Paris is Always a Good Idea – Even for a Pastor and His Wife

Rev. Jay McKell is the founding pastor of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church in Overland Park. He first came to work for Village in September 2010, a few months after his retirement from Grace Covenant when Village was conducting its search to fill Rev. Gene Augustine’s position in pastoral care. When Rev. Jenny McDevitt was hired, Jay returned to retirement. But not for long. He was asked to help out in pastoral care a few months later when Revs. Meg and Jarrett McLaughlin accepted their call to Virginia in August 2013.

“I was delighted to come back to Village because it’s a great place to be. It was a bit complicated because Elizabeth and I had made some fairly large extended vacation plans (such as three weeks in New Zealand and to help Lisa Ball lead a trip to France and Switzerland in the fall of 2014). So I suggested I do a three-quarter time position, to which Tom Are and Jenny agreed,” Jay said.

Jay had been approached about being a visiting pastor at the American Church in Paris for six months a couple of years ago. “Elizabeth was quite excited. I wasn’t so sure. We were originally scheduled to go in the fall of 2018. I thought ‘I may be dead by then, and I won’t have to decide.’”

While Jay and Elizabeth were on the trip to France and Switzerland last fall, Jay got an email from the pastor of the American Church. Jay recalls, “He said, ‘Some things have happened. Would you be able to come in the fall of 2015?’ I told him I needed to get back to KC and talk to Jenny and Tom and see where things are with the associate pastor call process. I thought, ‘Surely they’ll be close to filling this position by fall 2015.’ So I came back, we talked, and they were very gracious. They said ‘Go! It would be a cool thing to do.’ So I made the commitment to the American Church.”

The American Church is an interdenominational congregation. There are a number of these churches in Paris, Rome, Berlin and Munich. “They tend to be mainline Protestant congregations. This one in Paris is 150 years old. They have three worship services on Sunday, a full Christian education program, soup kitchen, all kinds of community ministries and host two North African congregations in their building. The church is right on the River Seine and the Eiffel Tower is three blocks to the west.”

“One of the unique things is that they offer a wedding ministry. Apparently Paris is quite the wedding destination. Lots of people want to get married there. The church has a contract with several agencies that work with people wanting to be married there, and my job will focus on that particular aspect of the church’s ministry. Literally, I’m the custodian - I set it up, turn on the heat, do the service and clean it up.

Technically most of those services are not marriages. You have to be married in the country where you live. So unless it’s a French couple, it would be what they refer to as a ‘marital blessing.’ The church sees it as an outreach ministry. They view this as an opportunity to talk about Christian faith, particularly in the context of marriage and commitment. They do up to 300 weddings a year.

Continued on pg. 2
THE MCKELL PARIS ADVENTURE

The congregation owns an apartment next to the church where the staff lives. Elizabeth and I have the penthouse, the fifth floor apartment. It’s very tiny but we’re the only ones who’ll have a view of the Eiffel Tower. When I’m washing dishes at night I’ll see the Eiffel Tower."

“Elizabeth is an incredible cook. For Christmas, I gave her a cooking class at the Le Cordon Bleu Paris Culinary Arts School. One of the fun things they do is they have a ‘market to meal.’ You meet with the chef early in the morning and go to the market and buy the ingredients and cook a meal.”

Neither Jay nor Elizabeth is fluent in French. “I’ve got my French vocabulary down; croissant, à la mode, vin rouge (red wine). We’ll rely on the vocabulary book.

We’re finding we have more friends than we ever knew we had – all of whom are coming over to visit.

Two of our three sons are planning on coming over. Our son Matt is getting married in Denver right before we leave. We’ll get back from the wedding on Saturday night and be at Village Sunday, June 28, for the Ice Cream Social. We leave for Paris on June 30, and I go to work on July 1."

A Feline Twist

“We’re also taking our two cats with us. No Way and Not Now are their names. My first comment when Elizabeth talked about bringing the cats along was ‘No Way!’ and my second comment was ‘Not Now.’ But I don’t think she’d go without these cats. One of them does not travel well. They’ll be under our plane seats meowing for 12 hours.”

Once the McKells get settled in their Paris penthouse with the cats, what is Jay dying to do? “What I look forward to most is to get up and stop at a little bakery, get some croissants and a cup of coffee and then just strike out—to have a whole day of not having to be anywhere but just sort of discovering. We get to an intersection – ‘Which way do we want to go?’ Well I don’t know, that looks kind of fun over that way. Let’s hope we don’t get so lost we never find our way back. That’s why I’m glad we’re near the Eiffel tower. We can always see it – ‘Oh, it’s that way!’"

Life After Paris

Jay and Elizabeth and the cats come home on Jan. 6. “I’ll get involved again in the Social Witness and Advocacy Task Force when I come back. Elizabeth will have another year of service on the Session. Tom didn’t want her to resign. She’ll miss these six months, but then she’ll be back for that last year.

I was so thrilled Elizabeth got elected to the Session, which is something I’ve wanted for her always. But that never would have been an opportunity when I was the pastor at Grace Covenant. That would have been kind of odd. It’s nice to sit together in worship once in a while, which we never got to do.

I suspect we will stay at Village. We have found a community here now.”

You can wish Jay and Elizabeth “Bon Voyage” at the Ice Cream Social on Sunday, June 28, which will include a celebration of Jay’s service to Village Church.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL JUNE 28

Please join us for our 40th Annual Ice Cream Social from 4-6 p.m. Sunday, June 28, in Friendship Hall. It’s also a celebration of Pastor Jay McKell’s service to Village Church! New this year is a photo booth, petting zoo and Kona Ice Truck that will have flavored, shaved ice drinks. We’ll also have our old favorites: popcorn, clowns, balloon figures, inflatables and a 15-foot slide, food, fun and of course all the ice cream you can eat!

Admission is $2 a person. Everyone is welcome, so bring friends and family. Contact Cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org for more info.
Meet our New Village Church Financial Assistant

Please welcome Martha Atkinson as the newest member of the Village Church staff. Martha is the new accounting/financial assistant in the Village Church Business Office. She comes to us with a bachelor’s degree in accounting from Missouri State and over 20 years of high level experience in accounting and finance in the non-profit sector. She brings a wealth of experience to Village.

Martha and her family live in Shawnee; her daughters are in elementary school and this part-time, flexible position fits the needs of the Atkinson family.

Congregational Meeting Sunday, June 7

We have great news. The APNC (Associate Pastor Nominating Committee) has been very hard at work and they have identified a candidate to serve as our next associate pastor for Pastoral Care. We are presenting this candidate to the congregation at a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, June 7, immediately following the 11 a.m. worship service in Friendship Hall.

Celebrate with us!
Come join us as we break ground on the new Village Church Children & Family Development Center!
1:30 p.m. Sunday, June 7, at the Meneilly Center for Mission, 9900 Mission Road

Make Way For Village Ducklings!

“They cracked out!” commented one of our Village Preschool five-year olds when a Mother mallard hatched 11 baby ducklings in the Village Courtyard on or about May 11. This has been happening in the Village courtyard almost every year since 1990, according to Debbie Smith, assistant preschool director. The ducklings paraded around the courtyard on Tuesday, May 12, getting introduced to water via a garden hose. Finally, duck whisperers observed that the momma was getting agitated and moving toward the courtyard doors—an indication that she’s ready to take the babies to the outside world and down to Indian Creek next to the church.

The afternoon preschoolers lined the child care hallway, sitting ever so quietly. The north courtyard door flung open, and within seconds, Momma and babies waddled their way into the church. Momma was a bit apprehensive at first with all the pint-sized spectators eyeing her babies. But with a little coaxing from staff, she found her way through the hallways and out the north ramp door, with the ducklings filing in right behind her. Somehow she knows right where to take them—through the parking lot and into the brush and down to the creek. We’re happy to report that preschoolers have observed our Village ducks swimming down Indian Creek from the playground bridge. Quite a duck tale!
SUMMER SINGS
AT VILLAGE CHURCH
JUNE 3-JULY 22
Four kinds of musical events to make
the summertime SING!

• Sing the Faith – three “hymn sings” for singers of all abilities
• Two Song Recitals – performed by wonderful singers – each followed by a reception
• Singing 101 – an introduction to singing for those who are unsure about their singing
• Sing Masterworks – three opportunities to sing the great choral works you love – open to everyone in the Kansas City musical community. RSVP to Mark@villagepres.org to reserve a score – or to request child care. Child care reservation is needed seven days prior to the event.

7 p.m. Wednesday, June 3
Village Chapel
Sing the Faith I – Hymns, Songs, and Spirituals for Everyone to Sing

7 p.m. Wednesday, June 10
Village Chapel
Sing the Faith II – Hymns, Songs, and Spirituals for Everyone to Sing

7 p.m. Wednesday, June 17
Village Chapel
Singing 101 – an hour of group singing lessons from Mark Ball
If you already know how to sing – you may not attend.
If you are shy or unsure about your singing – this is for you.

6 p.m. Sunday, June 21
Village Chapel
Christopher Reames, tenor; and Mark Ball, piano; present an evening of beautiful songs.

7 p.m. Wednesday, June 24
Friendship Hall
Sing Masterworks – Vivaldi “Gloria” and Vaughan Williams
“Mystical Songs.” This event is for singers and especially those who like to sing.

7 p.m. Wednesday, July 8
Friendship Hall
Sing Masterworks – Brahms “A German Requiem.” This event is for singers and especially those who have sung this great work before.

6 p.m. Sunday, July 12
Village Chapel
Alannah Garnier, soprano; Devin Burton, baritone; and Mark Ball and Elisa Bickers, pianists; present an evening of beautiful songs and duets.

7 p.m. Wednesday, July 15
Village Chapel
Sing the Faith III Hymns, Songs, and Spirituals for Everyone to Sing

7 p.m. Wednesday, July 22
Friendship Hall
Sing Masterworks – Handel Messiah (selected choruses).
This event is for singers who love to sing “Messiah.”
Food Pantry
Summer is here, and school is out. When school lunches end, families with young children need cereal, canned pasta meals, soup, peanut butter and jelly. Also, we have had requests lately for used Bibles. If you have one in good condition you would like to donate, please drop it off in the Food Pantry donation boxes at the south doors. Hunger never takes a vacation. Thank you for remembering us during the summer!

Morning Stars Children Raise Money for Nepal Earthquake Victims
Morning Stars gave their spring concert in Friendship Hall Wednesday, May 13. Soon after the earthquake in Nepal, kindergartner Marian Parrot had the idea to give money to Nepal for the children who had lost their toys in the earthquakes. So the Morning Stars children brought in stuffed animals to “hold” the offering cups on the dinner tables in Friendship Hall. Marian spoke to the crowd and said that she wanted to replace their missing items. Katie Hull echoed that thought, saying that some kids didn’t have homes, clothes or food to eat and needed our help.

Marian had asked in Chapel a few weeks ago if we could send the kids new teddy bears and toys. Jenny Hull told her she was sure we could do something, and approached Deb White (director of mission) who came up with the idea of collection cans at dinner during the concert. The children collected $446.42 that will go to the National Presbyterian Disaster Relief Fund.

Front Porch Alliance PALS
As Teacher Appreciation Week approached, Faxon Elementary School Principal Kathleen Snipes wondered how to recognize her teachers. She called upon the reliable Front Porch Alliance PALS to provide a breakfast for her faculty and staff.

The teachers enjoyed a yogurt sundae bar, rare time to socialize together, and the hospitality of the PALS before the rush of the school day began. Kathleen said, “I really like the fellowship with staff and PALS that these events bring.”

PALS involved were Janet Baird, Betty Crooker, Charlotte Davison, Vicki Ensz, Kim Higgins, Patty Nicholson, Lisa Schellhorn and Heidi Smith. Nick Nicholson designed table cards expressing thanks to the teachers.

PALS have also been accompanying Faxon students on field trips to the zoo and Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art this spring, in addition to their weekly tutoring.

Volunteers Needed for Cross-Lines Computer Lab
Cross-Lines Community Outreach needs volunteers to help teach basic computer skills to clients in its computer lab. Several former clients were providing instruction but they have moved on to full-time jobs that conflict with lab hours. If you are interested in volunteering in the computer lab, please call Dani Lucas, case worker, at 913-281-3388, extension 234.
Celebration Dominicana 2015
Words of Thanks from Andrea Huffman, director of international mission

Benefit Dinner & Silent Auction May 9
Thank you, Village Church, for supporting Celebration Dominicana on May 9, 2015. The evening was festive and loads of fun! Country Club of Leawood proved to be the perfect venue, providing an exquisite Italian buffet (complete with Chef Emily’s incredible desserts!) in a classy, yet comfortable setting, making it perfect for mingling, dining or just enjoying the beautiful evening on the balcony. Our Dominican friends from the Maranatha Band enlivened the entire evening with their Caribbean-style jazz, and the good-natured bidding wars during the silent auction created some hearty competition. The auction, along with the Fund-A-Need, were both well received and extremely successful, with Village members and friends of the DRMP contributing almost $6,000 toward the cause. Emcee Chris Logan opened the evening with a brief explanation of the DRMP’s work, and in a fitting tribute, dedicated the festivities to the honor and memory of Dick Bradley, DRMP’s former treasurer and a faithful proponent of Celebration Dominicana. We believe Dick would be proud—not only did the party goers truly seem to enjoy themselves (whether they were 17 or 79), but the willingness and liberality with which they showed their support of the work of the DRMP was a delight to behold. It was a great way to spend a Saturday night, and we can’t wait to do it again next year.

Village Golf Classic May 11
The clouds parted on Monday, May 11, to provide an incredibly gorgeous day for the 11th Annual Village Golf Classic at Country Club of Leawood. With over 20 teams and almost 100 players, this year’s golf tournament benefitting the Dominican Republic Medical Partnership was both enjoyable and successful. Joe Pattison, Village Church member and friend of the DRMP who played in the tournament, summed up his experience by saying, “Great camaraderie, cause and weather. I think everyone had a great time.” Joe, along with teammates Tony Feiock, Jim Wise, and Tom Halvorson took first place in the first Men’s flight with a score of 64, and Robert Koenig, Don Pearce, John Wills and Gene Coskle from Pearce Construction took first place in the second Men’s flight with a total score of 72. First place in the Ladies flight went to Kay Jones, Carolyn Seniors First Place: John Cowden, Frank Kirk, Tom Sterchi, Tom Curtis
Mixed Men and Women’s First Place: Pete and Debra Robbins, Gene Augustine, Sam Sabaugh
Wolff, Terry Lightstone, and Terrie Huntington; and finishing first in the Seniors flight were teammates Tom Curtis, Tom Sterchi, John Cowden, and Frank Kirk. The smaller fundraising events that accompany the golf tournament, which include the Silent Drive (silent auction), Mulligan Sales, and a Pro Assist, helped to bring in around $5,000 in additional funds raised during the tournament. The tournament itself, thanks to the participants and to the many individuals, families, and businesses who contributed as sponsors, raised nearly $30,000 to benefit the work of the DRMP. It manifests in various ways, but the constant support received from Village Church has once again blown us away; and we are grateful. Thank you, Village Church.

Remembering Dick Bradley

The Dominican Republic Medical Partnership lost a dear friend and faithful servant on May 8, 2015 when Dick Bradley passed away. Dick had served as the treasurer and bookkeeper for the DRMP since 2013; and he was cherished by all of us—not only because of the long hours he volunteered in service to the organization or the great skill with which he worked, but also because he

had an incredible knack for putting difficult financial concepts into simple terms that even the most daft of us could understand. He was a man of few words and deep wisdom, and his patient and gentle spirit was a comfort to us all. We are honored to have known and worked with such a man, and our organization is better as a result of his years of faithful service. Dick’s Christ-like servanthood has made a lasting impression upon our hearts, and we will forever honor his life and his memory.
Taizé Worship Service –
Sunday, June 14

Are you looking for a quiet, contemplative worship experience? Are you wishing for a chance to catch your breath, to take a break from the stress of life? Would you like to set down your burdens, even for just a short while? If so, join us for our next Taizé worship service. The service includes simple songs, silence, and scripture. We also share communion together. Taizé worship takes place on the second Sunday of every month in the Chapel at 5 p.m. The next service will be held on Sunday, June 14.

We Need Your Help to Update
Our Prayer List

Every Wednesday the Care and Counseling Department publishes a weekly prayer list. This list invites us to keep in prayer the following people: families of the recently deceased; those currently in the hospital or on hospice care; those recently hospitalized or in rehab; active military; and any others requesting prayer for any reason. You may request to be included on the prayer list yourself or request to include a family member, friend, or acquaintance.

On occasion, we are asked to include someone on the prayer list indefinitely. We are happy to do so. However, we also like to check in and confirm that those requests are still current. If you have requested an addition to the prayer list and that individual no longer needs to be included, please let us know. We love hearing updates about those we have remembered in thought and prayer.

To update a request, or add a new request, contact Sandy Perry at 913-671-2327 or sandy.perry@villagepres.org.

Seeking Pastoral Care Coordinator

We are now accepting applications for the Pastoral Care coordinator position. This full-time position provides administrative support to the ministry of pastoral care, including two pastors. The Pastoral Care coordinator reports directly to Rev. Jenny McDevitt. Visit villagepres.org, click the “Contact Us” tab and then “Employment Opportunities” for the full job description.

A Few Words From Jay . . .

I think she’s right! She being Anne Lamott who once wrote that there are only two kinds of prayers: “thank you, thank you, thank you,” and “help me, help me, help me.”

As I write these words, my departure from the staff at Village Church is fast approaching. When I first began working at Village nearly four years ago now, I had no idea what a rewarding experience awaited me. To be honest with you, I was a bit anxious about working at Village. Given the size of the congregation, the thought of providing pastoral care seemed overwhelming and thus it was that with regularity I prayed, “help me, help me, help me.”

And that’s exactly what you did! You welcomed me with open arms; trusted me with some of your greatest joys and deepest sorrows; elected my wife, Elizabeth, as an elder; assisted me with many pastoral care duties by visiting the ill and infirmed; praying for one another; serving as Stephen Ministers and Respite Care Friends. You valued my leadership of worship, hugged back when I hugged you, laughed and cried with me, let me sing in the choir, taught me how to paint with water colors . . . the list goes on and on.

And so it is that my prayers during these days are filled with “thank you, thank you, thank you.” I could not have done the work I’ve done without your help and guidance. I have come to treasure your friendships. Working with the staff has been a daily blessing. Particularly I am grateful for the support I’ve received from Sandy Perry, the Pastoral Care and Counseling coordinator. She’s the best! She and innumerable others in the congregation – probably you! – have helped me be the care provider I have been. All I can say is “Thank you, thank you, thank you!”

—Rev. Jay McKell
Our calendar year for Presbyterian Women begins in August and extends through May. It has certainly been a heartwarming year! Our theme, “An Ever Widening Circle: Grounded in Faith, Launched by Love,” was evident, noted by Marvie Sneegas, our Women of Wisdom coordinator who noticed kindness, thoughtfulness and friendliness at PW activities.

Jennifer Stradinger, personal growth coordinator, noted, “PW is remarkable because we try to include and reach out to all the women in the church. It’s meaningful to get to know a small group better, and I love seeing everyone use their gifts and talents.”

We hope that you had the opportunity to experience the welcoming, joyful and cordial spirit of our PW women at our events, and in our activities, mission work and Bible studies.

Our sincere thanks to all of our leaders and volunteers for your dedication and commitment to nurturing our faith, working for justice and peace and engaging in mission. We hope that you have a wonderful summer, and we look forward to seeing you at events beginning in the fall!

**Ever Widening Circle**

God you ordered all creation, blew your breath into our frame
Planted seeds of awe within us; called us to revere your name:
Bless our service that, like ripples from a pebble shall expand
Forming ever widening circles, as we follow your command.

Your creation honors circles: planet, star and galaxy,
Hoops and balls, the toys of children; rings that speak fidelity;
Singing circles by a campfire, groups where women learn and preach;
Wider spread the circles, wider, agape, within our reach.

Keep us searching wider circles as your children we become,
Help us in your path to follow; your love our curriculum:
Joining hands as equal partners with all outcasts of the earth
Till we come to know your goodness; till we come to know our worth.

From *Glimpses of Biblical Women and Other Poems* by Dorothy J. Mosher

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**Operation Breakthrough: Making a Difference- One Child at a Time**

Operation Breakthrough ended its spring session with an entertaining slide show where the children were the stars! All seemed to enjoy pointing out their photos and those of their friends. Praise and thanks go to the shepherd, Sally Wallace, who read in full costume with her little Scottish sheep dog in tow.

The Operation Breakthrough classes surprised their reading buddies with a thank-you poster and cards for the last time together. Anellen Neill and Marilyn Borel made photo albums for each class so that memories could be shared at school with the children. In addition, the volunteers were treated to a copy of the *ABC Sing with Me* book from Marilyn Pattison. Operation Breakthrough begins again Sept. 23. Come join the fun!
Village Women Help Build Habitat for Humanity House

On May 7, Village Presbyterian Women participated in Women Build Week for Habitat for Humanity. Once a year Habitat does a house mostly built by women. Lowe’s co-sponsors the house – providing some of the materials. Village Church is also a sponsoring group of this particular house.

Our ladies worked in small groups or pairs – each with a separate task: Julie Foster, Ann Colston and Deborah White worked on putting shingles on the roof; Ann Flanders and Patty Zender cleaned the work areas inside and then cut some plywood to fit the end of the house; Carolyn Eakins and Diane Quaintance roughed in a wall in the basement. The women said they learned a lot about building and using tools – including a circular saw and chop saw.

The Village Church Tuesday-Thursday Habitat Men were their instructors and crew bosses. Dave Lillard taught Carolyn and Diane how to pick straight 2x4s, to use a chop saw and rough in a wall. Diane says there were lots of “high fives” when the wall went up and actually fit.

Summer Sundays Class
The Most Fascinating People

There are lots of fascinating people in the Bible. You will recognize some of their names; some will not be familiar at all. Their stories will give you glimpses of God, and perhaps of yourself. Some of them are ordinary folks, and some do extraordinary things. Our Summer Sundays class — a combined class for youth and adults — will follow the Summer Sermon Series, “The Most Fascinating People.” Leaders will rotate, offering their own perspective on the biblical character of the week. The class runs now through Aug. 23 from 11 a.m.-noon in Rooms 126 and 127.

June classes include:

- June 7 – Onesimus (The Letter of Philemon) – taught by Rev. Jenny McDevitt
- June 14 – Amos (Amos: 8:1-12 and 5:21-24) – taught by Dr. John Borden
- June 21 – Joseph of Arimathea (Mark 15:42-47) – taught by David May
- June 28 – James (The Letter of James) – taught by Dr. Gus Breytspraak
Meet our Two College Interns!

Tessa Polaschek, first-year student at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville and Meg Stanley, sophomore at Illinois Wesleyan. Both Tessa and Meg will be working with children on Sunday mornings, during Vacation Bible School and this summer’s Traveling Day Camp.

Broadly Graded Classroom

School may be out for the summer but we still have lots of fun planned for children on Sunday mornings. Kids who have completed Kindergarten - 5th grade. We meet in Room 203, Creation Station, but may wind up in Room 304, Paradise Pictures!

Meet your 2015 Summer Youth Interns!

Collin Jones is a sophomore at the University of Kansas. He plans to major in business administration. “I’ve been a part of VPC my entire life and have enjoyed working in the child care department and being a part of the Village youth group.”

Grace Cantril is a sophomore at the University of Kansas. She is studying visual communications with a concentration in marketing. Village Church is where she grew up. “My junior and senior years of high school I was a youth deacon here at Village! I have continued my faith journey while at KU by participating in a bible study called Discovery. I am excited for an incredible summer embracing the Village youth!

Nathan Are is in his third year of studying English at Macalester College. He grew up at Village and has fond memories of eating leftover communion bread, working as a custodian and attending every youth event possible. “I’m eager to return to the Village community to see what goofy and love-filled things you teach me this summer.”

Hannah Ratliff is a sophomore sociology major at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She grew up at Village, too. She is ecstatic to be working with her church family and in the youth department. “I hope to make many meaningful connections in the church’s youth program this summer and enjoy the fellowship this congregation offers.”
Generosity at Work

As a congregation we receive one another’s generosity. We walk our path being carried by its spirit. Let us pause to consider the many gifts.

We are guided to an open parking space, we walk to a door where a smile and warm hello await us. Entering a space of happy noise, we see color and news of good events to come. Members of all ages, giving time to share their knowledge, their party - with us.

Coffee and nice teas, chairs and tables arranged, musicians warming up, teachers readying their message - and at every passageway, another welcoming person. By the time we enter our worship space, how many? A dozen or maybe two, have planned, arisen and given of their Sunday morning - for us. Those dozens are before the service, for which so many more have prepared and prayed.

Every service at Village is a beautiful gift. This comes from a generosity of spirit that soars beyond even the talent and dedication supporting it. Nourished by the generous spirits who surround us - we seek moments to appreciate the generosity which has made it such a lovely path.

—Barbara Beddingfield