

The quarterly
newsletter for:

VALLEY
Women

FOLLOWING CHRIST TOGETHER

Our IDENTITY and our HOPE...

Beloved, if
God so loved
us, we also
ought to love
one another.

1 JOHN 4:11

UPCOMING EVENTS!

Ladies' Night Out

Tuesday, 1/10 @ 5:30pm
Phil Sandoval's in Madison

BUNCO Game Night

Thursday, 2/16 @ 6pm
Valley Fellowship Hall

Thinking Biblically & Living Covenantally w/ Paula Miles

Friday, 1/27 @ 7pm &
Saturday, 1/28 @ 3pm
Westminster Presbyterian

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

 **Emily Bisset**
Due December 2022

 **Ivy Patrick**
Due January 2023

 **Ashley Henderson**
Due March 2023

 **Nicole Dowdy**
Due March 2023

 **Amber Lentz**
Due May 2023

**Nora James
Missildine**
Born: 10/25/22
5lbs. 8oz.
19" long
Parents: Rose
& Clark



**Natalie
Catherine
Wade**
Born: 11/30/22
5lbs. 5oz.
18" long
Parents: April
& Jonathan

**We love to stay
connected! Find us
on social media or
visit our website!**



Valley Presbyterian Women
(Private Group)



@valleypreswomen

[https://www.valleymadison.com/
ministries/womens-ministry](https://www.valleymadison.com/ministries/womens-ministry)

Be Loved

Issue 10, WINTER 2022

Your Light Has Come

By: Melissa Osterloo

"Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you."

Isaiah 60:1

The prophet Isaiah tells of the future glory of Israel by contrasting darkness with the coming light of Zion. "For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you." Isaiah 60:2-3

Darkness is the experience of life in this world. Jesus, the newborn Messiah, arrived during a centuries-long period of darkness, which ultimately lead to significant shifts in the political, religious, and social structures of Israel. Some refer to this period as the "400 silent years," when God withheld all prophetic word from his people.

It's easy to forget when God is silent and we are surrounded by darkness, *he is still sovereign*. The Lord had a purpose and plan for his people, Israel, not in spite of His silence and the resulting darkness it allowed, but rather. . . through it. Though His ways are not like our own, they are trustworthy, they are compassionate, and they are good. . . Israel's period of darkness paved the way for the coming Messiah.

In those moments of forgetfulness, when we are disoriented and overwhelmed by our own moments of personal darkness, Jesus offers us the light of grace through His Word, His People, and His Spirit. As we seek Him, we are transformed by the gospel, radiating the light of Christ to our dark, fallen world.

Are you in a time of personal darkness? *Arise, shine* - for your light has already come!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

December

3rd - Jackie Zecher
8th - Valerie Hager
14th - Kathleen Bailey
16th - Carla Ferreira
17th - Ginny Dragsten
19th - Lori Willis
19th - Margie Greenman
21st - Shaylyn LeCroy
29th - Megan Newman
31st - Alison Bowden



January

4th - Betsy Baker
4th - Olivia Knowling
7th - Adrienne Edwards
19th - Margo Boyd
20th - Jill Wurstner
23rd - Heidi Knowling
24th - Robbie Wilson



February

1st - Nicole Dowdy
2nd - Kim-Anne Baker
6th - Ella Crouch
7th - Bailey Hambright
8th - Jennifer Shelton
11th - Sandy Genet
13th - Deborah Long
17th - Tammy Hall
20th - Lori Marcusse
22nd - Rebecca Ledzian
27th - Angie Burns
28th - Ginni Radford

Welcome to another issue of
the *BeLoved* newsletter. We
are grateful that you are a
part of Valley Women!

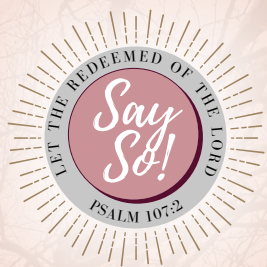
*Kathy's
CORNER*

The season of Advent is full of tradition and meaning. Each week, when we light a candle at the start of our worship service, we reflect on what it symbolizes: hope, faith, joy, or peace; preparing our hearts for the coming Messiah. Though its flame is extinguished after our service ends, there is one true light that will never go out, no matter what darkness it endures.



Kathy Guest
Director of Women's
Ministry

In this issue, you will be encouraged by stories of Valley Women following the light of Jesus through personal darkness. We pray you are inspired to continue to Follow Christ Together as BeLoved daughters of Christ. May you have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



ADRIENNE EDWARDS

"Fine. I'm done. It's all in your hands now, God. I just don't care anymore. We won't try anything else to 'help' the situation out. If you want to give us kids, it's up to you." Those were the words I muttered angrily to God just before our third and final round of IVF. We had been trying to get pregnant for three years and had tried just about everything- acupuncture, vitamins, medicines, IUIs and two rounds of IVF. And we (my husband Josh and I) were done and ready to give up. And we would have, except we signed and paid for three rounds of IVF with the fertility clinic we went to in South Carolina.

Those three years were some of the darkest months of my life. Over and over again I cried out to God asking Him to make His plans known - cries that ranged from confusion, sadness to finally anger. And that's where we were leading up to the final round - being furious and indignant with God. Why was He doing this to us? Why was He choosing for us to walk this road of suffering? Why were there so many friends and family around us having children? What was His plan for us? So many hard questions that continued to go unanswered month after month.

But God did answer. He was just telling us to wait. Wait for His timing. Wait through the hard, dark days and months until His plan took place.

Thinking back to the day of our last IVF transfer, we know we were emotionally, mentally and physically done. But God wasn't done with us yet. Even though we felt no hope that God was going to give us children, He still had a plan that was bigger and better than we could have ever imagined. (Continued...)

Find Adrienne's full testimony posted in our FB group!

Spring 2023 Bible Studies

MONDAY
1-2pm
The Wurstner's Home
Facilitator:
Jill Wurstner
wurstner.family@gmail.com
STARTS: 1/23

TUESDAY
9:30-11am
Valley Youth Portable
Facilitator:
Jessica White
jessandjon@yahoo.com
Childcare Available
STARTS: 1/17

TUESDAY
6:30-8pm
The Plott's Home
Facilitator:
Lauren Plott
lfplott@gmail.com
STARTS: 1/17

WEDNESDAY
9:30-11:30am
Valley Nursing Mom's Room
Facilitators: Rotating
Contact: Jenny Fleming
jenny.fleming@yahoo.com
Childcare Available
STARTS: 1/18

THURSDAY
9:30-11am
The Guest's Home
Facilitators:
Margo Boyd & Kathy Guest
kguest@valleymadison.com
Childcare Available
STARTS: 1/19

THURSDAY
9:30-11:30am
The Deweese's Home
Facilitator:
Marian Deweese
mariandeweese@gmail.com
STARTS: 1/19

ZOOM:
MONDAY
8-9pm
Facilitator:
Amy Squillacote
amy.squillacote@gmail.com
STARTS: 1/16

DWELL MEMORY VERSES

DECEMBER

"Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you." Isaiah 60:1

JANUARY

"Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path." Psalm 119:105

FEBRUARY

"I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness." Jeremiah 31:3b



Following Christ Together - Fall 2022!



Send your favorite family recipe(s) to Abby Christopher for the Valley Cookbook by 12/31!
abbychristopher6@gmail.com