
The Messenger

Valley Community Presbyterian Church August 2017

Sundays at Valley

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

August

6 Communion

13

20 Dining for Women Meeting,
11:30 a.m.

27

September

3 Communion

Valley VBS Enjoys by All



The 2017 VBS Galactic Starveyors was an out of this world experience for more than 53 children in our community. Throughout the week, Valley was bustling with excited kids participating in crafts, songs, sports, Scripture lessons and a wonderful mission project together. They were even able to submit planetary names for consideration in the newly discovered Trappist orbit.

An astronomical *"Thank You!"* to all who supported Galactic Starveyors, whether donations of your time, treasure or talents. None of this week of serving God would have been possible without your help and prayers.

We look forward to hosting Valley VBS again next summer. Please keep the children in your prayers. They'll be looking up into the night's sky at the wonderment of God's creation!



What a long strange trip it's been...



Rev. Jeff Binder

Help me process a bit. I left Lynchburg, Virginia, on July 7. I drove to my hometown of Cleveland, Ohio, to spend a few days with my family and friends. The next stop was camping outside of Cedar Falls, Iowa. After that, a stop at Mount Rushmore National Monument (for what was a most wonderful experience if you are looking for a vacation spot).

I spotted the Oregon Trail signs where I could, and slept along the Rock Creek outside of Missoula, Montana (great fly fishing spot supposedly). Finally on the next day I decided to make a final push as I drove through Idaho, Washington, and down along the Columbia River Gorge as I checked into my new apartment. I continued to camp on the floor of my living room as I waited for the moving van to arrive around noon on Sunday.

On Monday, July 17, I walked into the office for my first day of work...along with over 70 children and adults for an amazing 'Galactic Starveyors' Vacation Bible School. Pastoral visits, meetings, unpacking boxes, sold my condo back in Virginia, and occasional sleep. On Saturday I ran a half marathon, then headed to the Hillsboro Hops for what was a pretty bad loss by our Hops baseball team, but a fantastic post-game tailgate with strawberry shortcake.

Sunday, first worship service and sermon, followed by a delicious all church picnic potluck (donut on a string eating champ). Monday, back to the office. More meetings, greetings, visits, and unpacking.

WHEW! I must say that it has been quite a month! But in all honesty, what a wonderful way to be introduced into the life of Valley Community. I have been so impressed with how this congregation continues to work, serve, and laugh together. I'm inspired by not only what is currently going on around the church building, but also what potential there is going forward!

I greatly appreciate the warm welcomes and offers of help. While I feel that most things are slowly setting into a rhythm, one thing I will never turn down is an invitation to dinner! Seriously, while worship and meetings are a fun way to spend time, I also would love to get to know you on a personal level, so don't be shy! I am praying for you and this congregation during this time of transition; please pray for Julie and me as well. May this be a time of excitement, energy, courage, and growth.

In Christ,

THE MESSENGER

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PASTOR

JEFF BINDER

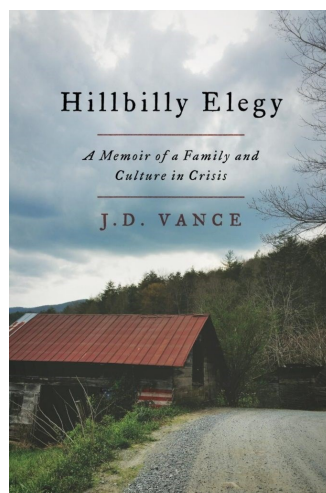
NEWSLETTER STAFF:

SHIRLEY HERCHER AND ANGELA GRAHAM

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

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

Book Group Meets August 25



The Valley Book Group will meet on Friday, August 25, in the Fireside Room at 10:00 a.m. to discuss *Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis* by J.D. Vance. A New York Times Bestseller, named one of the "6 books to help understand Trump's win" and soon to be a major motion picture directed by Ron Howard, this book follows Vance's life story from his impoverished childhood in Appalachia to his graduation from law school and finally to his return to his roots to try to help others break out of the poverty cycle in this area of America. All are welcome to bring their own coffee and listen to or join in the discussion of this thought-provoking book.

Help Women in Bhutan; Meet August 20



READ Global is the featured non-profit for the Dining for Women at Valley meeting on Sunday, August 20. READ stands for Rural Education and Development. This organization is in Bhutan, a country half the size of Indiana where only 58% of the women are literate. Can you even imagine that?

READ Centers serve as platforms for social and economic transformation, collaborating with rural communities to build community-owned and managed centers, and launching for-profit enterprises to sustain the centers' operations.

READ will enable over 300 Bhutanese rural women to gain valuable financial literacy skills

and income generating livelihood skills, plus access to savings programs through advanced training at READ Centers.

Come to our monthly potluck lunch at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, August 20. Enjoy a delicious lunch, learn about this innovative organization and let your "dining out" dollars contribute to their grant request.

If you would like more information about DFW, please contact Ruthann Marquis or go to their very informative website at diningforwomen.org.

Session Notes

- **Financial reports** for June 2017 showed results better than expected. All were reminded that Stewardship season is coming soon.
- **Presbytery of the Cascades** meeting was held in June at Mt. Tabor Church. Attending from Valley were Elders Allison Carlson, Greg Russell and Connie Brenner.
- **Pastor's Report:** Pastor **Greg Tatman** expressed his appreciation to Valley at his last Session meeting, and Session thanked Pastor Greg for his excellent service to Valley during the Pastoral transition.
- **Deacons** reported that visitation Communion was served.
- **Clerk's Report:** A letter was sent to Pastor Ben Paroulek to inform him of the contributions to Second Home and Camp UKANDU that were made in honor of his ministry.
- **Commendation notes** were sent to members of the Designated Pastor Nominating Committee and outgoing church officers.

Children and Youth

- The picnic for children and their families on June 30 was great fellowship.
- VBS is under excellent leadership and the week was very successful.
- High School Mission was in West Hollywood with the homeless at the DOOR. Twelve high school youth attended.
- Middle school mission trip is July 30 to August 3. Nine youth are going.

Project Back Pack

As we head into the "Dog Days of Summer" and our thoughts slowly begin to turn back to school, please remember our Raleigh Hills children who participate in the Project Back Program. Again this year we will partner with the children in the breakfast/lunch program, who take home a back pack full of food on Friday to support their growing bodies and minds over the weekend, when the school program doesn't serve meals. We are asking for *sturdy*, new/gently used back packs that can hold 15-20 lbs of food. Each child participating needs two packs, the empty one gets filled while the full one goes home; and we're expecting about the same number of kids to participate this year as last. The food collection will begin in October and in November you can meet the two girls who started this program during Mission Market.

Thanks for your support, Mission Committee

Valley's Produce Table



Gardens are greening up and producing wonderful produce, both sweet and savory. Valley's Produce Table is set up each Sunday during coffee fellowship time and covered with produce brought in by members and friends of our church. Please stop by and see if something catches your eye and will enhance your next meal. All monetary donations go directly to the Oregon Food Bank to help others in need and to keep from food insecurity.



Eric Blair gives a recap during worship of the High School Youth Group's recent mission trip to California.



The doughnut eating contest is always a popular game at the All-Church Picnic.



A water balloon toss at the All-Church Picnic helped keep participants cool.



The annual All-Church Picnic was well attended!





Left and above: The Music and Drama campers worked hard all week to learn the musical, Step Right Up, and presented it to Valley's congregation during worship on July 2.



This year's Vacation Bible School was a big success! The children learned all about God's love through music, games, crafts, Bible study, and so much more.

Valley Notes

Thanks

July Cents-Ability offering:

Thank you for bringing in your change, to change the world. In July we collected \$222.67 and are now just over \$1,100.00 for the year. This is up from last year's total at this time, so maybe we'll even best that figure of \$2,010.48. Mark your calendar for August 20 to help change the world with your .02¢! Your Mission Team thanks you.

Thank you for sending your check of \$32 for the 2017 Per Capita (for wider church expenses) for each Valley member. Go to: oga.pcusa.org/percapita for more information.

Adult Education

9:00 a.m. Sunday Mornings

August: Classes will be on vacation. See you in church!

September: Adult Education Sunday 9:00 a.m. classes resume with Marcus Borg's presentation, "Speaking Christian: Redeeming Christian Language."

Prayers

We pray for those with health concerns: Richard Gold, Wesley Culbreth (grandson of Charlene Stansbury's friend, Pauly), and Baird Smith.

We pray for those who mourn:
- Family and friends of Roger Berg, who died July 6, 2017

- The Pratt family and friends of Steven Pratt, who died July 11, 2017



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,

Summer Fun!



Valley's children and their families gathered in the courtyard for a *Let's Celebrate Summer Picnic* on June 30th. Food, games and fellowship were enjoyed by all. Subway at 10725 SW Beaverton-Hillsdale Hwy in Beaverton donated 50 sandwiches for the event. The weather was perfect, the food was yummy and the "old fashioned" game of "Charades" was a new and hilarious sensation for the kids!



A strawberry shortcake treat was enjoyed by many Valley attendees after a recent Hillsboro Hops Game.

August 2017

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
		1 Middle School City Camp	2 Middle School City Camp	3 Middle School City Camp	4 8:00a Women's Exercise Group	5
		11:00a Staff Meeting 1:00p Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:45p Christian Nurture for Your Meeting 7:00p Prayer Shawl Ministry	8:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 9:00a Valley Cleanup Day	6:00p Christian Nurture for Children Meeting		
6 9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship 10:00a Worship 11:00a Coffee Fellowship	7 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 6:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:00p Girl Scout Troop	8 10:15a Tai Chi Class 11:00a Staff Meeting 7:00p Session	9 8:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 7:00p Open Gym for Youth	10 5:00p Worship and Music Committee	11 8:00a Women's Exercise Group	12
13 9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship 10:00a Worship 11:00a Coffee Fellowship	14 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 6:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:00p Finance Committee 7:00p Girl Scout Troop	15 "The Messenger" Newsletter Articles Due 10:15a Tai Chi Class 11:00a Staff Meeting 2:00p Deacons' Red Cross Blood Drive 7:00p Deacons Meeting	16 8:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 7:00p Open Gym for Youth	17 8:00a Soup Kitchen 5:00p Music Selection Team	18 8:00a Women's Exercise Group	19
20 9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship 10:00a Worship 11:00a Coffee Fellowship 11:30a Dining for Women Meeting	21 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 10:00a Meals on Wheels 6:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:00p Girl Scout Troop	22 10:15a Tai Chi Class 11:00a Staff Meeting	23 Staff Retreat - Church Office Closed 8:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 7:00p Open Gym for Youth	24	25 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 10:00a Gamble Library Book Group	26
27 9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship 10:00a Worship 11:00a Coffee Fellowship	28 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 6:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:00p Girl Scout Troop	29 10:15a Tai Chi Class 11:00a Staff Meeting	30 8:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 7:00p Open Gym for Youth	31 8:30a First Aid/CPR Training		

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME DATED MATERIAL

**DEACON'S
RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE**

Tuesday, August 15, from 2:00-7:00 p.m.



**Up to three people may be helped with each pint of
blood collected.**



**Please help if you can.
Contact Jim Sandberg for more information.**