

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

Take a look at what gives meaning to your life



Dear Friends,

I had the opportunity to visit with my son in Georgia two weeks ago. He was preparing a speech and asked for my help. The content of his presentation was what Lou Holtz, the former football coach, said about living life. There are three important things to remember. First, always do the best you can. Second, always do what is right. Third, always care for other people. Live this way and all will be well.

My conversation with Chris reminded me of an essential question that we need to ask ourselves. What really matters? Micah, the prophet, suggests that we do what is just, show constant love, and live in humble fellowship with our God. (Micah 6:8) Jesus said: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all our mind, and with all your strength. The second most important commandment is this: Love your neighbor as you love yourself.” (Mark 12:29-31). Paul informs us that there are three important things; namely faith, hope and love. The greatest of these is love. (1 Corinthians 13:13)

So what really matters to you? Ted Loder writes in a prayer that “. . .we wander, distracted by the pitch of a hundred hucksters.” He prays to the God of long-suffering love these words. “We yearn to return to you, but need, want, ask you to break our infatuation with dabbling and with dodging the claims of your kingdom.” At times we get caught up in the clutter of living and forget to ask the poignant question about what really matters. Failing to ask the question, we do not then evaluate our journey to see if we are living what is essential to a fulfilled life as defined by our faith.

It is too easy to lose ourselves in the acquisition of things that we do not cultivate that which has eternal value. It is too easy to lose ourselves in ourselves that we become insensitive to the sighs and needs of others. Instead of intentionally endeavoring to live the life taught by Jesus, we passively lose ourselves in a life characterized by lack of clarity. We cannot be sure we are claiming what brings hope, light and care to the world. Our minds become fogged by the pursuit of fleeting things to the detriment of our spiritual health.

Stop for a moment. Ask yourself, “What gives meaning to my life?” See if your answer resonates with the power of the gospel. Do not be fearful of changing those things that need to be changed so that you can be peaceful and assured that you are in touch with the God made known in Jesus, our Christ.

Peace and Blessings,

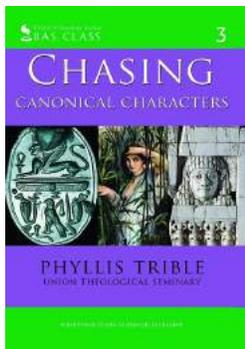
Jim Hallam
Pastor



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Adult Sunday School—11 a.m.



Tom Loane's SS Class



Watch ancient tests come to life as you learn about the colorful personalities with the Biblical narrative. Our guide, the eminent Phyllis Tribble, 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 after Church and refreshments) to share in this presentation and discussion. You can drop in at any time and still participate. Bring your Bible. In September we will be studying Abraham and Isaac, Jacob and Miriam.

Tom Loane



Don't Forget . . .

Just a reminder that PACS continues to supply food for families in Phoenixville who sometimes cannot make ends meet. I hope you will continue thinking about PACS when you shop and pick up an item or two to donate to PACS on Sunday mornings. Suggestions include: boxed cereals, Tasty Kakes, peanut butter, jelly, canned tuna, macaroni and cheese, spaghetti sauce, spaghetti noodles, canned soups, canned fruits.

All donations are very much appreciated.

Fern Heit



Scripture of the Month

For September the special *Scripture* is:

“I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers.”
Ephesians 1:15-16

September Lectionary



September 2 — Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost
Song of Solomon 2:8-13
Psalm 45:1-2 or Psalm 72
James 1:17-27 Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 23-23

September 9 — Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost
Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23
Psalm 125 or Psalm 124
James 2:1-10 (11-13) Mark 7:24-37

September 16
Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost
Proverbs 1:20-33 Psalm 19
James 3:1-12 Mark 8:27-38

September 23
Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost
Proverbs 31:10-31 Psalm 1
James 3:13-4:3 Mark 9:30-37

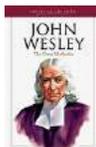
September 30
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9: 20-22
Psalm 124
James 5:13-20 Mark 9:38-50

All schools are now back in session. Lots of small children are mainstreamed with older students. Please be careful on the roads. Watch all movement you see. Could be little ones who aren't familiar with "the way of the roads."



JOHN WESLEY'S HEALTH TIPS

From *Primitive Physick 1791*



Some of these tips are surprisingly modern!

- The power of exercise, both to preserve and restore health, is greater than can well be conceived.
- Walking is the best exercise . . . The open air, when the weather is fair, contributes much to the benefit of exercise.
- All pickled or salted food, and all high-seasoned, is unwholesome.
- For studious persons, about eight ounces of animal food, and twelve of vegetable, in twenty-four hours is sufficient.
- Nothing conduces more to health, than abstinence and plain food, with due labour.
- Those who read or write, should learn to do it standing; otherwise it will impair their health.
- The fewer clothes any one uses, by day or night, the hardier he will be.
- The slow and lasting passions, such as grief and hopeless love, bring on chonical diseases. Till the passion, which caused the disease, is calmed, medicine is applied in vain.
- Water is the wholesomest of all drinks; quickens the appetite, and strengthens the digestion most.

Submitted by Bob Erb



Tai Chi at Valley Forge UMC

September Tai Chi Classes:



- September 8*
- September 15*
- September 22*
- September 29*



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

There will be no **bell choir** practice in September. We will begin rehearsing on October 4.



The next Staff-Parish Relations Committee meeting is scheduled for September 17 at 6:15 p.m.



September Birthdays



- Rick McNeill 1
- Lois Anderson 7
- Ian Hranilovich 8
- Richard Masters 9
- Carole Masters 14
- Scottie DeMartinis 14
- Sue Walter 16
- Sue Rechner 23
- Laurie Vitale 26
- Richard Plummer 27

September Anniversaries

- Rick & Robin Coroniti 8
- Linda & Bob Gular 10
- Jane & Richard Plummer 30

Worship Participation Schedule

	Refreshments	Liturgist	Greeter
9/9	E. Turner	F. Heit	L. Moran
9/16	P. Torres	N. Turner	T. & N. Loane
9/23	L. Austin	R. Johnston	E. & N. Turner
9/30	L. Bohl	J. Torres	B. & B. Cooke
10/7	D. Erb	F. Heit	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.

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
August 27, 2018

In Attendance: Patty Davis, Robin Coroniti, Glenn Davis, Fern Heit, John Torres, Adam Davis, Laurie Vitale, Nancy Loane, Tome Loane, Jo Marie Jones, Noel Turner

Laurie shared a reflection on taking risks as Jesus invites us to “walk with him on the water.” She also spoke on resilience, and how dedicated John McCain was to our country.

Minutes of the June meeting were approved.

OLD BUSINESS: A recently recommended contractor has not yet replied to Adam in reference to the retaining wall. He will be looking into another contractor. Wendy will be updating the website, and Steve McClellan has offered to assist. Fern will be contacting Leslie Davis in reference to planning future events for the young people.

FINANCE: For June, Noel reported that, at the end of July, we have a deficit of \$3,899.00 vs. the 2018 budget. As of 2018 the Trustees balance is \$507,436.00 of which \$459,703.00 is in the Vanguard accounts, per report supplied by Tom Davis. It was discussed whether the Mid-Week bulletin is necessary. John T. will be asking Pastor Jim his opinion here before a decision is made.

SPRC: The Charge Conference will be on October 9th at 6:30 p.m. at Wayne United Methodist, 210 S. Wayne Avenue, Wayne, Pa. An SPRC meeting is scheduled for September 17th to address charge conference forms to be submitted.

UMW: Fern noted that 13 women enjoyed dinner at Chadwick’s. They will have a meeting in September, and she will be checking on shelter meals.

UMM: Ladies’ Room in Reeves Building has been painted, with new ceiling tiles installed. The playground area was cleaned up after flooding.

LEARNING: Laurie may be setting up an after-church health information program with Main Line Health. They may also have Tish Jones, a fitness teacher, as a possible speaker in the future. The group will be speaking to Pastor Jim about the future of Sunday School classes at VFUMC.

REACHING OUT (Missions): They will be having a meeting in September.

NURTURING: A new coffee pot that works has been secured. Operating instructions in large print are needed.

PASTORAL: No report.

NEW BUSINESS: Steve has ordered the animals for the Christmas program. Patty D. suggested that we consider new chairs, tables and window treatments for the Reeve Building. Chair and table samples will be secured for the Board’s consideration. Upon request, UMM will be working on a new and improved toilet in the church restroom.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, September 23rd, at 7 p.m.

John T closed the meeting with prayer. Adam will be handling the devotional in September; Fern will handle in October, and Nancy will handle in November.

Respectfully submitted,
GD

September, 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 Hymn Sing, 9:20 Worship, 9:30 a.m. Fellowship, 10:30 NO SS Class	3	4	5	6	7 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.	1 Tai Chi, 10:15 a.m.
9 Sunday School, 9 a.m. Fellowship, 10 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m. Communion	10	11	12	13	14 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.	15 Tai Chi, 10:15 a.m.
16 Sunday School, 9 a.m. Fellowship, 10 a.m. Worship, 10:30	17 SPRC Meeting 6:15 p.m.	18	19	20	21 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.	22 Tai Chi, 10:15 a.m.
23 Sunday School, 9 a.m. Fellowship, 10 a.m. Worship, 10:30	24 Admin. Board Mtg 7 p.m.	25	26	27	28 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.	29 Tai Chi, 10:15 a.m.
30 Sunday School, 9 a.m. Fellowship, 10 a.m. Worship, 10:30	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					