

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

Living by the Spirit—one Spiritual Fruit at a time

Dear Friends,

My piano teacher once told me a story of a man who listened to her play. He commented that he would pay a million dollars if he could play like she did. She informed him that no amount of money would make that possible. Playing the piano well takes practice, practice, and more practice. That is the way it is with most things if we want to excel.

Why is it that we do not consider that it takes practice to be a vibrant, passionate Christian? As Karen Armstrong suggests, it takes awareness and effort to live a compassionate life. That is what our goal is. We want to be like that man from Nazareth who dealt kindly with others. He brought transformation and healing through the love he manifested every day. He did not establish categories whereby some individuals were acceptable and others were not. When there was an immediate need brought to his attention, he responded to bring wholeness and hope.

We are instructed in Paul’s letter to the Galatians to live by the Spirit (Galatians 5:16-26). The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness and faithfulness. Now how do these qualities become actualized in our journey? They occur because we choose to live with awareness and discipline. Through reflection and practice old habits can change and new behavior established.

Let’s just take one of the fruits of the Spirit and apply our commentary to it. Consider how patient you are with yourself and others. Are you hard on yourself because of mistakes made and words misspoken? Are you bothered by the retail clerk who is taking too much time with another customer? Do you get annoyed with traffic jams and people who cut in line? Well, we can be more aware of our emotional response to happenings and change our attitude while dealing with them. For instance, accept your humanity and know that everyone makes mistakes. All of us have said things we wish we didn’t. We need to be more accepting of ourselves and realize that with effort we can be kinder to self. Instead of angrily reprimanding ourselves for something stupid we did, we can simply say “Oh, well,” and promise to cross that behavior off our list.

Become more disciplined so that your goals might be achieved and the fullness of your humanity realized. Practice the fruits of this Spirit and make Christ alive in the world each day.

Peace and Blessings,

Jim Hallam, Pastor



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September Lectionary



September 1 – Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 2:4-13 Psalm 81:1, 10-16
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16 Luke 14:1, 7-14

September 8 – Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 18:1-11 Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
Philemon 1-12 Luke 14:25-33

September 15 – Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28 Psalm 14
1 Timothy 1:12-17 Luke 15:1-10

September 22 – Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 8:19-9:1 Psalm 79:1-9 or Psalm 4
1 Timothy 2:1-7 Luke 16:1-13

September 29 – Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

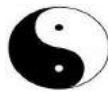
Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15 Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16
1 Timothy 6:6-19 Luke 16:19-31



Tai Chi at Valley Forge UMC



September 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

Sunday School begins September 8th, 9 a.m.

The new Sunday School year will begin on September 8th. I will again be teaching the class that was founded by Scottie DeMartinis. Last year we completed the first 18 chapters in the Gospel of John. I plan, Lord willing, to finish the final three chapters in John, and then move on in our expository studies to four important epistles: Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, and Colossians.

Please join us as we “dig into the Word.” Even if you haven’t been to Sunday School in years, there is nothing to be afraid of. It is very informal. I won’t ask anyone to lead in prayer, and there are no quizzes or homework.

And questions, comments, and discussions are welcome. It is a very nice time of fellowship and learning.

We meet in the church parlor at 9 a.m. We have Bibles there, or bring your own. Please come!

Bob Erb



Short Sayings . . .

Be thankful for the bad things in life. For they Opened your eyes to the good things you weren’t paying attention to before.

Internet “Bits of Wisdom”

Much of our difficulty as seeking Christians stems from our unwillingness to take God as he is and adjust our lives accordingly. We insist upon trying to modify him to bring him nearer to our own image.

A. W. Tozer

Submitted by Bob Erb

Announcements

On **Sunday, September 8**, we will return to Fall/Winter hours for Sunday School and Worship:

Sunday School: 9 a.m.
Fellowship/Refreshments: 10 a.m.
Worship: 10:30 a.m.

On the 8th of September, we will participate in the ministry of **Healing** and celebrate **Communion**.

Also, we will collect donations for PACS. Feel free to use the envelope in your bulletin or the envelopes in the pew racks.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study . . .

*The Wednesday Morning Bible Study,
 led by Pastor Jim,
 will commence on September 17th,
 at 10:30 a.m.*

SPRC Meeting to be held September 30

The Staff Parish Relations Committee
 will meet on
 Monday, September 30, at 6:15 p.m.

Flea Market scheduled for October 5

Don't forget to keep checking for items at home which can be reused, and then bring them into the church, middle classroom on the bottom floor of the Education Building. There's still room for your reusable items.

New Address and Contact Information:

As of Thursday, September 6. Tom and Nancy Loane will have a new address and contact info:

Address:
 Tom and Nancy Loane
 950 Willow Valley Lakes Drive
 Apt. K-108
 Willow Street, PA 17584-9663

E-Mail addresses:
 nloane1778@gmail.com
 tloane1@gmail.com

Phone Numbers:
 Nancy's cell: 610-247-0455
 Tom's cell: 610-639-1119

September Birthdays



Rick McNeill	1
Ian Hranilovich	8
Richard Masters	9
Carole Masters	14
Scottie DeMartinis	14
Sue Walter	16
Sue Rechner	23
Richard Plummer	27

September Anniversaries

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

Worship Participation Schedule

	Liturgist	Greeter
9/1	E. Turner	P. & G. Davis
9/8	F. Heit	S. Hranilovich
9/15	R. Johnston	M. & J. Younger
9/22	J. Torres	E. & N. Turner
9/29	D. Erb	S. Jennings

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.

Notes From The Organ

Dear Friends:

*“All God’s critters got a place in the choir,
Some sing low, some sing higher,
Some sing out loud on the telephone wire,
Some just clap their hands, or paws, or anything
they got, ‘cause,
All God’s critters got a place in the choir!”*

In the spirit of these lively, little lyrics, our Sanctuary Choir will be kicking off it’s 2019~2020 season on Thursday evening, September 5th, at 6:30pm.

Although small in size, our choir is big in heart, bountiful in spirit and joyful in song! *We are also always on the lookout for additional members!!!*

So, please consider joining us. All are welcome and “auditions” are never required. In fact, the ability to read music isn’t even necessary.

Just show up on Thursday nights with nothing more than your desire to make beautiful music for the Lord!

~~~ Julia Marie Rich

**Valley Forge United Methodist Church
Administration Board Meeting
August 26, 2019
Minutes**

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

A reflection was shared by Steve Hranilovich.

Minutes of June 24th were approved.

OLD BUSINESS: The live nativity animals have been secured. Steve has also secured a Certificate of Insurance from Mitch Goldfarb, director of the TaiChi martial arts class, which has been filed by the church.

FINANCE: The finance report for the end of July shows we have an actual deficit of \$1,556.00 for the year. Tom Davis reported that, as of August 23, 2019, the Trustees balance is \$478,009.00 of which \$424,460.00 is in the Vanguard account. A bequest from Lois Anderson was received, and a deposit will be made in a new Vanguard account. Credit cards were received, and will be handled by Adam, Tom, and Richard. Tom noted that Richard will now be able to get balances on-line, and will get an alert when the checking balance gets too low.

SPRC: Rick McNeill shared his appreciation to the congregation for the responses in reference to the qualities preferred in our new pastor. These responses were shared with the District Superintendent. A motion was passed to maintain a part-time pastor. A motion was also passed “not-to-exceed” the current budget for the new pastor.

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

UMM: There was no meeting this month. The sealcoating and re-stripping of the main and lower parking lots has been completed, as well as the stripping and waxing of the Reeve building.

EDUCATION: No report.

OUTREACH: No report.

FELLOWSHIP: There will be cake and ice cream served after the church service on September 8th, to recognize Nancy and Tom Loane’s service to the church. On October 20th, there will be a soup and salad luncheon, and a movie after the service.

PASTORAL: The church service will start at 10:30 AM on September 8th. Bible study will start up on Wednesdays starting September 18th at 10:30 am. On Sundays in October there will be an open discussion in Pastor Jim’s office starting at 9:15 am. Please note that you can get forms for the charge conference online. 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 8 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 has requested those on committees to please maintain their position for 2020, so there is a smoother transition for the new pastor.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

Pastor Jim closed the meeting with prayer.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, September 23, 2019 at 7PM. Maggie will be handling the devotion.

Respectfully submitted,
GD

SEPTEMBER, 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Worship, 9:30 Fellowship, 10:30 a.m.	2 Labor Day	3	4	5 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.	6	7
8 Sunday School, 9 a.m. Fellowship, 10 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m. Communion Farewell to the Loanes	9	10	11	12 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.	13	14
15 Sunday School, 9 a.m. Fellowship, 10 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m.	16	17	18 Bible Study Pastor Jim 10:30 a.m. Office	19 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.	20	21
22 Sunday School, 9 a.m. Fellowship, 10 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m.	23 Administrative Board Meeting 7 p.m.	24	25 Bible Study Pastor Jim 10:30 a.m. Office	26 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.	27	28
29 Sunday School, 9 a.m. Fellowship, 10 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m.	30 SPRC Meeting 6:15 p.m.					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 Bell Choir—Nancy Loane