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# The Messenger

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Valley Community Presbyterian Church January 2020

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## Sundays at Valley

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

## January

- 5** Epiphany Sunday  
Communion
- 12** Library Town Hall following  
10:00 a.m. worship
- 19** Dining for Women, 11:30 a.m.
- 26** Vital Congregation Service  
with Presentation Following

## February

- 2** Communion  
Vital Congregation Initiative  
Town Hall Meeting

## Advent Fair & Tree Lighting a Success!

Valley Community hosted its combined Advent Fair and Tree Lighting and Carol Sing on Saturday, December 7. During the Advent Fair children and those young-at-heart made crafts, coated pretzel sticks in chocolate, designed Christmas greens and ate pizza. The Melodia and Harmonia choirs graced us with holiday music and children displayed their piano skills.

Afterwards, everyone gathered on the front lawn as Pastor Jeff gave a blessing and Katie Craig lit the 15 foot Blue Spruce Christmas tree. Amy Rheingans and Bob Rasmussen led 130 carolers singing a collection of favorite holiday songs while eating cookies and drinking hot chocolate and cider served by Roy Conner.

A heartfelt thank you to all who made these events possible. We could not do it without you!



## Mark #5 of Congregational Vitality: Spirit-Inspired Worship



What does *Spirit-Inspired Worship* mean, exactly? Are you ever bored in worship? Have you ever really wondered what it means to be bored in worship? Is the sermon too long? Is the organ not your favorite instrument? Are the pews not as comfortable as your couch at home? Maybe you are not a morning person. Maybe you would rather be outside on a Sunday. Maybe you don't like getting dressed up. Maybe you don't like the people you are with.

There are so many reasons for not finding worship engaging or fun—to find it all just a bit boring. So try this next time you find yourself being bored in worship: what do you like about worship? Write it down! You may be amazed that simply “changing the script” on how we interpret life's different situations, our entire experience may be transformed.

And think about this: just about everything we do in worship has a reason for it. Everything from the day we gather, to the way we dress, to the music, the preaching, the prayers...even the pews we sit in, all have a history and reason for their being part of our worship experience.

And here's the most important part: *Vital Congregations* reminds us that worship is nothing less than our direct interaction with our Creator! Worship is not about “me,” but about “we”. As a community, we gather to worship a living God who compels us to seek transformation in our daily lives, both as individuals and as a community. In a sense, when we embrace “Spirit-inspired worship,” we invite God to change our lives right then and there.

How have you been transformed by worship? If you haven't, what prevents you from such transformation? As a community, what does it mean to allow the Spirit to truly inspire how we as Valley Community worship God? What amazing things can happen when we invite the Spirit into our worshipping lives?

Happy New Year!

Pastor Jeff

### THE MESSENGER

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PLEASE SUBMIT ARTICLES VIA E-MAIL BY  
JANUARY 20 FOR THE FEBRUARY ISSUE:  
messenger@valleycommunity.org

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

## January Birthdays

Len Anderson  
Julie Binder  
Sarah Boyle  
Jacqueline Bridges  
Duncan Brown  
Will Browning  
Dane Carlson  
Dean Cartmill  
Glenys Craig  
Andy Dee  
Rev. Chuck Falconer  
Jan Falconer  
Martha Gazeley  
Eben Jenkins

Don Kelly  
Geri Mitchell  
Dan Murphy  
Marah Murphy  
Suzanne Paroulek  
James Price  
Taylor Rawlings  
Thomas Rheingans  
Jim Sandberg  
Kimberlee Scott  
Kerrie Standlee  
Fan Standlee  
Joyce Thomas  
Macy Vermillion

Happy birthday to all those born in January! If we missed you, please contact the church office at 503.292.3537 or info@valleycommunity.org and let us know.



## Why I'm Leaving Fuller Theological Seminary



*By Rev. Jeff Binder*

I enrolled this year as a doctorate student at Fuller, and now I'm leaving. There are lots of people who talk about things being "a tough decision," but this wasn't really a tough decision for me once I thought about it. So here is why I am leaving.

A few months ago I received a mass email from the President of the seminary sharing [news of a former student suing the seminary](#). Long story short, it seems that the student was expelled for marrying her same-sex partner. This news surprised and troubled me. I knew that Fuller had an Evangelical slant, but I didn't realize it was formalized in their [community standards](#). Sure enough, once I found the page, there it was, plain as day; Fuller did not recognize same-sex marriage (among other things) within their community. My heart was broken for that student, and also for what I knew I had to do—I would have to leave. Over the next few weeks I prayed, I met with individuals who I considered mentors, colleagues, and friends, and all of this confirmed what I felt the Spirit was nudging me to do.

Now, you may be saying, "Well, duh, Jeff; you didn't know this about Fuller?" The honest answer is no. Of course I researched many schools when applying for a doctorate program, but to be honest, I never gave the community standards sections very much time. After all, I was going to be a doctorate student; I'd barely be there. Why do I need to worry about such policies? In addition to this, Fuller has been in relationship with the [Presbyterian Church \(USA\)](#), and the PCUSA defines marriage as between two people. Furthermore, Fuller is located in one of the most progressive cities and states in the world. Sure, I worried about such standards living in the Bible Belt, but Los Angeles?

The short response is that I should have done my homework before applying in the first place, especially if this was important to me. And celebrating the freedom and rights of people of all different orientations and identities is important to me as a Christian and as a pastor—it's a deal breaker for me. In fact, when I was interviewing for congregations to serve as a pastor a few years back, I immediately passed on applying to congregations that voted to prohibit same-sex weddings in their churches (this is one of the most recent options for PCUSA congregations when it comes to responding this issue).

In an age of "cancel culture," I didn't want to just pick up my marbles and leave, trying to out-outrage the next person. If I were a full-time student at Fuller, or faculty, or staff, perhaps I could work to influence the community by engaging this dialogue further, but I was part-time doctoral student, and I realized that my influence would be minimal. How do I want to be affiliated with such an institution? How would I explain my participation in this school to others?

I'm not making a huge sacrifice by leaving Fuller. There are other individuals and communities that have been fighting this fight far longer and with more to lose than I have. I'm a straight, white, educated, wealthy, young American pastor with all of the privileges in the world. Sure, there is a little bit of sacrifice...more inconveniences than anything, but nothing in comparison to others. I'm not really risking anything here. I'm not jeopardizing my future, my family, my safety, or my profession. I just want to be consistent with who I believe myself to be in thought and deed.

So what am I going to do? I'm going to first be thankful for the wonderful education I received while I was at Fuller. Then I'm going to research doctorate programs once again, and see if there is a seminary and a program that is more in alignment with my values and aspirations for my interest and work in congregational revitalization. Sure, I will most likely lose a few credits by transferring. I may take longer to get a degree. The financial cost may be more to this congregation and to me. There may be a few more logistical challenges than previous. But like I said before, this really was a pretty easy decision once I gave it a moment to all sink in. Parker Palmer writes that we are to live a "life undivided".

For me, I want to be educated and affiliated with an institution that shares similar values and beliefs as me, while also challenging me to grow in my faith and ministry. Yes, I want to continue to engage with others who don't see the world the same way I do, and I will continue to do this in academia as well as in my daily living and ministry.

...And I want to live as Christ calls us as Christians to live, constantly pointing to the grace offered through the gospel message of an unconditional love from God who calls us to new life each and every day.

I covet your prayers and thoughts at this time as I discern where God may be calling me next along this journey.



Thank you for sending your check for **\$36.50** for the  
**2020 Per Capita (for wider church expenses)** for each Valley member.

For more information about what per capita is, and how it helps, go to:

[oga.pcusa.org/percapita](http://oga.pcusa.org/percapita)



## Dining for Women January 19



You are cordially invited to join Dining for Women at Valley's monthly meetings, typically on the third Sunday after worship. Consider this as a New Year's Resolution: enjoy a bountiful potluck lunch, learn about a very interesting non-profit that is making a huge difference in the lives of women and girls and contribute your "dining out dollars" to help meet their grant request.

In January we will be learning about GAIA Vaccine Foundation in Mali. The specific program is Women and Families Wellbeing in Mali. Their mission is to reduce the incidence of infectious diseases that disproportionately affect women and their families in the developing world and to promote the development of globally relevant, globally

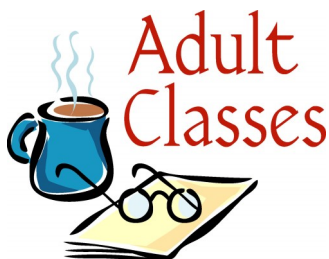
### Global Alliance to Immunize against AIDS

accessible vaccines that can be distributed on a not-for-profit basis in the developing world.

They will address the risk of HIV infection among women and girls in Mali as well as the stigma often attached to HIV. This project will use storytelling cloths as the basis for an outreach program teaching HIV prevention within the 'family' setting. GAIA Vaccine works in conjunction with social influencers, religious leaders, renowned musicians, nurses, and doctors involved in women's health care. It engages, educates, and destigmatizes information on HIV/AIDS by using storytelling cloths illustrating information about HIV transmission. These cloths are a unique and effective health education tool for a mostly illiterate society.

Come to our meeting on January 19 and learn more!

## Sunday Adult Education Classes



The Rev. Chuck Falconer will teach a series Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. in Armitage Hall beginning January 5 based on the topic of The Story of the Bible. Each week will begin with a 30 minute video followed by a discussion period. The lessons will include:

- **January 5:** The First Efforts at Englishing the Bible
- **January 12:** The King James Version
- **January 19:** Contemporary Christians and Their Bible
- **January 26:** The Bible's Story Continues

## The Gospel According to *Northern Exposure* is Back!



My favorite TV show of all time is *Northern Exposure*. Haven't heard of it? Perhaps that's because it made its premier in the summer of 1990. So here's the story...

Joel Fleischman, a Jewish New York City medical school graduate, reports to duty as a form of repayment for his financial support from the state of Alaska. Little does he know, he will not be serving his time in the metropolis of Anchorage or even Fairbanks. No, he will set up shop in the small mountain town of Cicely, where the townspeople represent Native Americans, former convicts, aged American heroes, and characters of all sorts—in short, a collection of America's motley crew of citizenry.

What begins as a collision between Cicely's small town ways and Joel's big city expectations, eventually turns into stories and experiences of relationships formed, life's mysteries held, and daily self-discovery for both the young doctor and the townspeople alike. In short, what happens in Cicely is representative of many of our lives, filled with adventure and boredom, joy

and sadness, achievement and failure.

So what does 'Northern Exposure' say about the Kingdom of God and Jesus? Well...not much explicitly. But there are so many themes and stories that have to do with spirituality, religion, and faith within these wonderful episodes!

Join us once again to bring light to the wintry darkness as we gather in the Fireside Room for some warm beverages, a toasty fire, delicious snacks, and some great entertainment and conversation!

Classes will take place in the Fireside Room on Wednesdays beginning January 22 and ending February 19.



## Preserving “The Gospel in Glass”



Valley’s thirteen beautiful stained glass sanctuary windows are treasures that have been entrusted to us by past generations. They have been called “The Gospel in Glass.”

When the church exterior was painted in 2017 extensive dry rot was discovered in exterior window frames and ventilation openings. At that time the decision was made to paint the exterior “as is” and defer window preservation to a future high priority project; *that time is now*.

Research to fully assess their condition, find qualified restoration artisans, and plan funding began in May 2019. After extensive investigation we recommended that Valley contract with Bovard Studios of Fairfield, Iowa ([www.bovardstudio.com](http://www.bovardstudio.com)) to implement this project. This proposal was approved by Valley’s Session on December 10, 2019.

The following work will be performed:

- ◆ Replace the current single sheet glass exterior coverings and wood frames with full-length protective laminated glass with only one midway support.
- ◆ Replace disintegrating wood frames with Bovard’s patented custom colored aluminum frame and ventilation system.
- ◆ Clean and restore the stained glass, lead coming, and repair major bulges.
- ◆ Repair detached and separated steel support bars, and reinstall interior wood support trim.
- ◆ Replace existing wooden vent louvers with custom aluminum louvers at the bottom of each window.

We expect to complete the project and re-dedicate the windows in the first quarter of 2020.

As part of our church family, we offer you the opportunity to contribute financially to this project. Our budget is \$110,000. Of that, Session has allocated \$65,000. We’re now seeking to raise an additional \$45,000 through grants and special gifts.

We would be honored if you would contribute any amount. Funds may be made in the offering plate, mailed, or dropped off at the church office clearly designated “*stained glass window fund*.” All contributors will be recognized in the program when we re-dedicate the windows unless they choose to remain anonymous. Your prayerful consideration will be sincerely appreciated.

Facilities project team, David Marquis and Carol Powers, are available to share more detailed information and talk with you if there are questions about the project.

## Vital Congregations Initiative - Mark Your Calendars



Join us for a special service on Sunday, January 26 at 10:00 a.m. for Valley’s **Vital Congregation Initiative (VCI) Kick-off**. Survey results are in and the VCI Team will summarize and share your communal responses. Please join us and anticipate special readings and music as we launch our two-year journey.

On Sunday, February 2 from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m, Valley will host a **Town Hall** in the Armitage Room. After marinating information from the VCI Kick-off this is a time for questions, concerns and ideas.

Then on Sundays, February 9, 16, 23, March 1, 8, 15 and 22. A special **Lenten Series** will be hosted in Armitage Hall after church on consecutive Sundays where we will seek what Jesus and the New Testament asks of us as a church. Pastor Jeff will initially host this series centered around the Seven Marks of Vital Congregations. Please join us!

## Valley Book Group January 24



The Valley Book Group will meet in the Fireside Room on **Friday, January 24** to discuss new selections for reading in the first half of 2020. We will evaluate books that have been suggested and vote to choose those that we will read in the coming months. All are welcome to bring their own coffee and to help make these choices.



## My Faith Story



By Amy Dee

I grew up attending church, but as a young child I never saw God in a chapel or sanctuary. Church was a place for quiet reverence and “Sunday best” clothes. It was a place for suits, shiny shoes, and lace-trimmed socks all worn by a community who came together to pray to a God I viewed as a personal possession belonging to only me.

In California, we were members at Trinity Lutheran Church. My younger brother and sister attended our church elementary and middle school, whereas I perfected a defiant side and refused in order to remain in public school. The reason for my refusal had to do with the objection I had for our pastor. I never had a concrete reason to distrust him, but I knew he was not someone to lead me to a deeper understanding of God.

I eventually understood that I did not have sole access to God, but I still did not find God in church. God was a voice in my head guiding my choices and providing company. I felt God internally and saw evidence in natural wonders: in the clouds, the wind, a particular lilac bush that I loved, aspen trees and that sound the leaves make in the breeze, the color violets and the fragrance of lavender. God was a wonder in the light and a friend in the shadows.

As an adult, I was surrounded by people in our community who had born again experiences and I wondered if they somehow had a better internal God than I did, and maybe the voice of God in their heads gave

them better information than mine. Notwithstanding the possibility of any undiagnosed psychosis, I now recognize that knowing God this way is grounded in theory.

The term *spiritual intelligence* has been used by philosophers, psychologists and theologians for quite some time. The theories of intra-personal, naturalist, and existential ways of knowing the world come together to inform me that this unconventional way of thinking about God has some merit, and I have concluded that some people need church to bring God out and others need church to put God in. My faith was inside out and church become the way to bring God out in action through service, support, and community.

To that end, what do I believe? Our confessions and creeds provide common language that serve to unite us on the verbal-linguistic or traditional intellectual level, but how does one describe an understanding that exists at the very core of our being - that understanding we feel at the fundamental or visceral level? We don't have a language for that, but I believe God always was and will always be. I believe that we are here in this place to continuously strive toward living the example of Jesus. Knowing that we will fall short, the process of that endeavor, rather than the end, is our purpose. We are on a trajectory of growth in how we love, in what we stand for, in who we help, in how we hear God's voice today, and in the ways in which we accept the “outside ins” and the “inside outs” and those who are a little empty - because all are God's creation.

## Gamble Library Corner



Here is what is happening at your church library:

- Check around your home to see if there are any VCPC library books. We are rounding up our collection.
- Swing by the library the entire month of January for a special type of open house.
- Plan to attend a “town hall” meeting about the library January 12 after church in the library.
- Valley has the opportunity to provide some English language books to Presbyterian missional churches in Eastern Europe (many formerly part of USSR). They will be letting us know soon the types of books most needed. Would you like to be part of this project? Contact Librarian Valerie Conner or the church office.

## Get to Know Valley Community Meal and Chat

Interested in learning more about Valley Community Presbyterian Church? Wondering what is Presbyterianism? Why do people take the step to become formal members of the church?

Please join us for a free Get to Know Valley Luncheon with Pastor Jeff and elders for an informal meal and chat. All Questions are Welcome! Contact Glenys Craig at [g.craig@sbcglobal.net](mailto:g.craig@sbcglobal.net) and we will set a time agreeable to all. For those who know they are interested in becoming a church member please take this course to start the process.



## Valley Christian Preschool Blessing of the Stuffed Animals

Valley Christian Preschool helped support the **Ronald McDonald House of Portland** by sponsoring a stuffed animal collection. We invited the congregants of Valley Community Presbyterian Church to join us in this effort by donating a new, unwrapped stuffed animal to be given as a gift to a child staying at Ronald McDonald House and you delivered! Here are a few photos from the blessing of the stuffed animals as well as a visit from Pere Noel to the preschool.



## KIDZ MART NEWS!



Since 2006, Kidz Mart has helped to spread the Christmas spirit by allowing children to shop for their families and friends and at the same time help raise money for Children's Ministries! This year, our net profit came close to \$400.00!

Thank you ALL for donating your gently used items to make this possible. Special thanks goes out to Patricia (Hope) Goff, Gail (Hope) Brooks, Richard and Kay Gold for starting this wonderful Valley Christmas tradition. Their labor of love each year has brought so much joy to others.

We also want to thank Beverly Hubbard and Anne Scarce for also stepping in to help make this year a very special and rewarding one!

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

### NEXT KIDS' NIGHT OUT...

**JANUARY 17**  
**5:30-8:30pm**

[More info forthcoming!](#)

December was such a fun Kids' Night Out with 23 children coming to enjoy pizza time, crafts, gym activities and movie time watching "The Polar Express!" The youth helpers there benefited from this KNO as Children's Ministries gifted any proceeds to go towards their mission trip. Our KNO kids loved the fact they were the center of attention! A BIG thank you to our adult helpers. It could not be possible without YOU!



NO WNL the first week in January. Our next event will be Wednesday, February 5 from 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.



*Above and above left: Kids made trains out of graham crackers and cookies.*

*Left: Watching "The Polar Express!" at KNO.*





# Valley Scrapbook



*Top left: The Holy Family is portrayed during the pageant.  
Above: The Browning Family light the Advent Candle.*



*Above: The Lauck Family light the Advent Candle.*

*Above right: The Angel of Annunciation at the Christmas Pageant.*

*Right: Charlotte Pistor sang during a recent worship service.*

*Below: The Youth Choirs along with Angels sing during the pageant.*



# Valley Scrapbook



*Pastor Jeff and Donna Carlson present Scouts with the God and Church merit badge.*



*The Miller Family light the Advent Candle.*



*Above: The large Blue Spruce Christmas Tree on the front lawn of the church.*



*Greens were available at the Advent Fair for people to arrange wreaths and swags.*



*Right: The Youth Choir sang at the beginning of the Advent Fair under the direction of Amy Rheingans.*

# Valley Scrapbook



*Right and above: The Youth enjoy cheese sandwiches and tomato soup made by Chef Roy followed by cake for dessert.*



*Above, left and below: Moonglow, a barbershop quartet, sung for the December Senior Adult Luncheon. The Kitchen Crew, along with Chef Roy, prepared a wonderful lunch for everyone to enjoy!*



## Valley Notes

### Opportunities

#### Good Roots Community

#### Church Reverse Advent Items.

It is not too late to contribute to this SE Portland Food Pantry. We are still collecting items through Sunday, January 5 under the Christmas tree in the foyer. Items to bring: canned meat/tuna, canned vegetables, hygiene and paper products, peanut butter, and soups to name a few. Nothing will be turned away.

### Thank You

#### The Stewardship Committee

would again like to extend our heartfelt “thank you” to all who have returned their 2020 pledge cards. If you have not yet returned your pledge card, please consider how you might be able to support Valley and its many missions in 2020. Pledge cards can be returned to the church office or in the weekly offering. Additional cards are available in the Narthex or church office.

With gratitude,  
Your 2020 Stewardship  
Committee

**Many thanks** to Pastors, Staff, Deacons, Sanctuary Choir, Starfish and our Valley Family for your prayers and cheerful wishes for recovery. I am grateful for healing and look forward to being back at Valley soon on two good legs.

With sincere gratitude,  
Jini De Vries

### Prayers

*We pray for those with health concerns:*

Jini De Vries, Troy Green, Gina Elliott, Don Scrivens, Linda Duncan, Ed Sanders, Dick Adkins

*We pray for those who mourn:*

- Family and friends of Liz Mitchell.  
- Marquis family and friends on the death of Shirley Jean Howard.

## Earth Care Corner

Happy New Year and may 2020 be an Earth Friendly Year! Here are some New Year’s resolutions to consider making for the health of our planet:

1. **Bring your own shopping bags.** Shopping with reusable bags everywhere you shop is a simple way to reduce ocean pollution and prevent unnecessary sea mammal deaths. It also helps you reduce consumption, prevent deforestation, and reduce our dependence on fossil fuels.
2. **Try a Reusable Water Bottle.** Did you know that a million plastic bottles a minute are used around the world and only 9% of plastic is recycled? Remember to also bring a thermos or insulated travel cup when you visit your favorite coffee place. The barista won’t mind!
3. **Say “No” to Plastic Straws.** Consider carrying a stainless steel straw instead, or just don’t use a straw.
4. **Experiment with Alternate Modes of Transportation.** If possible, try walking, biking, or taking public transportation more often to decrease your carbon footprint. Even carpooling is helpful because that’s one less person on the road using fuel.
5. **Use cloth napkins** for all of your meals, not just at special dinners. Consider carrying one in your purse or car to use when you need it during the day.
6. **Buy Secondhand.** Consider purchasing more secondhand items, whether clothing, handbags, kitchenware, home decor, etc. These items already exist and will ultimately end up in a landfill if not used.

**Happy New Year from Valley’s Earth Care Team!**

## Nativity Tableau

Thank you to all the parents for bringing your children to participate in our Christmas Eve Tableau. A special thank you to Kay Gold, Beverly Hubbard, Renn and David Sanderman, and Anne Scearce and her daughter Sophia, Amy Rheingans and her Armonia and Youth Choir Alumni for helping us make this such a special and memorable event!



# January 2020

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
<p><b>5</b> <b>Epiphany Sunday</b> 9:00a Adult Education 9:15a Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship <b>10:00a Worship</b> 11:00a Coffee Fellowship 11:00a Foundation Committee 11:30a Mariner Clipper Ship Potluck 11:30p Membership Committee 12:00p Calvary Korean Worship 12:30p Armonia Choir 1:00p Calvary Korean Fellowship</p>	<p><b>6</b> 9:00a Personnel Comm.  1:30p Mission Committee  6:30p Scout Troop 5592 7:00p Finance Committee 7:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:00p Boy Scouts 592 7:30p Troop 5591 7:30p Portland Highland Games Comm.</p>	<p><b>7</b> 10:00a Women's Bible Study 11:30a Small Groups Mtg. 12:00p Staff Meeting 2:00p Prayer Shawl Ministry 4:00p Girl Scout Troop 6:00p Earth Day Meeting 6:30p Christian Nurture for Children Meeting 7:00p Christian Nurture for Youth Meeting 7:00p Earth Care Team</p>	<p><b>8</b> 8:00a Men's Bible Study 9:30a TOPS Meeting 10:00a Calvary Bible Study 10:00a CONC 5:00p Cherub Choir 5:00p Melodia Choir 6:00p Youth Group 6:30p Vital Congregations Task Force</p>	<p><b>9</b>  4:00p Worship and Music 5:00p Music Selection Team 6:30p Sunset Trail BSA District Meeting 7:15p Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p><b>10</b> 10:30a Calvary Prayer Meeting</p>	<p><b>11</b> 9:30a Starfish Packing Party 12:00p Staff Epiphany Party</p>
<p><b>12</b> 9:00a Adult Education 9:15a Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship <b>10:00a Worship</b> 11:00a Coffee Fellowship 11:30a Communication Committee 12:00p Calvary Korean Worship 12:30p Armonia Choir 1:00p Calvary Korean Fellowship</p>	<p><b>13</b> 10:00a Pew Restocking  6:00p Girl Scouts 12301 6:30p Scout Troop 5591 7:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:00p Boy Scouts 592 7:30p Troop 5591</p>	<p><b>14</b> 12:00p Staff Meeting  6:30p Cub Scout Den Mtg. 6:30p Webelo Den 4 <b>7:00p Session</b></p>	<p><b>15</b> 8:00a Men's Bible Study 9:30a TOPS Meeting 10:00a Calvary Bible Study 10:00a CONC 5:00p Cherub Choir 5:00p Melodia Choir 6:00p Youth Group</p>	<p><b>16</b> 8:00a Soup Kitchen  6:00p Scout Den 592 7:15p Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p><b>17</b> 10:30a Calvary Prayer Meeting  5:30p Kids' Night Out</p>	<p><b>18</b></p>
<p><b>19</b> 9:00a Adult Education 9:15a Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship <b>10:00a Worship</b> 11:00a Coffee Fellowship 11:30a Dining for Women 12:00p Calvary Korean Worship 12:30p Armonia Choir 1:00p Calvary Korean Fellowship 5:30p Cub Scout Pack 592 7:00p Scout Jamboree Committee</p>	<p><b>20</b> <b>Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Church Office Closed</b>  <b>"The Messenger" Newsletter Articles Due</b>  10:00a Meals on Wheels 6:30p Scout Troop 5591 7:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:00p Scout Troop 592 7:30p Troop 5591</p>	<p><b>21</b> 12:00p PEO Meeting 12:00p Staff Meeting  4:00p Girl Scout Troop 5:30p Facilities Comm. 6:30p Cub Scout Pack 592 7:00p Deacons Meeting</p>	<p><b>22</b> 8:00a Men's Bible Study 9:30a TOPS Meeting 10:00a Calvary Bible Study 10:00a CONC 5:00p Cherub Choir 5:00p Melodia Choir 6:00p Northern Exposure Class 6:00p Youth Group</p>	<p><b>23</b> 6:30p Pack 592 Parent Mtg. 7:15p Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p><b>24</b> 10:00a Gamble Library Book Group 10:30a Calvary Prayer Meeting</p>	<p><b>25</b></p>
<p><b>26</b> 9:00a Adult Education 9:15a Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Early Coffee Fellowship <b>10:00a Worship-Vital Congregation Service</b> 11:00a Coffee Fellowship 11:00a Vital Congregations Presentation 12:00p Calvary Korean Worship 12:30p Armonia Choir 1:00p Calvary Korean Fellowship 5:30p Scout Jamboree Comm. #2</p>	<p><b>27</b> 6:00p Girl Scouts 6:30p Scout Troop 5591 7:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:00p Scout Troop 592 7:30p Troop 5591</p>	<p><b>28</b> 12:00p Staff Meeting</p>	<p><b>29</b> 8:00a Men's Bible Study 9:30a TOPS Meeting 10:00a Calvary Bible Study 10:00a CONC 5:00p Cherub Choir 5:00p Melodia Choir 6:00p Northern Exposure Class 6:30p Youth Group</p>	<p><b>30</b> 5:30p Pack 592 Meeting 7:15p Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p><b>31</b> 10:30a Calvary Prayer Meeting</p>	

## THE MESSENGER



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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME DATED MATERIAL

## Ten Reasons to Sing in Choir

10. Rehearsal on Thursday night means one night away from the stresses of busy life.
9. You always have a great reserved seat for Christmas and Easter.
8. You will be setting a good example for all the children, teenagers (and reluctant adults.)
7. Intellectual Stimulation—when you make music, you are using both sides of your brain simultaneously.
6. Since warm-ups are 45 minutes before the service, you will be awake and ready to “make a joyful noise.”
5. No auditions or solos required!
4. People who are involved in music live longer and are healthier
3. From St. Augustine: “To Sing is to pray twice!”
2. Every once in a while, you might catch a glimpse of Heaven’s choir singing along with you. I’m not kidding!
1. Serving the Lord—considering all He does for you, it’s just a little giving back to HIM!

