus



Sunday Worship
Traditional Service of Worship
9:30 a.m.
Online and in Person
www.valleypresbyterian.n

In This Issue

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OUR VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN STAFF

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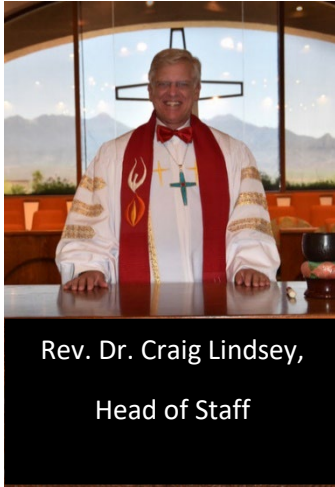
Rev. Joe Hawkins.....Pastor Emeritus.....

Dick Horn-Web Designer..... rrhorn@mac.com

Alice Sanchez- Nursery Attendant.....vpc-office@valleypres.net

SUNDAY Worship Schedule and Other Celebrations

October 1	Exodus 17 “Messah & Meribah” Worldwide Communion Peace & Global Witness Sunday Food Bank Sunday	Pastor Craig
October 8	Philippians 3: 4b-14 “To know Christ.” Nogales Crossroads Mission Sunday	Pastor Diane
October 15	Matthew 22 “Parable of the Wedding Banquet Youth on Their Own Sunday	Pastor Craig
October 22	Exodus 32: 1-14 “Golden Calf” Matthew 22 “Render to Caesar”	Pastor Craig
October 29	Deuteronomy 34:1-12 “Moses’ Death” Matthew 22: 34-46 “The Greatest Commandment” All Saints Remembrance & Noisy Offering	Pastor Craig



From Pastor Craig

Worship is one of the few places today where we gather to sing. The point of song in worship is not to be entertained (even though we have professional musicians), the point of music in worship is to express our Christian faith, to motivate and express the spirit of emotions. We are richly blessed with the music of our Choir and musicians led by Jamie, Jan and Joan. We take for granted that they just open their mouths or touch their fingers (and feet) to instruments, and we are moved not only by their abilities and harmonization but by what they are singing or

The first thing I addressed four years ago, was that our Sanctuary Sound system did not work. The Building & Grounds Committee provided clear sound for those seated in (the Nave of) the congregation, with new line-array speaker amplification of both the spoken and sung Word of God. However, I am pained that for 45 years, our Choirs have led in worship of God, while they were unable to hear the spoken words of Prayers, Sermons, the testimonials of Memorial services, or the sound of each other in the choir! Herculean efforts have been attempted, from re-arranging the Pulpit and Instruments, to wiring the Choir members' chairs and installing speakers on the ceiling! Finally, our Acoustical Engineers have recommended a new technology speaker system. This is to arrive within the next month, and I pray the choir will finally be able to hear.

HOLY LANDS TRIP 2024

When I began booking a group from our church going to the Holy Lands, I hoped we might have as many as 25 who wanted to travel. We quickly filled those reservations and expanded to 35. Last week, I was notified by the Tour that we had more people than seats on the plane, hotel rooms, or space on the bus! After a great deal of prayer and a bit of the loaves and fishes, I was able to straighten everything out, accommodating everyone who have made reservations, for us to have a group of 42 in a 55-passenger bus (room for luggage), with airlines and rooms for everyone. The tour company has now closed our reservations, so I hope all those wanting to come are accommodated, and that no one has to cancel.

In just six months, we will be on the Mountain where Elijah contested with the Prophets of Baal! We will visit the Little Town of Bethlehem to witness the place where Emmanuel (God with us) was born! We will sail the Sea of Galilee, seeing a +2,000-year-old fishing boat from Galilee! We will wade in the Jordan and float in the Dead Sea! We will pray at the Wailing Wall which was part of The Temple at Jerusalem. We will touch the Stone of Unction where Jesus' body was lain and washed after the crucifixion, and the Holy Sepulcher where Christ's Resurrection happened! We will visit the Dome on the Rock where Mohammed was transported to Heaven and returned with the Koran! We will walk the streets where the Crusades were fought! We will be at Masada and the Caves of the Dead Sea Scrolls.

From Pastor Diane

Last month, I wrote about my favorite scripture passages that I use in ministry. This time around: favorite Christian hymns and songs that speak to my heart.

And Can it Be

Most of you do not know this one. It is not in our hymnal. I attended a small Baptist seminary in St Paul, MN. Although not required, it was highly recommended that we attend chapel every day. Everything in the building shut down, including the library.

One day, I was late entering the chapel, and the students (mostly men) were singing this rousing hymn. I had never heard it before. Hearing these men sing this song with such great gusto that it almost brought me to my knees at the glory of it.

It is verse 4 that causes a sacred encounter in my soul:

Long my imprisoned spirit lay
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray,
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
My chains fell off, my heart was free;
I rose, went forth and followed Thee.

Chorus:

Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God should die for me!

Every time I hear this song, I remember the day “I rose, went forth and followed Thee.” I have a horrible singing voice, but I do not shy away from this song as I belt it out in my home. God’s amazing love and grace is the theme of my life.



Pastor Diane Christopher-Pastor of Discipleship

In Christ Alone

Before I came to this church, I was involved with contemporary worship. When contemporary music first began to appear in worship services, there was much criticism on the repetitiveness and shallowness of the words. This song, *In Christ Alone*, was in response to that criticism. No shallowness here. The depth of theology tells the story of the incarnation and love of Christ. And no repetition. Even the chorus is different after each verse. I’ve been known to belt this one in my car.

I wish there was room to place all four verses here, because I am having a hard time choosing one. They are all stunning. But here is the final verse and chorus.

No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
'Til He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

Grace Alone

As I mentioned above, grace is the theme of my life and ministry. I grew up with a legalistic form of Christianity that said I had to earn God's love. It wasn't until I took a systematic theology class in seminary that I learned what grace meant. The professor was teaching Reformed Theology and said three words that changed my life: *God chose you*. I realized at that very moment that God's love had nothing to do with me. I didn't have to earn it. God's love was already given. Period. It is called grace.

Every promise we can make, every prayer and step of faith
Every difference we can make is only by His grace.
Every mountain we will climb, every ray of hope we shine
Every blessing left behind is only by His grace.
Grace alone which God supplies
Strength unknown he will provide
Christ in us our cornerstone
We will go forth in grace alone.

I went forth from that theology class with the burden of pleasing God lifted off my shoulders. I was already loved through grace alone.

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

What can I say about this hymn. I wait every Easter to sing this hymn and sing it as many times as I can on that day . Then, I wait another year. Sigh.

The Resurrection is central to our faith. I will preach this fact as long as I can.

Jesus Christ is risen today, alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, alleluia!
who did once, upon the cross, alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss, alleluia!

I encourage you to do what I did in this article. To think of 3 or 4 favorite hymns, dwell on why they are favorites and how they impact your life. As I end this article, I am filled with joy, the joy of my faith, and certainty of it.

REDISCOVERING WHO WE ARE

By Pastor Craig

As part of our Mission Study and in preparation for serving as your Solo Pastor beginning in January, I have been rereading the 45 past Annual Reports. Different from publishing these annually, reading the Annual Reports in series has been a fascinating learning experience! How many times the Outside doors have been re-oiled, sealed and refinished! How many times the Irrigation system, fountain pump and outdoor lighting have been replaced! All the many different ways and times our church has attempted to correct for sound amplification and lighting in worship. In 1996 our church purchased a 2nd Truck, to be used for Landscaping and Church errands. In the 1990s our church was the destination for 12-17 Weddings and up to 26 Baptisms per year!

These Annual Reports have also provided challenges to many of the nostalgic memories of our church. While our Church began in 1978, Patio Sale began in 1982 with 12 Volunteers and Receipts of \$3,000. In 2022, Patio Sale was thankful to have Volunteers throughout the year, and between The Patio Sale, Holiday Sale and sale of Donated Vehicles, Receipts totaled \$116,670.

Until we created the VPC Foundation for Capital Improvements, our church annually budgeted about \$100,000/year for Asset Replacement/ Capital Improvements/ Miscellaneous, and Contingencies.

Retirement of the Church Mortgage (1995) permitted Budgeted Missions to go from \$85,000 to \$155,000. While 1996, Budgeted Missions reached \$230,000; annual giving to Benevolences (Budgeted and Pass-through) has regularly been between \$93,000 and 200,000; which in 2022 reached \$278,653.

The highest “Membership” of our church was in 1993 when we reached 1,670 full members. From 1999 through 2019 we consistently sustained an annual net loss in membership, attributable to new members being less than the resurrection of members. For the last 3 years we have been growing! When adding our 2022 number of “members” 436, plus “affiliate members” another 514, and the number of devices worshipping with us by Live-stream on-line 362; this year we are touching 1,312 souls!

If your mind is beginning to swirl with numbers, imagine mine after reading 45 years of this; and the first few years of these reports were only numbers with no essays. But numbers aside, what is apparent throughout the life of this congregation, is that we have been passionately united by our faith in Jesus Christ; we have given superb pastoral care to one another and mission to the world around us; there has been great joy, laughter, and song.

A significant shift happened in 2020, when in reaction to COVID19, we began daily E-Blasts. This provided daily opportunities for spiritual meditations as well as communication about everything connected to our church. Sincere thanks to the Faith Formation Committee for their contributions, to our Office staff for making these available, and to you for your daily following.

Exploring Membership Class

Saturdays, October 7, 14, 21 - 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

&

Thursday, October 26 - 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Do you want to learn more about Valley Presbyterian? 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 multi-week 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 Presbyterian.

You can become an affiliate member (whereby you keep your main membership with your church back "home") or an active member (full membership here at Valley).

Contact Pastor Diane Christopher to register (520)-625-5023; pastordiane@valleypres.net.



Journey Through Greif

November 3, 7, 10, 21, 28 December 1 & 5

1:00 p.m. in Classroom 5

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

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

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

The next session will start on November 3 and will be held on Tuesdays and Fridays through December 3rd. Contact Pastor Diane Christopher at the church to register 520-625-5023 or pastordiane@valleypres.net

The Book: The Grand Story of God

Thursdays, 1 p.m. in Classroom 5

Your teachers: Pastor Diane and Chuck Ramsay

Come and join this class as Pastor Diane and Chuck Ramsay take you through the grand story of the Bible, book by book. You will discover how God continues to call us back, again and again, into relationship.

Our schedule for October:

October 5	I Corinthians
October 12	II Corinthians
October 19	Galatians
October 26	Ephesians

Bible Study with Pastor Craig at VPC

BIBLE REFLECTIONS

With Pastor Craig Lindsey

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

In classroom 5 (zoom available)

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

You don't have to attend every class and you may join at any time.

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

Meeting ID: 294 281 2414

Password: Heaven

These classes are recorded and can be viewed on the church's website:

valleypres.net



A Sad Farewell

From Ted and Gee-Gee Smith

Ted and I cannot say a personal goodbye to each of you, but we wanted you all to know how important you have been in our lives.

We bought our retirement home in Tubac in the spring of 2010. We moved here full time in the spring of 2015. I initially began attending sporadically when I would come to Tubac on my own for 3-4 weeks at a time while Ted was still working full time. I began attending the Women's Ministries luncheons when their gatherings coincided with my visits. In 2014 I became an affiliate member and a Stephen Minister. Ted became a Stephen Minister in the class of 2016, after his retirement.

Our life in AZ has revolved around Valley Pres. We have attended Lenten and Advent worship and studies each time they have been offered. We attended the Taizé services and numerous Bible studies. We have been part of 3 different Supper Cluster groups. Ted and I both served as Stephen Leaders, and I served as the Women's Ministries Moderator.

We have been through the heartache of losing Larry and all the upheaval that followed, with several years of Interim pastors, reorganizing our leadership structures, and working hard to define who we wanted to be. We have been through the COVID years of not meeting in person and developing our skills in Zoom and meeting virtually. When so many other churches suffered greatly, the Lord blessed us with renewal and growth.

Due to increasing health issues, Ted and I made a hard decision to move back to Philadelphia, where we had lived for almost 40 years. Both of our children still live there, and we felt we needed their support as our needs and abilities changed.

We are moving into a community similar to La Posada, where we will have our own apartment, but greater levels of care are available as needed. We have several close friends in Philly, and 3 of them live in the Cathedral Village community. We will not have to start from scratch, which is a blessing. There are no church services at Cathedral Village, so my hope is to find a church (or churches) that will make a commitment to serve this large community. I also hope to start a Women's Bible study using the Presbyterian Women's study each year. These are my plans, but we'll see what God has in mind.

Saying goodbye is always hard. So many of you have nurtured and cared for Ted and I in so many ways. And we thank you for the love and kindness that you show every day. We ask for your continued prayers as we sell our house in Tubac, move to Philly, and develop a whole new way of living.

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Ephesians 6:10

Become a Stephen Minister

Jana Honermann, Stephen Leader Team Coordinator



Do you have a caring nature and find yourself often listening, caring, and praying for those who are down? Have you had past experiences with personal suffering that can help you empathize with others who are experiencing their own suffering? Do you have spiritual gifts in areas connected with caring ministry?

If you answered yes to any of the above questions, please consider becoming a Stephen Minister. Becoming a Stephen Minister in Valley Presbyterian Church is a life-transforming experience - an opportunity to serve God, help others, and grow in faith.

As we all know, just because we are of a “certain age” does not mean that we stop going through difficulties in our lives. All of us at one time or another are going to experience grief and loss, chronic illness, loneliness, relationship breakdowns, being a caregiver to a loved one, or other hard life transitions. You do not need to go through these alone. Many of our church members are reaching out to Stephen Ministry and finding a one-on-one listening companion to help them through their time of difficulty. VPC Stephen Ministry is having a difficult time in meeting the demand! As a result, we plan on a Stephen Minister training class commencing in January 2024 and need potential candidates to prayerfully consider applying for the class as early as yesterday!

Who Are Stephen Ministers?

Stephen Ministers are congregation members equipped and commissioned for caring ministry. They come from many different backgrounds, ages, and walks of life, but all have one important thing in common: a heart for bringing Christ’s healing love to hurting people. In short, Stephen Ministers are caring Christians who want to make a difference in the lives of those going through difficult times.

Continued on page: 10

What Do Stephen Ministers Do?

A Stephen Minister walks alongside a hurting person to provide one-to-one, emotional and spiritual care—listening, empathizing, encouraging, helping process feelings, and connecting the person with God’s love. Serving in this role is an opportunity to put your spiritual gifts into action and touch people’s lives in powerful ways. Typically, a Stephen Minister meets with his or her care receiver in person, although many have shifted to meeting by phone or video chat during the COVID-19 pandemic so that they can continue their ministry while ensuring everyone’s safety.

Who Do Stephen Ministers Care For?

Stephen Ministers provide care for *care receivers*, people in the congregation or community who are experiencing difficulties in life, such as grief, major illness, loneliness, spiritual struggles, and so on. In the midst of challenging times, receiving care from a Stephen Minister can make a significant difference.

What Is Stephen Minister Training Like?

Stephen Minister training is an engaging, interactive experience that fully equips you to provide high-quality, Christ-centered care to people who are hurting. Stephen Leaders will use presentations, discussions, readings, videos, skill practices, and spiritual growth activities to equip and empower you with practical caregiving and relational skills. In addition, the training provides many opportunities for building Christian community and experiencing personal and spiritual growth. Stephen Ministers often say that their training was life-transforming—helping them to grow in faith and learn relationship principles and skills that deepened and enhanced all the relationships in their life.

Who Do I Contact if I Want to Apply for Stephen Minister Training?

You can talk to any of the VPC Stephen Leaders: Patti Bright, Carolyn Hill, Jana Honermann, Bob Lillie, or Linda Piotrowski.

Good Times!

An All-Church Event

Friday, October 13, 2023, 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Green Valley Rec West Center (1111 S. GVR Dr.)

This event is brought to you by Fellowship Committee. It will be a free event but there will be a freewill offering.

Live music provided by Katie Sayre’s band, Hardscrabble Road Band.

Please bring finger foods to share, and a beverage of your choice.

The line dancers will be strutting their stuff, but you are not required to dance.

Come watch and enjoy the fellowship.

THE END TIMES ACCORDING TO JESUS CONTIUES– SELECTED TOPICS



Bud Landry
October 3-November 14
Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m.
Classroom 5 and YouTube

As I prepared the recently concluded course, "The Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah: His Final Week", I was struck by the significance of Jesus giving up His Spirit at 3 PM on Nisan 14 or April 3, 33. (Mark 15:33). This was late afternoon on the Day of Preparation and the exact time required in Exodus 12:6 (and elsewhere) for the temple priests to slaughter literally thousands of lambs within the two hours before darkness fell, and the Passover Sabbath began. It is no mere coincidence that *Agnus Dei*, our Lamb, the ultimate Lamb, greater than an infinite number of animal prototypes, died exactly when He did. And, within less than a generation the Temple would be no more, putting a forever end to animal sacrifices. There simply would be no more need. (Hebrews 9:12)

The doctrine of the Second Coming of Jesus is also firmly established, and this is our Blessed Hope (Titus 2:13). However, the events surrounding the Second Advent are so confused by writers of sensationalism that Christians avoid the subject altogether. In this eight-week course we will explore what we do understand (as best as possible) while standing on firm Reformed theological ground. This course will be videotaped and made available on YouTube as well as presented live in Classroom 5 on the following **Tuesdays at 11 AM.**

October 3 Time and Eternity—Exploring the Events of the First Century
October 10 The Olivet Discourse--Literal or Figurative?
October 17 What Did Jesus Mean by 'This Generation' and 'The End of the Age'?
October 24 The Destruction of Jerusalem and the Jewish Diaspora

October 31 Exegetical Approach for Understanding End Times
November 7 Nero, the Antichrist, 666, "The Beast", Babylon and more
November 14 Exploring the Parousia, The Rapture, and the Millennium—Several Views

Valley Readers
2:00 P.M. - Monday, October 23, 2023
Classroom 1



The socialite wife of a famous silent film star, Mirielle West's life is turned upside down when she is suddenly diagnosed with leprosy and forcibly incarcerated in Carville, an institution for leprosy victims in Louisiana. With no rights, Mirielle adopts a new name to spare her family shame and adapts to her changed circumstances while struggling for self-worth and a release from what amounts to imprisonment. Based on the true history of Carville and written by a medical professional, the novel inspires reflection on how those with endangering transmissible disease are treated and cared for. Please join us for a discussion led by Karen Woodrow. Contact Anne Morrison for additional information at 520-399-0762. (This novel is available in Kindle Unlimited if you subscribe to that plan.)

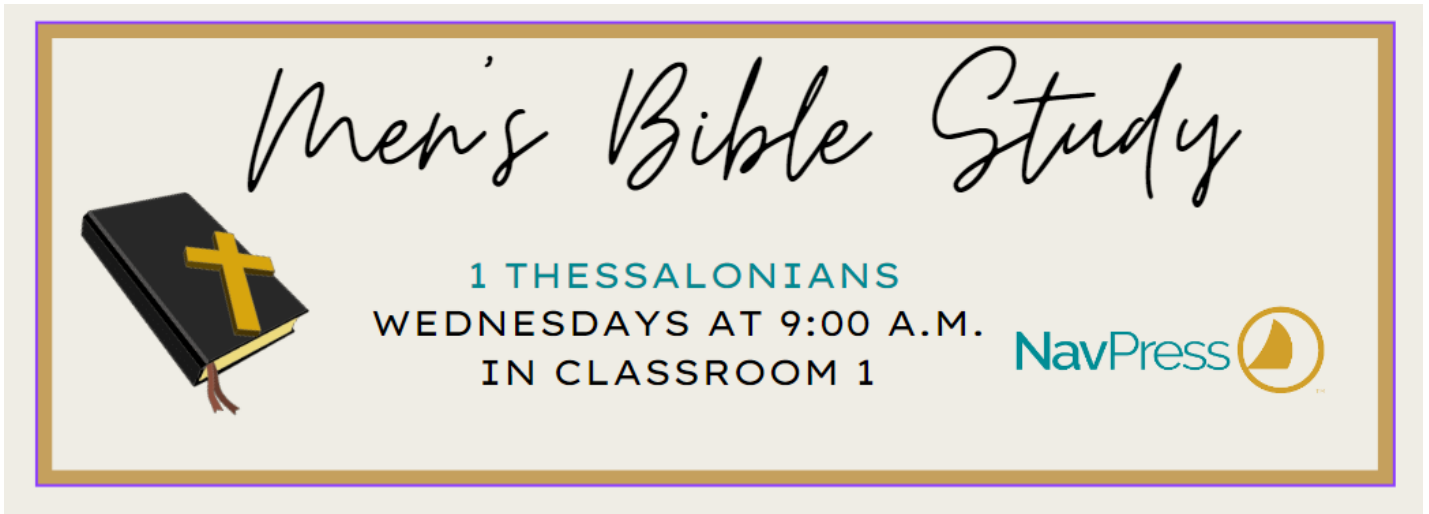


Every year the Faith Formation Committee offers an Advent Devotional, which includes readings for every day in Advent (the four weeks before Christmas). The daily devotions prepare us for the birth of Christ. This year, we are making our own devotional booklet with the theme: Songs of Christmas. **We invite you to write a devotional on a favorite Christmas Carol.**

Each devotional will include the title of the song, a short scripture (one or two sentences), a devotion of 200-300 words and a short one or two sentence prayer.

Contact Pastor Diane if you are interested in writing a devotion, have any questions, need help. She can be reached at the church: 520-625-5023, or at pastordiane@valleypres.net. Devotions are due October 31.

We are excited, once again, to offer this unique Advent Devotional to you. Will you be a part of it?



This group meets every Wednesday morning at 9 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 Paul's letter to the 1 Thessalonians. Join the group any time to participate in the discussion or come to just listen. In either case, your presence will be welcomed. Lessons are self-contained so feel free to join the group when able. Larry has a limited number of the study guide for \$8.00. The Navigators Life Change study guide is also available from Amazon or Christianbook.com.



Yoga at Valley Presbyterian

Starting October 17

Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

\$5 per session in Charter Hall

Josie Trobec, a certified yoga instructor, will be leading a yoga practice that focuses on centering ourselves in the Presence of God... to learn how to incorporate one's Christian faith with a yoga practice. The idea of melding BODY, MIND and SPIRIT.

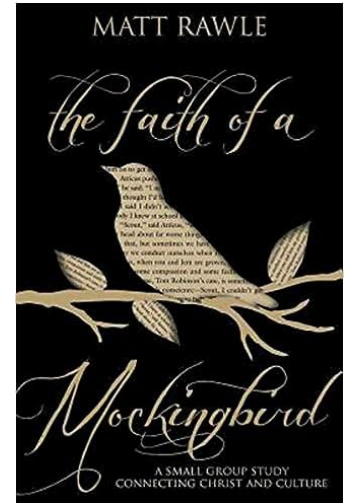
The class opens with scripture that speaks to a practice of faith during the breath work. The body of the class is a combination of standing poses, balance poses and floor poses. The classes closes with restorative yoga, a practice of calm alertness allowing a time of reflection and thanksgiving for God's Presence in our lives. This class is for all levels, modifications are offered for all poses, including practicing from a chair rather than the mat.

Please bring your own mat. Props are also welcome, such as blocks, straps, and blanket.

A Study - *The Faith of a Mockingbird*
Thursdays October 5, 12, 19 in Classroom 5
& 26 in classroom 1 at 10:00 a.m.

Submitted by: Eloise Fredrick

Is it possible to examine issues of Christian faith by studying secular novels? Last January we did just that as we looked at *Les Miserables*, one of the literature's classic novels. In October we will embark on a four-week study of one of the greatest of American novels, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, to see what spiritual truths it reveals to us. This study, again authored by Matt Rawle, explores our place in the world through the eyes of Harper Lee's beloved and unforgettable characters – Atticus Finch, his daughter Scout, Tom Robinson, and Boo Radley.



The class will meet at 10:00 a.m. on four consecutive Thursdays – October 5, 12, 19, and 26 in classroom 5 and will be facilitated by Eloise Fredrickson. A study guide for will be available for \$14, Sunday October 1st and at the VPC office.

Although participants don't necessarily need to have read the book, it would be helpful to have at least viewed the movie recently, which will give you an opportunity to see Gregory Peck in his finest role. **VPC's Movie Ministry makes that easy for you by presenting the movie on Wednesday, October 4, at 1:00 in the Spiritual Life Center.**

Please join us in October for these interesting discussions.



October Ministry Movie

To Kill a Mockingbird

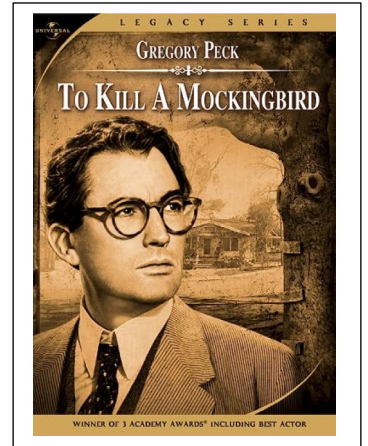
October 4 at 1:00 p.m.

In the Spiritual Life Center



Do you want to go to a good movie – one so good that the Library of Congress selected it to be preserved for posterity because of its cultural, historical, and aesthetical significance? One that won three Academy Awards and was nominated for eight? One that was ranked twenty-fifth on the American Film Institute's list of the greatest American movies of all time? Then come to see *To Kill a Mockingbird* on October 4th at 1:00 pm in the Spiritual Life Center.

To Kill a Mockingbird is a 1962 film based on the 1960 Pulitzer Prize-winning novel of the same name by Harper Lee. It stars Gregory Peck as Atticus Finch and Mary Badham, a complete unknown, as his daughter Scout, and Robert Duval in one of his first films as their neighbor Boo Radley.



The showing of this film leads into the course being taught on Thursday mornings titled *The Faith of a Mockingbird* beginning on October 5th. The course will look into what Christian principles can be learned from studying four characters of the book/film: Atticus Finch, Scout, Tom Robinson, and Boo Radley. All are welcome to attend!

Hope for Overcoming Depression
Mondays October 23, 30 , November 6, 13
9:30 – 10:30 a.m. in Classroom 5
Your Teacher: Tom Lobb

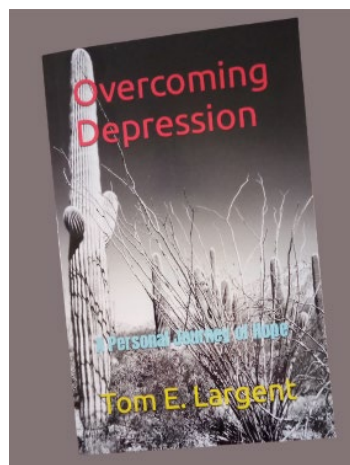
Do you know of someone who always seems to be "blue"? Do you have a friend who thinks negatively most of the time? Do you tend to be "down in the dumps" much of the time, or are you unhappy with the life that you have been dealt with? If so, your friend might have depression, or you might be struggling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

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

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

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

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





WOMEN'S MINISTRIES VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Submitted by Lesley Bruce, Women's Ministries Moderator

Happy Fall everyone! I think it's wonderful living in Green Valley where we don't have to worry about raking all those many, many leaves. Or concern ourselves with stocking up on salt for the sidewalks or antifreeze for our cars. Hooray Arizona!!

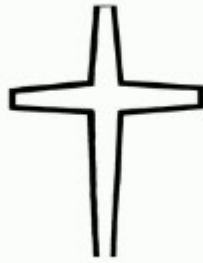
If you missed our first Gathering Luncheon, hosted by La Posada, we installed our final two officers of Women's Ministries. Chris Fleischman is our Vice Moderator and Jan Farrington is our secretary. Congratulations to you both! We also introduced Chuck Ramsay, who will post his thoughts monthly on each month's study lesson. The food was wonderful, and another thank you to La Posada and our La Posada Circle ladies!

Our Circles will begin to meet this month. If you aren't sure when your Circle meets, please look it up in the yearbook you received with your study guide or check out the Women's Ministries bulletin board near the kitchen door in Fellowship Hall. If you aren't a member of a Circle yet, consider joining one that is convenient for your schedule. You can sign up for one at the Women's Ministries table or just call one of the Leaders. Our Circle Leaders are: La Posada – Leah Bohor, Miriam – Liz Haynes, and Ruth – Sue Horton. If you have questions about the circles, please contact one of them. Their contact information is listed in the yearbook.

The Gathering Luncheon for October will be on the 17th in the Fellowship Hall at 11:30 am. You may make reservations for the luncheon at the Women's Ministries table on Sunday October 8th and 15th, and the cost is \$13.00. The program, Tool Kit for Daily Living, will be presented by our own Marcia MacDonald. The hostess will be the Coordinating Team. There is still time to purchase the Study Guide and pick up the yearbook, so you'll know about future programs and monthly happenings in the world of Women's Ministries.

Please remember to wear your name tag so new attendees will know who you are.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in October.



VPC Library

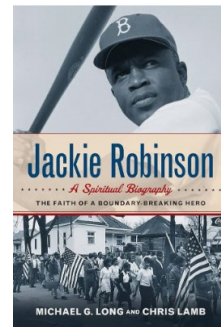
Submitted by Anne Morrison, VPC Librarian

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME

World Series time is just around the corner. If you cannot get enough of “America’s favorite pastime” here are some suggestions for you from the VPC Library collection...

BOOKS

Jackie Robinson: A Spiritual Biography: The Faith of a Boundary-Breaking Hero. Micheal Long. (BIOG ROB)



Wait till Next Year: A Memoir. Doris Kearns Goodwin. (796.357 G63)

DVDs

42: The Jackie Robinson Story. (DVD 791.43 F77)

Field of Dreams. (DVD 791.43 F45)

Jackie Robinson. (DVD BIOG ROB)

A League of Their Own. (DVD 791.43 LEA)

The Natural. (DVD 791.43 NAT)



Caring for those in our congregation

Faith & Health/Parish Nurse September 2023

Submitted by Parish Nurse, Chris Erickson

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

Keeping active helps to stay positive and healthy and
Strengthens ankles and quads which can prevent falls.

Drink plenty of water when you are exercising or are
outside doing activities. Be careful of dehydration
especially in these hot summer months.



Blood pressure screening will be by individual
appointment.

**Save the Date: American Red Cross blood drive here at VPC. Thursday, February 29th
from 9 am – 2 pm. Watch for more information on future eblasts and bulletins.**

Medical Minute: Watch your footing. Over 130 falls are reported in our community each month.
Falls can be prevented.

Don't Take a Trip This Way.

Submitted by: Parish Nurse, Chris Erickson

Falls are the leading cause of fatal and nonfatal injuries among older adults. (36 million each year in the US) About 3 million older adults are treated in the Emergency Room each year for fall-related injuries. Just in our area of Green Valley, there are around 130 months each month that are reported to our local fire district. If all falls were to be reported, there would be about 4 times as many.



According to the CDC, one in four older adults (age 65 and older) fall each year, but less than half of all these falls talk to their healthcare providers about it. Falling once may double your chances of falling again. As many as 1 in 4, or 25 %, have a fear of falling and limiting their activities/socialization because of this fear.

Most of these falls happen in the home and may change our quality of life. Risks may include mobility issues, medications, vision, hearing, proper footwear, lower extremity weakness, neuropathy, social and emotional difficulties, environmental circumstances with uneven surfaces, rugs, cords, wet floors, and other risks. Those with mild hearing loss are almost three times more likely to fall.

Large amount of medical costs, lengthy time in a hospital/rehab, multiple injuries and even death can occur from a fall.

Know your fall risks:

I have fallen before, or I worry about falling.

I feel unsteady at times, or I hold onto furniture at home.

The feeling in my feet has decreased or is not present.

I take many medications, and/or some to help me sleep.

I take medications that make me feel tired, light-headed, leading to unsteadiness.

I feel tired, sad, or down.

Fall risk factors are environmental, social, emotional and medical/health related.

A few questions to ask:

Have you reviewed your medications with your provider?

Do you use one pharmacy and are they updated on your information on use of prescription and over-the-counter medications and allergies?

Do you exercise (improve your balance and strength)?

Have you had your vision, hearing, and feet checked yearly?

Are there fall risks in your home? Are there fall risks outside of your home?



Most falls are preventable. There are resources and programs in our area to help prevent falls, such as SHiM® (Safety and Health in Motion), Matter of Balance, exercise classes such as chair exercises, or Tai Chi.

Supper Clusters



IT'S TIME TO SIGN UP FOR "SUPPER CLUSTERS"!

By Carmen Nylund, Organizer

A new year for Supper Clusters will begin in January 2024 and it is time to sign-up if you want to be part of one of these groups. In previous years we have had as many as 85 people participate and the feedback has always been very positive.

If you missed the September article in the *Valley Voice*, a brief recap – Supper Clusters are small groups of people (usually 8) who attend worship at VPC. "Clusters" may include VPC Members, both full and part time, Regular Attendees, Couples, and Singles. Groups are encouraged to get 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 15. 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 we will be happy to chat with you; or you can contact me at clnylund1968@outlook.com.





CLERK'S CORNER

MAUREEN RAMSAY, CLERK OF SESSION

DEACONS

This month I want to talk about deacons in the Presbyterian church. As I have mentioned before, I did not grow up Presbyterian. I didn't really know what a deacon was. The Presbyterian church that Chuck and I attended did not have deacons since it was a small congregation. So, what is a deacon? What do deacons do? Specifically, what do deacons do at Valley Presbyterian church?

The word deacon comes from the Greek work "diakones", which means to serve. The Book of Order in Section G-2.0201 defines a deacon as:

"The ministry of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, sincere compassion, and sound judgement should be chosen for this ministry."

That is a tall order, especially in some churches, where the office of deacon is often perceived as a secondary or peripheral ministry. The role of deacon is an important and integral part in the life of any church and requires a special calling and commitment. Deacons represent the heart of what it means to be a Christian. They serve as examples of Christ's love for us and his command to love God and love our neighbors as ourselves (Matt.22:36-40).

In many churches, deacons minister to the sick and homebound. They may organize food delivery, visit people in the hospital or extended care facilities, take people to doctor's appointments, etc. They also may be called upon to handle matters of stewardship, finance, evangelism, or property maintenance.

At Valley Presbyterian Church, the deacons are well organized with a board that is responsible for all the ministries under its purview. The board assigns deacons to run or oversee each of the caring ministries listed on the next page.

Decans continued

These include:

- ❖ **Communication of Care**(Care Cards and Flower Committee);
- ❖ **Communion**(preparation, finding servers for worship and extended communion);
- ❖ **Greeters, Owl Express**(driving the golf cart to provide rides from the parking lot);
- ❖ **Head Ushers**(organize and lead usher teams, prepare for worship, provide safety monitoring, take the collection to the safe, extinguish the Christ Candle, remove the flowers to the flower room, etc.); **Ushers**(collect offering during worship, clean the sanctuary after worship);
- ❖ **Sunday fellowship**(provide refreshments after worship);
- ❖ **Network of Caring; Stephen Ministry; Prayer Ministry; Prayer Shawl Ministry; Grief Ministry.** All of these ministries require more than just the fifteen deacons that are currently serving. Anyone who wants to help can join an usher team, cut bread or pour juice for Communion, help with Sunday fellowship by baking cookies or preparing coffee etc., help with the flower ministry, prayer ministry, make a prayer shawl, become a greeter, etc.

When asked why they serve, I received these responses: “I enjoy helping others”, “I like to support the church and the pastors”, “I like to use my talents to glorify God and further his church”, “I appreciate the opportunity to take ownership of my membership”.

As you can see, the deacons are a dedicated, hard-working group that serve the entire congregation and beyond. They are the unsung heroes of Valley Pres. All of the deacons are also involved in other activities of the church (in their spare time!) like patio sale, choir, etc. The work of deacons is a particular reminder to all church members of their calling to service and to the responsibility to extend care to all those in need. I believe that deacons, as called to a ministry of compassion, witness, and service, are the leading edge of our commitment to lead God’s people outward and upward, always pointing to Jesus-the chief deacon of us all.

This is the time of year when the Nominating Committee recommends members to serve as deacons for a three-year term. The congregation then votes on who it wants to serve as deacons at the **November 19, 2023 ,Congregational meeting.**

I sincerely ask all of you to consider this ministry, especially those who have served as deacons at a previous church. It takes all of us to do our part to serve the congregation and the community.



Patio Sale News

Submitted by Carmen Nylund

HOLIDAY-PLUS SALE

(The pictures posted in this article are from our 2021 & 2022 Holiday Plus sales)



The **Holiday-Plus Sale** is just around the corner – **November 9, 10 & 11** from 8:00-1:00. What will the “Plus” look like this year? Of course, the biggest part of the sale will be our **Holiday Sale** which will include all of those wonderful lighted Christmas trees, strings of lights, ornaments, wreaths, stockings, holiday party dishes and glassware to name just a few things. Thanksgiving dishes & décor will also be available.

Next, we will have all of our **Books, Games and Puzzles** for sale. Our Book Department will have every genre from fiction, a variety of non-fiction, history, cookbooks and more. Also, CDs, games & jigsaw puzzles. This will be a great opportunity to buy some winter reading or the perfect gift for friends and family. NOTE: Books will be on sale again at the Patio Sale in March 2024.



New this year will be a selection of beautiful, gently used **Clothing, Shoes, and Purses**, plus those famous Cowboy Boots & Hats. You may find that special something to wear during the holidays.

Back by popular demand, we will have a **Holiday Bake Sale** again this year. If you love to bake, now is your chance to share your favorite goodies. Based on previous sales, the items that are in high demand are:

- Sweet Breads – Banana, Pumpkin, Zucchini
- Anything Chocolate – Brownies, Fudge, Candies, Sweets of Any Kind
- Christmas Cookies, Muffins, Breakfast Rolls and Pies

Please bring your baked goods to church on Wednesday, November 8 or Thursday, November 9.

Continued on page 25

This year our “**Specialty Shop**” will expand into Classroom 1 where we will be selling high-end items such as hand-made quilt wall hangings, a nice selection of native American and southwest items, unusual lamps and some items too hard to describe, just to name just a few.

We have invited our **Arts & Crafts Vendors** back again this year – some that are returning from last year and also some new folks. This will be a great opportunity to buy that one-of-a-kind gift. Come and check them out in the Spiritual Life Center. If you are interested in being one of our “vendors”, or just want to know more about the sale, check with us at the Holiday-Plus table during Fellowship Hour each Sunday in October. You may also contact Carmen Nylund at clnylund1968@outlook.com for more information about the Arts & Crafts Sale.

In order for the Holiday-Plus Sale to happen, we need many willing **volunteers**, like you. If you are able to help with moving boxes from storage, set-up, unpacking boxes, selling and clean-up we would love to have you join our Holiday-Plus team. There will be an all-volunteer meeting on **Thursday, October 26 at 10:00 am** in the Sanctuary where we will share with you everything you need to know about helping with the Holiday-Plus Sale. Please mark your calendars for this important pre-Holiday-Plus meeting. If you aren’t able to help with the sale itself, snacks for our volunteers are always appreciated!

If you have any questions about the Holiday-Plus Sale, please contact one of the Patio Sale Coordinating Team Members: Carmen Nylund clnylund1968@outlook.com; Chris Schorr schorrc@yahoo.com; Nelda Lobb neldalobb@gmail.com; Les Walter walterl@ix.netcom.com; Linda Walter lwalter25@yahoo.com.





Nogales, Arizona

St. Andrew's Children's Clinic

Submitted by Kay Brouwer, St. Andrew's' Clinic liaison.



St. Andrew's Children's Clinic – October 2023

Exciting news is that Laura Romero, the Executive Director, has signed a lease for the clinic location in Nogales, Arizona. She can now move ahead to remodel the area to fit the needs of the clinic. Large spaces will be divided into examination and treatment rooms. A dental exam room with water and an appropriate chair will be added. The entrance will accommodate registration and waiting area for families. The clinic will be able to serve more children in more departments and in comfortable spaces.



Entrance & registration at new clinic location.



The rent of this space will be more than the clinic has spent in the past. Area churches hope to unite their efforts and provide for this need.

If you would like to visit the clinic on the first Thursday in November, contact Kay Brouwer, 573-552-2313. A personal tour is the only way to truly understand the way St. Andrews Children's Clinic helps handicapped children.

(Top Right Picture) Five people visited on September 7: Left to right, Ed Storey, Mary Horn, Kay Brouwer and Bob Kaiser, a member of the clinic Board of Directors. Dick Horn was part of the tour and took this picture. In the middle of the picture is the Orthodontist (Vanessa) who volunteers her time to treat children at the clinic.



Orthodontist Vanessa cleaning a child's teeth.



Children wait for their appointments.

Children wait for their appointments. Donors bring clothing, toys, cookies and supplies to help families who come to the clinic.



Boy playing with toys while waiting for his appointment.



Mary Horn checking donated clothing.



CASA VIDA NUEVA PARA NIÑOS (Orphanage)

Submitted by: Reed Olson, VPC Mission Committee Liaison

Meet “YOUR” 2023 – 2024 College Students



From Left to Right: **Myrel:** Majoring in Psychology; **Carolina:** Majoring in Nursing; **Antonio:** Majoring in Graphic Design; and **Edgar:** Majoring in Business

These four college students have two main blessings. First, they were able to grow up and be nurtured at Casa Vida Nueva para Niños. And second, they were encouraged and financially supported to attend high school and now are enrolled in college. This second blessing was due to your support – without it, they would not be attending college and achieving a better life for themselves. Thank you all. This is proof, that you are truly making a difference in the lives of these wonderful children.

Background: The Mexican government pays for school through the 8th grade. From then on, the parents or guardians must come up with the costs of school (tuition, uniforms, books, travel) and for most of them, that cost is too much. Hence, many Mexican children only have an 8th grade education. RISE Scholastic Achievements was formed as a 501(c)(3), non-profit, to help overcome this financial burden and provide a life changing opportunity for these orphaned children. Through your help, RISE uses your donations to pay for the costs of high school and college / trade-school. The challenge is that per the Mexican government, all children who reach the age of 18 at the orphanage, “age-out” of the home, are no longer authorized to live there, and must be let go to find their own way. Elias (Director of the home) has come up with a creative way to help these children. If they agree to attend college / trade school and achieve good grades, they will be allowed to live at the home until they graduate. But only if they also agree to become an adult at the home by helping with the chores and overseeing the younger children.

ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY HAS SURFACED: These college students do not have any income and feel they are outcasts when they meet other students. Although they have a place to sleep and food to eat at the home, they need spending money just like any college student. If you ever sent your child to college, you know what this is like. Elias approached RISE for help. Together, we decided that donations of \$250 per college student per month would help cover their expenses (clothing, supplies, fun) while dedicating their time to studying, and helping around the home. This places more financial stress on RISE but well worth it and helps these young adults stay focused. Thank you again for your help and support.


PosadaLife™ *The Center of Attention*
Community Services



Just as you'd expect from a vibrant community center, the La Posada Community Center is the social hub for seniors in Green Valley. Each weekday at lunchtime, the center is abuzz with folks from around the neighboring community enjoying each other's company over a nutritious meal—it's Green Valley's only senior lunch program—it's *that* popular. At other times of the day, you'll find vigorous board games and storytelling, shows from the La Posada Readers Theater, or friends meeting up to take a day trip to one of the numerous things to do close by. And as with most programs and services at La Posada, the Community Center presents a great opportunity to volunteer, increasing our residents' social interactions with nonresidents as they form friendships with their fellow resident volunteers. For Senior Lunch Program information and advance reservations, contact Carla at 520-393-6814 or email her: CCastaneda@casagv.org. Suggested donation to this senior lunch program is \$3. For Community Center questions and rental information, contact Ellen at 520-393-6840 or email her: emarch@casagv.org.



October is Domestic Violence Awareness Months

Submitted by Kara Fitzpatrick/Pat Nau - Liaisons

Hands of a Friend is a religious-based non-profit shelter for women. Arizona has the fifth-highest domestic violence rate in the US. Several agencies refer women to Hands of a Friend and the shelter is at or near capacity most of the year.

Several major projects have been accomplished at the Genesis House shelter in the last few months:

- A new security system, including a new gate, were installed.
- Both sets of washers and dryers have been replaced.
- Roof repairs and the subsequent interior ceiling repairs are complete.
- A new air conditioning unit was installed during the summer heat.

These projects are the result of Valley Presbyterian, other donations, and reserve funding. Hands of a Friend's next goal is focusing on funding for interior painting and 2 new refrigerators.

October is Domestic Violence Month on Friday; October 20th Hands of a Friend will hold their annual cornhole fundraiser (see inset). Alexa Delgado, Hands of a Friend Executive Director, will be speaking about Hands of a Friend's work at Green Valley Community Church, 300 W Esperanza Blvd, Green Valley, AZ 85614, on Wednesday, October 11th. In addition, Hands of a Friend will be one of the charities hosted at the Golf Luncheon at Quail Creek on November 9th.

Dazee's is a high-end Resale Clothing Boutique in Green Valley. It is operated by Hands of a Friend.

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

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

Hands of a Friend is a 501(c)3 Non-Profit that receives no governmental financial support and an Arizona Charitable Tax Credit Organization.

Hands of a Friend



Cornhole Tournament

Switch Style

\$10 Entry Fee

Registration begins at 6pm

Bags fly at 6:30pm

Friday, October 20th

Raffles

1st & 2nd place Cash Prize

Triple Play

1570 W. Duval Mine Rd. Green Valley

Proceeds benefit those who have suffered
from Domestic Violence.

Questions please call: (520) 399-4671





Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Collection

Submitted by: Ann Ball, Mission Liaison



So, what is this Operation Shoebox Collection? Why do we do it? Simply put, there are still many places around the world where the Name of Jesus has never been heard. That's why we send the Gospel to the ends of the earth through Operation Christmas Child working with Samaritan's Purse organization. It's about telling children around the world and their families that God loves them, he hasn't forgotten them, and doing it through a shoebox gift. It shows children a tangible expression of God's love, often their first gift ever. In addition, there are many countries that allow the shoeboxes into their country when little else is allowed, as it is not a political statement they disagree with, and the boxes are culturally sensitive to them.

Our distribution of empty shoeboxes will begin on Sunday, October 22 in Fellowship Hall. Come to our tables where we can give you a box and all the necessary information you need to fill one or more boxes.

The distribution and collection of the filled boxes will continue for 4 Sundays: October 22, 29, and November 5 and 12.

If you have special circumstances that do not allow you to come at this time, you can pick up a box in the church office during the week with all needed instructions inside the box.

No time, no inclination for shopping, but want to contribute to the project? We have options for that as well:

1. Contribute dollars into our Special Offering envelope marked Christmas Box to help with the shipping costs and miscellaneous costs.
2. Build a Shoebox ONLINE. With just a few clicks you can pack a shoebox gift online. Simply select toys and other items you would like to include from the collection listed, personalize it with your own letter and photo if desired. The box will be packed for you and sent for \$25 including the shipping costs. OR if you prefer you can choose to have a box packaged to fill the need for an age group and gender that they are low on receiving...all the items will be chosen for you to meet the needs.

To choose one of these online options, go to samaritanspurse.org/build online. If you fill out the lines from what church you are affiliated, Valley Presby will get credit for the contribution also.

Continued on page: 32

Operation Christmas Child Continued:

If you have any questions or concerns, call Ann Ball 269.491.0815 or email quiltingsaball@sbcglobal.net. We will make every effort to accommodate special circumstances or clear up any confusion.

Those of us working on the project are SO GRATEFUL for your donations to the boxes. DO ENJOY as you pack your box, and most importantly PRAY: for each step in the journey of the box, for the children and their families to experience and grow in God's love as they respond to being presented a shoebox, and that God will use your prayers to fuel the journey of each shoebox gift spreading joy and open hearts to the Gospel....to the ends of the earth.

Submitted by Ann Ball, Valley Presbyterian liaison leader in conjunction with Samaritan Purse Regional Coordinators and many volunteers and workers all over the world. Thank You



Operation Mobilization

Submitted by: Doug Clark, Mission Committee Liason

Late on September 8, at 23:11 local time, an earthquake measuring 6.8 according to the US Geological Survey (USGS) struck central Morocco. More than 1,030 people are reportedly killed and several hundred more injured – and these numbers will continue to rise as relief efforts increase. People are still being rescued from the rubble of buildings damaged during the quake. The epicenter was in a mountainous area, but the shaking was reportedly felt in several provinces and neighboring countries as well.

OM has partners on the ground in areas affected by the earthquake, who are assessing how best to respond. They are evaluating what people's primary needs are, as things continue to change quickly, and to align these with their resources and experiences. Join us in extending a helping hand to those who were affected in Morocco by this earthquake. Please Pray for Pam and Dave Lovett.

PRESBYTERIAN MISSION

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

Dear Friends,

Dear Valley Presbyterian Church Members,

What a joy to be with you this last weekend! Thank you for your wonderful hospitality. We are inspired by and grateful for your level of engagement, curiosity, interest, and concern for us and the peoples of South Sudan. We left Green Valley feeling buoyed and strengthened by your love and prayers. Thank you for all the ways you partner with us. We will keep you in our thoughts and regular prayers.

Blessings in Christ,

Bob and Kristi



Left to Right: Pastor Craig, Kristi Rice, Bob Rice, and Doug Clark.



Nogales, Crossroads Mission

Submitted by: Les Walter, Crossroads Liaison

Lunch at Crossroads

Many from VPC will remember serving lunches at Nogales Crossroads Mission.

We will start serving lunches again at Crossroads twice a month, the second and third Wednesdays of each month starting this month, October 11th and 18th from 9:00 a.m. to after lunch. Our main function is food preparation in the kitchen and then serving 40 to 60 people in the dining hall. The duties may also include making iced tea, salads, stirring to keep gravy from sticking, etc.

The number of volunteers needed is three at the present but may increase as the attendance increases. The present cook is excited to get some assistance.

We will meet at the fountain area at the church at 8:15 a.m. for carpooling. The distance to the Mission is 42 miles and usually takes 45 minutes. There are three exits off I19.

We need to establish an up-to-date list of volunteers and those with previous experience. There is great conversation on the drive up, fun fellowship and the chores are not difficult. Volunteers get to eat lunch at 11:45 a.m., so no need to bring your lunch.

In September we had our first meeting with other congregations from the Green Valley and Sahuarita area and four groups were willing to get started with us in October and will establish their own schedules.

For more information of ways, you can help.
Contact Les Walter at 520-870-3284 or
visit Crossroads website at
crossroadmissionnogales.org





Submitted by: Kylene Joplin & Carol Stephens

The Hunger Walk has come and gone and was once again a huge success.

Participation and donations were very impressive and made VPC outshine the others. We could not have done this without your help, so thank you all for your continued generosity.

The Hunger Walk overall had 1035 participants and raised over \$144,000 towards a hunger-free Southern Arizona!

The below pictures are of the Hunger Walk and were taken by Dick Horn.





Submitted by Mary Horn, Mission Committee Liaison to YOTO



YOUTH ON THEIR OWN will officially open their FOREVER HOME located at: 2525 N Country Club Road on Monday, November 6, 2023. We will look forward to doing a tour of the new facility in February/March 2024! Plan to join us!!

YOTO will be partnering with Ben's Bells to do a special YOTO Bell that will be available during tours. Folks who make a donation of \$100 or more will have the option of receiving a bell, which they can either take home or hang (with a message) in the trees in the courtyard for a YOTO Youth.



Folks can find the most needed items for the Mini Mall or make a financial contribution by going to the website: <https://yoto.org/backtoschool/>. At this site, we can order directly from Amazon and the supplies will be delivered directly to YOTO.



The Tucson Walk to Defeat ALS

October 21, 2023

The Check-in time is 8:00 a.m.

The Walk starts at 9:00 a.m.

At Reid Park Tucson AZ

Submitted by: Cindy Johnson

I want to shine a light on the incredible programs and services that your donations directly support.

Every dollar we raise stays right here in Arizona and goes a long way in providing essential programs and services to patients and their families. Let's take a closer look at some of the impactful areas where your donations make a significant difference:

1. Medical Equipment Loan Closet
2. Caregiver Support
3. Respite Care
4. Support Care
5. Transportation

We want to emphasize that every dollar raised contributes directly to these programs and services and 100% stays here in Arizona!! When you talk to your friends, family, and colleagues about our cause, share the stories of individuals whose lives have been transformed through these offerings.

Together, we're not only raising funds but also raising awareness and building a community of care.

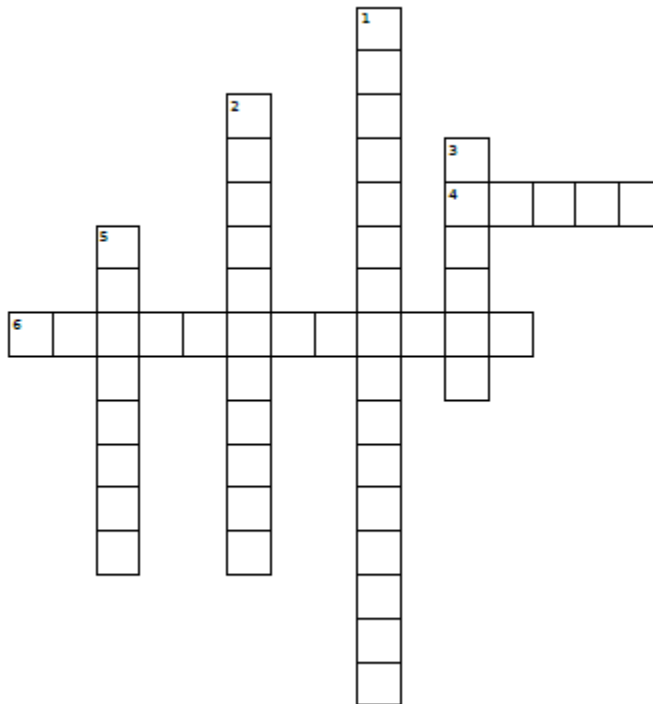
Please use your phone camera and scan the bar code. Click the link the appears in the image and it will take you to the page to register for the ALS walk or to donate.

Cindy Johnson will be live streaming the walk on her YouTube channel. Watch the daily eblast for the link.



Crossword Puzzle

“How Well Do You Know Pastor Diane”



Questions:

Down

1. One word to describe Pastor Diane
In her faith?
2. What state was Pastor Diane born?
3. One of Pastor Diane's hobbies?
5. The college Pastor Diane attended?

Across

4. Pastor Diane's mothers first name?
- 6: Another hobby of Pastor Diane's?

For the answers, contact the office.

October Birthdays

First Name Last Name Birthday

<i>Joby</i>	<i>Donalson</i>	<i>October 02</i>
<i>Barbara</i>	<i>Bentley</i>	<i>October 02</i>
<i>Phyllis</i>	<i>Camp</i>	<i>October 03 Over 90</i>
<i>Bonnie</i>	<i>Wollin</i>	<i>October 03</i>
<i>Timothy J</i>	<i>Wollin</i>	<i>October 03</i>
<i>Vera</i>	<i>Anderson</i>	<i>October 04</i>
<i>Darwin</i>	<i>Guinn</i>	<i>October 05 Over 90</i>
<i>Marti</i>	<i>Long</i>	<i>October 05</i>
<i>Mike</i>	<i>Peake</i>	<i>October 05</i>
<i>Jean</i>	<i>Hein</i>	<i>October 06 Over 90</i>
<i>Kathy</i>	<i>Knoop</i>	<i>October 07</i>
<i>Dee</i>	<i>Kucera</i>	<i>October 08 Turning 90</i>
<i>Carmen</i>	<i>Nylund</i>	<i>October 08</i>
<i>Tommy</i>	<i>Thompson</i>	<i>October 08</i>
<i>Dee</i>	<i>Mechem</i>	<i>October 09</i>
<i>Jean</i>	<i>Hicks</i>	<i>October 09</i>
<i>Sandra</i>	<i>Glazener</i>	<i>October 11</i>
<i>Chris</i>	<i>Schorr</i>	<i>October 11</i>
<i>Mary</i>	<i>Snider</i>	<i>October 11</i>
<i>Meghan</i>	<i>Erickson</i>	<i>October 11</i>

October Birthdays

First Name Last Name Birthday

Joan	Little	October 12 Over 90
Suzanne	Mandeville	October 12
Don	Bont	October 13
Jim	Callahan	October 13
LaRue	Haff	October 15
Judy	McKinley	October 17
Edwin	Duthaler	October 18
Diane	Larson	October 18
Sue	Luhring	October 18
Pat	Bruner	October 19
Carl	Charette	October 22
Pam	Peake	October 23
Jan	Woerner	October 24
Dave	Egan	October 24
Lesley H.	Bruce	October 24
Ray	Sayre	October 24
Joshua	Jorgensen	October 24
Del	Harsh	October 25
Jean	Longnecker	October 25
Nancy	Lammers	October 26

October Birthdays

First Name Last Name Birthday

<i>Tommy</i>	<i>Allen</i>	<i>October 28 Over 90</i>
<i>Erlene</i>	<i>Johnson</i>	<i>October 28</i>
<i>Sherry</i>	<i>Harsh</i>	<i>October 28</i>
<i>Ed</i>	<i>Storey</i>	<i>October 28</i>
<i>Toni</i>	<i>Pastor</i>	<i>October 29</i>
<i>Virginia</i>	<i>Crook</i>	<i>October 29</i>
<i>Jennet</i>	<i>Parker</i>	<i>October 29</i>
<i>Jenny</i>	<i>Van Treese</i>	<i>October 29</i>
<i>Herman</i>	<i>Klap</i>	<i>October 30 Over 90</i>
<i>Herb</i>	<i>Andrews</i>	<i>October 30 Turning 90</i>
<i>Gail</i>	<i>Seibert</i>	<i>October 30</i>
<i>Gail</i>	<i>Barker</i>	<i>October 30</i>
<i>Nancy</i>	<i>Tompkins</i>	<i>October 30</i>
<i>Doug</i>	<i>Clark</i>	<i>October 31</i>
<i>Dick</i>	<i>Chvala</i>	<i>October 31</i>

Valley Presbyterian Church October 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Worldwide Communion Food Bank Sunday 9:30am Worship Service (Communion Sunday) 9:45am Children's Sunday School	2 9:00am Parkinson's Chair Exercises 9:00am Mission Quilters 1:00pm Bible Reflections	3 9:00am Cardio Drumming 9:00am Women's Ministries Meeting 9:30am Prayer Ministry 11:00am The End of Time 1:30pm Building & Grounds 2:30pm Joyful Spirit Ensemble	4 8:00am Blessing of the Animals 9:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Parkinson's Chair Exercise 10:00am Chair Exercise Class 12:30pm Worship Committee 1:00pm Movie Ministry 3:00pm Choir Rehearsal	5 8:30am Nominating Committee 10:00am Faith of a Mockingbird 1:00pm The Book-The Story of God 1:30pm Planning Committee 3:00pm Lince Dance Review	6 9:00am Parkinson's Chair Exercises	7 9:30am Exploring Membership
8 Nogales Crossroads Sunday 9:30am Worship Service 9:45am Children's Sunday School	9 Columbus Day 9:00am Parkinson's Chair Exercises 9:30am Valley Fiber Arts Guild 1:00pm Bible Reflections	10 8:45am Mission Committee 9:00am Cardio Drumming 9:30am Faith Formation 9:30am Prayer Ministry 11:00am The End of Time 2:30pm Joyful Spirit Ensemble	11 9:00am Deacon Meeting 9:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Parkinson's Chair Exercises 10:00am Chair Exercise Class 10:00am Personnel Committee 1:00pm Miriam Circle 1:00pm Membership & Outreach 3:00pm Choir Rehearsal	12 8:00am Patio Sale Sort 10:00am Faith of a Mockingbird 1:00pm The Book-The Story of God	13 9:00am Parkinson's Chair Exercises 9:00am Stephen Ministry 11:00am Beth Phillips Memorial. 5:00pm Good Times-Fellowship Event	14 9:30am Exploring Membership 11:00am Fred Roeming Memorial
15 YOTO Sunday 9:30am Worship Service 9:45am Childrens Sunday School	16 9:00am Parkinson Chair Exercises 9:00am Mission Quilters 1:00pm Bible Reflections 1:00pm Women's Luncheon Prep 3:00pm Ruth Circle	17 9:00am Cardio Drumming 9:30am Prayer Ministry 10:00am YOGA with Josie 11:00am The End of Time 11:30am Women's Ministry Lunch 2:30pm Joyful Spirit Ensemble Rehearsal	18 9:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Parkinson's Chair Exercises 10:00am Chair Exercise 10:00am Finance Committee 12:30pm Worship Committee 2:00pm Bells Rehearsal 3:00pm Choir Rehearsal	19 10:00am Faith of a Mockingbird 1:00pm The Book: Story of God 1:30pm Planning Committee	20 8:00am Faith Formation 9:00am Parkinson's Chair Exercises	21 8:30am ALS Walk Reid Park 9:30am Exploring Membership
22 Stephen Ministry Sunday 9:30am Worship Service 9:45am Children's Sunday School	23 Spot Repaving 9:00am Overcoming Depression 9:00am Parkinson Chair Exercises 10:00am Fellowship Committee 1:00pm Bible Reflections 2:00pm Valley Readers	24 9:00am Cardio Drumming 9:30am Prayer Ministry 10:00am YOGA with Josie 11:00am The End of Time 2:30pm Joyful Spirit Ensemble Rehearsal	25 9:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Parkinson's Chair Exercises 10:00am Chair Exercise 1:00pm YOTO Card Making 2:00pm Bells Rehearsal 3:00pm Choir Rehearsal	26 8:00am Session Meeting 10:00 Faith of a Mockingbird 1:00pm The Book: Story of God	27 8:00am United Healthcare 9:00am Parkinson's Chair Exercises 9:00an Stephen Ministry 12:15pm UCHC Rental	28
29 Noisy Offering 9:30am Worship Service 9:45am Children's Sunday School	30 9:00am Overcoming Depression 9:00am Parkinson Chair Exercises 9:00am Mission Quilters 9:00am Patio Sales Team 1:00pm Bible Reflections 2:00pm Foundation Meeting	31 9:00am Cardio Drumming 9:30am Prayer Ministry 10:00am YOGA with Josie 11:00am The End Times 1:00pm NOC Meeting 2:30pm Joyful Spirit Ensemble Rehearsal				