
The Messenger

Valley Community Presbyterian Church June 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.

June

- 3** Meet and Greet with
Reverend Jeff Binder,
1:00-3:00 p.m.
- 4** Communion
Congregational Meeting,
11:00 a.m.
- 11** Dining for Women Meeting,
11:30 a.m.

18
25

July

- 2** Communion



Church Officers Elected May 7

Church Officers were elected at a congregational meeting on May 7. The 2017 Church Officer Nominating Committee (CONC), presented the committee's nominees for new terms.

Elected for Ruling Elder: Birgitta Carlson, Glenys Craig, Kay Hope Gold, Eben Jenkins, and Greg Russell.

Elected for the office of Deacon: Cathy Bernhard, Christine Danner, Richard Gold, Amy Henning-Blair, Bev Hubbard, Jean Sowers, Karen Miller, Jim Sandberg, and Janet Adkins.

Elected for Church Officer Nominating Committee: Lyle Chadwick, Marilyn Farrier, Karen Sandberg, and Marilyn Tuffs.

Elected for Valley Foundation Board of Directors: Pat Bryant, Bob Peterson, Wally Phillips, Eben Jenkins, and Joy McNeal.

Thanks to 2017 CONC

Members of the 2017 Nominating Committee: Cheryl Rees, Steven Rees, Lyle Chadwick, Kay Phillips, Donna Rueff, and Karen Sandberg.

Thank You to Retiring Church Officers

Appreciation is expressed to:

Elders: Cathy Bernhard, Amy Henning-Blair, David Marquis, Don Sowers, and Megan Bootsma.

Deacons: Edie Leland, Bonnie Reeder, Geri Mitchell, and Cheryl Rees.

CONC: Donna Rueff and Kay Phillips.

In this issue:

- Adult Education Classes, page 3
- Valley's Confirmands and High School Graduates, page 4
- Summer Activities for Children, page 6
- **Meet Reverend Jeff Binder on Saturday, June 3 and hear him preach on Sunday, June 4. See back page.**

Reflections from Reverend Greg Tatman

It has been a month now that I have been here at Valley. It has been a wonderful experience! It is nice to serve such a faithful group of Presbyterians. There are a lot of moving parts here, which show the vitality of the congregation.

I will always remember my first day, that Monday morning when I walked up to the counter holding the sliding windows in the office. AmyAnn was just opening up; turning lights on and doing some of the things needed to get the office going. She eventually got to me. She opened the glass sliders and asked, "Can I help you?" I promptly ordered a "burger, fries and a medium chocolate shake." It took her only an instant to not believe me, and I quickly said; "I am the new pastor."

Angie arrived almost immediately thereafter. We then opened up my new office, Ben's former office. It had been stripped of all evidence that Ben had ever been there. Empty book shelves. Nothing at all on the desk. Empty file cabinets. Nothing on the walls.

I was struck at the reaction of Angie and AmyAnn, (as well as Conner the next day). They were stunned at the emptiness. Their last view was full of more than a decade of the icons of Ben's ministry. Now nothing. It made me think of John 20, when Mary Magdalene was the first to arrive at the tomb on Easter morning, finding it empty. Mary was stunned, overwhelmed with anxiety and grief. "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb and we do not know where they have laid him!" she said.

Of course, some time later that day as Mary was sitting by the tomb, weeping in grief, Jesus appeared to her. "Mary," he said. That's all it took. She recognized him.

Jesus wasn't gone at all! If you think about it, Ben hasn't gone either. He is simply doing what all of us do, fulfilling the next chapter in his life. That all of you grieve for his absence, and for the changes it means for Valley, is a natural thing. Keep at it. Talk about it. Pray about it. And prepare for the new pastor who comes on board Valley in the middle of July. Then neither my or Ben's, or for that matter Jesus' legacy will be determined by an empty Tomb.

Reverend Greg Tatman

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PASTOR

GREG TATMAN

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SHIRLEY HERCHER AND ANGELA GRAHAM

PLEASE SUBMIT ARTICLES VIA E-MAIL BY
JUNE 15 FOR THE JULY ISSUE:

messenger@valleycommunity.org

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

Session Meeting - May 9, 2017

Youth mission trips are almost fully staffed with chaperones. Hannah Pyle, Taylor Rawlings, and MacKenzie Spencer will chaperone the middle school trip. Taylor Rawlings and Trent Sele will chaperone the high school trip.

Approved hiring Hannah Pyle and MacKenzie Spencer as summer interns (June-August).

Elected Elders David Marquis and Allison Carlson as Valley's commissioners for the June 23-34 stated meeting of Presbytery of the Cascades.

Confirmation

Five members of the 2017 confirmation class, Eric Blair, Grady Killian, Zeph Pratt, Antonio Rinella, and Ty Scarce, joined by confession of faith at the session meeting on Tuesday, April 11. They were confirmed in worship on Sunday, April 30.

Baptisms

Josephine Zella Evans Peters, daughter of Sara and Graham Evans Peters, was baptized on Sunday, March 26, by Pastor Ben Paroulek.

Zeph Pratt was baptized Sunday, April 30, by Pastor Chuck Falconer.

Adult Education

Sundays 9:00 a.m.

Dr. Koester Reading Biblical Literature – DVD Series

- **June 4 - Freedom and the law in Paul's letters.** His letters to the Galatians and the Romans expressed the perspective that true freedom is expressed in love, joy, peace, patience and kindness. Those attributes promote a sense of community and enhance our ability to express love and assist each other.
- **June 11 - Paul on gender roles.** Paul had previously stated that in Christ there is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, nor is there male or female. In Christ, we serve each other subserviently out of love. Although the husband is "head" of the wife, he is to give himself up for her; thus, replacing domination with self-going. In separate consideration, slaves are to obey their earthly masters, but their primary loyalty is to Christ and God.
- **June 18 - Chapter 35. Letters to Sojourners** – A sense of social disruption was created by the existent influences and beliefs of the Jewish and Roman hierarchies. This was stressful, but as noted, stress has been a common if not universal component of religious history. James points out that we should be "doers" of the Word, not merely hearers. Likewise, it is not enough to have the right ideas, but if they are important, we have to live them out.. Peter admonishes us to do what is right following the inspiration of Jesus.
- **June 25 - Chapter 36. Reevaluations of the new creation.** Rather than focusing on destruction, this chapter identifies God's role in a new creation. The antagonists in Revelation are God the Creator and Satan and the Beast. Evil is portrayed as a cancer invading life and must be destroyed. Powerful imagery raises the question of mankind's submission to evil vs. pursuit of redemption through Jesus. The triumphant outcome is a resplendent new heaven, new earth and new Jerusalem with golden streets, pearly gates and walls that are 1500 miles high. The metaphorical river of life flows from the throne of God adjacent to the tree of life that can heal all mankind. This implies our responsibility for using our God-given gifts to fulfill the purposes and intent of our Creator.

Library Book Group



The Valley Book Group will meet on Friday, June 23, in the Fireside Room at 10:00 a.m. to discuss *The Oregon Trail*, by Rinker Buck. This book is an epic account of traveling the Oregon Trail in a covered wagon with a team of mules in the modern era. Weaving a tale somewhere between a travelogue and a history lesson, Buck recreates the great migration to Oregon with his brother and a Jack Russell terrier as his only companions. All are invited to bring their own coffee and to join in the lively discussion.

Produce Table Begins in June



Valley's Produce Table will officially open at the start of June. A community table of vegetables, fruits, herbs and flowers is filled each Sunday by Valley members and friends for others to take and enjoy at a meal. There is a tradition of making a donation for the garden goodies that goes to the Oregon Food Bank at the end of the growing season. Last year a generous check for \$355 was sent!

Education for Women and Families in Guatemala



Dining for Women at Valley learns about and supports the grant request for a very interesting nonprofit in Guatemala at our June meeting. Please join us on Sunday, June 11 (one week earlier than typically scheduled due to Father's Day on the third Sunday) at 11:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room for a potluck lunch, an educational program and the opportunity to donate dining out dollars to our featured nonprofit.

Limitless Horizons Ixil in the post-conflict region of Chajul, El Quiché, Guatemala has a mission to create opportunities for the indigenous youth, women and families of that area to develop the academic and professional skills needed to effect change in their lives and community.

The grant will enable a team of local female staff to educate and empower 110 indigenous girls and women living in extreme poverty by providing access to education and academic support, career training, life skills workshops, mentorship, and income-generating opportunities including a community-led artisan program.

Please look at your calendars and think about coming. Everyone is invited. It is Dining for Women, not only women! Hope to see you there!

Confirmation Journey

Nine of Valley's high school youth embarked on their Confirmation journey beginning in October, with a conclusion on Confirmation Sunday, April 30. With the help of supportive mentors and church leaders, we concentrated this time on learning and discovering aspects of a life of faith, both as a community and personally as each individual sought to understand and then explain their own beliefs.

As a community, we discussed big life topics (science and God, relationships, faith, church, Scripture, etc.) and explored other communities of faith to seek understanding and strengthen ties with God's Creation (nature walk, weekend retreat, Jewish congregation, two Catholic Churches, LDS Temple and a funeral home).

With partnering mentors, the Confirmands did lots of "heart work," beginning the journey of what we believe, why believe it, and how we live out our legacy as Christ's beloved "hands and feet" on this planet. The youth are incredible and insightful, and they are a blessing to our local church community and the world. This year's Confirmation Class included Liz Boyle, Ariel Derting, Lindsay Kurtz, Ian Luehr-Sele, Eric Blair, Grady Killian, Zeph Pratt, Antonio Rinella, and Ty Scarce. The last five guys listed confirmed their baptismal vows and joined Valley as members! Let us continue to pray for these incredible people and their mentors and families, as we all journey in faith together. Many thanks to all who walked alongside the youth during this journey. To God be the Glory!

Valley's 2017 High School Graduates

Elizabeth Gazeley is graduating from Lincoln High School, where she was active in Varsity softball, the Lincoln drama productions, the environmental service project club, as well as serving as a student leader for the Outdoor school. She enjoyed singing in the choir with Mrs. Amy and being in the Kings Kids musicals. Elizabeth will attend Whitman College in Walla Walla where she will be studying Environmental Science.

Audrey Keim is graduating from Lincoln High School, where she was a co-founder of the National Arts Honors Society Club and played softball her senior year. Her favorite memory at Valley church was volunteering during vacation bible school. Audrey is very excited about attending Emily Carr University of Art and Design in Vancouver, British Columbia where she will be studying Visual Communications.

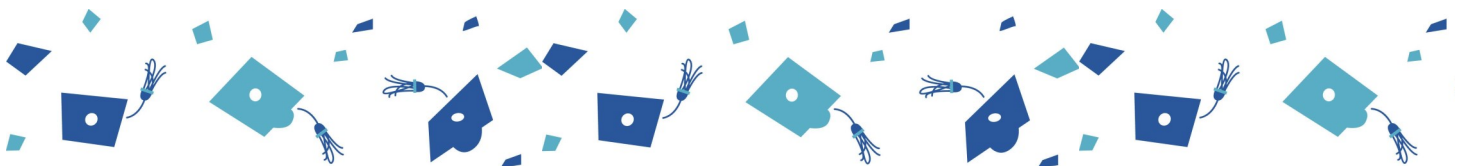
Allison Kurtz is graduating from Lincoln High School, where she was active as a student leader for Outdoor school and also enjoyed learning to play the guitar. One of her favorite memories at Valley church was singing 'Hymn of Promise' in her first grade talent show after learning it from Amy Rheingans. She loves the influence the choir has had on her, and the video from that long ago performance reveals it. Allison will be staying in the state of Oregon and attending the OSU Honors College in Corvallis, and she is still undecided about her major.

Catherine Romanaggi is graduating from St. Mary's Academy, where she was active in technical theater, the Outdoor school, and also loves Scottish Highland dancing. Catherine's favorite memory at Valley was putting her handprint in the youth house and she will miss doing the sound board during our church services. She will be attending Oregon State University in Corvallis where she will study Interior Design.

Maxwell Russell is graduating from the School of Science and Technology, where he participated in chess club and enjoyed hiking as well as the school trips to plays at Portland Center Stage. Max loved being in the bell choir at Valley and will miss all his friends at church. He is excited about attending Oregon State University and majoring in Computer Science.

Daniel Simenson is graduating from Beaverton High School, where he was involved in robotics and really enjoyed chemistry class. His favorite memory at Valley church was the chocolate muffins he received while he helped during the Upward basketball games. Daniel's plans after high school are currently undecided, but he is looking forward to a week vacation in Hawaii.

See p. 5 for photos.



Valley Scrapbook



Laurel Cluthe was presented a beautiful hand-made quilt from our Holy Nine Patch Quilters during worship. Laurel has served Valley's Children and Youth for four years. She will be greatly missed!



Above and below: Valley's graduating seniors were presented with beautiful hand-made quilts by the Holy Nine Patch Quilters during worship.



Valley Notes

Opportunities

Share summer flowers with others by signing on the Flower Calendar for one Sunday this summer. The beauty of God's creation is all around us. Honor an anniversary, birthday or loved one. Questions? Ask me - Pat Bryant.

Tai Chi will continue through the summer at Valley, Tuesdays, 10:15-11:15 a.m. Join us for friendship, mindful movement, and learning something new. Tai chi offers many benefits, including improving balance, strength, and focus. Weather permitting; we will sometimes practice outside in the beautiful Valley courtyard.

Graduation time is here! If you have graduates in your family, send information to messenger@valleycommunity.org or call the church office.

Prayers

We pray for those with health concerns: Sandy Cundiff, Bonnie May, Bill Greer, Anne Foster

We pray for those who mourn: Family and friends of Carl Mays who died April 23, 2017.

Family and friends of Verna Peterson who died May 4, 2017

Family and friends of Vernice Trask who died May 4, 2017.

Harry and Bonnie Reeder and family on the death of their son, Michael Reeder on May 5, 2017.

Family and friends of Ellen Burton-Hallock who died May 28, 2017.

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)

Do you know of any young moms who might be interested in joining other moms in the neighborhood once or twice a month for a welcome two hour break, a listening ear, to meet new friends and to simply share Christ's love? Nursery care will be provided. For more than 40 years MOPS has been ministering to new moms. We are thrilled to announce that a new MOPS group is forming at Valley. We are also seeking MOPS mentors! Our next meeting is scheduled for June 7th from 9:15 am to 11:15 am in the Youth House. For details please contact Kay Hope Gold at rkgold33@frontier.com.



Valley Christian Preschool is now enrolling for the 2017-2018 school year. VCP is a nurturing learning environment for 2, 3, and 4 year olds.

For more information contact Anne Scarce, Director, 503.292.3537 x146,

anne@valleycommunity.org, www.valleychristianpreschool.com.

Mission Giving for May

- Valley members and friends donated \$460.90 to the CROP Walk Church World Services event recently, and Connie and Faith walked the whole 2.7 mile course. Way to go Team Valley!
- For our May Cents-Ability offering, we took in \$62.11, taking us to over \$700 year to date.
- And last but not least in our giving to the hungry and working poor, 76 pounds of food was delivered to the St. Matthew's Food Pantry. Please remember that hunger does not take a summertime break. Non-perishable, non-expired food is always accepted in the bins by the Fireside Room. Our next Cents-Ability collection is on June 18. Thanks again for your continuing support.

Summer Activities for Children

Music & Drama Camp: June 26-30, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

This awesome experience is for rising 2nd-8th graders. Campers learn a musical during the week and perform it at a retirement home at the end of the week and in worship on Sunday, July 2, at 10:00 a.m.. Find more information and register for camps at valleycommunity.org or contact Amy Rheingans at amyrheingans@comcast.net.

Vacation Bible School: July 17-21, 8:45 a.m.-Noon

Galactic Starveyors is the theme for this year's VBS camp. Kids ages 4-11 (as of July 17, 2017) will enjoy a week of new experiences - exploring, learning, and making tons of memories. Let's discover God's AWE-some Creation! Lead and Assistant Teachers are needed for VBS. If you would like to shepherd or simply help with snack, please register as a volunteer through the website, valleycommunity.org, or contact Lizz Brown directly.

Arts Exploration Camp: July 17-21, 12:00-3:00 p.m.

This camp, for rising 1st-5th graders, is during the same week as our VBS program, making it possible for kids to have a full day of camp at Valley. Campers are grouped by age and take classes in music, art, and drama each day. Find more information and register for camps at valleycommunity.org or contact Amy Rheingans at amyrheingans@comcast.net.

June 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>4</p> <p>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</p>	<p>5</p> <p>8:00a Women's Exercise Group 6:00p Girl Scout Leaders Meeting 6:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:30p Scouts Pack 592</p>	<p>6</p> <p>10:15a Tai Chi Class 1:00p Prayer-Shawl Ministry 1:30p Mission Committee 1:30p Staff Meeting 6:45p Christian Nurture for Youth Meeting 7:00p Prayer Shawl Ministry</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 6:30p Bear Den Meeting 6:30p Youth Group Night</p>	<p>1</p> <p>6:00p Christian Nurture for Children Meeting 7:15p Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>2</p> <p>8:00a Women's Exercise Group</p>	<p>3</p> <p>1:00p Meet and Greet with the Rev. Jeff Binder</p>
<p>11</p> <p>9:00a Adult Education 9:15a Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship 10:00a Worship 11:00a Coffee Fellowship 11:30a Dining for Women Meeting</p>	<p>12</p> <p>8:00a Women's Exercise Group 6:00p Girl Scout Leaders Meeting 6:00p Girl Scout Troop 6:00p PIC Meeting 7:00p Finance Committee 7:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:30p Girl Scout Troop 7:30p Scouts Pack 592</p>	<p>13</p> <p>10:15a Tai Chi Class 1:30p Staff Meeting 7:00p Session</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 6:30p Youth Group Night</p>	<p>15</p> <p>"The Messenger" Newsletter Articles Due 8:00a Soup Kitchen 5:00p Music Selection Team 7:15p Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8:00a Women's Exercise Group</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>18</p> <p>9:00a Adult Education 9:15a Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship 10:00a Worship 11:00a Coffee Fellowship</p>	<p>19</p> <p>8:00a Women's Exercise Group 6:00p Girl Scout Leaders Meeting 7:00p Finance Committee 7:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:30p Scouts Pack 592</p>	<p>20</p> <p>10:15a Tai Chi Class 1:30p Staff Meeting 7:00p Deacons Meeting</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 6:30p Cub Scout Lion Den 6:30p Youth Group Night</p>	<p>22</p> <p>7:15p Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8:00a Women's Exercise Group 10:00a Gamble Library Book Group</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25</p> <p>9:00a Adult Education 9:15a Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship 10:00a Worship 11:00a Coffee Fellowship</p>	<p>26</p> <p>8:00a Women's Exercise Group 9:00a Music and Drama Camp 6:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:00p Girl Scout Troop</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:00a Music and Drama Camp 10:15a Tai Chi Class 1:30p Staff Meeting</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 9:00a Music and Drama Camp 6:30p Youth Group Night</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9:00 Music and Drama Camp</p>	<p>30</p> <p>8:00a Women's Exercise Group 9:00a Music and Drama Camp</p>	

THE MESSENGER



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME DATED MATERIAL



**The Reverend Jeff Binder
preaches for Valley
Sunday, June 4 at 10:00 a.m.**



A Congregational Meeting will be held directly after Sunday worship for the purpose of calling Reverend Jeff Binder as our Designated Pastor.

***Come and meet Jeff and Julie
on Saturday, June 3 at 1:00 p.m. - and also
on Sunday for worship at 10:00 a.m.***