

**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*

## ***Do no harm; do good; stay in love with God***

Dear Friends,

Bishop P. Job in his book, Three Simple Rules, suggests that there are three simple rules for a Wesleyan way of living: *Do no harm. Do Good, Stay in love with God.* I have dealt with the first two rules a part of worship during the past weeks. This coming Sunday I plan to focus on the third rule namely, *Stay in love with God.*

Bishop Job reminds us that John Wesley affirmed that spiritual disciplines are crucial in nurturing our relationship with God. Through them we keep our relationship with God vital and growing. “He (Wesley) names public worship of God, the Lord’s Supper, private and family prayer, searching the Scriptures, Bible study, and fasting as essential to a faithful life.” Spiritual disciplines keep us focused. In addition to those just named, we must never forget that meeting the needs of others is a powerful discipline.

Jesus asks Peter three times, “Do you love me?” He is instructed to care for others. It is in our interaction with others that we demonstrate our love for God. It is through our empathy and care for others that God comes alive in our world. It is through our concern for justice that we incarnate the love of Christ and bring hope and light into a world that desperately needs transformation.

As people of faith, we are challenged by the words of the writer of 1 John. Again, we are reminded that love of others is integral to living the way of Jesus. Reflect on these words:

“My beloved friends, let us continue to love each other since love comes from God. Everyone who loves is born of God and experiences a relationship with God. The person who refuses to love doesn’t know the first thing about God, because God is love—so you can’t know him if you don’t love.” (1 John 4:7-8)  
(The Message)

“God is love. When we take up permanent residence in a life of love, we live in God and God lives in us.” (1 John 4:17) (The Message)

“Loving God includes loving people. You’ve got to love both.”  
(1 John 4:21) (The Message)

So how do we *stay in love with God*? We practice spiritual disciplines and give respect, dignity and compassion to every human being.

Peace and Blessings,

Jim Hallam, Pastor



**Inside this issue:**

From the Pastor	1
October Lectionary	2
Tai Chi Information	2
Adult Sunday School	2
Lunch & A Movie	2
Open Agenda	3
Special Thank You	3
Operation Christmas Child	3
Birthdays/Anniversaries	3
Volunteer Schedule	3
New Pastor Announcement	4
Flea Market	5
Board Minutes	6
October Calendar	7



# October Lectionary



## October 6 – World Communion Sunday

Lamentations 1:1-6    Psalm 137  
2 Timothy 1:1-14    Luke 17:5-10

## October 13 – Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7    Psalm 66:1-12  
2 Timothy 2:8-15    Luke 17:11-19

## October 20 – Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 31:27-34    Psalm 119:97-104 or  
Psalm 19  
2 Timothy 3:14-4:5    Luke 18:1-8

## October 27 – Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

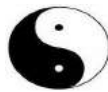
Joel 2:23-32    Psalm 65  
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18    Luke 18:9-14



## Tai Chi at Valley Forge UMC



### October 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.

### Note: TAI CHI for VETERANS—FREE

If you are a veteran or know any veterans, please contact Mitch Goldfarb, Tai Chi class director at VFUMC. Call 610-873-1923 or e-mail at

[mitch@mitchgoldfarb.com](mailto:mitch@mitchgoldfarb.com)

## Adult Sunday School class to focus on Galatians

Have you engaged in any serious Bible study in the past year or even in the passing of many years? Studying the “open Bible” in our adult Sunday School class at VFUMC is one way to be greatly benefited now by digging into the word together. In October we plan to move into Galatians—that great book of Christian liberty and the gospel of grace.

Please join us. We meet in the church parlor at 9 a.m. Just bring yourself. We have Bibles there, or bring your own. I invite you to come!

*Bob Erb*



## Lunch & A Movie—on Sunday, October 20

On Sunday, October 20, members and friends of VFUMC will have an opportunity to get together for lunch and a movie. This event will be held right after worship.

The movie is titled “Come Sunday.” It’s based on a story about Carlton Pearson, an African American who organized a mega church and lost it when he questioned church doctrine and was branded a heretic.

The lunch menu on the 20th includes chicken pot pie, salad and dessert.

Make plans to join us and bring a friend to enjoy the show and the fellowship.

## Short Sayings . . .

“What day is it?” asked Pooh.

“It is today,” squeaked Piglet.

“My favorite day,” said Pooh.

*A. A. Milne*

The way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing.

*Anonymous*

I just invent, then wait until Man comes around to needing what I’ve invented.

*R. Buckminster Fuller  
Architect/Inventor*

*Submitted by Bob Erb*

## Sunday Morning Open Agenda . . .

The first Open Agenda meeting will be held on Sunday October 6th at 9:15 a.m. in the Pastor's office. You may ask any question that is faith-related. Join the group and learn what's on people's minds about the "faith journey."



### Scripture of the Month

For October the special *Scripture* is:

*"No one after lighting a lamp puts it in a cellar or under a basket, but on a stand, so that those who enter may see the light."*

*Luke 11:33*



### October Birthdays

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

### October Anniversaries

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

## Special thank you from the Loane's

Thank you, church family, for the lovely send-off to Willow Valley Communities! The cake and ice cream party and ladies' luncheon were both delightful and much appreciated. We will never forget you and our Valley Forge church home, and welcome you to visit us here in Lancaster County.

Tom and Nancy Loane  
950 Willow Valley Lakes Drive  
Apt. K-108  
Willow Street, PA 17584-9663  
717-464-6555  
nloane1778@gmail.com  
tloane1@gmail.com  
Nancy's cell: 610-247-0455  
Tom's cell: 610-639-1119

### VFUMC Youth to pack Boxes for Operation Christmas Child

The Youth of VFUMC will meet in October to pack Shoe Boxes for Operation Christmas Child.

Until the "packing date," the group will accept donations for this outreach event. Acceptable donations include school supplies, small toys, bar soap, toothbrushes, washcloths, etc.

Please—no candy, toothpaste—or anything else that might melt.

Donations cannot be accepted after Sunday, October 20.



### Worship Participation Schedule

	Refreshments	Liturgist	Greeter
10/6	E. Turner	F. Heit	W. & J. Martielli
10/13	S. Jennings	J. Rich	P. & J. Torres
10/20	T. Johnston	L. Gular	M. Horosky
10/27	P. Davis	R. Masters	C. & R. Masters
11/3	J. M. Jones	N. Turner	A. Davis

**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.



# Valley Forge United Methodist Church

1890 Valley Forge Road, P.O. Box 541, Valley Forge, PA 19481

**Pastor James R. Hallam**  
Church: 610.783.7888  
Study: 610.368.4725

September 26, 2019

Dear Friends in Christ:

On behalf of Bishop Peggy Johnson, the Staff-Parish Relations Committee is pleased to announce the appointment of the Reverend Michael C. Johnson to Valley Forge United Methodist Church effective January 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020. Reverend Johnson is a member of the Baltimore Washington Conference serving On Loan to Eastern Pennsylvania Conference.

Mike is 1976 graduate of Texas State University; his undergraduate degree is in Psychology, with a minor in Sociology. He received his Master of Divinity degree from Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky in 1980. Mike also graduated from Moravian Theological Seminary in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania with a Graduate Certificate in Spiritual Direction in 2014.

Reverend Johnson was ordained a deacon in the United Methodist Church in 1978, and ordained as an elder in 1981. He has been a full member of the Baltimore Annual Conference since 1981. From 1980 to 2008, he held appointments at a number of churches in Maryland. Since 2008, Mike has served churches in the Peninsula-Delaware Conference, and the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference, including Otterbein UMC in Mont Clare, PA. Since 2014, he has also been engaged in Extension Ministry as a Spiritual Director.

Mike is married to our Bishop, Peggy Johnson. They have two adult sons, Peter and Gabriel.

We hope that you will keep Reverend Johnson and his family in your prayers as he assumes this new assignment. More importantly, we hope you will join us in warmly welcoming him as he guides us in the latest chapter in our church's story, and leads us in bringing about God's kingdom.

In His name,

VALLEY FORGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE





# Gigantic

## Fall Flea Market

**Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019**  
9:00 a.m. ~ 2:00 p.m.

Valley Forge United Methodist Church  
1890 Valley Forge Road (Route 23)  
Valley Forge, Pennsylvania 19481

ATTIC TREASURES ♡ HOUSEHOLD ITEMS ♡  
CHILDREN'S TOYS & LINENS ✂ FOOTWEAR  
JEWELRY ♡ BOOKS 📖 TOOLS ✂



**Valley Forge United Methodist Church  
Administration Board Meeting  
September 23, 2019  
Minutes**

**In Attendance:** Glenn Davis, Pastor Jim Hallam, Rick McNeill, Robin Coroniti, Maggie Horosky, Patty Davis, Patty Torres, John Torres

A reflection was shared by Maggie, referring to the musician Ed Sheeran, and the rejection that he had to fight through before being successful. Maggie reminded us that God has a plan for us, and to never give up.

Minutes of August 26th were approved.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**FINANCE:** The finance report for the end of August shows there is an actual deficit of \$2,205.00 vs. the 2019 budget year.

Reporting shows, as of September 20, 2019, the Trustees balance is \$490,765.00 of which \$440,217.00 is in the Vanguard account. Financial reports were approved.

**SPRC:** September 30th will be the last meeting of the year as the committee is to get ready for charge conference and budgeting salaries. Pastor Mike Johnson, husband of Bishop Peggy Johnson, will be our interim pastor in Valley Forge beginning January 1st. His term is for six months, as the committee will be concentrating on employing a permanent pastor during this time.

**UMW:** The flea market will be Saturday, October 5th from 9am to 2pm.

**UMM:** Next meeting will be this Saturday, September 28th at 11am, to assist in setting up for the UMW flea market

**EDUCATION:** No report.

**OUTREACH:** No report.

**FELLOWSHIP:** On October 20th, there will be a luncheon, and a movie after the service.

**PASTORAL:** The Charge Conference will be held at Wayne United Methodist on Saturday, November 2nd, starting at 9am. On November 27th at 7:30 PM, there will be a Thanksgiving Eve service. On December 8th at Noon will be the advent family service. December 22nd will be the Living Nativity. On December 24th (Christmas Eve) there will be a service at 7 PM and one at 11 PM.

Pastor Jim voiced a concern about the church's dwindling attendance. A discussion was had on how the congregation changed so quickly, and how to possibly improve attendance. Pastor Jim also noted that the website badly needs updating, and he will be contacting people who might be able to assist here.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

Pastor Jim closed the meeting with prayer.

**NEXT MEETING:** Monday, October 28, 2019 at 7PM. Robin will be handling the devotion.

Respectfully submitted,  
GD

# OCTOBER, 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 Flea Market 9 a.m.—2 p.m.
6 Sunday School, 9 a.m. Fellowship, 10 a.m. <b>Worship, 10:30 a.m.</b> <b>Communion</b>	7	8	9	10 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.	11	12
13 Sunday School, 9 a.m. Fellowship, 10 a.m. <b>Worship, 10:30 a.m.</b>	14	15	16	17 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.	18	19
20 Sunday School, 9 a.m. Fellowship, 10 a.m. <b>Worship, 10:30 a.m.</b> <b>Lunch &amp; A Movie!</b>	21	22	23	24 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.	25	26
27 Sunday School, 9 a.m. Fellowship, 10 a.m. <b>Worship, 10:30 a.m.</b>	28 <b>Administrative Board Meeting</b> 7 p.m.	29	30	31 Jazzercise: Monday-Thursday at 6:15-7:15 p.m.; Friday & Saturday at 9-10 a.m. Bible Study—Pastor Jim Choir—Julia Rich Tai Chi—Maggie Horosky		