

ADULT EDUCATION CLASS Sunday, December 4 at 9:00 AM in Armitage Hall will feature a DVD on Faith and Reason. This is a multiple authored presentation discussing the impact and consequences of religious teachings and philosophy on our lives and current society. All are welcome to attend!

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, 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. An RSVP to the church office helps the cooks plan, but there is always plenty of food and you will be welcomed!

THE GAMBLE LIBRARY BOOK GROUP will meet at 10:00 AM, Friday, December 9 (a change of usual date). The group will discuss *The Little Paris Bookshop* by Nina George.

ALL ARE INVITED to a Christmas Sing-along at Courtyard Village in Raleigh Hills on Saturday, December 17 at 3:00 PM. There will be hot beverages and goodies available. Come sing with the residents and enjoy fun and fellowship!

SCAT 2016 CHRISTMAS BASKET PROGRAM: During December, the SCAT Team will provide holiday food and gifts to more than 300 families in our community. There are many opportunities for you to get involved with this special Christmas celebration! All training and instruction will be provided. Just bring your willing hands and your Christmas spirit. Go to www.signup.com/go/P78PQ4 to volunteer!



8060 SW Brentwood Street, Portland, Oregon 97225
503.292.3537 www.valleycommunity.org

Valley Staff

Ben Paroulek..... Pastor, ext. 134
 Chuck Falconer and Jenny Pratt..... Pastoral Associates
 Laurel Cluthe..... Children's and Youth Minister, ext. 135
 Angela Kirby..... Nursery Coordinator, ext. 135
 David Jimerson Minister of Music, ext. 139
 Bob Hinson Organist/Pianist, ext. 139
 Amy Rheingans Director of Youth & Children's Music, ext. 145
 Anne Searce Preschool Director, ext. 146
 Angela Graham Publication & Office Administrator, ext. 126
 AmyAnn Green Business Manager, ext. 128
 Connor Campbell Building Superintendent, ext. 143

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE COMING WEEK

November 27-December 4, 2016

<p>SUNDAY, November 27 The First Sunday of Advent 8:55 AM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM Adult Education Class 9:30 AM Early Coffee 10:00 AM Worship 10:20 AM Sunday Funday 10:20 AM Youth Bible Study 11:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 4:15 PM New Spirit Ringers 5:00 PM Valley Youth Choir</p> <p>MONDAY, November 28 8:00 AM Women's Aerobics 11:30 AM Century Club General Meeting 6:00 PM Girl Scout Leaders Meeting 7:00 PM Girl Scout Troop 7:30 PM Scout Pack 592</p>	<p>TUESDAY, November 29 10:00 AM Tai Chi Class 11:00 AM Staff Meeting</p> <p>WEDNESDAY, November 30 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study 8:00 AM Women's Aerobics 5:00 PM Cherub Choir 5:00 PM King's Kids Choir 6:00 PM Royal Ringers Bell Choir</p> <p>THURSDAY, December 1 10:00 AM Tai Chi Class 6:00 PM Christian Nurture for Children Meeting 6:30 PM Bear Den Meeting 6:30 PM Webelos Den Mtg. 7:15 PM Sanctuary Choir</p> <p>FRIDAY, December 2 8:00 AM Women's Aerobics</p>	<p>SUNDAY, December 4 The Second Sunday of Advent 8:55 AM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM Adult Education Class 9:30 AM Early Coffee 10:00 AM Confirmation Class 10:00 AM Worship 10:20 AM Sunday Funday 10:20 AM Youth Bible Study 11:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 11:30 AM Advent Fair 4:15 PM New Spirit Ringers 5:00 PM Valley Youth Choir</p>
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SERVICE OF WORSHIP



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
NOVEMBER 27, 2016 ✝ 10:00 AM
Please stand as you are able
Bold Text is spoken by everyone

GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

SCRIPTURE FOR GATHERING *Isaiah 9:2*
 The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
Those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

PRELUDE *How Brightly Shines the Morning Star* Victor Klaus

ACOLYTES Georgia Hoffbeck and Lars Hoffbeck

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS
Please pass and sign the friendship folders.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE Blair Family

ADVENT SONG *Advent Song* No 2090, v.1
Light the Advent candle, one: Now the waiting has begun;
We have started on our way, time to think of Christmas day.
Candle, candle, burning bright, shining in the cold winter night;
Candle, candle, burning bright, fill our hearts with Christmas light.

❖ CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed be our God who lights our way in the darkness.

Blessed be the God who gathers us here in this place.

From down the street, from our busy lives,
God brings us home to the heart of grace.

Blessed be the God who remembers us and leads us into light.

❖ OPENING HYMN *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* Nº 9

INVITATION TO CONFESSION Ed Sanders, Liturgist

☪ Silence is kept ☪

❖ ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS *Gloria Patri* Nº 579

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, Amen.**

❖ THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

Please greet those around you with words of peace.

❖ RESPONSE OF PRAISE Nº 2091

The King of glory comes, the nation rejoices.

Open the gates before him, lift up your voices.

Who is the King of glory; how shall we call him?

He is Emmanuel the promised of ages.

The King of glory comes, the nation rejoices.

Open the gates before him, lift up your voices!

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH Laurel Cluthe

ANTHEM *He Comes to Us as One Unknown* Jane Marshall

Text by Albert Schweitzer

*He comes to us as One unknown, without a name, as of old, by the lakeside,
He came to those men who knew Him not. He speaks to us the same words:
"Follow thou me!" and sets us to the tasks which He has to fulfill for our time.
He commands. And to those who obey Him, whether they be wise or simple,
He will reveal himself in the toils, the conflicts,
the sufferings which they shall pass through in His fellowship,
and, as an ineffable mystery, they shall learn in their own experience
Who He is.*

SCRIPTURE *Matthew 24:36-44* New Testament, p. 27

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON *When You Least Expect It* Ben Paroulek

RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

OFFERTORY *Every Valley (from Messiah)* G. F. Händel
Aaron Lange, Tenor

❖ Congregation rising, row by row, as ushers pass ❖

❖ DOXOLOGY Nº 592

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

❖ PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

SHARE THE GOOD NEWS

❖ SENDING HYMN *For the Fruit of All Creation* Nº 553
(Tune: Ar Hyd Y Nos, p. 544)

❖ CHARGE & BENEDICTION from *Isaiah 60*

Arise, shine, for your light has come. So lift up your eyes and look around.

May you see and be radiant.

May our hearts thrill and rejoice at the abundance of love

poured upon us through God's gift of Jesus.

Amen. Go in peace.

POSTLUDE *Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending* arr. R. V. Williams

*You are invited to remain seated to conclude worship with the postlude
or exit quietly after the benediction.*

May God bless you as you worship here today:

Touch you, Challenge you, Heal you, Inspire you, Direct you to new paths
in your unfolding journey. Valley Community Presbyterian Church is a place for

**Awakening Souls, Sharing Joy, Serving God in Christ,
TRANSFORMING LIVES!**

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO ALL NEWCOMERS: we greet you in the name of Jesus Christ! A special gift will be offered to you during worship today.

A STAFFED NURSERY for infants-3 year olds is available in room 7 behind the sanctuary on Sundays, 9:45-11:15 AM.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP will be hosted by the Starfish Mariner Group upstairs in Davis Hall/Gym after worship. Coffee, tea, juice, conversation!

IN ANTICIPATION OF THE NEW YEAR, it is time to sign up for front entry flowers. Please share your bounty by signing the flower calendar, available in the lobby.

VALLEY'S ANNUAL ADVENT FAIR is next Sunday, December 4 after worship until 1:30 PM that afternoon. There will be fresh greens for making wreaths and swags. There will be many tables set up for crafts and holiday creations. There will be music in the air. There will be pizza and cider to give you energy for the event, plus a few sweet treats! Advent Fair at Valley is always a joy-filled time of fellowship and creativity. Please plan to be part of this special annual event!

KIDZ MART: Thank you for your donations! We will continue to collect "gently used" items in the Kidz Mart bins located in the office lobby until the first day of sale. All proceeds will go to Valley's Children's Ministry. Kidz Mart will be open to:

- Children only on December 7, 4:00-7:00 PM

- Children only on December 10, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM

- Adults and kids on December 11, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM

POINSETTIAS will enhance the sanctuary chancel on the 4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas in memory and honor of loved ones. If you wish to participate, please offer a donation of \$15 in a pew envelope with the name of the honoree. Write "Flower Fund" on the envelope or check and place it in the offering plate or deliver it to the church office by Monday, December 12. Honorees names will be published in the Christmas Eve bulletin.

MANY THANKS to the Navigators Mariners, skippered by Cathy Bernhard and Marilyn Farrier, for providing and serving a nutritious soup meal at the Bud Clark Commons on November 17.

THE SOUP KITCHEN 2017 calendar is available for hosting groups. Our commitment is to provide a monthly meal at Bud Clark Commons on the third Thursday of each month. Please contact Jini De Vries, Valley Soup Kitchen Coordinator, at virginiaDEVRIES@comcast.net if you, your group, or your family would like to participate in this mission to feed local homeless people.