


The Messenger

Valley Community Presbyterian Church April 2024

Sundays at Valley

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

<https://www.facebook.com/ValleyCommunityPresbyterian/>

Click videos on the left side.

April

- 7** Communion
Intergenerational Bell Choir
Clippers Mariner Meeting,
12:00 p.m.
- 14** Second Sunday for Children
and Youth
Intergenerational Bell Choir
- 21** Cents-Ability Offering
Congregational Meeting,
11:00 a.m.
Together Women Rise,
12:00 p.m.
Intergenerational Bell Choir
- 28** Intergenerational Bell Choir
CROP Hunger Walk,
1:00 p.m.

May

- 5** Communion
Intergenerational Bell Choir
Spring Musical, 3:00 p.m.



Recycling Event - April 20

Valley's Earth Care Team and community partners are hosting our Spring Community Recycling Event. Two locations for drop off - the TriMet lot for the following items: plastic film, cans/bottles, books, textiles, athletic shoes, and non-perishable/non-expired food for the St. Matthew's food pantry and the AAA parking lot. Here is a complete list of items to be recycled:

Raleigh Hills
Business Association

**12TH ANNUAL
EARTH WEEK
SHRED
& RECYCLE
EVENT**

**Saturday, April 20, 2024
9AM - Noon**

AAA of Oregon • 8555 SW Apple Way • Portland, OR 97225

Community Partners Accepting Items:

Shred NW Truck • 3 boxes or 3 bags per vehicle
Community Warehouse • communitywarehouse.org
Neighborhood House Canned Food Drive • nhpdx.org
SBC Recycle - Electronic Recycling • sbcrecycle.com/events
Friends of the West Slope Library • friendsofwsf.org
To help support our community events, donations will be accepted.

For more info: <https://RaleighHillsBusinessAssn.org> OR email: info@RaleighHillsBusinessAssn.org



2nd Recycling Opportunity: Same Day - RHBA Member Valley Pres Earth Care Team
4218-4248 SW Laurelwood Ave (TriMet Park & Ride lot) Portland, OR 97225

Accepting: plastic film • cans/bottles • books • textiles • natural corks • athletic shoes •
• St. Matthews Pantry canned food drive •
for more info: valleycommunity.org/events

We Are Easter People!



The Rev. Robin Garvin

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! We think of this familiar greeting as a greeting exclusively reserved for Easter Sunday. But, for Christians, Easter is not just one day - it's a season of 50 days which we call Eastertide. Eastertide begins on Easter Sunday and lasts until the day of Pentecost, seven weeks later. This extended season gives us time to rejoice and experience what we mean when we say Christ is risen and that we, as the church, are the body of the Risen Lord.

During the season of Eastertide, Christians all over the world embrace these weeks as an opportunity to reflect on what it means for us to live as Easter people... to live the resurrection life. For several years, I have observed Eastertide by re-reading the late Eugene Peterson's brief book entitled, *Living the Resurrection: The Risen Christ in Everyday Life*. In this wise book, Peterson explores the Gospel stories of the resurrection through the eyes of the biblical witnesses. Peterson uses these stories as a

springboard to help readers reflect on how the practices and perspectives of resurrection life can transform our daily work, meals, and relationships. I highly recommend reading this little gem.

During the season of Eastertide our worship will focus on the joy of living the resurrection life. I hope you'll come and join with your Valley family in worshiping the risen Christ! Until then, I leave you with the words of an old Avery and Marsh song I first learned from the late Claude Ponting, a former pastor of our congregation.

Joyfully in Christ,

Pastor Robin

Ev'ry morning is Easter morning from now on!
Ev'ry day's resurrection day, the past is over and gone!

Good-bye guilt, good-bye fear, good riddance! Hello, Lord, Hello, sun!
I am one of the Easter People! My new life has begun!

Ev'ry morning is Easter morning from now on!
Ev'ry day's resurrection day, the past is over and gone!

Continued on page 4

THE MESSENGER

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

503.292.3537
FAX 503.292.4272

valleycommunity.org
Email: mail@valleycommunity.org

NEWSLETTER STAFF:
ANGELA GRAHAM

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

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

April Birthdays

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

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



Together Women Rise



TOGETHER WOMEN RISE

Collective action for global gender equality

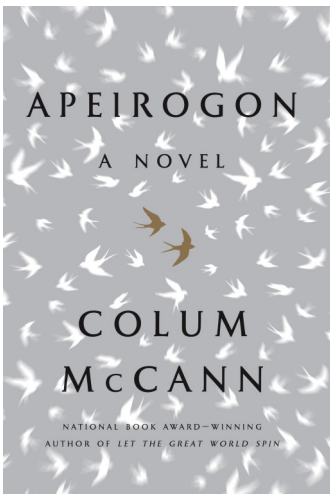
advocate for gender equality issues, give grants to organizations that empower women and girls in low-income countries, and build community to forge meaningful connections that increase our strength and collective impact. Our Valley chapter has donated over \$48,000 to these outstanding organizations during our 12 years as a chapter.

Come join us on Sunday April 21 at noon (please note the start time difference as we will have a congregational meeting after worship that day) for a potluck lunch, an engaging presentation about April's featured grantee and the opportunity to donate to their grant request. We will meet in Armitage Hall for our lunch meeting.

This month we will learn about and support the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund's program Girls in Conservation. This program tackles education inequalities in Rwanda, gives girls opportunities outside the classroom, and promotes careers in conservation. This initiative selects aspiring female students in the secondary schools and provides them with life skills and practical conservation lessons; a female mentor living and working around Volcanoes National Park (VNP) in Rwanda; and a scholarship to continue their advanced level education in government-awarded boarding schools around Rwanda. The goal of this program is to increase school attendance, educational attainment, and paid opportunities for post-secondary school.

If you have questions or want to be included in the evite invitation, please contact Ruthann Marquis at 503-260-9464.

Valley Book Group



The Valley Book Group meets on the fourth Friday of the month and the April meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. on April 26, in the Fireside Room to discuss *Apeirogon* by Colum McCann.

This is an ambitious novel, crafted out of a universe of fictional and nonfictional material, featuring two fathers, one Israeli and one Palestinian, who have lost daughters. McCann uses snippets of

their real-life stories to begin the fictional story, one that crosses centuries and continents, stitching together time, art, history, nature, and politics in a tale both heartbreaking and hopeful.

New members are always welcome and, if you are already on the Book Group email list, you will receive a reminder of the meeting.

CROP Walk 2024

The course is just under 1.5 miles through the neighborhood, to the school, around the garden and back to the church. About 10 blocks in all.

In 1969 the CROP Walk (Christian Rural Overseas Program), as we know it today, had a resurgence and has been going strong ever since. Though today they've outgrown the acronym by supporting hunger causes all around the world.

Of the funds collected, 25% will come back to the Washington County branch of the Oregon Food Bank, the remaining funds will be sent/used where needed most. Contact Andrea Murdoch 503-860-6203 if you have questions. Thank You from your Mission Team.



Thank you for sending your check for **\$45.60** for the

2024 Per Capita for each Valley member.

For more information about what per capita is and how it helps, go to: oga.pcusa.org/percapita



We Are Easter People! (cont. from page 2)

Daily news is so bad it seems the Good News seldom gets heard.
Get it straight from the Easter People! God's in charge spread the word!

Ev'ry morning is Easter morning from now on!
Ev'ry day's resurrection day, the past is over and gone!

Yesterday I was bored and lonely; But today look and see!
I belong to the Easter People! Life's exciting to me!
Ev'ry morning is Easter morning from now on!
Ev'ry day's resurrection day, the past is over and gone!
Ev'ry morning is Easter morning,
Ev'ry morning is Easter morning,
Ev'ry morning is Easter morning,
From now on!

(Words & Tune: Richard K. Avery and Donald S. Marsh, in the Avery and Marsh Songbook,
©1967, Hope Publishing Co.)

Prayer Shawl Ministry Celebrates 19 Years of Ministry



Valley's Prayer Shawl Ministry began in April of 2005. That means that we are celebrating this ministry's 19th anniversary this month! *Happy Anniversary Prayer Shawl Ministry!*

During those 19 years can you guess how many prayer shawls have been gifted to Valley members, friends and families? 1,123! That's how many!

If you multiply that number by the many prayers and good wishes knit into each shawl, Valley certainly has called up a strong army of prayer warriors that knit three/purl three over and over (This represents the Holy Trinity.) as they create the shawls that will comfort, celebrate and provide a warm and needed hug to whoever might receive one.

April 14 will be Prayer Shawl Sunday at Valley. If you have received a prayer shawl in the past 19 years, please wear it to worship that day. If you are a member of the prayer shawl ministry, please be at worship that day to receive a special blessing.

Also, starting in April, in Valley's Narthex there will be a rack with prayers shawls to borrow during the worship service. These are tangible reminders that you are loved and cared for by your church family and by our loving God. If you need some comfort on any given Sunday or just need a warm hug, feel free to borrow one for the service and then return it to the rack. Our prayer shawl knitters will make sure that they are regularly cleaned and ready for your use.

If you know of someone that could benefit from a prayer shawl, please contact Angie at the church office who will pass that information on to the Prayer Shawl Ministry.

Storm Damage Updates



Facilities Committee is pleased to announce that Jorgens Construction has been selected for our storm restoration project. They will restore the hallways and renovate the kitchen. We have started meeting with a designer and subcontractors to assess both improved functionality and aesthetics in the kitchen. Among other things, expect slight modifications to the layout, new lower cabinets and drawers, durable flooring and an updated color palette. This selection means a significant turning point in this project. We expect to be back to use in June.

Our rental house repairs at 8135 SW Cedar is also progressing. The tree has been removed and the fences rebuilt. House repairs as been contracted and should begin within a couple weeks. A roofing contractor has also been selected and expects to be done within a month.



Oregon Battle of the Books

On Saturday March 4, 32 teams of third/fourth/fifth graders descended on Valley for the Beaverton School District regional tournament of Oregon Battle of the Books (OBOB), each team hoping that their knowledge of 12 books would lead them to advance to the state tournament.

Added to the 160 students were proud family members, representatives from the district elementary schools and over 40 volunteers from Valley. An estimated 450 people filled the rooms and spilled out into hallways and sidewalks.

We received these words of thanks from the students representing McKay Elementary:

Dear Valley Community Presbyterian Church,

Thank you for allowing us to use your beautiful church for our OBOB regionals! We're blessed to have community members like you support us. Thank you, also, for all the volunteers to make it run smoothly.

Sincerely,

The Explosive Books Team (Paul, Jacoby, AJ, Stella)

Valley hosting the tournament made it possible for BSD students to compete and allowed us to expand our support of community partners as part of our three year vision.



Above: Teams and families gathered in Valley's gym for OBOB.



Right: Thank you flowers from Raleigh Park School.

Graduates in your family this Spring?

Send the information to angie@valleycommunity.org
in the church office to be included
in upcoming Messenger issues.



A Kid's Life, the Musical!



SPRING MUSICAL

Join us Sunday, May 5, at 3:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary for a spring musical presented by our Melodia Children's Choir.

This wholesome musical tells the tale of a massive electromagnetic emergency that has jammed all technical systems so there is no electricity, no cell phones, no laptops, no video games – NO FUN! The kids are in a panic and don't know what to do, until Grandpa and Grandma arrive on the scene and introduce them to a day filled with adventure, music and imagination – all without fancy gadgets!

Following the 35 minutes performance, join us for root beer floats and classic games in the gym.

Rhythm and Rainbows



Shake, rattle, and roll into a morning of music, songs, and parachute play especially designed for children ages seven and under on April 27, 10:00

a.m. No registration required in the free family-friendly event. Each child will leave with a shaker and rainbow ribbons to continue the experience at home.



Summer Camp: A Musical Caper

When: July 15-19, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. daily

Who: Students entering 2nd-6th grades in the fall of 2024

What: Participants will learn a mini-musical "Summer Camp, A Musical Caper" all

about the hilarious joys of going to camp. This joyful experience will include drama games, musical and theatrical skill development, and community building.

Performance: Friday, 7/19, 6:30-7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary

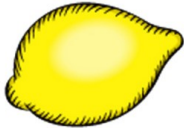
Cost: \$175 - suggested, but flexible. If this is too much for your budget, pay the amount that works for you. We do not want cost to prohibit any child from participating.

Details: Bring a lunch and water bottle.

Questions: Contact program director Amy Rheingans at amy@valleycommunity.org

Register: Visit <https://www.valleyyouthchoirs.org/summer-drama-camp-2023>

Thank you!



projectlemonade
Inspiring self-esteem in foster youth

A huge thank you to so many of you who donated to our stuffed animal drive this month to support Project Lemonade, a Non-profit organization that provides high quality services to meet the needs of foster youth. With the help of our preschool and church communities we were able to collect almost 200 stuffed animals which will help reach Project Lemonade's goal of sending each foster child home with a stuffed animal. We're so grateful to all of you for your generous donations!

~Danielle Ames, Valley Christian Preschool

Valley Youth Announcements

1) The Youth Committee would like to express joyful appreciation to Ruthann Marquis, who planned and facilitated an engaging discussion with our youth on the Second Sunday in March, about Valley as an Earth Care Congregation and about recycling. Thank you, Ruthann!



2) Youth Mission Update! Lars Hoffbeck, Aaron Jenkins, Claire Bedsaul, and Emlila Ensrud are the four Valley Youth who will join with youth from First Presbyterian, Portland for a service/learning opportunity on the Yakama Reservation in Washington this coming July 14-19 through SLAM (Students Learning About Missions). Please keep these students, their families, and adult leaders in your prayers as they prepare for their trip, meet new youth and adults from 1st Pres and form the team, and continue to raise money for the trip.



Valley Notes

Opportunities

One Great Hour of Sharing: Our special collection will continue to be collected. One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) envelopes are now in the pew racks or found in the materials mailed to you. Please consider giving generously as these funds help others here in America and all around the world with the Disaster Relief, Hunger Relief, and Self-development projects. Thank you from your Mission Committee.

The Women's Bible Study will meet on Thursday, April 11, in the Fireside Room at 1:00 p.m. We will be studying *Sacred Encounters*. We hope you will join us!

Do you have bottles and cans that you just don't know what to do with? Please consider donating them to the youth! Grab a blue bag located in the gym and turn them in to the BottleDrop. Funds go towards our youth mission trips.

Non-perishable food will still be collected on the first and third Thursday of each month, 10:00-11:30 a.m. in the back parking lot of Valley. Items will be delivered to the St. Matthew's Food Pantry. We are no longer collecting Styrofoam.

Prayers

We pray for those with health concerns:

Bruce Armstrong, Marilyn Tuffs

We pray for those who mourn:

- The Blair Family and friends on the death of Craig Blair on February 11, 2024. A memorial service will be held at Valley on Saturday, April 20 at 3:00 p.m.

We pray for our Pastor Nominating Committee:

Jan Bellis-Squires, Amy Dee, Sarah Martin, Harry Reeder, Amy Rheingans, Jim Sandberg, and Tina Teed

Earth Care Corner

In light of the Earth Day Recycling Event at Valley on April 20, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., we will have several educational tables. There are three local companies new to Valley's recycling effort: Scrap, Untonne and Mama and Hapa's.



SCRAP is a donation-based creative reuse store and donation center. It is located at 1736 NW Alder Street. Their mission is to inspire creative reuse and environmentally sustainable behavior by providing educational programs and affordable materials to the community. They are a part of the SCRAP Creative Reuse network which has grassroots creative reuse centers across the country.

They carry all kinds of reused materials for arts and crafts—plus school, office, and party supplies. They also offer a small collection of new and necessary items, like glue and magnets. The inventory changes constantly so you never know what you're going to find!



Untonne was started to make climate change a non-issue for the next generation - and provide an easy solution for everyday people to help with that mission. Untonne connects you with emission reduction and reforestation solutions that have big ecological and humanitarian benefits. Options start at \$9.50/month. Such projects include purchasing solar ovens (see picture) that reduce the lung cancer that many women suffer from cooking over smoky pits.



Last to be at the recycle event is Mama and Hapa's Zero Waste Shop which has four locations. The nearest is located in downtown Beaverton at 12695 SW Crescent Ave. How it works is that their custom RFID system makes the dispensing of liquids contactless. No need to touch bottles or surfaces. They dispense by volume, not weight. Bring in any kind of container and fill it up! For example if you are out of shampoo for thick hair, head over to the shampoo barrels with an empty jar and leave your RFID card in its slot until the bottle is full. Delivery is also available to addresses in and around the Portland metro area.

THE MESSENGER



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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME DATED MATERIAL



CONGREGATIONAL
>>>>> MEETING <<<<<

A Congregational Meeting
has been called for Sunday, April 21, directly after 10:00 a.m. worship
for the purpose of electing
church officers, and the Church Officer Nominating Committee.

The graphic features a background of a satellite-style map with blue and red areas. The text is overlaid on a blue and red horizontal band. The word 'CONGREGATIONAL' is in white on a blue background, and 'MEETING' is in white on a red background, flanked by white arrow symbols. The main announcement text is in a white box at the bottom.