



# Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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**Sunday, November 19, 2023**  
Election of Church Officers

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# GATHERING US IN

## PRELUDE

*Menuet* (Divertimento in D) Rachel Williams, cello  
Mozart Sue Ruby, piano

## LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

## GATHERING MUSIC

*Sanctus* (Requiem)  
Gabriel Faure, arr. Darwin Wolford

## OPENING SENTENCES

## HYMN #336

*We Gather Together* (verses 1 & 2)

*We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;  
he chastens and hastens his will to make known;  
the wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.  
Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.*

*Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,  
ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine;  
so from the beginning the fight we were winning;  
thou, Lord, wast at our side; all glory be thine!*

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sheila Sheldon

Loving God, today we admit that we often wander from you and lose our attention. We belong to this family of love and care but at times we are distracted by many things, and we neglect to hear your voice. We don't notice the still waters you offer us.

Forgive us, Good Shepherd. Your goodness follows us all the days of our life making our burdens light. Help us find rest in your heart, healing in your hands, and life together in Jesus Christ, the one who calls us into community with each other. Amen.

## MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

## RESPONSE TO THE GOOD NEWS (CONGREGATION SINGS LAST VERSE)

*CHOIR: God is here today;  
as certain as the air I breathe,  
as certain as the morning sun that rises,*

# HEARING THE WORD

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Today we celebrate the baptism of **Landon & Sullivan** Goiffon.  
Landon was born 11/16/2014 and Sullivan was born 1/20/2018.  
They are the children of **Bennett & Jackie** Goiffon.

Sheila: ...Let us welcome this newly-baptized child.

All: With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into Christ's church to share with us in Christ's ministry, for we are all one in Christ. Amen.

## TIME WITH YOUNG WORSHIPPERS

Congregational Blessing: You are God's beloved child.  
With you God is well pleased.

## SPECIAL MUSIC

*Autumn Carol* Valley Choir & Hand Bells  
Russell Schulz-Widmar

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 23

## SERMON

*The Gift That Keeps on Giving*

Rev. Richard Buller

# RESPONDING TO THE WORD

HYMN #803 *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need* (verses 1—3)

*My shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is his name.  
In pastures fresh he makes me feed, beside the living stream.  
He brings my wandering spirit back when I forsake his ways,  
and leads me, for his mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.*

*When I walk through the shades of death your presence is my stay;  
one word of your supporting breath drives all my fears away.  
Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my table spread;  
my cup with blessings overflows; your oil anoints my head.*

*The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;  
O may your house be my abode, and all my work be praise.  
There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come;  
no more a stranger, or a guest, but like a child at home.*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

MINUTE FOR MISSION

*Thanksgiving Offering  
Pastor's Discretionary Fund*

Rev. Jim Cook

OFFERTORY

*Meditation  
Frank Bridge*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Generous God, we are grateful that you give us life and simply ask that we live abundantly and fully into your calling—to be your love in this world. We pray for those who suffer, for those are sick, for those who are lost, and for those who experience daily hunger. Help us remember that we are your beloved children who live in your beloved world. Help us bring your healing and love to the corners and streets and neighborhoods that need your physical and spiritual bread during this season of gratitude. We pray in the name of Jesus, the bread of life. Amen.

**SENDING US OUT**

HYMN #37

*Let All Things Now Living* (verses 1 & 2)

*Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving  
to God our Creator triumphantly raise; who fashioned and made us,  
protected and stayed us, by guiding us on to the end of our days.  
God's banners are o'er us; pure light goes before us,  
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night: till shadows have vanished,  
all fearfulness banished, as forward we travel from light into light.*

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: ELECTION OF OFFICERS

*By law God enforces, the stars in their courses,  
the sun in its orbit obediently shine; the hills and the mountains,  
the rivers and fountains, the depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.  
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;  
with glad adoration, a song let us raise, till all things now living  
unite in thanksgiving: to God in the highest, hosanna and praise!*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*  
William Bradbury, arr. Ethel Rogers

The Worship Has Ended. The Service Begins.

**Chancel Flowers**

Sunday, November 19

Sponsored by **Stacy & Thomas Ondov**

In honor of Anne Reynolds' heavenly birthday on Nov. 20!

Please click [HERE](#) to dedicate your chancel flowers.

# Joys and Concerns

Prayers for **Marilyn Merino** as she has been moved to The Glenn in Hopkins in the memory care unit #111. She is doing well, busy with therapy, and should have a phone and be ready for visitor in a week or so.

Prayers for **Ann Roach** as she recovers from neck surgery she had on Nov 10 at the Mayo Hospital in Rochester.

Prayers for **Charlotte Davnie** who was diagnosed with breast cancer and is recovering from surgery she had on Oct 17.

Continued prayers for **Lisa Kummer** who has changed chemotherapy regimens after her latest bloodwork and tests showed some disease progression. Lisa and her doctors are very confident that this new regimen will resume attacking her cancer.

Click [HERE](#) to visit Lisa's Caring Bridge site.

Continued prayers for **Taichi Chen** whose scan results included the words stable and decrease! Taichi feels good with no side effects. Weekly appointments will continue for 6 weeks. We are grateful for all the support!

Click [HERE](#) to visit Taichi's Caring Bridge site.

Continued prayers for **Rick Carlson** as he continues to exercise, working on building strength and balance while waiting for a new heart and kidney donation.

Click [HERE](#) to visit Rick's Caring Bridge site.

## EASY WAYS TO GIVE TO VALLEY AND/OR COMMUNITY PARTNERS GIVE ONE TIME OR RECURRING

### 1. MAIL YOUR CHECK TO VALLEY

- In the memo of the check, indicate what your donation is for (i.e. Pledge, PRISM, etc.)

### 2. ONLINE GIVING

- Visit Valley's secured online giving by clicking [HERE](#) to make a one-time or recurring gift to Valley or our community partners.

RECURRING GIFTS: Sign in, or create a new account.

ONE-TIME GIFTS: Click "[Quick Give](#)" to send a one-time gift.

### 3. AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWALS FROM YOUR BANK ACCOUNT

- Contact Chelsie Larsen: 507-272-1914 | [chelsie.larsen@valleychurch.net](mailto:chelsie.larsen@valleychurch.net) to set up withdrawals directly from your account. You can always adjust the amount.

# VALLEY OFFICER BIOS 2024

**PAT DAILY (ELDER):** I tell a story that on Easter, 1980, it was so crowded in Valley's sanctuary that the baby I was to give birth to a few days later kicked me hard enough that my husband Dar felt it sitting next to me. I always took that as a sign of Geoff telling us we should join here. So we did. Valley was a welcoming place for even formerly Catholic me. Our three children were actively involved and nurtured. Early on I discovered the wonder of Clearwater Forest, especially the fabulous women's Chrysalis program. I have served as a deacon and an elder; chaired the board of Valley's childcare center; was on the team that wrote Valley's mission statement; served on and chaired the Endowment committee for many years; and have a regular volunteer "gig" at PRISM. Valley has been a strong support for me through some hard stuff. I thought it was time to serve again on session and had hoped to have the opportunity to do it under Richard's leadership. Well, look how that turned out. Instead, I look forward to showing his replacement all the wonderful things that Valley has to offer.

**SARAH FADELL (ELDER):** My family and I joined Valley as members in January 2023, after attending virtually for many months in our living room with the Goiffon family. We are very thankful to these loving neighbors (and long-time friends) for introducing us to a church family we immediately recognized as a community who proudly and outwardly LIVES the values we learn from Christ. Our greatest calling is to do good for others, and Valley lives this mission every day. My favorite way to spend time is with my two best guys, Ben, and Duncan. They are the greatest blessings in my life, and I am happiest right next to them. Outside of my job at Xcel, my favorite hobbies are fitness and crafting activities including barre classes, yoga, weightlifting, knitting, and home projects.

I also thoroughly enjoy volunteering and coordinating service projects. I especially appreciate that I am able to work on projects for The Link in Minneapolis, and often lead those projects for groups of Xcel volunteers. I'm eager to add PRISM and Clare Terrace to the organizations for which I will coordinate projects over the next year and look forward to engaging Valley volunteers as well as Xcel's network to serve both organizations.

**KELSIE HAGELIN (ELDER):** My husband and I started attending Valley in 2015 and became members in 2016 after getting married. We were drawn to Valley's commitment to open hearts, open minds. We have since grown our family to welcome Everett in 2018 and Iris in 2020. I have served Valley as a Deacon for 3 years and a member of the Personnel for the last year. I have been a pediatric physical therapist at Courage Kenny Kids in Coon Rapids for the past 10 years. In my spare time I enjoy spending time with family and friends, running, and reading. I am looking forward to continuing my service to Valley and the community in my new role as Personnel chair.

# VALLEY OFFICER BIOS 2024

**GWYN LANG (DEACON):** I've been a member of Valley for over four decades. I had been attending evening Bible studies, educational programs, potluck suppers and the occasional Sunday worship service before officially becoming a member on May 23, 1982. I didn't want to join until I could "go to church" at least once a month. At the time I was working as a registered nurse going to graduate school and drilling with the Navy Reserve. Valley has always been a very welcoming community for me. I've served one term as an elder including being Clerk of Session. I've also been a member of the nominating, stewardship and adult education committees. Helping with Families Moving Forward, being a hostess for our Scholarship teas, and participating in Dinner for Seven have been important to me.

What I have enjoyed most of all is being a deacon, especially visiting with our older members. I am looking forward to becoming a deacon once again. This will be my fourth term. I'm retired. I enjoy being a member of our Thursday morning Bible Fellowship group. Spending time with my family and my friends is very important. I like to travel, participate in OLLI (adult education), go to concerts, stamp greeting cards, bake (just a little) and garden (which means keeping up with the weeds).

**JACKIE GOIFFON (DEACON):** My husband (Bennett), children (Landon, 9 and Sullivan, 5 1/2) and I started attending Valley back in 2019 before the pandemic. We found the church through Tim and Becky Grosshuesch as Tim and Bennett are close college friends. We always felt very welcomed by Pastor Richard and the Valley community, even when our visits were infrequent. After a couple years of online church, we came back in person and decided to join as members. We thought Valley was a great fit for our family due to the focus on inclusion and serving the local community.

I am currently a stay-at-home parent and enjoy open water swimming, biking, knitting, and adventures with our family and friends in my free time. I volunteer with the Meadowbrook elementary PTO and am involved with Meals on Wheels and PRISM through Valley. I look forward to serving the Valley community as a Deacon in the upcoming years.

**SARA PERRY (DEACON)**

**ROGER MICHAEL (DEACON)**

# VALLEY NOMINATIONS 2024

|                              |                           |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kelsie Hagelin               | Elder - Personnel         |
| Sarah Fadell                 | Elder - Mission           |
| Pat Daily                    | Elder - Stewardship       |
| Denise Kara (continuing)     | Elder - Finance           |
| Susie Potter (continuing)    | Elder -Stewardship        |
| Roger Michael                | Deacon                    |
| Gwyn Lang                    | Deacon                    |
| Kerrie Deef (continuing)     | Deacon                    |
| Rick Carlson (continuing)    | Deacon                    |
| Jackie Goiffon               | Deacon                    |
| Sara Perry (1 year)          | Deacon                    |
| Chelsie Larsen (continuing)  | Financial Secretary       |
| Bill & Ann Keen (continuing) | Financial Assistants      |
| Todd Decker                  | Endowment                 |
| Julie Westerlund             | 2024 Nominating Committee |
| Myron Jones                  | 2024 Nominating Committee |
| Mike Pinter                  | 2024 Nominating Committee |
| Sue Tracy                    | 2024 Nominating Committee |



## This Week at Valley

**Sunday, November 19**

9:30 am Worship Service

Baptism of Landon/Sullivan Goiffon

**Election of Church Officers**

10:30 am Fellowship Hour

11:00 Adult Ed

4:00 pm TEAMS & Youth Group

**Monday, November 20**

**Tuesday, November 21**

11:30 am Men's Lunch

6:30 pm Hand Bell Rehearsal

**Wednesday, November 22**

**Thursday, November 23**

**Office Closed—Thanksgiving**

**Friday, November 24**

**Office Closed—Thanksgiving**

**Saturday, November 25**

**Sunday, November 26**

9:30 am Worship Service

Sheila Sheldon Preaching

10:30 am Fellowship Hour

10:30 am Hanging of the Greens

A special thank you to our  
Worship Team, especially  
Katie Decker, Myron Jones,  
Larry Johnson, Joel Larsen,  
Janet Triplett, Brandon Novy,  
and Roger Graphenteen for  
broadcasting the services.

## Valley Staff

**Ministers**

All 412 members of this  
congregation.

**Pastor & Head of Staff**

Rev. Richard D. Buller

**Educational Ministries Director**

Sheila Sheldon

**Office Administrator**

William Glasper

**Program & Communications  
Coordinator**

Mariah Messer

**Music Coordinator**

Rachel Williams

**Hand Bell Choir Director**

Janet M.T. Carlson

**Sunshine Room Leader**

James Decker

**Custodian**

Hunter Sheldon

### PARISH ASSOCIATES

Rev. Jim Cook

Rev. Bill Davnie

Rev. Kate O'Brien Soltau

Rev. David Phillips

Rev. Nancy Phillips

Rev. Rebecca Tollefson

Rev. Aron Wilterding

### SUNDAY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

November 12: 252 (109 in-person)

November 5: 326 (155 in-person)



# Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Adult Education | November 19 | 11:00 AM

## SUSTAINABILITY GROUP WATER CONSERVATION

**Carolyn Anderson** will lead a discussion about how water conservation is more than just turning the water off to brush your teeth or changing the type of shower head you use. Learn how even the foods and products we choose impact our water system.

**Hosted in The Cornerstone Room**

## THANKSGIVING OFFERING



In just a few days many of us will gather with loved ones around a table arrayed with incredible foods. Someone will offer words of gratitude, and in response, we will over-eat. As we sit stuffed and offering kudos to the chef or chefs who prepared the feast, a suggestion might be made like, "Let's go around the table and each offer something for which they are truly thankful."

Beautiful scene which many of us will enjoy and some of us will remember, even though things are different this year. There are those for whom things are almost always different. Not that they don't have some moments of thankfulness, but most of the time they are struggling with health, finance, food insecurity, rent or housing matters and a life too often in crisis.

When there is a need in the at-large community, many know where to turn. A community called Valley and a pastor with compassion and funds to be of assistance are often the place. The funds are provided by the people of this community contributing to a Pastor's Discretionary Fund that will provide emergency, life-giving assistance.

You can give thanks this Thanksgiving by contributing to Valley Community's Thanksgiving Offering. Be generous as you designate your gift THANKS and rejoice that you are part of a community that pays forward the blessings of life.



'Tis the season to  
decorate our Valley!

# Hanging ~of~ The Greens

**Sunday, November 26**  
following worship.

## BRIDGING DRESSER BUILD

1730 TERRACE DR. ROSEVILLE, MN 55113

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2 | 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

8-12 volunteers needed.

Dress comfortably in clothes you can get dirty.

Close-toed shoes required.

**SIGN UP IN FELLOWSHIP HALL | VISIT [BRIDGING.ORG](https://bridging.org) FOR MORE INFO**  
**CONTACT ANDREW PITAN WITH QUESTIONS (507-475-0118)**



# ADVENT 2023 SCHEDULE

**SUNDAY, 12/3**

**9:30 AM • 1st Sunday of Advent • Worship with communion**

**SUNDAY, 12/10**

**9:30 AM • 2nd Sunday of Advent**

Christmas Pageant (during worship) | Baptism of Sam Rudeen

**SUNDAY, 12/17**

**9:15 AM • 3rd Sunday of Advent • Christmas Music Sunday**

11:00 AM | Christmas Cookie Exchange

**SUNDAY, 12/24**

**9:30 AM • 4th Sunday of Advent • Worship Service**

**4:30 PM • Christmas Eve Family Service (music starts at 4:15 pm)**

**9:30 PM • Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with communion**

Advent in  
the Valley



Valley Community





# VCPC CHOIR

VALLEY IS EXCITED TO ENJOY OUR  
CHOIR AGAIN ON SELECT SUNDAYS!

Sunday, Dec. 3 | Rehearsal Nov. 29  
Sunday, Dec. 17 | Rehearsal Dec. 13

Sunday, Jan. 14 | Rehearsal Jan. 10



Wednesday rehearsals will be held on the  
Wednesday the same week before the Sundays above.

## Chancel Flowers Sign-up

\* SPONSORS \* PURCHASERS \* ARRANGERS \*

SUGGESTED \$30 MINIMUM

Sign-up in Fellowship Hall  
or click this ad!



# THESE DAYS

*Daily Devotions for Living by Faith*



OCTOBER | NOVEMBER | DECEMBER | 2023

Physical copies of *These Days* can be mailed upon request.

**Contact the office:** [office@valleychurch.net](mailto:office@valleychurch.net) | 763 588 0831

# Happy Birthday Valley Family!

|                          |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Evan Miller 11/3         | Landon Golffon 11/16      |
| Carolina Michael 11/4    | Megan Parks 11/16         |
| Ryan Chancellor 11/5     | Vonnie Olson 11/17        |
| Jack Halverson 11/5      | Mary Dunham 11/18         |
| Joel Larsen 11/5         | Larry Melander 11/18      |
| Sara Perry 11/6          | Mabel Willey 11/18        |
| Larry Dunham 11/7        | Walter Messer 11/19       |
| Miranda Graham 11/9      | Jasmyn Swanson 11/21      |
| Jean Ann Buller 11/10    | Lisa Tracy 11/21          |
| Lotti Matkovits 11/11    | Hsu-hui Wang 11/21        |
| Sue Modert 11/11         | Lyn Boyd 11/23            |
| Diane Shenk 11/11        | Bob Ripley 11/23          |
| Jessica Smith 11/11      | Mary Roback 11/23         |
| Vicki Eklund 11/12       | Madeline Wandmacher 11/24 |
| Gary Roback 11/12        | Angela Zywicki 11/25      |
| Calvin Buller 11/13      | Janelle Carlson 11/26     |
| Allison Wandmacher 11/13 | Karen Chancellor 11/29    |
| Chuck Thurston 11/14     | Brad Pleimling 11/30      |
| Everett Hagelin 11/15    |                           |





# Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Open Hearts • Open Minds • Opening Lives to God

**—Established May 20, 1951—**

## Land Acknowledgement Statement

Valley Community Presbyterian Church sits on the ancestral and contemporary land of the Dakota people, for whom the land holds historical, spiritual, political, and cultural significance.

We acknowledge the ongoing injustices that we have committed against the Dakota people and pledge to interrupt this legacy. We will educate ourselves about Indigenous history and recognize, support, and advocate for our Native neighbors.

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Office: 763-588-0831  
Phone Ministry: 763-220-1455



Scan to give online!