



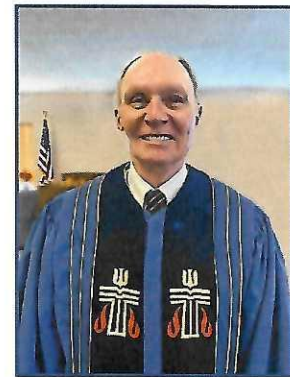
# VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Summer 2025

To Glorify God    To Make Christian Disciples    To Serve In Christ's Name



**THE PREACHER DOYEL  
CORNER**



Welcome to the summer 2025 newsletter!

The Lenten–Holy Week–Easter season is now behind us for another year. The word Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon word lencten, which means “spring.” Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, the 40th day before Easter, and concludes at noon on the Saturday of Holy Week. The 40 days are variously identified with the time Jesus fasted in the wilderness, the forty days Moses spent on Mt. Sinai, the forty hours of Christ’s entombment, and the forty days between the resurrection and ascension. (Sundays are not counted—each Sunday is considered a “mini-Easter.”)

Think of all that transpired in our Lord and Master’s life during Lent—the betrayal in the garden, the scourging, the high priest, the soldiers, Pilate, Barabbas, the thieves, the crucifixion, the resurrection, and so much more. It would take several years of Lents to truly feel the weight and meaning of the story. But you might say, These are just incidents from 2,000 years ago. No—these deep happenings are timeless events for seekers today and for all our tomorrows. Eternity resides in these passages of Scripture. You can enter into their depths and emerge with a renewed heart, mind, and soul. Lent is a time of spiritual restoration, commitment, and regeneration. But now, we must put Lent into earnest practice!

As we move into the summer months, I encourage you to take time to meditate and reflect upon your soul’s journey and your life’s path. Use some of that time to look inward—to touch and enter into you—and in doing so, touch the sky.

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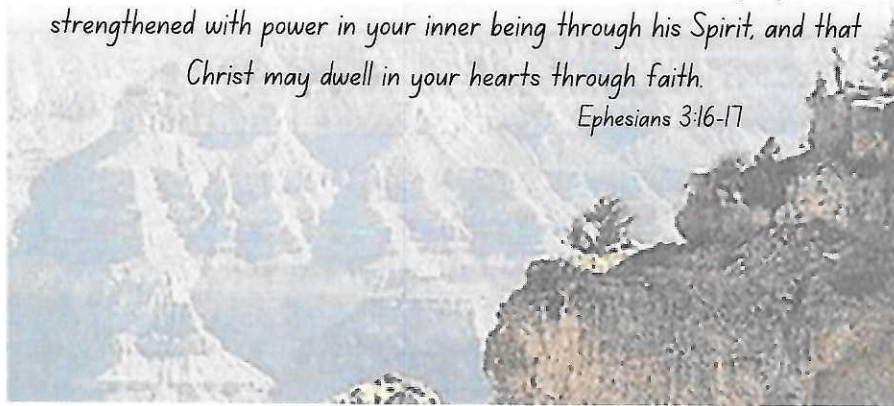
Meanwhile, back at the ranch, Valley Presbyterian Church has a great line-up of Sunday preaching. Here are the upcoming highlights:

- May 11 – Mother’s Day
- May 18 – The Gideons will be here to share their message.
- May 25 – Memorial Day Sunday: Col. George Miller and yours truly will speak on the meaning of sacrifice.
- June 15 – Father’s Day: Ken Meats will speak about the day and how personal it is for him.
- June 22 – We’ll welcome a good Baptist preacher, Christopher Wall, who will be with us for several summer Sundays. Be sure to check the schedule for this wonderful young pastor.

Have a blessed summer,  
Ross

*I pray that he may grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with power in your inner being through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.*

*Ephesians 3:16-17*



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## Our Mission

*We believe that the message of Jesus Christ is for everyone. It is our goal to share the love of our Savior with all who wish to join us. It is our mission to make disciples who make disciples. We pray that you'll find love packaged in the truth of the gospel that is delivered in every service. We believe that the truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ will set you free.*





# Ministries and Outreach



## Prayer Chain Ministry



Did you know that we have an active Prayer Chain in our congregation? Each week, prayer requests shared during Sunday service are noted down and emailed to a group of dedicated members who have volunteered to lift these needs in prayer. If you have a prayer request, you can share it in several ways: speak it aloud during church (please stand and speak clearly so it can be heard), call, text or email me (Skip Clayborn) directly or write it down and place it in the offering plate—your note will be passed along to me.

Including the full name of the person you're requesting prayer for is always helpful.

If you would like to be added to the list to receive our weekly Prayer Chain email and join us in this ministry of intercession, feel free to contact me. All are welcome to participate, and your prayers truly make a difference.

For Prayer Requests  
or to join the Prayer Team  
Contact **Skip Clayborn**

skipngeorge@yahoo.com  
Call or text: 702 613-1698



**Me praying to God:  
Lord why don't my  
kids listen to me?  
God: Lol 😂. I have  
the same issue.**

# Music Ministry

Our Music Ministry is blessed with several talented individuals who enrich our worship each week. Pianists Linda Shannon and Mary Bowers offer their gifts by playing the pastor's song selections as well as prelude and interlude music. Tom Mercer serves as our hymn leader, guiding us with spirit and his beautiful voice.

The Choir! meets once a month to rehearse a special piece chosen by its members then sing it the following Sunday. Additionally, Pastor Ross encourages others in the congregation to share their musical talents, and we've been fortunate to have Diane Van Dyke and Toby Schield bless us as occasional soloists. We love their wonderful voices!

In recent weeks, we've also enjoyed piano duets and a beautiful flute solo. We are deeply grateful to all who contribute their gifts, and we warmly invite others to participate. Sharing your musical talent is a meaningful way to serve God and enhance the worship experience for everyone.

## Closing Sermon Words

A preacher was completing a temperance sermon: with great expression he said, "If I had all the beer in the world, I'd take it and throw it into the river." With even greater emphasis he said, "And if I had all the wine in the world, I'd take it and throw it into the river."

And then finally, he said, "And if I had all the whiskey in the world, I'd take it and throw it into the river."

He sat down. The song leader then stood very cautiously and announced with a smile, "For our closing song, let us sing Hymn # 365: "Shall We Gather at the River."

dnls







## Men's Mission

The Men's Mission Group meets once a month at a local restaurant for fellowship and fundraising. During these gatherings, they "pass the hat" for donations, plus additional support comes from generous church member contributions.

In recent months, the group has used these funds to purchase sports equipment, winter coats, socks, underwear and school supplies for children at Beaver Dam Elementary School. They have also contributed to Mesquite Christian Academy, which relies heavily on donations and volunteer support.



*A little girl was sitting next to her grandfather as he was reading a bedtime story. From time to time, she would take her eyes off the book and reach up and touch his wrinkled cheek. She touched her own cheek after she touched his. After a little while of thinking she asked, "Grandpa, did God make you?" He looked at her and said, "Yes, sweetheart, God made me a long time ago." She paused for a few seconds and then asked, "Grandpa, did God make me too?" He replied, "Yes, indeed Pumpkin, God made you just a little while ago." Feeling their respective faces again, she whispered to him, "God's getting better at it, isn't he?"*

## Women's Ministry



The Women's Ministry Group continues to serve with dedication, compassion, and faith. Each meeting begins with prayer, followed by a financial report and planning session.

In early April, the group's bank balance stood at \$3,055.07. They recently donated \$500 to Mesquite Christian Academy and plan to support the academy as needs arise. For Easter, the ladies provided 10 dinner baskets to local seniors through the Salvation Army. Each meal included a small ham, instant potatoes, canned green beans and corn, applesauce, eggs, bread, and dessert. Looking ahead, they'll determine how many food baskets they can offer based on available funds and resources. A special thank-you goes to Jeanne, who offered to sew 30 Christmas stockings over the summer while in Colorado. These will be delivered to the Salvation Army at Christmastime. Becky and Sandy coordinated Easter Lily orders, helping the church look festive and joyous for Easter. The group is also grateful to Diane Van Dyke for donating toothbrushes and toothpaste for Beaver Dam students. The Women's Ministry Group meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at 1:00. The ladies deeply appreciate the congregation's continued generosity and support. New members are always welcome! To learn more or get involved, please contact Gladys Irish. Together, we can grow our mission of service in Christ's name.

## Prayer Shawl Ministry



Our Mission remains very busy. We recently gathered for our spring lunch meeting. We are all grateful for our friendship time and the chance to see everyone's talents. We do a "show and tell" of donated items. Thank you to all our Church family for participating in the blessing of the donations on Communion Sunday. The new supply of items will be distributed where needed.

Please remember—if you lift up in prayer a friend, neighbor, or loved one and would like a blessed item, see me. We have a supply to accommodate your request.

Thank you to all who donated yarn and material to us. Nothing goes unused.

The Ladies of Mission did a great job hosting the lunch after Pastor's Ash Wednesday service. Thank you to everyone who helped set up and clean up. The many crockpots of soup and sandwiches were so good! All the desserts and homemade rolls were amazing. Joanne Campbell took the leftovers to the Fire Department—I'm sure they enjoyed them too.

Pat Waldorf and Lola Stolfus are working with Milt and the Men's Mission to help in Beaver Dam schools. They have given books, clothing, art supplies, and paper goods. Lieutenant Stock was presented with blankets to be given where needed.

Our Mission received a thank-you card from the Mesquite Community Education Foundation for our donation of quilts for their scholarship fund. We remain committed to supporting the needs of our community. The love and friendship the women of our Church bring to this Mission is a gift. I love and thank each one of you.

Blessings,  
Shirley

*To make a difference in someone's life, you don't have to be brilliant, rich, or perfect - we just have to care!*



# Moments of Fellowship



## Prayer Shawl blessing and luncheon



## Friendship Picnic

Veteran's Memorial Park April 24





# In Loving Memory

As a church family, we pause to remember those who have passed from our midst. Their presence enriched our lives, and their memory remains with us. May we find comfort in God's grace and the promise of reunion in His everlasting kingdom.



Rosemary Lindbeck  
7/2/34 - 6/6/24



Don Lightfoot  
3/6/38 - 6/30/24



Richard Cullins  
12/28/35 - 6/18/24



Richard Bowers  
10/19/24 - 7/19/24



Valerie Thompson  
5/18/41 - 10/22/24



Pris Steelman  
3/14/42 - 1/21/25  
George Steelman  
11/15/35 - 2/3/25





# Congregation Corner



Watch this space for news, views and interesting items submitted by members of our congregation.

From Colonel George Miller (a thought from his wife):

As we go through life there are times when we are presented with the opportunity to do something seemingly insignificant for another person and then let it pass because we think the gesture to be too small or meaningless. Well – if you think something small is insignificant and meaningless, remember what it is like to try to go to sleep with a MOSQUITO buzzing around your head!!



## A Story of Redemption Shared on Easter Sunday

On Easter Sunday, Diane Van Dyke shared a powerful testimony about Nick Kearns, a former drug addict whose life was transformed after visiting Hope Ministries' Bethel Mission. There, he heard the words of Psalm 55:22: "*Cast your burden on the Lord, and He shall sustain you; He shall never permit the righteous to be moved.*"

Nick met Jesus and found new purpose by helping others experience God's love and discover hope for a changed life.

To learn more about Hope Ministries Bethel Mission and how you can support their important work, visit [www.Hopelowa.org](http://www.Hopelowa.org), call 515-265-7272, or send a donation to:

Bethel Mission

P.O. Box 862

Des Moines, IA 50304-0862



"In old age our memory improves. We even remember things that did not happen." Joshua Blau

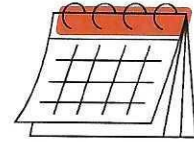
*Submitted by Roger Bowers*



On April 5, Diane and Toby performed at the Sun City recreation center. A concert of oldies had the whole audience rocking and participating. We are so blessed to have such great talent in our church! *Submitted by Becky White*



# Upcoming Events



- May 1 National Day of Prayer Service  
6:00 PM at Living Waters Fellowship
- Sunday Service is 9:30 AM each week with coffee, snacks and fellowship afterward. All are welcome.
- Communion Service will be each first Sunday except the September service will be August 31.
- Communion Sunday Food Bank donations: Place items in Carol Peters' car on the first Sunday of each month, or leave them in the vestibule anytime. Cash donations are also welcome.
- The Men's Group meets monthly for lunch. Day, time and location to be announced.
- Women's Ministry Group meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at 1:00 at church.
- The Session meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at 10:00 at church.
- Bible Study will resume on Tuesdays in October.
- Ed Nolan's Bible Study will resume in the fall.
- Submission deadline for next newsletter is September 15th.

## Preaching Schedule

- May 4 – Rev. Ross Doyel, Communion  
May 11 – Rev. Ross Doyel  
May 18 – Gideons International  
May 25 – Col George Miller and Rev. Ross Doyel
- June 1 – Rev. Ross Doyel, Communion  
June 8 – Rev. Ross Doyel  
June 15 – Kenneth G. Meats  
June 22 – Pastor Christopher Wall  
June 29 – Rev. Ross Doyel
- July 6 – Rev. Ross Doyel, Communion  
July 13 – Rev. Hilda Pecoraro  
July 20 – Pastor Christopher Wall  
July 27 – Pastor Christopher Wall
- August 3 – Rev. Ross Doyel, Communion  
August 10 – Pastor Christopher Wall  
August 17 – Col. George Miller  
August 24 – Kenneth G. Meats  
August 31 – Rev. Ross Doyel, Communion
- September 7 - Pastor Christopher Wall  
September 14 - Pastor Christopher Wall  
September 21 - Rev. Ross Doyel  
September 28 - Rev. Ross Doyel



You can view Sunday services live or at a later time by going to the services section of [vpcmesquite.com](http://vpcmesquite.com)





# Meet the Valley Presbyterian Church Session

*Submitted by Carol Peters*

The Session—the dedicated group of Elders who serve as the governing body of our church—is made up of eight members, each offering their time and talents to support and nurture different aspects of church life.

**Pastor Doyel** serves as Moderator, guiding the Session's discussions and providing spiritual leadership. **Roger Peck** oversees church finances, helping to steward our resources responsibly. **Cozy Ross** fosters connection and care through her leadership of fellowship activities, including funerals and friendship dinners. Milt Riley supports the Men's Group and manages property matters, helping maintain our church home. **Skip Clayborn** leads our devoted Prayer Warriors, while **Shirley Jessup** coordinates the Women's Prayer Shawl Mission—a ministry that shares warmth and comfort through handcrafted gifts. **Carol Howells** serves as an advisory member, offering insight and support to the team. **Kathy Bakken** organizes our worship life, making sure greeters, liturgists, and summer pastor coverage are all in place. **Carol Peters** oversees administrative responsibilities—working closely with **Karen Warner** on day-to-day operations, coordinating Sunday flowers, serving as Clerk of Session, and partnering with **Gladys Irish** as a liaison to the Women's Mission Group.

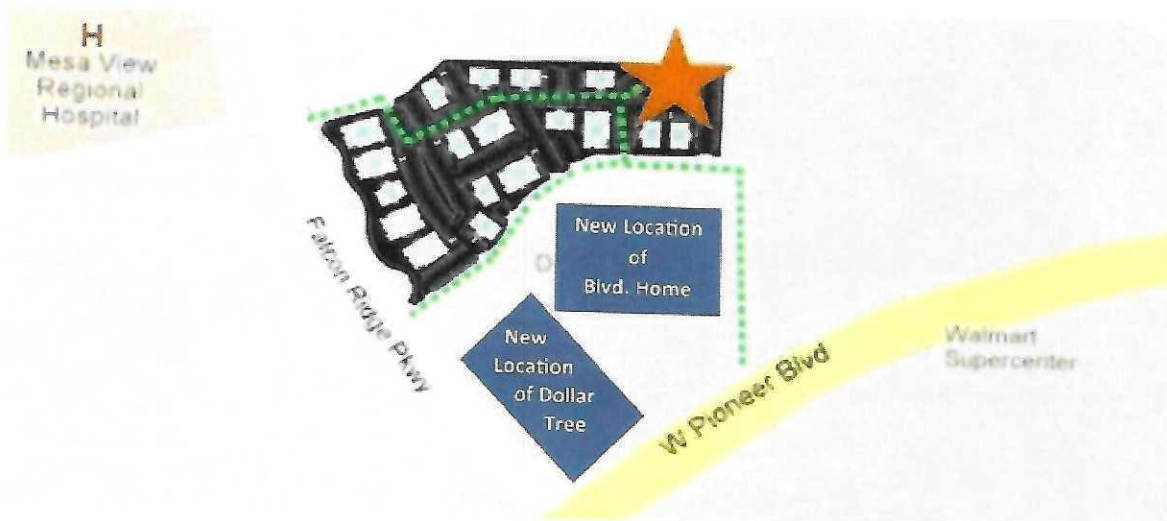
The Session meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 10:00, with a summer break from June through September. These meetings are open to all, and visitors are warmly welcomed to attend and observe. Elders are elected to serve one-, two-, or three-year terms and must be ordained within the Presbyterian Church.

If you have any questions about church matters—or simply want to learn more about how things work—please don't hesitate to reach out to one of the Session members. A full list of Session members, along with church contact information, can be found on the last page of this newsletter.

*"For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ."*

1 Cor 12:12

# Map and Driving Directions to Valley Presbyterian Church



## From I-15, Exit 120 towards Falcon Ridge Parkway:

- Turn right onto W Pioneer Blvd.
- Turn left at the first roadway towards Poncho's Taco Shop
- Turn left at the third roadway
- Turn right at the second roadway
- Follow signs to VPC parking area

## Heading towards I-15 on Falcon Ridge Parkway:

- Turn left onto Bertha Howe Ave.
- Turn right at first roadway on the right
- Turn left at first roadway on the left
- Continue to VPC parking area

## Contact Information

### Valley Presbyterian Church

350 Falcon Ridge Parkway, Suite 702  
Mesquite, NV 89027

**Phone:** (702) 346-5683

**Email:** [valleypres@rconnects.com](mailto:valleypres@rconnects.com)

**Website:** [www.vpcmesquite.com](http://www.vpcmesquite.com)

**Office Hours:** Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. – 12 noon

**YouTube:** Search "VPC Mesquite NV"

**Pastor:** Ross Doyel

**Cell:** (702) 606-1550

**Email:** [rdoyel@yahoo.com](mailto:rdoyel@yahoo.com)

## 2025 Session Members

**Moderator:** Rev Ross Doyel

**Administration & Clerk of Session:** Carol Peters

**Fellowship:** Cozy Ross

**Finance:** Roger Peck

**Mission/Prayer Shawl Ministry:** Shirley Jessup

**Outreach/Communication:** Skip Clayborn

**Property/Men's Mission:** Milt Riley

**Worship:** Kathy Bakken

**Advisory Member:** Carol Howells



**Office Administrator:** Karen Warner

**Accompanists:**

- Linda Shannon – Piano
- Mary Bowers – Piano

**Hymn Leader:** Tom Mercer

**Newsletter:** Sue and Mike Williams