

THE OLIVE BRANCH

West Valley Presbyterian Church



Newsletter

August 1, 2020

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West Valley Members are eager to get back to serving in their many ministries!

Rancho Santa Marta

Here's a photo of the Rancho Santa Marta Team who traveled to Baja, California in February this year to place a roof on a new building, dig supports for a new awning, pour lots of concrete, and encourage the foster parents.

Mike & Karen Clark led the team, which included Doug & Brenda Gips, Art Pasquinelli, John Hom, Parker & Sue Willey, Mary Pound, Mindy & Greg Prow and Pastor Morgan.



Thank you for your years of service as Children's Ministry Director!

"Thank you (Monica Quon) for teaching me Awana lessons and helping me grow in faith. I really appreciate you and I will miss you."

Leo, 7th Grade

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Service Worship at Cityteam Ministries 2019

WVPC and Onnuri Youth serve together making food for Cityteam clients at their San Jose location. Celeste, Greg and Janet lead worship afterwards.

Anyone interested in a regular time of worship via Zoom should contact Janet at: janlyndanc@aol.com

Ministry Opportunities at Home

During shelter-in-place, Deacon Mary Pound has been keeping busy sewing masks and gowns. She is part of the Sewing 4 Good volunteers who have made and delivered 2,700 gowns to hospitals and health care facilities all over the nation making an average of 7-9 gowns per week for the past three months! She has also cooked meals for shut ins, elderly friends and neighbors.





Congratulations Danny Kim, New Seminary Graduate!

For the last three years, WVPC has contributed to the education of Gordon-Conwell Seminary student Danny Kim (son of Onnuri's pastor, Young Rhyon Kim). Danny studied while working two internships and a part-time job on campus. Now he is moving to Tacoma Central Presbyterian in Washington, where he will become an assistant pastor.

Danny, his wife, Mariya, and their three children--Ella-Rae, Samuel, and Lana, all born while Danny was in seminary--are excited to begin this new chapter and ask that we pray for their congregation-to-be and their safe arrival in this time of CV-19.

GORDON CONWELL
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



SERVICE WORSHIP Weekend Coming Up August 29 & 30!

Worship God in Active Service

SATURDAY 4:30 pm - Murphy Park

- The Refuge - Deliver food packages

SUNDAY 9:30 am - WVPC Campus

- **Drive Through** Donations of non-perishable food, toiletries, or school supplies (9:30-11)
- Assemble Toiletry Bags for the Homeless
- Knit/crochet scarves & hats
- Bag Lunches for Sacred Heart
- Back to School Supply Drive

SUNDAY 10 am - Unity Care Girls Home

- Garden Beautification

*Maybe it's time for us to think
of our masks as part of our
daily armor -*

1. Belt of Truth
2. Breastplate of Righteousness
3. Shoes of Peace
4. Helmet of Salvation
5. Shield of Faith
6. Sword of God's Word
7. ***Spread the Gospel, not the virus!***



Q&A



Q: Is there any news about when we can gather at church again?

A: When Shelter in Place (SIP) orders were first issued, the Session met weekly to check in and determine the best way(s) for us to accomplish our three main goals:

- Keep connected with one another;
- Keep each other safe from Covid-19; and
- Keep serving the larger community.

That has led to livestreaming worship services on Sundays, lots of Zoom gatherings, Driven to Serve Service Worship Sundays, and the creation of the Ten25 groups. But of course, what we really want to do is be all together singing in church again!

As we followed developments in our region and make plans for reopening the campus, Brenda Gips and Terri Dias came together as our “Reopening Team” since they have professional experience in healthcare. We are preparing to have ample supplies of masks and hand sanitizer for in-person gatherings, but with Covid-related numbers continuing to go up we believe that the best way to love one another is avoid in-person gatherings. When Covid numbers start going down and the county relaxes its health and safety orders, we will look for ways to gather outside in smaller groups. Even when we are able to eventually reopen, we will continue to provide Zoom and livestreaming for those who cannot be with us in person, either because of health concerns or because they live out of the area.

Q: It has been a long time since we heard about coming together with GrX. What happened?

A: We have team that has been engaged (via Zoom) with GrX leaders over the past few months. While no specific decisions or plans have come out of those conversations, there is a growing sense of excitement at the possibility of the two congregations coming together in some way.

If this were to happen, we believe that a key input in the decision would be the feedback received during joint activities. In ordinary times, we might well be planning for joint events, projects, and/or worship services to get a feel for what life together might look like. But the reality of the ongoing shelter in place orders has made it difficult for either congregation to gather by themselves, much less plan for a combined gathering.

As such, we are continuing to evaluate the evidence from a distance, knowing that the evidence available won't be sufficient until the congregations have had ample opportunity to interact together. And so, we are also trying to find creative ways to allow for that to happen.

Please email your Questions or Ministry Stories to Lanette@WVPC.org



***For the sake of Jesus,
WVPC embraces strangers to become friends,
friends to become family, and family to become the heart,
hands and feet of God.***