

CORNERSTONE

Pewee Valley Presbyterian Church

February
2024

Once More Unto the ... Wilderness, Dear Friends

*From the Desk of
Reverend Joel Weible*



With apologies to Shakespeare and Henry V, this month I set our stage for yet another Lenten journey as a community of faith. Every mid-winter into Spring the church embarks on a time that is supposed to be set aside for discernment and contemplation: *Who are we? Who is God calling us to be? And, having responded to those questions, what's next?* The season we call Lent is modeled on Jesus' own time immediately after his baptism asking exactly these questions – his *Wilderness* experience.

This year our Lenten theme is *Wilderness*. Once again we will be guided by *A Sanctified Art*. Lent begins in the wilderness, we are reminded. As the Spirit guided Jesus, himself, into the wilderness, we are invited to surrender to the leadings of that same Spirit during this time. We rarely enter our “wilderness” or the Lenten season with as much intention or attention as we should. I've learned in a decade and a half, that I can't do much about your *attention*. But I can do a lot with our *intention*.

This season we *intend* to ask the questions that Jesus asked himself. His Spirit-led responses set a trajectory for his life that changed the world. Time will tell what effect our own responses will have – on our own life as a faith community or the world's. But it is a seasonal, biblical, and faithful journey we undertake once again. Read on through this month's newsletter and discover how many times you actually read or are encouraged to consider *what's next*. It's a question we will be engaging and responding to as a congregation this year. The Spirit will lead us, so we can't be sure where we will wind up. But if it is the Spirit of God we are listening to, we can be sure we will be on the right path.

Once more unto the Wilderness. See you in church ...

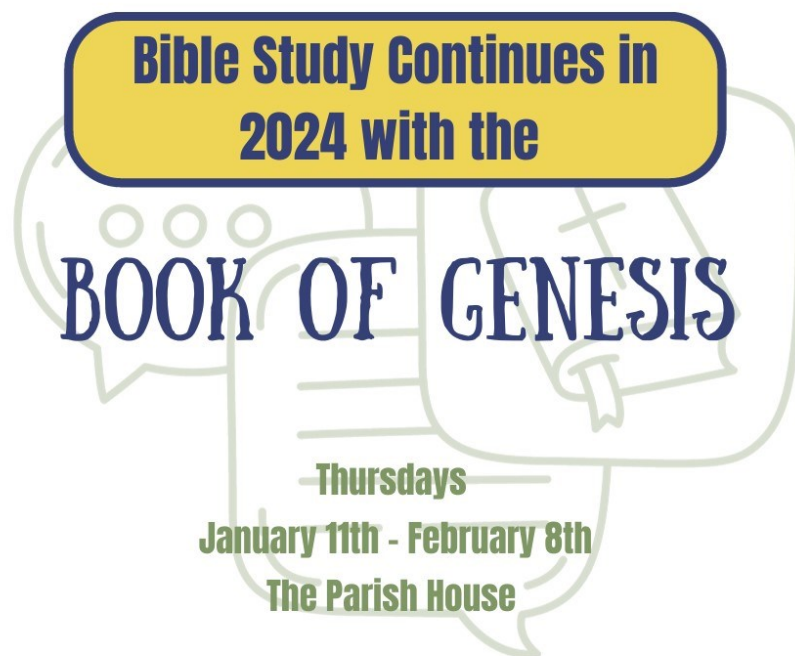
Pastor Joel

OUR MISSION WITH HIGHPOINT CHARITABLE SERVICES

Our **Winter Coat and apparel collection** will continue through the month of February. There is a box in the Family Life Center for all donations. Thank you for your generosity!

The **Sack Lunch** preparation that our Mission Team has taken on for HighPoint will happen again on Sunday, February 4th after worship. Since the Fall of 2021, we have been preparing sack lunches every other month for the first Mondays of the month and any month where there is a fifth Monday!

Thank you to everyone for your prayers and support!



Calling all keepers of trivial facts and tidbits...

TRIVIA IS BACK!!

Sunday, February 4th after Worship

After a two-week postponement due to frigid January weather, the Congregational Life Team is hosting PVPC's Annual TRIVIA EXTRAVAGANZA on Sunday, February 4th after worship – COME ONE AND COME ALL!!!

The CL Team will be providing a light lunch and the real "meal" will happen as you chew up the answers to Trivia Masters James Bates and Matt Killion. This is not a fundraiser or a money-maker... it is a FUN-raiser and a MEMORY-maker!! Please save the date & time and join your church family as we laugh and play together!!

OUR SACRED SPACE IS SET: The Sanctuary Prayground

Last month, on the four Sundays during worship, we introduced ourselves - theologically and practically - to what an intergenerational worshipping community might look like at PVPC. We removed two pews, laid a padded floor, placed kneeling pillows, and furnished a space specifically designed for the children and their families that are coming to worship here with all others who gather. Each week we taught them and reminded ourselves *what*, *when*, and *why* we do what we do during our time of worship. And we then invited them to participate in tangible, age-appropriate ways, expressing their prayers, affirming their faith and sharing their song along with the rest of the gathered community.

As we settle into the six-month “pilot” ministry, guided by the Christian Formation Team and our Session, we trust and continue to pray that this space and those who fill it on Sunday morning will become a welcomed part of everything else we do whenever we gather to worship God.

We are deeply grateful to those who have led us to this point. And we are thankful to each and every one of you who have remained and remain open to the new thing that is happening in our midst. Find an Elder or a Staff member and share your joy, concerns, hopes, and dreams for all that lies ahead as we live into the Church’s call to provide for the full participation of all in the service for the Lord’s Day.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Wednesday, February 14th at 6:30 p.m.

That’s right: this year Lent begins on Valentine’s Day. Join us in the Sanctuary for this special service that begins our Lenten journey – 40 days, not counting Sundays, until Easter morning. We will serve Communion by Intinction and include the Imposition of Ashes for all who desire it..



WILDERNESS:

Our Lenten Journey 2024

Lent begins and ends in the wilderness. The Spirit guides Jesus into the wilderness where he comes face to face with temptation and struggle. Yet, in his forty days of fasting, resisting, and wandering, Jesus is shaped and formed for ministry.

Similarly, through the wilderness of Lent, we are invited to surrender to the wild leadings of the Spirit. We rarely enter the wilderness willingly, but hopefully through our wandering we remember who we are and whose we are. The wilderness can become sacred even if it remains dangerous. There is no wilderness space too harsh or threatening for God’s love.

This Lent, we welcome you to the journey. As we enter our sanctuary for the worship services of Lent, from Ash Wednesday through six Sundays and Maundy Thursday, we will be stepping into the *Wilderness* to be led by the spirit of God, gentle and restless. Through liturgy, prayers, sermon, scripture, and song we will find ourselves shaped and formed for Easter morning and all that lies beyond.

A LENTEN CONVERSATION: On the Brink of Everything

A Thursday Morning Zoom with Pastor Joel: 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

Every Thursday morning during Lent this year, join Pastor as we speak once again about *growing old*. This year, our guide will be Parker J. Palmer and his small book On the Brink of Everything: Grace, Gravity and Getting Old. “Every day (we) get closer to the brink of everything,” Palmer writes. That we’ve come this far, Palmer says, “makes (us) one of the lucky ones.” Join us every Thursday during Lent beginning on February 15th as we *Zoom in* from 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. to explore aging as “a passage of discovery and engagement”.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SET FOR FEBRUARY!!

Sunday, February 25th at 10:30 a.m.

It’s that time of year again! And this year, we are celebrating this Annual Celebration even more intentionally!

We will be gathering in the Family Life Center on this Sunday morning around tables for Worship, a Celebration of the past year, and a look forward to the coming one. We have come so far through 2023 and we are anticipating another vibrant and vital year of congregational vitality and community engagement in 2024. In addition to receiving reports from our Session, Ministry Teams, and Church Staff, final financial reports for 2023, and updates on the approved 2024 budget, we will begin the conversation that will lead us into the “next big thing” at PVPC: ***Mission Possible! So ... What’s Next?***

ANNUAL ELDER RETREAT IS SCHEDULED

Saturday, February 10 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Our Annual Elder Retreat will find your Session Elders once again spending a Saturday together. Much is being decided, but our conversation will focus on these questions of identity for our Church:

Who are we? Who are we called to be? And, how are we becoming that?

Our engagement of Church Vitality in the past two years has changed us – and that’s a **good thing!** Change isn’t easy, even when it’s absolutely essential for survival. We’ve “ruffled feathers” in our initiatives in the past few years – for moving too fast **and** for not moving fast enough. We are not who we were. And we’re not yet who we are called be.

So we ask our questions on our Elder Retreat as your leaders, and will be seeking your input and guidance in the months ahead: ***What’s Next?!*** Stop an Elder and share your thoughts or questions. Let us know how you’re feeling about this incredible congregation and its future.



Members:

Walter & Lynne Anderson	Mary Boone
Ann Finney Dan Fisher	Lee Goss
Ralph & Judy Hall	Paula Malone
Claudette Schlader	Mary Ann Warren
Wilma Wayne	Alan White

Family and Friends:

Jon Swinney (Karen Swinney)	Brad Bruns (Karen Wood)
Sutton Vance (Karen Wood)	Arnie Fields (Connie & Larry Vice)
Gene Mueller (D.D. Hendrickson)	Jim Settle (Settle Family)
Betsy Hawkins (Shirley Hawkes)	Mary Nell & Bill Brumfield (Connie Vice)
Tiffeny Armour (Tom & Mary Sue Armour)	A Very Loved Family Member (Shirley Hawkes)
Bryan Moore (Regan Moore & Margaret Hill)	Nancy Golan (Rich Wayne)
Rev. Gary Torrens (Arlene Torrens)	Mallory Davis (Don Whitehouse)
David & Shannon DeBeer (Rick & Clare Fletcher)	Janet Ciresi (Linda Heleringer)
Julie Hardin (Debbie Thompson)	Millie Emig (Paul Culbertson)
Allen Corbin (Jim Trimpe)	Karen Galligan (Jim Trimpe)
Amanda Bobzein (Julia Hood)	Amy Hill Gibson (Julia Hood)
Mardie & Stan Penn (Karen Wood)	Frank Hainer (Don Whitehouse & many)
Beverly McMakin (Jan Beaverson)	Grace Ellis (D.D. Hendrickson)
Todd Vance (Karen Wood)	Sue Keller (D.D. Hendrickson)
Amy Carey & Family	David Goodman (D.D. Hendrickson)
Mark Shircliff (Virginia Baumann)	Flo Campbell (Clare Grant)
Rev. James Byford (Rebecca Byford)	Robbie Mueller (D.D. Hendrickson)
Michelle Hendrickson (DD Hendrickson)	Alice Walser Booker (Joanie Walser-White)

To add or remove a name, complete a Prayer Request Card or email us at: office@pvpres.org

February Birthdays

- 01** Mary Ruth Jagers
- 04** Logan Age
- 05** Madri Hall-Faul
- 06** Sandy McCarson
- 08** Jenny Williams
- 08** Nico Williams
- 09** Anna Faul
- 09** Ryan Volk
- 18** Tracy Lenavitt
- 18** Alexandra Tolsdorf
- 22** Dan Volk
- 25** Margaret Hill
- 27** Richard Ray



February Anniversaries

- 13** Joshua and Tracy Lenavitt
- 14** Don and Claudette Schlader
- 27** Ralph and Judy Hall



Ushers

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| February 4 | Linda Heleringer |
| February 11 | TBD |
| February 18 | LaMont Coverstone & Thom Guilford |
| February 25 | Tom & Mary Sue Armour, Gary Torrens |

CHAPEL SERVICES WITH OUR CDC

All are welcome!!

Drop in for the prayers, music, meditations, and love that are a part of the regular school-life of our boys and girls. *We'd love to see you there!*

Chapel for February

Tuesday, February 6th

Tuesday, February 20th

Chapel is held at 10:00 a.m. on the scheduled days.

FEBRUARY 2024 @ PVPC

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Key: <i>PVPC Events</i> <i>CDC Events</i> <i>Building Use</i>				1 <i>Bible Study, 10a (TPH)</i> <i>B'ball 6-9p</i>	2 <i>B'ball 6-9p</i>	3 <i>B'ball 10a-12p</i> <i>R. Koebel, 3:30p</i>
4 <i>CF Hour, 9a</i> <i>Fellowship, 10a</i> <i>Worship, 10:30a</i> <i>Pack-a-Sack for HP</i> <i>Trivia Extravaganza</i>	5 <i>Scouts</i>	6 <i>Chapel, 10a</i> <i>Book Chat, 7-8:30p (TPH)</i> <i>B'ball 6-9p</i>	7 <i>Choir, 7p</i> <i>B'ball 6-9p</i>	8 <i>Bible Study, 10a (TPH)</i> <i>B'ball 6-9p</i>	9 <i>B'ball 6-7:30p & 7:30-8:30p</i>	10 <i>B'ball 9a-12p</i> <i>Elder Retreat (TPH) 9a-3p</i>
11 <i>CF Hour, 9a</i> <i>Fellowship, 10a</i> <i>Worship, 10:30a</i> <i>MSR Meeting</i>	12 <i>Session, 6p</i> <i>Scouts</i>	13 <i>B'ball 6-9p</i>	14 <i>Ash Wednesday, 6:30p service</i> <i>B'ball 6-9p</i>	15 <i>Lenten Conv. 8a (Zoom)</i> <i>B'ball 6-9p</i>	16 <i>B'ball 6-9p</i>	17 <i>B'ball 10a-12p</i> <i>S. Byars, 1:30-4:30p</i>
18 <i>CF Hour, 9a</i> <i>Fellowship, 10a</i> <i>Worship, 10:30a</i> <i>CL Meeting</i> <i>A. Gullett, 2p</i>	19 <i>Scouts</i>	20 <i>Chapel, 10a</i> <i>Book Chat, 7-8:30p (TPH)</i> <i>B'ball 6-9p</i>	21 <i>Choir, 7p</i> <i>B'ball 6-9p</i>	22 <i>Lenten Conv. 8a (Zoom)</i> <i>B'ball 6-9p</i>	23 <i>B'ball 6-7:30p</i>	24 <i>B'ball 10a-12p</i> <i>Scout Banquet, 4:30-7p</i>
25 <i>CF Hour, 9a</i> <i>Fellowship, 10a</i> <i>Worship, 10:30a</i> <i>Congregation Mtg</i>	26 <i>Scouts</i>	27 <i>B'ball 6-9p</i>	28 <i>Choir, 7p</i> <i>B'ball 6-9p</i>	29 <i>Lenten Conv. 8a (Zoom)</i> <i>B'ball 6-9p</i>		

Pewee Valley Presbyterian Church

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PeweeValleyPresbyterian.org

Address Service Requested

Big News from the Little Valley!



**CHURCH OFFICE
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Monday - Friday

8:30a –2:00p

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