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# The Messenger

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Valley Community Presbyterian Church December 2016

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## 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.  
Nursery Care, 9:45 to 11:15 a.m.  
Coffee Fellowship, 11:00 a.m.

## December

**4** Second Sunday of Advent  
Communion  
Advent Fair, 11:30 a.m.

**11** Third Sunday of Advent  
Pageant of the Holy Nativity  
Christmas Cookie Trays-  
Youth Mission Fundraiser  
Kidz Mart, 11:30 a.m.

**18** Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Ceremony of Carols  
Cents-Ability and Christmas  
Joy Offering Taken  
Dining for Women Meeting,  
11:30 a.m.

**25** Christmas Day  
Carol Sing Sunday

## January

**1** Communion

**Christmas Joy Offering  
December 18  
See p. 4**

## ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT VALLEY

Advent means *coming*. It's the first season of the Christian year when we wait with great anticipation for the coming of Christ. It's a season of Holy waiting: waiting for God's peace to come to earth... waiting for the light of Christ to shine... waiting for the shepherds, the angels, and the Christ child.

We'll light the Advent candles, one more each week, as we watch for the light of Christ. We'll sing Advent hymns first as we wait for the Christmas hymns to begin. We'll hear the stories leading up to Jesus' birth from the gospel of Luke. We'll wonder and marvel with the shepherds and hear the angels' announcement with great joy. We'll journey to Bethlehem in our hearts and minds, waiting for the birth of the Christ child.



### December 4 - Second Sunday in Advent; Advent Fair

The second candle of Advent will be lit. After worship, all are invited to Davis Hall for the Advent Fair. Start the season with wreath making, children's crafts, fellowship and treats.

### December 11 - Third Sunday in Advent; Pageant of the Holy Nativity

The third candle of Advent will be lit. "Pageant of the Holy Nativity" will be presented during worship. Children, youth and adult choirs will sing and dramatize the intrigue and wonders with the coming and birth of Jesus.

### December 18 - Fourth Sunday in Advent

The fourth candle of Advent will be lit. The Sanctuary Choir will sing "A Ceremony of Carols" with guest harpist. Share in the Christmas Joy Offering.

### December 24 - Christmas Eve

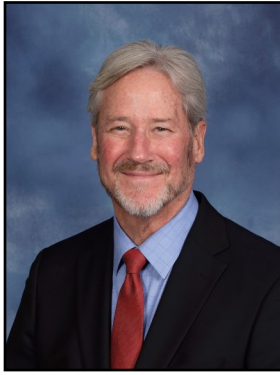
**6:00 p.m.** Worship will feature the Children's Nativity Tableau. If K-5<sup>th</sup> grade children would like to participate, contact the office by December 14.  
**8:00 p.m.** Candlelight Worship with the Sanctuary Choir.

### December 25 - Christmas Day

**10:00 a.m. worship** will be filled with Christmas Carols.  
Our Christmas celebration continues through Epiphany, January 8 Worship.

We hope you will keep watch with us during the season of Advent.

## Pastor's Column



Pastor Ben Paroulek

Dearly Beloved,

November 27th began the season of Advent. During this season we journey to the manger where we experience God's presence with a baby in a feed trough. God's good news takes hold of us in human form. God is telling us we are not left alone in this life. Emanuel, "God with us," comes to us. It is a life-changing story that we enter at this time of year.

What will it mean to us this year? There are so many paths to Christmas Day. For some, Christmas is about what's under the tree after searching at length for presents we may or may not need. Encountering God's life-transforming presence might get less interesting if it is even remembered as the story of this season.

The basic definition of Advent means the coming or arrival of a notable person, thing or event. As Christians, we know how our familiar story ends (or begins), with God arriving through poor, unknown parents in a back alley of a small city. In one of his poems, T.S. Eliot speaks about being in a familiar place "for the first time." He writes:



*"We shall not cease from exploration  
And the end of all our exploring  
Will be to arrive where we started  
And know the place for the first time."*



What if we take a new path, a path less traveled this season? What will we discover in our worshipping, singing, talking, listening, and serving? Let's search for the manger using God's Way of hope, peace, joy and love as if they are points on a compass. What can we still uncover in an otherwise routine and annual story? What unexpected turns will we take? What stops will we make along the way?

I'm looking forward to our journey together and what God will reveal to us along the way and on Christmas Day. I'm looking forward to searching for God's Way this Advent and the ways God will make us living examples of God's presence in the world.

Peace!

*Ben Paroulek*

### THE MESSENGER

VALLEY COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

8060 SW BRENTWOOD ST.  
PORTLAND, OR 97225-2355  
503.292.3537

FAX 503.292.4272

[www.valleycommunity.org](http://www.valleycommunity.org)

Email: [mail@valleycommunity.org](mailto:mail@valleycommunity.org)

### PASTOR

BEN PAROULEK

### NEWSLETTER STAFF:

SHIRLEY HERCHER AND ANGELA GRAHAM

PLEASE SUBMIT ARTICLES VIA E-MAIL BY  
DECEMBER 15 FOR THE JANUARY 2017  
ISSUE:

[messenger@valleycommunity.org](mailto:messenger@valleycommunity.org)

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

## Valley's Advent Fair on December 4



### *A wonderful way to welcome the Advent Season!*

Please plan to join the festivities on Sunday, December 4 after worship in Davis Hall/Gym. The space will be transformed into a fellowship space for creativity and fun.

There will be pizza and cider available for a light lunch. This will give you the energy you will need to go from table to table and enjoy the crafts and activities.

For those who like to make their own wreaths and swags, there will be greens and bows available. Please bring your own gloves and clippers, as well as a donation for the supplies.

There will be *many* tables filled with things to do for young and younger. Above the joyful clatter, there will be Christmas music in the air.

This is a much-loved Valley event. Share the news about our Advent Fair with those you know. Bring your family. Bring your neighbors. Spread the word. See you there!



## Stewardship Campaign 2017

### *Giving and Growing for the Glory of God*

My heartfelt thanks for the response from everyone thus far in our 2017 Stewardship Campaign. As you have heard me say, 2017 is an important year for Valley with a number of special items requiring our support, including our Pastor Nominating Committee's expected work. Therefore we set a target of a 9% increase in pledge dollars for 2017. I am pleased to report that as of early November, we are seeing an increase in the average pledge size we have received. In response to our request, average pledge amounts have increased almost 4% compared to last year this time. Again, thank you everyone.

It is also a bit of a mixed message, however. We have thus far received fewer returned pledge cards than last year - about 4% fewer. As a result, our dollar pledge total for 2017 is very nearly the same as compared to our 2016 campaign. I would therefore, as pleasantly as possible, remind everyone to please return their pledge card to the Church if you have not already done so. Each response is valuable, as it ultimately helps Session determine the scope of mission and programs to be budgeted for Valley in the coming year.

Again, thank you very much for the commitment to Valley we have thus far seen from all of you.

*Eben Jenkins, Stewardship Campaign 2017*

## A Tax-Saving Way to Help Valley Community Presbyterian Church



We have some good news if you have an IRA and are older than 70½. Congress has reauthorized a provision that allows you to make a distribution from your IRA to Valley Church. It may be

of interest to you because such a contribution can be used to satisfy your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) and may be excluded from gross income for income tax purposes.

If you are thinking of using your RMD to make a contribution to Valley, the church office has a fact sheet that will be of interest to you.

Link to instructions:

[www.valleycommunity.org/about-valley/resources--links/index.html](http://www.valleycommunity.org/about-valley/resources--links/index.html)



## Finance Report



### FINANCE REPORT

The finance committee met November 7 to discuss a proposed budget for 2017. Proposed budgets for each discipline, which includes all areas of spending, were received from the elders in October. They were compiled by AmyAnn Green (Business Manager) and Frank Powers (Treasurer) onto the spreadsheet presently in use for an easy comparison to this year's budget.

The proposed 2017 budget is about \$80,000 above the 2016 budget. There are several reasons for the increase. One reason is the cost associated with the search for a new pastor, which includes Pastor Nominating Committee expenses, moving expenses and an appropriate salary to attract a new pastor. This added about \$42,000 to the budget. Other reasons for increases to the budget include salary raises for staff, new office equipment, building maintenance, increased security measures and inflation.

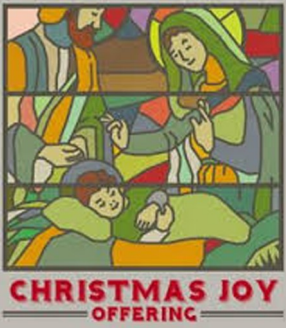
The annual stewardship campaign this fall shows that pledge amounts are up, but the number of pledges is down. As a result, giving in 2017 may be about the same as in 2016. If this is the case, the budget will have to be reduced in some areas to balance. It should be noted that the church has no debt and has no intention of acquiring debt. The repairs and upgrades presently being made to the exterior of the church are being paid out of cash on hand. It should also be noted that \$30,000 of the proposed increase to the 2017 budget is for the year 2017 only and would not occur in subsequent years. (This \$30,000 is related to the Pastor Nominating Committee expenses and moving expenses for the new pastor.) There will definitely be a need to trim costs in some areas for 2017 and perhaps in the future as well.

Church membership is presently at 352, the lowest it has been in years. Giving has also been slowly declining with membership. Long term financial stability requires that we keep our expenses in line with our income. Hopefully our membership will increase in the future so that we can maintain current programming and services. Until this happens it is imperative that we live within our annual income.



### FINANCE REPORT

## Christmas Joy Offering December 18



The Christmas Joy Offering celebrates the coming of Jesus Christ, the “wondrous gift” of God with us. Jesus arrived in a humble stable in small and insignificant Bethlehem, to lead and teach in truth and love, and bring about God’s salvation to the world. This was a wondrous gift so profound that the only response was the bringing of more gifts; the Magi arrived with gold, frankincense, and myrrh to honor the Christ child.

The Christmas Joy Offering honors the faithfulness of current and retired church workers, many of whom spend their working lives serving small congregations for little pay, in their time of need by providing financial assistance to support them through life’s challenging circumstances. The Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions helps them not to have to choose between housing and food. Half of the Christmas Joy Offering benefits the Assistance

Program, enabling it to help nearly 300 households with income supplements and more than 200 households with housing supplements. This is one of four special offerings received during the year.

The other half of the Christmas Joy Offering supports the historic commitment of the PC(USA) to education and leadership development through three PC(USA) racial/ethnic schools and colleges – Menaul School in Albuquerque, New Mexico; Presbyterian Pan American School in Kingsville, Texas; and Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Our future racial ethnic church leaders are able to receive much-needed assistance while they discover and pursue their professional goals at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges. Your gifts allow these ministries, which Presbyterians have carried out for decades, to continue. Please give generously!

## Session Meeting

November 8, 2016

- Budget 2017: An initial draft has been prepared. It shows an increase over 2016. Work is continuing.
- Building in Christ: Work is planned to begin soon on the new fire escape and concrete by the east door.
- Motion: Valley becoming a MOPS church. MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) is an international ecumenical ministry.
- Motion: Approved fundraisers for Youth Mission - SCRIP at Mission Market, Christmas Cookies during coffee hour, and Christmas tree recycling in early January.
- Motion: Endorsed Oregon Interfaith Advocacy Day, Tuesday, February 7, 2017 in Salem, Oregon.
- Motion: David Marquis and Carol Powers were elected as commissioners to the November Stated meeting of the Presbytery of the Cascades.
- New members of Valley Community Presbyterian Church: Lyn and Kris Bedsaul joined Valley via Letter of Transfer from Central Methodist Church in Asheville, NC, on October 23. Also welcome are their children, Paige and Claire.

## Valley’s Habitat Build

Valley did a Willamette West Habitat build on October 29. Roger Rees, Gaylen Uecker, Kathy Bach, Ben Jenkins, Amy Rheingans, and Chuck Falconer took part in the build at Allen Estates in Beaverton. Thanks to all of them for their work on this project to provide housing for those who need it.



*Valley member, Amy Rheingans, moving soil at the Allen Estates work site.*



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](http://oga.pcusa.org/percapita)



## Adult Education 9:00 a.m. Sunday

### *Discussion of Bill Moyer's DVD program on Faith and Reason.*

**December 4:** This program interviews Mary Gordon and Colin McGinn. Gordon states that faith without doubt is a kind of nostalgia or addiction. This has multiple nuance meanings and points out that doubt that can play a major role in discovery. McGinn states that science offers a somewhat limited worldview, which inherently implies that there are many aspects and considerations that can complete and compliment our examination of religious issues.

**December 11:** Discussants are Jeannette Winterson and Will Power. Winterson discusses her mother's reaction to her leaving home with her boyfriend. Her mother asked "Why be happy when you can be normal?" This raises the question whether our happiness is driven by innate desire or societal norms or a combination of those and many other factors. There are many attempts to bring freshness to these concepts. In many ways, what appears jaded is merely a reflection of the fact that basic issues have not been examined recently. Myths, both ancient and modern have relevance to our lives. Which ones are the most meaningful to you?

**December 18:** Discussion by Richard Rodriguez and Sir John Houghton. Rodriguez says that Catholicism had chosen him, rather than the other way around. This raises the question as to how we have inherited our beliefs. Rev. Houghton says that the statement "I don't know" is the most meaningful declaration of a scientist and a believer. He is both. How can we, or should we, react to uncertainty in the context of faith? Likewise, how often is our certainty in science or other disciplines uncertain or incorrect?

**No Programs on December 25, Christmas Day and January 1, New Year's Day.**

## Sonja Spencer New Member



*Sonja Spencer*

Born in Vernon, Texas, a town which coincidentally bore her father's name, she moved to Portland with her Air Force father, a pilot, and her mother. Her family lived in Vermont Hills, and she remembers, as a young child, singing in Valley Church's Hansel and Gretel presentation. Music has always been an important part in both hers and her sister Karen Acker's lives. Sonja graduated from PSU with degrees in Business Administration and Business Education. While at PSU, she met David Spencer and the two were married right after Sonja graduated. Sonja taught at West Linn High School and Mt. Hood Community College before opening a Hallmark Card and Gift Shop. David and Sonja had three daughters, Tonja, Karna and Tami.

After living in Connecticut for four years, Sonja returned to Portland in 1980 and began working as an accountant for Herb Steinmeyer at HEES Enterprises. She also joined First Presbyterian Church and sang in the choir with Darlene and David. Sonja soon transferred to Valley because the youth program at First was not anything like Valley's. All three of her daughters participated in the youth program, especially Tami who went on several mission trips and was very active in the youth program. Sonja had to drop out of choir in about 1985 because of business and time commitments. Upon moving to Bethany, Sonja attended Sunset and Bethany Presbyterian Churches; however, she has always considered Valley her home and truly feels blessed to be a member of such a loving and supportive church.

## Preschool Christmas Outreach Program



**Valley Christian Preschool** is holding a stuffed animal drive to benefit the Ronald McDonald House this holiday season. The Ronald McDonald House is a wonderful organization that serves families by providing a "home away from home" for families with severely ill children. They also provide specialty medical services and facilities so families can stay together and focus on healing while seeking medical treatment.

Please consider donating a new, unwrapped stuffed animal to be donated to the children who stay at Ronald McDonald House while receiving medical treatment. Donation bins will be located outside our Valley Christian Preschool classrooms through December 12. There will also be a donation bin in Davis Hall during the Advent Fair, December 4.

This is an opportunity for children to pick out a gift that will warm another child's heart. Thank you!

**Anne Scarce**, Director, Valley Christian Preschool, [www.valleychristianpreschool.com](http://www.valleychristianpreschool.com)

*Valley Christian Preschool models and teaches Christian faith principles such as love, patience, kindness, compassion, goodness, self-control, gentleness, forgiveness, faithfulness, joy and humility. We value each child and all people as unique gifts from God.*

## Mission Projects Update



Mission  
News

### December Mission:

Please support the Reverse Advent Calendar Project. (Ask about the Reverse Advent Calendars at Fellowship time!) And while you're shopping for family and friends, please consider hats/scarves, gloves, mittens and socks for our annual Warm Clothes Drive in January 2017.

**Thank you to all** who attended Mission Market recently. We had a very successful day, supporting some of the Mission Projects we highlight throughout the year. We collected \$2,989.11, up 38.61% from last year's sales. Each ministry kept the funding they collected and a full recap will be available in the December Session Minutes. We also added 126.35 pounds of food to the Project Back shelves and 36.45 pounds of food to the Food Pantry.

## Refugee Children Helped in Eastern Chad



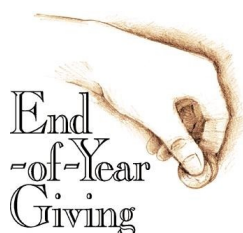
**Dining for Women** learns about this month's featured nonprofit iACT in Eastern Chad that helps refugees from the Darfur conflict. iACT is a Los

Angeles-based organization providing humanitarian action to aid and extend hope to those affected by mass atrocities. At our monthly meeting on Sunday, December 18 at 11:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room, we will learn about their program called Little Ripples.

The program trains and employs refugee women to provide play-based, peace building and culturally inspired preschool education to young refugees. iACT aims to enhance this training in order to give these educators leadership skills and a stronger voice for school resources and camp management.

Come join us for the last DFW potluck of the year, learn about this interesting and worthy nonprofit and contribute to their grant request. All are welcome!

## End-of-Year Giving: Consider the Mission Endowment Fund



Established in 1979, the Mission Endowment fund provides grant awards to applicants for projects in the areas of mission, health, food, education, housing, clothing, and church evangelism. The fund has distributed over \$390,000 in the last 18 years and is carefully managed by a team from Valley Church and the advice of a professional financial manager to ensure the fund's health in perpetuity. (See success story below.)

Grants from the fund reach needy people all around the world as well as those in our own neighborhood. Donations are accepted to the fund through Valley – simply designate Mission Endowment on the memo line of your check. Many thanks for your consideration.

## A Mission Endowment Success Story



An application submitted by Rev. Dr. Tim Cayton came to the Mission Endowment Committee (MEC) in the fall of 2013 on behalf of Presbyterian Church East Africa (PCEA). The grant request was for library books for a school in Kikuyu, Kenya, and the project was awarded \$900 from the Mission Endowment fund.

A team from the U.S. visiting Kenya included many representatives of the Presbytery of the Cascades. The group determined the funds would be best used to construct an income-generating, housing project where the school's teachers could live. The MEC approved the request to modify the grant purpose, and the house was built.

In 2015, Dr. Cayton submitted an application for another PCEA project, this time in Uganda. Bethany Presbyterian Church had funded \$5,000 for two water-catchment systems at Mukono Church. The members of the Mukono church not only used the new system to serve the health and safety needs of the church but determined that the soil nearby was ideal for making bricks. Valley awarded the project \$1,100 and with other donation funds, the church began construction of a seven-room nursery school on their property that would serve more than 80 local children.

This October, the MEC received a request and Session approved a grant for \$2,000 to be used to furnish and equip the school, which was completed in July 2016. The funds will be used to buy classroom furniture, textbooks, teaching materials, office equipment, and kitchen utensils for the school.

The PCEA partners on the ground in Kenya and Uganda provided updates with photos and financial accountings throughout the project cycles. These were passed on to the MEC at regular intervals. This transparency was greatly appreciated as the committee endeavors to ensure proper use of the grant awards.

## Christmas Cookies are Back in Town!



Homemade cookies will arrive at Valley Church just in time for the holidays. We hope you are able to join our youth cookie exchange fundraiser on December 11 following The Pageant of the Holy Nativity.

There are several ways to participate in this event. We are hoping to collect cookie donations (at least one batch of your favorite cookie) from the congregation by noon on December 10. To join in the cookie tasting contest (with a variety of awards) please bring in two batches of cookies, and we will have samples out for the congregation to taste on December 11. Lastly, join us in the gym following worship on December 11 and take home a lovely platter of Christmas cookies. The suggested donation is \$15 for a small platter of roughly 20 cookies and \$25 for a large platter of around 36 cookies. All proceeds will help our middle school and high school youth cover the cost of their mission trip in the summer of 2017.

The youth will be preparing cookie trays on December 10 from 12:00-2:00 p.m. and have them all wrapped up and ready to take home and enjoy on December 11. Donated cookies can be dropped off in the kitchen the week of December 5. Please be sure to mark them for "youth cookie exchange fundraiser." Please also mark cookies if they are gluten-free or if they contain nuts so that we can keep track as we divide them up and share with the congregation.

## Chili Cook-Off Youth Fundraiser a Success!

The Christian Nurture Committee for Youth thanks all the participants, tasters and cooks of the Chili Cook-Off for making the event a huge success. The middle school and high school youth raised \$907 for their 2017 summer mission trips.

The delicious chili was prepared by Glenys Craig, Frank Powers, Amy Henning-Blair, Carol Powers, Cheryl Rees, Steve Bird, Katherine Rinella, Wendy Jenkins, Elise and Aaron Jenkins, Stacy Luehr-Sele, and Elaine Rea. Once the votes were counted, Frank Powers won the Instagram Worthy Award for his Cardiologist Nightmare Chili, Steve Bird took home the WOW award for best theme with his Beef Chipotle or Slap Yo Mamma Chili, Elaine Rea was the winner of Keep Portland Weird with her Wickedly Wild Elk Chili, and Elise and Aaron Jenkins took home the I Need That Recipe award for their Rockin' Chili. We hope the congregation will join us again next year to support the youth mission fund and to enjoy a delicious lunch.



*Some of the cooks with their chili dishes. Many awards were given at this very popular fundraiser!*

## Tree Recycling Benefits Youth Mission



Our middle school and high school youth will be recycling Christmas trees again this year at Valley Church. If you would like to participate, you can drop your Christmas tree off in the grey trailer parked in front of the Youth House starting December 26 along with a suggested donation of \$10 in the donation box on the trailer. If you live in the neighborhood, our youth will be driving by to collect trees on Sunday, January 8 from 12:00-2:00 p.m. Please contact Allison Carlson if you have questions or would like to arrange a pick up. All proceeds benefit the youth mission fund.



## Valley Notes

### Opportunities

**Young Adult Open House:** All college students and recent college graduates are invited to the Youth House on Wednesday, December 28, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. for appetizers and a chance to see the improvements made to the youth house this past year. We hope this gives our young adults an opportunity to connect with old friends and enjoy a bit of the holiday together.

**KIDZ MART** shopping for children is open soon. Thank you for your donations! We will continue to collect “gently used” items in the Kidz Mart bins in the Office Lobby until the first day of sale. All proceeds go to Valley’s Children’s Ministry. Kidz Mart will be open to **Children Only** on December 7 from 4:00–7:00 p.m., **Children Only** on December 10 from 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. **Adults and Kids** on December 11 after Worship until 1:00 p.m.

**Kids’ Day Off:** Children ages 3 to 11 are invited to attend our annual Christmas Kids’ Day Off. The Valley Youth and adults will lovingly care for your children and grandchildren on Saturday, December 17 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Cost is \$10 per child. Proceeds go to Youth Mission Projects, and lunch/games/crafts are included! RSVP required to [laurel@valleycommunity.org](mailto:laurel@valleycommunity.org) by December 12.

**Salvation Army Giving Trees** are located in the office lobby and in the front entryway. Valley is hosting a single mother and three young children this Christmas. Take a tag and bring the unwrapped item (along with the tag) to be placed under the trees by Friday, December 16. Thank you!

### Thanks

**Thank you....** Valley’s Produce Table was generously covered with multi-colored garden items from the summer into the fall. The donation box stood open each week and over the growing season was ultimately filled with over \$355 of contributions! This will be one very welcome check at the Oregon Food Bank. Just think what good that money will do to help feed the hungry in our state so they can do the work God has called each of them to do. Great work, Valley!

### Update

**The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC)**, has not met recently because it is still awaiting its first batch of candidates from the Presbytery. The Presbytery has circulated the opening nationally, including criteria from the PNC. Responses to the opening are received by the Presbytery, which screens them to assess their suitability for the opening, in accordance with the criteria set by the PNC. The Presbytery then forwards the resumes of the candidates that pass the screen in batches of five. The PNC expects the final batch of resumes the first week of December.

### Prayers

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

Audrey Turner (Renn Sanderman’s mother), Amy Dee

***We pray for those who mourn:***

- Jeannine Bendix and family on the death of Jeannine’s husband, Bud Bendix.



*Kathy Bach at the recent Valley Habitat for Humanity build day. (see p. 4)*



*There were many chili entries in Valley’s annual Chili Cook-off.*



# December 2016

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
<p><b>4</b>  <b>The Second Sunday of Advent</b>            8:50a Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal            9:00a Adult Education Class            9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship            10:00a Confirmation Class  <b>10:00a Worship</b>            10:20a Sunday Funday            10:20a Youth Bible Study            11:30a Advent Fair            11:30a Foundation Committee            4:15p New Spirit Ringers            5:00p Valley Youth Choir</p>	<p><b>5</b>            8:00a Women's Aerobics</p>	<p><b>6</b>            10:00a Tai Chi Class            11:00a Staff Meeting             1:30p Mission Committee            5:00p Membership Comm.            6:00p Wolf Den Meeting            6:45p Christian Nurture for Youth Meeting            7:00p Facilities Committee</p>	<p><b>7</b>            8:00a Men's Bible Study            8:00a Women's Aerobics            12:00p Senior Adult Luncheon            4:00p Kidz Mart            5:00p Cherub Choir            5:00p King's Kids Choir            6:00p Royal Ringers Bell Choir            6:30p Scout Pack 592</p>	<p><b>1</b>            10:00a Tai Chi Class             6:00p Christian Nurture for Children Meeting            6:30p Bear Den Meeting            6:30p Webelos Den Mtg.            7:15p Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p><b>2</b>            8:00a Women's Aerobics</p>	<p><b>3</b></p>
<p><b>11</b>  <b>The Third Sunday of Advent</b>            8:50a Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal            9:00a Adult Education            9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship  <b>10:00a Worship-Pageant of the Holy Nativity</b>            11:00a Coffee Fellowship            11:30a Kidz Mart            11:30a Prayer-Shawl Knitting Social            4:15p New Spirit Ringers            5:00p Valley Youth Choir</p>	<p><b>12</b>            8:00a Women's Aerobics</p>	<p><b>13</b>            11:00a Staff Meeting             6:30p Girl Scouts  <b>7:00p Session</b></p>	<p><b>14</b>            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>	<p><b>15</b>  <b>"The Messenger"</b>  <b>Newsletter Articles Due</b>            8:00a Soup Kitchen             2:00p Red Cross Blood Drive            5:00p Music Selection Team            6:30p Pack 592 Meeting            7:15p Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p><b>16</b>            8:00a Women's Aerobics</p>	<p><b>17</b>            10:00a Kids' Day Out</p>
<p><b>18</b>  <b>The Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>            8:50a Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal            9:00a Adult Education Class            9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship  <b>10:00a Worship-Ceremony of Carols</b>            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><b>19</b>            8:00a Women's Aerobics             10:00a Meals on Wheels             6:00p Girl Scout Leaders Meeting            7:00p Girl Scout Troop            7:30p Scouts Pack 592</p>	<p><b>20</b>            11:00a Staff Meeting             6:30p Girl Scouts  <b>7:00p Deacons Meeting</b></p>	<p><b>21</b>            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 592</p>	<p><b>22</b>            7:15p Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p><b>23</b>            8:00a Women's Aerobics</p>	<p><b>24</b>  <b>Christmas Eve</b>   <b>6:00p Christmas Eve Service</b>  <b>8:00p Christmas Eve Service</b></p>
<p><b>25</b>  <b>Christmas Day</b>   <b>10:00a Worship-Carol Sing Sunday</b>            11:00a Coffee Fellowship</p>	<p><b>26</b>            8:00a Women's Aerobics             11:30a Century Club General Meeting             6:00p Girl Scout Leaders Meeting            7:00p Girl Scout Troop            7:30p Scouts Pack 592</p>	<p><b>27</b>            11:00a Staff Meeting</p>	<p><b>28</b>            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>	<p><b>29</b>            7:15p Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p><b>30</b>            8:00a Women's Aerobics</p>	<p><b>31</b></p>

# THE MESSENGER



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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME DATED MATERIAL

## December Events



- **December 4**  
Advent Fair in Davis Hall/Gym  
- following worship with wreath-making, children's crafts, sweet treats, and more!
- **December 11**  
"Pageant of the Holy Nativity" during 10:00 a.m. worship, including children, youth, and adult choirs.
- **December 18**  
The Sanctuary Choir will sing "A Ceremony of Carols" with guest harpist during 10:00 a.m. worship. Christmas Joy Offering received.
- **December 24 - Christmas Eve**  
6:00 p.m. - Worship with Children's Nativity Tableau  
8:00 p.m. - Candlelight Worship with Sanctuary Choir
- **December 25**  
10:00 a.m. worship will be filled with Christmas Carols.

