


The Messenger

Valley Community Presbyterian Church April 2016

Sundays at Valley

Adult Education Class, 9:00 a.m.
Early Coffee in Library, 9:30 a.m.
Worship, 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Funday, 10:20 a.m.
Open Nursery, 9:45 to 11:15 a.m.
Coffee Fellowship, 11:00 a.m.

April

3 Communion
Extend the Table, 11:30 a.m.

10 Chenoa Stock Visits Valley
Session Meeting with New
Members, 11:15 a.m.

17 Adult Education with Alison
Weir, 9:00 a.m.
Dining for Women Meeting,
11:30 a.m.

24 CROP Walk for Hunger,
1:30 p.m.

May

1 Children's Musical During
Worship, 10:00 a.m.
Extend the Table, 11:30 a.m.

Be Part of Something *BIG!*

The **General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA)** will meet June 18-25 at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland, OR. This meeting brings together commissioners and advisory delegates from the 172 Presbyteries, as well as observers from around the world.

The Committee On Local Arrangements (COLA) for Cascades Presbytery is seeking up to 2,000 volunteers to assure the smooth and efficient operation of the General Assembly as well as to extend the Ministry of Hospitality to our many guests.

There is a wide variety of volunteer jobs available, from welcoming people at the airport and at the 11 different hotels, registering attendees at the Convention Center, ushering and serving communion at worship services, to hosting at the information center. Most volunteer opportunities are between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. and are four hours. You may sign up for multiple jobs and shifts.

Your volunteer badge will give you access to most GA events the entire week. A complete listing of volunteer opportunities can be found at gaportland.com. Click on Volunteers.

Valley Welcomes Bolivia Mission Co-worker April 10

On April 10, Valley (and Cascades Presbytery) Joining Hands Bolivia Mission Co-worker Chenoa Stock visits Valley to speak about her work in Bolivia. She will participate in worship and be available after coffee fellowship to talk about conditions in Bolivia that are addressed by our Joining Hands partnership there.

One of the common focuses of the groups comprising UMAVIDA (Joining Hands for Life), the group of Bolivian non-governmental organizations with which she works, is the issue surrounding water quality and the disappearance of Bolivia's water resources. Chenoa will explain how her work with UMAVIDA addresses this and other issues.

Alison Weir Speaks at Adult Education April 17



Alison Weir is the guest speaker for our 9:00 a.m. class on Sunday, April 17. Ms. Weir is a courageous author, journalist-lecturer on behalf of human rights and currently serves as executive director of If Americans Knew, an organization that works for human rights in the Middle East. She is an internationally acclaimed expert analyst on Israeli-Palestinian issues and America's role in the Holy Land. She is the first woman to receive an honorary membership in Phi Alpha Literary Society. Join our adult education class for an informative presentation with honest and open discussion about human rights in Palestine. (See "Adult Education" p. 2)

Adult Education

Sunday Adult Class, 9 a.m.

April 17: Alison Weir is guest speaker for the 9:00 a.m. class. (See page one.)

April 3, 10, 24: Adult Study Class will look at *Great Figures of the New Testament* from The Great Courses materials. The lecture presenter is Amy-Jill Levine, and each lesson will concentrate on a person or group of people mentioned in the New Testament, concentrating mostly on people mentioned in the four gospels. The April 3 lecture will be an overview of the New Testament, with other lessons to be determined. All are encouraged to join this group to gain new insights into Bible study and the people and events so central to our Christian faith.

Bible Book of the Month for April – Psalms 1-41

The living spirit of any religion shines through most clearly in its hymns. The Psalter is the hymnal of ancient Israel. Most of the psalms were probably composed to accompany acts of worship in the temple. The book of Psalms reflects many aspects of the religious experience of Israel. Its spiritual depth and beauty have made it a treasury of resources for public and private devotion and prayer. The ascription of nearly half of the psalms to David is testimony to the regard in which the great singer of Israel was held.

THE MESSENGER

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PASTOR

BEN PAROULEK

NEWSLETTER STAFF:

SHIRLEY HERCHER AND ANGELA GRAHAM

PLEASE SUBMIT ARTICLES VIA E-MAIL BY
APRIL 15 FOR THE MAY ISSUE:
messenger@valleycommunity.org

THE NEWSLETTER STAFF RETAINS
PERMISSION TO MODIFY SUBMISSIONS
FOR CLARITY, SPACE, CONTENT AND
STYLE.

'Dining for Women' Aids Women and Girls in Nepal

Dining for Women at Valley celebrates its fourth year as a chapter of this national giving circle! Come celebrate at our monthly meeting in the Fireside Room at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, April 17.

"Be Part of Her Dream," the featured program, helps women and girls in Kathmandu, Nepal and is part of the organization, Hands In Outreach. As a result of this program, 54 women from the most poverty stricken underclasses will, for the first time in their lives, have the chance to save money, be educated in basic finance and literacy, gain critical citizenship documents, and begin a journey of empowerment and leadership. For the first time in their lives, these women will have the opportunity to move out of the entrapment of extreme poverty and have the ability to make autonomous choices in their lives and pass this benefit along to their daughters.

Dining for Women loves this project because of its emphasis on strengthening the families of young, poor girls from marginalized communities in Nepal. Learn more on April 17 at our potluck lunch and inspiring educational program.



Treasurer's Report

From at least a financial standpoint, Valley is off to a good start for 2016. Through February we're right on budget for Adult Giving and expenditures are under control. Your generosity to the Building in Christ campaign has ensured that we have adequate funds on hand to begin the "South Side" project this spring.

Thank you for your continued generosity that supports the missions of Valley Church.

Valley Treasurer, Frank Powers



The children, youth and adult choirs joined together to sing on Easter Sunday.

Session Highlights

Regular meeting of Session, March 8, 2016

- **Youth House Task Force** of Karen Yakymi, Jim Sandberg, Jenny Pratt and Katherine Rinnella met to consider the future of the Youth House building. A joint meeting of the Youth House Task Force with Finance and Facilities is planned.
- **Motion Approved:** Authorize creation of a GoFundMe account to raise funds for paint, a new TV, addition of a coffee bar and blinds for the Youth House (approximately \$2,500).
- **Motion Approved:** The Great Courses DVD series, "Great Figures of the New Testament" will be used for Adult Education following Easter.
- **Adult Nurture:** A book sale during coffee hour to benefit the library was authorized.
- **Motion:** Connie Brenner was elected as a commissioner to the March Presbytery of the Cascades stated meeting.
- **New member:** Ginger DeMars was welcomed by Session as a new Valley member by Reaffirmation of Faith on February 14, 2016.

Pauline Stout Speaker for Senior Lunch April 27

Valley Senior Luncheon is on Wednesday, April 27 at noon. The cost is \$5.00. Friends are always welcome! If you need a ride to Senior lunch, please call Karen Mitchell-Yakymi at 503.640.8375. We have several drivers who are available and would love to pick you up. Our kitchen crew can't wait to greet you!

Our speaker, Pauline Stout moved to Raleigh Hills from Pennsylvania to be closer to her children three years ago and now attends worship and activities at Valley Church.

Pauline teaches yoga and enjoys painting. As a Master Gardener, she designed more than 10 gardens in central Pennsylvania, with an emphasis on community gardening. She is a Child and Adult expressive Art and Play Therapist as well as a Reflexology Therapist.

Pauline will share her knowledge of Hand Reflexology which relieves symptoms such as headaches, shoulder aches, stress, anxiety and much more by applying firm pressure on the hand. Come join us as Pauline teaches us how to improve our vitality and well-being. This will be a fascinating lecture!

Gamble Library News

Have you visited the church library recently? New materials are always being added, and we subscribe to several magazines of interest to members of the congregation. Especially of interest is the growing DVD collection with titles for children and many excellent lessons to help us all learn more about and deepen our Christian faith.

Library Book Group Meetings

Keep Quiet, by Lisa Scottoline is the book for April 1 discussion. The story is about a father and son who are involved in a terrible automobile accident. Due to secrecy, lies, and guilt their lives are forever changed.

The April Book Group will meet at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, April 29 to discuss the book, *A Wrinkle in Time*, by Madeline L'Engle. Meg Murry, her little brother Charles and their friend Calvin become involved with unearthly strangers in a search for Meg's father. He has disappeared while engaged in secret work for the government about space travel. All are invited to join us for these discussions. Remember to bring your own coffee.

Annual Book Sale

The annual Book Sale to benefit the church library is planned for late April or early May. If you have books, videos, or DVDs you would like to donate, please leave them in the church library or the church office clearly marked "BOOK SALE DONATION." The funds raised are used to buy materials and/or equipment for our church library.



Thank you for sending your check for **\$30.00**
for the **2016 Per Capita (for wider church expenses)** for each Valley member.
For more information about what per capita is, and how it helps, go to:
oga.pcusa.org/percapita



Presbyterian Women Gather April 23



On Saturday, April 23, Presbyterian Women of Cascades Presbytery will hold their Spring Gathering at First Presbyterian Church, Dallas, 879 SW Levens Street, Dallas, Oregon. Registration is \$10 in advance (see flyers in the Valley office) or \$15 at 9:30 a.m. at First, Dallas, on April 23. Lunch is included. The Gathering is planned to begin at 10:00 a.m. and end by 3:00 p.m.

The program includes worship with communion, a keynote speaker on the subject of water issues in Oregon (reflecting the theme of the 2015-16 Horizons Bible Study), introduction of the 2016-17 Bible Study, and a business meeting, including election and installation of officers.

All Presbyterian women are welcome!

CROP Walk 2016 April 24

Walk with Team Valley Pres. on Sunday April 24! Here's the link to register or donate: <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/portlandor>. Our 2016 goal is \$2,000. Of the total raised, 25% is kept here in Portland and split between Partners For a Hunger Free Oregon and NE Emergency Food Bank. The remaining 75% is used by Church World Services to fight hunger, thirst and injustice throughout the world.



Above: The Sanctuary Choir and friends sing the Hallelujah Chorus on Easter Sunday.

Left: Jan Bellis-Squires was one of the liturgists on Easter Sunday.



Lunch with Oregon author Jane Kirkpatrick



“Stitching Stories” Saturday, April 30, 11:30 a.m. in Armitage Hall
Benefit the Valley Community Presbyterian Church quilt ministry

Best-selling, award-winning Oregon author Jane Kirkpatrick will join Valley members and friends right here at Valley on April 30 for “Stitching Stories,” a lively presentation about the power of story. Jane has 24 novels and five non-fiction titles to her credit, including her newest title published in September 2015, *The Memory Weaver*. Some of those titles will be available for purchase and signing at the luncheon. Her historical novels are based primarily on the lives of actual people and reflect much of the richness of culture in the Pacific Northwest. Her stories speak to timeless themes of hardiness, faith, commitment, hope, and love.

Tickets will be available for purchase in advance of the luncheon. Proceeds will benefit Valley’s quilt ministry, which, for over ten years, has been providing our high school seniors with beautiful quilts as a gift from the congregation as we send them out into the next phase of their journey. Tickets (\$25) are now available during coffee fellowship or contact Karen Sandberg at jim.karen.sandberg@comcast.net.

Jane Kirkpatrick spent 17 years working with Native American families on the Warm Springs Reservation as a mental health and early childhood specialist. She and her husband, Jerry, also spent 26 years ranching along the lower John Day River. They now live on small acreage between Bend and Redmond. You can learn more about Jane and her books at www.jkbooks.com.

Children's Musical May 1

The King's Kids Choir will make you smile with their spring musical, *Rescue in the Night*. This funny rendition, written by Tom Long and Allen Pote, tells the classic Bible story of "Daniel in the Lion's Den." King Darius and his wacky advisors, Astrofar, Taxalot, and Crushaflo, learn a lot from Daniel's faith. The musical will be presented in worship on Sunday morning, May 1.



Valley Kids Events in April

- Sunday, April 10: Worship + Sunday Funday – *Lessons from Superheroes, Part 1*
- Sunday, April 17: Worship + Sunday Funday – *Lessons from Superheroes, Part 2*
- Sunday, April 24: Worship + Sunday Funday – *Lessons from Superheroes, Part 3*



Youth Mission Trip Update



Wow, time flies when you're having fun. And we are having a blast planning this summer's mission trip to Westminster Woods Retreat Center, which is located between Pendleton and La Grande, Oregon in the Blue Mountains. Our mission team will be completing several much-needed projects for the camp, as well as serving in the surrounding community. As we will be providing our own meals, we'd like to house our cooks in a travel trailer or RV. If you have one that we can borrow for the week (June 26-July 2), please contact Laurel Cluthe at Laurel@valleycommunity.org or [281.300.4635](tel:281.300.4635). Your prayers and continued support are greatly appreciated during this time of preparation. God is doing exciting things!

Valley Christian Preschool



Halleluiah! Jesus is Risen! And spring has arrived! Our preschool is abuzz with enthusiasm for outdoor play and excited for the activities we have in the works for the season.

Recently we've learned about bike safety and practiced in the gym during our annual Bike Days. Don't forget you can ride your bike to Valley, and park it safely and securely in the bike rack, located in the east parking lot (under cover.) We had fun honoring the men in our students'

lives as we brunched together in our annual Munch With Men celebrations. And we look forward to this month's annual Someone Special Tea, where we have the privilege of honoring the women in our students' lives.

This Eastertide, we celebrate and share the love of Jesus through our Children's Book Bank book drive. The Portland-based non-profit "envisions a society in which all children, regardless of means, are surrounded by and experience books during their early years of development." We joyously collect books in our preschool through April 15.

Please continue to spread the word that we are registering for the 2016-2017 school year for 2 to 5 year-olds. If you know of anyone who might be interested, have them contact Kristina Kurtz at 503.292.3537 x146 or Kristina@valleycommunity.org.

Valley Christian Preschool welcomes
children ages 2-5 years.

Enrollment is underway for Fall 2016!

Contact Kristina Kurtz at 503.292.3537 or
kristina@valleycommunity.org for more information.

Join us!

Valley Notes

Thanks

Thank you, Diane Harris, for the lovely orchid for the church entry.

Opportunities

“Your flower gift provides a mean, God’s beauty to be seen.”
Sign up in the church office.

Produce Table: As you are planning your summer gardens, please consider planting some extra seeds and veggie plants so that you can bring their bounty to the Valley Produce Table. All monetary donations go to the Oregon Food Bank and help feed hungry in our own state. Thank you!

Prayers

We pray for those with health concerns: Bud Bendix, Vernice Trask

We pray for those who mourn:
Jan Falconer and family on the death of Jan’s sister, Patricia Skyler, on March 4, 2016.

Mary Stapleton and family on the death of Mary’s husband, Tom Stapleton, on March 5, 2016.

Laura Evans and family on the death of Laura’s son, Ronald Evans, on March 11, 2016.



Above and below: Awards were handed out to members of the Washington County fire, police, and sheriff’s departments at the Annual Community Service Awards Breakfast. Many attended and enjoyed great food and company.



Valley’s Man and Woman of the Year awards were presented to Jim Sandberg (center of the left photo) and Barbara Symons at the Annual Community Service Awards Breakfast. Barbara’s son accepted the award in her place.

April 2016

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
<p>3 9:00a Adult Education Class 9:15a Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship 10:00a Worship 11:00a Coffee Fellowship 11:30a Extend the Table 4:15p Youth Handbell Choir 5:00p Youth Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>4 8:00a Women's Aerobics 6:30p PDX Highland Games Association 7:30p Girl Scout Troop</p>	<p>5 10:00a Tai Chi Class 11:00a Staff Meeting 11:00a Women's Bible Study 6:45p Christian Nurture for Youth Meeting 7:00p Facilities Committee</p>	<p>6 8:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Women's Aerobics 9:15a CONG 5:00p Cherub Choir 5:00p King's Kids Choir 6:00p Royal Ringers Bells 6:30p Wolf Den Meeting</p>	<p>7 10:00a Alanon 10:00a Tai Chi Class 6:00p Christian Nurture for Children Meeting 6:30p Bear Den Meeting 6:30p Cub Scout Den Mtg. 7:15p Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>1 8:00a Women's Aerobics 10:00a Gamble Library Book Group 6:00p Family Fun Night</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>10 Chenoa Stock visits Valley 9:00a Adult Education Class 9:15a Sanctuary Choir and Royal Ringers Rehearsal 9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship 10:00a Worship 10:20a Sunday Funday 11:00a Coffee Fellowship 11:15a Session Meeting with New Members 4:15p Youth Handbell Choir 5:00p Youth Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>11 8:00a Women's Aerobics 7:00p Finance Committee 7:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:30p Girl Scout Troop</p>	<p>12 10:00a Tai Chi Class 11:00a Staff Meeting 6:30p Cub Scout Pack 592 7:00p Session</p>	<p>13 8:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Women's Aerobics 5:00p Cherub Choir 5:00p King's Kids Choir 6:00p Royal Ringers Bells 6:30p Girl Scout Troop</p>	<p>14 10:00a Alanon 10:00a Tai Chi Class 6:00p Tiger Scouts 6:00p VCP Board Meeting 7:15p Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>15 "The Messenger" Newsletter Articles Due 8:00a Women's Aerobics 6:00p Camp Fire Mtg.</p>	<p>16 10:00a Pack 592 Bike Rodeo</p>
<p>17 9:00a Adult Education Class with Alison Weir 9:15a Sanctuary Choir and New Spirit Ringers Rehearsal 9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship 10:00a Worship 10:20a Sunday Funday 11:00a Coffee Fellowship 11:30a Dining for Women Meeting 5:00p Youth Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>18 8:00a Women's Aerobics 10:00a Century Club Board Meeting 10:00a Meals on Wheels 6:00p PIC Meeting 7:00p Girl Scout Troop</p>	<p>19 10:00a Tai Chi Class 11:00a Staff Meeting 7:00p Deacons Meeting</p>	<p>20 8:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Women's Aerobics 5:00p Cherub Choir 5:00p King's Kids Choir 6:00p Royal Ringers Bells</p>	<p>21 8:00a Soup Kitchen 10:00a Alanon 10:00a Tai Chi Class 2:00p Mission Endowment Investment Fund Comm. 6:30p Cub Scout Pack 592 7:15p Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>22 8:00a Women's Aerobics 10:00a Gamble Library Book Group</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24 9:00a Adult Education Class 9:15a Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship 10:00a Worship 10:20a Sunday Funday 11:00a Coffee Fellowship 1:30p CROP Walk 4:15p Youth Handbell Choir 5:00p Youth Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>25 8:00a Women's Aerobics 1:00p Century Club General Meeting 7:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:30p Girl Scout Troop</p>	<p>26 10:00a Tai Chi Class 11:00a Staff Meeting</p>	<p>27 8:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Women's Aerobics 12:00p Senior Adult Luncheon 5:00p Cherub Choir 5:00p King's Kids Choir 6:00p Royal Ringers Bells 6:30p Girl Scout Troop</p>	<p>28 10:00a Alanon 10:00a Tai Chi Class 6:30p Cub Scout Den 7:15p Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>29 8:00a Women's Aerobics</p>	<p>30 9:00a Musical Rehearsal 11:30a Jane Kirkpatrick Book Signing and Luncheon</p>

THE MESSENGER



VALLEY COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
8060 SW BRENTWOOD ST.
PORTLAND, OR 97225-2355

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
TIME DATED MATERIAL

STITCHING
STORIES

enjoy lunch with award-winning Oregon author



Jane Kirkpatrick

VALLEY COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

armitage hall
8060 sw brentwood portland or 97225
valleycommunity.org

saturday, april 30

11:30-1:30
\$25

Tickets available during coffee hour or from Karen Sandberg
jim.karen.sandberg@comcast.net

Books will be available for purchase and signing at the luncheon. Learn more about Jane Kirkpatrick at jkbooks.com.

Proceeds benefit Valley Community Presbyterian Church quilt ministry.

Joining Hands Bolivia Mission Co-worker, Chenoa Stock, visits Valley

April 10, 2016



Chenoa will participate in worship and be available after coffee fellowship to talk about conditions in Bolivia.

See p. 1

Senior Adult Luncheon

Wednesday, April 27
in Armitage Hall
at noon.



Join speaker Pauline Stout as she talks about being a Child and Adult expressive Art and Play Therapist as well as a Reflexology Therapist.

See p. 3