

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS\***  
**Week of October 13, 2019**

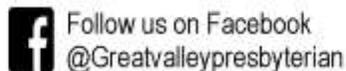
Sun 13	11:15am	Haiti 2020 Informational Meeting (Library)
	6:00pm	G3 Youth Group
Mon 14	7:00pm	Deacons Meeting
	7:30pm	Finance Committee Meeting
Wed 16	10:30am	Missionary Society with Liz Loeffler
	7:00pm	Valley Forge Cottage Prayer (Tomses')
Thurs 17	7:00am	Men's Bible Study
	9:15am	Women's Bible Study
	7:00pm	PHR Sandwich Making
	7:30pm	Choir Rehearsal
	7:30pm	twenty –Bible Study for Young Adults
Sat 19	7:30am	Philadelphia Homeless Run (Departs from Zans')
	9:00am	Great Valley Prayer
		Guess Who's Coming to Dinner
Sun 20	9:00am	Christian Education Hour
	10:00am	Corporate Worship

\* There are a variety of weekly Life Groups that meet in individuals' homes. Pick up a spreadsheet in Dickerson Hall or check out our website for more info.

**STAFF**

Pastor	Keith Fink
Director of Ministries	Jim Shackleton
Director of Worship and Communications	Christopher Starr
Organist	Sharon Smoker
Director of Preschool in the Valley	Karen Erickson
Facilities Supervisor	Christopher White

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We exist to glorify God  
 by enabling all people to become fully devoted  
 followers of the Lord Jesus Christ. We prayerfully strive,  
 through the Holy Spirit, to fulfill our purpose by worship,  
 Biblical teaching, service, fellowship, and active involvement  
 in world evangelization.



Great Valley is a member congregation  
 of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church



## CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

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### New Members

**October 13 and 20**

We welcome the following new members of Great Valley who will be formally recognized either today or next Sunday:

Meggan Arnold	Patty Heron
Steve Heron	Craig Jones
Tammy Jones	Ginny Landoll
Henry Landoll	Daniel Mayk
Sandra Lee Redmond Peters	Deborah Register
Kathryn Schaul	Bob Scott
Roxanna (Roxy) Scott	Scott Traeger

### Missionary Society

**October 16**

This Wednesday Missionary Society welcomes Liz Loeffler to speak about her unique relationship with Entrust through Greater Europe Mission (GEM).

Entrust began 40 years ago as a multi-mission effort providing comprehensive training for pastors and church leaders who were denied training by antagonistic communist governments. Liz's mission is with Entrust's Women-to-Women Ministry Training. For the past 30 years, Liz has traveled to many countries to equip women to serve in shepherd roles.

Join us this Wednesday, October 16; devotions and a brief business meeting begin at 10:30am, with Liz's message at 11:00, followed by lunch at noon. See Paul or Susan Toms with any questions.

### Valley Forge Cottage Prayer

**October 16**

This month's cottage prayer meeting will be held Wednesday, October 16 at 7pm at the home of Paul E. and Susan Toms. Contact Paul or Susan if you'd like to get involved.

### Philadelphia Homeless Run

**October 19**

You can serve Philadelphia's homeless by joining the Philadelphia Homeless Run (PHR) on this Saturday, October 19, departing from the Zans' at 7:30am. You can also help by making sandwiches at the church on Thursday (10/17) at 7pm, or by supporting PHR's Fall Fundraiser. Fall decorative arrangements for your home, created by Irene Zan, can be purchased in the Chapel; all proceeds go to funding special needs of PHR. Enjoy decorating for fall while helping to serve the homeless. Your generosity will go a long way in helping us engage with the homeless population in Philadelphia as we show the love of Christ through our words and deeds.

### Heard from the Mission Field

Jonathan and Sharon Penz, Kako Retreat Center, Alaska – Every summer, kids from local villages are flown in for a week of summer camp. Jon writes in his July 2019 update,

“A common bumper sticker states, “No Jesus, no peace. Know Jesus, know peace. On average, kids in western Alaska are not that familiar with peace. The typical dysfunction of fractured families, substance abuse and village superstition lead more to stress and fear than security. This sad reality is on our minds when campers come to Kako each summer, yet we are excited to lead them toward a path offering true and lasting answers.”

This year there were a total of 259 campers in six weeks of camp. Twenty-eight staff, many of them volunteers, flew them in to feed the campers, teach them from God's word, and provide them with a respite from the difficult village culture of despondency and abuse. Pray for those who found the Lord that they might be able to live out their new-found faith in Christ. Pray also for the staff and resources to follow-up with these young people. As winter approaches in Alaska, Kako is faced with looming fuel barge bills; pray for funds to cover those bills and other expenses associated with running a remote camp such as Kako. For more details, read the July letter from Kako posted in Dickerson Hall.

### MC19: Missions Conference 2019

**November 16-17**

Mark your calendar for the annual Great Valley Missions Conference (MC19) on Saturday, November 16 and Sunday, November 17. The focus this year is the Evangelical Presbyterian Church's **Engage 2025** disciple-making movement. On Saturday night (11/16), Great Valley will host “Mission Possible,” a church family event featuring a Jeopardy-style game with food and desserts. On Sunday morning, World Outreach Missionary Rob Antonucci will present during the Christian Education hour. To learn more about the events (and prepare yourself for Jeopardy!), look for “Fun Facts” on the clipboards in your pews throughout October.

### Can We Help?

The challenges we experience throughout the many stages of life sometimes necessitate the help of professional counselors. Great Valley Presbyterian Church has a partnership with Kairos Counseling Services to address such needs. Funds are available, if needed, to help cover the costs of these services. For more information or answers to questions you may have about this resource, contact Barbara Wray, Great Valley's coordinator.

# Haiti 2020

February 14th to February 21st, 2020

This note is an **invitation to you** to consider our next visit to our sister churches in Haiti!

Through Reciprocal Ministries Incorporated (RMI, facilitator of the sister church program), Great Valley is continuing its relationship with our Cance District churches in southwestern Haiti, which goes back to the early 1980's. Following our trip in January of 2019, we are now putting together a follow-up team for February 2020 to continue the growth and direction of this church-to-church reciprocal relationship.

We continue to underscore 'education' as our long term emphasis. Many of you support the [Hope for Kidz](#) program that provides school costs (not just education, but clothes, daily lunch, and more ... we are sponsoring 121 children in 2019) for children in this district. In that light, our efforts in February 2020 have the advantage of having school in session while we're there. During this trip, we are considering:

- Meeting with RMI and leaders of the six schools to learn about needs for future consideration of GVPC support.
- Being a part of the beginning of a new school building at a Cance District Satellite School in Barthe. GVPC is supporting the construction of this six classroom building (the old school was destroyed in a hurricane mid 2010's), beginning with a new foundation that will be underway during our visit. We hope to have the opportunity to look in on other schools as well.
- Distributing food boxes, goats, or water filters throughout the communities that we visit as a blessing relating to sister church relationship.
- Putting faces to our Hope for Kidz students ... getting fresh pictures of our sponsored children, delivering and receiving notes, or simply making a 'presence' connection.

Any two or three of these efforts would tie together nicely, particularly in getting a more thorough idea of how we would further support these churches and schools, and how we might tailor an education plan for the long term (including subsequent visits). Here in Southeastern Pennsylvania, we live in an area that prizes education. Now we get an opportunity to further a Christ-centered education to our brothers and sisters in a drastically different culture.

**Consider joining us for an informational meeting in the Library following today's worship service.** We'll talk financials, details of preparation (including monthly meetings), and answer many questions. There is much to share!

The deadline to sign up to be a part of the team is **Sunday, November 3rd.**

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## Guess Who's Coming to Dinner

October 19

Today is the last day to sign up for *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner* for Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>; it is a great chance to get to know other members of the Great Valley community with a time of food and fellowship. The "Hosts" will contact their "Guests" to bring an item to dinner, but the catch is they will not tell who else is coming! You can either sign up to host or be a guest on the clipboards in your pew or at [gvpres.org/sign-up](http://gvpres.org/sign-up); contact Sharon Harmon or Jackie Welle with questions.

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## Book Club

October 22

All are welcome to the October meeting of Great Valley Book Club, where we will discuss *We Were the Lucky Ones* by Georgia Hunter. Inspired by the incredible true story of one Jewish family separated at the start of World War II, determined to survive—and to reunite—*We Were the Lucky Ones* is a tribute to the triumph of hope and love against all odds.

Book Club meets on Tuesday, October 22 at 7:30pm at the home of Kathy Anderson (1219 Waterford Road, West Chester). Questions? Contact Carol Jones..

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## Christmas Cantata Rehearsals

Thursdays at 7:30pm

You are invited to join the GVPC Chancel Choir in our 2019 Christmas Cantata, *What Child?*, which will be presented during the December 15 worship service. Rehearsals are held each Thursday at 7:30pm. Consider a short term commitment to this enthusiastic and welcoming ensemble. If you are interested in singing, please contact Chris Starr.

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## New Kitchen Committee

If you enjoy cooking, cleaning or organizing, have catering experience, or are just looking for an opportunity to serve, we would welcome you to volunteer as part of Great Valley's new kitchen committee. The church has a fully licensed commercial kitchen downstairs and a small kitchen off the Chapel, which this committee intends to oversee, use, clean and supply. The committee's schedule will be flexible and, as needed, meet four to six times a year. Please indicate your interest on the clipboard in your pew or by contacting Gwen McDonald.

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## Thanks!

Harriet and Jennings Bunch send thanks to all who brought dinners to their home and for the many prayers and cards sent to Harriet after her fall and fractures. They thank God for each act of kindness shown to them by Great Valley.

## *Getting to Know Great Valley*

November 3 & 10

11:30am - 1:00pm

Are you wondering about the community of believers called Great Valley? Do you have questions about who we are, what we believe, and how we do ministry? Perhaps you are wondering how to become a member. *Getting to Know Great Valley* is for people with questions. It is also the most common path people take to join Great Valley.

This year we are offering a two-part class. Each class will be 1 ½ hours in length. The classes will be led by Pastor Keith but will also include other members of the congregation. A light lunch will be provided.

We believe it is important that all who become a part of this congregation have some basic common information about what we believe and how we function as a congregation. Being a part of this class does not commit anyone to becoming a member of this congregation but it does give people an opportunity to hear what Jesus is doing in this place.

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Yes, I/We would like to participate in the Getting to Know Great Valley Class.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_