

**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*

## ***Times change—Love, community endure***



Dear Friends,

The book of Ecclesiastes suggests that there is a time for everything under the sun. Well, as I have indicated in several contexts now, the time has come for me to re-retire. After much thought and conversation with significant others, I have decided that my last official function as your minister will be Christmas Eve. We still have seven months before I turn over leadership of our special church, but I wanted to make sure we are on common ground as we look to the future.

The decision to give up formal ministry does not mean that I will not be involved in ministry. I intend to be available to teach and preach when asked. I do not, however, want to become so involved that I cannot enjoy many weekends at our condo in Ocean City, New Jersey. I will, hopefully, find time to do some thinking and writing. I also want to be more flexible with my time so that I am readily available to visit with my grandchildren.

In the months ahead, the Staff Parish Relations Committee, will be discussing a future appointment to Valley Forge. The committee will be meeting with our district superintendent in late August or early September. Consideration needs to be given to the skills and graces you would like to have in your new minister as well as to the amount of time you would like the new person to commit to ministry in this place.

Please know that I want Valley Forge UMC to thrive in the years ahead. My thoughts and prayers will be with this family of God as you continue to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ. The relationships nurtured as I have served as your pastor will always be part of me. The opportunity I have had to share my thoughts and feelings about faith matters has made me a better Christian and a more sensitive human being.

This letter is not my good-bye. There will be ample opportunities to share hugs and well wishes before Christmas Eve. Again, I just felt it important that I formally announce my re-retirement (a phrase used by annual conference) so that all are informed. Let's continue to celebrate together with much thanksgiving in the months ahead.

Peace and Blessings,

Jim Hallam  
Pastor



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## June Lectionary



### June 5 — Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:16-34 Psalm 97

Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21 John 17:20-26

### Ascension Sunday

Acts 1:1-11 Psalm 47

Ephesians 1:15-23 Luke 24:44-53

### June 9 — Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Romans 8:14-17 John 14:8-17

### June 16 — Trinity Sunday

#### Father's Day

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31 Psalm 8

Romans 5:1-5 John 16:12-15

### June 23 — Second Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 19:1-15a Psalm 42

Galatians 3:23-29 Luke 8:26-39

### June 30 — Third Sunday after Pentecost

2 Kings 2:1-2,6-14 Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20

Galatians 5:1, 13-25 Luke 9:51-62



## Short Sayings . . .

- Maturity is:
  - The ability to stick with a job until it's finished.
  - The ability to do a job with out being supervised.
  - The ability to carry money without spending it.
  - And the ability to bear an injustice without wanting to get even.

*Pauline Phillips (Abigail Van Buren, Dear Abby) 1963*

- You've heard "Warning: This show contains adult language. Viewer discretion advised."

Adult language? Okay. Here goes! Character! Integrity! Commitment! Forgiveness! Sacrifice! Determination! Moral values! *That is grown-up talk!*

*Steve Simms in Quote Magazine*

*Submitted by Bob Erb*



## Scripture of the Month

For June the special *Scripture* is:

*“Jesus said to them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, the Son can do nothing on his own, but only what he sees the Father doing . . . the Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing; and he will show him greater works than these, so that you will be astonished.’”*

*John 5:19-20*

## Thoughts . . .

A pastor once told me, in the context of a Bible Study, that the phrase “Don’t be afraid” is in the Bible more than 200 times. If I remember correctly, most of those 200 times are in the New Testament, and can you guess who said it a lot of those times? That’s right—Jesus did. Seems like Jesus was serious about us not being afraid. And yet much of my life has been governed by fear. I grew up in home where there was more fear-instilling behavior than not. Sometimes I feel like I was meant to feel fear, so I would be “paralyzed” and follow directions to the letter, doing exactly what I was told. No choices there! And so it went. I graduated from high school, spent some time in the military, came back home, went to college, got a job—all under the aura of fear. One can not really call that living. When I moved to this area, some job-related things happened that helped me gain small pieces of confidence. Not many things, just some. I kept plodding along.

And then my son happened. If I thought I was fearful before, I hadn’t seen anything yet!! I was suddenly responsible for another human being. I remembered my own childhood and I was determined not to repeat the mistakes I had perceived then. But I didn’t have a clue. I read books, I talked to friends, I watched other people parenting. Was I getting it right? Probably not, but if I said that to anyone, they would reply, “You’re doing fine, no parent is perfect.” And fear persists.

Then finally, I learned about some God-things that helped me feel better about my efforts. I learned more about the true nature of God—not the God I grew up with, but a loving, compassionate, forgiving God. I learned about spiritual practices (prayer, reading scripture, meditation) that might help me get more connected with this “new” God I was learning about and helped me stay connected. Do I do it perfectly? No. I’m still trying to get to and stick with a routine that I can manage with three jobs and still be meaningful to me. I can tell you that it’s worth the trying. Because recently the fear in me swelled again. And instead of getting myself into an old familiar state of being paralyzed, I remembered the true nature of God, that he wants me to run to him at the first sign of fear. He wants me to run to his loving, compassionate arms and say, “I need your help, God. Only you can help. This is what I think, but you know best. Help me do what I can, but let my doing be what you want. I don’t want to make things worse. I just want to be your instrument, your light. Then help me trust you, God. Take my fear and turn it into sunshine for someone else. Let others see you in me, for their sake and for yours.”

And God whispers to me, “I love you. Don’t be afraid.”



*Happy  
Summer!*



**Tai Chi at Valley Forge UMC**



**June Tai Chi Classes**



*If you are a member of the class, please check your E-mail for class notices and status.*

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

**Announcement . . .**

The next meeting of the **Staff-Parish Relations Committee** will be held on June 24, 2019 at 6 p.m.



**June Birthdays**



Gabrielle Coroniti	1
Frank Rechner	1
Korrine Heit	4
Maggie Horosky	6
Steve Hranilovich	16
Patty Davis	19
Doretta Erb	21
Julia Marie Rich	21
Pat Hepp	27
Kelly Keller	27

**June Anniversaries**

Jim & Laurie Bohl	7
John & Patty Torres	12
Carole & John Gallis	17
Bob & Doretta Erb	27
Elaine & Noel Turner	29

**Worship Participation Schedule**

	<b>Refreshments</b>	<b>Liturgist</b>	<b>Greeter</b>
<b>6/9</b>	E. Turner	J. Torres	M. Horosky
<b>6/16</b>	S. Jennings	L. Gular	L. Davis
<b>6/23</b>		T. or N. Loane	R. Bushey
<b>6/30</b>		F. Heit	TBA

**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.

Please refer to the weekly bulletin for the Greeter and Liturgist schedule for the remainder of June and the months of July and August.

**Valley Forge United Methodist Church**  
**Administration Board Meeting**  
**May 20, 2019**  
**Minutes**

**In Attendance:** Jim Martielli, Glenn Davis, Pastor Jim Hallam, Patty Davis, Nancy Loane, Tom Loane, Steve Hranilovich, Rick McNeill, Maggie Horosky, Adam Davis, Doretta Erb, Bob Erb, Fern Heit

Maggie opened the meeting with a reflection on singing together in praise, and encouraging each other, which brings us closer to God's grace and power.

Minutes of April 22nd were approved.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Adam received a good response for the playground equipment when he placed an ad. Nothing was decided as to whether we would retain the equipment. There are also additional repair estimates forthcoming on the retaining wall repair. A civil engineer spec sheet has been received by Adam.

**FINANCE:** The finance report for the end of April shows we had a deficit of \$127.00 vs. the 2019 budget.

Adam reported that, as of May 18, 2019, the Trustees balance is \$471,306.00 of which \$431,636.00 is in the Vanguard account.

**SPRC:** There will be a meeting June 24th, prior to the Administration Board meeting.

**UMW:** The flea market will be the first Saturday in October.

**UMM:** Last Saturday, air conditioning units were installed, new air filters were installed, repair was done on kitchen drawers, weeds were pulled in the northeast corner. It was also discussed that we would need a new tree in the corner of the property.

**EDUCATION:** Steve will be presenting "Marathoning along with Friends and Faith" on June 2nd, along with a light luncheon which will be organized by JoMarie.

**OUTREACH:** Meals were provided for the week at the St. Mary's Shelter.

**FELLOWSHIP:** A luncheon was held on May 5th, along with a foot care seminar by Melissa Younger.

**PASTORAL:** Pastor Jim announced his retirement from VFUMC, with his last service to be held on Christmas Eve. Pastor Jim will have been at Valley Forge for over 8 1/2 years by the end of 2019. He shared how he will be staying active, will keep writing, and looks forward to spending more free time with Kerry. Everyone was very congratulatory, and thankful for having Jim serve the church in such a gracious manner over the years.

**NEW BUSINESS:** A separate church committee met this evening to prepare a report on the decisions by the General Conference and Judicial Council. The committee is comprised of Bob Erb, Doretta Erb, Robin Coroniti, Adam Davis, Leslie Davis, Steve Hranilovich, Pastor Jim Hallam.

Pastor Jim closed the meeting with prayer.

**NEXT MEETING:** Monday, June 24, 2019 at 7PM. Steve will be handling the devotion.

Respectfully submitted,  
GD

# JUNE, 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 <b>Worship, 9:30 a.m.</b> Fellowship: 10:30 a.m. <b>Communion</b> <b>Wellness Series -</b> <b>Steve Hranilovich</b>	3	4	5	6	7	8 Tai Chi, 10:15 a.m.
9 <b>Worship, 9:30</b> Fellowship, 10:30 a.m.	10	11	12	13	14	15 Tai Chi, 10:15 a.m.
16 <b>Worship, 9:30</b> Fellowship, 10:30 a.m.	17	18	19	20	21	22 Tai Chi, 10:15 a.m.
23 <b>Worship, 9:30</b> Fellowship, 10:30 a.m.	24 <b>Administrative</b> <b>Board Meeting</b> 7 p.m. <b>SPRC Meeting</b> 6 p.m.	25	26	27	28	29 Tai Chi, 10:15 a.m.
30 <b>Worship, 9:30</b> Fellowship, 10:30 a.m.	Jazzercise: Monday-Thursday at 6:15-7:15 p.m.; Saturday at 9-10 a.m. Friday: 9-10 a.m. Bible Study—Pastor Jim Choir—Julia Rich Bell Choir—Nancy Loane					