

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.

Valley Forge United Methodist Church



Open Door Tidings

From the Pastor

Ministering, giving to others, celebrating us



Dear Friends,

I would like to inform you of three important matters. First, as of July 1st, I begin my seventh year as minister of Valley Forge United Methodist. I consider it a real privilege to be part of such a warm, supportive community. Over the years, you have become like a family to me. Thank you for the opportunity to realize a vital ministry with you.

Second, at the Administrative Board meeting this past Monday evening it was voted to give \$47,000 from VFUMC's assets to help causes that are meeting the needs of struggling people. What a fantastic witness it is for a small church to be involved in such a missional way as we seek to be faithful stewards of resources. What fulfills us as Christian people is not getting but giving. We are fortunate to be in a position where we can make the love of Christ real by helping others.

Third, on Sunday, September 10th, we begin a new programmatic year. We will gather together to celebrate our life together. Here is the agenda for this special day when we meet together in the Reeve Building:

- 9 a.m. — Christian Education
- 9:45 a.m. — Breakfast
- 10:30 a.m. — Worship with Communion
- 11:30 a.m. — Ice Cream Bar

Come and let us join together in fellowship and gratitude for our church and what it means to us.

I hope your summer will be filled with good health, laughter and relaxation. Take good care.

Peace and Blessings,

Jim Hallam
Pastor



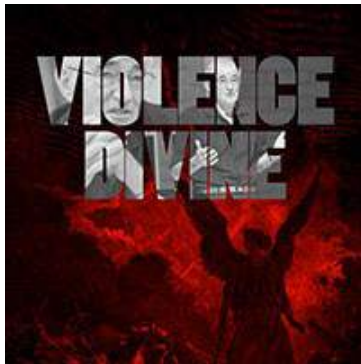
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Adult Sunday School—11 a.m.

A New Series: *Violence Divine*

Overcoming the Bible's betrayal of Its Non-violent God



Were the Early Christians violent? Then why is the Book of Revelation so violent? Who is John of Patmos talking to? How does the Emperor Nero participate in John's story?

You have grown and your understanding of the Bible needs to grow too! Together we will discuss the Bible and issues of violence. We will find important aspects of the teachings of Jesus.

John Dominic Crossan, one of the world's foremost historical Jesus scholars helps us understand violence.

Although this sounds complex, I promise it is easy to understand and we'll have fun.

Come explore new ways of looking at the Bible texts. Bring your Bibles and join us at 11 a.m.

There is No class on July 2 and July 9.

Tom Loane

July Lectionary



July 2 — Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 22:1-14 Psalm 13
Romans 6:12-23 Matthew 10:40-42

July 9 — Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67
Psalm 45:10-17 or Psalm 72
Romans 7:15-25a Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

July 16 — Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 25:19-34
Psalm 119:105-112 or Psalm 25
Romans 8:1-11 Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

July 23 — Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 28:10-19a Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24
Romans 8:121-25 Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

July 3 — Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 29:15-28 Psalm 105:1-11, 45b
Romans 8:26-39 Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

UMW News



I hope all you ladies are enjoying the summer months and relaxing a bit. But, spend some time thinking about upcoming UMW events.

Come September 11 through September 15, our church is responsible for 5 dinner meals for the residents at St. Mary's Shelter. This means we can get together with someone and plan a meal that we purchase for one of the five nights. If the groceries are purchased and delivered to the Shelter in the morning on the day for which it's planned, the staff at the Shelter will cook it. Or, you may choose to prepare a meal along with another person and make the delivery yourself and check in with the volunteers who work there. You could get together with another person and arrange to have pizzas delivered for a meal and provide a salad, dessert and beverage to go along with it. So there are several options for planning a meal. We hope you'll start thinking and planning now.

We've been providing a week (five days) of meals for the Shelter families for years and the staff and residents are so very thankful for all we provide . . . just one week a year.

Then, we will be having a fundraiser Flea Market on Saturday, October 7. This means we bring all our donations, set up tables, display our goods, and make some money for the UMW. We also provide a lunch (free for workers) which includes two or three pots of soup choices, hot dogs, chips, brownies, cookies, soda, coffee, etc. This is a fun event and a chance for all of us to share ideas.

So, relax over the summer and be ready for the Fall events to start!!!!

Thanks to all.

Fern Heit

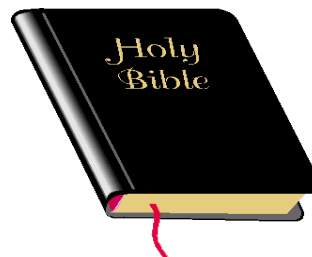




Prayer Scripture of the Month

For July the *Prayer Scripture* is:

“God, my God, put breath back into this boy’s body!” God listened to Elijah’s prayer and put breath back into his body—he was alive!”
1 Kings 17:22



Announcing . . .

God is still speaking!

The Word of God is **living** and **active!**
Hebrews 4:12

Announcing the Wednesday evening Summertime Bible Study at Valley Forge UMC.

7:30 p.m. in the Church Parlor
 beginning on July 12th for eight weeks.

Again this year the theme will be
“Great Chapters of the Bible.”

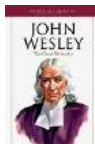
Our study will begin with the inspiring Psalm 103. Then in some of the following weeks we will look into five great chapters from the book of Revelation (chapters 1, 2, 3, 21 and 22).

Please come when you can!
 Bring your Bible!

This study will be led by Bob Erb.

JOHN WESLEY

—QUOTE OF THE MONTH



“He that thus loves the Lord his God, his Spirit continually ‘rejoiceth in God his Savior.’ His delight is in the Lord, his Lord and his All, to whom ‘in everything he giveth thanks.’”

From *The Almost Christian*
 Submitted by Bob Erb

Tai Chi at Valley Forge UMC

- July 15
- July 22
- July 29



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

Worship Participation Schedule

	Refreshments	Liturgist	Greeter
7/2	B. Lishon	L. Gular	L. & J. Bohl
7/9	L. Gular	G. Frazer	P. & J. Torres
7/16	T. Johnston	F. Heit	N. & T. Loane
7/23	B. Cooke	S. DeMartinis	R. & T. Johnston
7/30	N. Loane	E. Turner	B. Lishon
8/6	P. Davis	R. Johnston	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
Administrative Board Meeting
Minutes
June 26, 2017

In Attendance: Tom Loane, Glenn Davis, Adam Davis, Nancy Loane, Fern Heit, Pastor Jim Hallam, Richard Johnston, Maggie Horosky, Patty Davis, Robin Coroniti, Bob Erb, Doretta Erb, Tom Davis, John Torres, Steve Knotts

Nancy Loane opened the meeting with a reflection (and prayer) challenging us to "Do one thing for God today. No whining."

Minutes of May 22nd meeting were approved.

OLD BUSINESS: The new Bibles are in, and members will be offered an opportunity to memorialize loved ones. Members will be notified in the newsletter, and at Sunday Service. Tom Loane will take care of printing the plates.

FINANCE: Currently, we have an excess of \$8,986.00 for the year vs. the proposed 2017 budget. Tom Davis reported that, as of June 23, 2017, the Trustees balance is \$499,889.00 of which \$461,445.00 is in the Vanguard accounts.

It was discussed and agreed that, when the board approves an expenditure, it must determine from which account the funds will be withdrawn. Tom Davis will receive copies of "non-budgeted" invoices, and a checking account balance of the operating account should be known upon signing checks.

SPRC: Next meeting will be August 28th at 6pm, probably to begin Charge Conference forms.

UMM: Touch-up painting in sanctuary was completed, the defibrillator was installed in the Reeves building, and landscaping work was done by Michelle Torres and Linda Gular. There will be no meeting in July.

An expense of \$190.00 was approved out of the repair account for necessary replacement parts for the other defibrillator. Defibrillator Classes/Certification will be organized by Learning, and Tom Loane suggested those interested can begin on-line. A notice will also be placed in the newsletter for others that may be interested in getting certified.

UMW: Flea Market in early October, and a luncheon in mid-October after church service at which time the Martielli family will share with us their three-year experience in Hong Kong.

LEARNING: Bob's weekly Bible Study begins on July 12th at 7:30pm and will continue for eight weeks. Confirmation class and Kids' Sunday School may be starting up soon.

REACHING OUT (Missions): John Torres informed us that Good Samaritan Shelter will be merging with Bridge of Hope, with the intention of helping more people in Chester and Lancaster counties.

Richard Johnston presented a recommendation from the Reaching Out committee for consideration of monetary gifts to various charities and organizations in the Philadelphia area. After much discussion, the recommendation, totaling \$47,000.00 in gifts, was approved as presented by a vote of 13-2. The breakdown of gifts is as follows: \$4,000.00 each to The House, Mom's House, St. Mary's Shelter, Good Works, The Clinic, Good Samaritan Shelter, PACS, and Haiti Support. Gifts of \$5,000.00 each were approved to the Pennsylvania Innocence Project, Orion Communities, and Calvary UMC in Philadelphia. Tom Davis will need names/addresses/contacts in order to facilitate delivery.

NURTURING: Patty Davis suggested a Sunday prayer breakfast/church service in the Reeve building on September 10th.

Minutes/6/26/17
Continued from Page 4

PASTORAL: Pastor Jim mentioned that he would be talking to a couple members about assisting with Confirmation classes and Kids' Sunday School. Jim thanked the board for their willingness to share its' gifts with others in need, and that it was very rare to see a church this size being so magnanimous. Charge Conference will be held at VFUMC on September 27th (Wednesday) at 6:30pm to 8:30pm.

NEW BUSINESS: Nancy Loane shared an idea to take a "walk in the park" in the fall after Sunday Service. Steve Knotts suggested possibly even having a church service in the park that day.

A Nominations Committee and Chairpersons meeting will be held on Sunday, July 9th at 10:45am.

Pastor Jim closed the meeting with prayer.

No meeting in July.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, August 28th, at 7pm.

Rick McNeill will be handling the devotion.

Respectfully submitted,
GD

Nominating Committee— Chairperson Meeting:

There will be a meeting of the Nominating Committee and *all current committee chairpersons* on **Sunday, July 9 at 10:45 a.m.**

Pew Bible Dedications

If you would like to dedicate a new pew Bible “in memory of” or “in honor of” a loved one, please see the insert in the Sunday bulletins. The cost of each Bible is \$20.00.

The insert will appear in the bulletin over several weeks. If you have questions, please contact Tom Loane.



Needed:

Good Works is looking for a small warehouse space for tool and material storage in the Phoenixville area. The current warehouse is old and no longer safe for occupancy. If you know of space or know someone who could help, please contact Adam Davis at adamd1357@hotmail.com.



Special Luncheon

The women of the church are invited to a birthday lunch to celebrate the July birthdays including Elaine Turner, Fern Heit and Linda Ludwig!

The lunch is scheduled for Monday, July 31 at 11:45 a.m. The location is Nudy's on Bridge Street in Phoenixville.

RSVP to Patty Davis or Nancy Loane.




July Birthdays

Jocelyn Martielli	2
Elaine Turner	4
Riley Bushey	6
Talia DeMartinis	16
Evelyn Hodgson	20
Barbara Arnold	22
Glenn Davis	22
Luke Dorrin	26
Fern Heit	29

July Anniversaries

Terral & Richard Johnston	13
Beth & Ben Cooke	29
Leslie & Tom Davis	31

July 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 Hymn Sing, 9:20 a.m. Worship, 9:30 a.m. Fellowship, 10:30 Communion	3	4 Have a Happy & Safe July 4th! 	5	6	7	1 8
9 Hymn Sing, 9:20 a.m. Worship, 9:30 a.m. Fellowship, 10:30	10	11	12 Summertime Bible Study 7:30 p.m., Parlor Leader—Bob Erb	13	14	15 Tai Chi, 10:15 a.m.
16 Hymn Sing, 9:20 a.m. Worship, 9:30 a.m. Fellowship, 10:30 Adult SS Class, 11 a.m.	17	18	19 Summertime Bible Study 7:30 p.m., Parlor Leader—Bob Erb	20	21	22 Tai Chi, 10:15 a.m.
23 Hymn Sing, 9:20 a.m. Worship, 9:30 a.m. Fellowship, 10:30 Adult SS Class, 11 a.m.	24	25	26 Summertime Bible Study 7:30 p.m., Parlor Leader—Bob Erb	27	28	29 Tai Chi, 10:15 a.m.
30 Hymn Sing, 9:20 a.m. Worship, 9:30 a.m. Fellowship, 10:30 Adult SS Class, 11 a.m.	31	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				