

the **LINK** WINTER 2024-25



Valencia Presbyterian Church

80 Sterrett Street, Valencia, PA 16059

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Church Office Hours: 9am - 12pm (M-T-W-F)

Do you have Hope? Do you have Joy? Do you have Peace? Do you have Love?

The season of Advent is a time for us to experience all of the above.

We have Hope!

We hope for the coming of Christ into our broken world. A world in need of healing that only Christ can bring. A world hungry for the light that lets us see the oneness we have with Christ.

We have Joy!

Because God so loved the world, He gave unto us a Son, so we have joy. Because we live on this side of the cross knowing that Christ died for us, we have joy. Because He took upon Himself all our sins, we have joy.

We have Peace!

As Jesus left this world, He said "Peace I leave with you; my Peace I give you." A gift from our Lord and Savior. We have peace!

We have Love!

God is Love. If we can feel the presence of God in our lives, we have love. His love is like no other. Giving us the gift of life eternal simply because He loves each of us. We have love.

As we make ready to celebrate the birth of the Christ child may we always hold up the promise that Christ will return. In that promise is our true hope. In that promise is our pure joy. In that promise is the peace that only Christ can bring to each of us. In that promise is the love that God has for you and me.

This season of Advent can be so busy that we miss the point and only worry about who gets what present on Christmas morning. Our prayers are more about keeping peace in our family, not burning the Christmas turkey and who wins the Steeler game, than saying thank you to God for His Son.

May we all share, individually and with all we touch, in the Hope, the Joy, the Peace, and the Love that God offers us this Advent season.

Peace, Tom

August 20, 2024

- **MSC 8-0** to approve reports and minutes of the Session, Treasurer and Pastor
- Discussed roof project
- **MSC 8-0** to send letters to inactive members: Walter, Kirk, Beal
- **MSC 8-0** online vote to permit Nancy Schaeffer to rent the Fellowship Hall on 10/13/24 for a birthday party for Doris Schaeffer



September 17, 2024

- **MSC 9-0** to approve reports and minutes of the Session, Deacons, Treasurer and Pastor
- **MSC 8-0** online vote to approve posting of Ministry Discernment Profile on the CLC website
- **MSC 9-0** to approve the removal of the following individuals from active rolls: Adam Beal, Rebecca Beal, Sarah Cline, Edward Walter Jr., Holly Walter, Edward Walter III, Joshua Walter, Logan Walter

October 15, 2024

- **MSC 8-0** to approve reports and minutes of the Session, Deacons, and Treasurer
- **MSC 8-0** to approve the 2025 Budget as presented
- **MSC 8-0** to accept Ministry Reports
- **MSC 8-0** to hold our Annual Congregational Meeting on November 17, 2024 after worship in the Sanctuary to elect officers and receive budget



The Sanctuary roof replacement is finished!

For 118 years, our slate roof protected us from rain and snow with very little upkeep. But for a few years now, we have had to replace more and more sections of slate, and it became evident that it was at the end of its useful life.

Your generous donations have allowed us to have a high-quality asphalt roof installed and, in the process, eliminate an unused chimney and exhaust fan. New gutters and downspouts were included, helping to keep our church protected and beautiful.

Over the summer, we noticed the deterioration of the chimney on the pastor's residence. So, while the roofers were here and had the equipment on-site that chimney was also removed.



Christmas LUNCH & PLAY



Sunday, December 8th
after worship in Fellowship Hall

Hosted by the Discipleship Team, Deacons and Youth. RSVP in back of sanctuary.



**Order Poinsettias to Decorate the
Sanctuary for Christmas Eve**
(take home after service)

Deadline to order is Sunday, December 8th

6-inch pot (red): \$8.50 each

Order forms are in the back of sanctuary.

Breakfast with SANTA

**Includes Pancakes,
Sausage and Drink**



Valencia Presbyterian Church
80 Sterrett Street, Valencia PA 16059



Saturday

**DEC.
14th**

10:00 am-12:00 noon

Cost: Free!

Reservations Required

Phone: 724-625-2002
Email: vpc@valenciapresbyterian.com

Scan to RSVP online
or go to
valenciapresbyterian.com/RSVP





Pulpit Nominating Committee Update

As we continue our journey to find the right pastor for our church, the Pulpit Nominating Committee has been diligently reviewing candidate profiles and engaging in thoughtful discussions. We are currently in a season of prayer and discernment, seeking God's guidance as we talk with potential candidates. Conversations are ongoing, and we remain committed to identifying the individual who God has chosen to lead our congregation in faith and service.




We appreciate your continued prayers and support as we trust in God's timing and direction throughout this process. Please stay tuned for further updates as we move forward in this important decision.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact any of your PNC team members:

Matt McKinley (chair), Tammy Maihle, Nadine Murphy, Dawn Pasquinelli, Jill Roda, Ed Walter, Aaron Yurek

MIDWEEK MEAL

with a Message




K-8th grade
F. Hall

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS
Spring Schedule TBD

Dinner & Fellowship
6:00 – 6:45pm

Bible Study (K-8 & Teen/Adult)
7:00 – 8:00pm

RSVP & Donation Requested




Teens/Adults
Sanctuary

FEED THE BODY
FEED THE SOUL

We just wrapped up another great session of our Midweek Meal with a Message (MMWAM). Plans are underway for our Spring session. Stay tuned for updates on dates, discussion topics and yummy menus!

Women's Bible Study
Sundays @ 8:45am
Fellowship Hall
Contact: Crystal Yurek

Men's Bible Study
Saturdays @ 7:00am
VPC Lounge / Zoom
Contact: Aaron Yurek



Women's Bible Study
Thursdays @ 11:00am
VPC Lounge
Contact: Annamary McMullen

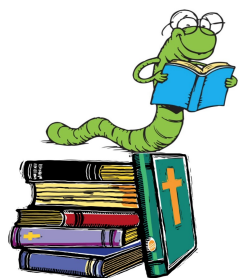
Join us for one of our Weekly Bible Studies! It is such a great opportunity to dive into God's Word, grow in faith, and connect with others.

Missions are essential to Growing the Body of Christ by enabling the church to reach beyond its own four walls and spread the gospel to the surrounding community, both locally and globally.



VPC was blessed to provide support to the following missions in 2024:

- **New Missions** - Sponsoring 2 Children
- **Lighthouse Foundation**
- **Network of Life / Women's Choice Network**
- **VOICe (Victim Outreach Intervention Center)** - Door/Window Campaign
- **Pittsburgh Theological Seminary** - Student Scholarships
- **New Castle PA City Rescue Mission** - Men's Ministry
- **Presbyterian Church PC(USA)** – purchased 1 cow, 2 families of chickens
- **Lifesteps** - Adult Day Health Services
- **Mars Home for Youth** - Playground
- **Honduras Hope Mission** - Food Support
- **Hosanna Industries**
- **New Missions** - Christmas boxes for 2 children
- **Samaritan's Purse** - Christmas Shoeboxes
- **PC(USA) Special Offerings** - One Great Hour of Sharing, Pentecost, Peacemaking, Christmas Joy.
- **VPC Community Food Pantry**



EXTRA! EXTRA! Read All About It!

Come on down to the lounge and check out our newly updated library. It is full of awesome books and DVD's that can fulfill all of your reading and watching needs.

Whether you are reading for enjoyment, learning, or interested in a Bible study, we have the books for you. Check out our many devotionals, study bibles, book series, and much more. Just fill out the sign-out sheet, enjoy the materials you selected, and then kindly return them when you are finished.

Happy Reading from your VPC Deacons!

Birthdays & Anniversaries

<u>DECEMBER</u>	<u>JANUARY</u>	<u>FEBRUARY</u>
1 Dana Leskovic	3 Lydia Kennedy	1 Tyler Yurek
1 Bev Weston	4 Karen Peterman	3 Liz McMeekin
11 Sarah McKinley	13 Daniel Kennedy	12 Betty McGaughey
13 Michelle McKinley	17 Marilyn Boleky	20 Rivers Maihle
20 Carson Owens	20 Shannon Kennedy	22 Brian Hays
30 Denise Smith	20 Brian King	22 Aubrey Tenos
	22 Keira Tenos	25 Samuel Halenda
	24 John McCraley	
	25 Kim Gold	
	26 Shelley Gammell	

<u>DECEMBER</u>	Matt and Michelle McKinley Jay and Tammy Maihle	December 10, 2010 December 18, 1994
<u>JANUARY</u>	Tom and Liz McMeekin----	January 26, 1980
<u>FEBRUARY</u>	Jim and Nancy Schaeffer	February 8, 1986