

Highlights from the 2016 Celebration of Faithful Women

Saturday, Feb. 20, was a warm and sunny day both outdoors and inside Friendship Hall as 200 women of all ages gathered to visit with longtime friends and make new friends, and to recognize and show their appreciation for three remarkable women.

The tables were brightly set with springtime colors, and the room was abuzz with conversation and laughter. In the center of each table was a handmade cake plate and the message that “a cake plate can do more than cake.” It was a visible reminder of the rich gifts and talents of every woman of faith to inspire, care, lead, love and make the world a better place.

Carol Are’s moving meditation, “Walking, Willing,” and the amazing stories of the three honorees: Kim Higgins, Arlene Raudenbush, and Priscilla Wilson, showed us all how ordinary women can live more than ordinary lives. It was a blessed day!



2016 Honorary Life Members Kim Higgins, Arlene Raudenbush and Priscilla H. Wilson with Jennifer Sawyer, PW moderator



Rev. Jenny McDevitt, Carol Are (guest speaker, wife of Rev. Tom Are) and Rev. Hallie Hottle



Judy Cooper and Joy Biard (daughter of Dr. Bob Meneilly, founding pastor of Village Church)



COFW Servers Carlene Anderson and Julie Foster

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST VILLAGE CHURCH MEMBERS

The following folks became members of Village Church on Jan. 24, 2016.

Gadine Acton

Gadine lives in Prairie Village. She has been involved with the Village Church Community Garden, Presbyterian Women, Wednesday Night Dinners and Visiting Scholar. She joins Village Church by Confession of Faith.



John Yeast

John and his wife Barbara live in Mission Hills. John is employed by St. Luke's Hospital. They join Village by Letter of Transfer.



Not pictured - Barbara Yeast and Jack and Cordelia Dick joined In Absentia (they could not be present to join).

Tami Greenberg & Mary Chris Blickhan

Tami and Mary Chris live in Prairie Village, with their sons, Ben and Alex. Tami is CEO for Ronald McDonald House and Mary Chris works for Parents as Teachers. They join Village by Reaffirmation of Faith.



Mike and Jessica Becker

Mike and Jessica live in Prairie Village, with their son, Henry. Jessica works for Cerner Corporation. They join Village by Reaffirmation of Faith.



Ken and Heather Foley and Bria

Ken and Heather live in Leawood with daughters Bria and Jilli. Ken works for the Shawnee Mission Schools and Heather works for KU Medical Center. Bria is a student at Shawnee Mission East. They join Village by Letter of Transfer.



Suzie and Harry Soyster

Suzie and Harry live in Shawnee. They join Village by Letter of Transfer.



Jenny and Colby Sullivan

Jenny and Colby live in Prairie Village with their son, Truitt. They join Village by Reaffirmation of Faith.



Behind the Scenes with the Sacristy Committee

Every couple of years, the Sacristy Committee waxes the liners of the communion trays so, hopefully, the cups don't stick! In the top picture, left to right, are Anellen Neill, Janet Bates and Virginia Winston.

Cindy Kueck fills the communion trays with cups for the First Sunday of Lent, Feb. 14.



Look Around You

For the Future of Village Church

Village Church is brimming with leadership and talent. Your Nominating Committee needs your help in matching abilities with responsibilities.

Duties of Officers

ELDERS make up the Session and are responsible for the total spiritual welfare of the congregation. They should be persons involved in the life of the church who are enthusiastic for its mission, regularly participate in Sunday morning worship and show a genuine interest in the church.

ELDER/TRUSTEES In addition to performing the elder duties, Trustees are the corporate officers functioning under the Session and are responsible for fiscal matters, buildings and grounds and other matters referred by the Session. This board usually needs persons with special expertise in areas such as law, accounting, building construction, insurance and business. Those serving on this board should be persons who demonstrate a sincere concern for the church and its mission.

DEACONS' work encompasses all aspects of "hospitality" at Village Church. This hospitality includes greeting at all entrances for Sunday worship services, serving communion in worship, processing Friendship Folder sheets, sponsoring/welcoming new members when they join, providing refreshments between Sunday worship services and much more. Essentially, it is our deacons who have the privilege of offering the gift of hospitality to all at Village Presbyterian Church.

The form below can be . . .

- (1) completed online at <http://www.villagepres.org/officers.html> and submitted electronically or,
- (2) printed and completed manually and returned to the church Receptionist Desk.

Blank copies of the form may also be picked up at the Receptionist Desk at the south entrance of the church.

Provide all information that you can on each individual you recommend - - and don't hesitate to recommend yourself!

I recommend: _____

For the office of: Elder Elder/Trustee Deacon

Age group: Youth 20-35 36-50 over 50

Talents/Interests/Spiritual Gifts: _____

Village Church Involvement: _____

Community Involvement: _____

My name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Nomination deadline: Sunday March 20, 2016 for elders, elder/trustees & deacons

Thank You!

Food Pantry

Warm weather is fast approaching and we are starting to think spring at the Food Pantry! That means the Clothes Closet is now accepting donations of summer sandals and all types of spring and summer clothing. The Food Pantry is requesting breakfast items of all kinds during the next month. This includes plastic jars of jelly or honey for toast and cereal of all kinds – hot or cold. Thank you for your wonderful support of our work to serve those in need throughout the city.

One Great Hour Offering on March 20

On Palm Sunday, gifts collected for this offering are distributed among the following: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Self-Development of People and Presbyterian Hunger Program. You will find envelopes for this offering in the hymnal slot for each pew.

Community Garden Spring Kick-Off Breakfast

If you are interested in joining or you are already on the Village Community Garden team, you are invited to a free spring kick-off breakfast and social from 7:30-9 a.m. on Friday, April 1, in Room 232. Cultivate KC will give a brief talk on urban food production. If you plan to attend, RSVP to Deborah White, director of mission, at 913-671-2369 or deborah.white@villagepres.org by Thursday, March 24.

Help Fill Hillcrest's Linen Closet

Village Church Presbyterian Women are sponsoring a linen drive for Hillcrest Transitional Housing. Hillcrest provides temporary housing for homeless families, helping them become self-supporting and self-reliant in just 90 days.

Hillcrest needs new or gently used: bathroom linens, kitchen washcloths & towels and bed linens (queen, full and twin).

Drop off your donations at the receptionist desk at the south entrance of Village Church. The Linen Drive ends April 12.

Questions? Call Deborah White in the Mission office at 913-671-2369 or deborah.white@villagepres.org.

Habitat for Humanity and Village Church

If you think you might like to become involved as a Habitat for Humanity volunteer, join us for an informational meeting at 9 a.m. Wednesday, March 30, in Room 132 to kick off the 2016 construction season. Representatives from Heartland Habitat and Village Church, as well as members of the Tuesday-Thursday Crew, will be on hand to discuss plans and building sites for 2016. If you would like more information but cannot attend, contact Dave Lillard, 913-649-8930 or lillard@kc.rr.com.

MUSIC MINISTRY

A Musical Night To Remember

It was an evening filled with hope, joy and music. Black and Gold, a 45-voice choir from Nowlin Middle School, ended a day of touring and performing with a concert at Village Church on Tuesday, Feb. 23. Hosted by our own Chamber Choir (also about 45 voices), the event provided a "dress rehearsal" of sorts for these students who have been selected to sing for the regional gathering of the American Choral Directors Association at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts on March 9.

The students were thrilled to sing in our lovely Sanctuary, and delighted to find such a warm and welcoming audience here. Their singing was filled with energy and passion, and reflected many hours of disciplined rehearsal. One highlight of the evening: our Chamber Choir joined Black and Gold for the singing of a beloved American folksong, *Shenandoah*. The support Village Church Arts Alliance has given to the efforts of these fine students and their teacher, Mr. Ryan Main, is deeply appreciated, and was reflected in the warmth and friendship experienced as these two fine choirs became better acquainted.

—Mark Ball, director of music ministry



CASA - A Consistent Role Model for At Risk Youth

"Newborns to 17 year old children enter the foster care system because of abuse, neglect, or custody disputes," shares Village member Susan Morgenthaler. "Sadly, on average a child is in foster care 1½ years, has moved 4 times to different foster homes, and seen multiple changes in caseworkers and legal representatives. As a CASA, I can be a stable support and help them navigate the world."

Susan is talking about the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Johnson and Wyandotte County for which she has volunteered as child advocate for 2½ years. In her role, she stays in close contact with her foster child and checks in with family members, foster parents, teachers, caseworkers and others to be well informed about the child's well being. Appointed by the court, a CASA attends court hearings and provides feedback to the judge about the child's progress.

Through November 2015, 926 Johnson County children were in foster care which is a 10% increase from three years ago. Also through November, 749 Wyandotte County children lived in foster homes, a 12% increase over 2012. "Often when I share these numbers, people's eyes open wide," shares Susan. "The numbers are troubling especially as such an affluent county as Johnson County continues to face growing numbers of children entering foster care. Only 24% of foster children have a CASA. We simply must find more CASA volunteers."

Village Church has had a long relationship with CASA going back to 1988 when the church started providing grants for various programs such as the Divorce/Custody Program and the Youngest Victims Program. Over the years, Village has contributed \$55,000 to CASA programs. In addition, some Village members have invested their time and talents serving as advocates.



The CASA concept is based on the belief that every child has the right to a safe, permanent home. Unlike attorneys and social workers, the CASA volunteer speaks exclusively for the child's best interests. By handling only one or two cases at a time (compared to a social agency

caseworker's average load of 20), a CASA volunteer like Susan has the time to explore thoroughly the history of each assigned case. Children with a CASA spend less time in foster care and are 50% more likely to remain in safe and permanent homes. When paired with a child or sibling group, CASA volunteers are guided and assisted by a CASA professional staff

person with years of experience in the child welfare and court systems. To become an advocate, individuals must meet the following requirements:

- be 21 years old
- be willing to complete necessary background checks, provide references and participate in an interview
- complete 30 hours of pre-service training (15 hours are online)
- attend court hearings and prepare reports for the court
- dedicate yourself to a case until it is closed. The average case lasts about a year and a half.

Volunteer times are flexible, averaging 10 hours a month. If you would like to know more about the CASA experience or how you might get involved, Village Church members and CASA volunteers, Susan Morgenthaler at 913-568-5527 and Marty Richards at 913-722-2531, welcome your call.

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

“Saving the Monarch Migration” Presented by Angie Babbit of Monarch Watch 7 p.m. Monday, April 4 • Village Church - Room 127

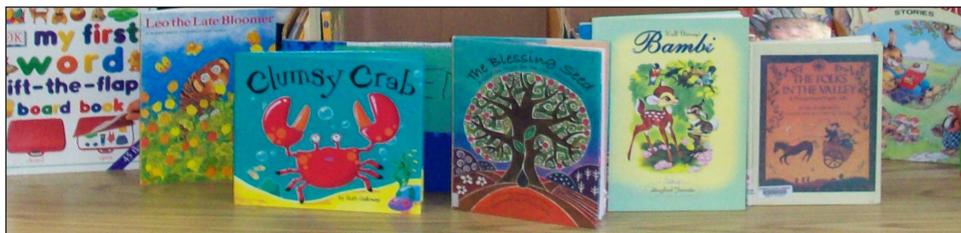
The Sustainable Sanctuary Coalition of KC and the Environmental Action Committee of Village Church are co-sponsoring a presentation about Monarch Butterflies and their migration by Angie Babbit of Monarch Watch.

Monarch butterflies migrating to and from Mexico have experienced historic population declines over the last two years. Their amazing two-way migration from Mexico to the upper U.S. and southern Canada is threatened by habitat loss. At 7 p.m. Monday, April 4, in Room 127, Angie Babbit will explore the reasons for this decline and discuss how anyone – from the beginning flower gardener to the master naturalist—can help boost the monarch population.

This free public event is the centerpiece of SSC’s April meeting and is being offered under the auspices of Village U. Register by contacting Marianne Weber in the Adult Educational Ministries Office at 913-671-2333 or marianne@villagepres.org.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



Presbyterian Women's **Operation Breakthrough Reading Program**

Making a difference- One child at a time
9:30-11 a.m. Wednesdays, March 23-April 27

Men and women volunteers! The spring session of Operation Breakthrough Reading runs March 23 through April 27 at Village Church. During the hour session, we have group reading, crafts, and snacks. Pick a reading buddy and read to a preschooler (Wednesday mornings from 9:30-11 a.m.) Please note: Special guest readers are planned for the spring, including Rev. Len Carrell reading *Giraffes Can't Dance!* You do not need to be present each week in order to volunteer.

Contact Cindy Whitham, cjwhitham@aol.com or 913-262-3062 for more information.

Two New U.S. Tours for Village Church!

“Beautiful North America Tours: National Parks and Places of History and Beauty”

**Sedona and the Grand Canyon National Park:
Oct. 9-14, 2016**

The serenity of Sedona, Arizona’s Red Rock Country and the majesty of the Grand Canyon! Enjoy five nights based in Sedona at a relaxing golf resort with tours of the area, star gazing with an astronomer and Native American culture combined with a day excursion to the Grand Canyon National Park until the sun sets over the South Rim!



New York City at Christmas Time: Dec. 1-4, 2016

See the Big Apple dressed up for the holidays; Three nights at a lovely Manhattan central hotel; visiting the National September 11 Memorial & Museum; tour of a world-class art museum; festive lunch, the Rockettes Christmas Spectacular; Broadway shows and more!

Contact Lisa Ball at Lisa@LisaBallTravelDesign.com for more information.



CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

**Lunch Gathering for LGBT and Friends
12:30 p.m. Sunday, March 27**

Village Church is exploring new ways of bringing together LGBT people and their friends in the church and the community. Our next gathering for Sunday lunch will be at Waldo Pizza. We have reservations at 12:30 p.m. Sunday, March 27. Family owned and operated, Waldo Pizza at 7433 Broadway (75th and Wornall), is famous for their made-to-order pizza with a huge selection of fresh ingredients, salads and sandwiches. Vegetarian and gluten free items are also available. RSVP to Randy Fowler at randyjf@hotmail.com.

**Olive Garden Italian Restaurant Near
95th & Metcalf • Event for Age 60s
6 p.m. Thursday, April 7**

Couples and singles are invited to meet with other Village friends in their sixties at the famous Olive Garden Italian Restaurant. We’ll gather for dinner at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 7, at the Olive Garden located on 95th Street, just east of Metcalf. Each person is responsible for their own tab. The reservation is under “Village Church Group.” Space is limited. RSVP to cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org or call 913-671-2331.

Faith and Grief Lunch Series to Begin Tuesday, April 5

We are pleased to launch a new ministry at Village — Faith and Grief lunches. This is a shared ministry among five local churches: St. Mark's United Methodist, Second Presbyterian (KCMO), St. Andrew's Episcopal, Country Club Christian and Village. Faith and Grief lunches are for anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one and wishes to connect with others who have traveled the same road. All participants receive a free lunch and benefit from a short program and conversation around tables led by a trained facilitator. Lunches will be held on the first Tuesday of every month, from noon-1 p.m. in Friendship Hall. Come every month, come when your schedule allows, or just come once to check it out. Registration will soon be available online at www.faithandgrief.org. Faith and Grief Ministries is a program designed by Presbyterian pastors in Texas, with lunches taking place in numerous locations throughout the country. We are excited to partner with neighboring churches to bring this important ministry to Kansas City. Contact Rev. Jenny McDevitt at 913-671-2367 or jenny.mcdevitt@villagepres.org if you have questions.

Deliver an Easter Lily

Taking an Easter lily to members who are unable to attend church during Lent or Easter is a tradition at Village Church. If you are interested in helping deliver a lily or two after the last service, contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org. You'll be contacted the week before Easter with specific information. Your gift of time is much appreciated!

Couples' Communication Class

Couples, married or not, can improve their talking and listening skills, learn collaborative conflict resolution, anger management, and more. This new class will start on Tuesday, April 5, and be held for four Tuesdays, ending on April 26, from 6-8 p.m. in Room 230. Dr. Dave Ehman will facilitate this program which has had excellent results for more than 700,000 couples from around the world. Dinner is provided and child care is available. Registration is limited to 10 couples and is due by Tuesday, March 22. The class fee is \$50 per couple. Contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org.

An Invitation from Jenny McDevitt

Dear Friends,

This note is especially for those of you who have experienced the loss of a loved one — which means this note is for far too many of you. It is my privilege — a privilege I share with my colleague Len Carrell — to walk with you through your grief. There's nothing easy about grief, and grief never really goes away. It changes shape, and sometimes it might seem to disappear for awhile, but it is always there in some fashion. That is simply the price we pay for loving someone. We have a number of ministries in place for those who are grieving, but I want to draw your attention to a new one: Faith and Grief lunches. There is more information about these lunches included in this newsletter. I encourage you to read through the information, and I hope you will join us at least once to see what these lunches are all about. Colleagues of mine in other cities have hosted Faith and Grief lunches and have found them to be valuable to their own congregations, and to the community at large. I am particularly pleased to be working with pastors from four other congregations to make this possible. It is a shared effort, and I believe we will all benefit from the combined wisdom. I have deeply enjoyed collaborating with Rev. Anne Hutcherson at St. Andrew's, Rev. Dennie Oades-Souther at St. Mark's, Rev. Kristin Riegel at Second Presbyterian, and Rev. Joe Walker at Country Club Christian. I am looking forward to welcoming all of them, and hopefully many of you, to Village on April 5. Please consider joining us.

Peace,
Jenny

Grief is a Journey

Growing Through Grief is a five-week class where you can learn more about the grieving process, meet others who understand your struggles, and be reminded that God is with us through even the hardest of moments. You'll receive your own copy of *Understanding Your Grief – Ten Essential Touchstones for Finding Hope and Healing Your Heart*, by Alan D. Wolfelt, Ph.D. This book is optional yet helpful to read. The series and book is offered at no cost. The next series is from 6:30-7:45 p.m. every Wednesday, April 6-May 4, in Room 124. Registration is required; contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org for more information or to register.

The Middle East: A Soldier's Perspective

Bob Krenzel recently retired after a 24-year Army career, which included several tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. In two sessions from 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, April 20 & 27, in Room 127, he will offer his perspective on why the Middle East is the way it is, what is happening there now, why it matters and how perhaps we

can move toward a better future. Bob was commissioned as a tank officer in the U.S. Army; in a career spanning more than two decades he served in the U.S., Europe, and the Middle East, and was deployed six times in peacekeeping and combat operations. The combat deployments included 12- and 15-month tours in Iraq and a 6-month tour in Afghanistan. During his second Iraq tour he was embedded as an advisor to the 15th Iraqi Army Brigade in Kirkuk Province. He most recently served as an assistant professor at the US Army Command and General Staff College, where he taught history, leadership and tactics.

AARP 55 Alive Driving Class is from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, April 14 and 15, in Room 232. Classes will be taught by veteran instructor Alan Shirling. The cost is \$20 (\$15 if you are an AARP member) per person payable to AARP. Bring a brown bag lunch or eat out. To enroll, call Marianne, 913-671-2333.

Upcoming Village U Classes:

Interior Design Pro Tips - Learn tips that you can use in your dwelling to improve the function of your space and make it feel even more like home. Topics to be covered include: space planning, elements and principles of design, color theory, fabrics, furniture and measurement rules. 9:30-11:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 29, in Room 127.

School of Theology - Religion in America: Billy Graham to Marcus Borg - The class is an exploration of developments in mainline and evangelical Protestantism in the latter half of the 20th century focusing on Billy Graham and Marcus Borg. Readings will include Grant Wacker's highly praised book on Graham and American culture, *America's Pastor*, and Borg's classic, *Meeting Jesus Again*. Classes will include discussions of videos and readings including some of Graham's most famous crusades and Borg's two appearances at Village Church. Taught by Gus Breytspraak. 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, March 30-May 4, in Room 132. Class will not meet on April 13.



Bob Krenzel (L) in Afghanistan in August 2011

Sing Before Supper - Come to the Chapel for a fun and lively time of singing – old favorites and new treasures. Taught by Mark Ball. 5-5:45 p.m. Wednesday, April 6, in the Chapel.

Date Nights - We begin with a 30-minute discussion each evening on a topic to help you strengthen your marriage, and then couples will be free to leave on their own for some time away for dinner and discussion. Child care is available with an advance reservation to be made two weeks prior to the Date Night. Led by Clint and Kim Carter. 6-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 6, in Room 232.

School of Theology - The Huguenots - The Huguenots will explore the history of the French Reformation that began in Paris before the writings of Martin Luther were widely known. It will examine the rapid spread of Presbyterian-style congregations in France led by ministers trained by John Calvin in Geneva. The study will conclude with a careful look at the diaspora of some 200,000 Huguenots from France in the years after 1685, giving special attention to those who chose to migrate to America. Dr. Lonnie Lee will be drawing from his forthcoming book on a previously undocumented Huguenot migration to Virginia. 5-6 p.m. Wednesdays, April 6-May 11, in Room 132.

William Faulkner's *As I Lay Dying* and *The Sound and the Fury* - Teachers Kelly Fast and Michael Sanem will build on the existential foundation of Dostoyevsky and Camus, coupled with the multi-perspective viewpoints of Marquez by reading William Faulkner's *As I Lay Dying* and *The Sound and the Fury*. Nobel laureate William Faulkner continues to be numbered among the most important writers in American letters and one of the most original authors of the 20th century. We will explore his narrative technique; his grasp of myth and allusion; his attention to family, place, and past; his constructions of gender roles; his evaluation of the complex racial and social relationships of the deep South; and more. We will be using the following edition: *As I Lay Dying*, William Faulkner, ISBN 10: 067973225X and *The Sound and the Fury*, William Faulkner ISBN 10: 0679732241. For the first class, read to page 136 in *As I Lay Dying*. Taught by Kelly Fast and Michael Sanem. 6:30-8 p.m. Thursdays, April 7-May 12. Room 232.

Register for Village U classes at www.villagepres.org or email marianne.weber@villagepres.org.

**Palm Sunday, March 20
Don't miss the Palm Parade!**

Everyone loves watching children process into the Sanctuary waving palm branches. The echoes of "Hosanna!" can be heard as the palm parade recalls the welcoming of Jesus as told in Mark 11. Please have children arrive at their Kids' Kingdom and Preschool classes 20 minutes early!

Once again, the palms used in the Palm Parade are from Eco-Palms. That means the palms are sustainably harvested and fairly traded. The cost of the Eco-Palms directly benefits the communities where the palms are harvested. This means young girls can go to school, women can find work and support their families and communities are strengthened. It is just a small step we are making toward an environmentally and socially responsible celebration.



Easter Sunday Advisory

There will be no Kids' Kingdom, Preschool Church School or Club V6 (6th Grade) on Easter Sunday. This gives our volunteer teachers and you a chance to worship with your family.

Vacation Bible School is Coming Soon!

Adult and parent volunteers are crucial to make this very important ministry a success. Volunteer opportunities in all areas! Call Cheryl at 913-671-2355 for more information.



Village Kid's Day Out Program

There are still some openings in Village Kid's Day Out for the 2016-2017 school year. This program for children ages 2 years - 4 years old, is offered on Thursdays from 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. We will be in session Sept. 8, 2016-May 18, 2017. We provide a safe, nurturing environment where your child can grow and learn. We plan a fun day for your child with many opportunities to explore and be creative while making new friends. For more information, contact Marjean in the Child Care office at 913-671-2322 or Marjean@villagepres.org.



Share the Good News – Volunteer to Teach Next School Year

Make a difference in the life of a child here at Village. Volunteer to teach in Preschool Church School, Kids' Kingdom (grades K -5th) or in Club V6 (6th grade). Sharing the good news of our faith story by creating ongoing relationships with the children of the church is a rich and rewarding experience.

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES

Maundy Thursday
Worship Service
7 p.m. March 24

Good Friday
Worship Service
7 p.m. March 25

Easter Services
Sunday, March 27
8, 9:30 and 11:15 a.m.

A free shuttle bus will run from the Blue Moose/Missouri Bank parking lot from 8:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Easter morning. The church will be closed Monday, March 28.

Young Families Estate Planning Workshop

Estate & Gift Planning

Sponsored by Village Presbyterian Church
Endowment Trust
and presented by Stacey Janssen

7 p.m. Thursday, April 7 • Room 126

Join us for a free seminar on the basics of estate planning led by Stacey Janssen, an attorney with Dysart Taylor specializing in estate planning and longtime Village Church member. This seminar will review the importance of estate planning documents for young families such as Last Will and Testaments; a Testamentary or a Living Trust for the support of the family; and an explanation of Probate, Guardianship and Conservatorship.

RSVP to Marianne Weber at 913-671-2333 or marianne.weber@villagepres.org. Child care is available with advance reservation by March 31.



Let's Meet Up @ The Blue Moose

Young Adults of Village Church! Come and connect with Rev. Hallie from 6-8 p.m. on Thursday, March 17, at the Blue Moose (4160 W. 71st Street, Prairie Village, KS 66208). Come and help Hallie put names to faces, and begin to conspire for this new ministry at Village. Food is on us. All 20s and 30s welcome!



Proud Moments for Village Church at Heartland Presbytery Stated Meeting

On Feb. 16, 2016, Heartland Presbytery approved Village Church seminary students Sarah Are and Jessie Light as candidates for ministry in the PC(USA). At that same meeting, Rev. Hallie Hottle was voted into membership in the Heartland Presbytery. Congratulations, ladies!

Village Pastors Favorite Books list

Rev. Tom Are:

- Novels: *East of Eden*, John Steinbeck
The Poisonwood Bible, Barbara Kingsolver
Jayber Crow, Wendell Berry
A Prayer for Owen Meany, John Irving
Walking Across Egypt, Clyde Edgerton
The Secret Life of Bees, Sue Monk Kidd
St. Maybe, Anne Tyler
- History: *Rise to Greatness: Abraham Lincoln and America's Most Perilous Year*, David Von Drehle
The Passage of Power: The years of Lyndon Johnson, Robert A Caro
The Battle for God: a History of Fundamentalism, Karen Armstrong
- Theology: *A Geography of God*, Michael Lindvall
The End of Memory: Remembering Rightly in a Violent World, Miroslav Volf

Rev. Zach Walker:

- Fiction/Literature: *The Rosie Project*, Graeme Simsion
Between Shades of Gray, Ruta Sepetys
In the Time of Butterflies, Julia Alvarez
Once a Runner, John L Parker, Jr.
Hatchet, Gary Paulsen
Count of Monte Cristo, Alexandre Dumas
Black River, SM Hulse
- Non-Fiction: *Dataclysm*, Christian Rudder
Team of Rivals, Doris Kearns Goodwin
Guns, Germs, and Steel, Jared Diamond
A Time to Embrace, Stacy Johnson
Hope on a Tightrope, Cornel West
Love is a Mix Tape, Rob Sheffield
Omnivore's Dilemma, Michael Pollan
- Theology: *Word of God and the Word of Man*, Karl Barth
A Million Miles and A Thousand Years, Donald Miller
Almost Christian, Kenda Dean
Plan B, Anne Lamott
Orthodoxy, GK Chesterton

Rev. Hallie Hottle:

- Accidental Saints*, Nadia Boltz-Weber
Grace Eventually, Anne Lamott
Spotting the Sacred, Bruce Main
An Alter in the World, Barbara Brown Taylor
Born to Run, Christopher McDougall
Life Together, Dietrich Bonhoeffer
God of the Oppressed, James Cone
Jesus for President, Shane Claiborne
What We Talk About When We Talk About God, Rob Bell
Between the World and Me, Ta-Nehisi Coates
We Should All Be Feminists, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
The Hunger Games (Trilogy), Suzanne Collins

Rev. Jenny McDevitt:

- Fiction: *The Poisonwood Bible*, Barbara Kingsolver
Gilead, Marilynne Robinson
Jayber Crow, Wendell Berry
The Invention of Wings, Sue Monk Kidd
A Little Life, Hanya Yanagihara
People of the Book, Geraldine Brooks
Peace Like a River, Leif Enger

Rev. Jenny McDevitt (continued):

Poetry and Other Non-Fiction: **Better**, Atul Gawande (and everything else he has written)
Rilke's Book of Hours, translated by Anita Barrows and Joanna Macy
Hyperbole and a Half, Allie Brosh
Love Poems by God, edited by Daniel Ladinsky
This is Water, David Foster Wallace
Bird by Bird by Anne Lamott
Theology: **Searching for Sunday**, Rachel Held Evans
Breathing Spaces, Heidi Neumark
Theology for a Troubled Believer, Diogenes Allen

Rev. Len Carrell:

Favorite Classics: **The Catcher in the Rye**, J. D. Salinger
The Great Gatsby, F. Scott Fitzgerald
Anna Karenina, Leo Tolstoy
The Brothers Karamazov, Fyodor Dostoevsky
Grapes of Wrath, John Steinbeck
The Bell Jar, Sylvia Plath
The Alchemist, Paulo Coelho
Traveling Mercies, Anne Lamott
Lots of Candles, Plenty of Cake, Anna Quindlen
Eat, Pray, Love, Elizabeth Gilbert
Courage to Teach, Parker J. Parker
God on Trial, Elie Wiesel (play)
Angels In America, Tony Kushner (play)
Wit, Margaret Edson (play)
Theology: **Confessions**, St. Augustine
She Who Is, Elizabeth A. Johnson
God of the Oppressed, James H. Cone
As One Without Authority, Fred B. Craddock
The Crucified God, Jurgen Moltmann
Children's Books: **Giraffes Can't Dance**, Giles Andreae & Guy Parker-Rees
Zen Shorts, Jon Muth
Three Questions, Jon Muth

Rev. Dr. Ron Patton:

Seven Choices for Success and Significance, Dr. Nido R. Qubein
Tales of the City (Series), Armistead Maupin
The Restaurant at the End of the Universe, Douglas Adams.
A Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, Douglas Adams.
Screwtape Letters, C.S. Lewis.
The Greatest Salesman in the World, Og Mandino.

Cheryl Couch-Thomas:

Favorite author – **Jane Austen** (re-read many times).
The Goldfinch, Donna Tartt.
Hero with a Thousand Faces, Joseph Campbell.
Hinges of History (Series), Thomas Cahill (All titles)
Biography: **Bonhoeffer-Pastor-Martyr-Prophet-Spy**, Eric Metaxas
Fiction: **Lonesome Dove**, Larry McMurtry

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

MARCH 15, 2016
Vol. 53, No.6

VILLAGE COMMITMENT

“Because of Your Generosity” ...

“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink...I was naked and you gave me clothing.” —Matthew 25:35

The Robert and Shirley Meneilly Center for Mission at 99th and Mission Road provides a wonderful environment to help fulfill our neighbors' basic needs by providing food, clothing, personal and household products; and welcoming our neighbors in a safe, friendly and compassionate environment that maintains the dignity of each person.



VPC Service Times

Traditional — 8, 9:30, 11 a.m.
In the Sanctuary

The Gathering — 10:45 a.m.
In Friendship Hall

Radio Broadcast
Sundays at 8 a.m. on
1660 AM KMBZ,
The Business Channel

www.villagepres.org

Food Pantry & Clothes Closet Drop-Off Hours

10 a.m.–2:30 p.m. M-F
6–7:30 p.m. Thursday night
9:30–11:30 a.m. Sat. morning