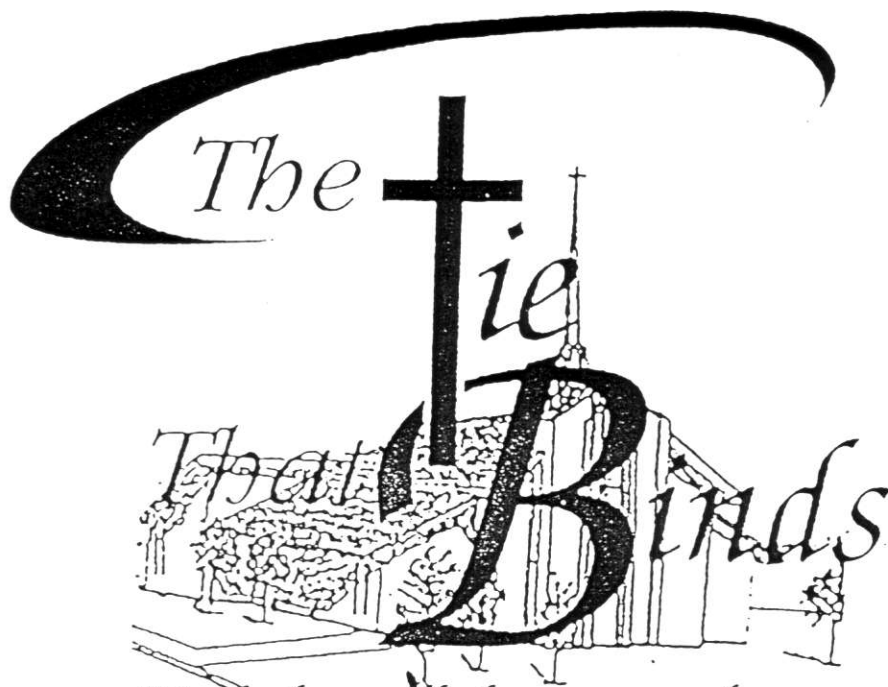


# Congregational Church of the Valley

your community Congregational Church



*"And above all these put on love,  
which binds everything together  
in perfect harmony."*

*Colossians 3:14*

## Our Covenant

We covenant with the Lord and one with another and do acknowledge our faith in Christ Jesus as Lord and Savior and take for our rule of life His own words: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind and with all thy strength; and thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

I M P O R T A N T

D A Y S



# **Pentecost**

T H I S I S

O N E

O F T H E M

The word, Pentecost, is derived from the Greek word PENTEKOSTOS, meaning fiftieth, which was applied to the fiftieth day after Passover.

In the Christian Church, Pentecost is the anniversary of the coming of the Holy Spirit. When Jesus ascended, He instructed His disciples to remain in Jerusalem until they received Power from on High. As a group of 120 were praying in the upper room in Jerusalem, fifty days after His death, the Holy Spirit descended upon them with the sound of a rushing wind and with tongues of fire which settled upon each of them. This tremendous manifestation of divine power marked the beginning of the church which has ever since regarded Pentecost as its birthday.

In the church year, Pentecost covered the period from Easter to Pentecost Sunday. The day itself was regarded as a day of celebration and was is the third great Christian feast after Christmas and Easter. This year, Pentecost Sunday is June 8 (the fiftieth day after Easter).

What does it mean for us? I'd like to say that it was the day when theology was turned into biography. God is asked us to be the chief bearers of His likeness in the world. As Spirit, He remains invisible on this planet. He relies upon us to give flesh to that Spirit, to bear the very image of God.

Several years ago, on the "Merv Griffin Show", Merv interviewed some body builders. Merv stood there looking at these guys who had muscles on muscles, and he asked a very poignant question: "What do you guys use all those muscles for?"

The guy said, "I'll show you." And by flexing his muscles, he showed him one of those body building poses.

"No, you don't understand me," said Merv. "What do you USE all of those muscles for?"

The guy said, "I'll show you." And, again, he flexed his muscles in another way.

"No! No! You still don't understand my question. Read my lips. What do you use them for?"

The guy posed again.....

The tragedy is, there are Christians like that, aren't there? They keep building up their spiritual muscles but never put them to work for the