


The Messenger

Valley Community Presbyterian Church October 2011

Worship Schedule

Peacemaking Offering, World Communion Sunday Oct. 2

Worship Schedule

Informal Service 8:30 a.m.
Youth Breakfast Club 9 a.m.
Early Bird Coffee in Library
9:30 a.m.
Traditional Service 10 a.m.
Nursery care 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Children's Sunday
School 10 a.m.
Fellowship and Coffee,
11:15 a.m.

October

2 World Communion Sunday
Youth Pancake Breakfast,
9a.m.-12:30 pm

9 Session meeting with new
members, 11:15 a.m.
Pumpkin Patch, 11:30 a.m.

16 Children's Sabbath
Cents-Ability Offering

26 Newcomers' Luncheon,
11:30 a.m.

30 All Saints' Sunday (see p. 6)

November

6 Communion Sunday
Fall Congregational Brunch,
11:30 a.m.



The Presbyterian Peacemaking Offering supports the efforts of Presbyterians to work for justice and peace through their congregations, presbyteries, synods, and the General Assembly. The day recommended for congregations to receive the Offering is World Communion Sunday (October 2 this year), when Christians around the world gather to eat the bread and drink the cup offered by Christ, the Prince of Peace. Receiving the Peacemaking Offering on this day and dedicating ourselves to the work of justice and peace are ways to live into the unity we have in Christ.

Peacemaking Offering funds are used to enable the Presbyterian denomination, Synods, Presbyteries, and individual congregations to engage in ministries pursuing peace and seeking justice. Each congregation retains 25 percent of their offering to help implement their commitment to peace.

Valley to celebrate Children's Sabbath

On Sunday, October 16, Valley will join with thousands of other congregations across the nation in the annual multi-faith National Observance of Children's Sabbaths® weekend sponsored by the non-profit, non-partisan Children's Defense Fund and supported by the PC(U.S.A.) and more than 200 other denominations and religious traditions.

As people of faith, we recognize the sacred responsibility to nurture and protect children and to work for the world God intends. On the Children's Sabbath, we will remember the children in struggling schools and difficult circumstances, we will reflect on the teachings of our faith that lead us to respond, and we will commit to putting our faith into action to help all children learn and succeed.

Cont. on page 7

Newcomers Luncheon set for Oct. 23

Are you new to Valley Community Presbyterian Church? Have you been visiting a while? Are you interested in becoming a church member? On Sunday, October 23, 11:30 a.m., we will hold a luncheon in Armitage Hall for any and all "newcomers." The intent of this luncheon is to welcome people of all ages who are not currently members of our church...but who want to know more about Valley and might be interested in church membership. The Membership Committee cordially invites all people who want to learn more—whether they have come once or they have been coming for a long time. Staff and elders representing various ministries of the church will serve as table hosts to share information and answer questions. This will be a casual time for fellowship, sharing, and learning. If you plan to attend or have questions, please contact Elder Marilynn Conforti at mconforti3@comcast.net.

Pastor's column



Pastor Rebecca
Chancellor

Community is what we are all about, and it is to what Christ calls us. In community we worship, feast at the Lord's Table, celebrate joys, share sorrows, and bear one another's burdens. In community, we learn, challenge, affirm, pray for, and love each other. We also speak truthfully, forgive, honor, and look out for one another. Community is who we are as a church, with Jesus Christ as the leader.

Valley Community Presbyterian Church has made a commitment to community in our mission statement:

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.

This is the challenge for us: to form an authentic, supportive, life-giving community in the midst of a

world where we feel pulled in many directions and often don't have much time to take care of ourselves. It may seem easier to just do it all on our own, without having to rely on, wait for, and share with others. And if we hardly have time to care for ourselves, how can we begin to think about caring for others in a meaningful way?

Our call to community must be woven into our everyday patterns of life. And in everything we do, we are challenged to respond to Jesus' command, "*that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another*" (John 13:34-35, NRSV). To follow Jesus Christ, we must follow his command to love one another. This includes a call to live in and be an active part of community.

But this can be uncomfortable for some of us, living in a society where interdependence—relying on each other—is often a negative quality. Independence, on the other hand, is highly respected, and people who can do things on their own and for themselves are seen as responsible, mature, and intelligent. That's not all bad, but independence can be selfish at times. Independence can represent a desire to work only for oneself, rather than working for the good of the whole community. We are challenged to reorient our thinking to a community view, one where all have a place, all are respected, and all flourish.

Community is not only critical to our whole church family, but it is also vital to our young people. This year, the high school youth have decided to use a walrus to represent the youth groups, like a mascot of sorts. Walruses, they tell me, are social animals who live in community and look out for each other. The walrus will appear on a

Valley Youth T-shirt this fall, which represents the community built among the youth groups, and among the larger community of faith at Valley. Creating our own word, walruses will be known as the "walri," and so we are the Valley Walri - seeking to heed Paul's charge to the Philippians, "*Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others*" (2:4, NRSV).

Ronald Rolheiser, a Roman Catholic priest, a community-builder, lecturer and writer has said, "We go to church so as not to be alone—alone in our joys, alone in our suffering, alone in the everydayness of our lives, alone in the important passages of our lives... We go to church to tell people we love them, and hopefully, to hear them tell us the same thing." The truth is, we belong together, not alone. We need each other. In the church community, we are also reminded that we are all a part of God's family, not just our own nuclear families.

We rejoice when another rejoices, and we cry when another cries. We pray for each other—in times of joy and in times of concern or sorrow. I want to encourage all of you to use the Valley prayer list in your personal prayer lives. Talk to God about your family of faith and those in need. And when you are one of those in need, consider allowing the rest of us in your community to pray for you. This is how we love, support, and bear one another's burdens. It is a responsibility and a privilege.

As Paul said to the Ephesians, "*Peace be to the whole community, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ*" (6:23, NRSV)

THE MESSENGER

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PLEASE SUBMIT ARTICLES VIA E-MAIL BY
OCTOBER 15 FOR THE NOVEMBER ISSUE:
messenger@valleycommunity.org

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

Finance Report

For the year to date through the end of August, Valley is showing a deficit slightly in excess of \$75,000, which is more than \$23,000 worse than budgeted. As has been commented on before, the single largest contributor to our year-to-date deficit is a shortfall in sources of income, falling more than \$30,000 below our budgeted amount.

Of all sources of income to the church, adult giving represents the great majority of this year-to-date miss. We prayerfully ask those who may be behind in their giving to continue to help improve the financial position of the congregation. Indeed, our pledges for the year have now increased by more than \$17,000 since we followed up with the congregation at the end of the first quarter; thank you to all who have found ways to help.

The Session is convening a special meeting during the month of September in order to review the situation and our options to lessen our financial burden and increase our income.

Lyle Chadwick, Treasurer

Eben Jenkins, Finance Committee Elder

Advent Fair planned for Dec. 4

Help the Fair by sponsoring or hosting a craft

The season of Advent is rapidly approaching, so mark your calendars for Valley's Annual Advent Fair, Sunday, December 4, 11:30-2 p.m. (immediately following the 10 a.m. worship service) in Davis Hall. Family, friends, and neighbors are all welcome. As always, there will be a variety of crafts and greens to make wreaths and centerpieces.

We are looking for individuals or groups to sponsor and/or host a craft. Sponsors would contribute the cost of the craft, and hosts would prepare the craft and host the table during the Advent Fair. The sponsor or host can provide the idea or one will be provided. This really is a lot of fun and a great way to give of your time, talent and resources for such a fun event. If you are interested, please contact Marcia Sanderman at mksanderman@comcast.net. Sign up at Coffee Fellowship in Davis Hall on Sundays soon.

Sunshine Pantry needs you

Sharon Straus, a Beaverton mom of a Cub Scout, was involved in a canned food drive more than 25 years ago and has expanded her efforts ever since. Sunshine Pantry has become a family-run nonprofit food pantry that also distributes clothing, household items, toys, toiletries and school supplies to 500 needy families per month. Sharon gets most of her food from daily trips to local stores that donate excess goods and Fork it Over (Metro's food donation program). She also spends her own money and welcomes donations from the community. The pantry is staffed by volunteers.

Sharon's long-time volunteer coordinator had to resign several months ago due to family health issues, so Sharon is looking for someone to fill that position. In the meantime, she is making all volunteer arrangements, and the pantry is in dire need of volunteers Mondays through Saturdays. If you can volunteer on a regular, sporadic or one-time-only basis, Sharon can use you and your family members for a wide variety of tasks, including greeting and helping "clients," stocking shelves, sorting and repackaging supplies and picking up donations from schools and stores. Children can help with repackaging tasks. Teenagers can help with shelf-stocking and can earn high school volunteer credits needed for graduation.

Anyone wanting to volunteer may call Sharon Straus at 971.506.7827 to make arrangements. Sunshine Pantry is located at the back of Building 26 in the Parkside Business Park on Cirrus Drive. The entrance to the Parkside complex is at 8300 Hall Blvd.

Information for charitable contributions from IRA accounts

Required minimum distributions (RMD): For taxpayers age 70½ or older, charitable distributions from IRA accounts made directly by trustees to charitable organizations can qualify as non taxable distributions in 2011. However, the contribution is not deductible as a contribution. Depending on each taxpayer's circumstances, electing this process does reduce adjusted gross income, which may also reduce taxable income. These distributions qualify as the taxpayer's required minimum distribution. Please contact AmyAnn in the church office for more information.



David Marquis at a recent Habitat for Humanity build.

Kirkin' O' the Tartan Sunday Nov. 13 highlights Presbyterian Scottish background at Valley



Jim and Pat McClean

The McCleans are a big part of the Maclean clan

By Bud Bendix

(Editor's note: Although the clan name is spelled as one word, "Maclean," there are various spellings for the surnames of individuals.)

When you see the annual Kirkin' O' the Tartan worship service at Valley on November 13, you can thank long-time members Jim and Pat McClean.

They started this colorful ceremony here 15 years ago, patterned after the service started by the late Rev. Dr. Peter Marshall in Washington, D.C.

Among other things, Reverend Marshall, who was born in Scotland, served as pastor at the New York Presbyterian Church and was elected to the post of chaplain for the U.S. Senate. After Reverend Marshall's death in 1949, his wife,

Catherine, wrote a book, "A Man Called Peter," about his life, later made into a motion picture.

Jim McClean came west from Kalamazoo, Mich., and enrolled at California State-Los Angeles (today called California State University, Los Angeles.) It was there that he met Pat, who was from San Francisco. Jim graduated in business administration and went to work for International Harvester. Pat got her degree in anthropology/archeology. They married while living in Los Angeles.

He transferred to Portland in 1979 where he helped set up In-Home Leasing Co. in Beaverton. He is now retired. Pat was hired by St. Vincent Hospital where she still works as scheduler for the x-ray department. They have three grown children and two grandchildren, all in the Portland area.

In 1980, the McCleans joined Valley Church. He is an ordained elder of the church. Pat has been a Sunday School teacher for many years.

They also are prominent in the Scottish community. Pat is on the board for the Portland Highland Games and is Clan Tent chairperson. She also serves on the nominating committee for the PHG Association. She and Jim are sustaining members of the organization. She proudly points out that her grandmother was born in Scotland and is a Buchanan.

Jim is president of the Pacific Northwest Clan Maclean organization, which comprises Alaska, British Columbia, Washington, Oregon, northern Idaho and the west slope of Montana. Every five years the clan meets at the Maclean Association Castle on the Island of Mull in Scotland.

Pat serves as secretary for the Pacific Northwest group and her work with the clan tents is designed to promote Scottish tradition and cultural heritage. The McCleans' children also are involved in the games.

The McCleans always sit right up front on the right on Sundays.

"Best seat in the house," Jim said. They often wear their clan's colors. For this interview, Jim wore a Maclean dress tartan shirt. In the accompanying photo, he has on a "Prince Charlie" jacket (for evening wear), and Pat has a Maclean dress sash. They will be in full tartan dress on November 13, as will other proud Scottish members of the church.

If you're not sure if you have Scottish or Celtic roots, or even a national tartan (German, Dutch, Spanish, etc.), bring all the family surnames you know to the information table upstairs after the service on November 13. Jim and Pat McClean will help you research the names. If you would like to know sooner, contact them at patjimcclean@netscape.net.

Important future dates

Nov. 6 - Congregational Potluck Brunch following 10 a.m. Worship

Everyone is invited!

Nov. 13 - Mission Market and Kirkin' O' the Tartan

Remember to wear your tartan!

Dec. 4 - Advent Fair

Crafts and activities for all!



Scottish heritage in our church exemplified by the Johnson family *by Bud Bendix*



Ann and Virginia Johnson

Let me tell you about Virginia Macpherson Johnson. She has been a member of Valley Community Presbyterian since 1959, and she sits about halfway down on the right side of the sanctuary every Sunday with oldest daughter, Ann.

The day I became acquainted with Virginia, she was wearing a Macpherson dress skirt with its traditional tartan design that reaches to the ankles.

“It’s what is worn for dressy occasions,” she explained. “Men wear their kilts at knee length. Dancers wear theirs shorter too.”

Much of the Scottish heritage we have at Valley is vested with people like the Johnsons. And it’s because their involvement in the Scottish community has been long and deep. She and her family came to Portland when she was a child. Her father was with the Union Pacific Railroad and “very proud” of his Scottish heritage. They lived on the east side of the city and belonged to the Rose City Presbyterian Church. Virginia later graduated from Oregon State University and taught high-school home economics. It was through the church that she met Bob Johnson, member of a seafaring family. After serving in the U.S. Coast Guard in World War II, he was employed by States Steamship Co. Later he joined the Columbia River Pilots, where he spent 30 years. (The organization directs oceangoing ships through the Columbia River into and out of Portland.) They were married on September 11, 1948, and had two daughters, Ann and Connie.

Bob was musical, playing many instruments. With his becoming part of the Macpherson Clan, it was only natural that he took up an interest in the bagpipe. He learned to play well enough to surprise his father-in-law with a serenade on the latter’s birthday playing, appropriately, “Macpherson’s Lament.” He went on to play in the Portland Pipe Band and rose to the rank of Pipe Major. Bob died in 2001.

Virginia is president of the St. Andrew’s Society, one of the earliest pioneer Scottish groups here. It was established to help Scottish immigrants. Today, the society’s focus is providing college scholarships to young people.

Virginia is a life member and former president of the Portland Highland Games Association and served as its volunteer publicist for 10 years. She was named Chieftain of the 2008 Games, an honorary position bestowed on persons who have made significant contributions to the Portland Highland Games.

Ann is a widely known accomplished Highland dancer, teacher and international judge. She began dancing at age 6 and entered her first competition a year later.

“I love to dance, but after awhile it became a strain physically, particularly on my legs, to continue the pace of practicing and competing,” she said. So she decided to become a teacher. She opened her Ann Johnson School of Highland Dance in 1974, where she trains girls and boys beginning at age 6.

Judging also became a big part of her life. She has judged all over the U.S. and Canada, with the high point coming in 2009 when she was invited to Scotland to serve as a judge at the world championship competition.

“It was an incredible experience,” she said. “Very few here ever get such an opportunity.” Her highest honor, however, came earlier this year when she was inducted into the Hall of Fame of the Federation of United States Teachers and Adjudicators.

Ann’s other achievements in her area of expertise are too numerous to include here, as are Virginia’s.

Ann is retired after 31 years as a teacher in the Hillsboro School District. Her sister, Connie, is a retired school administrator. Connie isn’t as involved in the Scottish community--her main interest being in dogs and dog shows.

For many years Ann has served as an officer for the Portland Highland Games, held every July at Mt. Hood Community College in Gresham (next year’s is on July 21.) She was vice-president/Competitions this year and is on the planning committee for the 60th anniversary of the Games in 2012. (Competition is held in eight disciplines: Dance, piping, drumming, fiddling, kilted mile, heavy events, band and drum major.)

At Valley, Virginia currently serves as a deacon. “I feel privileged to be asked to serve,” she said.

Ann is head of an ushering team. “I like it because you get to stand at the door and greet everyone on Sundays--members and visitors alike,” she said.

On the day of our interview, Ann also wore a tartan skirt, but this was a special one that only certain participants in Highland Dance wear.

The Scottish tradition at our church is displayed every November (this year, on Nov. 13) with Kirkin’ O’ the Tartan. That’s when you will see the Johnsons and other members of our congregation who are of Scottish descent display their clans’ colors.

It’s a colorful and meaningful service not to be missed.

All Saints Sunday Oct. 30

Banners will be hung during service

On Sunday, October 30 during the 10 a.m. worship service, there will be a procession of banners with the names of Valley members and friends who have died in the past year. This is a time to remember and honor these saints. Each banner will be carried to the front of the sanctuary and placed on the wall near the cross to remind us of the loved ones who have passed on. Later they will be given to family members. The Liturgical Arts committee members and others wanting to help make the banners. This has become a meaningful and moving tradition during the All Saints worship service.

Congregational Brunch planned for Nov. 6



Everyone is invited to a time of fellowship and a potluck meal together following the 10 a.m. Worship Service on Sunday, November 6. A main dish is provided, and those attending will bring side dishes. Specific suggestions on what to bring will be available from the Fellowship Committee soon. All ages are welcome. Mark your calendars!

Upward Basketball 2012



We are gearing up for another fun-filled season of Upward Basketball at Valley. Upward is a Christian basketball league for boys and girls ages Kindergarten through 6th grade. Registration continues online on Valley's website at www.valleycommunity.org and closes on October 21, so don't wait too long. Visit Valley's website for more information about the league.

If you would like to volunteer to help on game days, just call Anne Scearce to sign up. The first Upward game day is on Saturday, January 21, 2012. We will have eight game-filled Saturdays, with the last game day scheduled for March 10, 2012. We hope you can join the fun!

Presbyterian Women gather Oct. 15

On Saturday, October 15, women of the Cascades Presbytery will gather for fellowship, worship, inspiration, and lunch at Colonial Heights Presbyterian Church, Portland, beginning at 9:30 a.m. The theme of the Gathering is "Bridging Generations," and attendees are encouraged to bring a member of another generation with them. The mission focus will be on the Warming Center at Eastminster Presbyterian Church, which Colonial Heights helps support, and the women of Colonial Heights are suggesting that attendees at the Gathering bring yarn and knitting supplies to help support that mission.

Please register by October 10 by sending your name and the name of your church, with \$10 to Sharon Fries, 1142 SW West Hills Pl., Corvallis, OR 97333, and indicate if you need child care.

Gamble Library news

Book Discussion Group

The Book Discussion Group will meet in the Fireside Room on Friday, October 28, at 10 a.m., to discuss the book, *Work Song* by Ivan Doig. This story is set in Butte, Montana, during the heyday of the copper-mining town and brings to life a colorful cast of local characters. All are welcome to join this lively and fun group.

Library

Now that Fall has arrived, hopefully we have more time for reading. The church library continues to add new books all the time from fiction to biography to books to study and improve our lives. A new book recommended this month is *Journey to the Common Good*, by Walter Brueggemann, in which the author mines Old Testament biblical narratives and presents stories of how trusting in God's abundance and obeying God's economic commandments frees people to be good neighbors. Another thought-provoking book is *What Do Our Neighbors Believe: Questions and Answers on Judaism, Christianity, and Islam*, in which the three authors respond to questions from their religious tradition.

Youth Pancake Breakfast Oct. 2



Calling all youth and families to continue our commitment to Youth Mission. Our summer mission trips and special projects simply do not happen without the support of this congregation, and we are thankful for the many ways the church supports our youth and youth mission trips. In order to get ready for summer 2012, we need all Middle School and High School youth (and their parents) to help us raise money for youth mission at the Fall Pancake Breakfast. With the generous help of the Clippers Mariners, we will once again serve a breakfast of pancakes and syrup, sausage, fruit, juice, and coffee.

Cont. on page 9

Children's Sabbath (Cont. from p 1)

The 2011 Children's Sabbath, "Justice, Justice Shall You Pursue:" Answering God's Call to Protect Children, will focus on the education achievement gap that leaves too many children, especially poor and minority children, reading and doing math below grade level, leading to lower rates of school completion.

At Valley, we will join in this united voice for children with a focus on children during worship. Our liturgy will be child-centered and will focus on themes of justice for all children. Children will help lead us in worship. Following worship, there will be opportunities to learn more about how we can help protect God's children all over the world, and we will have prayer stations set up as well. All are invited. This will be a good time to invite other families or children to visit our congregation. For more information or to find out how you can help, contact Pastor Rebecca in the church office.

Pumpkin Patch Trip for all

Children, youth, and adults are invited to join us for this intergenerational church family outing. After 10 a.m. worship on Sunday, October 9, we will gather in the back parking lot to load up the Valley van to head to Baggenstos Farm in Sherwood for an afternoon of fun and adventure! The farm offers free hay rides to the pumpkin patch and a free farm animal display. For a fee, they have a 5-acre "Wicked Pumpkin" corn maze, pumpkin bowling, food (including their legendary fries made from farm potatoes!), fresh produce, and fall décor. You may bring a sack lunch or money to buy lunch at the farm. We will head out at 11:30 a.m. and be back to the church by 4 p.m. Families and individuals may also choose to take their own vehicles or carpool in their own cars. (Please Note: The High School Youth will meet us at Baggenstos Farm in the second Valley van, following a youth retreat that weekend.)

Children and families: To reserve your spot in the van, please contact Kay Hope Gold in the church office.

Youth in 6th-12th grades: To reserve your spot in the van, please contact Pastor Rebecca in the church office.

Valley E-Blast

Since early fall, Valley has been sending a weekly email called the "Valley E-Blast" to Valley members and friends through our church database. It's a new and exciting way to communicate with the congregation, emailing quick announcements, reminders, important links, and special events. We expect to continue sending these emails weekly, usually on Fridays. We hope that you will find the information helpful and that it might be a good reminder for what is happening at the church.

If you are not receiving these e-mails, it might mean that the church office does not have your current email address on file. Please do us the favor of letting us know your current, or best, email address by contacting Angie and/or Nancy in the church office at angie@valleycommunity.org or nancy@valleycommunity.org. You always have the option to "unsubscribe" from the Valley emails; however, since this is through an automated system, it might be difficult to later add the same email back to the group emails at a later date.

We do hope you find the emails helpful; please let us know if you have any questions.



Many Valley missions were represented at the recent Bring a Friend to Church Sunday and Fall Kickoff, including the Soup Kitchen (above) and Fellowship Committee (below).



Children's Ministries

Sunday School

Sunday School has resumed for 2011-12. Children begin worship with their families in the Sanctuary. After the *Children's Message*, all kids are escorted to Armitage Hall for *Music Time* with Amy Rheingans. Kay and Richard Gold present the *Bible Story*. Pre-K children are led to Room 4 by Craig and Terri Vermillion, Bert and Cheryl Hoffbeck, Nels and Allison Carlson or Wayne and Sarah Boyle. Our Kindergarten through Fifth Graders rotate with their class groups to either art, cooking, computer, drama, games, science/discovery or video during a four-week cycle. *Review and Celebrate* on the fifth Sunday includes singing, donuts, review of the unit just presented and a related craft activity. Kids who have attended at least four of the five Sundays during each unit are eligible to visit Mrs. Gold's office and select a gift from the Golden Treasure Chest. Activity Leaders are needed for our next unit commencing October 23. Contact kay@valleycommunity.org.

Children and Youth Choirs begin

Valley offers choirs for children beginning at age four through 12th grade. Handbell Choir members begin in second grade. Choirs this year will begin as follows:

- October 2, 5-6 p.m. Youth Choir
- Oct. 19, 5-5:45 p.m. Cherub Choir
- Oct. 19, 5-6 p.m. King's Kids
- Oct. 19, 6-6:30 p.m. Royal Ringers

For more information, contact Children's Music Director, Amy Rheingans, at amy@valleycommunity.org.

KIDZ MART is coming...

Children's Ministries is seeking gently used household items, office supplies, unopened beauty products and toiletries for purchase by children as Christmas gifts for family and friends. Drop your donations in the basket in the balcony landing. Thank you.



Making crafts during Children's Sunday School.

Preschool Corner

Valley Christian Preschool is in full swing with many younger siblings this year who have older brothers and sisters moving on to kindergarten or first grade from Valley Preschool. This certainly makes it easy on the teachers with transitions, since these little ones have been visiting since they were babies. I'm always surprised to see that children who were newborns just moments ago are suddenly old enough to enroll in preschool. Where does the time go?

Our classes remain full, and we brought back Friday Play Group this year – a very popular class. We welcome Miss Angie Regali, who joins Mrs. Broome in Friday Play Group. We've added Miss Britta Bonette to our 4's class and promoted Miss Judi and Miss Gigi to job-share as Lead Teachers in the 4's. Mrs. Broome, Mrs. Van Ditti and Mrs. Scott still hold down the fort in the 3's class. Miss Heather and Mrs. Kurtz return as our wonderful 2½ teachers. Miss Berkeley continues as the young 2's teacher and moved into the Nursery Room on Fridays. We're ready for a fun and exciting year together!

Tandra Pitchford, Director



Above and left: Children's Sunday School has resumed. Kindergarten through Fifth Graders rotate with their class groups to different activities each Sunday. See article on this page for more information.



Youth Pancake Breakfast Oct. 2 (cont. from page 6)



Youth: We will set-up and decorate on Saturday, October 1, 3-5 p.m. All are needed. Then, meet Rebecca and Kate in the gym at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday to prepare for serving pancakes. We need everyone to help with serving and cleanup, and we expect to be finished by 1:30 p.m. Let's do it for Youth Mission.

Valley Congregation and Friends: Join us on *Sunday, October 2* in the back half of Davis Hall/Gym from 9-10 a.m. or 11:15a.m.-12:30 p.m. for a delicious breakfast in fabulous company to support the Youth Mission Fund. Tickets are \$5/person or \$15/family. Thanks for all of your support, and we hope to see you there!

Welcome Youth Advisors

In September, we welcomed seven adults into new volunteer positions working with our youth on a regular basis. The Youth Advisors play a critical role in supporting youth ministries at Valley by building relationships with our youth. They will also help with basic tasks, like set-up and clean up, but we recognize the importance of building intergenerational relationships within the church family. We want to continue to build bridges between our fabulous youth and our wonderful adult church members. We are grateful to have Mary Collins, Ruthann Marquis, Marah Murphy, Jim and Karen Sandberg, Kerrie Standlee, and John Whitehurst helping with the youth groups. They are committed to high school or middle school, and each youth advisor will attend a youth group meeting at least once each month. Thank you, Youth Advisors.

Presbytery Youth Retreats

- **Middle School Mania** is October 14-16 at B'nai B'rith Camp in Lincoln City. Registration is closed. Theme: "Hakuna Matata: No Worries!" based on Matthew 6:25-34. Pastor Rebecca Chancellor is one of the Deans leading this retreat through the Presbytery of the Cascades.
- **Cascades Presbytery Youth Assembly (CPYA)** for High School Youth is November 18-20 at Macleay Christian Retreat Center in Salem. Register no later than October 16 to get a \$30 discount. Theme: "Putting a bird on your shirt doesn't make you a hipster" based on Matthew 5:13. Brochures with registration forms are available from Rebecca or at the Youth House. Scholarships are also available. Register today!

High School Bible Study

In response to a desire of some of our high school students to dig a little deeper into God's Word, we will have a six-week Bible Study for all high school youth this fall, beginning on Tuesday, October 4. We will meet for six consecutive weeks, from 6-7 p.m. at the Youth House, have light snacks and an hour study. Our focus this fall is an overview of the Old Testament. Questions? Ask Rebecca! Come and see, ask and share, read and learn.



As part of our Kickoff events at the Youth House, the new 6th Graders added their handprints to the wall.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>2</p> <p>8:30a Worship 9:00a Pancake Breakfast for Youth Mission 9:30a Early Bird Coffee - Library</p> <p>10:00a Worship 10:00a Children's Sunday School 11:15a Coffee Fellowship 5:00p Youth Choir 6:00p Youth Open House 7:00p H.S. FAMILY</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8:00a Women's Aerobics</p> <p>6:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:30p Portland Highland Games Association 7:30p Scout Troop 592</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10:00a Tai Chi Class</p> <p>1:00p Prayer Shawl Ministry</p> <p>6:00p Girl Scout Troop 40168 6:00p High School Bible Study 7:00p Prayer Shawl Ministry</p>	<p>5</p> <p>8:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Women's Aerobics</p> <p>12:00p Wednesday Adult Education</p> <p>6:30p Middle School L.I.F.E. 7:00p Liturgical Arts Comm.</p>	<p>6</p> <p>10:00a Alanon 10:00a Piecemakers 10:00a Tai Chi Class</p> <p>4:00p Membership Committee 6:15p English Handbell Choir 7:00p Tai Chi Class 7:15p Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:00a Women's Aerobics</p>	<p>8</p> <p>High School FAMILY Retreat 10:00a Session Record Review</p>
<p>9</p> <p>H.S. FAMILY Retreat</p> <p>8:30a Worship 9:00a Breakfast Club 9:30a Early Bird Coffee - Library</p> <p>10:00a Worship 10:00a Children's Sunday School 11:15a Coffee Fellowship 11:15a Session Meeting with New Members 11:30a Pumpkin Patch Trip 5:00p Youth Choir 6:00p Youth Open House 7:00p H.S. FAMILY</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8:00a Women's Aerobics 12:00p Facilities Committee</p> <p>6:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:00p Mission Endowment Committee 7:30p Scout Troop 592</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10:00a Tai Chi Class</p> <p>6:00p Girl Scout Troop 40168 6:00p High School Bible Study 7:00p Session</p>	<p>12</p> <p>8:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Women's Aerobics</p> <p>12:00p Wednesday Adult Education</p> <p>6:30p Middle School L.I.F.E.</p>	<p>13</p> <p>10:00a Alanon 10:00a Piecemakers 10:00a Tai Chi Class</p> <p>6:15p English Handbell Choir 7:00p Tai Chi Class 7:15p Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Middle School Mania 8:00a Women's Aerobics</p> <p>2:30p Camp Fire Mtg.</p>	<p>15</p> <p>"Valley Messenger" Articles Due</p> <p>Middle School Mania</p>
<p>16</p> <p>Middle School Mania</p> <p>8:30a Worship 9:00a Breakfast Club 9:30a Early Bird Coffee - Library</p> <p>10:00a Worship 10:00a Children's Sunday School 11:15a Coffee Fellowship 5:00p Youth Choir 6:00p Youth Open House 7:00p H.S. FAMILY</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8:00a Women's Aerobics</p> <p>10:00a Century Club Board Meeting</p> <p>6:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:00p Personnel Comm. 7:30p Scout Troop 592</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10:00a Tai Chi Class</p> <p>6:00p High School Bible Study 7:00p Deacons Ministry 7:00p Mission Endowment</p>	<p>19</p> <p>8:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Women's Aerobics</p> <p>12:00p Wednesday Adult Education</p> <p>5:00p Cherub Choir 5:00p King's Kids Choir 5:00p Non-Rush Hour 6:30p Middle School L.I.F.E.</p>	<p>20</p> <p>8:00a Soup Kitchen</p> <p>10:00a Alanon 10:00a Piecemakers 10:00a Tai Chi Class 6:00p Night Strike Mission 6:15p English Handbell Choir 6:15p Nigh Strike 7:00p Tai Chi Class 7:15p Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:00a Women's Aerobics</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23</p> <p>8:30a Worship 9:00a Breakfast Club 9:30a Early Bird Coffee - Library</p> <p>10:00a Worship 10:00a Children's Sunday School 11:15a Coffee Fellowship 11:30a Newcomers' Luncheon 5:00p Youth Choir 6:00p Youth Open House 7:00p H.S. FAMILY</p>	<p>24</p> <p>8:00a Women's Aerobics</p> <p>1:00p Century Club General Meeting</p> <p>6:00p Girl Scout Troop 7:30p Scout Troop 592</p>	<p>25</p> <p>10:00a Tai Chi Class</p> <p>6:00p Girl Scout Troop 40168 6:00p High School Bible Study 6:00p Children's Ministry 6:30p Youth Ministry</p>	<p>26</p> <p>8:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Women's Aerobics</p> <p>12:00p Wednesday Adult Education</p> <p>5:00p Cherub Choir 5:00p King's Kids Choir 6:00p Middle School L.I.F.E.</p>	<p>27</p> <p>10:00a Alanon 10:00a Piecemakers 10:00a Tai Chi Class</p> <p>6:00p Cub Scout Pack 592 6:15p English Handbell Choir 7:00p Tai Chi Class 7:15p Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:00a Women's Aerobics</p> <p>10:00a Library Book Club "Fourth Friday Features"</p> <p>2:30p Camp Fire Mtg.</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30</p> <p>8:30a Worship 9:00a Breakfast Club 9:30a Early Bird Coffee - Library</p> <p>10:00a Worship 10:00a Children's Sunday School 11:15a Coffee Fellowship 2:30p Cub Scout Den 5 5:00p Youth Choir 6:00p Youth Open House 7:00p H.S. FAMILY</p>	<p>31</p> <p>8:00a Women's Aerobics</p> <p>6:00p Girl Scout Troop</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <h1 style="margin: 0;">October 2011</h1> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">L.I.F.E. - Living in Faith Everyday (Middle School) Night Strike - mission in downtown Portland</p> </div>				

Valley Notes

Opportunities

All women are welcome to the pastor-led Bible Study beginning Tuesday, October 4 at 10:30 a.m. The study for 2011-12 is "Confessing the Beatitudes," commissioned and published by Horizons magazine for Presbyterian Women. If you want to share a half-hour of fellowship, with coffee and light snack, come at 10 a.m. Generally, our pastors take turns leading the study. Copies of the study are available in the church office for \$8.50.

Valley will have a Habitat for Humanity build day on Saturday, October 8 at Ramble Glen on SW 185th, just south of Farmington Road. On October 8 and November 19 we will be working with Lake Grove Presbyterian Church on Faith Build house #8 at Ramble Glen, the final house in that development. To sign up or ask questions, contact Chuck Falconer at chuckf@clankeith.com.

In Memoriam

Lee R. James
August 24, 2011

Daryl N. Duncan
September 10, 2011

Charlotte L. Miller
September 11, 2011

Eleanor L. Sprando
September 14, 2011

Larry Hawkins
September 28, 2011

Prayers

We pray for those with health concerns: Evelyn Page, Sandy Cundiff, Susan Reichard, Isabelle Adams, Myrill Frazier, Annabel Bednarz, Barbra Harman, and Helen Green.

We pray for those who mourn:

- Janice Hawkins and family on the death of her husband, Larry, who died September 28. His memorial service is October 2 at 3 p.m.

- Linda Duncan and family on the death of her husband, Daryl and her son Craig. The memorial was at Valley on September 19.

- Friends and family of Eleanor Sprando, who died September 14, 2011.

- Friends and family of Charlotte Miller, who died September 11, 2011.



Above right: A recent Habitat for Humanity build day on houses #2 and #3 at Ramble Glen. Thank you to Andy and Amy Dee, David Marquis, Jan, Chuck and Robert Falconer, David and Kegan Derting, Greg, Brian and Scott Russell, and Bob Rasmussen, who worked that day. Activities included painting and mostly working on two dividers between houses that involve the change in height from one house to the other, including cutting the lumber for the dividers.

Session Highlights

Valley's Sept. 13 Session meeting

- A retreat session meeting was set for September 24 to consider financial matters (see Finance Report p. 3).
 - A sale of "healthy food items" as a fundraiser for one of Valley's missions was approved for the December 4 Advent Fair.
 - **Youth:** Two traditional youth fundraisers were approved – the October 2 Pancake Breakfast hosted by Clippers Mariners (see p. 6) and the popular baking mix sale at the Mission Market on November 13. Communion was approved to be served at the High School Retreat October 8-9 with Pastor Rebecca Chancellor. The "Peacemaking" Curriculum was approved for Middle School and High School for 2011-12.
 - **Children:** Sunday School curriculum for Pre-Kindergarten – Grade 5 was approved for 2011-12: Pre-K uses "We Believe;" K-Grade 5 is using Cokesbury and continuing the Rotation Model Sunday School.
 - **Children's Sabbath** will be observed in Worship October 16. (See p. 1.)
 - **Valley website:** Session will convene from 6-7 p.m. on Tuesday, October 11 before the regular meeting of Session to share ideas and develop website content.
 - **The next Presbytery meeting** is November 11-12 at First Presbyterian, Corvallis. Commissioners from Valley will be appointed in October. Ordained elders interested in attending the meeting as Valley Commissioners may contact Session Clerk Tim Kurtz or one of the pastors.
- Note:** At a previous meeting of Session, Laurel Montes was approved as a new member of Valley Community Presbyterian Church. Her membership was transferred back to Valley Church from Westminster Presbyterian in Minneapolis, MN, where she had been living. Laurel is a member of the Valley Sanctuary Choir again, and Valley Church welcomes her return.

Newcomers' Luncheon

Sunday, October 23, 11:30



Learn more about Valley Church.

All ages welcome!

See page 1

Congregational Potluck Brunch



Sunday, November 6,
11:15 a.m. in Davis Hall

Everyone is invited!

See page 6

PANCAKE BREAKFAST



All are invited to the Pancake
Fundraiser

for Youth Missions

Sunday, October 2

9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

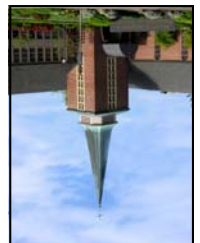
See page 6

TIME DATED MATERIAL

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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THE MESSENGER

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