



Valley of Peace Lutheran Church

Sunday, March 22, 2026 - Sunday, March 29, 2026

Sunday, March 22

9:00 am First Communion Class
9:00 am Adult Faith Formation
10:15 am Worship
11:30 am New Member Class

Wednesday, March 25

4:00 pm VOP Staff Meeting
5:30 pm Lenten Soup Suppers
6:30 pm Lenten Worship Service
Chancel Choir Rehearsal will begin following
Lenten Worship

Thursday, March 26

10:00 am Text Study (John 19:16b-22)

Sunday, March 29

9:00 am Adult Faith Formation
9:00 am Children's Faith Formation
10:15 am Worship
11:30 am CYF Easter Egg Hunt
11:30 am Palm Sunday Brunch
1:00 pm ISAIAH Palm Sunday Faith Action

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 is committed to Racial Justice and is a Reconciling in Christ Church.

Contact Us

763-588-4611

www.valleyofpeace.org

4735 Bassett Creek Drive,
Golden Valley, MN 55422

Sign Up For Lenten Suppers!

Soup Supper Season is almost done!

We are looking for folks to bring soup, dessert, etc. to our LAST soup supper of the season!
Sign up is located outside the Narthex, near the coat racks.

Thank you!

Lenten Friday Dinners & Prayer Vigils for Disappeared Neighbors

Each Friday evening during Lent, you're invited to a short gathering at Cross of Glory Lutheran Church (5929 Brooklyn Blvd). At 6 pm, we'll share food from a local restaurant that has been particularly impacted by ICE raids. At 6:30, we'll host a 20-minute prayer vigil for our disappeared neighbors. If you plan to eat, please RSVP on Thursday each week here: <https://tinyurl.com/4tsxxzpz> (free will offering will be collected to cover costs).

Blessings Box Update

Friends, our Blessings Box continues to be used (and emptied) almost weekly! And now that the weather is warming up, we can begin to collect items that were not a good idea in the depth of winter! So, the next time you're shopping, please consider donating cans of soup, shampoo, toothpaste as well as the other non-perishable food items. Remember things like rices, sugar, flour, non-dairy milk, feminine health products, toilet paper and CEREAL are always needed.

If any of you would be interested in checking the Box out once a week and replenishing as needed, please let me know. Thanks to Kelsey, the items are all very well organized in the Welcome Center, so it's really pretty easy to fill it up. Let me know if you have any questions.

My email is sally.danielsherron@gmail.com

Thank you so much!

Support Local Food Shelves

This year, during the month of March, PRISM is working to raise 300,000 in pounds and dollars. We need everyone in the community to come together to meet this goal! Valley of Peace has a goal to collect 1,000 grocery items or dollars to support PRISM during March! Watch the poster in the bridge way to see our progress!

Your grocery donations may be dropped off at the lower level entry in the grocery cart or baskets. Your financial donations may be made through the VOP website, through Designated Funds/Social Ministry or by check, indicating PRISM on the memo line of your check. The need is greater than ever this year, with so many families experiencing hardships. Please give generously!

P.S. Every donation makes PRISM eligible to receive bonus funding from MN FoodShare sponsors!

Thank you, Valley of Peace!

Palm Sunday Brunch!

Sunday, March 29

Join our Valley of Peace community in the Fellowship Hall for a **catered brunch** following worship on Palm Sunday! Our meal will feature a delicious egg bake with sausage or a vegetarian egg bake, hash browns with cheese, cinnamon rolls and fruit.

Important- you must purchase your tickets ahead of time!

As we must order an accurate number of servings from our caterer, **we are taking payment and reservations ahead of time.** Please stop by the Brunch table in the Narthex after church on March 8, 15 or 22 to **reserve your spot** for the brunch! Cash or checks will be accepted in payment.

Adults -\$13.00

Children (ages 4-12) -\$8.00

Children (ages 3 and under) -free

Please come!

WILDFIRE CHURCHES HEAD TO OKLAHOMA 2026!

OTHER+ WISE MISSION TRIP



Other + Wise, an indigenous-founded and run organization, offers week-long cultural immersion experiences for youth.

In Oklahoma, we will participate in:

- * experiences with Cherokee Nation partner organizations
- *outside excursions to cultural destinations
- *unique opportunities to give back to those we meet
- *interactive debriefings for processing new ideas and experiences

Following Jesus, we are called to be in relationship with all those around us, particularly with those who may look or live differently than we do.



OTHER + WISE

JULY 15-23

**SIGN UP BY MARCH 22ND
WITH \$250 DEPOSIT***

To register, please reach out to Dan Miller at cyf@valleyofpeace.org

*Financial assistance is available upon request.

Food & Supply Drive for Noble Elementary

Valley of Peace is supporting families at Noble Elementary through a food and supply drive. We invite you to bring donations directly to Noble Elementary and drop them off at the front desk during school hours, Monday - Friday from 7:45 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Requested nonperishable food and household items include:

- Laundry Detergent
- Dish Soap
- Hand Soap
- Shampoo
- Deodorant
- Baby Wipes
- Diapers- Sizes 3, 4, 5 & 7
- Toilet Paper
- Paper Towels
- Vick's VapoRub
- Children's Ibuprofen
- Kids Cereal

In addition, there is a separate GoFundMe fundraiser supporting a family within the school district. If you would like to contribute financially to that effort, you may do so here:

<https://gofund.me/bb52798a4>

Thank you for helping us care for our neighbors in practical and compassionate ways. And, please know this is one of many options for supporting our community right now. We will also continue to collect items for Prism. If you would like more information on ways to support our community, please reach out to Pastor Ashley Osborn.

Community Support Opportunities

Looking for additional ways to support our community?
To learn more, either go to our Valley of Peace homepage and click the "Community Support Opportunities" button or go to this link:

<https://valleyofpeace.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/March-2026-Community-Support-Opportunities-VOP.png>

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Pastor Ashley.
Thank you for your continued support, prayers and care.

Lower Level Renovation “Highlights”

Work taken place this past week;

- *Started installing light fixtures
- *Started some painting
- *Grease duct mechanical work
- *Storage room door installed in Fellowship Hall

This week’s plans:

- * Monday & Tuesday: Prepping & installing kitchen flooring
- *Wednesday: Continue with lighting installation & painting
Pulling down of remaining temporary enclosures
- *Friday: Delivery & installation of kitchen appliances and equipment
Serving & dirty dish countertops to be installed
Rehabbing & refinishing of 4 Fellowship Hall doors

Who Is My Neighbor? Hearing Immigrant Stories

Based on a book study of *Welcoming the Stranger* which was led by Chaplain Greg Fullerton.
Tuesday, March 24 at 2:00 pm.

Featuring:

- Cori Ertz, Director of Development of the International Institute of MN
 - Albis Tovar of Venezuela
 - Hudda Ibrahim, Somali Leader in St. Cloud

Displays

Books & Resources

Snacks & Conversation

Located at Covenant Living of Golden Valley in the Fellowship Center.
Please join us!

Session II in April will include Ma Elena Gutierrez and Patty Keeling
Fey y Justicia

TRANS DAY OF VISIBILITY

WEST METRO



**Join West Metro trans, queer & ally neighbors
to celebrate Transgender Day of Visibility!**

Come to build community, make affirming artwork, contact legislators about the importance of supporting trans Minnesotans, and learn from a panel of "Mama Bear" parents of trans folks. We encourage allies to attend and show solidarity!

WEST METRO EVENT
March 31st | 6:30-8 PM



Plymouth Community Center
(Blackbox Theatre)
14800 34th Ave N
Plymouth, MN 55447

Please register and share dietary needs!

ALL FAITHS, BELIEFS & BACKGROUNDS WELCOME!

LEARN MORE AT
prismorganizing.org

PALM SUNDAY FAITH ACTION

RECLAIMING CHRISTIANITY IN THE PUBLIC SQUARE

**MARCH
29**

Join thousands of Christians on Palm Sunday to celebrate the call of our faith to love our neighbors: healing the sick, feeding the hungry, and welcoming the stranger.

2:00PM

Procession launching from several churches at University and Dale

2:30PM

Worship and Program at Minnesota State Capitol Mall

Join thousands of Christians in St. Paul on March 29th, Palm Sunday afternoon where we will celebrate and embody our faith's call to love God and love our neighbors as ourselves and reject authoritarianism, cruelty and greed. We will gather at 2:30pm for a joyful worship service and public action on the Capitol Mall. Join us and bring your family and friends! Register now and invite others!



SCAN CODE TO REGISTER.

**VISIT [PALMSUNDAY2026.COM](https://palmsunday2026.com) TO
LEARN MORE.**

On Palm Sunday, March 29th 2026, Christians across denomination, race and place will stand up to the rise of authoritarianism and white Christian nationalism as we affirm the core of our faith: to love God and love our neighbors as ourselves. On the day Christians celebrate as the first "Palm Sunday", Jesus entered Jerusalem in opposition to the greed, cruelty, and oppression of the Roman Empire on a donkey, a symbol of a just, humble leader who cares for the poor, the hungry, the sick, and the stranger. Through these last couple of months, the people of Minnesota have powerfully embodied our call to love our neighbors, and as Christian faith leaders, we are called to proclaim love over cruelty and hatred in the public square!



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LEARN MORE.**



Two Letters From Birmingham

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was arrested in Birmingham, AL on April 12, 1963 on Good Friday. Dr. King was leading a peaceful civil rights protest in the city, but a judge granted the city an injunction against the demonstrations. While Dr. King was in jail, eight clergymen wrote a letter arguing that the demonstrations were unwise and untimely. Dr. King responded to these clergymen by writing his "Letter from Birmingham Jail". His well-reasoned letter became one of the cornerstone writings of the Civil Rights Movement and is widely studied as a call to action against intolerance and inequality. Given the state of our nation, the events in 1963 Birmingham are highly relevant today.

Two Letters from Birmingham is a Readers Theatre play that dramatizes the events surrounding these famous letters. This hour-long piece will be performed as an upcoming Wildfire event. Readers Theatre is a performance style where the actors sit on chairs and perform by reading from the script. No memorization is required, and so only a few rehearsals are needed to stage the production. The script has a flexible cast size. The production will also need help backstage with running lights, sound, and many other things.

The performance dates are:

Friday, April 24 and Saturday, April 25 in the evening, and a matinee on Sunday, April 26.

There will be three rehearsals. The dates and times have yet to be determined.

An interest meeting will be held at 5:00 pm on Wednesday, March 18th at House of Hope Lutheran Church. If you are interested in performing onstage or helping backstage, please come! If you can't attend the meeting but you're interested, please contact Mark Jensen at msjensen@aol.com or Ben Allen at bgallen@carleton.edu.



Birthdays:

3/23: Leslie Gilyard; 3/27: Priya Oas; 3/27: Maxine Slaughter;
3/27: David Magnuson Walter; 3/28: Naomi Dybvig; 3/28: Christine Weatherman;

Anniversaries

3/26: Cheryl & Loren Stetler, their 43rd;

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.

Prayers for Susan Gerber and family with the passing of Bob Gerber on March 10, 2026.

Prayers for Marty Fergus.

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.

A framed box containing the staff list for Valley of Peace Lutheran Church. At the top center is the church's logo, which consists of a circular emblem with a cross and a dove, with the text 'valley of peace' and 'LUTHERAN CHURCH' below it. Underneath the logo is the word 'STAFF' in large, green, serif capital letters. Below 'STAFF' are three columns of staff members, each with their title, name, and contact information.

ORGANIST/PIANIST/ ACCOMPANIST	PASTOR	MINISTRY SUPPORT COORDINATOR
Beth Brandt organist@valleyofpeace.org she/her/hers	Ashley Osborn aosborn@valleyofpeace.org she/her/hers	Kelsey Pierson office@valleyofpeace.org she/her/hers
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC	FINANCIAL CONSULTANT	DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN YOUTH & FAMILY
Christine Weatherman music@valleyofpeace.org she/her/hers	Mariana Duffney vopaccts@gmail.com she/her/hers	Dan Miller cyf@valleyofpeace.org he/him/his