

The image shows the interior of a church with a high, vaulted wooden ceiling. Several tall, narrow stained glass windows are illuminated from within, casting a colorful glow. A large wooden cross is mounted on the wall in the center. In the foreground, there is a simple wooden altar table covered with a colorful, abstract fabric. The overall atmosphere is serene and modern.

Valley of Peace Lutheran Church

**Children, Youth, and Family
Fall 2021**

Sunday Worship

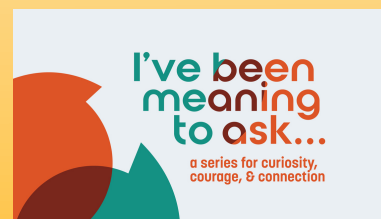
10:15 am Starting

Sunday, September 12th
In person and online

The whole community at Valley of Peace will be dwelling in a resource from *A Sanctified Art* that is a series that focuses on helping us disrupt assumptions, cultivate curiosity, foster listening, and, God willing, find deeper connections with God and one another. This series is called, 'I've been meaning to ask...' Here is a little bit more about the theme from *A Sanctified Art*: "Our leading question, "I've been meaning to ask..." conveys intentionality, warmth, curiosity, and consideration. The main objective of this series is to cultivate courageous conversations – and to keep having them, even if we need to pause. The questions are not surface level; they invite us to share our pain and seek ways to care for one another. We pray that through vulnerability and authenticity these conversations lead us to glimpse hope, joy, and beauty." This series will shape our worship, devotional life, faith formation activities, and ways that we connect with one another

Families are welcome to join us for worship in person at Valley of Peace or online live streaming on our Facebook Page. Special "busy bags" will be available for worship with interactive worship activities for children that directly relate to the liturgy and theme each Sunday. These "busy bag" supplies can also be picked up in the church office each Thursday for use during online home viewing.

These interactive worship "busy bags" will temporarily take the place of a Children's Time during worship while we practice safe physical distancing between families.



What's Included

In this brochure you will find worship opportunities, Covid-19 protocols, faith formation programming outlines, as well as service and social events from September through Thanksgiving 2021.

Valley of Peace


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Contact Us

- **Pastor Ashley Osborn, Pastor**
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- **Sally Daniel Heron, Parish and Communications Administrator**
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- **Emilie Moravec, Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry**
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- **Zachary Carlson, Director of Music**
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- **Beth Brandt, Organist, Pianist and Accompanist**
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Covid-19 Update

Policies and Protocols

Most Recent Information

Updated 9/10/21

Information around the COVID-19 pandemic changes almost daily. As the Delta variant circulates through our global and local communities, our Covid-19 Task Force continues to monitor numbers closely and faithfully makes decisions and policies for our faith community. As a community organization, we have an obligation to protect our youngest members who are not yet eligible for the vaccine. In all of our decisions, we work hard to live out our Christian calling to love and protect our neighbors.

As such, the current Valley of Peace Covid-19 protocol states that all people regardless of vaccination status are required to wear face masks in indoor spaces at Valley of Peace. Additionally, we are asking any person over the age of 2 to mask outside when participating in children and youth programming, pre-K through high school, regardless of vaccination status. The COVID Task Force will revisit these policies as we continue to monitor data and what other congregations and organizations in our local community are doing. If you have clarifying questions, please reach out to a member of our Covid Task Force Team.

VoP Covid-19 Task Force Team

- Pastor Ashley Osborn
- Jim Jasper, Property Chair
- Zachary Carlson, Director of Music
- Sally Daniels Heron, Communications
- Darcie Rodman, Worship and Music Chair
- Paul Mikelson, Member
- Ruth Larson, Past President
- Jim Crofoot, President

Faith Formation

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Sundays @ 9:00 am - 10:00 am (Fireside Room at Valley of Peace)

Welcome to a new year in Adult Faith formation! Bring your own coffee, wear a mask, and join our in-person Adult Faith Formation for new topics this fall!

New Schedule

1st Sunday - Bible Study: "Transformed Community: Freed and Empowered for Radical Welcome."

2nd Sunday - Reconnect: "I've been meaning to ask..." Conversations on community building, repairing, and sustaining.

3rd Sunday - Racial Justice: scriptural foundations for guidance.

4th Sunday - "Potluck," a variety of topics and speakers.

"Quiet Strength Men's Bible Study" by Tony Dungy

Jon Larson, with assistance from Dan Johnson, will lead a monthly men's Bible study, starting Sunday, September 12th. No advanced study needed. Contact Jon Larson for more meeting details and locations.

Jon Larson

jonruthlarson@gmail.com

612-703-7145

Rebecca's Circle

The Rebecca Circle meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month, September through May, beginning with coffee at 9:30 am. Pastor Ashley leads the Bible study. No preparation is required to attend; all women are welcome!

Women's Bible Study – Exploring the Word

Meets the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month at 9:15 am in the Fireside Room, from September through May. Join us for Bible Study, conversation, and prayer. All adult women are welcome! Led by Catherine Martignacco.

Book Club

The Book Club group meets for an hour at 6:00 pm Wednesdays, during the school year (Memorial to Labor Day) in the Library (lower level of the church). It is a small group that reads about a book a month, seeking books that can be found at the public library. The discussions are low-key, respectful and casual. Weekly attendance is not required and it's fine to join sporadically as books interest you.

Birth-Pre K

Faith Formation

Sept. Every Child Is Different by Luna James

Oct. A Thank You Walk: A Story About Gratitude by Nancy Loewen

Dec. Twas Nochebeuna by Roseanne Greenfield Thong

"The "Let's Talk Race and Inclusion" book club has been extended for our birth-pre k families this fall! We will be meeting once a month to talk about these books and our learning and insights from them. **Your family is invited to participate on the following dates this fall: September 22, October 27, and December 1.** We will be meeting outside on the front lawn at Valley of Peace from 6:00-6:30 pm. A computer will be set up every meeting for families who prefer to join the meeting via Zoom. If weather does not cooperate, we will all meet via Zoom. Zoom Meeting ID: 819 3064 2115.

Children's Faith Formation

9:30 am - Sundays
In person or Online

Kindergarten-5th Grade

Please review the current VoP Covid-19 protocols prior to attending in person and reach out to Emilie Moravec with any questions.

Following the same biblical texts in the "I've Been Meaning to Ask" worship series, children will meet prior to Sunday worship for a half hour of bible stories, reflections, and activities. We will plan to gather outside on the Valley of Peace front lawn or inside in the Fellowship Hall if weather does not cooperate. We will also have a computer set up each Sunday for those children who want to meet the group via Zoom! Take home faith formation supplies will be available for our "Zoomies" monthly so children at home can participate in the same activities at the same time as those in person. Let Emilie Moravec know if you'd like a Children's Faith Formation supply kit or need the Zoom information.*

Confirmation

6:30-7:30 pm - Wednesdays
In person or Online

6th-8th Grade

Valley of Peace Jr. High confirmation students are invited to join Pastor Ashley and Emilie Moravec on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7:30 pm. We will plan to gather outside on the Valley of Peace front lawn or inside in the Fellowship Hall if weather does not cooperate. This year we will delve deep into the biblical narrative from creation to Revelation through storytelling, creative reflection, and dialogue. A computer will be set up for those students who wish to meet the group via Zoom. Service opportunities, mentor conversations, and Wildfire connection will also be a part of our confirmation program this year.*

VoP Youth Group

6:30-7:30 pm
once/month

8th - 12th Grade

(9/26, 10/24, 11/28)

The Valley of Peace youth group will once a month from 6:30 pm -7:30 pm on the Valley of Peace front lawn around a fire pit. Dress accordingly! If the weather does not cooperate, we will all meet via Zoom. This year our theme is "Boundless: God Beyond Measure" based on the ELCA Youth Gathering theme which will take place in Minneapolis during the summer of 2022. During our time together we will check in and then examine our own life experiences and stories as they relate to scripture. Because we live in a world where we are still so bound by unjust systems, or measurements of ourselves and others, it can be hard to wrap our minds around something as boundless as God's love for us. But this fall, we will try!*

***All children and youth (K-12) are required to fill out a Valley of Medical Release and Participation form once each program year. This form can be found online under "Faith Formation" or in the church office.**



VoP Community Events

September - November 2021

September

God's Work, Our Hands

Saturday, September 11th

- Holy Nativity Lutheran (9-11am)
- Worship and Service Opportunities for all ages and abilities

Rally Sunday

Sunday, September 12th

- Faith Formation Kick Off
- Blessing of the Backpacks
- 10:15 am In Person Worship and Streaming on Facebook Live

Healing Service

Sunday, September 19th

- Valley of Peace Lutheran Church (7:00 pm)

October

Movie Night Clothing Drive

Friday, October 1st

- Valley of Peace Front Lawn (7:00 pm)

Halloween Scavenger Hunt and Hymn Sing

Friday, October 29th

- 5:00-6:30 pm Neighborhood Scavenger Hunt
- 7:30 pm Hymn Sing at Valley of Peace

November

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Wednesday, November 24th

- Valley of Peace Lutheran Church (7:00pm)



valley of peace
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