

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**4/12**  
VGA LUNCHEON

**4/14**  
WOMEN'S RETREAT  
TABLE REGISTRATION

**4/19**  
MOPS

**4/19**  
GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

**4/21**  
EASTER SERVICES

**4/23**  
ALPHA & REASONABLE  
FAITH START AGAIN

**4/26**  
ALPHA COOKOUTS  
START

**4/28**  
WELCOME LUNCH

**5/5**  
DISCOVER CLASS

**6/24-6/28**  
ART CAMP &  
TENNIS CAMP

**7/15-7/19**  
VBS

**7/29-8/2**  
SPORTS CAMP

## HIGHLIGHTS

The Weekly CHASER is available on the credenza in the sanctuary lobby and as a PDF that you can edit and save.

Visit: <http://valleychurch.org/v/chaser/> and click on the link for the CHASER you want to access. For questions, email [darrens@valleychurch.org](mailto:darrens@valleychurch.org)

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Thank you to those who completed the survey regarding the Valley Church Community Newsletter. We have listened to your feedback and would like to distribute a Newsletter that is more useful to you. Here is the revamped version, which will now provide information and announcements that you do not necessarily receive from other church sources.

## BUILDING BRIDGES

Grab your hard hat because there's vision construction at Valley Church. It's called "Building Bridges Inside and Out." Pastor Kurt shared it with us on Sunday, April 7. Here's what it's all about:

"Building Bridges Inside and Out" means:

- All our people GROWING in groups
- Our groups SHOWING God's love
- Our church KNOWING how God is working

Here's some extra information:

**Bullet #1:** We believe that active membership in a DISCIPLE Group or ministry team is an indispensable spiritual habit. We can't "abound" in love and care for each other's "needs" (Phil. 1:9; 4:16) if we're not journeying with others in smaller bands, learning Scripture, praying and having fun. So we'll keep trying to involve people in groups.

**Bullet #2:** We believe that when groups reach out together, ministry is more enjoyable and effective. Jesus' disciples were a team that proclaimed the Kingdom and ministered to lost people together. Paul also loved to work with partners (Phil 4:3). We want to capture Paul's "we'll do it together" method. So we'll encourage our groups to participate together in one of the following five highlighted Showing projects:

1. Alpha/Reasonable Faith
2. Tennis and Sports Ministry
3. ISF (including welcome dinners, weekly meetings and friendship partners)
4. Children's Ministry outreach events (STEM Fair, Angel Breakfast, Bunny Breakfast, VBS and Camps)
5. MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)

Of course, no group will be forced to serve in one of the five highlighted Showing projects. Groups will be free to express God's love to outsiders as the Spirit leads them.

**Bullet #3:** We believe that praise stories glorify God and encourage believers to be bold (Phil. 1:12-14). So we want to have more live testimonies, videos and pictures for the "praise of God" (Phil. 1:11). We'll do this through worship services and two church-wide Celebration Lunches. For questions, talk to any staff member! Click [HERE](#) for staff contacts.



## MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRIES

The Middle School Ministries (LOL) girls got together this year for a "Tea Party." Below is an article about the event by one of the participants, Savannah Kapcoe (8th grade):



*"I love getting together with friends, hanging out, reading books, and eating food. Well, apparently the awesome leaders at LOL (middle school group) knew this. They scheduled a book exchange/tea party for all the girls in middle school. We were to bring a book to the party. When we had eaten a delightful lunch, we exchanged books. I had a great time! The environment was relaxed, friendly, and fun. I love the novel I received and finished it the next day. The tea party was the highlight of my day, and I enjoyed it so much. This is only one great event that happens at youth group! Meeting on Friday night is what I look forward to almost every week. We enjoy all sorts of activities--dodgeball, overnight events, and holiday parties. It's a great place to make friends and have a great time. The leaders are awesome, and I always have a great time at youth group. I'm very thankful for the LOL ministry ."*

For more information about LOL, email **Clayton Eddleman** at [clayton@valleychurch.org](mailto:clayton@valleychurch.org).

LOL also has a Middle School Band Ministry (Speak Life) that meets on Fridays at 5:00pm. The Speak Life Band is looking for more musicians (keys, guitar, bass, drums and vocals.) For more information, email **Lisa Chen** at [lisa@valleychurch.org](mailto:lisa@valleychurch.org).

## SPARROWS MINISTRY

January 10, 2019, marked the first anniversary of the "hatch" of Sparrows Ministry, a Valley Church ministry to special needs adults. Every Wednesday morning, Sparrows flutter to the Student Center to participate in Bible stories and verses, music, movement and art. Each activity is designed with a sensory-rich approach to appeal to all kinds of learners. Sparrows also looks for opportunities to serve other ministries. In 2018, they baked treats for Operation Christmas Child (OCC) volunteers, Zimbabwe team members and Women's Bible Study attendees. Sparrows also unloaded shoe boxes for OCC and counted bottles and cans for the service project at Vacation Bible School (VBS). Our Sparrows ministry started with 2 families and has since grown to 6! The families have become a close-knit community, providing support for one another. We give God the glory for starting this much needed ministry at Valley, and we look expectantly to see how God will guide the expansion of this ministry in the future. Sparrows welcomes you to help, teach or just be a friend. For more information, email **Joanna Pau** at [sparrowsbible@gmail.com](mailto:sparrowsbible@gmail.com). You can find more details about Sparrows by visiting the following links:

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

<https://www.instagram.com/sparrowsbible>

<https://sparrowsbible.wordpress.com/>

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT FELLOWSHIP

International Student Fellowship (ISF) recently had their spring welcome dinner, and about 150 students attended. The ISF Ministry helps students from overseas with practical needs and provides opportunities for fellowship and friendship. All the while, ISF staff and volunteers can share the good news of the Gospel and invite students to attend church. For more information about ISF or to volunteer to help, contact **Terry Yu** at (408) 996-9413 or [terry-isf@valleychurch.org](mailto:terry-isf@valleychurch.org) or **Gary Claassen** at (408) 757-5577.



## MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE OR GIVE

**VALLEY CHURCH WORSHIP (MUSICIANS and CHOIR)**-- If you play a musical instrument for orchestra (strings, woodwind, brass), we would love for you to join Valley Church's orchestra. The orchestra plays once a month at the 9:00am service and during Easter and Christmas.

If you play an instrument in a band (drums, guitar, bass, keys), we would love your help, too. The worship band plays every Sunday at the 10:45am service.

If you like to sing traditional music (hymns and anthems), come join Joyful Sounds, the Valley Church choir that sings during the 9:00am service. If you like to sing contemporary songs, join the 10:45am service choir, which sings on special occasions.

**USHERS & GREETERS**--We have openings for you to serve as an usher and/or greeter at both the first and second services.

**SOUND TECHNICIANS**--Help is needed to oversee the soundboard during worship services, especially during first service.

For more information on these opportunities, email **DanielKim** at [daniel@valleychurch.org](mailto:daniel@valleychurch.org).

## TENNIS MINISTRY TESTIMONY

Valley Church runs a Tennis Clinic as an outreach ministry to the community. Here is a testimony from one of the Tennis Clinic's coaches:

*From a young age, I was taught that God was not real. The tennis ministry was the first step in a long process of God waging war against my pride and breaking down the barriers and walls to finally being reconciled to Him. My heart was too hardened against the message of Jesus at first, but the tennis camp was a crucial part of that process.*

*I had taken the job at Valley Church at the referral of a friend. I did not expect a gospel sharing at the end of each day's sharing session, but I stayed each time because I at least wanted to respect my employers and what they were trying to do with these kids. To be honest, I sat in the back with mostly a judgmental attitude towards the different messages that were presented, thinking that I was above what was being taught. I specifically remember the presentation of the grape juice and the pig feces as a representation of sin and thinking how ridiculous that was... and yet clearly, it stuck with me. When I tell people about the corrupting effects of sin, that's still the first illustration that comes to mind — it's been almost 7 years since then! It feels like just yesterday that I was in that room listening to that message. And that was the first time that I had heard the full gospel, a message that I now live for.*

*This clinic was also some of the first interactions that I had with Christians that were bold about their faith. Thomas was especially surprising for me. Here was a guy who loved Jesus seriously and yet was a vibrant personality, filled with life. This was also the beginning of something: the body of Christ becoming less foreign and more attractive.*

*It was through that tennis camp that Edward Tung, another one of the coaches at the clinic, connected me to his son, who happened to be doing ministry at the UC Berkeley campus, and the person who ended up leading me to Christ two years later. God knew exactly what I needed, the people that I needed to meet, the experiences that I needed, and He perfectly orchestrated that so I could be adopted as His Son. If He saved me, He can save others, too!*

For more information about the Tennis Ministry, email **Thomas Sorrentino** at [thomas@valleychurch.org](mailto:thomas@valleychurch.org).

## DEACONS & ELDER

Valley Church has confirmed 19 new deacons and a new elder, Jamie Allen, this year. For the list of the deacons, click [HERE](#). For information about Jamie Allen, click [HERE](#).