On Monday, April 3, the Village Church Session approved the recommendation of the Director of Music Ministry Search Committee. In her report to Session, committee chair Judy Wiseman said, “We all agreed with great enthusiasm that the best candidate for our next director of music ministry was our finalist, Will Breytspraak.”

If that name sounds familiar, it’s because Will grew up at Village Church. His parents are Village Church members Gus and Linda Breytspraak.

After graduating from Shawnee Mission East, Will received his Bachelor of Music degree in piano performance from Saint Olaf College. He got his Master’s in Choral Conducting from Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey.

He has served First Presbyterian Church in Atlanta as director of music and currently is a choral teacher and chair of performing arts at the Maret School in Washington, D.C. (K-12). He is also a part-time church music director and children’s chorus master for the Washington National Opera.

The search committee has been meeting since August 2016 to find the right candidate. Judy explained what the committee was looking for in their selection process.

“We were looking for an outstanding musician … a people person who has a passion for church music. Someone creative with great organizational skills, had the ability to challenge the experienced singer in the choir, but also was welcoming to the amateur musicians, would maintain and foster a community of care in the choir and would be a partner with Tom Are and the music ministry staff in worship planning. A person who would care about children's music, had experience with classical music but also incorporated other composers and styles. We also wanted someone who would work well with Matthew Shepard and Elisa Bickers and would be that good fit within this church.”

“Will Breytspraak had the whole laundry list of characteristics we were looking for,” confirmed Judy. “He truly believes that a children’s music program can compete with all the other things that kids are involved in, and we should be competing, and how can we do that and make it fun and exciting for kids so that we have them here.”

Judy shared that she took Will out for coffee at Panera when he was in town for his interview. “Before I got the lid off my coffee he was talking about ideas and pulling out music and giving wonderful perceptive ideas about things we could do with music but also has the understanding that you don't come in and just recreate things. He also has wonderful ideas about how to attract new members to the adult choir and how to get younger people involved in adult music ministry.”

“Will was the first one before the committee even asked him a question to say, ‘Your choir is probably like a small group ministry and you're probably family with each other, aren't you? That's the environment we want to keep and maintain.’”

Continued
Rev. Tom Are added, “Will’s musical skills are superb (we had Matthew Shepherd and Elisa Bickers confirm this). His personality is energetic and winsome and his faith runs deep. He loves Village and we will quickly learn to love him.”

At the end of his cover letter to the Search Committee Will wrote, “My life has been blessed by Village Church—the church family that shaped and inspired my faith and values and first revealed so many of the wonders of music to me. I would love to bring back to Village Church all that I know and all that I am.”

Judy thanked her fellow search committee members: Al Sneller, Carolyn Baruch, Darren Davidson, Judy Bliss, Rex Joyce, Sarah Parrot, Jan Petrowski and Rev. Tom Are.

She also expressed the committee’s thanks to Ryan Main, interim director of Music Ministry. “There is no way we could have taken this much time had we not known that the choir and music leadership was in good hands at this church. Ryan Main not only keeps the ship sailing, but he also has some creativity and does exciting things. Thank you.”

Rev. Are said, “Thank God for Ryan Main. We are better because of Ryan’s ministry with us…and I am grateful he will remain with us to allow a smooth transition with Will.”

Will and his wife Kate and their two children, Edie and Eleanor, will join us this summer, and he will formally start on July 15.


VILLAGE ON ANTIOCH

**An Historic First Easter at Village on Antioch**

More than 200 people gathered for our first Easter worship service at Village on Antioch. There was much to celebrate this resurrection day.

We welcomed our first new members into the membership of Village Church at Village on Antioch Easter morning. Our seven new members are Martin Bauer, Clem and Pat Barnett, Karma Blongeweciz, Chip and Tami Burger and Deborah Williamson. Read more about our new members in the May 17 Good News.

Worship was followed by a pancake breakfast and an Easter egg hunt.

Food trucks will line the Village on Antioch parking lot from 5-7 p.m. Sunday, April 30, to celebrate the new things happening at our new satellite campus. There are three trucks: BBQ, Pizza and “The Crave.” We’ll have a bouncy house for the kids, face painters and live music for a relaxing evening of community fun. The event is free. You pay for your own food at the food trucks.

Village on Antioch is located at 14895 Antioch Road in Overland Park. We’d love to have you join us. Bring your friends and neighbors, too!
**Food Pantry**

Canned Fruit Sunday is May 7. You have two weeks to hit the canned fruit sales and, hopefully, come to church carrying several cans.

April is the month for collecting cereal for the Food Pantry. The Pantry always likes to stress variety. Check out the grocery shelves and sales, and please donate generously.

The Clothes Closet is now accepting spring clothing and shoes - all sizes, adult and children, clean and sized and gently worn.

**East Hills Singers Performing at Village Church April 23**

The East Hill Singers will perform in the Village Church Sanctuary at 4 p.m. Sunday, April 23. The choir, consisting of minimum security inmates from Lansing Correctional Facility and volunteer singers from the greater Kansas City community, will be joined by the barbershop chorus, New Harmony Handful. The concert will feature traditional spirituals, jazz, barbershop and Broadway tunes.

For more than 20 years, Arts in Prison has been providing programs in Kansas state prisons and bringing the East Hill Singers into the community. Other programs provided by Arts in Prison include visual art, performing arts and poetry. An exhibit of works created at Lansing Correctional Facility by AiP program participants will be open at 3 p.m. The concert is free and open to the public. A free will offering will be taken.

**Village Church Cooks a Meal At Cross-Lines**

Friday, May 12, Village will cook and serve a meal at the Cross-Lines kitchen in Kansas City, Kansas. We need four to five volunteers to help cook from 9:30-11:30 a.m., and three to four more to help serve from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. We also need cookie donations. They can be dropped off at the church reception desk from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. on Thursday, May 11. If you can help, contact Marianne Weber at 913-671-2333 or marianne.weber@villagepres.org.

**Prayer Labyrinth Coming to Meneilly Center for Mission**

The Village Mission Committee has approved funds for the construction of a prayer labyrinth on the grounds at the Meneilly Center for Mission at 99th and Mission Road. The new Village Single Adults group and Young Adults will join forces on at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, May 13, to assemble the labyrinth.

This new place for prayer and reflection will be used by youth, Children and Family Ministry, Taizé worship services and anyone in the community who seeks a peaceful place for meditation. For more information on the labyrinth or if you would like to help with construction, contact Deborah White at 913-671-2369 or deborah.white@villagepres.org.

**What is a labyrinth?**

The labyrinth is not a maze. There are no tricks to it and no dead ends. A labyrinth has a single circuitous path that winds its way into the center and it is meant to quiet the mind. Since the destination is assured, with no obstacles to overcome, what remains is the deeply meditative and purposeful discipline of setting one foot in front of the other. The person walking it uses the same path to return from the center and the entrance then becomes the exit. The path is in full view, which allows a person to focus internally.

Studies have found that like sitting meditation, focused walking is highly efficient at reducing anxiety and triggering a "relaxation response." This effect has significant long-term health benefits, including lowering blood pressure, slowing breathing rates, reducing incidents of chronic pain and reducing insomnia.
**DR: Dominican Republic Medical Partnership (DRMP)**

**Village Youth Spring Break Trip** - Approximately 30 high school kids from Village Youth spent their spring break in the Dominican Republic providing healthcare and educational services through the DRMP of Village Church. The mission of the DRMP is to improve the health and wellbeing of the Haitian and Dominican people living in bateyes (impoverished communities owned by sugar cane companies). This year’s program was modeled as a community health and education fair. The kids helped run hypertension, salt reduction, mosquito-borne disease prevention, child nutrition and breast feeding education stations. The majority of the people in the bateyes come to the Dominican Republic from Haiti in hopes of providing a better life for their families. They work 16+ hours a day in extreme conditions, make nominal salaries and struggle to provide basic food, healthcare or education for their children and families.

**Celebration Dominicana** - Join us for Celebration Dominicana on Friday evening, June 9, at the Vox Theatre. This festive evening will enable the DRMP to provide medical care and health education to poverty-stricken communities in the Dominican Republic. For tickets, sponsorships and event details: [www.drmp2017.eventbrite.com](http://www.drmp2017.eventbrite.com).

**Upcoming Mission Trips**
- May 25-30 PILOT Health Ed. Mission Trip
- Nov. 4-11 Medical and Health Ed Trip

**HAITI: Higgins Brothers Surgicenter for Hope**

**Advisory Board Development** - We are currently developing an advisory board of people who want to help guide, grow and sustain our important work in Haiti. If you are interested in helping rural Haitians receive much-needed medical and surgical care, please get in touch.

**February 2017 Surgical Trip Recap** - Over a five-day period, our doctors accomplished 85 surgical procedures with the help of three Haitian surgical residents. From these 85 patients, we collected a total of $1,685, which is equal to the cost of one mastectomy or two hernia repairs in Port Aux Prince. It will cost approximately $90,000/year to keep the Surgicenter open full time so we are establishing a separate 501c and an endowment fund to help sustain this much-needed facility.

**KENYA: Thwake Village Partnership**

**Fundraising Celebration** - The Thwake Village Partnership recently celebrated the opening of the Children’s Home and construction of a birthing center. The event raised close to $5,000.

**May 2018** - Early preparations are underway for a Village Presbyterian Church trip to Thwake Village in May 2018.

**We REALLY Need You** - We are working hard to recruit new volunteers (of all ages) to help from here or to join us on a mission trip. Our international mission programs are for everyone, regardless of your age, professional training or background. Great volunteer opportunities for youth organizations, schools, summer programs, sky’s the limit! Contact Lora at lora.garrison@villagepres.org or 913-671-2390 for more information.
When Easter was over and the world got back to normal, some recognized there was a new normal now. The world today is a place of crosses. Bodies fail and hearts break, systems and structures crush the powerless. There is enough in this world to scare you to death. But Jesus is alive now—there is a new normal. Jesus is alive now, so we can live, even in this world, as a people who are living unafraid in a frightening world.

New for The Gathering in April and May - Sermon Talkback Series

Beginning April 23, and going for five weeks through Sunday, May 21, Dr. Rodger Nishioka will host a 35-minute talkback session for all ages immediately following The Gathering. This guided conversation will focus on the Bible passage that was preached in The Gathering and what it means for our daily lives as followers of Jesus Christ. These sessions will include brief background information about the Bible passage and invite questions and reflections.

2nd Timothy 3:16 says that “All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.” All are invited to engage the day’s scripture passage and to respond to the sermon as together, we grow to be equipped for God’s every good work. Light snacks will be provided. The group will meet in Room 132 on April 23 and in Room 232 for the remaining Sundays.
Second Thursday Recital May 11

Join us at 12:15 p.m. Thursday, May 11, in the Village Church Chapel for a free recital with guest artists Dr. Margaret Marco, on oboe and English horn, and Dr. Paulina Wu Leisring, on piano. The program includes the Concerto in D Minor by Alessandro Marcello and Romance No. 1 by Robert Schumann.

Dr. Marco is the associate professor of oboe at the University of Kansas and principal oboist with the Kansas City Chamber Orchestra. She began her professional career as the principal oboist of the Orquesta Sinfónica de Maracaibo in Venezuela. Since then, her many solo, chamber and orchestral performances have taken her to a variety of prestigious international venues in locations such as Japan, Costa Rica, England, Canada, the Czech Republic, Spain and most recently China, where she performed and presented master classes at the distinguished Central Conservatory in Beijing.

Pianist Dr. Paulina Wu Leisring is widely considered a versatile musician whose experiences range from serving as a concert soloist, recitalist, and chamber musician, as well as a keyboard collaborator for opera, ballet, chorus and instrumental soloists. She has performed as a solo artist and chamber musician in many countries including Taiwan, Spain, China, and the United States, and has won numerous awards and competitions in Taiwan.

Kansas City Wind Symphony Concert May 7
“Conductor’s Favorites – A Retirement Concert”

The Kansas City Wind Symphony continues its 19th season, “As You Like It,” at 7 p.m. Sunday, May 7, in the Village Church Sanctuary. The free concert, entitled “Conductor’s Favorites,” marks the final concert of conductor Phil Posey.

After 15 years and over 100 concerts with the ensemble, Dr. Posey will retire. During the concert he will “pass the baton” to Dr. Langston Hemenway who will begin his leadership of the Kansas City Wind Symphony for their 20th Anniversary Season beginning in September.

Our featured alto saxophone soloist is Kansas City jazz great Bobby Watson who will join with the ensemble in a special arrangement by Frank Ticheli of Amazing Grace. Pat Setser, who will continue as associate conductor, will open the concert with the fanfare from Paul Dukas’ ballet La Peri.

Dr. Posey will follow with the First Suite in E-flat for Military Band, written in 1909 by Gustav Holst, and a recent work by Hollywood composer Julie Giroux entitled La Mezquita de Córdoba (The Mosque in Córdoba). Giroux’s exciting composition celebrates the multi-cultural, religious and artistic accomplishments of this famous Spanish Mosque.

After Dr. Hemenway accepts the baton from Dr. Posey, he will conduct a new work Danzón No. 2 by Mexican composer Arturo Márquez. The remainder of the concert includes Arthur Sullivan’s Pineapple Poll, a suite from Gilbert and Sullivan’s enduring operettas, and the Finale from Symphony No. 1 by Russian composer Vasily Kalinnikov featuring antiphonal brass choirs. A reception honoring Dr. Posey will follow the concert.

The Kansas City Wind Symphony is a member ensemble of the Village Church Arts Alliance.

Contact Dr. Posey at 816-781-1132 or 816-605-2810 for more information.
Earth Day is April 22, 2017. Please take a moment to celebrate God’s creation with this prayer by Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

**Prayers of the People on Earth Day**

Creator God and creating God and Lover of beauty:
Before the world ever was, how is it that you imagined color?
Reds and greens and blues and yellows of infinite shades.
And before there were creatures, how is it that you imagined song?
Of birds and whales and coyotes and children?
And how is it that you imagined, O God,
rhythm pounded out by waves on the shore.
You must love the rhythm of orbits and seasons,
of woodpeckers and heartbeats.
There is nothing so beautiful to you, it seems, than the coming of spring when the earth rouses from sleep to burst forth in new life and energy renewed.
There is nothing so beautiful to you, it seems, than the mystery of how
a warm sun and cool waters,
gentle breezes and seeds that split open and cell by new cell climb toward the stars—bearing fruit and food
all of which miraculously forms the mystery of earth and life and home.
There is nothing so beautiful to you, it seems, than the creation that was pulled from nothingness by the sound of your voice, by the power of your word...nothing so beautiful except even more beautiful to you are your children:
the work of the sixth day.
The work of creation fashioned in your image
and shaped by love.
Surely you find your children most beautiful of all, when
we live lives as compassionate stewards of all that belongs to you.
And even more beautiful are your children when they
Choose generosity over greed,
And compassion over fear,
And forgiveness over revenge
And care over apathy
And joy over despair
And love—love which is always a sampling of your own Spirit.
It seems there is nothing more beautiful to you than this.

So surely nothing grieves you so much as when that which is beautiful turns ugly.
Does it confuse you, O God, when your creation, ...the collection of color and song and breath and heartbeat...does it confuse you when your creation which you fashioned good, turns ugly;
And waters fresh and clean are soured
And air fresh and sweet, grows dark
And food becomes less your garden and more our factory.

Does it keep you awake at night? Are you up all night, unable to sleep because of the groaning?
Do you hear the weeping of your whole creation,
groaning under the stress of abuse and greed, and more greed, and unending greed?

Surely nothing grieves you more than the erosion of your good creation, save even more so than this, the callousness by
which your children, the crown of creation, treat each other;
    Choosing fear rather than love
    Choosing selfishness rather than generosity
    Choosing to believe this moment matters more than tomorrow
    And our lives matter more than our children's children
    And our comfort matters more than our calling.
Surely this is the ultimate source of your broken heart.

But this week is a new week of your creating,
And tomorrow a new day of your resurrecting,
    So this week, let there be generosity of gifts and of heart offered in the name of Jesus.
    And may there be acts of healing and restoration committed in the name of Jesus.
    And may there be bold works of new life claimed in the name of Jesus.
And may there be hope lived in the name of Jesus.
And may relationships withered and atrophied be breathed to life yet again, in the name of Jesus.
May we in every moment this week remember yet again that Jesus is alive,
    So hope reigns,
    And justice is coming,
    And love wins,
    And life will never surrender to the powers of death.
Surely nothing is more beautiful to you than this.
Amen.
Searching for a New Job?
Are you searching for a new job? Consider attending the next Career Connections classes to learn ways to conduct a planned, step-by-step job search. The next series begins at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 9, in Room 230. Please contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org to register.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Amazing Graces in Bloom
6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, May 4
Gregory Banken of Gregory's Fine Florals will demonstrate floral arranging and tips for entertaining at HKO building, 300 W. 22 St., KCMO. Your $10 check by April 25 is your reservation. Please send to Dee Gound, 8208 Cherokee Circle, Leawood, KS 66206. Appetizers and drinks will be served.

Announcing Visiting Scholar for 2018
Please join us March 2-3, 2018 for our next Visiting Scholar event with guest speaker Dr. Serene Jones.
Dr. Jones is the 16th president and first woman to head the 180-year-old Union Theological Seminary in New York City. She is formerly the Titus Street Professor of Theology at Yale Divinity School and chair of Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies at Yale University. She holds degrees from the University of Oklahoma, Yale Divinity School and Yale University. Jones is ordained in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ.

As Visiting Scholar at Village Presbyterian Church, Dr. Jones will explore the topic “American Theology.”
In her essay “How to Heal the Spiritual Pain in America” in the Sept. 7, 2016 issue of TIME magazine, Dr. Jones says, “As theologian, I think about stories...As Americans we have a ‘theological’ national story...” She goes on to discuss how “our story omits the negative, why this omission is unhealthy, and the need for a new story of our aspirations, successes, tragedies and errors.”
Weekly Wednesday Church Dinners

Dine before or after your class. Salad bar opens at 5:15 p.m.; hot food buffet is open 5:30-6:30 p.m. These dinners offer an opportunity for everyone to enjoy a well-balanced, convenient meal. Full meal with salad bar and dessert is $7. Salad bar and dessert is $6. Children ages 3-10 is $3 and no charge for children age 2 and under. Contact Liz Middleton at 913-671-2359 or liz.middleton@villagepres.org for reservations by noon Monday.

Menu:
April 26 – Drive-in night! Burgers, hot dogs, onion rings, etc.
May 3 – Cinco de Mayo Dinner—nacho bar, chicken fajitas, veggies
May 10 – Baked ziti w/Italian sausage, baked vegetarian ziti, GF versions available

Art & Hors d’oeuvres 2017

The Village Church Welcome Center, Friendship Hall and Children’s wing were packed for the 11th Annual Art & Hors d’oeuvres event Friday, March 31.

Cindy Wilcox, director of Connectional Ministries, was thrilled to see such a huge turnout.

“For the past 10 years Art & Hors d’oeuvres was held on the first Friday in May,” said Cindy. “This year, the Connectional Ministries Committee decided to move it up to March AND move it away from a first Friday to include more artists who may have commitments to the monthly Kansas City Crossroads event. This move made a huge difference in our attendance. We welcomed the largest crowd to date (600+) and we had the highest number of artists (42) participate.”

“Our own Chef Emily Berns prepared amazing hors d’oeuvres for 600 people and we ran out of food with 30 minutes still to go. It is a privilege to work with my assistant, Liz Middleton, to create such a fun, intergenerational event for our community.”

Check out more pictures from the event on our Village Church Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/villagepres/
Upcoming Village U Courses:

**Basic PowerPoint** - This class explores the basic skills necessary to develop a simple presentation using PowerPoint. 4:5-30 p.m. tonight or 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, April 20, in Room 316. Call Marianne at 913-671-2333 to enroll.

**Christians and Muslims – Children of the Same God?** This two-session course, led by Rodger Nishioka, director of Adult Educational Ministries, along with leaders from the Kansas City chapter of the Dialogue Institute Southwest, will explore the relationship between Islam and Christianity. We will seek to better understand what Islam and Christianity hold in common and how we are different. This will be a beginning exploration of a multi-year journey of growing in understanding and love for our Muslim sisters and brothers. Wednesdays, 6:30-8 p.m. May 3 & 10. Rooms 132 & 133.

**Caring for God’s Creation – Growing a Butterfly Garden** - On Wednesday evening, May 3, BJ Schulenburg, a certified master gardener of Johnson County, will teach a course to help us understand the life and the importance of butterflies and moths and ways to attract and keep them in the garden. The Wednesday evening class will be followed by a visit on Saturday, May 6, to the Monarch butterfly way station garden at the Village Church Meneilly Center located at 99th and Mission Road. There, participants will be invited to help tend the garden site and prepare it for the Monarch butterflies as they make their annual migration from wintering in Mexico and California to their summer homes across Canada. This would be a wonderful evening for families to attend and then follow up with a visit to the garden on Saturday. 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, May 3, Room 127; and 9 a.m. Saturday, May 6, Meneilly Center.

**Walter Cronkite Memorial Day Trip** - St. Joseph, Missouri’s native son, Walter Leland Cronkite, Jr., was an American broadcast journalist best known as anchorman for the CBS Evening News for 19 years. During the heyday of CBS News, he was often cited as “the most trusted man in America” after being so named in an opinion poll. Join us to visit The Walter Cronkite Museum which offers a variety of displays: a kiosk with an autobiographical video of Cronkite, memorabilia cases that display items owned and related to Cronkite, a large mural of images and a display case illustrating NASA’s exploration of space. 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursday, May 4. Call Marianne at 913-671-2333 to make your reservation. $30 per person includes bus transportation, tour and lunch.

Adult Sunday Morning Classes

9:30-10:30 a.m.


**Foundations of Faith** offers challenging discussion of a wide range of topics based on presentations by visiting teachers and video-discussion format. Class members are singles and couples, ages 50+, who enjoy participating in discussion and exploration of new ideas while welcoming a diversity of perspectives. Facilitated by Darryl Bertsch. Room 15.

**The Growing Together class** is watching the newly-released DVD, *The Gospel of Luke*. This movie is word-for-word from the bible. We will look at Jesus through the eyes of Paul’s ministry. Throughout the year, we will bring the Gospel of Luke alive from both a historical perspective and as a living application to our lives today. The Growing Together class is made up of couples, parents and young adults who want a deeper connection to our faith. Room 124.

**Village Forum** - The topic for the series of classes led by Dr. John Borden is *The Search for God*. Sessions will include the Yearning for God, the Role of Scripture in the Search, Milestones in Christian Thought and the Completion of the Search in Eternity. Dr. Borden will introduce his new book, *Connecting the Dots*, at the first session. April 23-May 14. Room 126.

10:45-11:45 a.m.

**The Ancient Present Future Church.** Now through April 30, Dr. Rodger Nishioka is leading this class to study the Acts of the Apostles in the New Testament. The Acts of the Apostles is the story of the new movement of followers of Jesus that eventually became the Church. We will explore the challenges and opportunities the early church faced and compare with those we face today. Rooms 126-127.
On Saturday morning, April 1, six Village members put their faith into action as they spruced up the Village sponsored apartment at Hillcrest Transitional Housing. The group painted the entire apartment, getting it ready for the next resident. A special thank you to Karen Reimer and Nancy Gatewood for organizing the painting event.

During the past three and 1/2 years, Village Church has sponsored an apartment with Hillcrest Transitional Housing in Johnson County. The apartment is located in a fourplex purchased in part with funds from the Village Church Signature Mission and Endowment. This transitional housing was the first such program Johnson County has seen in years.

Hillcrest’s primary objective is to move clients from homelessness to self-sufficiency within 90 days by addressing the total life situation of the homeless families they serve. In exchange for rent/utility-free housing, adults are required by written agreement to find full-time employment, obey program guidelines and attend weekly volunteer-taught classes in life skills, employment, community living and budgeting.

If you are interested in helping with Village Church’s apartment, contact Deborah White in the Mission Office at 913-671-2369 or deborah.white@villagepres.org.

**Thursday Night Small Group**

Join us at 6:30 p.m. Thursdays upstairs at Village Church. Faith is a practice. It cannot be something we learn, or search for, or think about. It must be something we do, and do regularly enough that the lines between sacred and secular are blurred by eyes that can’t help but to see the holy. We’re reading Barbara Brown Taylor’s *An Altar In The World* and practicing community together. All 20s and 30s invited. Pizza provided.

**Taizé in St. Louis**

Memorial Day Weekend, May 26-29. We’ll travel together to meet up with young adults from around our country and monks from Taizé, France who have been working this past year in the St. Louis/Ferguson area for racial reconciliation. Sign up at [www.villagepres.org](http://www.villagepres.org) or by emailing: hallie.hottle@villagepres.org.
Be a Faith Friend To Children On Sunday Mornings

Adult and parent volunteer teachers are crucial to this important and richly rewarding “job” of teaching on Sunday mornings. Here are a few things you can expect:

• Commit to once or twice each month during the school year.
• You and a “buddy” will work as a team.
• Training, lessons, supplies and encouragement are always provided.

Being an adult Sunday morning volunteer is easy and fun. Whether or not you have young children in Sunday School, you have gifts to share with children here at Village. Remember Paul’s statement in Ephesians 4:11, we all have gifts to build up the church. Please prayerfully consider this great opportunity to share your unique and God given gifts with children.

Sunday School volunteers are needed in all ages and grades! Call Cheryl at 913-671-2355 for more information.

Save the Date
Village Church Child & Family Development Center Open House Sunday, June 11

Join us for an Open House at our new Village Church Child & Family Development Center at 9900 Mission Road from 3-5 p.m. Sunday, June 11.

Tour our new, state-of-the art day care facility for children ages six weeks to 5 years old. See the newly completed outdoor classrooms that include climbing/movement structures and nature based learning centers for each age group. These outdoor classrooms complement the music, movement and developmental programming provided in the indoor classrooms.

You can also tour the community space on the east end of the building that features a large multi-purpose room, a warming kitchen, a conference room and a breakout room that can be used for new community centered activities or meetings. Check the May 3 Good News for more details.
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VILLAGE COMMITMENT

Because of your generosity . . .

the Mission Sewing ministry of Village Church continues to create and distribute thousands of items to schools, hospitals, nursing homes and local and international agencies.