
The Messenger

Valley Community Presbyterian Church October 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.

October

- 1** Communion
- 8** Acolyte Training Session,
11:30 a.m.
“Get to Know Valley”
Luncheon, 11:30 a.m.
- 15** Dining for Women Meeting,
11:30 a.m.
- 22** Membership Class, 11:30 a.m.
- 29** 75th Anniversary Celebration

November

- 5** Communion
All Saints Sunday
Daylight Saving Time Ends



Growing Our Faith, Embracing Our Future

Stewardship letters and pledge cards have been sent to all Valley’s members and faithful friends.

This is such an important part of how Valley Community Presbyterian Church can reach out to the larger population for mission, sustain our programs and ministries and grow forward in faith. The work of this church needs your commitment of time, talent and treasure. Can Valley count on you?

On Sunday October 29 there are many great things planned. Valley is celebrating our 75th Anniversary as a congregation of faith in this community. There will be a vibrant worship service, followed by lunch and a program that will highlight the people and memorable events of our church.

It is also Dedication Sunday, where as a congregation we will lay our pledge cards in the Joash chest and seal our commitment to the future of Valley Community Presbyterian Church.

Please prayerfully consider how you can support Valley with your monetary pledge. There is no “right” amount, simply what you feel called to give. From the bounty that God has provided, so also consider giving in a generous spirit.

The Stewardship Committee will be providing updates in the weeks to come. Thank you.

Still Rooted After 75 Years



Valley Community Presbyterian Church celebrates a GREAT BIG Milestone this year - 75 years October 29! We are still going strong and still rooted in our faith.

To celebrate this auspicious occasion there is a special worship service planned on Sunday, October 29 followed by lunch and program. The planning committee for this event is busy making preparations for a memorable day at Valley. You, the congregation is asked to help as well.

The lunch that is planned will be two different soups, various breads/rolls and beverages provided by the Fellowship Ministry. Valley’s congregation is being asked to bring salads and desserts to round out the lunch. Since this is a gathering that will attract many people with ties to Valley over the years, please plan on bringing a **large quantity** of whatever salad or dessert you bring. That will ensure that all present are happily filled with the good food that Valley brings to the table.

Cont. on p 3

Generosity and Abundance



Rev. Jeff Binder

I remember my first church job as a youth director in Lawrenceville, New Jersey. I was invited to a Thanksgiving celebration at one of my church member families. Growing up, I always considered the holidays to be a close knit family affair; perhaps with a few cousins, aunts, and uncles added on. Imagine my surprise when I arrived at the home to find a MULTITUDE of family, friends, and what even seemed like strangers preparing for the feast ahead! Immediately I was hugged by the mother, and given a job to do to help prepare the feast. The house was filled with aromas, laughter, yelling...and people in just about every direction one would turn. Despite their limited means, this family created an environment of generosity and abundance simply by being together. Meals at this home reminded me of the feeding of the 5,000; there was always enough. I remember this day not because it was a holiday or because of the food. I remember this day with fondness because of the **community**. There were no longer strangers; we were one.

Valley Community invites you to help realize **this community** as a place of generosity and abundance. If you are new to this community, it is my prayer that you experience this welcome. If you are a longtime member or friend, may this serve as a reminder that we are called to help realize these characteristics within our community each and every day. I have seen generosity in the gatherings and meals of the various Mariners groups. I have witnessed abundance in the Wednesday men's Bible study group box of donuts that seems to never go empty. I have observed the endless love of the preschool parents as they care for their own children alongside the other beloved children of God and their families.

We have a lot to be thankful for this day. I invite you to share in the joy of this community as we continue living, worshipping, and being the community of faith that God calls us to be. Together we celebrate that we are no longer strangers, but a community in Christ with generosity and abundance for all.

In Christ,

Pastor Jeff

THE MESSENGER

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CHURCH

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PASTOR

JEFF BINDER

NEWSLETTER STAFF:

SHIRLEY HERCHER AND ANGELA GRAHAM

PLEASE SUBMIT ARTICLES VIA E-MAIL BY
OCTOBER 20 FOR THE NOVEMBER
ISSUE:

messenger@valleycommunity.org

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

Session Meeting

September 12, 2017

- Stewardship campaign this year is "Growing our faith, embracing our future." Dedication of pledges will be October 29.
- **Approved:** Valley's Sexual Misconduct Policy as currently written.
- **Approved:** Fall 2017 children's curriculum for Sunday Funday as presented by the committee.
- **Youth group** activities and meetings have been planned through the end of the year. The pie sale was very successful and the committee is considering selling them again at the Mission Market.
- The **Fellowship Committee** is planning a lunch on the day of Valley's 75th anniversary celebration, and the committee proposes that Advent Fair be held on December 3, which is the first Sunday of Advent.
- Jeff and the committee are working together to set up quarterly dinners for new members. Jeff will lead a class for prospective new members.
- **Approved:** Form a Publications and Communications Committee as a subcommittee of Membership and chaired by the Membership elder.
- Elder training will be on Saturday, October 7, from 9:00-12:30 in the Fireside Room
- Home Communion and Visitation was reported.

75 Year Anniversary (cont. from page 1)

The second thing that you, the congregation, can do is to extend an invitation to friends or family that have attended Valley or youth that have been brought up by this church family. Cast your net wide and extend this anniversary hospitality to those who come to mind to share this special day at Valley.

Also, in honor of the 75 years that Valley has been an active part of our local community, the planning committee, in collaboration with Valley's mission committee, has decided to encourage our congregation as a whole to complete 75 acts of service in the coming year. This is not meant for one individual to accomplish, but as a church we will perform outreach to the community 75 times throughout the year. We will be placing a banner in Davis Hall for our congregants to write down any time they volunteer at one of our local outreach organizations. This could be volunteering at the Oregon Food Bank, Habitat for Humanity, or preparing and serving soup at the Soup Kitchen, just to name a few. We hope you will join us as we give back to the community in a variety of ways this year.

Look for more information, as Sunday, October 29 gets closer. Check E-blast and bulletin messages in the weeks to come and listen for announcements at the start of worship to keep up on the plans to celebrate that day. If you have history to share or are interested in helping with this celebration, please contact Allison Carlson at 5beavs@comcast.net or by phone at 503.701.9853.

Dining for Women at Valley

October 15 is the date for Dining for Women at Valley's monthly meeting. This month the featured nonprofit is **Sahar Education in Afghanistan** and the specific program that DFW will fund is the Early Marriage Prevention Initiative. This initiative solidifies the long-term importance of educating girls within their cultural framework, and teaches girls their rights not to marry early and to stay in school. The main goal of the Early Marriage Prevention Initiative is to decrease student dropouts due to early marriage in the target population and to learn interventions for preventing them.

Bring a potluck dish for our lunch together, listen to an interesting and mind-expanding program about this nonprofit in Afghanistan and let your "dining out" dollars contribute to their grant request. We meet in the Fireside room at 11:30 a.m. after worship, as we do every third Sunday of the month.

Produce Table Continues Through October

Although Portland's liquid sunshine has started there are still many things growing in the gardens of Valley's members and friends. The Valley Produce Table will be up through the month of October for all those early fall crops. Gardeners please bring what you can to the table and all others, please see if there is anything there to augment your next meal. Please give generously to the donation box on the table. At the end of October a check will be sent to the Oregon Food Bank with all of the donations collected since the start of the growing season. Thank you, one and all, for helping those in our state that deal with food insecurity.

Honor All Saints November 5

On Sunday, November 5 we will celebrate All Saints Day. Those who have died during this past year, since November 1, 2016, will be honored during Worship. Please provide names of family and friends you wish to commemorate to the office, in the offering plate, or to any church officer by October 29. Clearly write "All Saints" and the person's name. This commemoration is based on the sanctification of all people of God you wish to honor from the "community" of your life who have died this year: family and friends.

In early Christian tradition, saints' days began as a way to mark the anniversary of a martyr's death — his or her "birthday" as a saint. By the middle of the church's first millennium, All Saints' Day was established as an opportunity to honor all the saints, known and unknown. Each year, in the reformed church, we give glory to God for the ordinary, holy lives of all believers who have died in the past year.

Bread for the World Bake Sale October 15

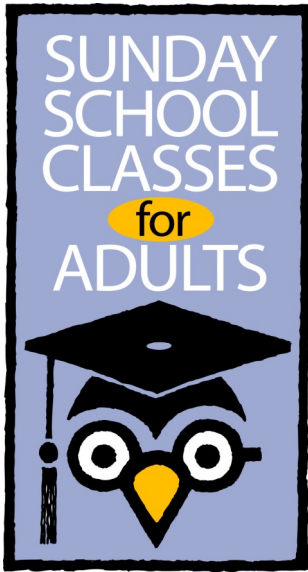


Bread for the World is an advocacy group which analyzes the impact of cutting programs from our National Welfare System and the impact

it will have on families and communities. They then share this data with the Senators and Representatives, allowing for an 'informed vote' on the floor of Congress.

The funds collected by our purchases will go to establishing our church, for the third year, as a Bread for the World Covenant Church. Please bring your baked goods plated and labeled, no need to price the items, as it's a Free Will offering. Place your baked goods on the tables on Sunday, October 15 in Davis Hall. If you want to bake, but will be out of town, arrangements may be made with Andrea Murdoch 503.860.6203.

Adult Education



Sunday Class 9:00 a.m. All are invited.

October 1 – Speaking Christian – Marcus Borg, a DVD

This discussion begins on the literal interpretation of the Nicene Creed. Borg notes many of his parishioners and colleagues are troubled by its language. In a sense, the term “believe” implies that we don’t know completely. Borg contends that earlier use of the term “believe” might be better translated as “beloved”; therefore, centralizing love as the major feature of our relationship with God. God is passionate about compassion, not semantics. This needs emphasis in our Biblical interpretation and in our lives together.

October 8 - The Pre-Easter Jesus – Borg, a DVD

Jesus is viewed as a wisdom teacher who used parables and aphorisms to teach his listeners and help them understand important life issues. Conventional theology of his time fostered spiritual guilt, bondage and self-centeredness that were equivalent of blindness. Jesus’ alternative wisdom, based on a God-centered life and human relations based on love and compassion, provides the means for a rich and meaningful existence.

October 15 – The Pre-Easter Jesus – Borg, a DVD

This presentation focuses on Jesus as a religious ecstatic who perceived God as an experiential reality. Jesus’ presence was described as liberating and invigorating. His miraculous healing capacity has been attributed to his relationship with God. Current understanding would suggest that the strength of his presence would have induced endorphin release which might have contributed to his ability to reduce pain and inspire strength in others. Borg points out that healing of the spirit was of foremost importance. He further notes that Jesus’ famed healing capacity threatened the Jewish hierarchy and may have contributed to their decision to crucify him.

October 22 – The Pre-Easter Jesus – Borg, a DVD

This program addresses Jesus’ role as a social prophet, and a movement catalyst who was resurrected following his death. Jesus highlighted the social inequities of his society. Two-thirds of farmer’s crops were confiscated by landlords, women were categorized as marginally impure and Gentiles were completely impure. Religious traditions enabled extortion and taxation. Societal inequities were further enhanced by the patriarchal system. Jesus criticized this system by pointing out that it failed to focus on purity of the heart and de-emphasized compassion. Borg contends that compassion is the core message of Christ’s teaching.

October 29 – The Pre-Easter Jesus – Borg, A DVD

Crucifixion was a punishment reserved for insubordinate slaves and rebellion participants. It caused a slow, painful and gruesome death. Jewish leaders considered that Jesus’ criticism of their exploitive practices threatened their authority. However, Borg thought that Jesus probably did not consider himself at risk of crucifixion. Borg considers that the phrase “Jesus died for the sins of the world” is a metaphorical expression. He considers Easter to be a boundary marker between the historical Jesus and the risen Christ. Borg contends that Christ journeys with us, and has a continual presence in our midst.



Women’s Bible Study Group

will meet on the second Tuesday of each month beginning October 10 at 11:00 AM in the office conference room. This year’s study is the book of Hebrews, and study books will be available in the office for \$10.



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



Children's Ministries



It's Pumpkin Patch time October 22!

Join the Valley Kids and their families at Lee Farms in Tualatin on Sunday, October 22 from 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. All are welcome! This is a lovely family run farm with a hayride out to the pumpkin patch, a barn slide and petting zoo. Families are responsible for their own transportation and admission.

Lee Farms is located at 21975 SW 65th Avenue, Tualatin, OR 97062. Tickets can be purchased on site or in advance through the Lee Farms website www.leefarmsoregon.com/online-tickets. We hope you can join us for this Fun Fall Fellowship event! Please RSVP to children@valleycommunity.org so we know to look for you at the entrance to Lee Farms at 2:00 p.m. on October 22!

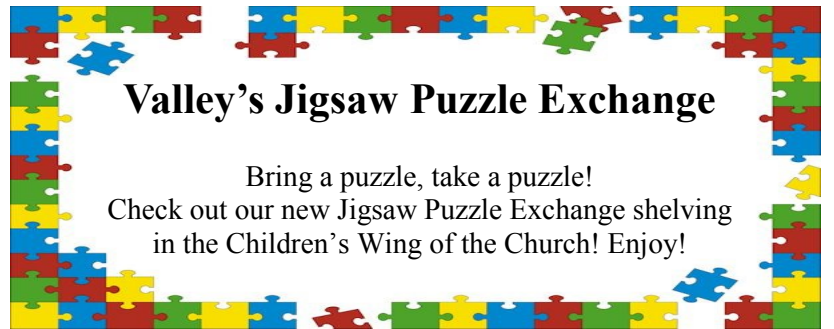
Sunday Funday

This Fall, Valley Kids will learn about The Fruit of the Spirit from Galatians: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Generosity, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self-Control. We'll be making key chains for Valley Kids and Project BACK, painting peace doves on rocks, making personalized offering envelope boxes so that kids can participate in stewardship, writing letters to their future selves for our very own *25 Year Time Capsule* that will be buried on Valley's 75th Birthday and more! If you'd like to participate in teaching Valley Kids 'The Fruit of the Spirit,' contact Kay Hope Gold at children@valleycommunity.org.

Kidz Mart is Coming in December



We are now accepting your gently-used donations for Valley Kids to purchase as Christmas gifts for their family and friends. Look for the Kidz Mart donation bins located in the church office.



Valley's Jigsaw Puzzle Exchange

Bring a puzzle, take a puzzle!
Check out our new Jigsaw Puzzle Exchange shelving in the Children's Wing of the Church! Enjoy!

Youth and Children's Music



Youth Music

Youth Choir (6th-12th graders) at Valley began Sunday, September 24, at a new time, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. New Spirit Ringers (youth bell choir) also resumed last Sunday with a new rehearsal time, 9:15-10:00 a.m. All 6th-12th graders are invited to join these musical groups.

Children's Music

There are three musical offerings for children from preschool - 5th grade as follows:

- Cherub Choir for 4 year olds through 1st graders - begins Wednesday, October 4, from 5-5:45 p.m.
- King's Kids Choir for 2nd-5th graders - begins Wednesday, October 4, from 5-6 p.m.
- Royal Ringers Bell Choir for 2nd-5th graders - begins Wednesday, October 4, from 6-6:30 p.m.

All are welcome to join in Valley's thriving music ministry. Questions? Contact our Director of Music for Children and Youth, Amy Rheingans, at amyrheingans@comcast.net or 503.351.2153.



Vacation Church School in Armitage Hall, 1949.



Vacation Church School, August 1962.



Jim Miller and Art Badger preparing communion, October 1960.



Emma White teaching primary department Sunday School class. Date unknown.



High School Class, October 1961.

Valley Archives



Early church building, date unknown.



View of the chancel in 1948.

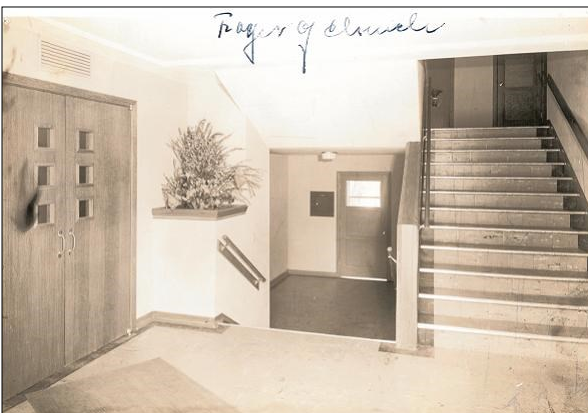


Above: Howard Foster and class.



View from the side of the sanctuary.

Below: Church foyer, date unknown.



Ground-breaking - July 27, 1947.

Valley Notes

Opportunities

Senior Fall Luncheon is Wednesday, October 25. Please join us as we celebrate autumn with a warm lunch and fascinating speaker. We will gather at noon. Senior Lunch is for everyone. Young seniors are welcome. Bring a friend! Lunch is \$5.00.

Join the Valley Fellowship Dishwashers and get a regular steam facial and super clean hands. One time a month is all it takes to contribute to the ministry of using Valley's durables to prevent waste going into the landfill. Please see Ruthann Marquis when you want to join the team.

Mission Market will be on November 12 in Davis Hall. Shop for those "hard to buy for" family members or get a treasured gift for yourself. **Equal Exchange, Habitat, Second Home, Heifer Int'l, Luke Dorf, and Reverse Advent** are a few of the groups on-site for this event. Enjoy the piper and Scottish Dancers provided through Ann Johnson and her studio. More details to come.

Job opportunities at Valley are available! We are seeking experienced adults for the following positions: Director of Youth Ministry and Director of Children's Ministry. See our website for more info.

A "Get to Know Valley" luncheon will be held Sunday, October 8 at 11:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room for those interested in learning more about our church. Please contact Cathy Bernhard at 503.292.9413 to RSVP a meal.

Cents-Ability for September: Thank you to all who participated in \$102.15 in change collected by the children. Next collection date is October 15.

The next Red Cross Blood Drive is Tuesday, October 10, 2:00-7:00 p.m. Up to three people may be helped with each pint of blood collected. Please contact Karen Miller, plmkmm@comcast.net, for more information.

Sunday, October 22 at 11:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room, Pastor Jeff Binder will host a membership class for anyone interested in joining Valley or learning more about membership. Contact Pastor Jeff at the church office with questions or to RSVP.

The next Valley Habitat Build Day will be Saturday, October 28. This will be a morning only build at Allen Estates in Beaverton. If you are interested, please contact Chuck Falconer.

Thanks

Thank you for bringing backpacks for Project BACK. We Blessed and delivered 34 packs the last week in September. Last year there were 36 families involved with the school weekend food program... about 53 children had food to eat because we care. Each family receives 10-15 pounds of food for the weekend, and if there's more than one child from a household, they share the weight. Please stop by their table at Valley's **November 12 Mission Market** to hear more about this needed program.

Prayers

We pray for those with health concerns:

Marjorie Russell, Sue Lanthrum, Katie Simenson

We pray for those who mourn:

Stan Munro and family on the death of Stan's mother, Mary Munro, on Thursday, September 21, 2017.

All Invited to Book Group

The Valley Book Group will meet on Friday, October 27, in the Fireside Room at 10:00 a.m. to discuss *The Rosie Project* by Graeme Simsion.

This best-selling debut novel is about a fussy, socially-challenged genetics professor who is searching for the perfect wife. After launching the "Wife Project," which includes a hilarious questionnaire intended to weed out imperfect candidates, he meets Rosie, a stunning student who possesses almost none of the characteristics on the list, but who brings joy to his life. The film rights to this hopeful and light-hearted book have already been sold.

All are welcome to bring their own coffee and to join in the discussion of this delightful novel and to offer suggestions for casting the characters in the movie.

Youth Group Plans for Fall

We are back in the swing of things for the fall at Valley for our middle school and high school youth group. Our interns, Mackenzie Spencer and Hannah Pyle, along with their fabulous assistants, John Whitehurst and Trent Sele, will be meeting every Wednesday in the youth house from 6:30-8:30 p.m. for dinner, fellowship, devotions, and crazy games.

New this year will be our outreach program, which will happen on the fourth Wednesday of each month. This is an opportunity for our youth and their families to give back to our local community. On September 27, we had 25 youth and their families volunteer at the Oregon Food bank.

If you are interested in helping prepare a meal to share with the youth on a Wednesday night or join our group on October 25 or November 29 to volunteer in our community, please contact Allison Carlson at 5beavs@comcast.net or on her cell phone at 503.701.9853.

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
1 9:00a Adult Education Class 9:15a New Spirit Ringers 9:15a Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship 10:00a Worship 11:00a Coffee Fellowship 11:30a Youth Choir	2 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 6:00p Girl Scout Troop 6:30p Christian Nurture for Children Meeting 7:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:30p Girl Scout Troop	3 10:00a Staff Meeting 10:15a Tai Chi Class 1:00p Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:30p Girl Scout Troop 6:45p Christian Nurture for Youth Meeting 7:00p Facilities Committee 7:00p Prayer Shawl Ministry	4 8:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 5:00p Cherub Choir 5:00p King's Kids 6:30p Scouts Den 6 6:30p Youth Group	5 1:30p Mission Committee 6:30p Cub Scout Patrol Mtg. 7:15p Sanctuary Choir	6 8:00a Women's Exercise Group	7 9:00a Elder Training
8 9:00a Adult Education Class 9:15a New Spirit Ringers 9:15a Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship 10:00a Worship 11:00a Coffee Fellowship 11:30a Youth Choir 11:30a Acolyte Training Session 11:30a "Get to Know Valley" Luncheon	9 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 6:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:00p Finance Committee 7:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:30p Girl Scout Troop	10 10:00a Staff Meeting 10:15a Tai Chi Class 11:00a Women's Bible Study 2:00p Deacons' Red Cross Blood Drive 6:30p Girl Scout Troop 7:00p Session	11 8:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 5:00p Cherub Choir 5:00p King's Kids 6:30p Youth Group	12 5:00p Worship and Music Committee 6:30p Bear Den 592 6:30p Cub Scout Wolf Den 7:15p Sanctuary Choir	13 8:00a Women's Exercise Group	14
15 9:00a Adult Education Class 9:15a New Spirit Ringers 9:15a Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship 10:00a Worship 11:00a Coffee Fellowship 11:00a Bread for the World Bake Sale 11:30a Dining for Women Meeting 11:30a Youth Choir	16 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 10:00a Meals on Wheels 6:00p Girl Scout Troop 6:00p PIC Meeting 7:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:30p Girl Scout Troop 7:30p Scout Troop 592 Planning Meeting	17 10:00a Staff Meeting 10:15a Tai Chi Class 6:30p Girl Scout Troop 7:00p Deacons Meeting	18 8:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 9:15a MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) 5:00p Cherub Choir 5:00p King's Kids 6:30p Youth Group	19 8:00a Soup Kitchen 5:00p Music Selection Team 7:15p Sanctuary Choir	20 "The Messenger" Newsletter Articles Due 8:00a Women's Exercise Group	21
22 9:00a Adult Education Class 9:15a New Spirit Ringers 9:15a Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship 10:00a Worship 11:00a Coffee Fellowship 11:30a Youth Choir 11:30a Membership Class 2:30p Eagle Court of Honor	23 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 11:30a Century Club General Meeting 6:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:30p Girl Scout Troop	24 10:00a Staff Meeting 10:15a Tai Chi Class 6:30p Girl Scout Troop	25 Valley's 75th Anniversary 8:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 12:00p Senior Adult Luncheon 5:00p Cherub Choir 5:00p King's Kids 6:30p Youth Group 7:30p Scout Troop 592	26 6:00p Scout Pack 592 7:15p Sanctuary Choir	27 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 10:00a Gamble Library Book Group	28 Valley's Habitat for Humanity Build Day
29 75th Anniversary Celebration 9:00a Adult Education Class 9:15a New Spirit Ringers 9:15a Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship 10:00a Worship 11:00a Coffee Fellowship 11:30a Anniversary Luncheon 11:30a Youth Choir	30 8:00a Women's Exercise Group 6:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:30p Girl Scout Troop	31 10:00a Staff Meeting 10:15a Tai Chi Class 6:30p Girl Scout Troop	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> <h1 style="margin: 0;">October 2017</h1> </div>			

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME DATED MATERIAL



STILL ROOTED
AFTER 75 YEARS

CELEBRATE VALLEY'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY WITH US!

A special worship service is planned for
Sunday, October 29 at 10:00 a.m.
followed by a lunch and program.

Two different soups, various breads/rolls
and beverages provided. Please bring a
salad or dessert to round out the lunch.

Invite your family and friends,
especially those with Valley ties!