

THE VALLEY

SUMMER 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

Cover Photo: To wrap up the 2023-2024 year in TEAMS and Youth Group, families were invited to come together and celebrate! Families gathered for an adults vs kids kickball game, taco dinner, and sundaes.

Community News

• MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- **FINAL Ministry and Mission Study (MMS) Congregational Listening Session (page 6)**
 - Sunday June 9th at 11:00 AM
- **Fridays in the Valley (page 7)**
 - Sunday, June 9 @ 7 PM | Marimba Bullies
- **All-Church Picnic | Sunday, June 2 @ 11:00 AM (page 6)**
- Senior Sermon Sunday | Sunday, June 9 @ 9:30 AM (page 8)
- **Summer 2024 VBC | June 11-14 | 9 AM - 12 PM (page 8)**
 - Sustainable Safari comes to VBC! | Wednesday, June 12 @ 10:00 AM
 - All ages welcome! This is an intergenerational learning opportunity.
- **Valley Day at the Twins | Sunday, June 16 @ 1:10 PM**
- Valley Brew Crew | Saturday, June 29 | 4-10 PM (page 7)
- **Valley Summer Happy Hour - All Ages Welcome! | Sat, July 13 | 4-6 PM (page 7)**
- 2nd Annual Valley Night Out | Sunday, August 4 | 5:30-8 PM (page 7)
- We'll be worshipping all summer in the Fellowship Hall. Check page 10 for more information on the Sanctuary renovation project.

• MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

- **Earth Care Task Force Updates (page 9)**
- Golden Valley PRIDE | Saturday, June 8 | 12:00 - 6:00 PM (page 6)
- **Golden Valley DEIC Community Forums (pages 5, 9)**
 - Thursday, June 13 | 6:00 - 8:00 PM | Brookview Golden Valley
 - Thursday, July 11 | 5:00 - 6:30 PM | Valley Community Presbyterian Church
- **James I. Rice Park Clean-Up Day | July 13 @ 10:00 AM (pages 5, 7)**
- Meals On Wheels Delivery Drivers Needed | 3rd and 4th Thursdays of the month (page 5)

A LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

JUNE 2024

Dear Friends,

As we enter this summer, I see it as "creative time." I do not mean that just in the sense that we will be creative in how we work around the construction crews and vehicles coming and going from the church as they work in the sanctuary (even though we will!), but I also see this "creative time" as an opportunity to pause and see what God is doing in our midst.

The prophet Isaiah writes, "Look, I am doing a new thing; now it sprouts up; don't you recognize it?" (Is. 43:19, CEB). That declaration from the prophet of old reverberates through everything happening at Valley during this season of creative growth. As workers restore the beautiful woodwork of the sanctuary and replace tile and carpeting, they are literally laying the groundwork for the next generations of Valley. As the Ministry and Mission Study team reads through the results of the listening sessions and coming congregational survey, they are sowing the seeds for God's next great thing to spring forth from the congregation.

Summer worship will be creative: we will be repurposing an already-beloved space



Rev. Jim Cochrane

for new purposes. But isn't that what the church is all about? We are a community of people who come to question, doubt, learn, and grow together, united around a common cause of glorifying God with what we have. God bestows us with gifts and encourages us to use them and find new avenues for ministry in the world. This summer as we take stock of the physical resources we have in the building and the spiritual resources we have in one another, let us re-imagine how what we have might be useful to God and to the world.

Valley's commitment to connecting with one another is a remarkable strength, and I look forward to the many ways we will keep our relationships with one another strong during this summer season. Our young people will be in community first during **VBC Compassion Camp** for our youngest and then during the **Youth Summer Mission Week** for our middle and high schoolers. Our broader congregation will have countless ways to strengthen our ties as well, first through events like the **Twins Game** and **Brew Crew**, and also in fellowship before and after worship.

This summer, I want to encourage you to connect deeper with the Valley Family. Whether it is attending a group event you might not otherwise attend, sticking around for a little bit longer after worship to talk with folks, or simply introducing yourself to that person you've always seen but don't know their name. When we connect with our already-beloved community in new ways, we can see how God is at work making all things new.

In Christ,
Jim

LOOKING AHEAD

PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

This summer, the Ministry and Mission Study Committee will be hard at work turning all of the feedback received from the listening sessions and surveys into a document that accurately represents our congregation. When that is completed, it will be time for the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) to get to work.

if you are interested in serving on the PNC or would like to learn more, we would love to hear from you. If you would like to be considered to serve on the committee, email Mary Dunham (Head of the Nominating Committee) at marykdmn@gmail.com. Questions can be directed to Pastor Jim at jim.cochrane@valleychurch.net.

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 - May 2024

ADULT ED - LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



PENTECOST SUNDAY



TASTE OF THE BURBS



Golden Valley DEIC Community Forums - Summer 2024

BAEGV: BUILDING AND RETAINING AN EQUITABLE CITY WORKFORCE AND SUPPLIER POOL

Thursday, June 13, 6-8 pm
Brookview Golden Valley

TO LEARN MORE AND RSVP, GO TO
[HTTPS://BIT.LY/3JXEDA](https://bit.ly/3jXEDA)

HATE HAS NO HOME HERE: ISLAMOPHOBIA IN THE UNITED STATES TODAY

Thursday, July 11, 5-6:30 pm
Valley Community Presbyterian Church

TO LEARN MORE AND RSVP, GO TO
[WWW.GOLDENVALLEYMN.GOV/DEIC](http://www.goldenvalleymn.gov/deic)

• DRIVERS NEEDED •

Meals on Wheels

3RD & 4TH THURSDAYS OF EVERY MONTH
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

• JUNE 20 & 27, JULY 18 & 25 •

ROUTES INCLUDE:

Crystal
New Hope
Robbinsdale
Golden Valley

CONTACTS:

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



James I. Rice Park Clean-up Day

SATURDAY, JULY 13 | 10:00 AM
323 W RIVER PKWY, MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55401

Join other members of our community for an Invasive species pull and park clean-up near Hahá Wakpadan (Bassett Creek) at James I. Rice Park in Minneapolis. This event will be a great way to care for our waterways.



 Valley Community

OLD FRIENDS: A MUSICAL THEATER CABARET



SUNDAY, JUNE 30, 7PM
VALLEY COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
JILLIAN BADER, LUKE PETERSON, JAMIE MARSHALL

Old Friends: A Musical Theater Cabaret is a free concert in 90-minutes or less on Sunday, June 30 at 7pm featuring Jamie Marshall, Jillian Bader, and Luke Peterson, with a free will donation supporting their upcoming production of *The Last Five Years* with Bunce Performing Arts at Phoenix Theatre in Uptown, Aug 30 - Sept 8.

WICKED WORT BREWING CO.

VALLEY SUMMER HAPPY HOUR

Saturday, July 13th
4:00- 6:00 pm

Live music begins at 7:30 pm if anyone wants to grab dinner and stay for the music!

Sign-up in Fellowship Hall or Contact the Valley office!

763-588-0831 | office@valleychurch.net

 Valley Community

CLEARWATER CHRYSALIS WOMEN'S RETREAT

AUGUST 15-18, 2024
OPTIONAL SERVICE DAY - AUGUST 14

Visit www.clearwaterforest.org/clearwater-chrysalis for more information and to register

PRESBYTERIAN CLEARWATER FOREST
CONTACT CLEARWATER WITH QUESTIONS
218-678-2325
REGISTER SOON!
THERE ARE ONLY A FEW SPOTS LEFT

ON THE ROAD TO FELLOWSHIP AT VALLEY

All-Church Picnic

SUNDAY, JUNE 2 | 11:15 AM - 12:30 PM

Join the Fellowship Committee in celebrating the start of summer by attending the annual Valley Picnic!

We will be serving our traditional picnic fare: hot dogs, brats, beans, and coleslaw. We are hoping for warm sunny weather so that those who want can eat outside. **Please join us rain or shine to welcome the 1st Sunday of summer!**

CALL THE VALLEY OFFICE WITH QUESTIONS



6th ANNUAL GOLDEN VALLEY PRIDE FESTIVAL!

SATURDAY, JUNE 8TH
12:00 - 6:00 PM
BROOKVIEW PARK

Last year's Golden Valley PRIDE Festival was a huge success, with over 7,500 attendees! Valley loves participating in this important community event and will have a booth again this year run by volunteers to support the event and meet folks in our community.

The festival is family-friendly with music, food vendors, bounce houses, inflatable obstacle courses, games, and MORE!

Mark your calendars and come support this amazing event in our GV community.

WE NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU!

FINAL Ministry and Mission Study Listening Session

Sunday, June 9th
at 11:00am

These congregational listening sessions are the foundation for the Ministry and Mission Study.



2ND ANNUAL VALLEY NIGHT OUT!

SUNDAY, AUGUST 4

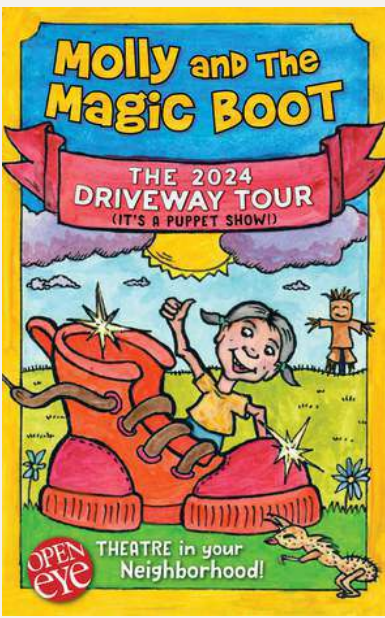
DINNER - 5:30PM | SHOW - 7:00PM

We're grilling dinner and hosting a performance of Open Eye Theater's **MOLLY AND THE MAGIC BOOT!**

We have had so much fun the past two summers hosting Open Eye Theater artists and their puppet friends in the Valley parking lot. So Valley Night Out is back again!

The show might be the same as last year, but if you bring along a new friend, it will feel like you are seeing it for the first time. Or maybe you'll notice something you missed last year!

Grab you friends, family, and neighbors! **Come for a potluck dinner (we'll grill, you bring a side or dessert to share) and stay for the show.** All are welcome!



James I. Rice Park Clean-up Day

SATURDAY, JULY 13 | 10:00 AM

323 W RIVER PKWY, MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55401

Join other members of our community for an Invasive species pull and park clean-up near Hahá Wakpadanj (Bassett Creek) at James I. Rice Park in Minneapolis. This event will be a great way to care for our waterways.



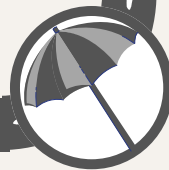
Fridays in the Valley Summer Sunday Series:

SUNDAY,
JUNE 9
7:00 PM



Marimba
Bullies

FREE-WILL OFFERINGS BENEFIT
THE FATHER PROJECT



WICKED WORT BREWING CO. VALLEY SUMMER HAPPY HOUR

Saturday, July 13th
4:00- 6:00 pm

Live music begins at
7:30 pm if anyone
wants to grab dinner
and stay for the music!

Sign-up in Fellowship Hall or
Contact the Valley office!
ALL AGES WELCOME!

Valley Brew Crew

SATURDAY, JUNE 29 | 4:00-10:00 PM

AT THE PERRY'S HOUSE!

4 PM BOTTLING - 6PM DINNER

Sara and Jay will provide the meat and have both alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks. Bring a side or dessert to share, as well as the family!

All ages and beverages of all kinds are always welcome.



the happier we'll be! 7

TEAMS & YOUTH GROUP END OF YEAR CELEBRATION



The Valley Education Corner

FAITH FORMATION



Summer Faith Formation

While Faith Formation in the summer looks a little different as we take a break from our regular curriculum, kids will still explore weekly lessons through Bible stories, children's literature and play. Jamese will be here to offer a familiar face and lead the group.



Vacation Bible Camp (VBC)

Tuesday, June 11 - Friday, June 14; 9 AM - 12 PM

We cannot wait to have VBC again this June! There are 17 Valley kids signed up to come and learn with us. We also have 8 Valley grown-ups who have already volunteered to help, but the more the merrier! Email Sheila or Mariah to sign up!



2nd Annual Valley Night Out

Sunday, August 4: Dinner @ 5:30pm, Show @ 7:00pm

Open Eye Theatre will be back again this summer with a performance of *Molly and the Magic Boot!* Even if you caught the show last year, we hope to see you again - maybe with a friend or neighbor! You can find more details on the next page (9).

YOUTH GROUP & TEAMS



Senior Sermon Sunday

Sunday, June 9th at 9:30am

Mark your calendars for a Sunday celebrating our graduating seniors! They will share during worship and other Valley youth will also take part in the service that morning.



Clearwater Forest Camp

Summer 2024!

Looking for a fun camp experience? Then you will want to check out all the Clearwater Forest has to offer. Welcoming campers entering 3rd grade - 12th grade, there is something for everyone. [Learn more here!](#) Talk to Sheila about available scholarships.



Valley Youth Mission Week | June 24 - 28th | 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM daily

Valley youth in grades 6th -12 will spend the week serving local mission partners around the Twin Cities area. Each day they will meet at Valley and then head out to work before returning in the afternoon for lunch and devotions. Youth will also engage in learning fieldtrips and fellowship time. They'll finish out the week with a lock-in at VCPC.

Earth Care Corner



"Here are two simple questions: Where were you in nature when you experienced a vision of such beauty that it took your breath away? And how did that make you feel?" Choctaw elder Steven Charleston places love at the center of our hope for the environment. He continues, "For decades now we have been staring at the scientific reports. They have not sufficiently inspired us to change... **But where science has failed, faith can succeed.** We must help humanity rediscover Mother Earth, their loving parent, the living world that sustains them. We must help them feel her love just as we show them how that love can be returned."

USE THIS SUMMER TO RECONNECT WITH THE BEAUTY
AND POWER OF NATURE. SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCES
WITH AS MANY OTHERS AS POSSIBLE.



An upcoming event at Valley's Compassion Camp will help attendees experience nature through the **Sustainable Safari Wildlife Show at Valley on Wednesday, June 12 starting at 10:00 am.** The presentation will last 45 min - 1 hour. All are welcome - let's join the kids and learn the natural history of each animal shown.

Update submitted by Valley member Carolyn Anderson

DEIC Community Forums to Explore Equitable Workforce And Islamophobia

Golden Valley's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Commission (DEIC) is presenting two community forums in June and July. The June Building An Equitable Golden Valley (BAEGV) event will focus on how the City is building and retaining an equitable workforce and supplier pool. The July Hate Has No More Here topic will be "Islamophobia in the United States Today." Both events are free and open to all. Snacks will be provided.

BAEGV: BUILDING AND RETAINING AN EQUITABLE CITY WORKFORCE AND SUPPLIER POOL

Thursday, June 13, 6-8 pm
Brookview Golden Valley

Presenters will discuss how the City of Golden Valley is doing in terms of:

- hiring, retaining, and promoting diverse and inclusive staff - from entry-level and seasonal workers to senior managers
- hiring contractors - from construction and maintenance to catering vendors - that reflect the racial, cultural, and gender diversity of the metro area

This forum will also provide current data and give community and business leaders the opportunity to raise questions, offer suggestions, and work together to determine how Golden Valley can be an exemplary city for workforce and supplies equity.

RSVP at <https://bit.ly/3jxedaj> or by calling
763-593-8045

HATE HAS NO HOME HERE: ISLAMOPHOBIA IN THE UNITED STATES TODAY

Thursday, July 11, 5-6:30 pm
Valley Community Presbyterian Church
3100 Lilac Drive N, Golden Valley

A paneled discussion about the history of islamophobia, its recent increase, and the current and future impact on local Muslim communities will be followed by a Q&A session.

This is the second in a series of community discussions regarding bias and hate as expressed in the United States. Future series discussions will explore topics including, but not limited to, transphobia and upcoming research on the progression of bias against various minoritized groups and racial and religious minoritized groups, and the "othering" of communities.

RSVP to rparadise@goldenvalleymn.gov
or by calling 763-593-8045.

www.goldenvalleymn.gov/DEIC

2024 SANCTUARY RENOVATION



MAY 2024

Cornerstone Room ceiling sanded and stained to preserve wood.

JUNE 2, 2024

Last Worship in Sanctuary until September. We will worship in Fellowship Hall for the summer.



JUNE 3, 2024

Pews are removed and stored onsite.

JUNE 6-14, 2024

Flooring removed to abate asbestos.



JUNE 17-JULY 26, 2024

Sanding and sealing of ceiling to preserve wood; painting wall areas.

JULY 29- AUG. 23, 2024

New carpet and tile installed. Pews reinstalled.



SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

Homecoming Sunday! First Worship in the newly renovated sanctuary.

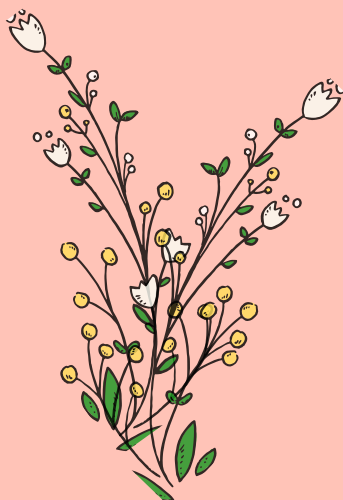
Barbara Johnston left Valley a generous gift from her estate that has been used to preserve Valley's work of living out our faith for years to come. Some of those dollars are being used to maintain the building to prepare it for another 75 years of service to our community and world. Work will be done this summer on the Sanctuary and Cornerstone Room: removing asbestos tile before it becomes a health risk, maintaining the wood ceilings, and refreshing carpeting.

Work will begin on June 3rd, and we will worship in Fellowship Hall while the work is carried out. We are eager to see what God has in store for this congregation in the coming decades, and we are excited that our beloved Mission Station will be ready to provide support to the community for years to come!

CALENDAR

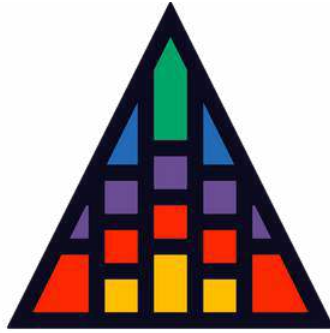
BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Eleanor Kopischke | Steve Dobovsky |
| Connor Gottschalk | Rick Carlson |
| Lisa Kummer | Taichi Chen |
| Ryne Nichols | Jean-Luc LaBelle |
| Alice Zieska | Stacy Thompson |
| Carol Bright | Duncan Fadell |
| Tom Magill | Marit Willey |
| Margo Morrow | Kaden Craven |
| Jackie Graham | Alicia Brant |
| Odin Willey | Lia Mayer |
| Christy Smith | Larren Boyd |
| Mike Vogel | Sam Malecha |
| Lucy Feneis | Tom Day |
| Ella Halverson | Craig Michael |
| Dan Marshall | Tim Grosshuesch |
| Bonnie Carlson | Kate Reinert |
| Ann Roach | Lois Schmidt |
| Beth Carlson | Ben Kummer |
| Catherine Parks | Merlyn Mayer |
| Dawn Schuldts | David Toering |
| Steve Wasmoen | |



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

- Saturday, June 1**
First Day of LGBTQIA+ PRIDE Month
- Sunday, June 2**
9:30 am Worship Service with communion
 11:15 am All-Church Picnic
- Monday, June 3**
 11:30 am Lunch Bunch @ 50's Grill
- Thursday, June 6**
 10:00 am Bible Fellowship
- Saturday, June 8**
 12:00 - 6:00 pm Golden Valley PRIDE Festival at Brookview Park
- Sunday, June 9 - PRIDE Sunday**
9:30 am Worship Service
 11:00 am MMS Listening Session #3
 7:00 pm *Sundays* in the Valley concert
- Tuesday, June 11**
 9:00 am - 12:00 pm VBC Compassion Camp
- Wednesday, June 12**
 9:00 am - 12:00 pm VBC Compassion Camp
- Thursday, June 13**
 9:00 am - 12:00 pm VBC Compassion Camp
 10:00 am Bible Fellowship
 10:00 am Meals on Wheels
- Friday, June 14**
 9:00 am - 12:00 pm VBC Compassion Camp
- Sunday, June 16**
9:30 am Worship Service
 1:00 pm Valley Day at the Twins
- Tuesday, June 18**
 11:30 am Valley Men's Luncheon @ 50's Grill
- Wednesday, June 19 - OFFICE CLOSED**
- Thursday, June 20**
 10:00 am Bible Fellowship
 10:00 am Meals on Wheels
- Sunday, June 23**
9:30 am Worship Service
- Monday, June 24**
 6:30 pm Session Meeting
- Thursday, June 27**
 10:00 am Bible Fellowship
 10:00 am Meals on Wheels
- Saturday, June 29**
 4:00 - 10:00 pm Brew Crew
- Sunday, June 30**
9:30 am Worship Service
 7:00 pm Old Friends Cabaret Fundraiser



Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

VCPC

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

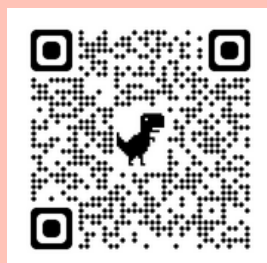
As a faith congregation opening hearts, opening minds, and opening lives to God, Valley Community Presbyterian Church (VCPC) seeks to honor the important stories and lived experiences of its members and neighbors.

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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