



GOOD NEWS

The Village Church *Good News* is published monthly (September-May) for all members and friends of Village Church. Readers are encouraged to submit article ideas to The Department of Communications, 6641 Mission Road, Prairie Village, KS 66208, or call 913-671-2375 or email laura.davis@villagepres.org.

Spring Village U Preview

What do the Psalms tell us about life amid disruption? Where do Christians stand on abortion and protecting the life of the unborn as well as the mother? What does the New Testament letter to the Colossians tell us about how we live together? Who was Jesus Christ—really? How do Christians live in relationship with other faiths? Spring 2022 Village U classes explore these questions and many more. A team of skilled, inspiring instructors include Dr. Cameron Howard, professor of Old Testament from Luther Theological Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota; Dr. William P. Brown, professor of Old Testament from Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia; Dr. Trenton Smith, art historian and theologian; Rev. Glenda Watts, a retired local pastor and expert on Celtic spirituality, and pastors Rev. Sally Wright and Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka. Registration is open on Jan. 10. Classes run from February through mid-May. For more information, contact laura.hobbs@villagepres.org.

Upcoming Village U Classes

Art & Leisure

Monday Handworks & E-Works, 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Mondays, Feb. 7-May 9

Yarnworks Circle, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Mondays,
Feb. 7-May 9

Boomerangs, 10 a.m.-noon Tuesdays, year-round

Wednesday Handworks & E-Works, 9:30-
11:30 a.m. Wednesdays, Feb. 9-May 11

Photography Editing and Graphic Design, 9:30-
11:30 a.m. Wednesdays, Feb. 9-May 11

The Pointer Sisters (Needlepoint), 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Wednesdays

Continuing Watercolor, 1-3 p.m. Wednesdays,
Feb. 9-May 11

Friday Handworks & E-Works, 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Fridays, Feb.11-May 13

Christian Life

Fellowship of Christian Athletes Bible Study,
7:30-8:30 a.m. Wednesdays, year-round

Especially for Women, taught by Rev. Diane
Quaintance, 9:30-11 a.m. Fridays, Jan. 7-May 27

Men's Breakfast and Bible with Tom Are, 7:30-
8:30 a.m. Tuesdays, Feb. 1-March 29

The Old Testament for a Complex World,
taught by Prof. Cameron B. R. Howard, 6:30-8 p.m.
Wednesdays, Feb. 2-23, via Zoom only

**Outside of Ourselves: A Crash Course on
Comparative Religions**, taught by Dr. Trenton
Smith, 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Feb. 2-23, in-person
and via Zoom

**Abortion and the Church: Where Do Christians
Stand in the Life and Death Debate?**, taught by
Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays,
Feb. 16 & 23, in-person and via Zoom

**Discovering God's Vision for Your Life: You and
Your Spiritual Gifts**, taught by Rev. Sally S. Wright,
6-7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, March 1, 8, 22, 29

**Deep Calls to Deep: The Psalms in Dialogue and
Disruption**, taught by Prof. William P. Brown, 6:30-
8 p.m. Wednesdays, March 9-30, via Zoom only

**Decolonizing the Church: Building Beloved
Community**, taught by Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka,
6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, March 9-30

**From the Beginning:
The History of Village
Church**, led by Judy
Cooper, Heritage
Committee of Village
Church, 11a.m.-noon
Thursdays, March 24 & 31



Christology 101: Who is Jesus?, taught by Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, April 6-27, in-person and via Zoom

Celtic Spirituality: Listening for the Heartbeat of God, taught by Rev. Glenda Watts, 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, April 20, 27 and May 4, 11

Book of Colossians: New Life in the Household of God, taught by Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, May 4 & 11 in-person and via Zoom

Informational

Depression: How I Cope and Why I Talk About It, led by Dr. John Hall and hosted by Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, March 22

Creating a Meaningful Purpose-Driven Generosity Plan, Alison Patterson and Bob Sperry, 7-8 p.m. Tuesday, April 26

Life Skills

Tech Talk with Tony, taught by Tony Liu, 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, April 5, May 3

How to Locate and Organize Files, Folders, and Pictures on an Apple Computer, taught by Dee Couch, 1-2:30 p.m. & 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, April 19

Using Mail Merge to Create Form Letters, taught by Dee Couch, 1-2:30 p.m. & 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, April 26

Connecting a Smart Device to a Smart TV, taught by Dee Couch, 1-2:30 p.m. & 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, May 10

Beginning Spanish: Español Para Todos, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Mondays, Jan. 10-May 9

Literature

Great Books Discussion, 2-3:30 p.m. First Tuesday of each month, Jan. 4-May 3

The Works of George Saunders: "CivilWarLand in Bad Decline," "Tenth of December," and "Lincoln in the Bardo," taught by Kelly Fast, 6-7:30 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 20-March 3

Visit villagepres.org/village-u-community-classes for class details and to register.

Travel with Mark in the Sermon Series "Life in the Wilderness"

Three decades after the ministry of Jesus, life was chaotic for Christians in the Roman empire. Serious earthquakes occurred. Christians became scapegoats for the disastrous fire that destroyed much of Rome, and as a result, were rounded up and put to death by the most horrific means. A Jewish revolt was put down by the Roman Army, leaving the temple in Jerusalem destroyed—again. During this tumultuous time, someone we call Mark wrote the first Gospel. He tells the story that changes the world.

In this sermon series, which runs Jan. 2-April 17, we will travel with Mark from the beginning to the resurrection. Life 2,000 years after Jesus remains chaotic, but perhaps this story will change us. Mark bears witness that there can be abundant life even in the wilderness.

Star Words for 2022 are Available

Star Words have become a modern-day ritual related to Epiphany (Jan. 6), when the wise ones are believed to have reached the Christ child by following the star. Like the wise ones, we seek Jesus, trusting that God uses many paths to bring us closer to the Divine.

Star Words are paper or wooden stars with one word on each related to our spiritual life in Christ. You are encouraged to simply draw a star out of the basket and thus let the word choose you (rather than hunting through the basket for a word you like). The idea is to journey with your word through the coming year—to watch where it shows up, how it moves your heart and the ways it brings you closer to God.

If you missed worship on Jan. 2, baskets of Star Words will be available on Sunday, Jan. 9. (At our Mission Campus, these will be in the Narthex, Welcome Center and Friendship Hall. At our Antioch Campus, they will be at the Welcome desk.) After Jan. 9, Star Words will be available at the south reception desk at our Mission Campus or in the Antioch Campus office.

May God bless your journey in this coming year!

Welcome Nancy Gatewood as Interim Director of Connectional Ministries

As we said farewell to Cindy Wilcox on Jan. 2, Village Church member Nancy Gatewood stepped in to serve part-time as interim director of Connectional Ministries. We are grateful for Cindy's 16 ½ years of service and wish her the best as she begins a well-deserved retirement. Nancy has already begun working alongside Cindy to make the transition as smooth as possible.

"As we prayerfully considered who might step in as interim director following Cindy's faithful leadership, Nancy quickly came to mind," says Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, senior associate pastor. "Nancy has participated in much of Village's life and, like Cindy, possesses a wonderful ability to connect others to God and to one another. We are so grateful for Nancy's willingness to serve in the months ahead."



Nancy says, "I was totally blown away that I felt a call to this offer. It will be a privilege to work alongside such good, good people."

Nancy began attending services at Village in 1964 when her family moved to Roeland Park from Newton,

Kansas. She officially joined in 1974.

Nancy has a nursing degree and worked as a nurse for 10 years at Children's Mercy and the Johnson County Public Health Department. After staying home with her two daughters, she spent 21 years as a paraprofessional in the DeSoto School District.

Nancy has been on the Hillcrest Transitional Housing volunteer team since it began in 2014. She is a Food Pantry volunteer and is on the Food Pantry Advisory Board; her assistance at the Food Pantry was especially vital during the pandemic from March 2020-December 2021. She has been a BackSnack coordinator and Mission Committee member. Currently, Nancy serves on the Connectional Ministries committee and participates in the Faxon PAL tutoring program. Make sure you introduce yourself to her next time you see her!

JANUARY 10

Registration opens for Spring Village U Classes at villagepres.org/village-u-community-classes.

JANUARY 11

10-11:15 a.m. Mission Campus Preschool Parent Information Meeting in Room 232. Do you know a child ages 3-5 who is ready for preschool? Join us for an information meeting in preparation for the 2022-2023 school year. Questions? Contact Sarah McKee at sarah.mckee@villagepres.org. See below for more information about Mission Preschool enrollment dates.

JANUARY 12

Curbside Pickup Wednesday Family Meals resume. Order meals by noon Mondays at villagepres.org/wednesday-family-dinners.

JANUARY 13

12:15 p.m. Second Thursday Recital with the Stan Kessler Trio in the Mission Campus Sanctuary. Reception to follow in the Welcome Center.

JANUARY 25

Noon-6 p.m. Blood Drive in Rooms 132 & 133 at the Village Church Mission Campus.

PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT OPENS AT MISSION CAMPUS

It is enrollment time for the 2022-2023 school year! Village Church Preschool at Mission Campus will open enrollment for 3-, 4- and 5-year-old students on the following dates:

Monday, Jan. 24 - Current Preschool families

Thursday, Jan. 27 - Current Village KDO families and Village Church members

Friday, Jan. 28 - Former Preschool families

Monday, Jan. 31 - Community members

Enrollment applications can be found at villagepres.org/preschool. For questions, contact preschool director Sarah McKee at sarah.mckee@villagepres.org or 913-671-2338.

Poinsettia memorial names will be listed in the February Good News.

GOOD NEWS

GOOD NEWS: Highlights for the life of your Village Church (ISSN 1542-1090) Published by the Village Presbyterian Church USA monthly 6641 Mission Road, Prairie Village, Kansas 66208-1799 Periodicals Postage paid at Kansas City MO POSTMASTER: Send address changes to GOOD NEWS: Highlights for the life of your Village Church, 6641 Mission Road, Prairie Village, KS 66208-0050

JANUARY 5, 2022
VOL. 60, NO. 1

GRATEFUL FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Village Church continues to give gifts of time, talent and treasure. Although the pandemic required that we change our routines, Village Church remains committed to worship, mission and fellowship, not only in our zip code but throughout the world. Our livestream worship services have been viewed in almost every state along with places like Portugal, Ontario, Thailand, India, France, Germany, Newfoundland and Nova Scotia. Our mission ventures to the Dominican Republic, Haiti, US/Mexico border and Thwake, Kenya are beginning to resume.

Locally we've provided a new gathering space for our growing Young Adult ministry, showed care for our environment with solar panels on the roofs at the Meneilly Center, supported initiatives to end homelessness and provide quality, affordable mental health care in our metropolitan area. The list continues to grow as we demonstrate the love God has for us and our world. Village Church is grateful for all the ways you give.

—Village Giving Committee

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Mission Campus 6641 Mission Rd.

Traditional – 8, 9:30 & 11 a.m.
In the Sanctuary
The Gathering – 5 p.m.
In Friendship Hall

Antioch Campus 14895 Antioch Rd.

Traditional - 9:30 a.m.
In the Sanctuary

Call in to hear the previous Sunday's Mission Campus Sanctuary worship service at
913-203-1301

IN MEMORY

Beverly "Bev" Booe
Marion "Al" Boggs
Kirby Deeter
Shirley Eye
Carol Hamilton
Judy Hart
Jeanette "Jean" Page
Janet Van Der Lippe