

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

Pastor shares his gratitude for VFUMC

The following letter is what Pastor Jim wrote to the Conference as his State of the Church Report for October's Charge Conference.



Dear Friends,

As I begin my eighth year as minister of Valley Forge United Methodist Church, I want to write a letter of thanks to our special community. I don't want merely to repeat the accomplishments and concerns of previous State of the Church Reports but want you to know how much I appreciate being your pastor and being a member of a loving church family.

I want to thank you for your care and support when my beloved sister, Dorothy, died in November. It was a rough time for me. My sister was a wonderful friend who I called almost every day. Throughout my life she was there to support me and care for me. You understood my profound loss and were there with your cards and hugs. I am so grateful.

I want to thank you for being a church that enjoys singing, worship and fellowship. I have been able to worship on Sunday in a way that was not possible for me in a larger church setting. I appreciate the spontaneity of the Haiti Hut when joys are expressed. Even with the mike on I sing boldly knowing that my efforts will not be heard in the midst of the congregational hymn singing. I appreciate the attentiveness and response—mostly nonverbal—during the contemporary witness. On occasion some eyes are closed but I figure the rest is essential.

I want to thank you for being a church that affirms outreach not just in words but in dollars. Your continued support of Haiti is generous and the decision to give significant dollars from trustee investments to community organizations this year is amazing. We contributed more than fifty thousand dollars to meet the needs of others. This spirit of giving incarnates the message of our Gospel.

I want to thank you for being a church that welcomes others in a warm and genuine fashion. Not everyone appreciates the value of a small church but those who have come and connected with us have found a supportive home. We believe in our affirmation: "Wherever you are in your journey, you are welcome here."

I want to thank you for being a church that takes Jesus seriously. He is not just a person who lived and taught in a different era. He is the source of our meaning, hope and joy. He connects us to God and to the amazing gift of grace. We are authentic in our effort to be Christ's presence in the world. That is displayed in how we deal with each other and our strong desire to make a difference in our community and the world. We are sensitive to the sighs and cries of our brothers and sisters who have so many basic needs.

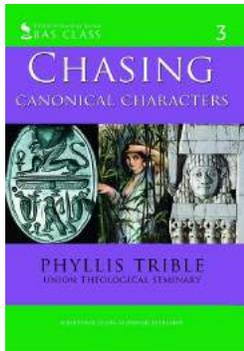
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Thank You

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Adult Sunday School—9 a.m.



Tom Loane's SS Class



Where are you at 9 a.m. on Sunday morning? You could be exploring the amazing characters of the Hebrew Bible. Watch ancient tests come to life as you learn about the colorful personalities with the Biblical narrative. Our guide, the eminent Phyllis Trible, uses literary, rhetorical and feminist methods to weave a vibrant tapestry, illuminating the tales of the Hebrew Bible and their unforgettable characters.

Join us Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. (that's before worship and refreshments) to share in this presentation and discussion. You can drop in at any time and still participate. Bring your Bible. In October we will be studying Jacob and Miriam.



Tom Loane

From the Pastor . . .

(Continued from page 1)

I want to thank you for being an alive, vital church. So many contribute so much. You are a church that could easily administer itself without ministerial oversight, and I am privileged to help in the empowerment process. Thank you for being open to new ideas and being honest in sharing concerns.

So, thank you! Thank you for being an important part of my life.

Peace and blessings,

Jim Hallam
Pastor



Continuing Scottie's Sunday School Class

I have appreciated attending Scottie's Adult Sunday School Class for the past seven years, and have now begun teaching the class each Sunday morning. The class continues to meet in the church parlor at 9 a.m.

I am committed to study of the Bible in depth. I believe that "the Word of God is living and active" (Hebrews 4:12) and the "all Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching . . . and training in righteousness" (2 Timothy 3:16).

My general format is expository teaching of various books of the Bible. A detailed verse-by-verse exposition of an entire book ensures coverage of many different topics, including ones that may be otherwise neglected. I was blessed through many years of my life to have experienced extensive expository preaching by Bible scholars, including Donald Grey Barnhouse, James Montgomery Boice, and Philip Graham Ryken.

I have begun with teaching the entire Gospel of John. This is an expansion of the summertime Wednesday-night Bible studies that I undertook a little more than four years ago at VFUMC. I plan—Lord willing—to follow this with expositions of Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, and Colossians—and then to cover the Gospel of Luke.

This is an "open Bible class," and I encourage each one to "BYOB"—Bring Your Own Bible. However this is not required, and we have ESV large-print Bibles available for anyone to use.

My goals are to encourage us to be able to articulate our faith—including who Jesus is, what he came to do, and what should be our response—and to think and act biblically.

Please join us to "dig into the Word" together. Come whenever you can; there are no homework assignments or quizzes! All are invited, from age 10 to 100!

Bob Erb



Scripture of the Month

For October the special *Scripture* is:

"But as for you, [person] of God, . . . pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith . . ."

1 Timothy 6: 11-12a

October Lectionary



October 7 – Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

Job 1:1; 2:10 Psalm 26 or Psalm 25
 Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12 Mark 10:2-16

October 14 – Twenty-first Sunday After Pentecost

Job 23:1-9, 16-17 Psalm 22:1-15
 Hebrews 4:12-16 Mark 10:17-31

October 21 – Twenty-second Sunday After Pentecost

Job 38:1-7 (34-41) Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c
 Hebrews 5:1-10 Mark 10:35-45

October 28 – Twenty-third Sunday After Pentecost

Job 42:1-6, 10-17 Psalm 34:1-8
 Hebrews 7:23-28 Mark 10:46-52

Attention: The VFUMC Bell Choir (affectionately known as “The Belles,” has begun rehearsing on **Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. One more “ringer” is needed** to complete group. You don’t need to read music but it is definitely a plus. If you have any interest, please contact the conductor, **Nancy Loane.**



October Birthdays

Adam Davis	11
Ian DeMartinis	12
Sandy Knotts	12
Dick Fallows	27



Tai Chi at Valley Forge UMC

October Tai Chi Classes:

October 13
October 20
October 27



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

October Anniversaries

Liz & Joe O’Hara	6
Barbara & Bill Arnold	31

Worship Participation Schedule

	Refreshments	Liturgist	Greeter
10/14	P. Davis	J. Rich	S. Knotts
10/21	L. Vitale	L. Gular	M. & J. Younger
10/28	R. Coroniti	G. Frazer	S. Hranilovich
11/4	W. Martielli	D. Erb	W. & J. Martielli
11/11	L. Moran	R. Masters	C. & R. Masters

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.**

Eating Well to Prevent Diabetes

Sunday, November 4th 11:45 am

Please join us to hear expert speaker, Carolyn Farhy MS, RDN, LDN, nutrition educator with Main Line Health for more than 10 years, who specializes in programs educating the public in a wide range of nutrition topics.

*And Pastor Jim will lead us in a 10-minute **fun** exercise break!*



Topics:

- ~ **Why is Diabetes so dangerous?**
- ~ **Can Type II Diabetes be prevented?**
- ~ **If I have diabetes already, is there anything more I can do?**
- ~ **What is Glycemic Index?**
- ~ **Does physical activity help?**
- ~ **So many diet plans—which one is best?**

Healthy snacks and beverages will be served. Please email laurie-vitale@comcast.net or valleyforgeumc@comcast.net for more information. *Everyone is welcome to this free event! (Daylight Savings begins the night before - Fall Back-turn clocks back 1 hour.)*

Hospitality Committee to sponsor event

On Sunday, October 14, the VFUMC Hospitality Committee will sponsor a Luncheon/Movie. Lunch will include soup, salad, and dessert. The movie is a docu-film titled, "Won't You Be My Neighbor," about the life and times of Fred Rogers, a TV personality, minister, writer and producer who inspired children nationally for more than 30 years. Join us and learn about this remarkable man who helped wherever and whenever he could, especially children.



Looking ahead . . .

The VFUMC Mission Team is forming. The dates for next year's Haiti Mission Trip are February 23 to March 2, 2019. If you are interested in joining the Mission Team, please contact Adam Davis.



To All UMW Ladies: We HAVE to decide on a meeting date. There are events and activities we need to discuss. I would like to meet some Sunday after church and go over the schedule with those who can stay a bit and then share the meeting minutes with those who can't stay after church so everyone will know what's happening.

The time to donate items for Thanksgiving meals is coming fast. Right after that will be the time to gather gifts for the local families we "adopt" for Christmas. These last few months of the year are busy times for everyone. I thought we could get started early this year.

So, give some thought as to how many families we feel we can help for Thanksgiving and Christmas meals and also gift giving for the children of the families for Christmas. Please let me know your thoughts.

Blessings!

Fern Heit

2018 Calendar October – December

Sunday, October 14th: Fellowship with Movie
"Won't You Be My Neighbor?"
Soup, Salad, Dessert

Sunday October 28th: Mission/Outreach Emphasis
during Worship

Sunday November 4th: Wellness Program: Diabetes
11:45 a.m.

Sunday November 11th: Anniversary Sunday

Sunday November 18th: Stewardship Sunday

Wednesday: November 21st: Thanksgiving Eve Service
7:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 9th: Fellowship/Lunch & Family Carol Sing
(Advent emphasis)

Sunday December 23rd: Lunch & Live Nativity (Noon)

Monday, December 24th: Christmas Eve service at 6 p.m.
Candlelight Service at 11 p.m.

Short Sayings

If not me, who? If not now, when? *Anonymous*

Our vocation is, I believe, to build good out of evil. For if we try to build good out of good, we are in danger of running out of raw material.

Paul Tournier

It is more blessed to give than to receive, but then it is also more blessed to be able to do without than to have to have.

Soren Kierkegaard's Journals and Papers

Submitted by Bob Erb

SAVE THE DATE:



The Phoenixville Area Clergy Association is planning a **Gun Violence Awareness Day** event. The event will be held on **Sunday, November 4, from 4 to 6 p.m.** This special event is still being planned. When I have more info I will pass it on by bulletin and/or church-wide e-mail.

**Valley Forge United Methodist Church
Administrative Board Meeting
Minutes
September 24, 2018**

In Attendance: Patty Davis, Robin Coroniti, Glenn Davis, Fern Heit, John Torres, Adam Davis, Steve Hranilovich, Noel Turner, Rick McNeill, Pastor Jim Hallam, Maggie Horosky

Adam shared a reflection on various verses of the Bible that apply to charitable giving, and how it should give us direction.

Minutes of the August meeting were approved.

OLD BUSINESS: Adam is getting engineer fee estimates to design the retaining wall. Drawings will have to be submitted to the township.

FINANCE: Noel reported that, at the end of August, we have a deficit of \$4,389.00 vs. the 2018 budget. Per report supplied by Tom Davis, as of September 21, 2018, the Trustees balance is \$513,137.00 of which \$465,404.00 is in the Vanguard accounts, and \$7,953.00 is in the operating account.

SPRC: The group met last week to complete Charge Conference forms. The Charge Conference will be on October 9th at 6:30 pm at Wayne United Methodist, 210 S. Wayne Avenue, Wayne, PA. Pastor Jim has indicated it is his wish to remain as Pastor of VFUMC for 2019. A motion was made and approved to increase all salaries/wages by 3% for 2019.

UMW: A meeting will be scheduled for October.

UMM: The front doors of Reeve building received a new coat of paint. Front door of church will be painted shortly. Improvements to the bathroom in Church have been completed. Glenn presented a quote to paint the Reeve building interior from Nick Nauta Painting. We will get another bid from Mike Gambone. Glenn also informed the board that PECO would be taking down and removing the maple tree at the corner of Route 23 and Colonial Springs Road due to the installation of new poles and power lines.

EDUCATION: Adam presented a request from the education committee to increase the 2019 budget by \$1,200 to assist in funding a youth program. This request was approved by the board, and will be part of the 2019 budget. A flyer provided by Laurie: Ms. Carolyn Farhy, MS of Main Line Health will provide a program "Eating Well to Prevent Diabetes" on November 4th at 11:45am. Healthy snacks will be provided.

OUTREACH: Robin presented a list of potential groups and charities to funding totaling \$31,000.00, and spoke about fiscal responsibility. The board approved the \$31,000.00 in funding, and various board members will investigate and provide further information about the individual groups at the October meeting. At this meeting, we will try to agree how to apportion the funding.

HOSPITALITY: Patty and Jo Marie are sponsoring a movie event on October 14th after church with a light lunch and dessert. The movie: "Won't you be my Neighbor", a documentary about Mister Rogers.

PASTORAL: Committee nominations for 2019 were approved, including changes of Steve Hranilovich as co-chair of UMM, Steve McClellan added as Member-at-Large, and Rick McNeill's addition to the Outreach committee. Pastor Jim handed out a list of event dates coming up in the near future. This list will be published in the monthly newsletter. Pastor Jim also read a very personal "State of the Church" letter, which will become part of the charge conference package.

NEW BUSINESS: Chair and table samples were secured for the Board's consideration. Patty Davis presented photos of potential new blinds (costing \$1,417.00) for the Reeve building, as well as cost to replace 21 tables and 96 chairs. A motion was passed to provide \$1,417.00 for blinds, and a separate motion was passed providing \$5,500 for new tables and chairs. Patty will check some pricing at Lowe's.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, October 22nd, at 7pm.

Pastor Jim closed the meeting with prayer. Fern will handle the devotional in October, and Nancy will handle November.

Respectfully submitted,

GD

October, 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
				Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m.		Tai Chi, 10:15 a.m.
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Sunday School, 9 a.m. Fellowship, 10 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m. World Communion Sunday		Charge Conference Wayne UMC 6:30 p.m.		Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m.		Tai Chi, 10:15 a.m.
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Sunday School, 9 a.m. Fellowship, 10 a.m. Worship, 10:30 Lunch/Movie— After Worship			Bible Study 1:15 p.m. Pastor Jim Office	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m.		Tai Chi, 10:15 a.m. Men's Group Meeting 9 a.m.
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Sunday School, 9 a.m. Fellowship, 10 a.m. Worship, 10:30	Admin. Board Mtg 7 p.m.		Bible Study 1:15 p.m. Pastor Jim Office	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m.		Tai Chi, 10:15 a.m.
28	29	30	31	Jazzercise: Monday-Thursday at 6:15-7:15 p.m.; Saturday at 9-10 a.m. Wednesday & Friday: 9 a.m. Bible Study—Pastor Jim Choir—Julia Rich Bell Choir—Nancy Loane		
Sunday School, 9 a.m. Fellowship, 10 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m. Mission/Outreach Emphasis			Bible Study 1:15 p.m. Pastor Jim Office			