

Where Gratitude  
is Paid Forward



# STEWARDSHIP 2023

DEDICATION SUNDAY  
NOVEMBER 6, 2022

Dear Friends,

This fall found the Stewardship Team grappling with large issues that would impact the 2023 budget. A welcome return to in-person worship led to the need for increased staffing support. Our beloved Mission Station, the church building, demanded ongoing repair. The recent passing of faithful members meant we would face a substantial giving loss moving forward. Then, on top of these already large needs, we learned that our flat roof needed replacement, estimated to cost \$250,000.

We started with our staff, recognizing them for their dedication and hard work. At Valley, we understand that we depend upon the creative energies of our staff to keep Valley Church a generous member of this community. To support the revived increase in programming, we determined that a 4% increase in member giving is needed to fully fund the staff salary budget for 2023.

Our attention then turned to the remaining budgetary challenges facing our congregation. How do we best address a pledging deficit and the ongoing, necessary building repair and replacement needs? How do we do this while avoiding a capital campaign for the first time in years?

We received an amazing answer to our prayers! We learned that Valley would be the recipient of substantial estate gifts from our longtime members. We prayerfully considered how to use the generous estate gifts. A portion of the gifts will be used to cover the majority of our building needs. Then, our

current members showed their love for this congregation by going above and beyond, contributing the additional \$70,000 needed as a one-time gift. This is truly a blessing as we enter a year that is in an economic downturn.

As Stewardship, Endowment, and the Finance Teams reflected on this, we said to each other this year surely must be a **Season of Gratitude**. Even during a global pandemic, Valley was able to provide extra gifts to the community. Mission Sunday reminded us that our last *Breathing Life Capital Campaign* added \$40,000 in gifts to our community. Paul's second letter to the Corinthians tells us that God's abundance toward us makes it possible to then give generously by paying it forward. Valley cares and responds in gratitude.

Keeping the focus on gratitude, the Stewardship committee asked our church family to share why they are grateful for Valley. The responses from the Gratitude Survey filled eight pages of inspiration. This brochure includes just a few of the heartwarming comments we received. We are hoping that each member will consider their pledge as an expression of gratitude for all that God has done for us.

With the loss of generous givers, we know we will have a deficit in our pledges. Would you consider adding all or part of what you and your family contributed to the 2022 Breathing Life campaign to your 2023 pledge? Your additional contribution will greatly help eliminate a substantial gap in giving and keep us on track for the future.

All of us at Valley are filled with gratitude as many members return after our long isolation of worshiping from home. Let us make this year a new start and find a new way to be the church together in 2023!

“  
*The one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by having enough, you may then show your gratitude through your generous offerings.*  
”  
II Corinthians 9

**Valley**  
Community  
Presbyterian Church

Open Hearts • Open Minds • Opening Lives to God

In love and gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Buller'.

Rev. Richard Buller, Pastor

# EDUCATION



**Mary Rom**

I am grateful that Valley provides me with direction and nurtures my faith. With Valley's help, I am encouraged to be an active participant in showing God's love.



**Arlene Freeberg**

I am grateful for the education and awareness that I have gained by participating in the opportunities presented. I am grateful for the commitment Valley shows to making a difference in our community and in the world in multiple ways. I am grateful for a community that surrounds others with love and care.

- TEAMS & Youth Group meet weekly
- Weekly virtual Faith Formation email
- Confirmation classes and Bible study groups
- Regular Family and Faith Formation in-person events
- Adult Education programming with Monthly intergenerational events

## Where Gratitude



# FELLOWSHIP



**Craig Gottschalk**

We are grateful for the outpouring of love and generosity that resides at what is the very core of this congregation and staff. There is never a doubt in knowing that "You are important. You are loved." And for that, we are grateful for the people that make Valley, Valley.



**Andrew Pitan**

I'm grateful for the groups I am part of: Mission Possible, Brew Crew, Youth group, and softball team. I have made many new friends and connections within these groups and they have also given me the opportunity to volunteer with some great organizations. Through all of this Valley has helped make me the person I am today. I'm grateful for a church who cares about their members.

- Fall Festival
- Men's Monthly Lunch
- Scholarship Tea
- Gardening Group
- Brew Crew
- Lunch Bunch
- Golf Outings
- Adult Retreats

# MISSION



**Ben Kummer**

I'm just perpetually grateful to be part of a community that does so much to help those in need all around us. We're truly mission-minded and using our faith in a way that benefits the entire community.



**Ann Roach**

I am grateful to be part of a Welcoming community where people put words into action; feeding the hungry, clothing the poor and helping those in need.

- Studying Land Acknowledgment
- Monthly immigrant detainee prison prayer vigils
- Earth Care Congregation and Sustainability Group
- Participating in ongoing Afghan refugee sponsorship
- Supporting numerous community partner organizations

*is Paid Forward*



# WORSHIP



**Jim and Diane Cook**

Our pastor, Richard, cares for us and cares that we live out our commitment to follow Jesus. He not only tells us what that is, but he shows us by his own personal investment & involvement.



**Mike and Camille Pinter**

We are grateful to Valley for giving us a spiritual home where we have raised our family, for all of the educational opportunities, for the wonderful gifts of music provided every week, for the great leaders who provide spiritual guidance/motivation and for our wonderful Valley family whose fellowship has been a cornerstone of our lives for so many years.

- Liturgy and prayer presented by all generations
- Musical performances by guests and Valley members
- Thematic sermons that broaden our perspectives
- Enhanced equipment for member outreach and to encourage new visitors



# GIVING FROM THE HEART



Stewardship season gives us the opportunity to reflect on the past year, and to be grateful for all the ways Valley enriches our lives and those in our community. We are grateful for an amazing staff and for all of the volunteers who dedicate their time and talent to do God's work.

This past year, we experienced the loss of several members of our congregation. These members gave of their time, talents and treasures greatly over the years, and we are grateful for the time they spent with Valley.

This year, the Valley Stewardship Committee and Session asks you to consider a pledge increase of 4%. This increase will help us 1) close the gap created by the members who are no longer with us; 2) increase budget for staff salaries due to the need for more support as we get back to our in-person activities; and 3) pay for a cost-of-living increase for our staff.

There will be no Capital Campaign next year! We ask you to consider giving all or a portion of what you have been giving to the Breathing Life campaign towards the 2023 Stewardship campaign.

We thank you in advance for your gifts of time, talent and treasures!

If my/our 2022 pledge is:	and my/our increased commitment this year is...							
	1%	2%	3%	4%	5%	6%	7%	8%
	then my/our annual pledge for 2023 will increase by...							
\$100	\$1	\$2	\$3	\$4	\$5	\$6	\$7	\$8
\$300	\$3	\$6	\$9	\$12	\$15	\$18	\$21	\$24
\$500	\$5	\$10	\$15	\$20	\$25	\$30	\$35	\$40
\$700	\$7	\$14	\$21	\$28	\$35	\$42	\$49	\$56
\$1,000	\$10	\$20	\$30	\$40	\$50	\$60	\$70	\$80
\$2,000	\$20	\$40	\$60	\$80	\$100	\$120	\$140	\$160
\$3,000	\$30	\$60	\$90	\$120	\$150	\$180	\$210	\$240
\$4,000	\$40	\$80	\$120	\$160	\$200	\$240	\$280	\$320
\$5,000	\$50	\$100	\$150	\$200	\$250	\$300	\$350	\$400
\$6,000	\$60	\$120	\$180	\$240	\$300	\$360	\$420	\$480
\$7,000	\$70	\$140	\$210	\$280	\$350	\$420	\$490	\$560
\$8,000	\$80	\$160	\$240	\$320	\$400	\$480	\$560	\$640
\$9,000	\$90	\$180	\$270	\$360	\$450	\$540	\$630	\$720
\$10,000	\$100	\$200	\$300	\$400	\$500	\$600	\$700	\$800

## Guide to Growth Chart

This guide has been developed to reflect your giving level this year, and how much your pledge would increase given a range up to 8%. A family or household can choose to be represented as one pledging unit, or expand into individual units.

Units may include one or more people living in the same family or household. They may even include children who live elsewhere but are still considered part of the household. Please contact the church office if you need additional pledge cards.

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## Your Stewardship Team

Lisa Kummer, Chair  
 Craig Gottschalk  
 Nancy Husnik  
 Brian Parks  
 Mariah Messer  
 Rev. Richard Buller