
The Messenger

Valley Community Presbyterian Church February 2017

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.

February

- 5** Communion
- 12** Extend the Table, 11:30 a.m.
- 19** Dining for Women Meeting,
11:30 a.m.
- 26** Youth Sunday
Congregational Meeting and
Luncheon, 11:00 a.m.

March

- 5** Communion
"Requiem" by Fauré



Youth Sunday - February 26



Middle and high school students will be leading all aspects of worship on Youth Sunday. Please mark your calendars and experience the awesome gifts of our own Valley Youth, young people who have been cared for and loved by their church family for years. Thank you for supporting our youth each day, particularly on Youth Sunday, with your presence. To God be the glory!

Congregational Lunch for Everyone Feb. 26



Everyone is invited to a lunch after Youth Sunday and our Congregational Meeting on February 26. To keep in the spirit of *Youth*, we will lunch on our favorite "comfort foods" from growing up. Doesn't that sound like great fun?

Did your mom make a special casserole or salad that you can picture in your mind's eye? Is there a recipe you inherited for that special entrée or dessert that was everyone's fondest memory at a family dinner?

Lunch on Sunday, February 26 is just the time to let them shine at our congregational lunch filled with *comfort food from our youth*. Categories to consider are entrée, salad, side and dessert. Please bring something from one of the category options. Fellowship ministry will provide beverages.

Is there a story that goes with the contribution you will be bringing? Please send it to Ruthann Marquis at dracmarq@comcast.net. This extra information will delight our congregation as they go through the buffet line.

Support One Great Hour of Sharing

Valley will be receiving the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering on April 9. This important opportunity to participate in the work of our denomination (Presbyterian Church U.S.A.) helps to support outreach efforts in several important areas around the world and at home. The offering is divided among three impactful programs: **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People.**

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human-caused disasters, and receives 32% of the offering. PDA enables congregations and mission partners of the PCUSA to witness to the healing love of Christ through caring for communities adversely affected by crises and catastrophic events.

Continued on p. 4

Stewardship 2017 Campaign Update

Dear Valley Friends and Members,

We asked a great deal from each of you for this Stewardship season, knowing that Valley would have some one-time expenses in 2017 including those associated with the Pastor Nominating Committee. Unfortunately, the strong pledge response we saw early in the Fall slowed considerably by the end of 2016. As of the end of January, we have received 133 pledges for approximately \$361,000 in 2017. This falls well short of our goals of 170 returned pledge cards, and \$460,000 pledged. It is also below our levels of last year, where we received between 160 and 170 returned pledge cards and approximately \$420,000 in pledges.

First, let me again thank all who did respond, including the considerable number of you who increased pledges for this growth year. I also recognize the fact that “pledging” is not “giving.” I therefore want to pass along my gratitude to all who continue to support Valley through their time, efforts, and financial giving whether associated with a pledge or not. This variety of giving is what makes the Valley we all know possible.

However, with the lower number of returned pledge cards this season, the finance team and Session face less certain giving numbers to budget for 2017. You will likely hear more from them on this topic in the coming months. Every returned pledge card reduces some of our financial uncertainty and makes that forecasting and budgeting task much easier. If you have not yet done so, please consider responding with your pledge for 2017. It is never too late to respond, or to update the office if your situation has changed.

Again, thank you for your support of Valley for this important year.

Eben Jenkins

P.S. Pledge envelopes are now available near the Fireside Room for those who requested them.



THE MESSENGER

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PASTOR

BEN PAROULEK

NEWSLETTER STAFF:

SHIRLEY HERCHER AND ANGELA GRAHAM

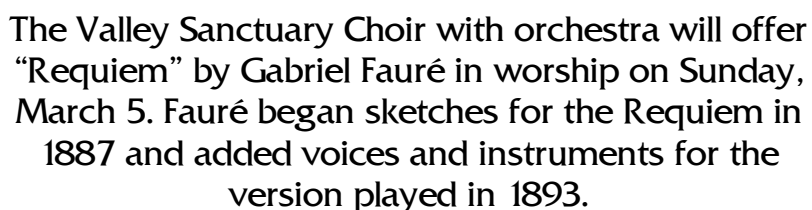
PLEASE SUBMIT ARTICLES VIA E-MAIL BY
JANUARY 15 FOR THE FEBRUARY ISSUE:
messenger@valleycommunity.org

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

Session Meeting

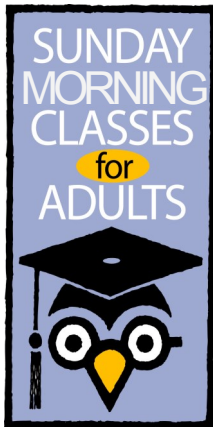
January 10, 2017 Minutes

- **Christian Nurture – Children: Approved** “Galactic Starveyors” by LifeWay Publishing as the curriculum for Vacation Bible School.
- **Safety and Security: Approved** leasing a new defibrillator at \$99 per month for a three-year term.
- **Presbytery of the Cascades:** Stated Meeting is March 10-11, 2017 in Albany.
- **Annual Meeting of the Valley Community Congregation: Approved** the annual meeting of the congregation for Sunday, February 26, 2017 immediately following worship.



The Valley Sanctuary Choir with orchestra will offer “Requiem” by Gabriel Fauré in worship on Sunday, March 5. Fauré began sketches for the Requiem in 1887 and added voices and instruments for the version played in 1893.

Adult Education, Sunday 9:00 a.m.



February 5

Professor Richard Rohrbaugh continues an examination of the impact of the cultural and social mores at the time of Christ on our ability to interpret the meaning of the Gospels.

February 12

Sir John Houghton presents his view on the compatibility and mutual inclusiveness of science and religion in Bill Moyer's DVD program on Faith and Reason. Dr. Houghton is both a scientist and theologian who says, "I don't know" is the most important statement one can make.

February 19

Mike Maksimowizz from *Ignite the World Ministries* will discuss their evangelical programs in Asia and China.

February 26

Dr. Walter Brueggemann will present the first part of a two-part DVD series discussing *The Psalms, the Hard Road from Obedience to Praise*.

Women's Bible Study Group



The Women's Bible Study group meets each month on the **second Tuesday** in the office conference room at 11:00. Coffee and refreshments are available. The theme this year is "Who is Jesus?" and each lesson answers this question from the perspective (lens) of a different Biblical writer. The February 14 meeting will be led by Connie Brenner and looks at Jesus according to the writings of Paul.

Gardening Opportunity at Valley



Have you seen any signs of Spring? Bulbs peeking out of the warming soil, Spring showers, longer days and a bit of sunshine? Spring is on its way! It's time to garden!

For many years, dedicated Valley members have spent countless hours volunteering to maintain the beautiful landscaping that surrounds our church. We have been blessed to have folks like Brice Hammack, Bob and Pat Peterson and many others take time to pull a weed or two, trim and prune and mow the lawn. Their service to our church deserves a big, THANK YOU!!

Maintaining Valley's property is a huge undertaking. Last summer, a landscape company, spent more than a week pruning the trees and bushes, weeding the gardens and spreading bark dust. When they were finished many neighbors commented on how nice the church looked and thanked us for being good neighbors.

It would be wonderful to have a weekly landscape service mowing the lawn and maintaining the gardens. Unfortunately, our budget doesn't allow for this luxury. But maybe that is a blessing in disguise. We are a community of people who worship together, break bread together, share praises and sorrow together and form lifelong friendships together. So why not garden together?

Valley's gardens can easily be divided into small manageable areas such as the courtyard, the garden along the front walk way, the front lawn garden, the back parking lot, the rose garden, the garden under the staff windows, the brick planters, the sidewalk garden along Laurelwood and Brentwood, etc. I invite groups such as Mariners, supper club, Bible study, Dining for Women, youth, Senior Lunch kitchen crew, Book Club, choir, preschool, scouts, or individuals to choose an area to maintain for 6 months. Many hands make light work, our refurbished landscaping will flourish and the weeds will remain at bay with your help.

Brice continues to be a wealth of gardening knowledge, and I'm sure will answer any questions you might have regarding Valley's landscaping.

Don't delay, be the first group or individual to adopt a garden! Please email, Karen Mitchell-Yakymi; yaklaka@aol.com with any questions and to reserve your gardening plot.

One Great Hour of Sharing (cont. from page 1)

Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP) takes action to alleviate hunger and the systemic causes of poverty so all may be fed, and receives 36% of the offering. The mission of PHP is to alleviate hunger and eliminate its causes through direct food relief and root cause work, sustainable development, advocacy, intentional and sustainable living, and education.

Self-Development of People (SDOP) invests in communities responding to their experiences of racism, oppression, poverty and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these societal ills, and receives 32% of the offering. SDOP participates in empowerment of economically poor, oppressed and disadvantaged people, seeking to change the structures that perpetuate poverty, oppression and injustice.

Additional information about the offering and these programs can be found at "specialofferings.pcusa.org/oghs".

Health Promoters in Bolivia

Dining for Women Feb. 19

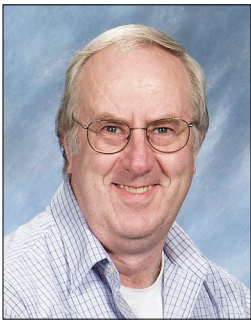
The February Dining for Women grant recipient is the Etta Projects in Bolivia. Etta Projects will train 50 local villagers from 11 communities to become Health Promoters. They will learn how to educate and care for their fellow villagers, participate in planning meetings, and provide public health data to local authorities. They learn skills that they can teach to others, thus offering the potential of enhanced health for future generations.

Children, who often attend training sessions with their mothers, learn and see their mothers in a different light. The program has the ability to alter traditional stereotypes that exist for rural women and girls in that South American culture.

Come to our monthly meeting on Sunday, February 19 at 11:30 a.m. after worship. Enjoy a hearty potluck lunch, learn about this nonprofit organization through the presentation and consider a donation to their grant request.

DFW at Valley needed to cancel their January meeting due to weather concerns. Let's make up for it with a large and lively group on February 19!

George Schweser to Speak at Senior Adult Lunch



George Schweser

All are invited to join us for, a very special Senior Luncheon, on Wednesday February 22 at noon. We will enjoy a delicious lunch, fellowship with old and new friends and an afternoon showcasing arts and hobbies. George Schweser, Valley's retired building superintendent will display his works of art and speak.

George discovered his passion for art at the early age of 10. He attended art schools in Kansas City and St. Louis, receiving Bachelor and Masters of Art degrees. George taught art for four years at a Baptist College in The Dalles and continued to teach in community colleges.

He participates in local group exhibitions. Most recently he has enjoyed joining artists for Plein Air, painting outside in nature. George's paintings are on display in the community and are available for purchase.

In addition to learning more about George and seeing his works, lets get to know each other's talents! Maybe you have created something you'd like to share? A painting, a carving, knitting, quilting, needlepoint, pottery etc. Or do you have a favorite family piece of art?

All are invited to bring your paintings and hobbies with you! Several tables will be set up to display your work. We will have a time for sharing after George's presentation. Can't wait to see each and everyone of you! The term "senior" is used very loosely with this group. If you love to go out to lunch, visit with interesting fun people and have a desire to learn more about Valley's community, you are officially invited to join us! Lunch is \$5.00...hugs and smiles are free. See you on the 22nd.



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



Welcome the Bedsaul Family



**Kris, Lyn, Paige, and
Claire Bedsaul**

Kris attended a Lutheran church while growing up in North Bend, NE, an hour north of Lincoln. We enjoy visiting family in this quaint Midwest farm town of 1,300 people. Lyn grew up in a Presbyterian church in Johnson City, TN, in the upper East corner near Bristol. We also visit family here, and enjoy being close to our home of 10 years where we moved from, Asheville, North Carolina.

Kris and Lyn met in Jackson, WY summer of 1997 where Kris had been working for Jackson Hole Mountain Resort for several years. Lyn was considered a “90 day wanderer,” picking up a resort job for summer break of veterinary school. That fall Kris moved to Knoxville, TN while Lyn finished two years of school. Here they attended a Methodist church and continued this membership in Redding, CA where they had their first real jobs for three years, and then in Asheville, NC where their daughters, Paige and Claire were born.

After 10 years in NC, Kris was offered a General Manager position in Portland with Chris King Precision Components, a bike part manufacturer. We moved west again with kids and pets (of course) and began to settle our new life in the Bethany area. Lyn found a part-time job as a small animal vet at Kindness Family Pet Clinic in Forest Grove, and the girls attend Springville K-8 school. Paige is a 6th grader who enjoys cross country, track and field. Claire is a 3rd grader who enjoys gymnastics. Both girls

have also found a love for mountain biking and downhill skiing like their parents.

We church shopped here for two years before finding a home at Valley. We were impressed with the children’s program, music, and service. We have enjoyed getting to know the kind congregation and staff, and look forward to growing in our new church family.

Save these dates for summer!

June 26-30, 9:00-3:00—Music & Drama Camp
(2nd-8th grade)

July 17-21, 9:00-Noon—Vacation Bible School
(age 4 - 5th grade)

July 17-21, Noon-3:00—Arts Exploration Camp
(Ages 1st-5th)

All are invited to ‘Neighbor Night’



Join us Wednesday, February 15 for a free pizza and salad dinner beginning at 5:30 p.m. followed by two, all age activities for you to choose from, 6:30-7:30 p.m. We will close with a gathering in the gym at 7:30 p.m. to enjoy brownies, milk, and fellowship. Childcare will be available for newborns to age three. Bring your friends, neighbors, and anyone who would be interested in a night of activities and fun!



Valley Notes

Opportunities

The **Library Book Club** will meet on the fourth Friday, February 24, to discuss *Tough Girl, An Olympian's Journey...* by Carolyn Wood. Carolyn spoke and gave a very interesting presentation to the book group in January. Guests were invited to hear her and there was an excellent turnout from the community. We will follow up her talk with a discussion of the book.

Time for flowers in the church entry! Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany are over. A calendar is available for you to sign up to provide flowers for the front entry. Vases and water are available in the office workroom, as is reimbursement for your expense. Thanks, Pat Bryant.

Valley's next Habitat Build Day is Saturday, February 18. If you are interested in taking part, please contact Chuck Falconer. Thank you!

Prayers

We pray for those with health concerns: Amy Dee, Rosemary Lee, Trish Gerlach, Chuck Miller, Bill Rea, Anne Foster, Richard Page

We pray for those who mourn: Donna Russell and family on the death of Donna's step-father, Bob Elliott; Family and friends of Mary Burgess who died January 7, 2017; Cheryl Hoffbeck and family on the recent death of Cheryl's mother.



Concert Fundraiser and Pie Reception



February 2017

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
<p>5 9:00a Adult Education 9:15a Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship 10:00a Worship 10:20a Sunday Funday 10:20a Youth Bible Study 11:00a Coffee Fellowship 11:15a Valley Youth Choir 12:15p New Spirit Ringers</p>	<p>6 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 6:00p Girl Scout Leaders Meeting 7:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:30p Girl Scout Troop 7:30p Scouts Pack 592</p>	<p>7 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 Prayer Shawl Ministry</p>	<p>1 8:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 5:00p Cherub Choir 5:00p King's Kids Choir 6:00p Royal Ringers Bell Choir 6:30p Bear Den Meeting 6:30p Scout Pack 592 6:30p Youth Group Night</p>	<p>2 6:30p Webelos Den Meeting 7:15p Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>3 8:00a Women's Exercise Group</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>12 9:00a Adult Education Class 9:15a Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 9:15a Confirmation Class 9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship 10:00a Worship 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>13 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 6:00p Girl Scout Leaders Meeting 7:00p Finance Meeting 7:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:30p Scouts Pack 592</p>	<p>14 10:00a Tai Chi Class 11:00a Staff Meeting 11:00a Women's Bible Study 7:00p Session</p>	<p>15 "The Messenger" Newsletter Articles Due 8:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 5:00p Cherub Choir 5:00p King's Kids Choir 5:30p Neighbor Night 6:00p Royal Ringers Bell Choir 6:30p Cub Scout Lion Den 6:30p Scout Pack 592 6:30p Youth Group Night</p>	<p>16 8:00a Soup Kitchen 5:00p Music Selection Team 7:15p Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>17 8:00a Women's Exercise Group</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 9:00a Adult Education 9:15a Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 9:15a Confirmation Class 9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship 10:00a Worship 10:20a Sunday Funday 10:20a Youth Bible Study 11:00a Coffee Fellowship 11:30a Dining for Women Meeting 4:15p New Spirit Ringers 5:00p Valley Youth Choir</p>	<p>20 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 6:00p Girl Scout Leaders Meeting 7:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:30p Scouts Pack 592</p>	<p>21 10:00a Tai Chi Class 11:00a Staff Meeting 7:00p Deacons Meeting</p>	<p>22 8:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 5:00p Cherub Choir 5:00p King's Kids Choir 6:00p Royal Ringers Bell Choir</p>	<p>23 6:00p Scouts Pack 592 7:15p Fauré Rehearsal</p>	<p>24 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 10:00a Gamble Library Book Group</p>	<p>25 10:00a Fauré Rehearsal</p>
<p>26 9:00a Adult Education 9:15a Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 9:15a Confirmation Class 9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship 10:00a Worship-Youth Sunday 11:00a Congregational Meeting and Luncheon 4:15p New Spirit Ringers 5:00p Valley Youth Choir</p>	<p>27 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 11:30a Century Club 6:00p General Meeting 6:00p Girl Scout Leaders Meeting 7:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:30p Girl Scout Troop 7:30p Scouts Pack 592</p>	<p>28 10:00a Tai Chi Class 11:00a Staff Meeting 6:30p Girl Scout Troop</p>				

THE MESSENGER



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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME DATED MATERIAL



All are invited
to
'Neighbor Night'
Wednesday, February 15
5:30-8:00 p.m.

- * Free pizza and salad dinner
- * Activities for all ages
- * Fun and fellowship

See p. 5

