

Valley Forge UMC Vision Statement

We are a Christ-centered community learning and striving to make our faith a way of life as we share with each other and all people the love, acceptance and forgiveness lived and proclaimed by Jesus of Nazareth.

Valley Forge United Methodist Church



Open Door Tidings

From the Pastor

Oh the places we'll go . . .



Dear Friends,

Hello! It is a pleasure to be here and I look forward to meeting or talking to each of you. We have begun a journey together – a journey of spiritual growth, ministry and drawing closer to God. I am excited for this journey and to ultimately see where we go. For when we get out of the way and let God lead – marvelous things occur. I am reminded of the book *Oh, the Places You'll Go!* by Dr. Seuss. On the first page we read the following – *Congratulations! Today is your day! You're off to Great Places! You're off and away!* I feel like that. I am excited and happy to be with you as today and every day from this day forward is our day at Valley Forge United Methodist Church. And we are off to great places. None of us know what God has in store for us and for the church, but we do know if we listen and follow God great things will happen. Can you feel the excitement? Are you ready to go to great places?

As Christians, we need to make sure if we are going to create a vision due to Dr. Seuss' writing, we should confirm the idea from the Bible. And so we find our guidance in Ecclesiastes 3:1 which states - *For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.* How true is this, especially during the last few months? We have all been through a season that no one could ever predict – a global pandemic. And the journey during the pandemic season has been rough and challenging and yet God's blessings continue abundantly. Did you experience God's blessings during this pandemic season?

Then during the pandemic season, we end up entering another season. A season of sadness around the ultimate effects of systemic racism. As we are already journeying one season, we begin another journey of protests and violence, all in the name of justice. During this journey, justice is the focus and it's going to be a journey that challenges each of us in ways that can be uncomfortable. And yet God is in the midst of this storm, providing God's unending love. Can you feel God's amazing love during this season of justice?

And now, I get to begin a new season with you as members of Valley Forge United Methodist Church as your Pastor. I have faith and confidence that you and I are here at this place and at this time because God is leading and we are following. Are you ready to follow God with me in this new season for Valley Forge United Methodist Church? So, who is this new Pastor? Well let me do the formal introduction by sharing with you my official biography:

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Rev. Dave Piltz, a licensed Pastor of the United Methodist Church, commonly referred to by everyone as just Piltz has 25 years of experience of being a youth leader/director. He has 10 years of mission trip experience both domestically and internationally. He has been serving as the lead Pastor to local United Methodist Churches since 2016 and a Campus Clergy/ Minister at Drexel University since 2015. He also is the EPA Conference Youth and Young Adult Coordinator since 2014.

In addition Piltz has created and facilitated Adult Sunday School classes on Biblical Negotiation, taught youth Sunday school, created and facilitated training for youth leaders and Sunday school teachers, created and facilitated church staff training on personality styles, conflict management, emotional intelligence, interactive Bible studies and strategic planning and has provided coaching to lead pastors on organizational development issues. Piltz is often a presenter at Tools for Ministry and Laity Academy.

In his non-church work, he is a specialist in instructional design, organization design and in developing interactive learning tools, simulations, training games, and unique facilitation tools and methods. Currently, he is a Marriage and Family therapist and owns M.E. Matters, LLC. Piltz holds a Bachelor of Science degree in aerospace engineering and a Master's Degree in Marriage and Family Therapy. He has completed the Eastern PA United Methodist Church Licensing School. In addition, Dave holds certification in game design, is a master practitioner of the MBTI®, and trained in Neurofeedback. He has authored numerous articles on learning, training, game design and co-authored *A Guide to Success for Technical Managers: Supervising in Research, Development, and Engineering*, published by John Wiley.

Now let me introduce myself informally. I am a big kid at heart – reading comic books, watching the Flash Series, and playing tabletop games. I dabble in game design and love playing games. I love laughter and have an unparalleled optimism that can be challenging for me to manage sometimes. In addition, I love deep philosophical and theological discussions that challenge the mind and soul. I am a creative individual that is always looking for the ‘and’ solution. I love working with others collaboratively but can make the tough decisions when needed.

I know there is more to me – but let’s leave that till later! For now, I hope I have given you a sense of who I am and a sense of the direction that our journey will now have.

I am excited and blessed to be your Pastor and I am ready to go to great places with you during this season. If you need me for any reason, please feel free to call my cell at 814-883-0118.

Peace and blessings ...
David Piltz
Pastor, Valley Forge UMC
Drexel, Campus Minister Open Door Christian Community
Conference Youth and Young Adults Ministry Coordinator



Pastor Dave Piltz

Scripture of the Month

“When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ.”

Romans 8:15-17

Pastor Dave Piltz announces Ministry Series for July and August

This series spans nine Sundays in which we examine scripture so that we learn about each other and what it means to accomplish ministry together. The series is an opportunity for us at Valley Forge UMC to get to know each other through God's word and Christ's example of being love in a world of darkness. The intent is for key areas of a Christian's personality to be examined and how to live out the Christian personality so that together we can be the body of Christ at Valley Forge UMC and beyond. Join us each Sunday as our ministry adventure begins!

July 5th	Who Am I?	Luke 10:38-42
July 12th	Together in Salt	Genesis 19:26; Numbers 18:19; 2 Kings 2:19-22; Mark 9:49-50
July 19th	What is Love?	1 John 2:15-17
July 26th	Moving Forward	John 5:1-9
August 2nd	Acceptance	John 6:60-71
August 9th	Forgiveness	Luke 17:1-10; Philemon 1:17
August 16th	Prayer	Matthew 6:5-15
August 23rd	Faith	2 Corinthians 5:7; Genesis 22:9-14
August 30th	A Journey of Roads	Jeremiah 29:10-14; Matthew 6:25-34; John 4:13-14

July Lectionary



July 5th – Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

Psalms 45:10-17 or Psalm 72

Romans 7:15-25a Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

July 12th – Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 25:19-34 Psalm 119:105-112 or Psalm 25

Romans 8:1-11 Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

July 19th – Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 28:10-19a Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24

Romans 8:12-25 Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

July – Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 29:15-28 Psalm 105:1-11, 45b

Romans 8:26-39 Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52



July Birthdays

Jocelyn Martielli	2
Elaine Turner	4
Riley Bushey	6
Talia DeMartinis	16
Evelyn Hodgson	20
Barbara Arnold	22
Glenn Davis	22
Pastor Dave	22
Luke Dorrin	26

July Anniversaries

Terral & Richard Johnston	13
Beth & Ben Cooke	29

**Valley Forge United Methodist Church
Administration Board Meeting
June 22, 2020 via Zoom Conferencing
Minutes**

In Attendance: Pastor Michael Johnson, Adam Davis, Tom Davis, Glenn Davis, Patty Davis, John Torres, Robin Coroniti, Jo Ellen Hippenstiel, Maggie Horosky, Noel Turner

Pastor Mike opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes of May 23rd meeting were approved.

Old Business: The new VFUMC website is up and running.

Finance: The finance report from Noel, for the end of March, 2020, shows there was a deficit of \$7,678.00 for the year.

Reporting from Tom Davis shows that, as of 2020, the Trustees balance is \$500,910.00, of which \$460,987.00 is in the Vanguard account. Trustees checking will need funding shortly.

SPRC: Robin noted the SPRC will probably meet with the new pastor around July 13th. Pastor Mike will be sharing the Facebook link with Pastor Dave Piltz, who will start on July 5th.

UMW: No Report.

UMM: New landscaper hired—Herman Braun. \$60 per cut. Addition to Minutes: There is a broken section of fence in rear of church due to fallen branch, but is not an emergency.

Education: No Report.

Outreach: No Report.

Fellowship: No Report.

Pastoral: Pastor Mike will be doing Facebook Live and Zoom this Sunday as his last Sunday Service for VFUMC. Many thanks were sent Mike's way, especially how well he handled this difficult situation. Thank you, Pastor Mike.

New Business: Adam received a letter from Jazzercise about re-opening in the Reeve Building, giving us a list of tasks that they would be performing in an effort to keep everyone safe, including sanitizing equipment, safe distancing, etc. They also agreed to sign a hold-harmless agreement with VFUMC. After a lengthy discussion, the board agreed to discuss the possible re-opening of Jazzercise and holding church services at the July 27th board meeting. This will be a Zoom meeting.

Pastor Mike closed the meeting with prayer.

NOTE: NEXT MEETING: Monday, July 27, 2020

Respectfully submitted,
GD

JULY, 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
	<p>Please note the time for all Sunday services in July and August is 9:30 a.m.</p>					
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Sermon: "Who Am I?"						
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Sermon: "Together in Salt"	<p>Pastor Dave will include a love feast to honor communion on July 5th. Please have available something liquid and something bread, e.g. bread cubes/slices or crackers, for the love feast on this first Sunday, the 5th.</p>					
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Sermon: "What is Love?"						<p>Topic: Valley Forge UMC Worship Time: Sunday's July and August 9:30 am</p>
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Sermon: "Moving Forward"					<p>Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84978720384</p>	<p>Meeting ID: 849 7872 0384 Or call in 929 205 6099 US (New York) Meeting ID: 849 7872 0384</p>