



# Valley of Peace Lutheran Church

*Sunday, February 23, 2025 – Sunday, March 2, 2025*

**Sunday, February 23**  
9:00 am Adult Faith Formation  
10:15 am Worship

**Monday, February 24**  
6:00 pm Open Ringing  
6:30 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal

**Wednesday, February 26**  
5:30 Prayer Service  
6:30 pm Confirmation  
7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, February 27**  
10:00 am Text Study

**Sunday, March 2**  
9:00 am Children's Faith Formation  
9:00 am Adult Faith Formation Today  
10:15 am Worship  
11:30 Executive Team meeting

## *Our Mission*

Living in God's love and compassion, we are called and sent by God to be disciples of Jesus Christ, as the Holy Spirit works through us for healing, justice, and peace.



**valley of peace**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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## ADULT CONFIRMATION

Want to dive deeper into your faith? Adult Confirmation is for anyone interested in exploring Lutheran history and theology. On Mondays in March from 7:30–8:30 PM, attend a four-week mini-series, *The Longing of the Spirit: Christian History as Told Through Mysticism*, taught by VOP's Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries, Pace Warfield. You'll uncover the key thinkers of the Christian mystical tradition like Hildegard de Bingen, Julian of Norwich, John of the Cross, and many more!

Whether you prefer to attend in person or online, this hybrid event is free and open to the public. Registration is free but highly requested in order to prepare materials and provide online attendance links. Save your spot and get ready for an insightful journey into the mystical tradition. Registration details coming soon. Please let Pace know of your interest at [cyf@valleyofpeace.org](mailto:cyf@valleyofpeace.org)

## LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS RETURN!

Beginning Wednesday, March 12 at 5:45 pm in the Fellowship Hall our Lenten Soup Suppers (prior to worship) returns! Please sign up for soups, bread, fruit or desserts on the poster near the Welcome Center. It will be so wonderful to be together...bring a friend!

## HELP PACE PREPARE FOR THEIR DISSERTATION DEFENSE

Help Pace prepare for their dissertation defense! They will be presenting their dissertation over five weeks on Sundays at 3:00 pm beginning Sunday, February 16th. There will be a 45 minute lecture on the chapter followed by an optional 45 minutes for discussion and questions. Register by going to <https://forms.gle/7enTTu371NRFFpyQ6>.

## PRAYER SERVICE OF COMMUNITY, CARE, AND CALLING - WEDNESDAYS AT 5:30 PM

In light of all that is happening in our nation, let us come together to lean on God and one another in prayer, scripture reading, music, and resource sharing. Our final service will be this **Wednesday, February 26** and the focus will be on support for service organizations dependent on federal funding.

**“WE MAKE THE ROAD BY WALKING” BY BRIAN D. MCLAREN**

In Worship on March 2, we will be referencing Chapter 26.

**VENEZUELAN IMMIGRANTS: AN UPDATE AND A REQUEST**

Back in June of 2023, Valley of Peace, by approval of the church council, committed to participate in sponsoring individuals through a program called Humanitarian Parole for Venezuelans, in partnership with Tapestry Ministry. That program, though authorized by Congress, was slow and cumbersome, and ultimately none of those we intended to sponsor were admitted to the US through this program. Given the new administration and the cutting of immigration programs of all kinds, it is at the very least highly unlikely that any of those requested and sponsored by VoP and the other congregations will every be allowed to enter the United States.

So that leaves us, all these months later, with a desire to help, and a small start up fund. Considering all this, Pastor Melissa Gonzales of Tapestry has made a revised request to the supporting congregations. We are invited to give the funds we had set aside to 1) mission support of Tapestry and 2) a legal fund to support some of the folks who could make a legal case but who have been unable to access pro bono legal resources (they are grossly over-burdened). The families and individuals who made the initial donations have agreed to repurpose the funds, and we will be sending \$2350 to Tapestry to use as they most have need.

Our intention (and as approved by the council) was to provide additional support to these individuals when they arrived in the country. Now our opportunity has shifted to providing ongoing support to the ministry of Tapestry itself, especially during these trying and fearful times for their members. Please consider making a gift of any size to help our siblings in Christ who are directly impacted by the changes taking place. If you are able, please consider perhaps a monthly gift of even \$5.00. As MPR regularly reminds us, your gift in any amount makes a difference. We can pool our resources to make a difference in Tapestry’s ministry and in the lives of their members and friends. Contributions can be made by check or online. Please indicate if your intention is a one-time gift or a monthly contribution. Thank you for opening your heart and your wallet to yet another meaningful request.

If you have other ideas for how we might partner with Tapestry, please reach out to Laurie Eaton, or any member of the Racial Justice Team. Pastor Melissa and Deacon Josue are available to share with us how the new Executive Orders are affecting ministries like Tapestry and the people they serve.

And remember to mark your calendar for **Sunday, March 16** in the late afternoon, when we will join the Tapestry community for worship and a meal!



**Birthdays:**

Mike Belko, 2/27; Pam Gullick, 2/27; Lorraine Ruud, 3/1;  
Jon Larson, 3/2

*We invite you to take the announcements home with you  
and remember in prayer:*

The Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria/our Congregation partner -  
LCCN, St. Luke Cathedral, Mayo-Gwoi, Jalingo, Nigeria and  
Pastor Talmon Yakaba

The children and youth of Valley of Peace and the members of the  
congregation who pray for them daily.

The congregation of Valley of Peace, that we extend an open welcome to  
all people and model in our community the reconciling ministry of  
Jesus Christ.

Those who have health concerns or are receiving treatment.

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***Prayer requests are listed with permission.***

*If you would like to be included in the prayers please contact the church  
office. Names will be included for 4 weeks unless otherwise asked for.  
Confidential prayer support is also available.*

**Valley of Peace Staff**

***Pastor***

Ashley Osborn  
(she/her/hers)

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***Organist/Pianist/  
Accompanist***

Beth Brandt  
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***Director of Music***

Hsu-hui Wang  
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***Ministry Support  
Coordinator***

Sally Herron  
(she/her/hers)

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***Director of Children,  
Youth and Family***

Pace Warfield  
(they/them/theirs)

[cyf@valleyofpeace.org](mailto:cyf@valleyofpeace.org)

Valley of Peace is  
committed to Racial  
Justice & is a  
Reconciling in Christ  
Church.

