
the **LINK** **SPRING**
2026



Valencia  **Presbyterian Church**

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

From the Pastor's Desk

Grace and Peace to you!

As we start our Lenten journey towards Easter, we find ourselves surrounded by new beginnings!

On February 1, I began my ministry with you as your pastor and it has been a fast-paced new beginning! It has been such a joy for my family and I to feel the welcoming hospitality of Valencia Presbyterian Church and the mutual excitement of what the Lord has in store for our shared work together!

The season of Lent offers us a communal opportunity for a new beginning. On Ash Wednesday, I encouraged us to consider the practice of prayer with new eyes and renewed commitment during this Lenten season. I want to encourage you to set aside intentional time to reflect on Scripture and to pray. For myself, I find that prayerfulness in my present circumstances amidst the “valley of the diapers” means that I need help from guided prayers. These guides can take many different forms and the resources that help me may not be the same ones that are helpful for you. Yet, I want to encourage you to look into the following three prayer resources to see if they might fit into the rhythms of this season of life for you:

1. [Book of Common Worship, Daily Prayer Edition](#): This resource, published by our denomination, offers a guide to daily prayer throughout the year. The text is oriented towards services of prayer where we might gather with others to pray at different times of the day. I encourage you to take a look at this and, if you have a desire to put together a weekly gathering around prayer, please let me know!
2. [Gospel In Life Lenten Devotional](#): Gospel In Life, a mission that has emerged out of Pastor Tim Keller’s ministry at Redeemer Presbyterian Church in New York City, is a traditional Lenten daily

devotional with an emphasis on preparation for the big event of Easter. I have a lot of personal respect and admiration for Keller’s ministry and the option to sign up to have the devotional automatically delivered to your email inbox each day simplifies the devotional experience!

3. [Pray as You Go](#): This daily audio, podcast-style devotional is the devotional resource that I personally rely upon the most. The audio resource permits me the opportunity to listen to a devotional while I’m holding babies or driving to the church. I encourage you to take a look. It’s published by a group of Jesuits in the UK. I personally love the daily rhythms, and the practices that they offer have helped to form my own spiritual disciplines.

Beginning something new is exciting but it can also be intimidating. As you journey through Lent, take time to think about the areas of opportunity in your days where prayer can fit the best. The truth is, we have many responsibilities whether we are in school, at work, or retired. Each of us has priorities and obligations. As followers in the way of Jesus, we have the opportunity to incorporate prayerfulness, a watchfulness waiting upon the Lord, into our daily rhythms alongside all of the other labor and love that we are already committed to.

It gives me great joy knowing that prayerfulness has been a long-time priority of this congregation. Many of you remind me of the old Martin Luther quote of “I have so much to do today that I have to spend the first hour in prayer.” Your devotion, faith, and commitment to Jesus is a point of joy and encouragement to me as I lean into this new beginning as your pastor!

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Lee

pastorlee@valenciapresbyterian.com

Annual Congregational Meeting: November 9, 2025

- A quorum was declared
- MSC to approve 2026 Officers as nominated
 - **Elders:** Karen Owens, Mike Pasquinelli, Ed Walter Sr.
 - **Deacons:** Nadine Murphy, Dawn Pasquinelli, Jaden Pasquinelli, Rose Snow
 - **Nominating Team:** Steve Fordenbacher, John McCraley, Matt McKinley, Tyler Yurek
- 2026 Budget was received



November 25, 2025

- MSC 9-0 to approve reports of Session, Deacons, Treasurer,
- New Insurance Carrier: Insurance Board
- MSC 9-0 to recommend that the congregation approve the Terms of Call for Pastor Lee Scott as presented by the PNC
- MCS 9-0 to Approve Pastor Lee Scott to do his candidacy sermon on 12/14/25 with special congregational meeting to follow
- MSC 9-0 to approve Meet & Greet with pastoral candidate on 12/13/25
- MSC 9-0 to approve Ministry Reports
- Ordination/Installation of Officers will be held 12/28/25
- Next session meeting will be at Quality Gardens as a joint function with Elders and Deacons, meetings and dinner

Special Congregational Meeting – December 14, 2025

- A quorum was declared
- MSC Terms of Call for Pastor Lee Scott were presented & approved
- MSC to dismiss and dissolve the Pulpit Nominating Committee

December 16, 2025

- MSC 9-0 to approve reports of the Session, Treasurer, Deacons and Congregational Meeting Minutes
- MSC 9-0 To approve the 2026 Session Meeting Dates
- MSC 9-0 to approve 2026 Communion Dates
- MSC 9-0 to elect Ed Walter Sr. as 2026 commissioner to presbytery
- MSC 9-0 to elect Mike Pasquinelli as Nominating Team Chair for 2026
- MSC 9-0 to elect Karen Owens as Elder Representative on the Nominating Team for 2026
- MSC 9-0 to elect Paul Halenda as Treasurer for 2026

January 20, 2026

- MSC 8-0 to approve reports of Session, Deacons and Treasurer
 - MSC 8-0 to approve Ministry Reports
 - Online Vote 6-0 to approve changing streaming platform to YouTube
 - MSC 8-0 to approve year-end statistical report with corrections
 - MSC 8-0 to approve Confirmation Class be held Sundays (02/15/26-03/22/26) with confirmation on Palm Sunday 03/29/26
 - MSC 8-0 to approve Pastor Lee's vacation 02/24/26-03/03/26 with Rev. Carol Divens Roth as pulpit supply
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per capita Information

The 2026 per capita apportionment for Valencia Presbyterian Church is \$3,452.84. The amount is based on our 2024 membership of 74 at \$46.66 per member. The distribution is as follows: \$33.00 to Beaver-Butler Presbytery, \$2.40 to the Synod of the Trinity, and \$11.26 to the General Assembly for a total of \$46.66.

To be fair to all the churches of our presbytery and to meet our covenantal obligation to all governing councils, we encourage each member to pay their portion of \$46.66.

You may make your donation by using the special envelope in your 2026 box of contribution envelopes. If you do not have a special envelope, you may use a regular envelope by marking it PER CAPITA and/or mark it on your check if that is how you are making your donation.

Thank you in advance for participating in this ministry.

Your Administrative Team

Valencia Presbyterian Church Silent Host Program

All persons attending worship at Valencia Presbyterian Church are invited to become a part of the SILENT HOST PROGRAM. There are no meetings to attend. All you need to do is to pledge to God and yourself to do the following:

- I pledge to meet and greet visitors at worship services and special events.
 - I will invite them to fellowship time after services and introduce them to other members.
 - If practical, I will offer them a tour of our facilities (sanctuary, fellowship hall, nursery, library, office, lounge, restrooms).
 - I will invite them to Sunday School, Bible Study or any special youth or adult program they may fit into.
 - I will inquire where they live and where they work, if applicable, or where they go to school.
 - I will encourage them to return to worship with us again.
 - I will invite family members, friends and neighbors to come and worship God with me at Valencia Presbyterian Church.
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Valencia Presbyterian Church
Who makes the best chili in the church family?

CHILI COOK OFF
Tuesday, Feb. 24, 2026

6:30 PM 80 Sterrett Street
Valencia, PA 16059

Questions? Contact the church office at 724-625-2002

CHURCH MEMBERS, bring your best batch of chili and let the community taste and decide.

NEIGHBORS, you are invited to enjoy a free meal and vote on your favorite recipe.

Judging and Prizes!

Coloring Contest for the Kids too!

The VPC Deacons will be hosting our 2nd Annual Chili Cook-Off on Tuesday, February 24th at 6:30pm. Invite your neighbors to enjoy a free meal and vote on their favorite chili prepared by VPC's finest.

VPC FAMILY GAME NIGHT

SUNDAY Survey Says...

MARCH 15

5:00 pm Don't miss this!

TACOS **FUN**

The VPC Deacons are planning another fun-filled Family Game Night for the VPC church family on Sunday March 15th. Dinner will be served at 5pm with an exciting game of VPC Family Feud emceed by Mike & Dawn Pasquinelli to follow. You do not want to miss this!

WINTER JAM 2026
SATURDAY · FEBRUARY 28
Pittsburgh, PA
PPG PAINTS ARENA

NO TICKETS REQUIRED **DONATION AT THE DOOR**

Chris Tomlin
Matthew West
Katy Nichole
Hulvey

Disciple
Emerson Day
Newsong
Zane Black

VPC Family & Youth will meet at the church at 4:00 to carpool. Let Crystal know if you need a ride or can drive.

World Vision has discontinued their 30-Hour Famine, so this year the youth will be attending Winter Jam at PPG Paints Arena on Saturday, February 28th – a night full of fun, worship music, and a positive message. If you would like to join the group, meet at the church at 4:00pm to carpool and sit together at the arena.

The following morning, on Sunday, March 1st, the VPC Youth will be hosting an All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast before worship from 8:30-9:30am. A donation of \$10 per person is requested. Proceeds from the breakfast will go toward our VPC Community Food Pantry Box. Tickets can be purchased the day of the event.

ALL YOU CAN EAT!

Pancakes

SAUSAGE | COFFEE | ORANGE JUICE

Sunday, March 1st
8:30am – 9:30am (before church)

\$10 per person
Kids 5 & under Free

Prepared and Served by the VPC Youth Group!

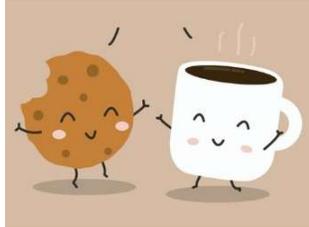
Proceeds will go towards the Community Food Pantry at VPC

Tickets will be sold by youth after church, Feb 22nd or the day of event.

People whose relationships have been built on a solid foundation of faith and trust, through regular fellowship, will grow stronger in their faith.

Each Sunday, the Deacons provide snacks and coffee in the Fellowship Hall so that we may have that opportunity to grow stronger in our faith and in our relationships with our church family.

If you would like to help out and bring snacks on a Sunday, it would be greatly appreciated. Please sign up on the sheet in the fellowship hall.



MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 2, 2026 7:00 pm at VPC

A photograph of a wooden chalice and a piece of bread on a burlap surface.

Lenten Lunches

A photograph of a bowl of tomato soup and a grilled sandwich.

02/20 – at Mars UP Church
(232 Crowe Ave., Mars, PA 16046)

02/27 – at Penn Mar Plaza
(Pittsburgh St., Mars, PA 16046)

03/06 – at St. John Lutheran Church
(420 Beaver St., Mars, PA 16046)

03/13 – at Penn Mar Plaza
(Pittsburgh St., Mars, PA 16046)

03/20 – at St. John Lutheran Church
(420 Beaver St., Mars, PA 16046)

03/27 – at Penn Mar Plaza
(Pittsburgh St., Mars, PA 16046)

04/03 – at Mars UP Church
(232 Crowe Ave., Mars, PA 16046)

Fridays @ 12 noon
February 20 – April 3
(see dates for locations)
Meal followed by speaker.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 4th
10:00 am
Ages 0-10 years

A photograph of a child's hand reaching for an Easter egg in a grassy field.

Valencia Presbyterian Church
80 Sterrett Street, Valencia, PA 16059

Order your

EASTER FLOWERS

to decorate the sanctuary & take home after service.

Easter Lilies (white) - \$10
6" Tulips (mixed colors) - \$8.50

Order Deadline:
Sunday, March 15

Order forms are in back of sanctuary

Make checks payable to "Valencia Presbyterian Church" with note "Easter Flowers"

An illustration of various flowers including tulips and lilies.

EASTER SUNDAY

WORSHIP SERVICE

April 5th - 10:00am

Valencia Presbyterian Church
In-Person & Online

A photograph of a white Easter egg on a dark surface.

**EVERY OTHER SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER thru MAY**
(during worship in F. Hall)

KIDS ROCK

REACHING OUT FOR CHRIST'S KINGDOM

for Children of all ages

Kids Reaching Out for Christ's Kingdom (Kids R.O.C.K.) is a special worship time for children of all ages that occurs every other week, during Sunday morning worship, from September through May. Specific dates are posted on the VPC calendar. Children are dismissed, under adult supervision, for a portion of the worship service to participate in an interactive Bible lesson and related activity.

WINTER/SPRING 2026 Session

MIDWEEK MEAL

with a Message

Wednesday, January 14th through March 25th

This session we will be continuing our focus on the book of Romans. We hope you will join us.

Dinner will be at 6:00 p.m. Bible Studies* begin at 7:00 p.m.

*All ages welcome. Kids up to grade 8 will stay in the Fellowship Hall. Teens & Adults will meet in the sanctuary.

FEED THE BODY

FEED THE SOUL

It isn't too late to join us for our current session. But, if you aren't able to join us now, we will be meeting again in the fall. We hope to see you then!

Women's Bible Study

Sundays @ 8:45 am – VPC Fellowship Hall

Contact: Crystal Yurek

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

SATURDAYS @ 7:00 am
VPC Lounge or Zoom
Contact: Aaron Yurek

Community FOOD PANTRY

Current Needs

- Canned Vegetables, Fruits, Soups, Meats
- Baby Food, Baby Diapers/Wipes
- Back to School Lunch Items
- Pasta, Rice, Cereal, Breakfast Bars
- Toiletries, Paper Products, Cleaning Products

Non-expired donations can be left directly in the Food Pantry Box or in the donation box and basket located in the sanctuary.



Birthdays & Anniversaries

MARCH

1 Mike Tenos
 12 Cathy Fordenbacher
 13 Beverly Matesic
 20 Tyler Hays
 21 Kelly King
 22 Alexis Pahlman
 23 Isaac Ellis
 28 Brian Yurek

APRIL

3 Rae Anne Bosnyak
 5 Ruth Ann McCraley
 5 Cassie Tenos
 13 Mike Pasquinelli
 16 Jaden Pasquinelli
 18 Elda McCoy
 27 Michael Gill
 27 Avery Roda
 28 John Bosnyak
 29 Grace Roda
 30 Carla Rankin

MAY

1 Max Pasquinelli
 2 Corey Owens
 6 Jim Schaeffer
 8 Annamary McMullen
 15 JoAnn Wamsley
 16 Aaron Yurek
 17 Nancy Schaeffer
 27 Karen Owens

MARCH

Brian and Kelly King March 1, 1997
 Alex and Katie Gill March 5, 2011
 Ed and Rebecca Walter March 17, 2001

APRIL

MAY

John and Karen Peterman May 3, 1963
 John and RuthAnn McCraley May 5, 1984
 Aaron and Crystal Yurek May 21, 2005

James Boyce

*Born into this life on September 16, 1930
 United with this congregation on October 11, 1943
 Ordained as a Deacon/Elder on February 24, 1985
 Entered into eternal life on December 18 2025*

Linda June Smarra

*Born into this life on June 1, 1945
 United with this congregation on May 22, 1994
 Ordained as a Deacon on January 8, 1995
 Entered into eternal life on January 27, 2026*

