

THE VALLEY

FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER



Valley Community Presbyterian Church

OPEN HEARTS • OPEN MINDS • OPENING LIVES TO GOD

3100 Lilac Dr. N
Golden Valley, MN 55422



763-588-0831
www.valleychurch.net
office@valleychurch.net

Community News

• MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- **Rev. Jim Cochrane's first Sunday at Valley | Sunday, February 4**
- Annual Congregational Meeting | Sunday, Feb. 11 @ 10:30 AM following worship
- **Gentle Yoga Class | Thursdays @ 7:00 PM through February 15 (page 5)**
 - Led by Valley member Samantha Schellhaas, COST: free-will donation
- **Youth Cookie Sale | Sundays, February 4 and 11 after worship (page 8)**
- **Fridays in the Valley (page 5)**
 - Friday, February 9 @ 7 PM | 10th Wave Chamber Collective
- **Valley Craft Club *FAMILY EDITION* | Saturday, February 10 | 10 AM - 12 PM (page 5)**
- Valley Brew Crew | Saturday, February 10 | 1 - 6 PM (page 5)
- **Parents' Night Out | Friday, February 16 (pages 8, 10)**
- Clearwater Chrysalis | February 23 - 25 (page 10)
- **Summer 2024 VBC | June 11-14 | 9 AM - 12 PM (page 9)**

• MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

- **Empty Bowls Fundraiser | Tuesday, March 19 | 5 - 7:30 PM (page 10)**
 - **Robbinsdale Cooper High School**
- PTCA Antiracism Opportunities, Updates, and Invitations (page 9)
- **Thoughts from VCPC Earth Care Task Force (page 9)**

A LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

FEBRUARY 2024

Dear Valley,

It is a strange feeling to write a letter to someone you feel closely connected to but have not yet met. While I have not stood in the pulpit nor shared coffee with you after worship yet, I have worshipped alongside you on the livestream and seen the vibrancy of the Valley Family and heard how the church has been at work living out our calling! I have felt the love with which you wrapped Pastor Richard and the entire Buller family as well as the mixed emotions as we enter this "in-between" time.

It is fitting that we begin our journey together as the Lenten season looms; Lent is a time of self-reflection in which we look inward and ask ourselves, "Who am I as a follower of Christ? What do I value? How do I live out my faith?"

As we learn who we are, in the back of our minds we also keep the ever-present reminder that Easter is on the horizon. Lent reminds us of our humanity and need for God so that the joy of Easter and the Resurrection can be that much more powerful!



Rev. Jim Cochrane

As we take time to pause, reflect, and give thanks to God for the gifts we have been given, let us also thank God for the things yet to come in our lives and the life of our congregation that we cannot yet imagine.

My family and I look forward to meeting you and banding together for this transitional moment in Valley's rich story!

In Christ,
Jim

Recognizing The Buller Family on Richard's last Sunday at Valley, with Sheila Sheldon and all seven Parish Associates standing proudly in support of them. Thank you to Valley member Larry Johnson for documenting this important day.



Katie and Syndy baked sugar cookies for the Youth Cookie Sale coming up on February 4 and 11!



Henry, Andrew, Gabe, and Connor (L to R) portion out chocolate chip cookies for the Youth Cookie Sale.

Join us for worship!

Sundays
at 9:30 AM
or anytime on our
YouTube Channel

We are worshipping in-person and via live-stream.

WORSHIP SERVICE OVERVIEW

- Prelude begins at 9:25 AM | Worship at 9:30 AM, followed by coffee and treats in Fellowship Hall.
- The Family Room located in the Sunshine Room is always available with a TV to watch the service for parents whose little ones need a break.
- Activity Bags and Children's Bulletins are available in the Narthex. The Sunshine Room provides Sunday School for children age 3-3rd grade and childcare for all ages during Adult Education classes.

Valley Connects - January 2024




RICHARD'S LAST SUNDAY AT VALLEY



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY WORK DAY






Fridays in the Valley Presents:

10th Wave Chamber Collective

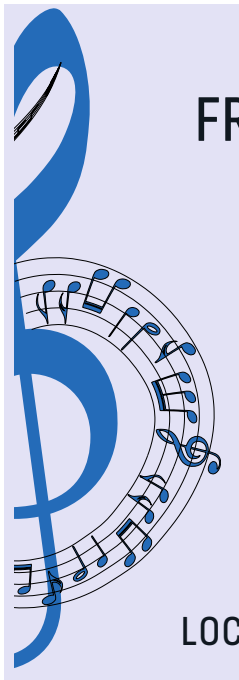
VIOLINS: ASHLEY NG & HANNAH KENNEDY
 VIOLA: KELSEY FARR
 CELLO: PATTY RYAN
 PERCUSSION: ERI ISOMURA

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9
 7:00 PM

FREE-WILL OFFERINGS BENEFIT
EMPTY BOWLS (DISTRICT #281)



Valley Community



**- LOOKING AHEAD -
 FRIDAYS IN THE VALLEY**


FRIDAY, MARCH 8 | 7:00 pm
 Broadway-Swider Duo

FRIDAY, APRIL 12 | 7:00 pm
 Lochan String Quartet

FRIDAY, MAY 10 | 7:00 pm
 Ka Trio

SUNDAY, JUNE 9 | 7:00 pm
 Marimba Bullies

FREE-WILL OFFERINGS BENEFIT
LOCAL COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS



**GENTLE
 YOGA CLASS**

WITH SAMANTHA SCHELLHAAS


You are invited to join us for a 6-week gentle yoga class at Valley beginning January 11 at 7 PM in the Community Room. Class will be led by Valley member Samantha Schellhaas.
 COST: Free-will donation

THURSDAYS 7:00 PM	FEBRUARY 1, 8, 15
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Valley Brew Crew

SATURDAY, FEB 10 | 1:00-6:00 PM

Hosted by VCPC!



Let Jay know if there are certain styles or brews that you'd like to try to clone.

If you would like to be added to the email list or have questions about Brew Crew, Jay Perry is who you need to talk to!

CONTACT JAY PERRY FOR DETAILS:
 See Directory for contact information



Valley Craft Club! FAMILY EDITION!!



Mark your calendar for the February 10 Craft Day! Our special project this month is **Bowl Painting**.

From 10 AM - 12 PM all ages are invited to come paint a bowl to donate to the **Empty Bowls Event in March**. Suggested donation \$10 per bowl.

Our time from 12-2 PM will be for adult crafters who wish to continue working on their other projects for awhile longer.
Bring a dish to share.



**SATURDAY FEBRUARY 10
 10 AM - 2 PM
 BOWL PAINTING 10 AM-12 PM**



Lent and Holy Week in the Valley



LENT & HOLY WEEK 2024 SCHEDULE



Wed, Feb. 14	7:00 PM	Ash Wednesday Worship with communion and marking of ashes
Sunday, Feb. 18	9:30 AM	1st Sunday of Lent Worship
Wed, Feb. 21	6:00 PM	Wednesdays in Lent Dinner & Discussion
Sunday, Feb. 25	9:30 AM	2nd Sunday of Lent Worship
Wed, Feb. 28	6:00 PM	Wednesdays in Lent Dinner & Discussion
Sunday, March 3	9:30 PM	3rd Sunday of Lent Worship
Wed, March 6	6:00 PM	Wednesdays in Lent Dinner & Discussion
Sunday, March 10	9:30 AM	4th Sunday in Lent Worship
		Sheila Sheldon preaching
Wed, March 13	6:00 PM	Wednesdays in Lent Dinner & Discussion
Sunday, March 17	9:30 AM	5th Sunday in Lent Worship
Wed, March 20	6:00 PM	Wednesdays in Lent Dinner & Discussion
Sunday, March 24	9:30 AM	Palm Sunday Worship
Thurs, March 28	7:30 PM	Maundy Thursday Tenebrae service with communion
Sunday, March 31	9:30 AM	Easter Sunday Worship

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT 2024



Wednesdays in Lent this year will be a time to come together in fellowship, get to know Pastor Jim, and reflect on our faith both individually and as a community. Dinner will be hosted by Church Committees from 6:00-6:45pm. After dinner, we'll move into a more worshipful moment together. There will be music, scripture, prayers, and time to share and have conversation together. The goal is for this to feel casual and relaxed – just a chance to be together as a community! The discussions that we have during the Lenten season will be fodder for the Mission Study Committee in the spring when they will begin collecting information.

Members are encouraged to bring sides and desserts!
Last names A-L Dessert | M-Z Side dish

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

DINNER: 6:00 PM | PROGRAM: 6:45 PM

HOSTS: Stewardship, Finance & Property

MEAL: Sloppy Joe's

DISCUSSION FOCUS: Where do you imagine Christ calling you to service in your life? Is there anything holding you back from that?

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

DINNER: 6:00 PM | PROGRAM: 6:45 PM

HOSTS: Technology, Worship & Music

MEAL: Pasta & bread

DISCUSSION FOCUS: Are you fearful of stepping out in faith? What steps of faith might Valley be taking in the coming months?

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

DINNER: 6:00 PM | PROGRAM: 6:45 PM

HOST: Education

MEAL: Soup & Chili

DISCUSSION FOCUS: How can we proclaim Jesus as the Christ? How can we live out that truth as followers of Christ, both individually and as a community of faith?

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

DINNER: 6:00 PM | PROGRAM: 6:45 PM

HOSTS: Mission Possible & Personnel

MEAL: Pizza

DISCUSSION FOCUS: What are ways you see God at work in the world, like the psalmist writes? How do we proclaim that day-to-day? What do we value in worship at Valley?

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

DINNER: 6:00 PM | PROGRAM: 6:45 PM

HOSTS: Fellowship & Growth

MEAL: Tater Tot Hotdish

DISCUSSION FOCUS: When have you had a conflict with someone else? How did you address the conflict? How did things resolve/reconcile? Is there a difference between forgiveness and "business as normal"?



The Valley Education Corner

We Are On Winter Break!

Thank you to our AMAZING volunteers who support the programs for Valley kids and youth.

We will resume Sunday afternoon TEAMS and Youth Group programming on February 18th.

Faith Formation emails will continue during winter break.

Contact [Sheila Sheldon](#) or [Mariah Messer](#) if you have any questions.



Save the Date!



Click here to register!

PARENT'S NIGHT OUT

Friday, February 16, 2024
6:00 - 8:30 PM

No snow, so we're having a glow party! Glow tag, dance party and more! Bring your outdoor gear.

Kids 5th Grade & Under
\$5/child

EASTER EGG HUNT

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 2024

AT 2:00 PM



Youth Education
Scholarship Tea

APRIL 27 | 2 PM

Hostesses Needed, contact [Sheila](#) or [Mariah](#) to host a table.

Youth Servers needed Grades 6-12

FEBRUARY 4 & 11
FELLOWSHIP HALL

Youth Cookie Sale

- * COOKIES \$5/BAG (1/2 DOZ)
- * COOKIE TRAYS \$5/\$10/\$20
- * VALENTINE BASKETS \$10-30
- * YOUTH SNACK MIX \$5/BAG

Valley 
Community

PC(USA)

SAVE THE DATE!

ADULT EDUCATION
KICK-OFF
MARCH 3 | 11:00 AM



Hosted in the Cornerstone Room

SAVE THE DATE

JUNE 11-14 | 9AM - 12PM

VBC 2024

Earth Care Corner



Once upon a time there was a sad little hair dryer. It's switch no longer did it's on/off thing. But along came a handy person who repaired the switch so the dryer could dry hair again. (Handy persons are available at the Hennepin County Fix-It Clinics held monthly.) Later, the heat mechanism would no longer give the heat needed to dry hair. But along came an artist who needed to dry paint quickly. The old hair dryer worked well. For a while. Finally, it was time for the sad little hair dryer to go to the Hennepin County recycle center in Brooklyn Park. The dryer had lived a long life by being used, repaired, reused, repurposed, and finally recycled. And the Earth was a little happier too.



Down the block, another family received a gift that arrived in a cardboard Amazon box. Had the box completed it's life? Oh, no! The family needed a storage container in their basement and decided to reuse the box. After a number of years, the box was tearing at the seams. Tape came to the rescue and the box was repaired and reused. Finally, the box could not be repaired. The family gardener flattened the box and reused it by placing it over weeds in the garden, covering it with soil. Eventually the box was no more and had recycled back to Mother Earth.

AND THE EARTH LIVED A LITTLE HAPPIER EVER AFTER.

Update submitted by Earth Care Task Force member Carolyn Anderson



PTCA Anti-Racism Task Force

In-Person Gathering with meal:

PTCA ANTIRACISM SPRING GATHERING

Focus: Intergenerational Antiracist Practice with Children, Youth & Adults

Registration and more information forthcoming, but there will be special speakers, conversation groups by ministry area and topic, and lunch conversations. Lots of resources to share from MinistryLab who will also be present with all the latest resources and ideas. Light breakfast options and lunch will be provided.

When: Saturday, May 18th, 9 am - 1 pm | Location: Congregation TBD

[CLICK HERE!](#)

Sign up for direct emailed versions of periodic antiracism "news", opportunities and updates from Rev. Anna Kendig Flores.

2023 ANNUAL MEETING AFTER WORSHIP

SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 11, 2024

MEETING WILL BE LIVESTREAMED. VOTING WILL TAKE PLACE IN PERSON ONLY.



PARENT'S NIGHT OUT

Friday, February 16, 2024
6:00 - 8:30 PM



Click here to register!

No snow, so we're having a glow party! Glow tag, dance party and more! Bring your outdoor gear.

Kids 5th Grade & Under
\$5/child



• DRIVERS NEEDED •

Meals on Wheels

4TH THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

• FEBRUARY 22 •

ROUTES INCLUDE:

Crystal
New Hope
Robbinsdale
Golden Valley

CONTACTS:

Gail Smith
Marge Thurston
use your directory or call the office.

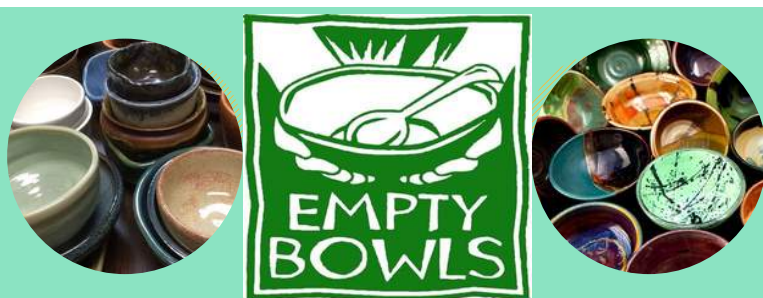


Clearwater Chrysalis Women's Retreat

FEBRUARY 23-25, 2024
PRESBYTERIAN CLEARWATER FOREST

REGISTRATION IS OPEN NOW!
Visit clearwaterforest.org/retreats/ to register or click this ad if viewing online

Contact 218-678-2325 with questions



13TH ANNUAL EMPTY BOWLS EVENT

Tuesday, March 19
5-7:30 pm

Robbinsdale Cooper High School

DONATIONS BENEFIT PRISM & NEAR FOOD SHELVES

EASTER EGG HUNT

VALLEY COMMUNITY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MARCH 23, 2024
@ 2:00 PM

Cookie decorating & refreshments in Fellowship Hall following the egg hunt.

*Event will be held outdoors weather permitting.

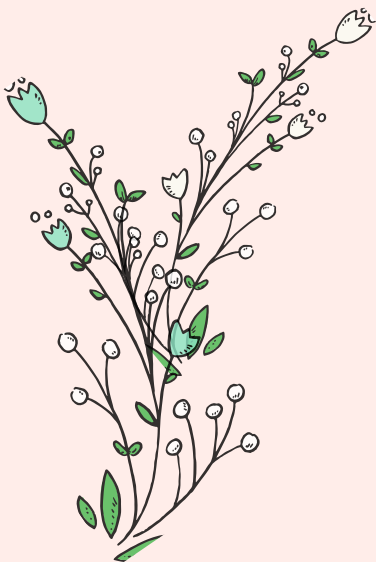


Join us for coffee and donuts on Sundays following Worship in Fellowship Hall.

FEBRUARY

BIRTHDAYS

- Bonnie Goslinga
- Bill Holman
- Cheyenne Smith
- Mike Herring
- Joan Chenoweth
- Katie Hestness
- Connie Freeman
- Pat Hoehn
- Diane (Stueven) Knox
- Warren Linc
- Egbe Nti
- Anna Parks
- Donna Hewitt
- Carolyn Kaehr
- John Zieska
- Dawn Hill
- Craig Gottschalk
- Valerie Robinson
- Evan Smith
- Scot Michael
- Jay Tracy
- Todd Decker
- Connor Craven
- Juanita Loubert
- Sharon Olson
- Karen Gillett
- Veronica Freeberg
- Bennett Goiffon
- Sarah Fadell
- Beverly Collins
- Doug Malecha
- Don Roach
- Sam Rudeen
- David Dechaine
- Anna Zieska
- Richard Gibson
- Diane Morningstar
- Judy Rathje
- John Nyongkah
- Colston Rude
- Charles Kovacovich



Thursday, February 1

10:00 am Bible Fellowship
7:00 pm Gentle Yoga

Sunday, February 4

9:30 am Worship Service with communion
Rev. Jim Cochrane's First Sunday at Valley
10:30 am **Youth Cookie Sale**

Monday, February 5

11:30 am Lunch Bunch @ 50's Grill

Tuesday, February 6

6:30 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 8

10:00 am Bible Fellowship
7:00 pm Gentle Yoga

Friday, February 9

7:00 pm Fridays in the Valley

Saturday, February 10

10:00 am Valley Craft Day
1:00 pm Brew Crew at Valley

Sunday, February 11

9:30 am Worship Service
Annual Meeting following Worship
10:30 am **Youth Cookie Sale**

Tuesday, February 13

6:30 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, February 14

6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal
7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service

Thursday, February 15

10:00 am Bible Fellowship
7:00 pm Gentle Yoga

Friday, February 16

6-8:30 pm Parent's Night Out

Sunday, February 18

9:30 am Worship Service
4:00 pm TEAMS & Youth Group

Tuesday, February 20

11:30 am Valley Men's Luncheon
6:30 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, February 21

6:00 pm Wednesdays in Lent Dinner

Thursday, February 22

10:00 am Bible Fellowship
10:00 am Meals on Wheels

February 23 - February 25

Chrysalis Clearwater Retreat

Sunday, February 25

9:30 am Worship Service
4:00 pm TEAMS & Youth Group

Monday, February 26

6:30 pm Session Meeting

Tuesday, February 27

6:30 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal

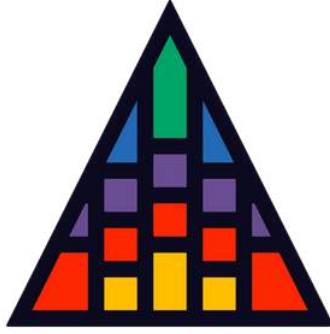
Wednesday, February 28

6:00 pm Wednesdays in Lent Dinner

Thursday, February 29

10:00 am Bible Fellowship

CALENDAR



Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

VCPC

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

As a faith congregation opening hearts, opening minds, and opening lives to God, Valley Community Presbyterian Church (VCPC) seeks to honor the important stories and lived experiences of its members and neighbors.

VCPC 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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