

Valley Forge UMC Vision Statement

We are a Christ-centered community learning and striving to make our faith a way of life as we share with each other and all people the love, acceptance and forgiveness lived and proclaimed by Jesus of Nazareth.



Open Door Tidings

From the Pastor

Love is an action verb; read and see

Dear Friends,

February is the month when cupid shoots arrows of love into people's lives. Love is romanticized through cards, chocolate and flowers. Valentine's Day is a special occasion to show someone how special they are to us. But, that is not what Christian love is all about.

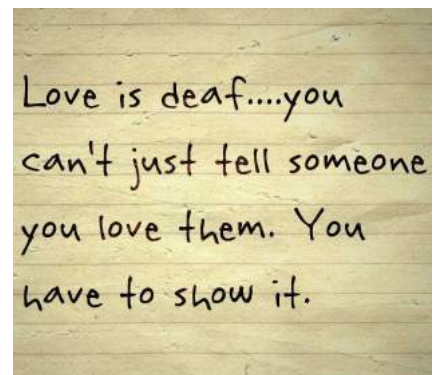
Carl Michalson, a theologian who taught me at Drew, suggests that love may result in feeling but it starts as an attitude. It is a thought process that leads to action. How is that? Well, love involves giving respect to every human being. It means that we see everyone as a child of God. In the words of Martin Buber, another theologian, it means that we accept and recognize every human being as a "Thou" and not an "It."

Some years ago, I read an article in the Daily Times about a man who quietly respected and showed love to a homeless man. As reported by Deepti Hajela of the Associated Press, Jennifer Foster was visiting New York City. She noticed a homeless man asking for change in Times Square. As she was about to approach him, she saw a beautiful act of human compassion. An NYPD officer, identified as Larry DePrimo, came up to the man with a pair of boots and thermal socks. It was a frigid night and the officer wanted to help a needy person. Here is what Jennifer heard DePrimo say to the man. "I have these size 12 boots for you, they are all-weather. Let's put them on and take care of you." The officer squatted down on the ground and proceeded to put the socks and the new boots on the homeless individual. He did not know anyone was observing his generosity. As the article I read stated, he expected nothing in return.

The story of a caring police officer is one of love. It challenges each of us. It reminds us of the parable of the Good Samaritan. We do not know what opportunities will arise during this month of love to show love. What we do know is that if we keep our eyes open and our hearts engaged there will be occasions when we can minister to the loneliness, hurt and struggle of another person. Someone, maybe someone in our own family, will need a listening ear, a warming hug, or a word of affirmation.

Peace and Blessings,

Jim Hallam, Pastor



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Adult Sunday School—9 a.m.

123

Letters of John

The 3 Letters of John

“How plain, how full, and how deep a compendium of genuine Christianity!”

Jesus healed. There seemed to be the need for His healing wherever He went. I heard some discussion about Jesus’ healing recently and a few questions were asked. One was, “What did Jesus do after He healed someone?”

Some observations in the Bible include: sitting down to a meal with his closest friends; going off on His own to pray; enjoying fellowship with His disciples. As Jesus progressed through His ministry, He received, He was refreshed, He took in the Light of God so He would be ready to give—to heal—again.

We can learn something from Jesus’ process. When we get run down—when it seems like we’re pulled in a million directions at once—Stop! Reconnect with God in whatever way is most meaningful to you. Take in the Light so you can continue to give back to the world and be the Light to others.

As we study 1 John, being “the Light” is just one topic we’ll be talking about in our faith walk. Join us as we “dig” into some other topics from the Word to help make our lives more meaningful. We meet Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. in the Education Building. Bring your Bibles.

February Lectionary



February 4 — Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 40:21-31 Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
1 Corinthians 9:16-23 Mark 1:29-39

February 11 — Transfiguration Sunday

2 Kings 2:1-12 Psalm 50:1-6
2 Corinthians 4:3-6 Mark 9:2-9

February 18 — First Sunday in Lent

Genesis 9:8-17 Psalm 25:1-10
1 Peter 3:18-22 Mark 1:9-15

February 25 — Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 Psalm 22:23-31
Romans 4:13-25 Mark 8:31-38

Scottie’s Sunday School Class

I once heard someone say, “We need God, but God doesn’t need us.” Wait . . . that doesn’t sound right. If God doesn’t need us, why did he create us? Our pastor has said many times, “God is love.” If God is love, but He doesn’t need us, then what is God’s love for? And if we’re not about loving God because He first loved us, then why the cross and the empty tomb?

I believe that God needs us as much as we need God. God needs us to take His Light to the nations (Isaiah). God needs us to lend a gentle touch to a dying friend or a family member. He needs us to buy one more can of soup to donate to PACS. He needs us to tell others that God’s love is for everyone . . . for the drug addict, the hired killer, the parent whose child was born disabled, or the young father who just lost his job.

Other ways to share God’s love with everyone may come up in discussion in our class on Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. in the church parlor. We’ll be using Dallas Willard’s book and DVDs by Andy Stanley to open discussion. We’ll be happy for you to join us.



Scottie DeMartinis

Two more weeks of soup for PACS

As of Saturday, February 3, we have collected 82 cans of soup for PACS. The staff at PACS is very happy about that.

I would like to continue this effort for two more Sundays—February 11th and 18th. I hope you will agree to continue for two more weeks.

Thanks to all. PACS says thanks, too.

Fern Heit



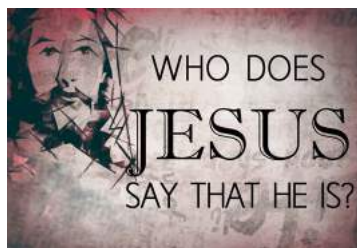


Prayer Scripture of the Month

For February the *Prayer Scripture* is:

*“By day the Lord commands his steadfast love,
and at night his song is with me,
a prayer to the God of my life.”*

Psalm 42:8



Community Lenten Service Schedule

**Wednesday Evening
Community Lent Worship**
All Services begin at 7:30 pm

Jesus: Light of the World
February 21 at St. Ann Roman Catholic Church
502 South Main Street, Phoenixville
Rev. Eric Woodworth of Charlestown United Methodist, preacher

Jesus: Bread of Life
February 28 at First United Methodist Church
865 South Main Street, Phoenixville
Rev. Cynthia Krommes of St. John's Lutheran, preacher

Jesus: Good Shepherd
March 7 at Bethel Baptist Church
412 Fairview Street, Phoenixville
Rev. Eva Johnson of First United Methodist, preacher

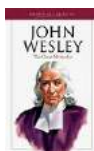
Jesus: Resurrection and Life
March 14 at Centennial Lutheran Church
1330 Hares Hill Road, Kimberton
Rev. Nathan Coleman of Bethel Baptist, preacher

Jesus: Way, Truth and Life
March 21 at First Presbyterian Church
145 Main Street, Phoenixville
Rev. Dan McDowell of Grace Crossing Community Church, preacher



JOHN WESLEY

—QUOTE OF THE MONTH



“Dost thou thus believe? Then the peace of God is in thy heart, and sorrow and sighing flee away. Thou art no longer in doubt of the love of God; it is clear as the noonday sun. Thou criest out, “My song shall be always of the loving-kindness of the Lord. With my mouth will I ever be telling of thy truth, from one generation to another.”

From *The Way to the Kingdom*.
Submitted by Bob Erb

Tai Chi at Valley Forge UMC

February Tai Chi Classes:



February 2
February 9
February 16
February 23



If you are interested in joining the class, call Maggie Horosky at 610-343-1343.

Worship Participation Schedule

	Refreshments	Liturgist	Greeter
2/11	Valentine Breakfast	R. Johnston	B. Lishon
2/18	R. Coroniti	J. Torres	W. & J. Martielli
2/25	M. Torres	S. DeMartinis	A. Davis
3/4	D. Erb	J. M. Rich	M. Horosky

Note of Caution:
The schedule may be changed due to members' scheduling issues. The most up-to-date version of the Schedule is the weekly Bulletin.

Notice: Congregation member **Linda Ludwig** has a business which provides *Senior Companion Care and Pet Sitting*. Linda is willing to help other members of the congregation with her knowledge and compassion. **Phone: 610-906-0774.**

**Valley Forge United Methodist Church
Administration Board Meeting
January 22, 2018
Minutes**

In Attendance: Glenn Davis, Adam Davis, Fern Heit, Maggie Horosky, Noel Turner, Tom Davis, John Torres, Pastor Jim Hallam, Robin Coroniti

Pastor Jim opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes of the November, 2017 meeting were approved.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

FINANCE: In 2017, we had an excess of \$10,227.00 vs. the 2017 budget. Tom Davis requested that we determine which accounts those funds can be located, which Noel will look into. Tom Davis reported that, as of January 19, 2018, the Trustees balance is \$491,791.00 of which \$446,146.00 is in the Vanguard accounts. Rick Coroniti has OK'd the allocations in the Vanguard account. The EE Bonds maturity date is January 2023.

SPRC: Rick McNeill will reportedly be having a meeting in February.

UMM: Glenn will try to order the kitchen cabinets this week, an expense that was approved last year. Chris Simon is to inspect the retaining wall and offer solutions and approximate costs. We need someone to get up to the church gutters to re-secure them in the Southwest corner. John Pancoast was recommended. Glenn will contact. We will need to finish installing the post and rail fencing in the Spring. Glenn received a \$4,500.00 estimate from Elmark for a new church sign in the front of the building. No motion was made to make the purchase. New "parking" signs on Valley Forge Road have been received and installed.

UMW: They will be assisting the Confirmation Class on activities.

LEARNING: No report.

REACHING OUT (Missions): Adam and Libby will be traveling with the Haiti mission from February 16th to the 23rd. The trip will be commissioned on February 11th, and a review of the mission will be presented in Church on March 11th. A check for \$3,700.00 will be sent to Servants in Fellowship to pay for two new houses and travel expense. This was approved last year.

NURTURING: No report.

PASTORAL: An expenditure of \$225.00 was approved for the Mission Connexion family room project at the Montgomery Co. Prison. Funds will be sent to Wayne United Methodist. Ash Wednesday will be at Phoenixville, and we will look into a Mission Connexion Service for Maundy Thursday. Confirmation will be on February 25th.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

John Torres closed the meeting with prayer.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, February 26th, at 7pm.

Rick McNeill will be handling the devotion.

Respectfully submitted,
GD

Valley Forge United Methodist Church – 2018
GCFA Number 067447

Church Lay Leader – James Martielli (2020)

Learning Committee: (Leadership, Education, Discipleship) (Meets Monthly) Chair: Laurie Vitale (2020),
 Committee: Fern Heit (2020) Robin Coroniti (2018), Nancy Loane (2020), Scottie DeMartinis (2020), Leslie Davis
 (2020), Jo Marie Jones (2020)

Reaching out Committee: (Missions & Outreach) (Meets Monthly) – Chair: Robin Coroniti (2020) Committee:
 Fern Heit (2019), Steve Knotts (2018), Rick McNeill (2018), Adam Davis (2020), Richard Johnston (2019), Beth
 Lishon (2018)

Nurturing Committee: (Fellowship/Hospitality)*- Co-Chair: Jo Marie Jones (2018), Co-Chair: Patty Davis
 (2018), – Committee: Elaine Turner (2019), Noel Turner (2019), Beth Lishon (2019), Linda Gular (2020), Laurie Vi-
 tale (2020)

Finance Committee:* - Noel Turner (Chair) (2020), Maggie Horosky (Secretary) (2020); Beth Lishon (2018), Ad-
 am Davis (2019), Tom Loane (2019), Jay Younger (2020)

Trustees Committee (Building & Grounds) * – Chair: Tom Davis, (2019), Glenn Davis (2019), Adam Davis
 (2018), Fred Vitale (2020)

Staff Parish Relations Committee (meets quarterly) – Chair: Rick McNeill (2020), Scottie DeMartinis (2019),
 Richard Johnston (2020), Robin Coroniti (2020), John Torres (2018), Beth Cooke (2018), Nancy Loane (2019), James
 Martielli (Lay leader), Bob Erb (as lay member to annual conference)

Administrative Board (Meets Monthly, 4th Monday, @ 7PM) Chair: John Torres (2020)

Membership Secretary – Carole Masters (2020)

United Methodist Men – (Meets Monthly, 3rd Saturday) Chair: Glenn Davis (2019)

United Methodist Women* – Chair: Fern Heit (2018)

Altar Guild – Libby Moran (2020)

Church Treasurer – Richard Johnston (2019)

Worship Facilitator – Patty Torres (2019)

Lay Member to Annual Conference – Bob Erb (2020)

Nominating Committee* – Chair: Pastor Jim Hallam, Lay Chair: Doretta Erb (2019), Committee: Gail Frazer
 (2020), Linda Gular (2018), Robin Coroniti (2018)

Members-at-Large – Tom Loane, Steve Knotts, Fred Vitale, Adam Davis

*** AdHoc Committee (meets when needed)**





*Members of the 2018
Valley Forge United Methodist Church
Confirmation Class*

*invite you to a
Valentine Breakfast!*

8 a.m. — noon

(before Sunday School, and before & after Worship Service)



A tasty, heart-healthy breakfast will be prepared by

Derek, Brett, Jocelyn, Tessa and Drake.

Our menu includes:

Pancakes made with whole grains and low fat milk

Turkey Sausage

Fresh Fruit . . .

. . . and a whole lot more.



Donations Welcome!

**Proceeds will be donated to the
Cat Angel Network charity**



February Birthdays

Rick Coroniti 4

Susan Jennings 19

No February Anniversaries

Announcement:

**United Methodist Men
of VFUMC**

will meet Saturday, February 24

**at the G-Lodge for breakfast at 8 a.m.
and at the Church for light chores at 9 a.m.**

Many hands make quick work!

February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Sanctuary Choir, 6:30 p.m.	2	3 Tai Chi, 10:15 a.m.
4 Sunday School, 9 a.m. Fellowship, 10 a.m. Worship, 10:30 Communion	5	6	7 Bible Study 1:15 p.m. Pastor Jim	8 Sanctuary Choir, 6:30 p.m.	9	10 Tai Chi, 10:15 a.m.
11 Sunday School, 9 a.m. Fellowship, 10 a.m. Worship, 10:30 Valentine's Breakfast 8 a.m.—Noon Haiti Commissioning	12	13	14 Bible Study 1:15 p.m. Pastor Jim	15 Sanctuary Choir, 6:30 p.m.	16	17 Tai Chi, 10:15 a.m.
18 Sunday School, 9 a.m. Fellowship, 10 a.m. Worship, 10:30	19	20	21 Bible Study 1:15 p.m. Pastor Jim	22 Sanctuary Choir, 6:30 p.m.	23	24 Tai Chi, 10:15 a.m. Men's Group Mtg., 8 a.m. at G-Lodge, 9 a.m. at Church
25 Sunday School, 9 a.m. Fellowship, 10 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m. Confirmation	26 Administrative Board Meeting 7 p.m. SPRC, 6:30 p.m.	27	28			Jazzercise: Monday-Thursday at 6:15-7:15 p.m.; Saturday at 9-10 a.m. Bible Study—Pastor Jim Choir—Julia Rich Bell Choir—Nancy Loane