

Fellowship Report

From the Pastor



Church structure announced for Valley Forge UMC

Good People of Valley Forge United Methodist Church:
Blessings of Peace and Serenity!

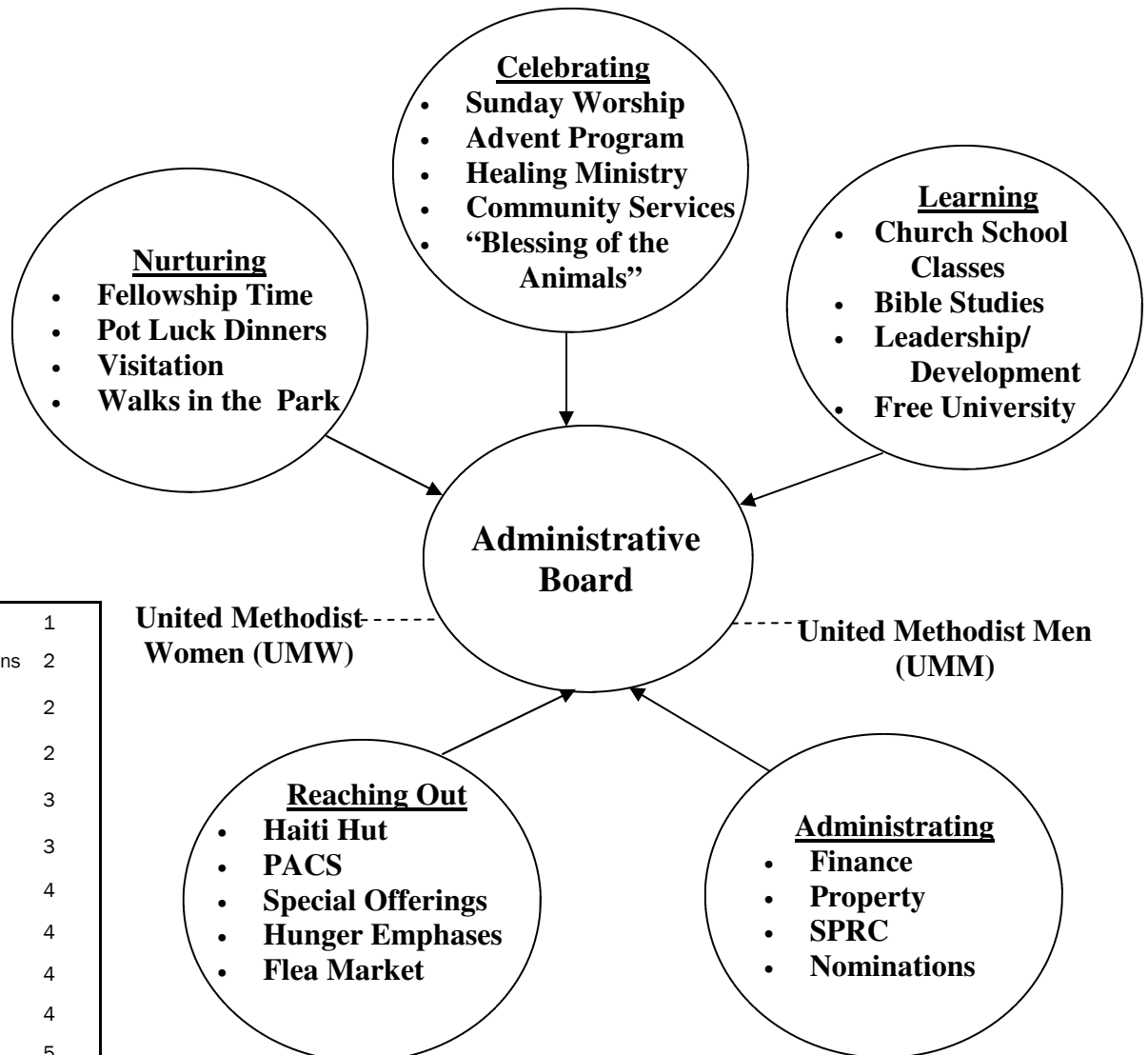
I want to share with you the diagram of our church structure approved by the Administrative Board on Monday, August 22. Take note that all committees and organizations report to the Administrative Board.



Valley Forge United Methodist Church Structure

“Wherever you are in your journey, you are welcome here!”

We are an active community, realizing our ministry by:



Volume 10, Issue 10

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Church Structure

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Our affirmation is that 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.

Shalom.

Jim Hallam
Pastor



“So You Want to Read the Bible”

The “Philadelphia Inquirer” recently carried the story of a church that asked all its members to commit to reading the Bible from cover to cover in a year. No doubt that congregation will be more Bible literate in that time. At Valley Forge United Methodist Church, an adult Sunday School class will explore a little more in depth but will complete the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) in a little over a year and a half. It will then read the New Testament. While Tom Loane will provide an outline, the focus is on what the Bible says with just a small dab of history and other thoughts. Each week at home, members will read between a dozen and two dozen chapters (that should take less than two hours) and jot down their thoughts for class on Sunday morning. The majority of class time will be discussion of the readings with a brief introduction of the next section. Don’t worry if you miss a session—there is time to catch up. Come join us! We start this new series on Sunday, September 11 (the Sunday after Labor Day) at 9 a.m.

Tom Loane

Adult class will study Captured by Grace

Scottie DeMartinis’ class will meet in the church parlor, starting on September 11 at 9 a.m. We’ll have the coffee pot brewing and sit around our coffee table, where we’ll have our discussions and view DVDs that go along with our studies.

The class will study a book titled **Captured by Grace**. This book begins by telling the stories of the apostle Paul and John Newton, who composed “Amazing Grace.” The following is an excerpt from the book’s back cover: “Grace—it’s a stained glass, impersonal word until it happens to you. Encountering God’s grace changes lives forever. Let Dr. David Jeremiah show you how the transforming mercy that captured songwriter John Newton and the apostle Paul can awaken within you a fresh experience of the God who loves you fearlessly and pursues you with abandon.”



Scottie & the Editor

It’s time to bring us your “Fleas”

Mark those calendars.....**October 8 is our annual Flea Market!!** You can begin bringing your "fleas". The tarp is up!! Please be sure that all items are hidden behind the tarp. Also, plan what part of the week you can help with sorting and pricing. We will also need help the day of the Flea Market and clean-up after the Flea Market. Refer any questions to Linda Austin who is chairing the event. Thank you in advance.

Fern Heit

Address updates for our “college kids”

Korinne Heit

**University of
Pittsburgh
Korinne Heit
3990 Fifth Avenue
Bruce Hall 505
Pittsburg, PA
15213**

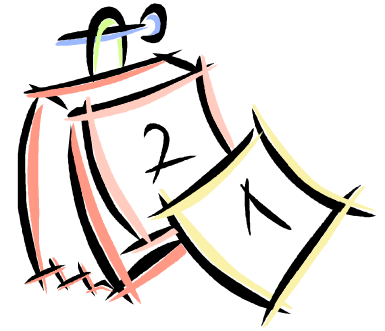
Kevin Bohl

**802 Burrowes Hall
Millersville
University
Millersville, PA
17551**

Upcoming Events

at Valley Forge United Methodist Church

- September 4 Sunday Worship, 9:30 a.m. with Holy Communion
Hymn Sing: 9:20 a.m., Fellowship: 10:30 a.m.
Adult Sunday School Class, 11 a.m.
- September 5 Labor Day—Have a safe and happy holiday!
- September 8 Sanctuary Choir Practice, 6:30 p.m.
- September 11 Sunday School, 9 a.m., Fellowship, 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m.
- September 14 Bible Study (Scottie DeMartinis), Parlor, 7:30 p.m.
- September 15 Sanctuary Choir Practice, 6:30 p.m.
- September 17 Men’s Group Meeting, 9 a.m.
- September 18 Sunday School, 9 a.m., Fellowship, 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m.
- September 19-23 **Shelter Meals**
- September 20 Bible Study (Pastor Jim), Parlor, 11 a.m.
- September 21 Bible Study (Scottie), Parlor, 7:30 p.m.
- September 22 Sanctuary Choir Practice, 6:30 p.m.
Bell Choir Practice, 7:30 p.m.
- September 25 Sunday School, 9 a.m., Fellowship, 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m.
- September 26 Administrative Board, 7 p.m.
- September 27 Bible Study (Pastor Jim), Parlor, 11 a.m.
- September 28 Bible Study (Scottie), Parlor, 7:30 p.m.
- September 29 Sanctuary Choir Practice, 6:30 p.m.
Bell Choir Practice, 7:30 p.m.



Time Change

On Sunday, September 11, our worship schedule will change back to regular fall/winter hours. At 9 a.m., we will have Sunday School for all ages, Fellowship time at 10 a.m., followed by our worship service at 10:30 a.m.

September Lectionary



September 4 — Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 12:1-14 Psalm 149 or Psalm 148
Romans 13:8-14 Matthew 18:15-20

September 11 — Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 14:19-31 Exodus 15:1b-11
Romans 14:1-12 Matthew 18:21-35

September 18 — Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 16;2-15 Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45 or Psalm 78
Philemon 1:21-30 Matthew 20:1-16

September 25 — Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 17:1-7 Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16
Philemon 2:1-13 Matthew 21:23-32

UMW at Valley Forge

UMW members: It's time to have our picnic before it gets too cold outside. The date is Wednesday, September 21 at 12:30 p.m. We will meet at Knox Artillery Park (where we meet to walk). Lemonade and iced tea will be provided to drink. Bring any lite lunch dish you choose. I suggest it be something you buy already prepared (chips, cheese, fruit etc.) so we don't spend a lot of time getting ready—just a nice informal lunch.

Oh....we will be playing games!!!! Please bring three one-dollar bills and five quarters. The ladies that attended last year are still talking about the fun, so don't you be one of the ladies that misses our outdoor fun.

Patty Davis



Your response to PACS has been generous and steady, and for that we thank you. If you haven't gotten into the habit of bringing a canned good or non-perishable item to church each week, there's no time like the present. When you grab your car keys on a Sunday morning, grab a can of tuna, a box of cereal, a bottle of juice or a jar of peanut butter. Drop it in the basket as you enter the sanctuary. All donations are so gratefully accepted by PACS and those who will ultimately receive them. Thanks to all.

Fern Heit



Time to cook!!!

Shelter Meals—Week of September 19

This year our assigned week to provide dinners for **St. Mary's Shelter** is the **week of September 19**. When we get closer to the actual time, we will know exactly how many people we will be preparing food for. **Sign-up sheets** are hanging up in the Education Building and everyone is welcome to participate. If you don't feel comfortable cooking for others, you can donate money to those who will be cooking. This is a mission we do to help people in our very own community who are down on their luck or having difficulty at this time. While living at the Shelter, the residents are able to look for work and/or get housing so they can return to being self-sufficient. Our meals will help them reach their goal to be independent again. Please take a minute to sign-up and help with this mission.

Fern Heit

*Watch the October newsletter
for a new prayer list procedure.*

Birthdays & Anniversaries

September Birthdays

Ed Heit	3
Lois Anderson	7
Ian Hranilovich	8
Richard Masters	9
Carole Masters	14
Scottie DeMartinis	14
Ginnie Ludwig	15
Sue Walter	16
Tony Longobardi	18
Sydni Gajewski	21



Birthdays—Continued

Richard Plummer	27
Janice Fallows	28

September Anniversaries

Michelle & Brian Cooper	6
Robin & Rick Coroniti	8
Linda & Robert Gular	10
Jane & Richard Plummer	30



The “Belle” Choir will begin rehearsing on Thursday, September 22 at 7:30 p.m. Their first performance in worship will be on October 16.

There is some preparation that needs to be done before the first rehearsal, i.e. polishing the bells, filing some music, etc. If anyone is interested in volunteering to help our conductor, Nancy Loane, with those activities, please tell her when you are available to help. Thanking you advance and looking forward to another year of beautiful bell-ringing!

The Editor

The Sanctuary Choir will begin their rehearsals on Thursday, September 8. The choir will sing for the first time on October 2, which is Worldwide Communion Sunday.



Both the Sanctuary Choir and the “Belle” Choir will be preparing music for our special Advent program. If anyone is interested in helping with either choir, we will be happy to have you. Just let Julia Rich or Nancy Loane know of your availability. There’s much musical work to be done.

The Editor

Community Events

Special Concert in Reading

(Announcement by Pastor Dave Knotts)

On Friday September 9, 2011, Wesley United Methodist Church in Reading will present in concert Elisabeth von Trapp, granddaughter of Maria von Trapp of *The Sound of Music* fame. The concert is **free and open to the public, but tickets are required** for admission. Please send a stamped self-addressed envelope with the number of tickets you would like (limit four tickets per request) to: Wesley United Methodist Church, 101 West Windsor Street, Reading, PA 19601. If you have questions, please contact their church office at 610-376-3419. The **concert begins at 7 p.m.; the doors will open at 6:15 p.m.** and there is no reserved seating. Please contact Scottie DeMartinis or our church office for directions.

(Note: There may not be time to send for the tickets at this point, but if you call Wesley, they might be able to hold the tickets at the door for your arrival.)

We are so glad to see the Youngers again. After Melissa’s first Sunday back, she submitted the following note:

“I just wanted to let everyone know how amazed I was to receive such a warm reception after being away from the church for so long. Thank you for making me feel so welcomed. God bless all our friends in Christ.

Melissa

Tom Sharpe to perform at St. John’s

On Sunday, September 11 at 4 p.m., St. John’s Lutheran Church will present Tom Sharpe, drummer for Mannheim Steamroller, and Dennis Deyoung in a program titled “World Music That Rocks!” Tom is an internationally recognized, critically acclaimed artist whose compositions have won many awards, including the John Lennon Songwriting Contest. His music is a percussive symphony—a sonic and visual feast for the senses—wildly emotional and technically precise, with a gutsy edge of percussive frenzy and tribal ritual. You are welcome to contact him through his website: www.tomsharpe.com.

Submitted by St. John’s Lutheran Church

Journey to Jaaaa-A World Vision Experience

You’re invited to join us on an unforgettable journey from poverty to hope. *Journey to Jaaaa* is a film-based worship experience. You can “visit” Africa, experience the award-winning film *Journey to Jaaaa*, and have an opportunity to forever change the lives of children around the world.

**Sunday, October 2, 2011
7 p.m.**

**The Baptist Church in Phoenixville
248 Church Street
Phoenixville, PA 19460**

Submitted by the Baptist Church