Our Church Profile provides a summary of our history, congregation, community, and ministry description. East Valley Church is excited to enter a new chapter serving God and his kingdom. We believe that we are a church that belongs to Jesus Christ and to the community. We see it as our mission to bring the two together. Our past is rich in history and our future is full of promise. We are seeking a new Pastor that will journey side by side with us and fulfill God’s mission for our church.

As you review this information, please prayerfully consider if God is calling you to be our next Pastor. We trust the Holy Spirit will speak to you and guide you. Pray with us and for us as we listen to and discern the Holy Spirit’s direction for East Valley Church.

Pastoral Search Profile

East Valley Church
7203 Mieras Road
Yakima, Washington 98901
509.452.6138
We are a community church located in the area known as East Valley on the outskirts of Moxee, Washington. “East Valley” is comprised of two communities, Terrace Heights and the City of Moxee. Residential development continues in both Terrace Heights and the City of Moxee, in single and multi-family developments. They are centrally located in the state, specifically the greater Yakima area with abundant opportunities. East Valley Church is in the “heart’ of East Valley School District #90, with close proximity to East Valley High, Middle, and Elementary schools.

Pacific Northwest University is a physician and medical training college in Terrace Heights. Yakima Valley College, Heritage University, and satellite campuses for the University of Washington and Washington State University are additional higher education opportunities. Riverside Christian School is a private school in Terrace Heights.

Fresh seasonal produce, hunting and fishing, boating, camping, hiking, bicycling, skiing, and many other outdoor venues are available. With easy access to the great Pacific Northwest, adventures of all types are only a short distance away. Mount Rainier and Mount Adams “paint” a beautiful backdrop and are only a few hours drive. The Yakima River is a nearby recreational spot. Larger metropolitan areas such as Seattle, Bellevue, and Tacoma are a short drive to the west, the City of Spokane and State of Idaho are to the east, Portland, Oregon to the southwest, all with rich cultural diversity and a variety of activities.

More detailed information about our church and community can be found at www.evrchurch.org and www.visityakima.com.
IN THE BEGINNING . . .

Originally the First Reformed Church of Yakima, our church was started in 1901 by a group of Dutch immigrants who moved to the area to farm. Although the area was naturally a desert, the development of irrigation systems from nearby rivers flowing from the Cascade Mountains turned the land into a rich agricultural community. The church was established near the small town of Moxee City. In the early years, the community was known for its two primary immigrant groups: The French Catholics and the Dutch Reformed.

Over the years, the church became a strong community hub, not only for the Dutch immigrants but for others who moved into the area. The location of the church was at a key intersection of two rural roads a mile from Moxee and about four miles east of the main city of Yakima. This area has become known as East Valley reflecting its geographic location and the name of the local high school. The construction of a church building which began in 1904 established a base for ministry that continues today. A Fellowship Hall was added in 1969 and a new Sanctuary building was built in 1989. As the Dutch identity waned, and wanting to maintain its identity with the community, the church has changed its name to East Valley Church.

In the early years, the church had a very traditional role in the community. It hosted predictable church gatherings including worship, Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Catechism Classes, as well as groups that knit together young couples, youth, and seniors. In recent years, the facility has provided space for different groups more focused on the community. Most notably has been the creation of a preschool program, establishment of a monthly food distribution program called The Pantry and opening the doors to host a new bilingual church plant, Life Church.

While the church has sustained its community presence, the local school district has been expanding its nearby presence. As the area population expanded, the school district added an elementary school and a middle school on adjacent property.

Today, East Valley Church is looking to leverage a long and strong history of being present and serving its community into a new season of ministry. This effort is now enhanced by the joint efforts of Life Church and East Valley Church.
Vacation Bible School is an annual summer event. Typically, 90–120 kids fill the church for a week of activities. It is often difficult to tell who is having more fun, the kids or the adults. On Wednesday afternoon and evening, we have an after-school program for elementary and middle school students. Seeds are planted with the hope of a journey to harvest and a life with Christ.

**Congregational Care**

We support congregational care ministry with our Care Team and a Grief Support Group.

Members of the Care Team make telephone calls to maintain contact and check on members, serve home communion, send greeting cards, make house visits, shop, and provide transportation.

Grief Support helps members who have experienced loss and grief in their life. Many have lost loved ones and are navigating uncharted territory. Meetings provide a safe place to share experiences.

**Prayer Ministry**

Wednesday Breakfast – Prayer requests are prayed over after breakfast.

Monday Evening – EVC and Life Church gather for open prayer.

School Prayer Walk – Each school is visited and prayed over at the start of the school year.
The Pantry

The Pantry, Neighbors Helping Neighbors, and School Back Pack Program are all food program ministries of the church. The Pantry distributes fresh and packaged food commodities once a month to the public. Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays are special times providing turkeys and hams for families.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors delivers food to those who cannot come to the Pantry.

The School Back Pack program provides food for students in need.

This ministry is blessed with support from the School District who conducts twice a year food drive “competition” between the schools and classes. In addition, many churches in the community and individuals contribute food and services to the program.

“Heaven Bound” Car Show

Our 4th Annual car show brought the community to the church for an afternoon of browsing cars and free hot dogs and root beer floats. Cars are displayed by church members and the public.

Potato Feed

The popular annual Potato Feed is held every February. Over 250 people attended the last event. Proceeds help to support Vacation Bible School and special church projects.
Church and Community Demographics

**EVC**
- **Age**
  - 5-17: 0%
  - 0-4: 0%
  - 18-24: 3%
  - 25-34: 0%
  - 35-54: 7%
  - 55-64: 22%
  - 65+: 68%

- **Income**
  - <50K: 43%
  - 50-100K: 30%
  - 100-150K: 19%
  - >150K: 2%
  - Blank: 6%

- **Education**
  - AA: 14%
  - Some College: 39%
  - H.S./GED: 25%
  - PhD/Prof: 2%
  - B.S.: 15%
  - <9: 1%
  - Some H.S.: 3%

- **Ethnicity**
  - White: 96%
  - African Am: 1%
  - Asian: 2%
  - Hispanic Latino: 1%

**COMMUNITY**
- **Age**
  - 5-17: 0%
  - 0-4: 0%
  - 18-24: 13%
  - 65+: 24%
  - 55-64: 17%
  - 25-34: 15%

- **Income**
  - <50K: 38%
  - 50-100K: 36%
  - 100-150K: 17%
  - >150K: 9%
  - Blank: 6%
  - <9: 6%
  - Some H.S.: 8%

- **Education**
  - H.S./GED: 31%
  - Some College: 26%
  - AA: 10%
  - PhD/Prof: 7%
  - B.S.: 12%
  - <9: 6%

- **Ethnicity**
  - White: 70%
  - African Am: 1%
  - Asian: 1%
  - Hispanic Latino: 25%
  - P. Is/Am Indian: 3%
LEADERSHIP EXPECTATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Teaching/Worship leading the Congregation and Consistory in their oversight of all teaching ministries for their biblical, Reformed, and doctrinal soundness.

Equipping Leaders/Building Teams identify gift-based, leaders and teams to do the work of ministry, equipping the congregation and leadership to carry out East Valley Church’s mission.

Missionally Focused leading the congregation to be future-thinking and forward-moving in our mission to engage the community around us.

LEAD PASTOR REQUIREMENTS:

• Seminary Graduate (M. Div), the equivalent theological education, or Commissioned Pastor
• Ordained and a participating member in good standing with their current Classis in the RCA, or equivalent governing body in their current denomination
• Is committed to Reformed theology
• Has served as a pastor, or as a spiritual leader in ministry, with staff leadership experience
• Believes in, accepts and embraces the mission of East Valley Church
• Primary preaching pastor (minimum of 42 weeks a year)

LEAD PASTOR RELATIONSHIPS:

• Will be a participating member of the Classis Cascades and support the work of the Far West Region and of the Reformed Church in America**
• Will serve as President of the Church Board (consistory)
• Will be a member of East Valley Church and accountable to the Board of Elders
• Will oversee the staff and volunteers by developing, leading and equipping a God-honoring ministry teams

LEAD PASTOR COMPENSATION:

• Consistent with the Cascades Classis Guidelines for salary and benefits. Benefits include health insurance, life insurance, annuity, and job related expense reimbursement. A parsonage with utilities will be provided for housing.
• Four weeks of vacation
• Study leave - two weeks mutually agreed upon with the Consistory

**To be received by classis the successful candidate who is not currently ordained or Commissioned in the RCA will be required have his/her ordination or certification transferred into the RCA.
Application Process . . .

If you believe you can contribute to the next chapter in East Valley’s story and would like to enter the search process, we would like to hear from you.

A candidate will be considered when we have received all of the following:

☐ **Letter of Introduction**

☐ **3 to 5 References**—please include personal and professional
(We will not contact references without giving you prior notice)

☐ **Resumé**

☐ **Link(s) to view two or three sermons or other teaching venues**

☐ **Questions**

(Please submit your brief responses to the following questions)

- After reviewing the detailed profile, position description and website, how do you believe your specific gifts, experiences and calling might be a fit for East Valley? (Please write a couple of paragraphs)

- East Valley is a part of the Reformed Church in America. While most of the people we are seeking to reach don’t care about denominations, we desire a level of theological unity among our leaders. How do you see yourself fitting into a tradition of covenantal theology?

- Have you been a part of a community where the agricultural industry and out of doors activities have been a big part of the culture?

Send your application material to:

SearchTeamEVC@googlegroups.com

*Please submit all written documents as PDF files.*

*For additional information or to ask questions, please contact Don Linder at the above email address.*

*We will receive applications until a qualified applicant has been selected.*

*Incomplete profile packages will not be considered until all information has been received.*

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**Our Mission**

**Helping our Community Follow Jesus**