

The Messenger

Valley Community Presbyterian Church November 2016

Sundays at Valley

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

November

- 6** *Daylight Saving Time Ends*
Communion
All Saint Sunday
Extend the Table, 11:30 a.m.
- 13** **Kirkin' o' the Tartan Sunday**
Session meets with new members, 11:15 a.m.
Mission Market, 11:30 a.m.
- 20** **Cents-Ability Offering taken**
Dining for Women Lunch, 11:30 a.m.
- 27** **The First Sunday of Advent**

December

- 4** **The Second Sunday of Advent**
Communion
Advent Fair



Mission Market and Kirkin' o' the Tartan Sunday, November 13

Presbyterians believe that we cannot simply live in our own sheltered world; each local congregation participates in mission activities within its community, on a national level, and on a global scale as you will see when you join us during coffee fellowship on November 13. Please join us upstairs for Scottish Bagpipes and dancers from Ann Johnson's School of Highland Dance, then stroll through our market place for an opportunity to make a difference in someone else's life.

<u>Items to Buy</u>	<u>Items to Bring</u>	<u>Items to Give</u>
<p><i>Equal Exchange:</i> Fair Traded coffee, tea, olive oil and chocolates for you or gifts.</p> <p><i>Youth Mission:</i> Pre-orders for Cookie Sale to support summer mission trips.</p> <p><i>Valley's Soup Kitchen:</i> Soup to eat and help support our monthly Bud Clark Commons Soup Kitchen Ministries. Also need volunteers to cook, deliver, or serve.</p> <p><i>Second Home:</i> Hand Painted Umbrellas sold to support local work with homeless High School Students looking to graduate and go to college.</p>	<p><i>St. Matthew's Food Pantry & Project Back Food Drive:</i> Bring food, toiletry items, Peanut Butter, Tuna fish, canned veggies, powdered milk, beans, pasta, canned tomatoes, etc. (Nothing loose or in glass)</p> <p><i>Boy Scout</i> are looking for youth to join packs and troops meeting at Valley or the local area.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Items to See</u></p> <p><i>Valley's Mission Endowment Fund:</i> About \$10,000 is given out in the spring and fall each year to support ministries locally, nationally and globally. See the display.</p>	<p><i>Luke Dorf:</i> The agency has pre-packaged Blessing Bags for sale, which are given to the homeless.</p> <p><i>Heifer International:</i> Purchase a flock of geese or a brace of bunnies for a family in another country! You can empower a family to become self-sustaining.</p> <p><i>Habitat for Humanity:</i> Donations collected to support local housing projects. Lend your support.</p> <p><i>Knit for Kids:</i> Knit sweaters to clothe children around the world. Help keep them warm.</p>

Please remember to bring cash/checks....most stations do not take cards. Thank you for attending our event.

Session Meeting

October 11, 2016

- **Motion:** Authorize exploration about offering a yoga class for preschool moms.
- **Motion:** Approve Pastor Ben Paroulek's covenant for 2017.
- **Pastor Nominating Committee:** Session approved the Ministry Information Form drafted by the PNC at the September Stated meeting. Lisa explained that this should have gone to COM first. Their role is to review it with an eye how potential candidates would see it. COM has now provided its feedback and there are minor changes. Since these are not substantive, elders asked for the final copy to be distributed for reference.
- **Staff Proposal:** The staff presented a proposal to pilot a Wednesday evening program that would include a meal and activities (such as bible study, art, knitting or cooking). They expressed their desire to volunteer their time to make this pilot happen.
- **Motion: Approve planning for a pilot of a Wednesday evening program.**
- **Letter from the Presbytery** Budget and Finance Committee requesting increased support for Presbytery Partnership Giving. Mission has already considered this in their budget.
- **Presbytery of the Cascades:** Next Stated Meeting scheduled November 18-19, 2016 at Calvin Presbyterian Church in Tigard. We will elect commissioners at the November meeting.
- **Records review** for Clerks of Session is in process. A review meeting will be held here at Valley on Saturday, October 15.

Ordination and Installation September 18, 2016

- ◇ **Megan Bootsma** was ordained as Ruling Elder and installed for a one year term, Class of 2017.
- ◇ **Don Sowers** was reinstated as Ruling Elder to serve a one-year term, Class of 2017.

Special Meeting of Session September 18, 2016

- ◇ Sonja Spencer rejoined Valley via reaffirmation of faith.

THE MESSENGER

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PASTOR

BEN PAROULEK

NEWSLETTER STAFF:

SHIRLEY HERCHER AND ANGELA GRAHAM

PLEASE SUBMIT ARTICLES VIA E-MAIL BY
NOVEMBER 15 FOR THE DECEMBER
ISSUE:

messenger@valleycommunity.org

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

2017 General Fund Pledging Report

October 9, 2016 was designated as pledge Dedication Sunday and 54 pledges were received that day totaling \$ 178,952. As of October 16, a total of 79 pledges have been received amounting to \$265,976, which is 58% of our goal of \$460,000 for 2017. At the comparable date last year, 90 pledges totaling \$272,440 had been turned in which was 64.7% of the 2016 pledge total. The average pledge for 2017 to date is 11.2% higher than at the comparable date for 2016, which is very nice.

The stewardship committee thanks the members for their 2017 pledges that have been received and if you have not submitted your pledge, please drop it off at the church office, mail it to the church or bring it to Sunday service and drop it in the offering plate to allow Session to plan the budgets for 2017 before year end.

Thank you, Lyle Chadwick

Extend the Table for All Ages!



All are invited Sunday, November 6 from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. for Extend the Table. Come and enjoy an intergenerational bible study with the Bible Book of the Month and lunch with activities for all ages!

Adult Education

Sundays at 9:00 a.m., Armitage Hall

- **November 6** - “The Quantum Activist.” DVD Amit Goswami, PhD, retired Theoretical Physics Professor at University of Oregon. A humanistic discussion of why science and religion are inclusive.
- **November 13 and 20** - God, Politics and “Global Warming” DVD. Bill Moyers presents a discussion by evangelical environmentalists and dissenting commercial and religious factions on the short and long term effects of current industrial practices on the environment.
- **November 27** - On Faith and Reason DVD. Multiple authored presentation discussing the impact and consequences of religious teachings and philosophy on our lives and current society. Program speakers include Salman Rushdie, Harry Gordon, J. Winterson, who has graciously offered to discuss the issues and the authenticity of this story. W. Power, A. Provost, David Grossman, Martin Amis, Sir John Houghton, Margaret Atwood, and others.

Moyers interviews writers from different faiths and backgrounds about their individual searches for meaning and significance. Subtopics include the chasm that many perceive between science and religion, controversy between faith and politics, the need for freedom of expression, and much more.

New Chairs Now in Use

Valley’s Deacons arranged for the acquisition of 12 new chairs for use during Coffee Hour, Senior Luncheons, meetings, receptions, etc. They are especially for those who have acquired “limitations.” The seats of the chairs are high, firm and padded, and the chairs have arms. Thank you to Steve Rees and Frank Powers for locating the chairs and assembling them.



During coffee fellowship, Richard Page and Helen Green enjoy the newly acquired chairs.

Mariners Assemble Personal ‘Blessing Bags’



Navigators Mariners gathered in Armitage Hall recently to assemble 30 Blessing Bags for use by Luke-Dorf Outreach staff. (Below) Resident Teresa displays one of the bags, which contain toiletry items,

several snacks, a plastic poncho, chap-stick, band-aids, hand sanitizer, and dog or cat food, if there is a pet.



Thank you for sending your check for **\$32.00**
for the **2017 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



Valley Mission Outreach

Eyeglasses and Hearing Aids: Thank you for donating to the Yellow Box in the stairwell to Davis Hall. Valley recently delivered 58 pair of glasses with cases, nine pair of glasses without cases and three hearing aid sets along with cleaners and batteries. Keep bringing your old prescription glasses and aids; these are taken to Third World Countries and distributed to those who need help seeing.



In September, we collected 44 **New Back Packs**, which have been delivered. There are 28 families signed up for the current school year and with packs left over from last year, they were able to come up with the 56 packs needed to start off. Each Friday a child in the program picks up a pack with 15-20 pounds of food; this food is to help stretch the family budget over the weekend, so the children aren't hungry. Many thanks to those who supported with back packs.

A **bake sale** in October to support **Bread for the World** was well supported by our congregation! During the Coffee Fellowship, 20 bakers filled our tables with goodies and all were very generous as baked goods were purchased to take home. All monies collected from the free will offering, \$485.00, will be sent to Bread For The World to pay for our 2017 dues, to maintain our Covenant Church status. We also conducted an Offering of Letters, sending word to our State Representatives and Senators that we care about food issues, locally and globally. Thank you bakers and buyers!



Note: Food and toiletries for backpacks will be collected during Mission Market on November 13.

'Dining For Women' Meeting Learns of 'Water is Life'



Amman Imman: Water is Life is the featured non-profit for Dining for Women for the November 20 potluck lunch at 11:30 a.m. This very interesting organization is in Niger, West Africa.

Amman Imman empowers and helps preserve Africa's most vulnerable indigenous people. It establishes points of civilization emphasizing the role of women and engaging youth as guiding forces for societal stability, optimism and resilience.

DFW's donation will pay for a livestock loaning program, fodder bank and animal husbandry training. The HERds program will loan female livestock to the 60 most vulnerable women in Tangarwashane. This will allow these women to sell livestock when necessary to purchase food, clothes, medicine and school supplies.

The Azawak Tuaregs are a nomadic group that herd cattle, camels, goats and sheep. Recently, however, many have been forced into village life due to harsh environmental conditions, inaccessible healthcare, insufficient nutrition and scant rainfall forcing children to walk up to 30 miles a day in search of water, often in vain. Half the children in Tangarwashane die before age five due to complications of dehydration, malaria and malnutrition.

Come to our Sunday, November 20 meeting at 11:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room for a fabulous potluck lunch, an engaging presentation and the opportunity to contribute to Amman Imman's grant request.

Meet Our Valley Family



Lizz and Paul Brown and Duncan.

Elizabeth Esch came to Portland in 1999 to intern with The Really BIG Dance Company as a production assistant on *The Pirate Show*. Paul Brown was the Co-Lighting Designer and operator for the show, and by closing night they were dating. Not long after, Paul began working at Northwest Children's Theater and School as their Technical Director and Master Carpenter. Lizz became a free-lance stage manager and theater technician working for several production companies over time. Lizz and Paul found themselves working together on many projects including *Dracula*, *Peter Pan*, *Winnie the Pooh*, *Babes In Arms* and *Crazy for You* to name a few. In 2003 they were married.

In 2007, while pregnant with Duncan, they were working together, yet again, on *The Secret Garden* with Staged! Musical Theater, a company through whom they would meet Bob Rasmussen. In 2008 Lizz was invited to choreograph *The Music Man*, an all school musical at Oregon Episcopal School. Here she met Adam and Wendy Steele, and continued to work with them through the OES Performing Arts Department for a handful of years to come. During this time, Lizz was invited to choreograph for the *Tiny Bethlehem* Nativity Pageant at Valley Community Presbyterian Church.

Flash forward to 2016 and you find Lizz, Paul and Duncan attending Valley church regularly, Duncan having celebrated his baptism a little over a year ago. Lizz continues to direct the Nativity Pageant each December and weekly leads the Cherub Choir. Both teach for Sunday Funday while Duncan sings with the King's Kids Choir. What started out as making a few friends through work has become a loving and supportive relationship with the community of Valley Church.

Presbyterian Women's Gathering



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

Presbyterian Women (PW) from around the Presbytery of the Cascades gathered in October at the McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church in Waltherville, OR. Theme of the gathering was "Out of the Darkness," and the program featured two Oregonians who are working to abolish the death penalty in Oregon. The day featured singing, PW business, and a wonderful lunch.

Ron Steiner spoke about the reasons that many people support use of the death penalty, and why those reasons are not borne out in facts. The Oregon State Constitution requires that a popular vote is necessary to eliminate the death penalty in Oregon. "Oregonians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty is working in that direction." Oregon currently has 34 men and one woman on death row. Mr. Steiner is from New Mexico where, after his retirement from a marketing career, he worked for the abolition of the death penalty after hearing Sister Helen Prejean, author of "Dead Man Walking" speak.

Frank Thompson, former Superintendent of the Oregon State Penitentiary spoke of his change of heart about enforcing the death penalty after he supervised the only two executions to take place in Oregon during the last 53 years. Both of the condemned killers who were executed had waived their appeals and asked to die. Mr. Thompson has recently been in the news after writing an op-ed for the New York Times entitled, "What I Learned from Executing Two Men." Mr. Thompson supports life without parole as an alternative to the death penalty.

Adult/Senior Christmas Luncheon



Plan to join the Senior luncheon group, Wednesday, December 7 at noon, for a Christmas season Kick-off gathering. For a mere \$5.00 you will enjoy a scrumptious holiday lunch, gorgeous decorations, and time to visit with friends both old and new. For entertainment Pastor Ben will accompany the preschoolers as they sing their Christmas repertoire. Bob Hinson, our church Organist/Pianist and David Jimerson, our Minister of Music, will lead us in singing your favorite Christmas carols.

This lovely Christmas event welcomes all Valley adults. An RSVP to the church office (503.292.3537) helps the cooks plan, but there is always plenty of food and you will be welcome!



Valley Scrapbook



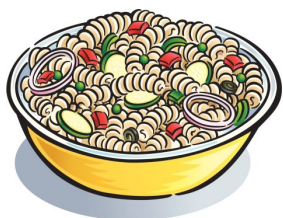
A PC(USA) quilt created by Valley's own Marcia Sanderman, is on display in the chancel of the sanctuary.

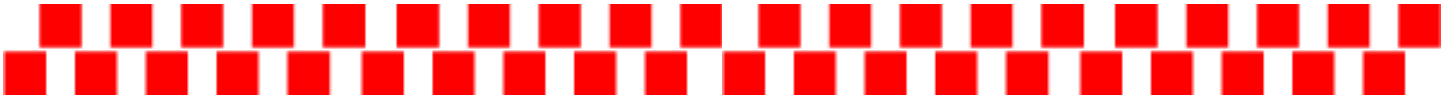


A young baker and her mom stand proudly in front of some of the baked goods at the sale benefiting Bread for the World. See page 4.

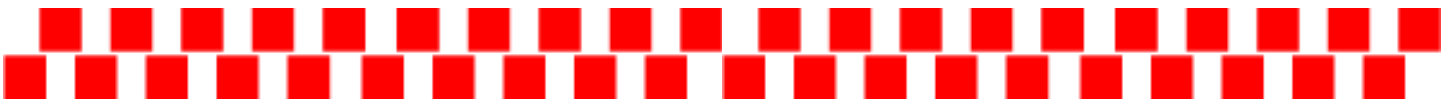


Above and below: The annual Congregational Lunch included many varieties of pasta.





The A to Z Pasta Potluck in October was a big success! There were many varieties of pasta: Ancini de Pepe, Ravioli, Macaroni, Ziti and more. Salad, bread, and beverages were provided by the Fellowship Committee.



Valley Notes

Opportunities

All are invited to the next meeting of the **Library Book Group** at 10:00 a.m., Friday, December 9 (a change of usual date). The group will discuss *The Little Paris Bookshop* by Nina George.

It's that time of year again...KIDZ MART! Wouldn't you enjoy receiving a gift this Christmas from your child that was lovingly picked out just for you? Bring your donation items to the Kids Mart collection bin in the office lobby. We need gently-used gift items for Moms, Dads, Grandparents, Relatives, Siblings and pets! All proceeds go to Children's Ministries.

Thanks

A big thank you to all those who donated to the Children's Book Drive - A Legacy of Literacy - recently. We had a great response! I wish you could see the smiles on the faces when children choose their "own" book to keep. The Assistance League of Greater Portland and I thank you again.

Pat Bird

Prayers

We pray for those with health concerns or those who are in need of prayer:

Pam Hess (Amy Rheingans' mother)

We pray for those who mourn:

- Family and friends of
Laura Wetzel



Have you included the church in your estate planning?



Richard Page manned a trick-or-treat station for Valley Christian Preschool.



Preschool children peek through a giant pumpkin in their classroom.



Laurel and Angela, dressed as Little Red Riding Hood and a kitty, handed out treats to the preschoolers.

November 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>6</p> <p>9:00a Adult Education Class 9:15a Confirmation Class 9:15a Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship</p> <p>10:00a Worship - All Saints Sunday</p> <p>10:20a Sunday Funday 10:20a Youth Bible Study 11:00a Coffee Fellowship 11:30a Extend the Table 4:15p New Spirit Ringers 5:00p Valley Youth Choir</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:00a Women's Aerobics</p> <p>6:00p Girl Scout Leaders Meeting 7:00p Finance Meeting 7:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:30p Girl Scout Troop 7:30p Scouts Pack 592</p>	<p>1</p> <p>All Saints Day 10:00a Tai Chi Class 11:00a Staff Meeting 1:00p Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:00p Wolf Den Meeting 6:45p Christian Nurture for Youth Meeting 7:00p Facilities Committee 7:00p Prayer Shawl Ministry</p>	<p>2</p> <p>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 Bell Choir 6:30p Scout Pack 592 6:30p Youth Group Night</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10:00a Tai Chi Class</p> <p>6:00p Christian Nurture for Children Meeting 6:30p Webelos Den Mtg. 7:15p Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>4</p> <p>8:00a Women's Aerobics</p>	<p>5</p> <p>2:00p Johnnie Sarvens' Memorial Reception</p>
<p>13</p> <p>Kirklin' o' the Tartan 9:00a Adult Education 9:15a Confirmation Class 9:15a Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship</p> <p>10:00a Worship</p> <p>10:20a Sunday Funday 10:20a Youth Bible Study 11:00a Coffee Fellowship 11:15a Session Meeting with New Members 11:30a Mission Market 4:15p New Spirit Ringers 5:00p Valley Youth Choir</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8:00a Women's Aerobics</p> <p>6:00p Girl Scout Leaders Meeting 7:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:30p Scouts Pack 592</p>	<p>15</p> <p>"The Messenger" Newsletter Articles Due</p> <p>10:00a Tai Chi Class 11:00a Staff Meeting</p> <p>7:00p Deacons Meeting</p>	<p>16</p> <p>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 Bell Choir 6:30p Cub Scout Lion Den 6:30p Scout Pack Meeting 6:30p Youth Group Night</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8:00a Soup Kitchen 10:00a Tai Chi Class</p> <p>5:00p Music Selection Team 6:30p Pack 592 Meeting 7:15p Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8:00a Women's Aerobics</p> <p>6:00p Camp Fire Mtg.</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20</p> <p>9:00a Adult Education Class 9:15a Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship</p> <p>10:00a Worship</p> <p>10:20a Sunday Funday 10:20a Youth Bible Study 11:00a Coffee Fellowship 11:30a Dining for Women Mtg. 4:15p New Spirit Ringers 5:00p Valley Youth Choir</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:00a Women's Aerobics</p> <p>11:30a Century Club General Meeting</p> <p>6:00p Girl Scout Leaders Meeting 7:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:30p Girl Scout Troop 7:30p Scouts Pack 592</p>	<p>22</p> <p>11:00a Staff Meeting</p> <p>6:30p Girl Scouts</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Women's Aerobics</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Thanksgiving Day - Church Building Closed</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Church Building Closed</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27</p> <p>9:00a Adult Education Class 9:15a Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship</p> <p>10:00a Worship</p> <p>10:20a Sunday Funday 10:20a Youth Bible Study 11:00a Coffee Fellowship 4:15p New Spirit Ringers 5:00p Valley Youth Choir</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:00a Women's Aerobics</p> <p>11:30a Century Club General Meeting</p> <p>6:00p Girl Scout Leaders Meeting 7:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:30p Scouts Pack 592</p>	<p>29</p> <p>10:00a Tai Chi Class 11:00a Staff Meeting</p>	<p>30</p> <p>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 Bell Choir</p>			

THE MESSENGER



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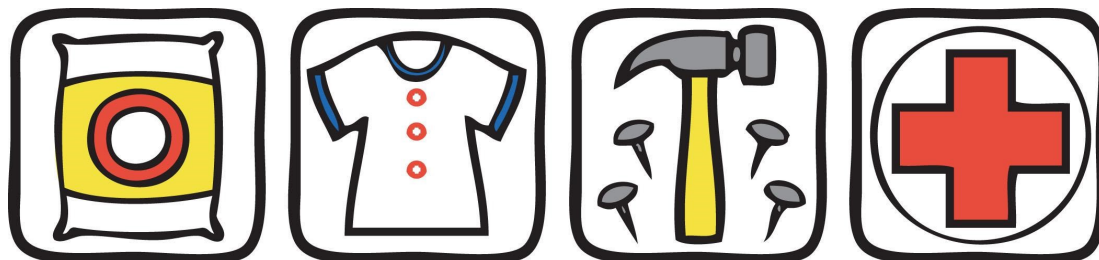
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME DATED MATERIAL

Mission Market

Sunday, November 13

Directly after 10:00 a.m. worship



Learn about organizations supported by Valley
and buy meaningful gifts.

See p. 1