


The Messenger

Valley Community Presbyterian Church August 2022

Sundays at Valley

In-person worship at 10:00 a.m. or
online at:

[https://www.facebook.com/
ValleyCommunityPresbyterian/](https://www.facebook.com/ValleyCommunityPresbyterian/)

Click videos on the left side.

August

7 Communion
Matt Heisler, guest preacher
Summer Picnic, 11:00 a.m.

14 Youth Sunday
Youth Mission Trip Recap

21 Cents-Ability Offering
Together Women Rise,
11:30 a.m.

28 Ice Cream Social and
Stargazing Party,
7:30 p.m.

September

4 Communion



Valley's Summer Picnic August 7



Save the date and save your appetites for Valley's Summer picnic scheduled for August 7, following worship. Although originally planned to celebrate the end of VBS, we will gather outside in the courtyard next to the Youth House for a lunch to celebrate the fact that we can get together and break bread together!

The Fellowship Ministry will provide the lunch, so all you need to do is join us for the meal and be ready for some fun activities! Here are the facts: Lunch provided; Sunday, August 7; After worship; Bring your smiles and appetites!



Drama Camp 2022



Aesop's (Oh So Slightly) Updated Fables
Friday, August 5, 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary

You are invited to attend this slightly different (and very funny) presentation of Aesop's well-known fables. Invite your friends and neighbors! The performance will be about 45 minutes and will include a little touch of the following famous fables:

Dog and the Bone
Tortoise and the Hare
Lion and the Mouse
Fox and the Grapes
The Miller, His Son, and the Donkey
The Country Maid

And the moral of the story IS...
Summer isn't complete without some humorous summer theater!

Change vs. Transition



The Rev. Robin Garvin

“...let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith...” - Hebrews 12:1-2

During the last ten days, I have had the good fortune to attend several sessions of the World Athletics Championships in Eugene. This was the first time this global track and field championship was held on American soil... and it did not disappoint! We witnessed some amazing individual and team performances.

Last night, we watched the men’s 4x400 meter relay final. The American men led the race from start to finish and won easily. This win was made possible, in part, by the flawless hand-off of the baton from one runner to the next.

I have been thinking a lot lately about how the exercise of pastoral leadership is very similar to a relay race. Each member of the team runs “with perseverance” their leg of the race, but eventually it is time to hand off the baton, and the next runner begins his or her part of the race.

After nearly 80 years as a congregation, Valley Church has had many “pastoral runners” on its relay team. Roughly 25 pastors have run the race with perseverance seeking to lead our congregation in the way of Christ. Some were with us for a long time, such as our founding pastor, Dr. Herbert Armitage, and some were here for just a few months. All of these individuals were part of a team effort and sought to contribute to the spiritual health and vitality of Valley Church. Each of these “pastoral runners” eventually passed the baton to the next person who would engage in yet another leg of the race.

I feel privileged to be running my leg of the race as your Interim Pastor during this important time. As I run my leg, I never lose sight of the fact that I am but one person in a long line of skilled and dedicated pastors who have helped to shape Valley into the church it is today. None of us as pastoral leaders could run this race alone! At the end of my time at Valley, I hope I will be remembered as a good member of the team, and that I passed the baton well to the person who will, by God’s grace, continue the race after me.

Joyfully in Christ,

Pastor Robin Garvin

THE MESSENGER

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NEWSLETTER STAFF:
ANGELA GRAHAM

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

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

August Birthdays

Karen Acker	Ashley Elisara	Roger Rees
Paige Bedsaul	Anne Foster	Max Russell
Megan Bootsma	Lynne Fowler	Mike Smyth
Liz Boyle	Anthony Graham	Margaret Triplett
Katie Craig	Allison Kurtz	Gaylen Uecker
Anne De Vries	Ruthann Marquis	Virginia Vaughan
Jeff Denson	Phil Miller	Janice Viestenz
Arielle Elisara	Harry Reeder	

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



Together Women Rise



Valley's dedicated chapter of Together Women Rise will learn about a very interesting and unusual nonprofit in the Democratic Republic of Congo at their August meeting. The specific program that Rise is supporting within Colors of Connection is **Girl Awakening**.

Colors of Connection focuses on adolescent girls in East and Central Africa. It is a unique non-profit that works in psychosocial arts engagement, public mural making, community building and violence prevention in conflict and post-conflict areas. Communities are encouraged to use art and art activities to create a platform to emphasize important values, make sense of traumatic experiences, generate problem-solving techniques and coping skills, and enhance self-confidence.

Please join us on Sunday, August 21 at 11:30 a.m. following worship to enjoy fellowship over a lunch that you bring and learn more about the Girl Awakening program. Dessert and refreshing water will be provided. If you have any questions and/or want to be added to the evite list, please contact Ruthann Marquis at 503.260.9464.

Valley Book Group

The Valley Book Group meets on the fourth Friday of the month and the August meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. on August 26 in the Fireside Room. The book being discussed is *The Woman Who Smashed Codes*, by Jason Fagone. This book tells the incredible true story of the greatest codebreaking duo that ever lived, an American woman and her husband who invented the modern science of cryptology together and used it to confront the evils of their time, solving puzzles that unmasked Nazi spies and helped win World War II. Fagone unveils America's code-breaking history through the prism of the duo's life, bringing into focus the unforgettable events and colorful personalities that would help shape modern intelligence. If you are already on the Book Group email list, you will receive a reminder of the meeting.



Valley Youth
"Summer Sweep"

Clean out your closets for VCP Youth Group!
Donate your gently used clothing and household textiles.

We are collecting:

Clothing:
women's, men's, and children's clothes,
coats, shoes, handbags, ties, belts, scarves,
wallets, backpacks, etc...

Household Textiles:
bedding, comforters, blankets, sheets,
towels, linens, tablecloths, curtains, pillows, etc...

Please bring all items in large plastic bags.
All items must be clean and in sellable condition.

Collection Days:
Sundays: July 3, July 10, July 24, July 31,
August 7
11am-1pm
Thursdays: July 7, July 28, August 4
9am-12pm
Please bring all items to the youth house garage



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



Ice Cream Social and Stargazing Party

August 28 at 7:30 p.m. on the church lawn

Joe Bruce, an amateur astrologer and old friend of Pastor Robin, has a powerful telescope and will treat us to great views of the night sky.



There will be an ice cream social at 7:30 p.m. to kick off the stargazing party. All are welcome! Watch the upcoming eblasts for more information.

Summer Produce Table

Finally sunny days are visiting us and our garden plots are literally soaking it up! The Produce Table at Valley is starting to get covered with green good things pulled up from the soil and the donation jar is ready to receive monetary offerings, which will go to the Oregon Food Bank at the end of the growing season.

Stop by the table during coffee hour in Davis Hall, “shop” for something that will enhance your next meal and donate generously to the jar that will help ease the food insecurity of our fellow Oregonians.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets on the first Tuesday of every month at 2:00 p.m. This month we will have some special guests!

Valley took inspiration and guidance from the Prayer Shawl group at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in 2005 to start our own service ministry of stitches, both purls and knits. It is an amazing 17 years ago that Marilyn Tuffs put out the call to knitters to join her in creating warm and wonderful shawls that represent the caring hands of God wrapping each recipient in love. Bravo Marilyn for having the vision of this need for both those that create and those that receive! We thank you!

On August 2, our ministry’s typical meeting day, we will be welcoming fellow knitters from St. Matthew Lutheran Church to spend social time together and to thank them for helping our group on our way.

We meet in the Fireside Room and if you are interested in joining our group, please come that day and enjoy this camaraderie of knitters. If you have any questions, please contact Ruthann Marquis at 503.260.9464.

August Youth Group Updates

Can you believe that it is August already? The summer has flown by!

I wanted to post an updated calendar for August as our events have changed a bit. Since the church is not hosting a VBS this year, the youth will not have to volunteer and help out with the event. Also, on a previous calendar, we were going to try to attend the FishFest concert in Salem, but unfortunately, the tickets are very expensive at this point. Here are some upcoming events:

- **August 3:** Movie Night, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Youth House. We will be watching the movie “Bad Guys” (PG). I will provide pizza and popcorn. If you would like to help provide other treats for this event and future events, please let me know!
- **August 10:** Bob Ross Paint Night, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Youth House. We will be watching a classic Bob Ross painting video and following along as we paint our own masterpieces! Please let me know if your student would like to attend by August 7 so I can purchase enough materials.
- **August 14:** Youth Sunday at church! We will be sharing our mission update with the congregation that morning.
- **August 17:** Bowling at Superplay, 6:00-8:00 p.m. Cost will be \$10 per person.
- **August 24:** I was wondering if anyone would like to host a game night at their house. If you are interested, please let me know! Also, if you would like to host at your house on a different date, we would love that!
- **August 27:** A picnic in the park in Estacada! From 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., come out to a park near my house for some fun yard games, delicious food, and fellowship time! Details soon.
- **August 31:** Oregon State Fair in Salem, 4:00-9:00 p.m. Along with all the fun fair activities, we are also able to attend the Bethel Music concert at 7:00 p.m. Cost will be \$12 for fair and concert entry. Chaperones needed, please let me know if you are able to help out!

Questions? Contact me at jenn@valleycommunity.org.



Above: Five new members were received recently, Janet Budke, Roger Garvin, Pat Martinelli, Bob Neale, and Roger Rothrock.

Left: Jim and Karen Sandberg were congratulated at a Navigators Mariner gathering as they celebrated 60 years of marriage!

Below: The Boy Scouts have purchased a trailer that the church will be able to use as well. It will be stored in the back parking lot of the church.



Facility Upgrades and Improvements



Clockwise from above:

- *New light fixtures were installed in the East hallway.*
- *David Marquis helps put the new freezer in place in the upstairs kitchen.*
- *Wendy Jenkins organized the items in the new freezer.*
- *Poles were installed in the East parking lot to protect the new preschool air unit.*



Valley Notes

Opportunities

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.

Devotionals are available for pick up directly outside the East entrance (back parking lot). Please contact Angie in the church office at angie@valleycommunity.org if you are unable to pick up at the church.

Notes

Please note: Due to the lack of registrations, Vacation Bible School has been cancelled this year. Full refunds will be issued to those who signed up previously.

COVID protocols: Highly transmissible COVID omicron variants are still circulating in our area. To keep each other safe and reduce strain on our hospital systems, please consider wearing a mask and maintaining physical distancing inside church buildings.

Spam emails and texts designed to use the pastor or staff's information to solicit 'favors' from church members are on the rise. Pastors/staff will never request gift cards or any other gifts via emails or texts. Do not respond and delete the emails or texts. Contact the church office if you are unsure.

Prayers

We pray for those with health concerns:

Linda Sanderman

We pray for those who mourn:

- DeWitt Sherwood and family on the death of De's wife, Esta Sherwood, on June 30, 2022.

- Donna Maling and family on the death of Donna's husband, Rev. Dr. Steve Maling, on July 17, 2022.

- Beth Busch and family on the death of Beth's husband, Kent Busch, on July 26, 2022.

Earth Care Corner

Do you listen to podcasts? If you do, or even if you do not yet, I have a recommendation for you! **At Scale** is a sustainability podcast from Morgan Stanley and their Institute for Sustainable Investing. (Don't worry! This is NOT a plug for this investment firm, just some good listening!)

There are now two seasons of great podcasts that are informative and inspiring. Some of the topics are:

- The Humanitarian Cost of Plastic Waste
- Revitalizing Recycling
- From Trendy to Trash and Back Again
- Soap – A Cleaner Solution
- The Honeybee Effect (one of my favorites!)
- From the Ground Up: A Soil Solution.

So, next time you go for a walk or weed in your yard or sit on your deck enjoying the beauty, listen to one of these podcasts and learn how you can help take some steps to live more sustainably and make a positive impact our planet Earth's health and wellbeing.

Submitted by Ruthann Marquis, Earth Care Team leader.

Recycle Non-Curbside Plastics



James Recycling, a local business founded by a young man on the autism spectrum, will be holding a pop-up mini event hosted by Valley. The event is Tuesday, August 2 and runs from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at the Youth House garage.

They will ONLY be collecting the following non-curbside items:

- #1 PET with no color such as berry clamshells and salad containers
- #2 HDPE such as Pak-Tek 6 pack holders and small white supplement bottles
- #4 LDPE such as snap-on lids
- #5 PP such as take-out containers, lids, and cups
- #6 PS rigid plastics such as clear take-out containers and to-go plastic coffee cup lids
- Make sure these items are numbered #1, #2, #4, #5, or #6.
- All items must be clean and separated by number – NO commingled plastics.
- Household plastics only: nothing larger than a basketball.

No Styrofoam please. Drop off price is \$4 per standard grocery bag. For more information about items that will be accepted and sorting requirements, please visit www.jamesrecycling.com/events.



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME DATED MATERIAL

Fall Scheduling

With the summer coming to a close, it is time to schedule events and groups starting up in the Fall.



You can access the church calendar by going to Valley's website, www.valleycommunity.org, and clicking on the calendar link on the left side of the home page.



Room request forms can be found in "Facilities" under the "About Valley" tab.



Contact Angie, angie@valleycommunity.org, in the church office to schedule events or if you have questions.