



2017 ANNUAL REPORT



STILL ROOTED
AFTER **75** YEARS

Mission Statement

Adopted April 8, 2003 as part of the Mission Study Report, prepared by the Mission Study Team.

Valley Community Presbyterian Church is the people of God in one place and one time. We are called by God to gather, in the name of Christ, and we have responded to that call with a commitment to active membership in this body, this community of Christians.

We are called, and we have committed

to worship God regularly in this place, in hearing the word, in prayer, in sacrament and sacred music.

We are called, and we have committed

to care for each other, individually, in large groups and small; to form a community in the midst of a rushing world.

We are called, and we have committed

to care for our children and youth, not only telling them of the love of God but also showing them.

We are called, and we have committed

to continue to learn and to grow, to discuss, to wrestle with the challenges of applying our faith to our place and time.

We are called, and we have committed

to serve God by serving others, with soup kettles and hammers, with hands of hope and ears of understanding.

We are called, and we have committed

to hear and proclaim God's vision of a kingdom of peace and justice.

We are called, and we have committed

to throw open our doors, to invite in and welcome all our neighbors.

We are called, and we have committed

to be the body of Christ in this place and time.

“For what does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” Micah 6:8

Pastoral Letter

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

~ Romans 12:1-2

I remember coming across these words from the Apostle Paul back when I was a teenager. I was looking for some words from scripture that related to my life, and this talk of not living in conformity, but living as transformed people rang true in my life. One thing I realize now that I didn't realize back then is that this has become a guiding message for the entirety of my life.

This year's annual report celebrates the life of Valley Community Presbyterian Church for the entirety of 2017. While many of you didn't know me back in January of 2017, I was learning about you. In early December of 2016 our names were matched on what is called the Church Leadership Connection website, and I spoke with the active Executive Presbyter at the time, Hugh Anderson, and I reached out to Pastor Ben to hear more about the life and ministry of this congregation. In January of 2017 the DPNC and I had our first interactions...and the rest, as they say, is history.

This congregation celebrated over 15 years of ministry with Rev. Ben Paroulek as he retired this spring. Wonderful transitional ministry was offered by Rev. Greg Tatman over the next few months. And in July of 2017 you welcomed me as your Designated Pastor. How time flies!

The church campus and facilities continued to see improvements through the efforts of the Building Improvement Committee and the Youth House Revivification efforts. Valley hired two new ministry leaders in Misty Bonham for Children's Ministry, and Preston Russell for Youth Ministry, which complimented an already fantastic staff. Our Preschool continues to see stability and growth. Our music leadership continues to illuminate dynamic worship experiences. We celebrated 75 years of ministry! We have reached out to the community in new and exciting ways...the list goes on and on!

All of these wonderful things happening in the life of Valley Community...all of the amazing leadership from committees, deacons, session members...all of these fantastic mission efforts, community fellowship events, and worship...all of this happens because of our calling to not be conformed to this world, but to be transformed...by God's word...by the renewing of our minds...and our hearts.

Today we celebrate what God has done here at Valley Community in 2017. What amazing things will God lead us towards in 2018? How will our calling to transformation continue to shape us in the days ahead? I am most grateful for what God has showed us this past year, and excited to see what God has in store for the future!

In Christ,



Pastor Jeff

Church Information

Church Officers

Session

Christian Nurture for Adults
and Small GroupsRichard Bryant
Christian Nurture for ChildrenKay Hope Gold
Christian Nurture for YouthAllison Carlson, Birgitta Carlson
CONC/Leadership.....Cheryl Rees
FacilitiesRoger Rees
FellowshipRuthann Marquis
Finance and StewardshipEben Jenkins
MembershipGlenys Craig
MissionConnie Brenner
Personnel.....David Jimerson
Safety and SecurityPhil Miller
Worship and Music.....Greg Russell
ModeratorRev. Jeff Binder
Clerk of Session.....Carol Powers

President of the Corporation

Sam Connell

Treasurer

Frank Powers

Deacons

Janet Adkins
Cathy Bernhard
Eric Blair
Christine Danner
Gary Eaton
Joy Eaton
Richard Gold
Amy Henning-Blair
Bev Hubbard
Edie Leland
Karen Miller
Frank Powers
Steve Rees
Jim Sandberg
Bob Scarce
Fran Scarce
Jean Sowers
Charlene Stansbury

Church Staff

Pastor	The Rev. Jeff Binder
Pastoral Associate	The Rev. Chuck Falconer
Pastoral Associate	The Rev. Jenny Pratt
Director of Children's Ministries	Misty Bonham
Director of Youth Ministries	Preston Russell
Minister of Music	David Jimerson
Organist	Bob Hinson
Director of Youth and Children's Music	Amy Rheingans
Preschool Director	Anne Scarce
Publication and Office Administrator	Angela Graham
Business Manager	AmyAnn Green
Building Superintendent	Connor Campbell

Ministry Reports

Worship and Music

David Marquis, Elder

Greg Russell, Elder

David Jimerson, Bob Hinson, Ron Leland, Karen Acker, Carol Powers,
Raoul Bellis-Squires, Pat Bryant, Kay Phillips, Wendy Jenkins

The Worship and Music Committee is responsible for the liturgy, music, and drama throughout the seasons of the church. It oversees the functionality, maintenance, lighting, sound and liturgical arts of the front entry, narthex, sanctuary, chancel, sacristy, prayer room, and balcony.

Sub-committees are tasked to provide ushers, greeters, communion servers, liturgists, acolytes, and sound board operators all essential to cohesive worship services. Fresh flowers in the entry are provided by congregants via a sign-up calendar in the church office, or by the committee as otherwise needed.

Liturgical seasons include Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, Advent, and Christmas. Other prominent celebrations include All Saints Sunday commemorating those who were deceased in the past year, as well as Kirkin' o' the Tartan honoring our Presbyterian Scottish heritage.

Acolytes light the Christ Candle and pour the baptismal water during the prelude at each worship service. Communion is served by intinction on the first Sunday of each month.

Valley continues to be blessed with a vital music program, which includes the Sanctuary Choir, Youth Choir, King's Kids Choir, Cherub Choir, New Spirit Ringers and Royal Ringers. Instrumentalists, and soloists enhance worship services on occasion.

Valley's Sanctuary Choir continued successfully under the direction of Dr. David Jimerson as Minister of Music. The choir has been blessed with the skills and support of student music interns. Organist/pianist Bob Hinson has continued to prove himself a vital asset with his versatility and improvisational talents.

Worship hymns and music are chosen by Pastor Jeff Binder, in collaboration with the Music Selection Committee which includes David Jimerson, Amy Rheingans, Bob Hinson, Raoul Bellis-Squires, Ron Leland, Carol Powers, Karen Acker, Elder David Marquis, Elder Greg Russell, and other committee members.

In 2017, the committee helped celebrate Valley's 75th Anniversary, installed the new Glory to God Presbyterian Hymnal, the sound team added a new headset microphone for the pastor to improve sound quality and began efforts to begin video recording of services to expand Valley's outreach via social media. We also welcomed Pastor Jeff Binder to Valley in July and have appreciated his participation and new direction.

The committee is ever-exploring new ways in which to enhance our worship of God. We welcome any suggestions for our consideration.

Finance

Eben Jenkins, Finance Elder
Sam Connell, Lyle Chadwick, Don Sowers,
Shannon Pratt, Hank Grootendorst, Edie Leland
Frank Powers, Treasurer

The Finance Committee is responsible for overseeing the financial operations of Valley Community Presbyterian Church. This includes tracking assets, liabilities, fund balances, program and non-program revenues and expenditures. In addition, the Finance Committee serves as the coordinator for the annual Stewardship campaign for Valley. Eben Jenkins served as the head of the Stewardship Committee for the 2018 Campaign, with Ruthann Marquis, Steve Bird, Lyle Chadwick, and Pastor Jeff also serving on this committee.

Valley received \$424,543 in 2017 adult giving contributions, down 7% or \$32,663 from 2016. Valley was budgeted in 2017 to end at a loss of \$34,819. This was viewed as a special circumstance, driven by one-time costs associated with the Pastor Nominating Committee selection and interview process, and the associated relocation of a new Pastor for Valley. Funds were transferred from reserves as needed to cover this loss for 2017. Valley ended 2017 with a positive net result of approximately \$15,000.

In the fall of 2017, a separate Stewardship Committee was formed, reporting into the Finance Committee. While Eben served as chair of Stewardship, Don Sowers and Sam Connell served as rotating chairs of the Finance Committee.

As of January 8, 2018, the Stewardship Campaign resulted in 136 pledges for 2018, totaling \$377,565. This is one pledge more than received last year (135), but a 4% higher pledge dollar total (\$361,919 pledged for 2017). Taking into account expected non-pledge giving, we project that giving for 2018 will be very close to the same amount as 2017. The Finance Committee has not forecasted any change to giving patterns due to changes in tax laws enacted for 2018.

With similar expected giving to Valley, and higher annual expenses in 2018 due to fully staffed Pastoral and Directors of Ministry positions for Youth and Children, expenses might outstrip giving in 2018. The Session will be working to adopt a balanced budget through review and prioritization of planned expenditures with the expected level of giving.

The church remains without debt and financially sound at present. At least \$24,000 of our cash reserves, however, are expected to be consumed in order to balance the budget for 2018. Statements for 2017 budget and actuals, and end of year balances for Valley can be found on the following pages.

Valley Community Presbyterian Church Summary Balance Statement (Selected View)

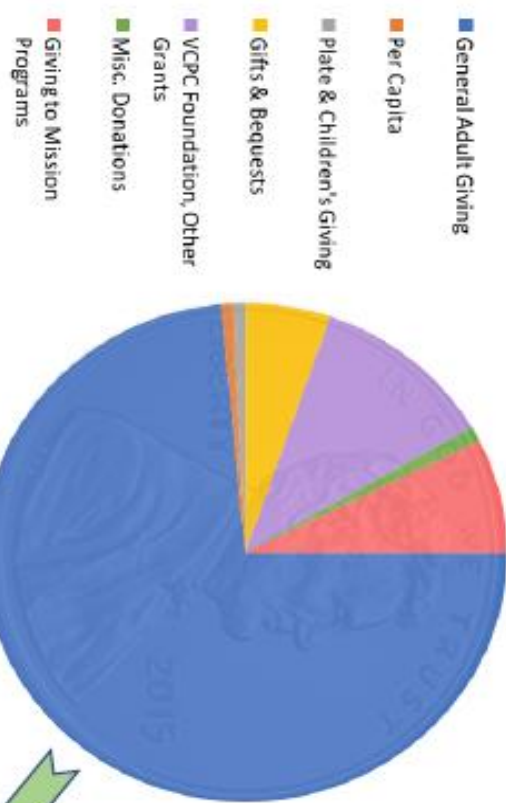
Current Assets	As of 31 Dec 17	As of 31 Dec 16
Operating Cash Account	\$279,130	\$334,748
Investment Account	\$152,906	\$150,000
Square Account / Petty Cash	\$898	\$1,971
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$432,934	\$486,719

Valley Community Presbyterian Church Summary Income Statement

	<u>Actual 2017</u>	<u>Actual 2016</u>
Revenues:		
Adult Giving Income	\$424,543	\$457,206
Misc. Income and Donations	\$53,896	\$43,211
Rental houses net income	\$7,653	\$11,028
Children ministries income	\$5,924	\$7,063
Youth ministries income	\$20,504	\$17,013
Designated mission income	\$42,749	\$37,713
Transfers from reserves	\$19,243	\$11,828
VCPC Foundation, Other Grants	\$65,465	\$1,296
Valley Preschool net income	\$6,809	\$15,372
TOTAL INCOME	\$646,785	\$601,730
Expenditures:		
Compensation & benefits, all staff	\$288,609	\$295,143
Facilities	\$129,946	\$72,527
General administration	\$106,228	\$114,799
Adult education & small groups	\$2,250	\$2,818
Children ministries	\$11,708	\$10,287
Youth ministries	\$24,586	\$21,861
Congregational care	\$444	\$2,183
Mission	\$50,325	\$43,895
Worship and music	\$13,215	\$7,328
Communications, fellowship, membership	\$4,720	\$4,047
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$632,030	\$574,888

2017 Finances at a Glance: Valley Community Presbyterian Church

2017 Donations to VCPC: \$577,358



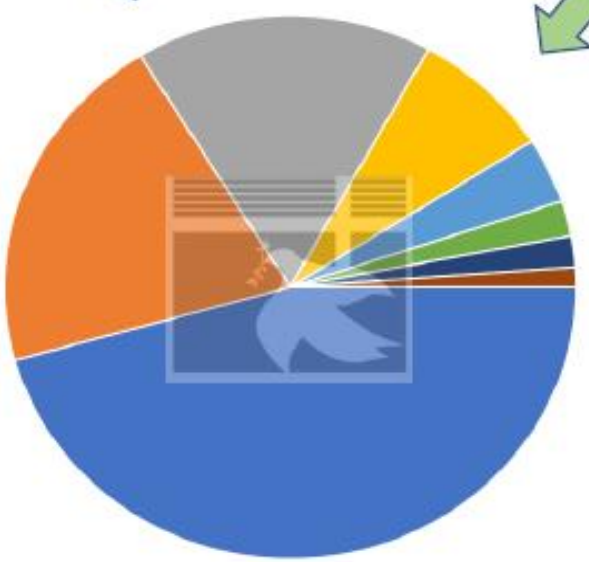
Other VCPC Income 2017: \$50,184



Transfers from Reserves: \$19,243



VCPC Expenditures 2017: \$632,030



Memorials and Gifts

Jim Sandberg, Chair
Hank Grootendorst, Ann Johnson,
David Marquis, Mary Kelly, Frank Powers

The Memorials and Gifts Committee oversees the gifts given to Valley Community Presbyterian Church as memorials. The Committee serves as a ministry of the Finance Committee of the Session.

Contributions to the memorial fund are received in honor of members and friends of the church. These gifts are used to enhance the life of the church and its buildings and grounds.

This has been a very rewarding time for the Committee. Generous gifts from the Burns family and friends, and members of the congregation along with a generous gift from the Valley Foundation provided the church an opportunity to make some long overdue repairs and updates to the Youth House. The work was started in 2016 and completed in 2017. The work included renovation of the meeting rooms, living room, basement and the resident living area. A new roof, new gutters, new windows, including painting of the exterior and replacement of deteriorated siding were included in the renovation. In addition to the youth, other ministries of the church are using the Youth House as a warm and friendly meeting place.

There are still moneys in the memorial fund for children, youth and music ministries, and the library. As the overseer of the memorial fund the committee is responsible for informing the designated ministries of the church to be aware of the funds available to them.

Facilities

Roger Rees, Elder
Stephen Rees, Secretary
Stephen Rees, David Derting,
Terry Hercher, Ed Sanders, Roy Conner

The Facilities Committee is responsible for:

- Identifying, coordinating and approving church maintenance issues. Small tasks are undertaken by team members or our Building Superintendent, Connor Campbell.
- Preparation of a fiscal year budget to be submitted to the Finance Committee that covers maintenance and improvements to the church and its associated properties.
- Approval and supervision of maintenance actions inside and outside of the church building and its associated rental properties located on Cedar Street.

Budget (2018): Approximately \$61,000, excluding operating income/expense from rentals

Accomplishment Highlights from the past 12 months

A quiet year for facilities except for the Property Improvements managed through the Property Improvement Committee headed by Dan Rueff and the Youth House Revivify efforts headed by Karen Yakymi. A big thank you to Gary Moen and Larry Yakymi for their contributions and time to make significant improvements to the Youth House.

Major improvements to the Church included:

- Some work progress on finishing south side fire escape exit stairs.
- Armitage Hall to Kitchen door replacement.

Major improvements to the Youth House included:

- Siding, paint, bathroom remodel, basement refurbishment,

Looking Forward in 2018

- Completion of the south side fire escape exit stairs and refurbishment of the Davis Hall fire escape stairs.
- Remodel of the south side patio.
- New exit doors for the Fireside Room and updated range for the Fireside Kitchen (done.)
- Starting of bathroom upgrades for the main church building including ADA compliance – scope of work still in discussion by the Property Improvement Committee.

Valley Community Presbyterian Church Foundation

Sam Connell, Valley Foundation Chair
Board of Trustees: Janet Adkins, Cathy Bernhard, Pat Bryant
Sam Connell, Eben Jenkins, Joy McNeal, Bob Peterson, Wally Phillips, Bob Scarce

For the year 2017 Valley's Foundation funded five requests for financial support amounting to \$14,612.17.

The following requests were funded:

- \$5,493.99 for new church hymnals
- \$2,000 for travel expenses for Sarah Blair to attend the Reformed Church of Hungary's Starpoint Youth Festival as appointed national representative for PC(USA)
- \$650 for Pastor Ben's retirement/recognition celebration
- \$757 for support of Valley's 75th Anniversary Celebration
- \$5,711.18 for video intercom system with enhanced picture quality for church security

Valley Foundation is pleased to be a continuous resource for the church and its programs.

Mission

Connie Brenner, Elder
Andrea Murdoch, Janet Adkins, Jan Falconer,
Chuck Falconer, Christine Danner

Your Mission Committee continued to be very busy during 2017. Thanks to the generosity of the congregation, money and many donated items were collected during the year to help those in need in our community and around the world.

A Minute for Mission was offered during worship on the second Sunday of each month. **Special PCUSA Offerings** were received four times during the year: One Great Hour of Sharing, Pentecost Offering, Peacemaking Offering, and the Christmas Joy Offering, totaled over \$7,000. Portions of the Pentecost and Peacemaking Offerings are retained by Valley for work in our local community or specified gifts to national/international projects.

Presbyterian Partnership Giving, to support denominational outreach, received \$6,500 from Valley's budget, and the Theological Education Fund, supporting the education of pastors for Reformed church congregations, received \$500.

Valley's Mission Endowment granted a total of \$22,000 to 15 projects.

Over \$2,000 was received in the **monthly Cents-Ability offerings**, with \$1,000 sent to Care to Share, a local social service agency, and \$1,036 to the Presbyterian Hunger Program. \$1,000 (from prior years' funds) was sent to PCUSA for **Chenoa Stock**, our mission co-worker in Bolivia.

The annual **Mission Market** raised \$1,874 for the following groups: Second Home, Equal Exchange, Habitat for Humanity, Heifer Project International, Knit for Kids, Luke Dorf, Youth Missions, and the Soup Kitchen.

Soup (or another hot meal) was provided monthly at the Bud Clark Commons in downtown Portland; and prayer shawls, purple hats for Providence Hospital newborns, sweaters for kids, and girls' dresses for Africa were made and distributed.

Dining for Women held monthly meetings to hear about and help support programs that work to improve the situation of women and girls around the world.

Items collected during the year included socks, scarves, mittens and hats for the homeless ministries of Luke Dorf, Night Strike and Night Watch; food for St. Matthew's food pantry and Project Back; 34 backpacks for Project Back; 60 pair of glasses and hearing aids for the Lions Club; and a big bag of box tops and labels for education went to Tobias Elementary School in Hillsboro.

Valley participated in three **Habitat for Humanity** "builds" this year, in February, June and October, with seven people participating each time.

On October 6 Valley observed Bread for the World Sunday with a bake sale and an offering of letters. The proceeds of the bake sale (over \$500) were used to support our Covenant Congregation status with Bread for the World.

A number of volunteers helped distribute food at **St. Matthew's Lutheran Church/SCAT Food Pantry** to alleviate hunger locally on the 3rd, 4th, and 5th Wednesdays of each month.

Valley had two walkers in the **CROP Walk** in 2017, with \$460.90 contributed.

A **produce table** was held during the summer months with \$298 in proceeds going to the Oregon Food Bank.

Thanks to everyone who participated in any of these activities!

Mission Endowment Committee

Elaine Rea, Chairperson
Jan Bellis-Squires, Robert Hayes,
Mary Kelly, David Marquis, Gary Nelson
Janet Adkins, Mission Committee Liaison

Funds available from the Mission Endowment Fund:

\$22,000

Funds awarded:

\$22,000

Spring 2017 Grant Cycle recipients:

*Friendly House
Valley Youth Mission Trip
Open Arms International
Seeds of Learning
Impact NW – Richmond Place
Interserve
InterVarsity Christian Fellowship
Assistance League of Greater Portland
Valley Christian Preschool

Fall 2017 Grant Cycle recipients:

Deschutes County Healthy Beginnings, Inc.
Willamette West Habitat for Humanities
United Nations Foundation – Nothing But Nets
YWCA of Greater Portland
Ignite the World Ministries
*Fresh Out
*Serve Uganda
*Good Roots Community Food Bank
*The Chance to Dream Haiti

Committee business:

The application deadlines remain April 1 and October 1. Notices for applications appeared in the March and September *Messenger* as well as Sunday Bulletins and e-Blasts. Award summaries were published in the August and December *Messenger*. The committee met in April and October and after approval from the Mission Committee, the proposed grants were ratified by Session in May and November. Award letters and checks were sent in June and December. In total, eighteen grants were awarded. Five were in health, two in housing, three in education, two in social services, one in food, one in clothing, and four in mission/evangelism. Ten were local or regional and eight were international. Five were new to our grant program.

* denotes NEW

Mission Endowment Fund Investment Committee

Lyle Chadwick, Chair
Don Sowers, Richard Page
Frank Powers, Treasurer
Dave Balk, Umpqua Advisors financial consultant

The genesis of Valley's Mission Endowment Fund began in 1949 with a gift of over \$200,000 in closely held stock by a former Valley member and his wife. The donor designated the gift to be used only for "mission purposes and not for salaries or operating expenses at the local congregational level." Accordingly, the fund is held in a separate designated account on Valley's books to which the original donor hoped that "the gift itself would inspire others to add to this fund." Current investments are broadly diversified in market traded assets with about two-thirds in the equity sector. At December 31, 2017, the balance in the Endowment Fund was \$440,486, an increase of almost 10% for the year.

Semi-annually, the MEF Investment Committee determines the dollar amount under the gifting formula – 2½% of the fund's nine quarter rolling average – a 5% annual payout. Mission requests are reviewed by the Fund's gifting committee (chaired by Elaine Rea) and then recommended to Session for final approval. In 2017, the Fund generated gifts of \$23,000 and has provided for gifts of about \$388,000 since the year 2000.

The MEF Investment Committee meets quarterly to review market trends, results and the asset composition.

Membership

Glenys Craig, Elder and Chair
Cathy Bernhard, Donna Rueff,
Marilyn Tuffs, Valerie Conner, Roy Conner

Mission Statement

We are called and have committed to:

- Welcome all who come to Valley – members, friends and visitors alike by creating a welcoming atmosphere.
- Encourage a community of faith by caring for our members, friends and children by communicating one on one what Valley has to offer and retaining and recruiting those interested in joining a community of faith.

Highlights

The Membership Committee consists of a dedicated team who are caring, hard-working and supportive of the important work of Valley Community Presbyterian Church. The committee had a successful year with many accomplishments. Here are the highlights:

- Committed to a Personal Greeters Program so each person entering the church receives a personal greeting.
- Prepared and served coffee and treats to early arrivers on Sunday mornings in the library.
- Continued to work with Laurel and the youth to give a welcome gift and information to each newcomer who attends worship.
- Ensured that each new worshipper who provided contact information was contacted by a Pastor and/or a Membership Committee member.
- Held a Welcome to Valley luncheon at the church and a New Membership Class.
- Set up individual times for the Pastor and two Elders to receive into membership attendees who indicated an interest in joining. These new members were then introduced to the congregation at a worship service. Ten members joined in 2017. Adults: Pam Kessinger, Ed Vaughan, Ginny Vaughan, Brett Baker, Carolyn Reed. Confirmands: Eric Blair, Grady Killian, Zeph Pratt, Antonio Rinella, Ty Scarce
- Coordinated/wrote the Meet Your Family feature articles in the Valley Messenger.
- Tracked attendance and updated membership rolls as needed.
- Updated Visitor/Prayer Request card that is placed in all pews.
- Participated in the Kick-off Sunday activities with a table showcasing activities at Valley.
- Revised and maintained New Member Packets for those joining the church.
- Added a sub-committee for Communications which will activate in 2018

Fellowship

Ruthann Marquis, Elder
Wendy Jenkins, Marcia Sanderman,
Laura Sanders, Beth Busch

The mission of the Fellowship Ministry is to build community and create opportunities for Christian fellowship within the congregation at Valley Community Presbyterian Church and the local neighborhood. We coordinate key congregational meals and assist with receptions or recognitions. We oversee the kitchen (thank you Marcia Sanderman), promote the cookie ministry and coordinate the hosts for the Coffee Fellowship that follows Worship every Sunday (thank you Wendy Jenkins.)

2017 was a **very** busy year for the Fellowship Ministry, as can be seen in the following:

- **January 21-** A banquet of pies was coordinated and prepared for the reception following the piano performance by Thomas Rheingans for the Benefit Concert at Valley.
- **February 26-** A Congregational Lunch following a Congregational meeting at the end of worship. “Comfort foods from our youth” was the theme, as it was also Youth Sunday in worship. Fellowship provided beverages on the day of the lunch and promoted and coordinated all aspects of the lunch prior to the event.
- **April 23-** Pastor Ben’s Retirement Celebration. Fellowship and several additional volunteers extensively prepared for, served and cleaned up from this memorable event. There was a vast and varied arrangement of hearty appetizers served, along with cake, juice, coffee and tea. A special thanks to Chef Roy Conner for overseeing the food prep and presentation. Food was prepared for 300 guests and only small amounts were noted to be left over, thus the food amount was a well planned. The Foundation provided additional funds for several parts of the celebration, including the food.
- **June 3-** The “Meet and Greet” reception for Pastor Jeff Binder and his fiancé Julie Sharp was coordinated by the Fellowship Ministry. A wonderful punch, cheesecakes and various toppings were the highlights of the buffet.
- **July 23-** Congregational Picnic on the front lawn of the church. Fellowship supplied fried and baked chicken, as well as supplied beverages and coordinated the games. The congregation provided sides, salads and desserts for a bountiful spread under beautiful skies.
- **October 29-** Valley celebrated their 75th Anniversary with a lunch after a special worship service. Eleven volunteers made batches of minestrone soup and Roy Conner made tomato soup (vegan, gluten free, dairy free.) The Fellowship Ministry supplied bread, rolls and beverages. The congregation was asked to bring a salad, side or a dessert option to contribute to the lunch options. The banquet was so plentiful in so many ways and added much to the wonderful celebration.
- **November 19-** Following Pastor Jeff Binder’s installation the Fellowship Ministry hosted a reception with light appetizers, as it was at least 5:00 pm by the time the installation service was over and the reception began.
- **December 3–** Advent Fair after Worship that day from 11:00- 1:30. Davis Hall was filled with craft tables and activities, pizza, cookies and cider, and chocolate covered pretzels while Christmas music filled the air.

Commendations with gratitude:

Boy Scout Troup 592 graciously set up for many of the Fellowship Ministry events this year, as well as took down those same events with enthusiasm and efficiency. They clearly contributed to the success of each event.

Safety and Security

Phil Miller, Elder
Angela Graham, Publication and Office Administrator
Connor Campbell, Building Superintendent
Anne Scarce, Preschool Director

For the safety and well-being of all groups who utilize Valley Community Presbyterian Church's facilities, the first year (2016) for the Safety and Security Committee exceeded its budget of \$3,000 by approximately 50%. A large number of outside groups - historically between 30 and 50 plus, have sought and been welcomed to use some of VCPC's space as appropriate. Security of VCPC's buildings has emerged as a top priority.

A youth volunteer, under the guidance of a Safety and Security Committee member, has been identified and is being paid a stipend to share nightly lock-up responsibilities with the Committee Elder.

Overnight, November 3-4, an unknown person(s) attempted to break into the church through one of the two locked (but unmonitored) exterior double-doors in the Fireside Room. Damage to the doors was substantial resulting in easy entrance to the Fireside Room - however, no evidence of entry was found. Beaverton Police report is on file. The Facilities Committee is in the process of procuring new, more secure, exterior Fireside Room doors.

The committee is currently overseeing the purchase and installation of two exterior call boxes and security cameras for VCPC's main and east parking lot doors. This system will allow positive identification of persons prior to entering the building during Preschool hours when preschoolers may be using classrooms outside their regular secure area and at other times as needed. This system will also allow timely lock-down capabilities from the church office, as necessary.

A study is underway to develop recommendation for future replacement of VCPC's present out-dated security system.

Church Officer Nominating Committee (CONC) and Leadership Development

Cheryl Rees, Elder
Stephen Rees, Deacon
Lyle Chadwick, Kay Phillips,
Donna Rueff, Karen Sandberg

CONC is a committee elected by the congregation's membership. The committee must have at least three active members and one elder who is currently serving on the Session. The pastor shall serve *ex officio* and without a vote.

Meetings begin January or February of each year. Potential candidates should be members of the church and representative of its membership. The committee makes calls and visits candidates to find members with a passion and skill set that makes them potential officers and committee members.

Incoming candidates replace outgoing members of Elder, Deacon, Valley Foundation members, Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) and CONC members at large. The congregation is then presented with the candidates that accept the position offered. When elections are held, full opportunity is always given for nomination from the floor (during the congregational meeting) by any active member of the congregation.

In 2017, six deacons, four elders, seven PNC members and several Foundation members were installed. Deacons and elders serve a 3-year term.

The PNC is a committee that is only formed when a minister retires or vacates the position and the church needs to find the appropriate person to fill the job. This year, Ben Paroulek, after serving 16 years at Valley Community Presbyterian Church, retired. With congregational blessings and support, Jeff Binder was installed as the new fulltime minister.

Christian Nurture for Youth

Allison Carlson, Elder (2015-18), Megan Bootsma (20016-17), Birgitta Carlson (2017-18), Elders

Laurel Cluthe, Children's and Youth Minister (January-April 2017)

Hannah Pyle and Mackenzie Spencer, Youth Interns (June-October 2017)

Preston Russell, Director of Youth Ministry (December 2017)

Amy Rheingans, Director of Children's and Youth Music,

Committee Members: Olivia Hoffbeck, Claire Bedsaul, Stacy Luehr-Sele,

Kathy Bach, Karen Yakymi, Carolyn Reed, Karen Sandberg

Youth Advisors: Jenny Pratt, Hannah Pyle, Taylor Rawlings, Trent Sele, John Whitehurst, Karen Yakymi

Children's & Youth Ministry Mission Statement: Using Christ's love as our example, we seek to INSPIRE, CELEBRATE, and EQUIP children and youth as together we explore and live out our relationship with God. We accomplish this through worship, education, fellowship, and mission and service.

2017 Activities and Accomplishments:

- Study treat and note of encouragement distributed to all Valley high school students (24 bags delivered)
- Youth Sunday: 28 youth participated in leading worship
- 2017 mission projects supported with youth time and funds: Oregon Food Bank, Sunshine Pantry, Northwest Children's Outreach, The DOOR (Discovering Opportunities for Outreach and Reflection) in Los Angeles, Blanchet House, Friends of the Carpenter, Drive Away Hunger
- April 4: High school youth were confirmed at Valley
- Graduation Sunday, distribution of quilts to High School seniors (six students), graduation lunch with seniors, their families, and quilters at the updated youth house
- July 2017 High school mission trip to Los Angeles to work with The DOOR and provide services to the homeless population while staying at First Presbyterian Church in Hollywood (12 youth attended along with three chaperones)
- August 2017 Middle school youth attended City Camp in downtown Portland at First Presbyterian Church and performed outreach at local service organizations (9 youth and three chaperones attended)
- September 2017 Youth monthly outreach to local service organizations
- December 2017 Christmas party for 25 youth and advisors held at the home of Carolyn Reed
- Intergenerational activities include a Hillsboro HOPS game and social dessert
- Summer beach day in August to Cannon Beach
- Youth choirs participated in worship on Youth Sunday, Palm Sunday, Graduation Sunday, Tiny Bethlehem pageant (15 youth)
- Quarterly meetings with Youth and Children's committees
- Regular weekly meetings on Wednesday for youth group with middle school and high school students

Fundraisers:

- January Christmas tree recycling \$607 collected
- Youth Sunday collection for Youth Mission Fund \$691
- Kroger Rewards \$83
- Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast \$646
- March Movie Night \$71
- Willamette Valley Pies spring collection \$1012, fall collection \$615

Young adults (high school graduates from last 5-8 years):

- Christmas holiday package with lights mailed to 30 Valley young adults inviting them to open house
- Christmas open house with appetizers for Valley young adults, 6 young adults attended



Valley Kids 2017 Report

From the Christian Nurture for Children's Committee

Elders: Amy Henning-Blair (June) 2014-17/Kay Hope Gold (June) 2017-20

Members: Lizz Brown, Kay Hope Gold, Cheryl Hoffbeck (all of 2017)

Beverly Hubbard, Wendy Jenkins (effective June 2017)

Staff: Amy Rheingans, Music Ministry (all of 2017)

Laurel Cluthe, Children and Youth Minister (until May 2017*)

Misty Bonham, Director of Children's Ministry (effective November 2017*)

*Kay volunteered to fill in for Laurel from May until December

Fantastic Facts of 2017:

The Real-Life Ministry in Number Form

- 18 children sang in KINGS KIDS who participated in eight services
- 11 children rang in ROYAL RINGERS who participated in four services
- 13 children sang in CHERUBS who participated in five services
- 16 children participated in the week-long MUSIC & DRAMA CAMP in June
- 22 children participated in the week-long ARTS EXPLORATION CAMP in July
- 38 children participated in six Kids' Day/Kids' Night Out Events
- 51 children participated in Valleys GALACTIC STARVEYORS week-long VBS in July. Adult/Youth Paid and Volunteer participation provided approximately a one to one child/leader ratio.
- Family Dinners: Ash Wed. (March) and Celebrate Summer Picnic w/ free Subway Sandwiches (June)
- 12 Moms officially kicked-off Valley's MOPS in September
- 40 children received toy stuffed animals (donkeys, camels) on Christmas Eve

Sunday Funday

An average of nine kids attended SUNDAY FUNDAY each Sunday. Often times, Middle School students joined our group. On days the children's choirs sang, attendance swelled. Amy Rheingans offered her talents in Music Time on Sundays from January through July and September through December. From January through end of June the *Spark Bible and Curriculum* were used (Augsburg /Fortress Publishing). The *Spark Bible* features kid-friendly introductions to all the books of the Bible, fun facts, trivia, and probing questions to help kids think about their faith. Kids were led by Amy Henning-Blair, Lizz Brown, Kay Hope Gold, Cheryl Hoffbeck and Amy Rheingans. In September, Sunday Funday resumed. Curriculum was developed by Kay using on-line resources, i.e., *SERMON4KIDS*, *CHARACTER FIRST* and on-hand curriculum from past years, i.e., *POWER X-PRESS* (Cokesbury Publishing). Kids explored Galatians 5:22-23 each week learning about Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Generosity, Kindness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self-Control. Kids will present what they have learned during those weeks on the Children's Sabbath on January 21, 2018. Kids were given offering envelopes in October for the scholastic year 2017-18. The kids were led by Lyn Bedsaul, Lizz and Paul Brown, Beth Busch, Kay and Richard Gold, Angela Graham, Cheryl and Bert Hoffbeck, Beverly Hubbard, Wendy Jenkins, Donna Russell, Amy Rheingans and Terri Vermillion. Misty helped to lead Sunday Fundays in mid-November. After Music Time on Sundays, Renn and David gathered with Turner in the Tower Office for one-on-one lessons using Holy Moly Curriculum and Video (Sparkhouse Publishing).

In January, a BENEFIT CONCERT featuring Thomas Rheingans on piano, KINGS KIDS and ROYAL RINGERS provided scholarships for the MUSIC/ART CAMPS from a free will offering. Participants and audience were encouraged to wear black and white. Pies were sold after the event and proceeds also went to MUSIC/ART CAMPS scholarships.

The NURSERY (Room 7) was freshly painted in the spring. A new look was provided with a new changing table, wall stickers and window décor. Angela Kirby was paid staff every Sunday until the end of June 2017. Volunteers were Amy Henning-Blair, Lizz and Paul Brown. Otherwise, an OPEN NURSERY was provided where parents could tend to their infants while listening to the service on the baby monitor.

The PUMPKIN PATCH at Lee Farms in Tualatin was enjoyed by eight kids and five adults in October.

Valley's CHILD PROTECTION POLICY was submitted by Kay and Misty and approved by Session in December.

The Valley Kids TIME CAPSULE was sealed in December by Roger Rees with kids and adults looking on. It will be opened in 2042. KIDZ MART sales in December totaled \$385.00! Proceeds will go to Children's Ministries. Kay and Richard Gold, Patricia (Hope) Goff, Gail (Hope) Brooks, Bev Hubbard, David Marquis and the entire Hoffbeck Family volunteered.

Valley Christian Preschool

Anne Scarce, Director

2017 marked Valley Christian Preschool's 21st year as a joyful ministry of Valley Community Presbyterian Church. We continue to be a nationally certified program, under the Quality Rating Improvement System (QRIS), with 3-Star Rating. We are proud to be a reputable and highly-recommended preschool option in Southwest Portland area.

Our **2016-2017** school year ended in June, 2017 with 78 students from 70 families, which is about 80% of our maximum capacity. This was very consistent with our enrollment numbers from the previous school year.

We are currently in the midst of the **2017-2018** school year, and VCP's current enrollment totals 73 students from 63 different families. This is a slight 4% drop in student population from the previous school year. This correlates to the fact that VCP did not provide a Young 2s class this year, due to lack of enough enrollment interest. The Young 2s class typically enrolls 8 students (8 % of the max. population), but only had 3 interested in enrolling for the current year. Therefore, we did not proceed with the class this year. The loss of the Young 2s class will account for an approximate fiscal loss of \$3,000.00 for the 2017-2018 school year. However, our 2 1/2s and 3s classes are fully enrolled this current year, which should off-set this loss of Young 2s class.

Registration for the **2018-2019** school year has just begun and we hope to have enough enrollment interest to once again include the Young 2s class. It is too early in the registration process to project enrollment numbers for the 2018-2019 school year.

VCP employs eight teachers and one director and ended the 2017 calendar year with a financial gain. A Valley sub-committee was recently formed to review and set guidelines for reviewing and granting VCP scholarship requests. The school strives to provide scholarship support to families and we currently have one enrolled family receiving a partial scholarship for the two siblings they have enrolled.

Valley Christian Preschool is proud to have a diverse student population. For the current 2017-2018 school year there are three students that are learning English as a second language while enrolled at Valley Christian Preschool. These students primarily speak French, Korean or Mandarin at home. We have had much success in teaching these students English over the course of their time enrolled at Valley Christian Preschool.

Currently, there is one preschool family that attends Valley's Sunday worship on a regular basis, this family has not yet become members. Additionally, there are 12 preschool students participating in Valley's Cherub Choir for 4-year olds offered by Valley's Children's Music program led by Lizz Brown and Amy Rheingans. The families of Cherub Choir participants attend Sunday worship when the Cherub choir performs, which includes the Children's Sabbath Sunday and other holiday worship services.

VCP families are made aware of the many family-oriented programs Valley Community Presbyterian Church offers through email, the preschool newsletter and through flyers distributed to each individual student. Preschool families regularly attend many of these events. VCP promotes the choir and children's ministries programs, and is open to finding new and creative ways of building connections between Valley Community Presbyterian Church and Valley Christian Preschool. VCP will work closely with Misty Bonham and the Children's Ministries Committee to plan and promote involvement in the church community. Exciting new family events planned for 2018 include Wednesday Night Out, Kids Night Out, and Open Gym evenings.

The Mothers of Preschoolers program (MOPs) began in 2017 and has been a well-received community program for many preschool moms. The MOPs program has also been a positive recruiting plug for perspective families considering enrollment in the preschool.

The 2017 VCP School Board meets monthly and reviews policy, pricing, and marketing support. The 2017 School Board included Pastor Jeff Binder, Elders Allison Baird Carlson and Amy Henning Blair, VCP Director Anne Scarce, Children's Ministries Director Misty Bonham, church members Marilyn Connell and Bev Hubbard and three current VCP parents; Andrea Chaney, Tenell Dietzman and Johanna Kennelly Ullman. These board members provide ongoing support and innovative ideas for the future of the preschool.

VCP continues to develop an online presence to boost marketing through our website and Facebook page. We thank our currently enrolled families for their successful referrals by offering a one-time \$100 credit for tuition. VCP participated in paid advertising through YELP over the 2017 summer and we have found that word-of-mouth is still our #1 source for new enrollments. We plan to cut marketing expenditures going forward.

In 2017 VCP implemented an online payment process for our VCP families to make monthly tuition payments. This process has streamlined the monthly tuition process and has been well-received with 85% of currently enrolled families automatically making on-line tuition payments each month.

The core purpose of Valley Christian Preschool is to embrace childhood in partnership with families and God. With prayer and support, we will continue to succeed in these endeavors. Our preschool families enjoy their time at VCP and feel embraced by our community. Many express their sadness when it is time to move on from the preschool years. We miss them as well.

Faithfully submitted on January 22, 2018.

Anne Scarce,
VCP Director

Valley Christian Preschool – 2017 Key Events

- Snow/weather closure for 11 days – Jan & Feb. 2017
- Offered 5 make-up school days for VCP families – June 2017
- Added a Spanish Language component to 4s class curriculum – January 2017
- Partnered with a Preschool Yoga program to offer after-school yoga classes – Spring 2017
- Painted exterior hallways of preschool wing – July 2017
- Hired 2 new preschool teachers for Fall of 2017 – Marah Murphy & Diane Benz
- Advertised on YELP, June – September 2017
- Implemented on-line tuition payment option for VCP families – September 2017
- Christmas Outreach program – Stuffed Animal Drive benefitting Portland Ronald McDonald House – Dec. 2017
- Purchased new play structure for playground to be installed January of 2018 – Dec. 2017



VALLEY CHRISTIAN
PRESCHOOL

Christian Nurture for Adults

Richard Bryant, Elder

During 2017 the Sunday Adult education program included the following topics:

- **January 8 - February 5:** The Rev. Richard Rohrbach “The Social and Cultural World of Jesus”
- **February 12:** Sir John Houghton Bill Moyers’ DVD “Faith and Reason”
- **February 19:** Mike Maksimowicz, Ignite the World Ministries
- **February 26 - March 5:** The Rev. Walter Bruggemann’s DVD series on the Psalms
- **March 12 - June 25:** The Rev. Craig Koester DVD series about issues affecting Christians and apostles after the death of Jesus
- **July 2 - July 30:** The Rev. Marcus Borg DVD series on The Jesus Society’s discussion about the literal authenticity of quotations attributed to Jesus
- **September 10 - October 1:** The Rev. Marcus Borg DVD “Speaking Christian”
- **October 29:** Reformation Sunday
- **November - December:** Professor Jodi Magness DVD series “Jesus and His Jewish Influences”

Personnel

David Jimerson, Elder
Amy Dee, Ann Johnson, Donna Rueff

The Personnel Committee is accountable to the Session, with authority and charge to carry out the following:

- Oversee and write personnel policies and practices and make recommendations to Session
- In collaboration with the Finance Committee, recommend salaries
- Conduct annual performance reviews
- Develop and maintain position descriptions
- Assist in interviewing and hiring staff
- Encourage professional effectiveness and growth
- Support the staff

Highlights of 2017:

- Worked with the Finance Committee to make recommendations for 2017 budget.
- Accepted the recommendation of the Children's Ministry Elder and her committee and hired Misty Bonham as Director of Children's Ministries (approved by Session)
- Accepted the recommendation of the Youth Ministry Elder and her committee and hired Preston Russell as Director of Youth Ministries (approved by Session)
- At his request, began meeting monthly with Pastor Jeff
- Began reviewing and editing the Valley Personnel Handbook
- With Presbytery and Session approval, The Reverend Greg Tatman was hired to serve Valley as "Bridge Interim Pastor" during the time between Pastor Ben's Retirement and Pastor Jeff's arrival

Designate Pastoral Nominating Committee (DPNC)

David Jimerson, Chair
Cathy Bernhard, Birgitta Carlson, Amy Dee,
Wendy Jenkins, Shannon Pratt, Jim Sandberg

The Valley Congregation voted to establish a Pastor Nominating Committee when Pastor Ben Paroulek expressed his desire to retire. Early in the process, with Presbytery approval, the committee decided to call a "Designated Pastor."

Valley's DPNC finished its work when it recommended to the congregation that it call The Reverend Jeff Binder as our Designated Pastor. The congregation voted to call him on June 4, 2017. He accepted and began serving Valley on July 17. Jeff was formally installed during a special service on November 19, 2017.

Board of Deacons 2016-2017

Class of 2018	Class of 2019	Class of 2020
Janet Adkins	Eddie Leland	Cathy Bernhard
Gary Eaton	Karen Miller	Christine Danner
Joy Eaton	Jim Sandberg	Rich Gold
Frank Powers	Bob Scarce	Amy Henning-Blair
Steve Rees	Fran Scarce	Bev Hubbard
Charlene Stansbury	Vacant	Jean Sowers
Eric Blair (Youth Deacon), Frank Powers (Session Representative)		
Pastor: Jeff Binder		

Moderator: Janet Adkins

Secretary: Jean Sowers

The Board of Deacons meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month in the Fireside Room. They nurture the needs of Valley's Members and the greater community in a variety of ways. This year 36 donated Christmas arrangements were delivered to shut-ins and those with health issues.

Deacon mission assignments:

Communion Preparation

Serve Home Communion to those unable to be in church

Maundy Thursday Dinner

Provide rides to church

Maintain Contact List of current information on members/friends who are unable/or need assistance to attend church

Assist the Pastor with visitations

Memorial Service Receptions

Blood Drive - four times annually

Bulletin Board

Send out cards – get well, sympathy, thinking of you, birthday, etc.

Baptism/New member letters

Grief Ministry

Sunday morning Coffee Fellowship - two months annually

Prepare soup for Bud Clark Commons - two times annually

CONC member representative

Clerk's Report

Carol Powers, Clerk of Session

Valley Total Membership:

Membership by Year				
2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
409	378	368	341	329

Gains: 10

Confirmands: 5

New Adult Members: 5

Losses: 16

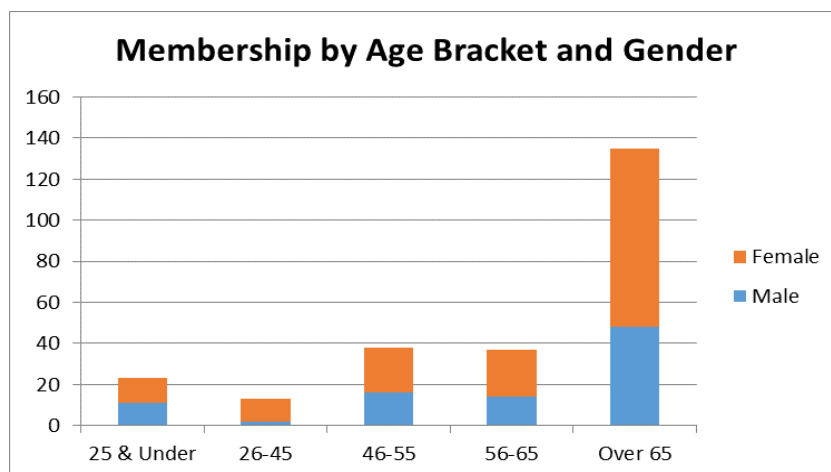
In Memoriam: 13

Mary Burgess	January 7, 2017
John Wiley	March 18, 2017
Carl Mays	April 23, 2017
Lenore Hout	April 24, 2017
Verna Peterson	May 4, 2017
Vernice Trask	May 4, 2017
Ellen Burton-Hallock	May 28, 2017
Roger Berg	July 6, 2017
Steven Pratt	July 11, 2017
Baird Smith	August 4, 2017
Jeannine Bendix	August 5, 2017
Carolyn Berg	August 16, 2017
Dorothy Holt	December 19, 2017

Transfers and other removals: 2

Other losses: 7 (one-time adjustment to make PCUSA stats match Valley's records)

Net Membership Change in 2017: Loss of 12



Note: Only members who have provided a birthdate are included

Average Sunday Worship Attendance: 163

Valley Community Presbyterian Church

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Portland, OR 97225

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valleycommunity.org