


The Messenger

Valley Community Presbyterian Church April 2022

Sundays at Valley

In-person worship at 10:00 a.m.
online at:
<https://www.facebook.com/ValleyCommunityPresbyterian/>
Click videos on the left side.

April

3 Fifth Sunday in Lent
Communion

10 Palm Sunday
Coffee Fellowship Resumes
Together Women Rise,
12:00 p.m.

17 Third Sunday in Lent
Cents-Ability Offering

24 CROP Hunger Walk

May

1 Communion



Holy Week and Easter at Valley

Palm Sunday, April 10: 10:00 a.m.

Worship with us in-person or via livestream at 10:00 a.m. as we remember Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem and mark the beginning of Holy Week. Join us after worship in Davis Hall as we resume after-service fellowship with coffee and special treats!

Maundy Thursday, April 14:

7:00 p.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

Join with the Valley and St. Andrew's congregations in-person at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church (3228 SW Sunset Blvd.) or via livestream as we remember Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples. The service will feature scripture, music, and a meditation offered by Pastor Robin.

Good Friday Prayer Vigil, April 15:

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 3:00-5:00 p.m.

"Prayer Encircling the World"

The sanctuary will be open for a self-guided time of prayer and reflection for the world anytime between 9:00 am and 12:00 pm, and then again from 3:00-5:00 pm on Good Friday. Participants may stop at several prayer stations throughout the sanctuary and consider prompts to pray and intercede for specific countries (such as Ukraine and Afghanistan) and situations of pain and need in our world.

Good Friday, April 15: 1:00 p.m.

Worship with us Good Friday in-person or via livestream at 1 pm for a service focusing on Jesus' words from the cross. The service will feature scripture, music, and brief meditations on the seven last words offered by Pastor Robin, Pastor Jenny, and two young ministers from our presbytery, Rev. Kelly Dickson, and Matt Heisler.

Easter Sunday, April 17: 10:00 a.m.

Worship with us in-person or via livestream at 10 am as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord! Our service will include special music and a message by Pastor Robin. Invite family and friends to join us as we joyfully celebrate our hope in the risen Christ!

Giving Until it Helps!



The Rev. Robin Garvin

Should we as followers of the Prince of Peace be concerned about this grave situation? Yes! How shall we respond? How can we make a difference in the face of such need? I want to suggest two very tangible ways you and I might respond, make a real difference, and ease the suffering of the people of Ukraine. First and foremost, pray! Pray for peace. Participate in our weekly drop-in prayer vigil for Ukraine (Sundays, 1:00-4:00 p.m., in the sanctuary), and in our Good Friday Prayer Vigil (9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 3:00 – 5:00 p.m., in the sanctuary) as we stop at seven prayer stations and engage in guided prayer for places of deep need in our world.

I also urge each of us to financially support our One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering which enables Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) to immediately respond to emergent situations such as the war in Ukraine. OGHS funds given in 2021 enable PDA to provide urgent funding today to trusted, established partners with “boots on the ground” and expertise in responding to the needs of those impacted by crisis in Ukraine. Let us give generously knowing that it will help!

Lenten blessings,

Pastor Robin Garvin

Many of you have mentioned how much you have been both encouraged and challenged by reading the Gospel of Luke during the season of Lent. One member of our congregation remarked that she had never noticed Jesus’ overriding concern for the poor and marginalized in Luke. It’s true, Jesus was deeply concerned about the poor and marginalized...the hurting and the helpless...and Jesus makes clear at every turn that we are to be concerned about the people and situations that are of concern to him.

During this Lenten season, all of us have seen the daily images of horror and devastation from the war in Ukraine. Many of you have spoken to me of feeling overwhelmed by these images, and of your deep desire to help. The situation in Ukraine is overwhelming. Europe is facing its largest humanitarian crisis since World War II. The United Nations estimates up to 18 million people, both internally displaced and refugees, will eventually be impacted.

THE MESSENGER

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NEWSLETTER STAFF:
ANGELA GRAHAM

PLEASE SUBMIT ARTICLES VIA E-MAIL BY
APRIL 20 FOR THE MAY ISSUE:
angie@valleycommunity.org

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

April Birthdays

Bruce Armstrong	Wendy Jenkins	Cheryl Rees
Hayden Bach	Joyce Jenkins	Eleanor Romanaggi
Cathy Bernhard	Grady Killian	Scott Russell
Neil Blair	Kelsey Killian	Tracy Sailors
Lily Anne Boyle	Ian Luehr-Sele	Karen Sandberg
Dana Collins	Pat McClean	Renn Sanderman
Lee Cundiff	Kay Phillips	Corri Sanders
Dane Green	John Purcell	DeWitt Sherwood
Bob Hayes	Janae Pyle	Jason Simenson
Richard Hegdahl	Bonnie Reeder	Eloise Zwald

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



Together Women Rise



**TOGETHER
WOMEN RISE**
Collective action for global gender equality

April celebrates the 10 year anniversary of Together Women Rise (formerly known by all as Dining for Women) at Valley. There has been a devoted group of women, and some men, that have met monthly and learned about 120 different nonprofits that support gender equality for women and girls in underserved areas around the world.

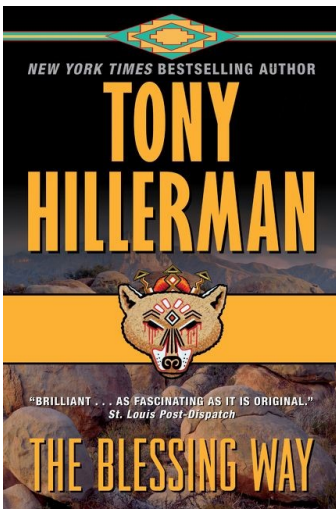
For most of the years that we have been meeting we have been able to share a potluck lunch, learn about the featured project and then make a donation toward fulfilling the grant request of that month's organization. In the last almost two years we have met mostly on Zoom and have missed the fellowship of sharing a meal and the delicious foods prepared by the members

This month, April 2022, will witness the return to in-person meetings of Together Women Rise at Valley. We will be meeting at 12:00 noon (note the time change from the traditional 11:30 a.m. time) in the Fireside Room. Members are asked to bring their own lunch and avoid wearing any perfume that day, secondary to some known sensitivity to scents. Water, coffee and dessert will be provided. After all, there is an anniversary to celebrate!

The featured project for April is Second Mile Haiti. Their mission is to fight childhood malnutrition and improve outcomes for impoverished children in Haiti through a holistic, caregiver-centered approach that meets immediate needs for food and health care through live-in malnutrition and maternity centers and invests in families through education, training, and income-generating business activities.

Join us on Sunday, April 10, at 12:00 noon, to learn more about this interesting nonprofit organization and how their holistic approach to breaking the cycle of undernutrition is changing the lives of mothers and children in Haiti.

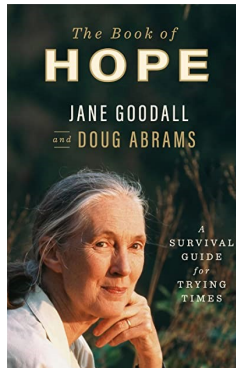
Valley Book Group



The Valley Book Group meets on the fourth Friday of the month and the April meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. on April 22. The book being discussed is The Blessing Way by Tony Hillerman. This is the first novel in his series featuring Navajo Police Lieutenant Joe Leaphorn and Officer Jim Chee who encounter a

bizarre case that borders between the supernatural and murder. Leaphorn's pursuit of a Wolf-Witch leads him where even the bravest men fear, on a chilling trail that winds perilously between mysticism and murder. If you are already on the Book Group email list, you will receive a reminder of the meeting.

The Book of Hope: A Survival Guide for Trying Times



By Jane Goodall and Doug Abrams

Jane Goodall is known throughout the world as the young woman who studied the chimps of Gombe for years, who now travels the world as an advocate for environmental justice. Hope has apparently been a preoccupation of hers for much of her life. Of the 15 books listed as her work, five of them have the word "hope" in their titles. She describes the four components necessary for hope as 1) realistic goals to pursue, 2) realistic pathways to achieve them, 3) confidence to achieve the goals, and 4) support to help us overcome adversity, and differentiates hope from optimism as recognizing the difficulties and dangers that exist but not being stopped by them.

The four reasons for hope she identifies as important for her are the Amazing Human Intellect, the Resilience of Nature, the Power of Young People, and the Indomitable Human Spirit.

Douglas Abrams, the co-author of the book, has also co-authored *The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World*, with the Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu. That might also be a book worth reading!



Thank you for sending your check for **\$39.00** for the **2022 Per Capita** for each Valley member.

For more information about what per capita is

and how it helps, go to:

oga.pcusa.org/percapita



Welcome Our Interim Director of Youth Ministry: Jennifer Souders



We are delighted to announce the hire of Jennifer (Jenn) Souders to serve as Valley's Interim Director of Youth Ministry!

Jenn was born and raised in Eagle Creek, Oregon. Her family is deeply involved with Springwater Presbyterian Church where her mother has served as the organist for many years. Jenn has an elementary education degree from Warner Pacific College and has worked as a second and third grade teacher in Clackamas, Oregon. Recently, Jenn completed Master of Arts degrees in Theology and Intercultural Studies at Fuller Theological Seminary. She has served as the youth director of her home church and Knox Presbyterian Church in Pasadena, California.

Jenn is very excited to begin her ministry with the youth of our church. Please join us in welcoming Jenn to Valley during worship on April 3!

Presbyterian Women Plan Virtual Spring Gathering

On Saturday, April 30, Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of the Cascades will host a virtual (Zoom) gathering on the subject of "Broadening Our Understanding of Mental Health" from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The Gathering will explore the issues surrounding mental health and learn about the resources available to the community through the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) and the Presbyterian Church. Topics touched on will include Warning Signs and Symptoms, Mental Health Conditions, Treatment, Advocacy, and Support.

Those wishing to attend should send their e-mail address to rojewel@gmail.com to receive the invitation link a day or two before the gathering. If you currently receive emails from Cascades PW, the link will be sent automatically. In lieu of a registration fee for this program, participants are encouraged to send offerings in support of NAMI to Mary Lou Williams, 14601 NW 26th Avenue, Vancouver, WA 98685. Please write NAMI in the memo area.

One Great Hour of Sharing

OGHS offering to be taken on Palm Sunday.

In every Lenten season, we are asked to prayerfully consider giving to One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) so that our denomination can respond to the needs of those suffering from hunger, disasters both natural and man-made, and systems of oppression, poverty and injustice. OGHS began after World War II as an ecumenical response to the great need of thousands of refugees in Europe, and today it will be answering some of the same needs as it did 75 years ago, with the current situation in Eastern Europe. Our TV screens and news feeds are full of the horrific plight of the Ukrainians and the tremendous number of refugees fleeing west, often with just the clothes on their backs. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, one of the three recipients of OGHS funds, is already engaged, using funds retained from previous years' contributions.

As in responding to previous disasters, PDA will be on the ground in and around Ukraine in years to come, as it's been in response to disasters in the U.S., such as Hurricane Katrina.

The Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP) will also be active in helping to assure that the inhabitants of this breadbasket region will be fed as they work to recover the fruitfulness of the region.

There are always very good reasons to give generously to OGHS, but this year the needs are particularly compelling. Please prayerfully consider your contribution.

Raleigh Hills CROP Hunger Walk 2022 - Sunday, April 24 at 1:00 p.m.



Hello Valley members and friends. Remember a few weeks ago we asked for your help with this year's CROP Hunger Walk? Well, we know WHAT'S needed now. There is a need for 4-5 people to help register walkers, two street crossing guards, a few people at the Finish Line, and for you to gather walkers and donations.

The course is just under 1.5 miles through the neighborhood, to the school, around the garden and back to the church, about 10 blocks. Registration and donations maybe made at (a secure website): <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2022/team/team-valley-presbyterian-portland-or>.

Walker packets and materials will be available on April 9 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at Valley, in time to gather contributions.

So, we challenge you to ask your Bible Study, women's club, Pickle Ball group, bridge club or book club to support this worthy cause started by Church World Services back in the 1947 helping post-WWII Europe struggling with famine. In 1969 the CROP Hunger Walk (Christian Rural Overseas Program), as we know it today, had a resurgence and has been going strong ever since. Though today they've outgrown the acronym by supporting hunger causes all around the world. Of the funds collected, 25% will come back to the Washington County branch of the Oregon Food Bank, the remaining funds will be sent/used where needed most. Contact Andrea Murdoch 503-860-6203 if you'd like to volunteer or have questions. Thank You from your Mission Team.

Ahmadzai Family Bike Day

Sunday, March 13, was a happy day for the Ahmadzai kids. Everyone got a bike!! Pastor Robin arranged a collaboration between Valley and First Presbyterian, Newberg's bike ministry. Many thanks to Karen and Larry Yakymi and Jenny and John Hale for providing transportation for the family and all the bikes!

When the group returned to Portland volunteers had gathered at the Tri-Met lot to welcome them home. Pastor Robin and her husband, Dr. Roger Garvin, were on hand with helmets and everyone was measured and fitted with the right size. Roger then made sure that everyone knew how to use their brakes. The younger kids happily rode around in the lot while Valley Friend, Tim Kramer, a PE teacher, led the older kids on a guided ride around the neighborhood. Ruthann Marquis supplied tasty snacks, which were appreciated by all.

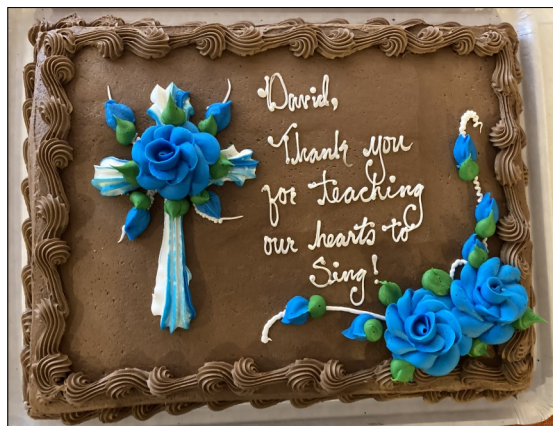


Building Upgrades



Four AC units were installed in preschool classrooms thanks to a full grant from the Valley Foundation.

Retirement Congratulations



Professor David Jimerson (left) and Pastor Chuck Falconer's (right) retirements were celebrated during Sunday worship. Handmade quilts were given for their many years of service as Valley's Music Minister and Associate Pastor. Slices of cake were sent home with the congregation to enjoy.



Valley Notes

Opportunities

Lilies will grace the sanctuary chancel on Easter in memory and honor of our loved ones. If you wish to participate, please send a donation for any amount noting "VCPC Flower Fund" to the church office by **Monday, April 11** with the name(s) of the honoree(s). Names will be published in the Easter bulletin. Lilies will be available to take home following our Easter Celebration.

Graduates in your family this spring? Send the information to angie@valleycommunity.org in the church office to be included in upcoming Messenger issues.

Distance food collection the first and third Thursday of each month, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. in the back parking lot of Valley. All non-perishable, non-expired store bought foods are being collected. Items will be delivered to the St. Matthew's Food Pantry.

Give. Act. Pray. The current Russian invasion that started on February 24. The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is responding to the situation in Ukraine which will include both financial and technical assistance. Gifts can be made online at <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/> or by texting PDAUKR to 41444.

Prayers

We pray for those with health concerns:

Richard Bryant, Ellen Minshew, Ken Hess, Robert Canpos

We pray for those who mourn:

- Kay Hope Gold and family of Richard Gold who died February 28.

- AmyAnn Green and family of Don Green who died February 26.

- Family and friends of Georgene Tuma, who died February 25.

- Family and friends of Judy Huddleston, who died February 21.

Earth Care Corner

Lesser Celandine Eradication

What beautiful yellow flowers! That's the first thing that you might think if you were walking down Brentwood Street by the Youth House. But last year Wendy Archibald's trained eye knew it was [Lesser Celandine](#), an invasive species that crowds out other plants and damages the soil. So she went immediately to work. Getting rid of this plant is not as easy as just pulling it up. It propagates in two different ways: from seeds and from tiny bulblets below the ground. The entire plant needs to be thoroughly dug out to ensure that no bulblets remain.

In February the Earth Care team started working on several additional patches that have gained a foothold at the Tri-Met lot, and we continue to work on the area by the Youth House. Blooming flowers that we can't dig up this year will be weed whacked to prevent propagation from seeds.

This will be a multi-year effort, but the good news is that the process is working! Very few plants came back in the areas that were treated last year. We're hoping for similar results next year.

We will hold at least one more work party this season. Please plan to join us.



Wendy and the flowers.



Right: Connie Brenner and Dean Bridges help pull the invasive flowers.



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME DATED MATERIAL

Easter Egg Hunt

The Children's Ministry is planning an Easter Egg Hunt following 10:00 a.m. worship on April 17, Easter Sunday.



Each child will receive an Easter bag at the conclusion of worship which will contain some Easter goodies.



They will then be able to use this bag to collect eggs "hidden" out on the front lawn.



All families with children and grandchildren are invited to participate.