

“The beautiful spring came; and when Nature resumes her loveliness, the human soul is apt to revive also.”

- Harriet Ann Jacobs,
African-American
Writer



April Birthdays at OLOV

- 2 Patricia Harris
- 6 Inez Barton
- 15 Lillian Peters
- 21 Arleta DeHart
- 23 Era Shufflebarger
- 24 Marolyn Jensen
- 29 Martha Barry
- 30 Mary Spignolo



This month the Birthday Party will be on the **last Wednesday** in April. Check your calendars and come on down!



Your birthday's not this month? No worries! What's a birthday party without friends? Everyone's invited!

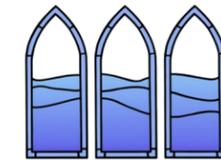
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Valley Voices

A publication for the residents, families, and friends of
Our Lady of the Valley



Our Lady
OF THE VALLEY
RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

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Last Month at Our Lady of the Valley

We started off the beginning of last month with a Mardi Gras Party! We had the tables filled with colorful beads, fun headbands, and masks for the resident's to wear. There were two lucky resident's who found the baby in their slice of traditional King Cake! The next week we celebrated with a St. Patrick's Day Bash! We threw a party with lots of green beads, fun themed headbands, and what kind of party would it have been without the green beer?! At the party we played St. Patrick's Day themed hangman and a game we like to call "pot of gold." The resident's had to throw a lucky green poker chip into a yellow covered bin.

Also, in March, we tried out a new activity called Minute to Win It! There are tons of games to choose from but the resident's were tasked with stack attack, Cheetos toss, suck it up, marshmallow toss, and finally ended the games with cookie face. Another new activity we facilitated last month was a Paint Class with our very own Activities Coordinator, Laura! She provided a step by step paint class with the resident's. Each resident had their own easel and canvas to work on. Laura showed them step by step how to paint a beautiful blooming cherry tree, perfect for welcoming in Spring! We will have another paint class taught by Laura in April. Hope to see you all there!



April is:

- Brothers and Sisters Month
- Garden Month
- 1: April Fool's Day
- 6: New Beer's Eve
- 7: National Beer Day
- 12: National Licorice Day
- 21: Easter Sunday
- 22: Earth Day
- 22: National Jelly Bean Day
- 24: Administrative Professionals Day



Pastor's Corner

It has been said that "opportunity knocks but once". In Thomas Shelton's 1620 translation of Cervantes' Don Quixote he says: "It is not fit that while good luck is knocking at our door, we shut it." I suppose we all have a similar understanding of "opportunity" as it has been used in literature as synonymous with luck and possibility.

The origin of the word, however is somewhat different than today's usage. It can be traced back to 43 B.C. in Latin writings as "opportunitas", composed of two terms: ob, meaning "towards" and portus, meaning "port." This word mainly used in terms of navigation, where sailors used the phrase "ob portus" to describe the best conditions of wind, current and tide for them to sail back home. Other variables entered into the equation as well, such as the location of the ships home port, as well as the Captains desire to return. So as you can see sailing safely home after a long journey at sea had nothing to do with "Luck" at all. It did have everything to do with the Captain's skilled observation of the ships surroundings.

Often times while reading the Bible our understanding can be limited to our experience, such as the case in our use of words like opportunity. If not careful we may miss the intended application of a verse. I find it a wonderful thing though that God has considered this as our human condition and made provision to remedy it.

Isaiah 55:10- 11 " For as the rain or snow drops from Heaven and returns not there, but soaks the earth and makes it bring forth vegetation yielding seed for sowing and bread for eating. So is the word that issues from My mouth: it does not come back to Me unfulfilled, but performs what I purpose, achieves what I sent it to do."

I encourage you to read your Bible everyday this month, and pray that the Holy Spirit gives understanding.

Pastor Al



What's Happening in April?

April 1: April Fools' Day

Isn't it funny that National Humor Month starts with April Fools' Day? April Fools' Day is one of the most widely celebrated nonreligious holidays. Here are some of the best pranks:

- On April 1, 1933, the *Madison Capital-Times* printed a photo with a story that the state Capitol building had been destroyed by a series of explosions due to hot gas. The "hot gas," of course, referred to the politicians debating inside, but people believed the story.
- On April 1, 2013, Google launched Google Nose, which supposedly could transfer scent files. When buttons labeled *diaper* or *wet dog* appeared on their computer screens, people plastered their noses to their screens, trying to smell the odors.

April 10: Outing to the Senior Fun and Health Day at the Salem Civic Center

A fun filled event for Seniors 55+

- Visit with vendors and businesses
- Music and entertainment
- Line Dancing demonstration courtesy of Salem Parks & Recreation's Senior Center
- Cooking demonstrations at the Chef's Trailer
- Bingo, door prizes and much more!

April 17: Easter Bonnet Contest and Refreshments

On this day be sure to wear your decorated Easter Bonnet's and parade them around for everyone to see. We will also have cupcakes for both resident's and staff to decorate with an assortment of toppings to choose from to make it your very own!

April 26: Painting with Laura

Come enjoy a morning of step by step painting class with our Activities Coordinator, Laura. Last month the painting was of a beautiful blooming cherry tree. Come out in April to see what she is going to paint next!

April 27: Outing to the Dogwood Festival

The Vinton Dogwood Festival, now in its 64th year, right in the heart of Virginia's Blue Ridge. The Festival provides entertainment for all in a family friendly setting. The festival is all volunteers and associated with local organizations such as Roanoke County schools, Boy and Girl Scouts, Lions Clubs, local churches and area nonprofits.

Entertainment

Carnival from noon-11pm

- 10am, William Byrd Jazz Band
- 10am, World Tai Chi Celebration
- 11am, Floyd Ward Dance
- 11am-2pm Bluegrass
- 12 noon, Marie Anderson
- 1pm, Fuzzy Logic Duo, feat. Scott Joshway
- 6-10pm, U.B.U. The Band \$5

Festival

1. Craft Show—9am
2. Business Showcase—9am
3. Carnival Food Vendors—Time Varies
4. Food Vendors—9am
5. Free Kids' Zone—10am
6. Car Show—10am
7. Vinton History Museum Open House-10
8. Crowning of Dogwood Queen—12 noon
9. Parade Route Start—2:30pm
10. Parade Route Finish

