

2018 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

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."

--Matthew 5:14-16

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus the Christ!

It is appropriate to give thanks for another amazing year of ministry and mission with Valley Community. This past year we asked this congregation to reflect on the theme of community. What does community mean to us today? Who, exactly, is our neighbor? What are the needs of those who share our neighborhoods, our streets, our schools?

Our response in 2018 was inspiring! Here are just a few examples of how we responded:

- Through the efforts of our renewed Communications Committee, we were able to reach out and invite many of our neighbors to our community events.
- Neighborhood children and their families were welcomed for a spring carnival, a wonderful Vacation Bible School, a Trunk R' Treat Halloween party, and so much more!
- We welcomed our neighbors and their beloved pets for a Blessing of the Animals outdoor worship service last July.
- Our community Christmas tree brought smiles and joy to neighbors throughout the season of Advent and Christmas.

What does God have in store for us in 2019? I believe we are being called to engage that question on a deeper level as we envision the future of Valley Community together. What an exciting time it is to be part of God's work in the world today!

May this report be the beginning of the story we tell about God's blessings in our life in 2018, and into the future!

In Christ,

Pastor Jeff

Church Information

Church Officers

Session

Christian Nurture for Adults	Kristina Kurtz
Christian Nurture for Children	Bev Hubbard
Christian Nurture for Youth	Carolyn Reed
CONC, Fellowship	Cheryl Rees
Facilities	Roger Rees
Finance, Stewardship	Eben Jenkins
Communication, Membership	Glenys Craig
Mission	Connie Brenner
Personnel	David Jimerson
Safety and Security	Phil Miller
Worship and Music	Greg Russell
Youth Elder	Eric Blair
Moderator	Rev. Jeff Binder
Clerk of Session	Carol Powers

President of the Corporation

Sam Connell

Treasurer

Frank Powers

Church Staff

Pastor Rev. Jeff Binder Pastoral Associate Rev. Chuck Falconer Pastoral Associate Rev. Jenny Hale Director of Children's Ministries Donna Carlson Director of Youth Ministries Preston Russell Minister of Music David Jimerson Bob Hinson Organist Director of Youth and Children's Music Amy Rheingans Preschool Director Anne Scearce Publication and Office Administrator Angela Graham Business Manager AmyAnn Green Alex Mendoza **Building Custodian**

Deacons

Kathy Bach Jan Bellis-Squires Cathy Bernhard Roy Conner Valerie Conner Christine Danner Kay Hope Gold Richard Gold Richard Hegdahl Amy Henning-Blair Edie Leland Karen Miller Debbie Purcell Steve Rees Jim Sandberg Ty Scearce Jean Sowers Charlene Stansbury Marilyn Tuffs Janice Viestenz

Ministry Reports

Worship and Music

Greg Russell, Elder David Marquis, David Jimerson, Bob Hinson, Ron Leland, Karen Acker, Carol Powers, Raoul Bellis-Squires

The Worship and Music Committee is responsible for the liturgy, music, and drama throughout the seasons of the church year. It oversees the functionality, maintenance, lighting, sound and liturgical arts of the Sanctuary area.

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.

Prominent celebrations include Epiphany, Lent, Pentecost, Advent, and Christmas. Other celebrations include All Saints Sunday which commemorates those who were deceased in the past year, as well as Kirkin' o' the Tartans 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. In the fall of 2018, the Youth Choir under the direction of Amy Rheingans added a well-received annual youth musical in addition to the existing children's musical.

Valley's Sanctuary Choir continued successfully under the direction of Prof. 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 Valley's Music staff and a subset of the Worship and Music Committee members.

In 2018, the committee added an annual Blessing of the Animals Sunday service with a Blue-Grass band on the front lawn to better tie into the local community. On November 11, we were blessed to have Pastor Jeff Binder installed as Valley's Pastor (from a Designated Pastor). Permanent video recording equipment including a soundboard monitor were installed and now all sermons and musicals are video recorded and posted on Valley's website. For Holy Week, we had a neighborhood postcard mailing that listed our Holy Week activities. For Good Friday, Stations of the Cross were displayed throughout the Sanctuary for visitation throughout the afternoon. A new Sanctuary curtain was installed for Advent.

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, Elder Sam Connell, Lyle Chadwick, Don Sowers, Shannon Pratt, Hank Grootendorst, Edie Leland, Eric Blair, Brett Baker, John Purcell

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 coordinates the annual Stewardship campaign for Valley. Eben Jenkins served as the head of the Stewardship Committee for the 2019 Campaign, with David and Ruthann Marquis, Lyle Chadwick, Carol Powers, Edie Leland and Pastor Jeff also serving on this committee.

Valley received \$427,357 in 2018 adult giving contributions, an increase of \$2,814 from 2017. Valley was budgeted in 2018 to end with expenditures exceeding receipts by \$13,350. Fortunately, Valley ended 2018 with a positive net result of approximately \$20,000. This significantly improved result was largely due to lower than expected spending on our facilities out of our operating budget.

As of January 14, 2019, the Stewardship Campaign collected 124 pledges totaling \$367,544. This is 12 fewer pledges and approximately \$10,000 less than received by the same time last year. With our pledge and giving trends, the Stewardship Committee estimated 2019 adult giving to be about 3% lower than in 2018. This was used for the purposes of the budget submitted to and approved by Session in January 2019.

With this expected giving to Valley, and possibly higher annual expenses in 2019 due to administration (including utilities) and personnel costs, expenses again might outstrip giving in 2019. The Session will monitor results versus budget throughout the year and adjust if necessary, keeping in mind that our ability to forecast both giving and expenses is not an exact science.

The church remains without debt and financially sound at present. At least \$24,000 of our reserves, however, are expected to be consumed in 2019, much as we planned for at the start of 2018. Statements for 2018 and 2017 operations, and end of year balances for Valley can be found on the following pages.

It is worth drawing attention to one very special event. Valley was blessed with an anonymous, one-time, substantial monetary gift to the church in 2018. This accounts for the significant increase in our balances, and this was not included in our standard operational statements due to the nature of the gift. We are extremely grateful for this gift, and the potential opportunity it will provide to Valley to renew and grow its mission.

Valley Community Presbyterian Church Summary Balance Statement (Selected View)

Current Assets	As of 31 Dec 18	As of 31 Dec 17
Operating Cash Account	\$479,600	\$279,130
Investment Account	\$152,343	\$152,906
Online Accounts / Petty Cash	\$1262	\$898
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$633,205	\$432,934

Valley Community Presbyterian Church Summary Income Statement

	Actual 2018		Actual 2017	
Sources of Income:				
Adult Giving Income	\$	427,357	\$	424,543
Misc. Income and Donations	\$	58,201	\$	53,896
Rental Houses Net Income	\$	7,032	\$	7,653
Children Ministries Income	\$	5,070	\$	5,924
Youth Ministries Income	\$	9,077	\$	20,504
Designated Mission Income	\$	33,446	\$	42,749
Transfers From Reserves	\$	4,028	\$	19,243
VCPC Foundation and Other Grants	\$	11,633	\$	65,465
Valley Preschool Net Income	\$	9,461	\$	6,809
TOTAL INCOME	\$	565,304	\$	646,786
Expenditures:				
Compensation and Benefits, All Staff	\$	306,846	\$	288,609
Facilities	\$	46,076	\$	129,946
General Administration	\$	91,923	\$	106,228
Adult Education and Small Groups	\$	2,269	\$	2,250
Children's Ministries Expenses	\$	11,850	\$	11,708
Youth Ministries Expenses	\$	10,854	\$	24,586
Congregational Care	\$	229	\$	444
Mission Giving	\$	40,543	\$	50,325
Worship and Music Expenses	\$	7,018	\$	13,215
Communications, Fellowship, Membership	\$	3,610	\$	4,720
Additions to Reserves	\$	24,000	\$	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$	545,218	\$	632,031

Note: the above figures do not include expenses or giving associated with the Building in Christ, or BIC, work on our church property and facilities. Please see the Property and Building Improvement Committee report for those figures.

Memorials and Gifts

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

The Memorials and Gifts Committee oversees the monetary 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.

There have been few requests in 2018. The requests included new binders for the children's music program and audio-visual equipment for the sanctuary to record sermons and special events. The Memorial and Gifts Committee approved both request for a total amount of \$2,322.

There are still monies in the memorial fund for children, youth, and music ministries, the library and undesignated funds that can be used to enhance the life of the church and its buildings and grounds. 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 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.
- 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 (2019): Approximately \$39,000 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 (PIC) headed by Dan Rueff and the fireside patio landscaping efforts headed by Karen Yakymi.
- The PIC completed their three-year property improvement plan that included the remodeled fireside patio, new fireside doors, and remodeling of all church bathrooms, providing ADA accessibility on all the three main church levels. (Choir bathrooms were also remodeled but are not ADA.)

Looking Forward in 2019:

- We are planning on refurbishing the Davis Hall north side fire escape stairs.
- Other activities are being investigated such as sanctuary painting, electrical repairs on some exterior lights, and repairing/replacing the sanctuary windows that cover the stained glass.





Property and Building Improvement Committee

Dan Rueff, Chair Kay Phillips, Sam Connell, Steve Bird, Jan Bellis-Squires Roger Rees, Don Sowers, Dan Rinella

Finances:

Facility improvement projects have been funded from the sale of three properties plus the generous support from Valley congregants through the multi-year *Building in Christ* campaign. In 2018, \$89,442 was received by the fund, and \$213,773 was invested in our facility through these and prior years' donations.

Projects finished in 2018:

- Fire escape stairs South side of the church.
- Concrete work done on landings and stairs down to sidewalk; sidewalk at bottom of stairs completed.
- New Fireside Room exit doors installed.
- Tri Met lot seal coated and striped including some asphalt repairs.
- Galvanized railings on the new Southside fire escape painted black and the galvanized doors to the garbage area painted black.
- The awning above Eastside doors painted black.
- The holes in the gym floor Eastside have been repaired (holes made to put in supports for the new awning).
- Fireside patio area all existing brick and concrete has been removed and excavated to new level
- Block wall in front of the Fireside patio has been completed.
- Concrete for the Fireside patio has been poured.
- Eastside church parking lot and South alleyway have been seal coated and striped for parking spots.
- Fireside patio landscaping completed as follows: planting soil, drip system, electricity installed for lighting of garden areas, planting of plants, steel lattice installed for climbing plants, bubbling rock feature and decorative rock installed.

Bathroom renovations:

- Bathroom by library is now ADA compliant for men and women.
- Women's bathroom by lower elevator renovated.
- Preschool bathroom is now ADA compliant for men or women.
- Upstairs women's bathroom and bridal room are now ADA compliant.
- Upstairs men's bathroom is now ADA compliant.
- Lower level choir bathrooms have been renovated.





Valley Community Presbyterian Church Foundation

Andrew Dee, Chair Board of Trustees: Janet Adkins, Cathy Bernhard, Pat Bryant, Eben Jenkins, Joy McNeal, Bob Peterson, Wally Phillips

Valley Foundation has an investment account to use for our church's needs. This account sets aside money to be spent each year, while keeping the principle intact. By rules set forth in the bylaws, these funds are to be kept separate from the general fund. The interest and donations the Foundation receives are used to fill requests from Valley.

In 2018, Valley's Foundation funded four requests for financial support amounting to \$17,712.

The following requests were funded:

- \$5,712 was granted to Safety and Security to install a video-intercom system.
- \$7,500 to the Property Improvements Committee. Money was used to landscape the new Fireside patio.
- \$500 was granted to Hannah Nolen who was working in Scotland with a low-income church, helping with worship, Sunday school, youth retreats, after school sessions, and community affairs. She was working as a Young Adult Volunteer through PCUSA.
- \$4,000 was granted to the Property Improvements Committee. The money provided a finished and permanent solution for the signage on all interior levels of the church.

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

Mission Committee

Mission Committee Members: Connie Brenner, Elder Andrea Murdoch, Janet Adkins, Jan Falconer, Chuck Falconer, Christine Danner

Your Mission Committee continued to be very busy during 2018, and could use some help! If interested in participating, please contact Connie Brenner. 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, totaling over \$8,000. Portions of the Pentecost and Peacemaking Offerings are retained by Valley for work in our local community or specified gifts to national/international projects. These funds went to help support Chenoa Stock, our Joining Hands Mission person in Bolivia/Peru; PCUSA projects benefitting youth; and gift cards for Project Second Home Beaverton school students' Christmas stockings.

Presbyterian Partnership Giving, to support denominational outreach, received \$7,000 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 \$21,000 to 17 projects.

Over \$2,400 was received in the **monthly Cents-Ability offerings**, with \$1,200 sent to Care to Share, a local social service agency, and \$1,162 to the Presbyterian Hunger Program. Another \$500 (from prior years' funds) was sent to PCUSA for Presbyterian Hunger Program projects.

The annual **Mission Market** raised \$1,342 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, such as India, Africa, Haiti, Peru, and Central America.

Items collected during the year included socks, scarves, mittens and hats for the homeless ministries of Luke Dorf and Night Strike. We collected 206 pounds of food for St. Matthew's food pantry and 57 backpacks for Project Back; over 100 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 two **Habitat for Humanity** "builds" this year, in July and November, with 5-8 people participating each time.

On October 21, Valley observed **Bread for the World** Sunday with a bake sale. The proceeds (nearly \$400) were used to support our Covenant Congregation status with Bread for the World.

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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 three walkers in the **CROP Walk** in 2018, with \$355 contributed to Church World Services.

A **produce table** was open during the summer months. The \$237 in proceeds went to the Oregon Food Bank.

VBS donations to **Living Waters for the World** resulted in \$670 and Valley sent an additional \$1,328.

Food and household items went to the **Grass Roots Church** for the Reverse Advent Calendar collection.

Other Mission endeavors around Valley include: the Preschool holding a **stuffed animal drive** to benefit the Ronald McDonald House. Children's books were collected for the **Legacy of Literature** through the Assistance League. **Kidz Mart** proceeds sent \$50 to the Oregon Humane Society and the left over items went to the Goodwill and the Assistance League. On the last Wednesday of each month, Valley's Youth participated in a "Hands-on" service outreach project. Sophie Vermillion collected 83 coats for the **NW Children's Outreach**. We collected items for the **Salvation Army Giving Tree** and pints of blood for the **American Red Cross**, we have drivers for **Meals on Wheels** food distribution. Valley hosts the **Community Awards Breakfast for First Responders**. And last but not least, we provide office space to the **Rev. Jenny Hale** and **Second Home**.

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED IN ANY OF THESE ACTIVITIES!!!







Mission Endowment Committee

Elaine Rea, Chair, Spring Cycle David Marquis, Carol Powers, Interim Co-Chairs, Fall Cycle Jan Bellis-Squires, Robert Hayes, Mary Kelly, David Marquis, Gary Nelson Janet Adkins, Mission Committee Liaison

After ten years of leading the Mission Endowment Committee, Elaine Rea stepped down as Chair of the Committee following the Fall 2018 session. Her heart for the mission of Jesus Christ in the world and her grace and energy will be greatly missed by the Committee.

Funds available from the Mission Endowment Fund:

\$21,000

Funds awarded:

\$21,000

Spring 2018 Grant Cycle recipients:

- Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon: Second Home
- Corvallis Sister Cities Association: TOUCH Project
- Valley Youth High School and Middle School Mission Trips
- Open Arms International: Mobile Medical Camp in Eldoret, Kenya
- Seeds of Learning: Nicaragua University, Educational Advancement Program
- Impact NW: House Safety Net
- Interserve Canada: Counseling Education
- Intervarsity Christian Fellowship: Formacion Conference
- Assistance League of Greater Portland: Operation School Bell
- Valley Christian Preschool

Fall 2018 Grant Cycle recipients:

- Living Waters for the World, Hondurans Helping Hondurans
- YWCA of Greater Portland, Yolanda Project Domestic Violence Services
- UNICEF, Nothing But Nets
- Willamette West Habitat for Humanity, Allen Estates final Faith Build House
- Westside Community Church, Night to Shine 2019
- St. Matthew Lutheran Church: Raleigh Park School Food Backpack Program (BACK)
- Serve Uganda, Inc. Teachers' Housing

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.

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, 2018, the balance in the Endowment Fund was \$391,808, a decrease of 11% for the year.

Semi-annually, the MEF Investment Committee determines the dollar amount under the gifting formula $-2\frac{1}{2}\%$ of the fund's nine quarter rolling average -a 5% annual payout. Mission requests are reviewed by the Fund's gifting committee (previously chaired by Elaine Rea) and then recommended to Session for final approval. In 2018, the Fund generated gifts of \$21,000 and has provided for gifts of about \$409,000 since the year 1999.

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

Membership and Outreach Committee

Glenys Craig, Elder Marilyn Farrier, Julie Binder, 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.
- To throw open our doors, to invite in and welcome all our neighbors.

Highlights

The Membership Committee consists of a small, dedicated team who are working to open Valley's doors to the community and to bring new people into the church. We are also working to facilitate cross-church activities so many groups can participate in projects. 2018 highlights included:

- Continued the Personal Greeters Program so people entering the church receives a personal greeting. Thank you volunteers at the front and East doors!
- Provided a First Time Visitor gift for each person identifying themselves. Worked with Youth to assemble the gifts.
- Each new worshipper who provided contact information was contacted by a Pastor and/or a Membership Committee member.
- Held a Welcome to Valley luncheon to answer questions about VCPC and how we can best serve their needs.
- Conducted New Membership Classes with Pastor Jeff to prepare people for the benefits and responsibilities of membership.
- Called special Session meetings to accept new members. New members were introduced to the congregation at a worship service and a reception following. Seven members joined in 2018. Welcome new members!
 - Kathy Bach
 - Diana Domingo-Forasté
 - Lynore Hay
 - Bob Hinson
 - Evan Martin
 - Sarah Martin
 - Joyce Taylor Wood
- Coordinated/wrote the New Member feature articles in the Valley Messenger.
- Updated membership rolls as needed.
- Published an updated contact directory.
- Coordinated photo sessions for a new photo directory publishing in 2019.
- Participated in the Kick-off Sunday activities with a table showcasing membership activities at Valley.

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- Revised and maintained New Member Packets for those joining the church.
- Teamed with the Worship and Music Committee to sponsor the Blessing of the Animals service in July.
- Teamed with the Fellowship, Facilities, and Worship Committees along with others to sponsor the first annual Community Tree Lighting and Carol Sing in December.
- Team members were vital participants in the 2018 VBS camp acting as co-chair and Bible Story coordinator.

Want to join in on all the fun new activities happening at Valley? We still have room for a few more members on this important committee!







Communications (a Membership Subcommittee)

Glenys Craig, Elder Sarah Martin, Pam Kessinger, Bob Rasmussen, Michelle Blair, Shirley Hercher Jeff Binder, Pastor Angela Graham, Publication and Office Administrator/Webmaster

The Communications and Social Media Committee reformed in 2018 as a subcommittee to Membership. It coordinates and supervises external and internal church communications and publishing including Internet presence, event promotions, and temporary outdoor signage and public relations events. It administers the Valley website (valleycommunity.org), Facebook page and oversees the publication of *The Messenger*, weekly e-blast, and the weekly church bulletin along with specialty items such as the church membership directory, the annual report, etc. All church communications route through the Communications Administrator (Angela Graham) before publication or distribution to ensure consistent messaging, to aid proper identification, and to act as a clearinghouse.

The Communications Committee handled publicity for the following special events: Lent/Easter and Advent/Christmas (neighborhood postcard mailings, website banners, outdoor banners and posters, Facebook messaging and pushes, and flyers to the preschool. Special promotions for the Blessing of the Animals. VBS, and the Community Christmas Tree Lighting and Carol Sing were coordinated.

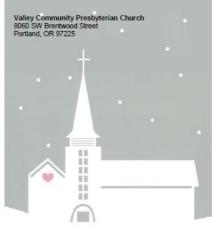
In 2018, the Committee had two working groups: Website redesign and Communications policy. Both projects are ongoing. We expect the website redesign to occur in 2019 and the policy project is ongoing.

This past year the website added a gifting link for online donations. Treasurer Frank Powers headed the project and handled beta testing.

We used our Facebook page as a tool for promoting and publicizing events in 2018. We paid to promote certain posts to our neighborhood and the Beaverton/Portland community including: Holy Week and Easter, Valley Kids Events, Advent Fair, and Christmas services. We created a master calendar for annual Valley events, which we use to promote and advertise throughout the year on Facebook and the website.



ADVENT AND CHE	RISTMAS AT VALLEY	Valley 8060 S
December 1, 2018	Christmas Tree Lighting and Carol Sing, 5:00 p.m. on the front lawn	Portian
December 2, 2018	Advent Craft Fair after 10:00 a.m. worship	
December 9, 2018	10:00 a.m. worship	
December 16, 2018	Christmas Pageant with Lessons and Carols during 10:00 a.m. worship	
December 23, 2018	Christmas Carols during 10:00 a.m. worship	
December 24, 2018	6:00 p.m. worship will feature the Children's Nativity Tableau	
	8: 00 p.m. Candles and Carols	
See more detail	s at valleycommunity.org.	



Fellowship

Ruthann Marquis, Elder through June Cheryl Rees, 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.

Activities for 2018:

<u>Coffee Hour</u> – Wendy Jenkins coordinated helpers for the coffee hour after the 10:00 a.m. Sunday church service. This includes finding hosts to set up, prep coffee, serving snacks and clean up.

<u>Juice & Half & Half</u> – Ruthann Marquis replenished these items as needed for the coffee hour.

<u>Coffee & Decaf</u> – Marcia Sanderman purchased and replenished fair trade coffees for the kitchens.

<u>Kitchen & Pantry cleanup</u> – Marcia Sanderman scheduled a kitchen cupboard, refrigerator, freezer and pantry clean up. She also monitored kitchen usage and needs for the year.

<u>Cookie Ministry</u> – This was started several years ago. Members fill containers with home baked cookies that are used for coffee hour, receptions and activities. The left overs are frozen; the containers are readied for the next baker to fill and return to the kitchen.

<u>July All Church Picnic</u> – This fun event followed Vacation Bible School. It was moved from the front lawn to Armitage Hall and Davis Hall because 100 degree weather was too uncomfortable for many members. The 120 folks who attended brought sides, salads and desserts plus their own table service. Fellowship provided the setup, decorations and chicken as a main dish. Games for the young at heart were inside and organized by Ruthann Marquis.

<u>September 9 Kick Off</u> – Cheryl Rees sent out emails and arranged the setup for this event. Table space was provided for every active group at Valley to show what they do and invite others to participate.

<u>October 20 Presbytery Luncheon</u> – Thanks to Ruthann Marquis and Marcia Sanderman for assisting Roy Conner with food prep, service and cleanup for this event.

<u>December 1 Tree Lighting</u> – Fellowship provided hot cider, hot chocolate, cookie coordination, canopies, and an enthusiastic welcome to over 100 participants in Valley's first outdoor community Christmas Tree lighting event.

<u>December 2 Advent Fair</u> – This was held in Davis Hall after the 10:00 a.m. church service. Pizza, cookies and drinks were served as children and adults made ornaments and crafts at tables.

<u>Commendations with gratitude</u>: Scout Troup 592 graciously set up and took down chairs and tables for many of the Fellowship events. Their willingness and positive attitude is very appreciated.

Safety and Security

Phil Miller, Elder Steve Bird Angela Graham, Publication and Office Administrator Anne Scearce, Preschool Director

Responsibility for the safety and security of Valley Community Presbyterian Church falls upon this committee. Large numbers of both church related and outside organizations continue to utilize the church facilities on a regular basis throughout the week. No accidents or mishaps have been reported.

All church user groups seemingly have become more security conscious upon the conclusion of their activities. Nightly security checks reveal the Preschool and Scouting groups have been particularly responsible in this regard.

A youth volunteer under the guidance of a Safety and Security Committee member continues, on an as-needed and budget-constrained basis to be paid a minimal stipend (offsetting travel and miscellaneous extraneous expenses incurred) to conduct evening walk-through security checks of Valley's premises. Otherwise the majority of these security checks are conducted by the Committee Elder.

An Active Shooter Response presentation was afforded gratis to the entire congregation (lightly attended) in conjunction with the annual Building Use Orientation. The presenter was a highly experienced Department of Homeland Security TSA/Air Marshal Instructor and SWAT member.

This past year, two exterior call boxes with video capability have been installed at Valley's main entrance and the east parking lot doors. This provides secure access-controlled entry activated from the church office and aids in quickly identifying persons needing to enter or make deliveries at times other than when doors are routinely open and entry is available to all - without office personnel having to leave their workspace.

A physical security survey was recently undertaken with a commercial security company to determine the feasibility and best locations to install additional security cameras. Current estimated costs are expected shortly. This survey was for the hopeful replacement of the church's outdated analog cameras, camera recording system, and the addition of new high resolution cameras deemed necessary to cover the church courtyard and particularly the church entrances from the alley driveway where access to the newly landscaped patio, new doors to the Fireside Room, and stairs to Armitage Hall and Davis Hall have been installed. It is noted that Valley's utility trailer was temporarily parked on, and stolen (reported to Beaverton PD) from that driveway. To date, it has not been recovered.

Church Officer Nominating Committee (CONC) and Leadership Development

Cheryl Rees, Elder Stephen Rees, Deacon Lyle Chadwick, Marilyn Farrier Karen Sandberg, Marilyn Tuffs

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 Session. The pastor shall serve *ex officio* and without a vote.

Each January or February the search for potential candidates begins. The candidates must be church members and are presented to the church body at a congregational meeting. 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.

2018 Officers voted in by the congregation were:

Ruling Elder: CONC nominated the following for the office of Ruling Elder:

David Jimerson
Carolyn Reed
Connie Brenner

Three year term, Class of 2021
Three year term, Class of 2021
Three year term, Class of 2021

Bev Hubbard Two years, filling an unexpired term, Class of 2020 Kristina Kurtz One year, filling an unexpired term, Class of 2019 Eric Blair One year term (Youth Elder), Class of 2019

Note: _____ One unfilled Elder position

Deacon: CONC nominated the following for the office of Deacon:

Kathy Bach
Jan Bellis-Squires
Roy Connor
Valerie Conner
Debbie Purcell
Marilyn Tuffs

Three year term, Class of 2021

Kay Hope Gold
Richard Hegdahl
Steve Rees
One year, filling an unexpired term, Class of 2019
One year, filling an unexpired term, Class of 2019
Janice Viestenz
One year, filling an unexpired term, Class of 2019
One year, filling an unexpired term, Class of 2019
Ty Scearce
One year term (Youth Deacon), Class of 2019

Church Officer Nominating Committee: CONC nominated the following as members-at-large of the 2019 Church Officer Nominating Committee:

Pat Bird Ruthann Marquis David Marquis Gaylen Uecker

Valley Foundation Board of Directors: CONC nominated the following as members of the Board of Directors of the Valley Foundation:

Cathy Bernhard Three year term, Class of 2021
Andrew Dee Three year term, Class of 2021
Joy McNeal Three year term, Class of 2021

Christian Nurture for Youth

Allison Carlson, Elder (2015-18), Birgitta Carlson (2017-18), Carolyn Reed (2018-20) Elders

Preston Russell, Director of Youth Ministry

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

Committee Members: Stacy Luehr-Sele, Kathy Bach, Karen Yakymi,

Carolyn Reed, Karen Sandberg

Youth Advisors: Trent Sele, John Whitehurst, Karen Yakymi, Stacy Luehr-Sele

Children's and 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.

2018 Activities and Accomplishments:

- January- Study treat and note of encouragement distributed to all Valley High School students (24 bags delivered).
- February 25- Youth Sunday and Chili Cook off: Middle and High School youth participated in leading worship.
- May 20- Graduation Sunday distribution of quilts to High School seniors (seven students), graduation lunch with seniors, their families, and quilters at the Youth House.
- June 23- Hillsboro HOPS and strawberry shortcake dessert social.
- July 2018- High School youth attended S.L.A.M. TRIPS, a program of Mending Wings—a nonprofit, Native American youth organization located on the Yakima Reservation in Washington State (6 youth and two chaperones attended).
- July 2018- Middle School youth attended City Camp in Salem at Westminster Presbyterian Church and performed outreach at local service organizations (12 youth and two chaperones attended).
- August- Beach trip to Seaside.
- 2018 mission projects supported with youth time and funds: Oregon Food Bank, Sunshine Pantry, Northwest Children's Outreach.
- Regular weekly meetings on Wednesdays for Middle School youth group with dinner provided and High School students meeting on Thursday.
- October 25- Youth Musical and Chili Cook Off.
- November 9- Middle School Lock in at Valley.
- December 2018 Christmas party for youth and advisors at the Youth House and gathering for Valley young adults at Cascade Brewing.

Fundraisers:

- Superbowl of Caring raised \$245 for Sunshine Pantry
- Chili Cookoff (Feb.) \$760
- Youth Mission Offering on 2/25-\$657
- Pancake Breakfast-\$813.68 net
- Valley Presbyterian Cookbook- \$1635.90 on going
- Spring Plant Sale- \$580.25
- Willamette Valley Pie Fundraiser- \$432.50
- Chili Cookoff (Oct.)- \$423
- Bottle Fundraiser- \$300



Valley Kids 2018 Report

From the Christian Nurture for Children's Committee

Elders: Kay Hope Gold (Jan-June 2018)
Beverly Hubbard (June 2018 to present
Members: Lizz Brown, Cheryl Hoffbeck, Beverly Hubbard, Wendy Jenkins
Staff: Amy Rheingans, Director of Children's and Youth Music
Misty Bonham, Director of Children's Ministry (Jan-June 2018)
Donna Carlson, Director of Children's Ministry (Sept. 14 to current)

Children's Ministry 2018:

- 12 children sang in the King's Kids' Choir and participated in eight services.
- Eight children rang in Royal Ringers who participated in four services.
- 12 children sang in the Cherub Choir who participated in five services.
- 14 children participated in the week-long Music and Drama Camp in June.
- 45 children participated in eight Kids' Night Out events.
- 49 children participated in Valley's "Game On" week-long Vacation Bible School Camp in July. Adult/Youth volunteer participation provided approximately a one to one child/leader ratio.
- Family dinners and special events: Ash Wednesday (Feb.), Inside Carnival (April), Penny's Puppets on front lawn (June).
- MOPS: Mothers of Preschoolers led by Chrissy Rowan. Averaged three to six participants.
- 31 children received gift bags at the Christmas Eve services.

In June, a **benefit concert** featuring Thomas Rheingans on piano, **King's Kids** and **Royal Ringers** provided scholarships for the **Music/Arts Camps** from a free will offering. Participants and audience were encouraged to wear black and white. Pies were sold after the event and proceeds went to music/arts camp scholarships.

The **Nursery** (Room 7) welcomed Christena Keller as Nursery Care Coordinator in July. The Nursery was permanently moved back from Room 14 to Room 7.

First Annual **Trunk or Treat** event welcomed eight decorated vehicles visited by 25 children along with some local visitors from the neighborhood. This event coincided with "Kids Night Out" up in the gym where we had a carnival event going on. A positive outreach!





Valley Christian Preschool

Anne Scearce, Director

2018 marked Valley Christian Preschool's 22nd 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 the Southwest Portland area.

Our **2017-2018** school year ended in June 2018 with 73 students from 63 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 **2018-2019** school year, and VCP's current enrollment totals 82 students from 72 different families (10 sets of siblings are enrolled) and we are at 90% capacity. This is a 12% increase in student population from the previous school year. This is great news because we significantly decreased our marketing spend for this current school year. Previously, we had been purchasing advertising in local parenting magazines and on YELP.

Our current primary means of advertising is word-of-mouth. Most families enrolling claim to have heard great things about our school from other families. The preschool also has a website and a Facebook page. We also utilize yard signs to publicize our Open House.

Registration for the upcoming **2019-2020** school year just began. It is too early in the registration process to project final enrollment numbers for next year, but registration numbers are very good. In the first week of open registration, we have 60 students registered already and both 4s classes and one 3s class is already full for next year.

VCP employs nine teachers and one director and ended the 2018 calendar year with over a \$10,000 financial gain. We also recently added Bev Hubbard to our staff as our Music Teacher. The school strives to provide scholarship support to families and we currently have one enrolled family receiving a partial scholarship.

Valley Christian Preschool is proud to have a diverse student population. For the current 2018-2019 school year, there are four students that are learning English as a second language while enrolled at Valley Christian Preschool. These four students primarily speak French, Korean, Mandarin and Amharic (Ethiopian) at home. These students have had much success learning English over the course of their time enrolled at Valley Christian Preschool.

VCP families are invited to participate in all of the 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 and holiday traditions. VCP also promotes the children's 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.

Currently, there are at least three preschool families that attend Valley's Sunday worship services on a regular basis. These families are not currently members. Additionally, there are many 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. Additionally, there are quite a few preschool families that participate in the Wednesday Night Live and Kids' Night Out activities offered by Valley's Children's Ministries run by Donna Carlson.

(Continued on next page)

The 2018-2019 VCP School Board meets monthly and reviews policy, pricing, and marketing support. The current School Board includes Elder Bev Hubbard, members Allison Baird Carlson, Marilyn Connell, Amy Henning Blair, VCP Director Anne Scearce, Children's Ministries Director Donna Carlson, and two current VCP parents, Andrea Chaney and Sarah Woodward. These board members provide ongoing support and innovative ideas for the future of the preschool.

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 continues to be a service that our parents appreciate with 85% of currently enrolled families allowing VCP to automate their 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.

Faithfully submitted on February 10, 2019.

Anne Scearce, VCP Director

Valley Christian Preschool – 2018 Key Events

- Fundraising partnership with Raul's Family Mexican Restaurant March 2018
- Added a post-graduation celebration for our 4's students and their families June 2018
- Painted interior of 2s and 3s classrooms along with the library of preschool wing July 2018
- Hired five new preschool teachers for Fall of 2018 Susie Erdahl, Toni Walter, Lisa Garpestad, Sara Gomez and Nicole Poe – Summer 2018
- Added Bev Hubbard to the preschool staff to lead Music Time twice a week in preschool classrooms
 December 2018
- Christmas Outreach program Second annual Stuffed Animal Drive benefitting Portland Ronald McDonald House - December 2018
- Second annual 'Blessing of the Stuffed Animals' service for the preschoolers and their families –
 December 2018
- Installed 12 new window blinds in 4s classroom facing front lawn



Christian Nurture for Adults

Kristina Kurtz, Elder Class of 2019

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.

Valley Community Presbyterian Church welcomes all to explore and learn through education and small group gatherings. Here is a summary of the spaces we shared in God's Word on Earth in 2018:

Sunday Adult Education Class

Our Adult Education Class meets on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. in Armitage Hall. The curriculum and topics vary with the liturgical seasons.

Senior Men's Bible Study

A group of men gather to study the Bible each Wednesday at 8:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room. About 15 (mostly) retired men gather to support one another and study the Bible on a regular basis.

Presbyterian Women's Bible Study

On the second Tuesday of each month, September through June, the Presbyterian Women's Bible study uses the Horizons Bible Study curriculum published each year through the PC(U.S.A.). The group gathers at 11:00 a.m. for the study with coffee and treats in the church office Conference Room.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Valley has a very active Prayer Shawl Ministry, which has "gifted" with prayer more than 1,000 hand knit or crocheted Prayer Shawls for encouragement to church members, friends in our community, and to friends across the country. New knitters are always welcome to join the group meetings, held the first Tuesday of each month at 2:00 p.m.

Gamble Library Book Group

On the fourth Friday of each month, a group meets in the Fireside Room to discuss a book and share in fellowship. Remember to bring your own coffee to the 10:00 a.m. gathering. All are invited to come and share in what is always a lively discussion.

Special events for education and fellowship happened throughout 2018 as well:

Jesse Montes, who grew up at Valley, is an Environment Lecturer who shared his insight, photos and perspectives during visits to the Sunday Adult Education class in the summer and fall.

Joyce Wood led an informal review and conversation series in November and December based on the book *Unplug the Christmas Machine* by Jo Robinson and Jean Coppock Staeheli.

Rev. Jeff Binder led a series on *Presbyterianism*, open to new and long-time members and visitors.

Personnel

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

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 2018:

- Worked with the Finance Committee to make recommendations for 2019 budget.
- Accepted the recommendation of the Children's Ministry Elder and her committee and hired Donna Carlson as Director of Children's Ministries (approved by Session).
- Arranged for the expansion of Alex Mendoza's responsibilities to include cleaning the preschool. (This requires state certification which Alex has.)
- Continued meeting monthly with Jeff.
- Began reviewing and editing the Valley Personnel Handbook.
- Conducted annual performance reviews for all Church employees.

Board of Deacons 2017-2018

Class of 2019	Class of 2020	Class of 2021			
Edie Leland	Cathy Bernhard	Roy Conner			
Karen Miller	Christine Danner	Valerie Conner			
Jim Sandberg	Richard Gold	Jan Bellis-Squires			
Steve Rees	Amy Henning-Blair	Marilyn Tuffs			
Janice Viestenz	Kay Hope Gold	Debbie Purcell			
Richard Hegdahl	Jean Sowers	Kathy Bach			
Ty Scearce (Youth Deacon), Jim Sandberg (Session Representative)					
Pastor: Jeff Binder					

Moderator: Cathy Bernhard Secretary: Debbie Purcell

The Board of Deacons meets on the third 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.

Deacon mission assignments:

- Communion Preparation (featuring a different type of bread each month)
- Serve Home Communion to those unable to attend church (two former Deacons also help with this job)
- 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 (transferred to a new format using Excel this year)
- Assist the Pastor with visitations
- Memorial Service Receptions
- Blood Drive four times annually
- Deacon 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

Clerk's Report

Valley Total Membership:

Membership by Year					
2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018					
409	378	368	341	329	317

Gains: 7

Confirmands: 0 (class held every two years)

New Adult Members: 7

Losses: 19

In Memoriam: 11

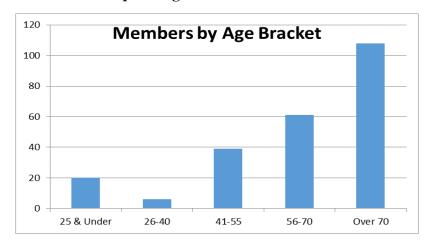
Jean Gordon January 30, 2018 Juanita Kincaid February 4, 2018 February 5, 2018 Rosemary Lee **Bob Scearce** March 27, 2018 Laurel Montes April 7, 2018 May 8, 2018 Myrna Haftorson Margaret Maves June 23, 2018 Judith Hinamon June 24, 2018

Gail Neidhart September 8, 2018 (former member, not in count)

Brice Hammack September 26, 2018 Clarice Norman January 30, 2016 Marie McLaughlan October 12, 2018

Transfers and other removals: 8

Net Membership Change in 2018: Loss of 12



Note: Only members who have provided a birthdate are included (234 of 317). Review of those not reporting a birthdate indicate that a high percentage of the additional 83 members are in the older brackets.

Worship Attendance by Year					
2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018					
171	174	161	153	163	164



Valley Community Presbyterian Church

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