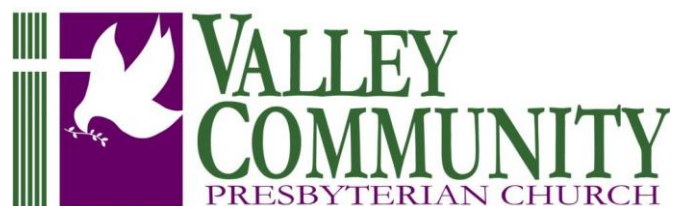


2022 Annual Report



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

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Pastoral Letter

Grace, mercy, and peace to the beloved congregation of Valley Community Presbyterian Church.

This morning a current session member sent me a lovely quote from Coretta Scott King. “The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members, a heart of grace, and a soul generated by love.” As I read this quote, I thought: “What an excellent description of our community of faith. This is an accurate representation of the people I have come to know and love over the past fifteen months as we have journeyed together through this time of transition.”

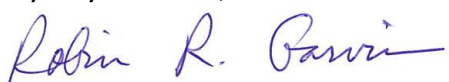
Compassion...grace...and love. For over eighty years now, through good times and hard times, these have been the hallmarks of our congregation. Compassion...grace...and love demonstrated in the day-to-day actions of a people seeking to be faithful to the call of Jesus.

I would add one more word to this description: courageous. Over the last fifteen months, your session has demonstrated quiet, steadfast courage as they have re-envisioned our future as a congregation in the midst of undeniable, rapid, and pandemic-accelerated cultural change. During 2022, our session met monthly for Saturday morning retreats to tackle three basic questions: Who are we as a congregation, now? What are we called to do, now? Who are our neighbors, now? Over these months, as we grappled with daunting cultural realities, we rediscovered our core values as a congregation and the mission to which we believe God is calling us in this time of change.

If you attended or viewed our recent Congregational Conversations, you were introduced to our emerging sense of vision for the immediate future. In response to the grace and love we have received we believe God is calling us as a congregation to intentionally invest in the cultivation of authentic and supportive relationships outside our doors with community partners and next generation children/youth and their families that they might flourish. To help us live into this emerging vision, we will soon welcome a part-time Director of Community and Family Engagement. Soon, after a Pastor Nominating Committee is formed and conducts a thorough and prayerful search, we will welcome a new Pastor to help lead our beloved congregation into a hope-filled future.

Until then, it continues to be my daily pleasure and privilege to serve alongside our amazing elected leaders, staff, and congregation as your Transitional (Interim) Pastor. May God continue to richly bless and empower us as a compassionate, grace-filled, loving, and courageous people who faithfully follow Jesus wherever he may lead us. May it be so. Amen.

Joyfully in Christ,



Pastor Robin

Church Information

Church Officers

Session

Christian Nurture for Children.....	Bev Hubbard
Christian Nurture for Youth.....	Kevin Killian
Facilities	David Marquis
Fellowship/CONC	Ruthann Marquis
Finance, Stewardship	
Small Groups	Wendy Jenkins
Communication	Carol Powers
Membership	Ann Johnson
Mission	Andrea Murdoch
Personnel	Amy Dee
Worship and Music	Debbie Purcell
Moderator	Rev. Robin Garvin
Clerk of Session	Carol Powers

Deacons

Kathy Bach
Jan Bellis-Squires
Cathy Bernhard
Michelle Blair
Allison Carlson
Christine Danner
Angela Graham
Amy Henning
Edie Leland
Diane Meyer
Karen Miller
Phil Miller
Anne Searce
Charlene Stansbury

President of the Corporation

Sam Connell

Treasurer

Frank Powers

Church Staff

Pastor	Rev. Robin Garvin
Pastoral Associate	Rev. Jenny Pratt Hale
Director of Children's Ministries	
Director of Youth Ministries	Jenn Souders
Director of Music	Thomas Rheingans
Assistant Director of Music	Siena Hertafeld
Director of Youth and Children's Music	Amy Rheingans
Preschool Director	Kylie Cole
Publication and Office Administrator	Angela Graham
Business Manager	AmyAnn Green

Worship & Music

The Worship and Music Committee is responsible for liturgy, music, and drama throughout the seasons of the church year. We offered in person and livestream worship options except for a few weeks in January when there was a COVID19 surge. Here are some of the 2022 program highlights.

Lent and Easter

This year we experienced Lent in a corporate way by enjoying individual readings, group sessions, and sermons based on the Gospel of Luke. Additionally, we shared some Lenten activities with our sister church, St. Andrew's Presbyterian.

- Ash Wednesday: March 2: Valley hosted St. Andrew's for a 7:00 p.m. service
- Maundy Thursday: Valley congregants worshipped at St. Andrew's
- Good Friday: 1:00 p.m. service with several guest preachers and Robin Garvin
- Easter Sunday: April 17: one well-attended 10:00 a.m. worship service

Advent and Christmas

- December 11: Christmas Pageant with Sanctuary choir, Armonia choir, Melodia choir, and Valley youth as dancers and actors.
- December 18: Christmas Concert with Thomas Rheingans, soloists, carolers, Sanctuary Choir, and Armonia choir.
- December 24: family-friendly Christmas Eve service at 4:00 p.m. (prior years was at 8:00 p.m.) with Sanctuary Choir, readers in costumes, and candle-lighting.
- December 25: Sunday Christmas Morning service.

Special Activities

- October 9: Blessing of the Animals worship service in Davis Hall.
- October 30: All Saints Sunday and Valley's 80th Birthday. We added candle lighting to the ceremony, along with reading of the names of the departed.
- November 13: Kirkin' o' the Tartans Sunday with bagpiper to celebrate our Scottish heritage.
- May: Summer in the Psalms theme for worship and group studies began.
- June: Fragrance Awareness Statement announced.
- June 12: Afternoon Musical Concert with Thomas Rheingans and friends.

Team Responsibilities

Live streaming of Sunday morning worship services was made possible by our Audio/Visual team, headed by Steve Rees. During 2022, Steve recruited and trained Jim Sandberg, Hayden Bach, and Dean Bridges as the newest members of the AV team. Dan Rueff, Roger Rees, and Yvonne Rees also served on the team.

Steve Rees, Jim Sandberg, and Diane Meyer are the three Head Ushers responsible for scheduling and orienting ushers every Sunday. In 2022 we gratefully welcomed many new ushers! Donna Rueff continued to organize liturgists and Communion servers. Our Liturgical Arts team (that beautifully decorated for the church seasons) included David Marquis (head), Cheryl Hoffbeck, Marcia Sanderman, and Michelle Blair.

Music Director Thomas Rheingans (piano, organ, and keyboards) and Assistant Music Director Siena Hertafeld (cantor, soloist, and Sanctuary Choir director) were responsible for our uplifting, blended music. The Sanctuary Choir performed two Sundays a month, except during the summer months and when the COVID19 cases spiked. Occasionally, Armonia Youth Choir, Melodia Children's Choir, Valley New Spirit Ringers, and Royal Ringers performed, all under the direction of Amy Rheingans.

One of our most exciting achievements in 2022 was the installation of new audio-visual equipment! Please read the separate section detailing this.

Some members of our committee assist with memorial services. They make sure everything goes smoothly before and during the services, while the Deacons managed the receptions. Every month we have individuals who do pew restocking to make sure that the worship experience is optimum for both new and established worshipers.

Worship & Music Committee

Debbie Purcell (chair), Thomas Rheingans (Director of Music), Amy Rheingans (Director of Children's and Youth Music), Raoul Bellis-Squires, David Marquis, Steve Rees, Diane Meyer

*We are grateful for the many volunteers who helped with the complex task of making
Worship and Music successful at Valley!*

Sanctuary AV Upgrade

Valley's life is anchored in vibrant worship. Because of this, there were many compelling reasons why it was important to upgrade the Audio-Visual system in the Sanctuary. These issues have existed for many years. A very generous donation from the Burns family, which had been designated for a future Sanctuary project, provided funding for this work.

Background

The Sanctuary had uneven sound distribution, with almost a sound void in certain areas. This created a less than optimum experience both in the Sanctuary and online. Poor microphone functionality made it difficult to hear children singing or speaking. The 30-year-old speakers in the ceiling were obsolete. New full range speakers project clear sound for spoken words and music evenly to all parts of the room.

The analog soundboard mixer, the heart of the audio system, was also over 30 years old. For compatibility with the new speakers, and for flexibility and ease of use, a new digital soundboard was recommended. New wiring, new microphones, and new amplifiers were needed. Digital keyboards, which can produce amazing musical instrument audio, were wired to the organ speakers that are not capable of producing high-fidelity sounds. This would be remedied with a new speaker system.

Because there was only one camera in use for video recording, excessive panning was required. Having a multi-camera configuration with a joystick would make it simpler to produce higher quality videos.

Project Details

In depth project analysis and bid reviews over many months, led by Steve Rees, culminated in the selection of Hollywood Lights, Audio, and Video as our contractor. On December 18, 2022, after waiting months for components to arrive, new speakers, soundboard, and video cameras were finally installed. We are thrilled with the results! The new system provides clearer sound, tremendous improvement in flexibility, and improved video.

Installing the new speakers was a major task. Our contractor brought in a lift to reach the top of the Sanctuary to uninstall the old and install the new speakers. Hats off to the brave technicians who completed this work! The two large new speakers weigh about 200 lbs. each. Workers hoisted them onto the handrails of the lift, then lifted them about 25 feet to the beams. Adjusting the position on top of the lift to bolt them to very substantial steel brackets attached to our glulam beams was an amazing task. New cables were fished through walls and attic space to allow communications from microphones and speakers to the new digital soundboard mixer.

The last components to install were two new Point-Tilt-Zoom (PTZ) cameras and a video switcher for livestreaming. These allow us to smoothly transition to a new subject, avoiding the distraction of panning and zooming.

We owe a special thanks to Steve Rees. He spent many hours researching and preparing for the project. Once the components arrived and the installation began, he was the primary contact person with Alex Marine, the Project Manager from Hollywood. Steve learned the operation of the new system and trained the rest of the team. He continues to fine tune the operations, using Alex for consultation as needed. We thank the entire AV team for rising to the challenge of learning the new system. This project has made a very impactful and lasting improvement for years to come at Valley.

Project Team

Steve Rees (Project Manager), Thomas Rheingans (Director of Music), David Marquis (Facilities Elder), Debbie Purcell (Worship and Music Elder), Alex Marine (Hollywood Project Manager) and consultants Bob Rasmussen, David Derting, Roger Rees, Dan Rueff and Jim Sandberg



Property Evaluation Committee

The committee suspended meeting in September 2021 after Session had decided to repair the house at 8085 SW Cedar Street and offer it as a sanctuary house to an Afghan refugee family. The reason for this action was that this specific property had been designated for parking development in the committee's proposed plan.

The committee reconvened in January 2022 to continue evaluating the best use of the three lots adjacent to the church on the south side leaving the house at 8085 SW Cedar Street St. as a sanctuary house. It primarily pursued the option of improving parking along the south side of the alley by relocating the southern church property boundary 40 feet to the south. This plan would enlarge the present parking lot to about 50 parking spaces adjacent to the church. In February, the committee interviewed a surveying, design and engineering firm, Emerio, to discuss implementing this plan. Although the plan was deemed feasible and doable by Emerio further discussion was deferred by Session. Session was working on a strategic plan for the future of the church and did not want to proceed with property changes until it had an overall plan.

Consequently, the committee disbanded in March and issued its final report to Session on March 8.

Property Evaluation Committee

Don Sowers (chair) Connie Brenner, Greg Russell, Donna Rueff, John Purcell, Sarah Martin, David Marquis, Sam Connell

Memorial & Gifts

Contributions to Valley's Memorial & Gifts Fund are received in memory of deceased members and friends of the church. These gifts are used to enhance the life of the church and its buildings and grounds.

The Memorial & Gifts Committee oversees the distribution of these gifts. The Committee serves as a ministry of the Finance Committee of the Session.

Approved Requests in 2022

- MG2022-01; Computer for Sanctuary House Team to be used by the Ahmadzai family. \$400
- MG2022-02; New freezer for the church kitchen. \$1,300
- MG2022-03; Preschool refrigerator. \$0 (Requested, but application not finalized)
- MG2022-04; Water fountain replacement. \$1,900

Total 2022 approved requests: \$3,600

(Note: Actual expense may differ from the amount approved. In most cases the amount spent is less than the amount approved.)

Memorial & Gifts Account Balances

- Memorials (Account 2971): \$26,841
- High School Graduate Gift/Quilt (Account 2974): \$0
- Designated Gifts and Bequests (Account 2975): \$10,863

Total M&G Balance: \$37,704

Committee Members

Jim Sandberg (chair), Ann Johnson, David Marquis, John Purcell, Frank Powers

Facilities

Valley's Facilities Ministry is responsible for maintenance and security of our church campus. This includes the main church building, the Youth House, residence, grounds, three rental houses on Cedar Street, and the TriMet parking lot on SW Laurelwood Street. The committee identifies, assesses, approves and coordinates all repairs and improvements. Proactive maintenance and upgrades are our priority. Below are a few highlights for 2022.

Sanctuary Sound and AV Upgrades

Facilities works in tandem with Worship & Music on all sanctuary projects. Please refer to the project report for a full description of this major effort.

Valley Christian Preschool

Four ductless air conditioning units were installed during 2022 Spring Break when school is not in session. Bright yellow protective bollards were installed in the east parking lot to protect the units. Funding was through a generous grant from the Valley Foundation.

Flooring was replaced in our new Kindergarten classroom.

We added four units of bark chips in our playground which were spread by our Boy Scout Troop 592.

East Stairway and Landings

New flooring was installed in the upper gym/kitchen hallway and staircase. Durable LVP flooring has replaced the original sheet vinyl that had become a safety concern due to separated and lifting seams. Funding was from the Valley Foundation.

The Memorial and Gifts Committee funded the purchase and installation of a new water fountain in the gym/kitchen hallway. The new fountain has a traditional drinking spout as well as an up-to-date bottle filler.

Walls are being patched, prepped and painted. Extraneous bulletin boards have been removed.

Maintenance and Repairs

The original 80-year-old copper gutters on the bell tower were sagging and water was flowing down the face of the tower. The gutters were in excellent condition. However, the brackets were either broken or failing. Artisan/technicians used a diagnostic drone and 50-foot aerial lift to diagnose, straighten, solder, seal and install twice as many brackets.

In support of our Earth Care commitment hallway light fixtures continue to be replaced with LED units.

Our chimney was cleaned, sealed, a new mortar cap applied, and a stainless-steel cover added.

Rental Properties

Our Afghan refugee family in the Sanctuary House at 8085 SW Cedar Street has lived there for a full year rent-free. In November this was converted to a tenant agreement providing additional rental income for us and more autonomy for the family. The house was painted. New gutters, bathroom floor, toilet and new dishwasher were installed.

A New Tenant moved into the house at 8175 SW Cedar Street. A new kitchen floor, dishwasher and landscaping were installed.

Facilities Committee

David Marquis (chair), Carol Powers (secretary), Brad Carlson, Ed Chadwick, Paul DuFresne, Steve Rees, Ed Sanders, Karen Yakymi



Valley Community Presbyterian Church Foundation

Valley Community Presbyterian Church Foundation manages assets acquired through the wills and gifts from our congregation and community. Monies invested provide for disbursements that support mission, education, music and worship, and capital projects. The Foundation distributes the interest made each year on the principle while keeping the principle intact. Foundation bylaws regulate the Foundation's Board of Trustees. All Foundation Trustees are members of Valley Community Presbyterian Church and are elected by the congregation.

By rules set forth in the bylaws, the principle must be kept separate from the general fund. The interest and donations the Foundation receives fill specific financial requests from Valley programs and committees. Each year, the amount provided depends upon the interest available.

In 2022, Valley's Foundation funded two requests for financial support amounting to \$10,715.

- \$2,035 was paid for adding bollards to protect the air conditioning units funded in 2021 to cool two of the east facing classrooms now used for pre-school expansion and other purposes such as the Deacon's blood drive. The A/C units are adjacent to the east parking lot. This money was requested from the Facilities Committee.
- \$8,680 was paid to install new flooring on the stairs and floors outside of the kitchen and leaning up to the gym. This money was requested from the Facilities Committee.

Since its beginning nearly \$127,000 has been granted to the benefit of Valley and its membership. Past funding has been used for church improvement projects, support for our youth traveling to Presbyterian events, and to update and replace items used by the church.

The Board of Trustees encourages members of the church to provide for the Foundation in their wills and trusts, and to establish committees and or activities for the raising of funds and investments that will increase the principle. Principle growth allows for investments which will result in more projects funded.

Board of Trustees

Andrew Dee, Valley Foundation President, Janet Adkins, Cathy Bernhard, Pat Bryant, Joy McNeal, Bob Peterson, Wally Phillips, Stephen Rees, Daniel Rueff

Mission

Valley's Mission Committee continued to seek out and help those in the local area, the region, and around the world. Thanks to the generosity of you, the congregation, who donated money and items we were able to contribute over \$50,000. Here are some 2022 highlights.

PC(USA) Mission Programs

Valley again participated in our denominations four main yearly collections: **Joy, Peace, Pentecost** and **One Great Hour of Sharing**. We take a monthly **Cents-Ability** offering where half of the coins collected go to the **Presbyterian Hunger Program**. Thank you for sharing your change. Through our budget we donated \$8,000 to the **Presbyterian Partnership Giving** and \$500 to the **Theological Education Fund**, which supports future clergy. We supported the **Presbyterian Giving Catalog** with over \$2,400 from our portion of the Pentecost and Peace offerings. We continued our on-going support of **Presbyterian Disaster Relief**.

Food Outreach

We've continued to collect food on first and third Thursdays and sent over 2,300 pounds of food to the **St. Matthew's Food Pantry**. They are now serving around 300 families per month. Valley volunteers work at the pantry every third, fourth, and sometimes fifth Wednesday nights, coordinated by Diane Meyer.

Another monthly project is the third Thursday Soup Kitchen at **Transition Projects** (formerly known as Bud Clark Commons). We prepare and deliver a full dinner for 65 men. Our Mariners ships are regular contributors to this ministry. Are you interested? We're still looking for groups to cook.

In April, Valley hosted its first **CROP Walk** here in Raleigh Hills and sent over \$1,300 to Church World Services. Our **Summer Produce Table** was again a great success, and the funds were sent to the **Oregon Food Bank**. October saw the delicious selections supporting our Bake Sale, with proceeds to **Bread for the World**.

During Advent we focused on the Reverse Advent Calendar. These donations go to the **Good Roots Food Pantry** in Milwaukie. This year we provided 354 pounds of food, household products and clothing.

Additional Mission Efforts

Here's to the knitters and crocheters of the **Prayer Shawl Ministry** who made and delivered many items, and also made baby hats for the **Purple Period of Crying**. I can see you now in the Fireside room. And most of these women are also **Nine-Patch Quilters**, sewing quilts to wrap our High-School graduates in love and prayers as they transition into adulthood. Please contact Ruthann or Angie for more details if you'd like to join this mission. Our **Together Women Rise** chapter has resumed monthly in-person lunches in the Fireside Room. This group is now in its tenth year here. Attendees donate the cost of a lunch out and the funds support non-profit organizations that empower women and children worldwide.

We participated in the **September School Supply Drive** for Raleigh Park and Vose schools, and also for the **Christmas Toy Drive**. At Easter and Halloween, we took activity baskets to **New Narratives/Luke Dorf**.

Through the spring and summer months we held **Prayer Vigils for Ukraine** and sent funds directly to the front lines to help the refugees. In early June we sent \$1,000 to the **Presbyterian Church in Uvalde, Texas** for healing and support of the local families devastated in the shooting there. We collected about 200 pairs of eyeglasses and some hearing aids for the **Lions Club**. We donated two carloads of household items to the **Welcome Home Project**, and in September we collected over 300 pounds of animal food for the St. Matthew's Pantry during the Blessing of the Animals service.

Our November **Mission Market** brought in several of the Mission Endowment Grantees: Uzhhorod and Kiev, Open Arms and Second Home. In early December Mission hosted a **Preschool dinner** before the Christmas Tree Lighting. WOW! We had around 150 guests. It was an exciting evening.

These are just some the things we did. There was much more. As we shake off the effects of COVID and respond to devastating natural disasters in this ever-changing world, please remember WE continue to be the hands and feet of Christ. Our committee is always looking for new members, so if you are interested in this very satisfying work, please let Andrea know. Or, if you have an organization we can contribute to, please make that known. We are a congregation re-envisioning a new normal. Your Mission Committee thanks you from the bottom of our hearts for your on-going and generous giving.

Mission Committee

Andrea Murdoch (chair), Connie Brenner, Janice Viestenz, Mary Kay Rodman, Diane Meyer, Ruthann Marquis. Retired members are Christine Danner and Janet Adkins. Thank you for your faithful service.



With God's help.... We have a giving that knows no end. Thank You!

Mission – Sanctuary House

Last fall our church took on the mission of walking with a refugee family from Afghanistan by providing temporary housing and helping them to develop the skills and self-confidence to become independent, functioning members of our society. In December 2021 the Ahmadzai family, a widowed father with seven children, moved into our Sanctuary House.

Education

Five of the seven children are enrolled in the Beaverton School District. Volunteers provided much support for their education. Many tutored the children regularly. Others donated school supplies. Some spent time regularly interfacing with the schools on the children's behalf.

The father is enrolled in PCC's English Language Learning program. He has successfully completed Levels 1 and 2, and is now enrolled in Level 3. Several church members have provided preschool for the two youngest children so that their father can focus on his class.

Employment and Transportation

We supported the father's job search by helping him create a resume and prep for interviews. We set up a team to provide transportation to and from work for several months. Many hours were spent to find suitable daycare for the two youngest. Many helped with DMV work needed to get a driver's license. Some identified potential used cars and helped the father purchase, register and insure the car he chose.

Health Care and Finance

Much effort was expended to ensure that the family received necessary medical and dental care. This included finding insurance, making appointments, and providing transportation to and from many of these appointments.

We helped set up a bank account and worked to ensure that applications for benefits were submitted. We also help them with internet and cell phone issues.

Additional Support

Many hours were spent filling out application forms to request continued US residence after their initial two years expires. Transportation to and from appointments was provided. Volunteers are often called upon to take the children shopping for clothing. Our team acquired free passes from THPRD and has taken the family swimming many times. Raleigh Park Pool was a favorite spot!

Core Team Members

Debbie Purcell (chair), Glenys Craig, Ruthann Marquis, Carol Powers, Sally Rasmussen, Karen Mitchell-Yakymi

Mission – Earth Care

Valley's Earth Care Team was established in early 2019. Activities that year focused on actions that allowed our church to apply to be an Earth Care Congregation within PCUSA. We have maintained that status for the past three years through annual re-application for certification, Session approval and re-affirmation of the Earth Care Pledge. Our team strives to be examples of being good stewards of our earthly resources through education and actions. Here's what we did in 2022.

Education

A monthly article was written about sustainability, recycling and reusing for the Messenger under the Earth Care Corner. The bulletin board outside of the Gamble Library was kept updated and informative, including showcasing the Earth Care Congregation Certificate.

Valley's Earth Care program was shared as a key note speaker at the Presbyterian Women of the Cascades Fall program and also with the FEAST group at First Presbyterian Vancouver.

Actions

Styrofoam and #6 plastic items were collected twice each month and taken to Agilyx for recycling. In addition, there was a post-holiday collection in December which included collection of plastics #2, #4 and #5, as well as cans and bottles.

New recycling bins were obtained and placed next to each trash bin on Valley's campus, with new and clear pictorial labeling about what goes in each bin.

Valley's fourth three-hour Community Recycling Event occurred in October. It included community partners that collected electronic recycling, batteries, plastics #1, #2, #4, #5, and #6/Styrofoam, plastic film, corks, cans/bottles and usable household goods.

Earth Care Team

Ruthann Marquis (team leader), Wendy Archibald, Jan Bellis-Squires, Connie Brenner, Amy Henning, Carol Powers



Mission Endowment

Our Mission Endowment team had a special focus on Ukraine in 2022. Two grants were issued to two different organizations that help with relief efforts related to the war and ongoing humanitarian crisis. Additionally, Valley's session authorized a special collection from the congregation to supplement our grant to Corvallis Sister Cities, our mission partner for over 15 years.

Grants totaled \$24,000 in 2022. They support housing, education, medical needs and social services here in the Portland area and around the world. Funds are made available from investment income. Grants are awarded twice each year in May and November.

Spring Grants

Seeds of Learning – \$2,100	Three student scholarships at Nicaragua University.
Corvallis Sister Cities – \$1,500	Hygiene kits for Ukrainian refugees in Uzhhorod. Youth in TOUCH Project facilities will assemble the kits.
Valley Youth Mission Trip - \$3,000	Partial funding for registration and travel expenses for our Youth service trip to Navajo Nation this summer.
St. Matthew Lutheran – \$2,000 Food Pantry	Personal hygiene products to be distributed by the food pantry and food for Project Back at Raleigh Park.
Ripple Africa - \$1,500	Purchase of fruit trees and training for how to successfully grow them in Malawi.
Impact NW - \$1,900	Keep vulnerable Portland families safely and stably housed.



Food & Drink



Housing



Education

Fall Grants

World Vision Ukraine – \$1,750	Refugee support for Ukraine, requested by Valley Youth.
EverFree – \$2,500	Provide comprehensive care to survivors of human trafficking in Uganda.
Janus Youth Programs – \$2,500	Supports their SEEDS program which stabilizes vulnerable families by providing education for young parents to prevent child abuse here in Portland, OR.
YWCA of Greater Portland – \$2,000	Supports the Survivor Services program to create long term housing services for women and children who are survivors of domestic violence.
EMO Second Home – \$1,750	Supports gatherings for volunteer home providers in the Portland Metro area.
Ignite the World – \$1,250	Build five tube wells to provide clean drinking water to villages in Bangladesh and NE India.
St. Stevens Youth Programs – \$250	Fund field trips for marginalized students in Jamaica Plains, MA. Requested by Valley member Eric Blair.

Mission Endowment Committee

Carol Powers (chair), Jan Bellis-Squires, Ernie Bootsma, Donna Carlson, Robert Hayes, Pam Kessinger, Janet Adkins, Mission Committee Liaison

Mission Endowment Investment Fund

The Fund: History and Performance

Valley's Mission Endowment Fund began in 1979 with a gift of over \$200,000 in stock by a Valley member couple. The donors 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 to which the original donor hoped that "the gift itself would inspire others to add to this fund." Since 2007, a total of \$20,478 has been contributed to the fund by various other donors.

Current investments are broadly diversified in the market traded assets with 60% in the equity sector. On December 31, 2022, the balance in the Endowment fund was \$413,528. Since 2000 the fund has ranged in value from \$244,000 to \$544,000.

Semi-annually, the MEF Investment Committee determines the dollar amount under the gifting formula: 2.5% of the fund's nine quarter rolling average, a 5% annual payout. Mission requests are reviewed by the Mission Endowment Committee and then recommended to Session for final approval. In 2022, the Fund awarded gifts of \$24,000 and has given out \$499,141 since the year 1999.

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

Mission Endowment Fund Investment Committee

Lyle Chadwick (Chair), Don Sowers, Frank Powers (Treasurer), David Balk (Steward Partners Investment Solutions)

Membership

In 2022 Valley entered a transitional phase with a new transitional pastor who focused attention on our future vision. This included acceptance of the fact that opening the sanctuary doors no longer draws people to worship and membership. As a result, and after a period of quiet during the pandemic, the Membership Committee realized a need to redefine some of its duties.

Activities

The general trend in the U.S. of declining church attendance and membership prompted the question, “What can Valley do?” Recruitment is not the answer. Instead, lending hands of hope and ears of understanding to identify needs in Valley’s neighborhood, developing connections and carefully building relationships has been our plan. The rewarding process has already started with an emphasis on outreach and not church attendance or membership.

In spite of the fact that Valley in a transitional phase, in-person worship attendance has increased, online attendance remains strong and six new members were welcomed in 2022.

In March there will be a New Member Gathering inviting those who have been attending worship but are not members. The Membership Committee will continue to welcome and support new members.

Membership Committee

Ann Johnson (chair), Cheryl Rees (through June)



Fellowship

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 for those who we call our neighbors.

Activities

On February 27th Fellowship hosted a cake-to-go reception after worship for retirees Rev. Chuck Falconer and Minister of Music David Jimerson.

In-person fellowship activities continued to be restricted until April 2022 when coffee hour resumed on a consistent basis. Current Mariner ships and various church groups hosted the weekly coffee hour after worship for a month at a time, providing sweet treats and beverages during that time set aside to socialize. Fellowship ministry oversaw the care of the kitchen and purchased necessary supplies, including coffee, tea, juice and coffee creamer.

A summer picnic took place on August 7th. Intense outdoor heat forced the gathering indoors where approximately 50 people enjoyed the picnic feast set up in Davis Hall. Extra food was served at Transition Projects for the meal planned by Valley later that month.

Fellowship spearheaded Valley's Open House and (first time) Car Show on September 25th. Stations that represented both internal church groups and external community partners were scattered throughout our building and campus, allowing those that participated opportunities to explore, collect stamps on their passports and visit places that typically are not open to the public.



Fellowship coordinated a cake and punch reception following worship on October 23rd to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Valley Christian Preschool and the 25th anniversary of teacher Karen Broome's employment.

Fellowship provided lunch on October 30th to celebrate Stewardship Sunday, to mark All Saints Day and to give a shout out for Valley's 80th Anniversary. Approximately 85 people attended and got to enjoy a meal and one of several selections of "Happy Anniversary" cupcakes.

After a dinner for Valley's Preschool families on December 3rd and the lighting of the Christmas tree out on Valley's front lawn, Fellowship provided and served hot cocoa and cider plus a variety of baked goods to all that came back inside to warm up near the Fireside Room.

Although there was no Advent Fair this year, for each Sunday during the Advent season, there was a different holiday craft activity available for families and individuals to take home and complete at their leisure.

As Valley Community Presbyterian Church lives into its re-visioning process, may this next year allow for many and varied fellowship experiences with those within our church walls and also with those who we call our neighbors.

Fellowship Committee

Ruthann Marquis (chair), Beth Busch, Wendy Jenkins, Marcia Sanderman



CONC (Nominating Committee)

CONC (Church Officer Nominating Committee) is a committee that is mandated by the constitution of the Presbyterian Church. It is composed of a representative selected by Session, who serves as Chair, a representative selected by the Board of Deacons, and members-at-large who are elected by the congregation. The pastor serves ex officio, which means without a vote.

Near the start of each calendar year the committee convenes to begin its search work for potential candidates who are church members that participate regularly in the life of Valley. CONC presents the nominees to the church body at a congregational meeting. When these elections occur, there is an opportunity for nominations from the floor. The following were elected in 2022:

Ruling Elder

Ann Johnson	Three-year term, class of 2025
Amy Dee	Three-year term, class of 2025
Ruthann Marquis	One-year term/extension, class of 2023
David Marquis	One-year term/extension, class of 2023
Carol Powers	One-year term, class of 2023

Note: There are two unfilled openings in the class of 2023 and 10 current ruling Elders.

Deacon

Diane Meyer	Three-year term, class of 2025
Michelle Blair	Three-year term, class of 2025
Karen Miller	One-year term/extension to class of 2023
Phil Miller	One-year term to class of 2023
Allison Carlson	Two-year term, class of 2024

Note: There is one unfilled opening in the class of 2023 and 14 current Deacons.

Church Officer Nominating Committee for 2023

Ruthann Marquis, Elder representative/chair
Allison Carlson, Deacon representative
Shirley Anderson
Laura Sanders
Frank Powers

CONC 2022 Members

Ruthann Marquis (Elder/chair), Angela Graham (Deacon), Allison Carlson, Laura Sanders, Roger Rees

*Praise God for those that have accepted the call to serve as Valley's leaders
as our church does the work of Jesus on this earth*

Youth Ministries

2022 Highlights

This year was full of new relationships and adventures. In April, we welcomed Jenn Souders as the Youth Leader. She came in and invigorated our youth program by leading weekly youth group meetings and taking a group to New Mexico on a mission trip.

We met most of our committee goals for 2022, so it was a successful year.

- We hired a part-time youth leader, Jenn Souders.
- We were on track to send a group to Triennium until it was canceled by the Presbytery.
- We resumed a regular meeting schedule.
- Foundations were laid to begin relational ministry with the youth.

This ministry requires a lot of time, dedication, and funding. We survived for nearly two years as volunteers stepped up to keep the Youth connected to the church. Those volunteers showed dedication by giving up many hours and continue to assist Jenn as she has become a part of the Youths' spiritual family. Since a bulk of the Youth programming had previously been put on hold due to COVID-19, we found ourselves with a bunch of fun outings and service projects. We needed some additional fundraising this past year to further the Youth's missions. Some of the fundraisers that helped our ministry grow are listed below:

- Pie Sales (twice)
- Cookie Platters at Christmas time
- BottleDrop fundraiser
- Car wash in the back lot

As we look forward to 2023, we look forward to growth. Not only in numbers of youth, but in each person's relationship with God. As a committee we strive to show each youth how they can grow in their connection to Him as a two-way bond. Not only will they grow through our nurturing of them, but we in turn will grow by discovering the clues of His love, compassion, and guidance that we all discover along this wonderful journey.

Youth Committee

Kevin Killian (chair), Jenn Souders (Director of Youth Ministries), Amy Rheingans (Director of Children's and Youth Music), Kathy Bach, Cheryl Hoffbeck, Wendy Jenkins, Stacy Luehr-Sele, Karen Mitchell-Yakymi

Children's Ministries

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, mission and service.

Activities

Faith and Family Fun Bags: Faith and Family Fun Bags were continued in 2022 to connect with families in our preschool and our community. The bags were distributed in February, May and October. A total of 275 bags were distributed.

Easter Egg Hunt on the Front Lawn: Following worship on Easter Sunday, children attending worship as well as those from the community who stopped by were given a bag containing crafts, coloring pages, and a treat. The children were then able to use this bag to collect some of the 200 filled eggs that had been scattered on the front lawn. Nearly thirty children participated.

Vacation Bible School: Vacation Bible School was planned for the first week in August, but was cancelled due to lack of children sign ups.

Drama Camp: Amy Rheingans led a Drama Camp the first week in August. "Aesop's Fables" were performed in the sanctuary on Friday evening, August 5.

Choir Activities: Rehearsals were held weekly for Armonia and Melodia choirs. Armonia choir joined the sanctuary choir for Easter Sunday, and both choirs participated in the Christmas pageant held on December 11.

Children's Ministries Committee

Bev Hubbard (chair), Lizz Brown, Evan Martin, Sarah Martin, Amy Rheingans (Director of Children's and Youth Music)

Valley Christian Preschool

This year has been a monumental year of change, growth, and hope for a sense of normalcy to return to VCP. It's been so encouraging to witness the growth of VCP during our 26th year.

The beginning of 2022 began with a rough start with many staff members coming down with COVID-19 over Christmas break. Our first and only school closure during the entirety of the pandemic was just two days long and thankfully due to short staffing, not exposure. January was very difficult due to so much sickness, but we powered through! With the new spread of the Omicron variant, we further enhanced our precautions, purchasing 100 antigen tests to be available to our staff and families, more HEPA-filters, N95 Masks, and more. As of February, our governing agency (Early Learning Division) lifted all COVID restrictions regarding masking and isolation/quarantine policies. We removed the mask requirement and moved to preference based. It was such a joy to see the faces of students and parents, some for the first time!

In the spring we received the second half of the initial grant followed by an unexpected enhancement with additional funding. The stabilization grant was very helpful in building the Kindergarten classroom, reorganizing the resource room, updating curriculum and materials, purchasing COVID supplies and offsetting expenses.

In June of 2022, we finished our first full pandemic-era school year. It was quite the accomplishment. I'm so thankful and proud of our community of parents, students, and staff. They showed continuous resilience, patience, and adaptability throughout so much change. To commemorate the 21-22 school year, we introduced our graduation photos and personalized yearbooks for every child which we presented at our Graduation Ice Cream Social. This event was a big hit! Finally, being able to gather together with parents and students from all classrooms was such a blessing for everyone. It was the perfect end to the school year.

This past summer we worked hard to prepare our brand-new Kindergarten classroom (Room 17) to open in September. The Kindergarten curriculum is very academically focused (Sadlier) while still making room for play to stay true to our play-based philosophy. Our "specials" this year include Library, American Sign Language, Art, STEM, and Music/Movement. It has been such a joy to see our Kindergarteners learn and grow during the first few months of the school year. Ms. Shelby was born to teach Kindergarten and is beloved by our Kinder families.

In August while attending a student's birthday party, a group of parents pleaded with us to create an early drop off and extended day program. With many parents returning to the office after working from home, they had lost so much flexibility with pick-up and drop-off. We were able to fill this need and the families were so thankful!

In October, we celebrated Ms. Karen Broome's 25th anniversary at Valley Christian Preschool. What an amazing accomplishment. We are so blessed to have her continued dedication to our school and community. We celebrated her with a special church service, a beautiful quilt made by Holy Nine Patch Quilters and cake reception attended by current and former preschool families.

The first few months of the 22-23 school year have been wonderful so far. We've watched the preschool community flourish; families are connecting outside of school and younger siblings are excited to begin school just like their older siblings. Our enrollment numbers are fantastic with all but one class at full capacity. I am excited to see what the remainder of the school year will bring for Valley Christian Preschool!

VCP Staff

Kylie Cole, Preschool Director

Admin Team: Kylie Cole (Director), Danielle Ames (Assistant Director), Tiffany Goldader (Admin Assistant & Specials Teacher)

Teachers: Shelby Parrott (Kindergarten), Laura Carlson (4's), Maria Abrahamson (4's), Karen Broome (3's), Hyeyeon Kim (3's), Lisa Garpestad (2.5's), Jennifer Stewart (2.5's & 3's), Anne Searce (2.5's), Karissa Beutler (2's), Malia Paulsen (2's), Lindsay Muller (2's).



Personnel

The Personnel Committee at Valley Community Presbyterian Church serves and cares for our pastor, those on staff and the Valley Christian Preschool employees. With three active members, and Pastor Robin Garvin, individual responsibilities are substantial. The committee's agenda includes regular topics on staffing as well as current personnel issues needing immediate attention. The Personnel Committee works to make Valley an exemplary employer who keeps Christian values and equity as the foundation of decisions.

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

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

Our goals for 2022 were met with the April hire of Jenn Souders as the Interim Director of Youth Ministry. Her position, part time, was made permanent in the fall. Then, with the resignation of our custodian, we made the decision to contract with one company to clean the church, and an additional company that could meet the unique needs of the preschool. Finally, Sam Rheingans was hired to do regular building lock-up.

We also reinstated employee recognition and appreciation events. The Personnel Committee provided a luncheon in May of Mexican food. In November, we expressed our gratitude with a luncheon of soup, salad and bread. Finally, with help from Finance, we were able to offer a year-end bonus to fulltime employees.

Personnel Committee

Amy Dee (chair), Jan Bellis-Squires, Ann Johnson, Robin Garvin (pastor)

Board of Deacons

The Ministry of Compassion and Service

The ministry of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, sincere compassion, and sound judgment should be chosen for this ministry.

(G-2.02 PCUSA New Form of Government)

Major Activities

Home Communion: Deacons served communion to members and friends of Valley that were unable to attend church services.

Rides to Church: Deacons arranged for rides to church for those without personal transportation.

Congregant Care: Deacons stayed in contact with members and friends of Valley (with visits, cards, phone calls, emails) that have special needs or were unable to attend worship services. Baptism banners were presented to parents of children who were baptized.

Outreach: Deacons sent get well, sympathy and thinking of you cards to members and friends of Valley that were facing health problems or lost a loved one. Deacons contacted and sent a series of booklets to Valley members and friends to help them understand and cope with the grieving process following the loss of a loved one.

Memorial Service Receptions: Deacons provided refreshments and hosted receptions following memorial services.

Coffee Fellowship: Deacons hosted Coffee Fellowship after Sunday worship service for two months.

Communion Preparation: Deacons provided and prepared the communion elements.

Blood Drives: Deacons worked with the Red Cross to obtain donors and volunteers to assist with Valley sponsored quarterly blood drives.

Prayers of the People: Deacons presented prayers of the people on the third Sunday of the month.

Church Officer Nominating Committee (CONC): Deacon served on CONC to help with the recruiting of Church Elders and Deacons.

Board of Deacons

Amy Henning (Moderator), Angela Graham (secretary), Kathy Bach, Jan Bellis-Squires, Cathy Bernhard, Michelle Blair, Allison Carlson, Edie Leland, Diane Meyer, Karen Miller, Phil Miller, Anne Searce, Charlene Stansbury

Clerk's Report

Total Membership as of 12/31/2022: 269

Membership by Year – Ten Year Trend									
2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
409	378	368	341	329	317	316	301	275	269

2022 Membership Detail

Gains: 6

Letter of Transfer: 3; Profession/Reaffirmation of Faith: 3

Losses: 12

Letter of Transfer: 4; Death: 8

Net Membership Change in 2022: Loss of 6

In Memoriam

Name	Date
Jim McClean	February 7
Richard Gold	February 28
Esta Sherwood	June 30
Kent Busch	July 28
Linda Sanderman	August 25
Sue Lanthrum	October 5
George Doolittle	December 4
Karen Smith	December 26

Submitted by: Carol Powers, Clerk of Session

Finance

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. Finance also provides support to Session as needed for assessing financial implications of issues being considered.

In 2022 Valley received \$434,370 in adult giving contributions, an amount virtually unchanged from 2021. The Committee expresses its deep appreciation to the friends and members of this congregation for your ongoing support of Valley and its ministries.

Our plan going into the 2022 was to operate on a deficit basis, using our budget surplus from 2021 to cover the shortfall. However, 2022 finished with a budget surplus of \$31,726 in no small measure due to the Preschool's receipt of additional funding from the State of Oregon's Early Childhood Development program.

Personnel costs were lower than expected due to staff attrition and the fact that we hired Jenn Souders to work with our Youth on a half-time basis instead of hiring a full-time Youth, Children and Family staff person.

Unlike the past three years, we do not anticipate receiving governmental grants or additional funding of any kind in 2023. The Finance Committee has budgeted a substantial deficit for 2023, planning to utilize reserves accumulated in 2021 and 2022.

As of February 13, 2023, the Stewardship Campaign has received 75 pledges totaling \$289,892 vs. 98 pledges totaling \$326,639 last year.

The church remained debt-free in 2022.

Income Statements for 2022 and 2021 operations as well as end of year balances for Valley are located on the following pages.

Finance Committee

Eben Jenkins (Chair), Sam Connell, Lyle Chadwick, Evan Martin, Don Sowers, John Purcell, Frank Powers (Treasurer)

Valley Community Presbyterian Church Summary Balance Statement (Selected View)

<u>Current Assets</u>	<u>As of 31</u>	<u>As of 31</u>
	<u>Dec 2022</u>	<u>Dec 2021</u>
Operating Cash Account	\$124,282	\$425,701
Investment Account	\$850,767	\$415,944
Online Accounts / Petty Cash	\$6,222	\$12,636
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$981,272	\$854,281

Valley Community Presbyterian Church Summary Income Statement

	Actual 2021	Actual 2022
Sources of Income:		
Adult Giving Income	\$ 436,406	\$ 434,370
Misc. Income and Donations	\$ 41,796	\$ 67,538
CARES PPP Loan Proceeds	\$ 91,330	\$ -
Rental Houses Net Income	\$ 5,933	\$ 3,652
Children Ministries Income	\$ 450	\$ -
Youth Ministries Income	\$ 1,169	\$ 16,788
Mission Income	\$ 41,254	\$ 46,095
Valley Preschool Net Income	\$ 189	\$ 38,081
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 618,527	\$ 606,524

In addition, Valley utilized these additional resources:

From Valley Foundation, Mem & Gifts	\$ 7,120	\$ 40,136
From Reserves	\$ 6,718	\$ 28,256

Expenses:

Compensation and Benefits, All Staff	\$ 338,103	\$ 328,485
Facilities	\$ 41,233	\$ 98,189
General Administration	\$ 97,078	\$ 107,422
Adult Education, Library, Small Groups	\$ 370	\$ 338
Children's Ministries	\$ 4,502	\$ 1,525
Youth Ministries	\$ 1,231	\$ 18,569
Deacons	\$ 117	\$ 431
Mission (expense)	\$ 51,830	\$ 54,039
Worship and Music	\$ 8,360	\$ 34,590
Communications, Membership, Fellowship	\$ 1,331	\$ 2,701
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 544,156	\$ 646,287

Valley Community Presbyterian Church

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