One of the most contentious and divisive debates confronting our country today is that surrounding “illegal” immigration. This is especially clear after listening to candidates for the 2016 presidential nomination.

There are many proposals being debated: some urge more stringent restrictions, and others suggest more tolerant and humane treatment of undocumented immigrants and their families.

What happens to individuals and families without legal status caught attempting to enter this country? Where are they taken, and how are they treated? Alternatively, what happens to undocumented immigrants who somehow successfully enter this country and begin new lives in large and small communities across the U.S.? And, if so desired, are there actions that persons of faith might consider to assist these most vulnerable and arguably least welcome of God’s children among us?

To address these questions, the Village Church Social Witness and Advocacy Task Force, along with AIRR (Advocates for Immigrant Rights and Reconciliation) and our friends at Colonial Church of Christ in Prairie Village and Grandview Park Presbyterian Church in Kansas City, Kansas, will sponsor “The Great American Refugee Crisis: Immigration, Faith, & Advocacy.” A dinner and panel discussion with selected immigration experts will be held on Tuesday evening, Oct. 13, in Friendship Hall at Village. Sign-in starts at 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 6:15 p.m. Cost for dinner is $5 per person. Call Marianne Weber at 913-671-2333 to register. The reservation deadline is Oct. 2.

In addition to providing information on immigration issues, we will provide participants a means to advocate for sensible and compassionate immigration reform.

Our panelists include immigration attorneys Angela Ferguson and Catalina Velarde, and Rev. Rick Behrens, senior pastor at Grandview Park Presbyterian Church in Kansas City, Kansas, with special guest Dr. Alicia Kerber, the consulate of Mexico in Kansas City, Missouri.

Dr. Kerber will say a few words to our dinner guests.

Throughout her career, attorney Angela Ferguson has been involved with the American Immigration Lawyers Association and local bar associations, providing legal education programs in the field of immigration. She has served on the Essential Worker Committee, the Family Law Committee, the Conference Planning Committee and the Department of Labor Committee for the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) National. Additionally, she taught immigration law at Washburn Law School for several years and helped establish an Immigration Law Clinic for the University of Kansas.

Immigration attorney Catalina Velarde was born in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. She emigrated to the U.S. as a child and became a U.S. citizen in her teens. Catalina Velarde has dedicated much of her career to the service of immigrant communities. She is a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) and Advocates for Immigrant Rights and Reconciliation (AIRR). Rev. Rick Behrens is senior pastor at Grandview Park Presbyterian Church in Kansas City, Kansas, serving a largely Hispanic congregation. Learn more about the Village Church Social Witness and Advocacy Task Force at http://villagepres.org/ministries-programs/social-witness-advocacy/.
**Food Pantry**

This Sunday, Sept. 20, is PEANUT BUTTER SUNDAY! Peanut butter is a staple in every home, a great source of protein, child-friendly and tasty to eat. Please take advantage of the good sales and bring a couple jars to church with you this Sunday. The Food Pantry serves an average of 500 families a month - the NEED for peanut butter is great. Your two jars will make a difference.

Thanks from the Food Pantry for all the donated plastic grocery bags. Because of the warm (hot) weather into September, the Clothes Closet will continue to accept summer clothing until the end of September, when they will begin accepting winter clothes.

All donations can be placed in the boxes at the three entrances to the church - the south main doors, the Chapel door and the north door ramp near the Child Care room on first floor. The hours to drop off at the Food Pantry are on the back page of the Good News.

**World Communion Sunday • Oct. 4**

Sunday, Oct. 4, is World Communion Sunday and the Peace and Global Witness offering. Fifty percent of the money donated enables the Peacemaking Program to provide assistance and resources for congregations and other bodies of the Presbyterian Church; 25% is given to our presbytery and synod for their peacemaking efforts; and 25% is retained by Village Church for our own peacemaking ministry. Donation envelopes are available in the Friendship Folders on each aisle during Sunday service and at the reception desk.

**Rodriguez-Contreras Family Moves Into New Village Habitat House**

On Saturday, Aug. 15, Yuliana Rodriguez-Contreras, her three daughters and her mother Rosa, along with friends from Heartland Habitat for Humanity and Village Church, celebrated a new beginning for the family at the dedication and blessing of their new home in Kansas City, Kansas.

Since her divorce, Yuliana has been struggling the last seven years to provide a steady home for her mother and children despite her great rental history. With the lower house payment through Habitat, she will be able to give her family a safer and more stable environment. Previously, Yuliana rented an older home that needed constant repairs. The small size also forced the family to make bedrooms out of the non-traditional spaces. She is currently attending a local junior college and working towards an associate degree in science while working full-time.

According to Dave Lillard, Village Habitat volunteer, Yuliana worked right beside the crew to build her house. “We built the house and she is making it a home,” shares Dave. Over the past two months Yuliana has invested 350 hours of sweat equity into the home construction.

In addition to Village Church, other sponsors of this home are Bank of America Charitable Foundation, Zurich North America, VML and General Motors Corporation. Village Church volunteers contributed 240 days or more than 1,400 hours, working on this house over a 17-week period. If you would like to volunteer with the Village construction team, call Dave Lillard at 913-649-8930.
Over the summer, Heartland Presbytery’s Thwake Village Partnership (TVP) took its sixth mission trip to a village in Thwake, Kenya. This was the largest mission team thus far, with 23 people from the U.S. making the journey to Africa.

Aided by six Kenyans including a doctor, a dentist and a few nurses, they hosted a three-day health fair in Thwake, in addition to assisting with the ongoing construction of the new children’s home. The medical team saw close to a thousand people in the course of their three-day clinic, and for the first time they were able to offer more extensive medical testing by adding HIV and cancer screenings to their current practices of testing for diabetes and high blood pressure.

Perhaps one of the neatest aspects of this trip was that the medical team got to meet the young girl pictured below. She is two-years-old now, but the last time they saw her was at the last Thwake Village Partnership health fair in 2013—where she had just been born! It was a sweet moment of reunion for the volunteers who had been on the 2013 trip.

Trip participants also made visits to the primary and secondary schools in Thwake, both of which have had a long-running partnership with TVP. Members of the Heartland Presbytery presented the students with new textbooks purchased with funds raised, as well as clothes and shoes that had been donated since the last trip to Kenya in 2013.

The construction crew completed the plastering on the interior of the children’s home. They added some fresh colors to the walls and the doors in hopes that this will be a place where children feel safe, secure and cared for. The hope of the Thwake Village Partnership and the villagers in Thwake is that the children’s home will be dedicated next year when the team returns to Kenya in 2016.

The leadership of the Thwake Village Partnership— which includes, among others, Village members Scott Stanley, John Hall and Linda Alley—would like to thank Village Church for the support they have received, both financially and otherwise. Your generosity and intentionality are what help make the work in Thwake Village a reality.

—Andrea Huffman, director of international mission
Village Relationships are Interwoven with Front Porch Alliance

The beautiful history continues to build, of Village Church reaching out to Kansas City’s Ivanhoe neighborhood through the work of Front Porch Alliance.

As happens regularly, last winter Front Porch Alliance (FPA) received a call from an occupational therapist, asking if our Minor Home Repair team could help one of her patients who lives nearby. Since that call, the Minor Home Repair volunteers have worked on several projects for this elderly gentleman, and they have enjoyed the chance to know him.

In a quick visit after church services, our good FPA friend and mentor, Henry Sewing, made it a point to introduce me to the therapist who had called, Kay Findlay. She had never said she was a Village member or asked for any special treatment. In this brief chat, Kay said her son would like to volunteer and asked for my contact info.

Many people say their sons (or husbands) want to volunteer… This time Sam Findlay called me, and he had a plan – a full-fledged filmmaking experience for the FPA Teen pre-vocational program. Sam has a plan and like-minded young friends in the industry. Thanks to Sam and friends, FPA is able to offer this beneficial, educational and fun program this fall.

This is the fabric of our lives at Village. It is such a special thrill to have the “next generation” offer time and talent to support Front Porch Alliance in its work, helping our neighbors.

Getting Kansas City’s eastside kids ready for their future – that is the vision of Front Porch Alliance. Knowing that Village has been instrumental in planting that seed of vision in so many young members is a wonderful reminder of our special relationship as a partner mission.

—Barbara Beddingfield, executive director

Did you know……..

Heartland Habitat for Humanity builds homes using volunteer labor, donated funds and donated materials. The homes are sold to qualifying partner families with no profit and affordable 0% interest loans. Mortgage payments are invested back into the program, helping to build additional new homes across Heartland’s target areas. Homeowners are required to invest 350 hours of sweat equity in the construction of their homes, partnering with other families and completing homeowner education classes. Approximately 70% of Heartland Habitat’s construction is completed by volunteers. Much of the building material is donated or provided at reduced cost.

For more than 25 years, Village Church has sponsored and help build more than 40 homes in the Kansas City area. Volunteers of all skill levels are welcome. If you would like to join the Village Habitat crew, please contact Dave Lillard at 913-649-8930.

Thank You for the Pots & Pans

Hillcrest Transitional Housing Kitchenware and Pot and Pan Drive resulted in 150 items for the Hillcrest apartments. Hillcrest provides homeless families with temporary housing and case management to help them become self-sufficient. Village sponsors one of Hillcrest’s 28 family apartments and 10 teen apartments in Wyandotte and Johnson County. Thank you to all who made donations.
**Fall Food Truck Festival**  
5-7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 18  
South Parking Lot at Village Church

Bring your family and your lawn chairs and come choose from four amazing, gourmet food trucks, including burgers, pizza, tacos, salads and more!  
Food is very reasonably priced. Drinks will be provided.  
We'll also enjoy live music from The Prairie Earth Ensemble who will perform an eclectic mix of acoustic roots, folk, and blues music…featuring Jeff Clayton, guitar and vocals; Heidi Peterson, vocals; David Firman, bass; and Joshua Clayton, percussion.  
This event is sponsored by the Connectional Ministries Committee. Contact Cindy Wilcox at 913-671-2331 for more information.

**Weekly Wednesday Dinners**

Dine before or after your Wednesday class. The salad bar opens at 5:15 p.m., and the hot food buffet is open from 5:30-6:30 p.m. These dinners offer an opportunity for people of all ages to enjoy a well-balanced meal that is convenient. A full meal with salad bar & dessert is $7. Salad bar & dessert is $6. Cost for children ages 3-10 is $3 and children age 2 and under eat for free. Call or email Stacy at 913-671-2334 or stacy.fischer@villagepres.org for a reservation.  
Upcoming Wednesday Night Dinner Menus:  
**Sept. 16** Beef Stroganoff, egg noodles, vegetarian entrée  
**Sept. 23** Roast pork, mashed potatoes, Brussels sprouts, vegetarian entrée  
**Sept. 30** Roasted chicken, wild rice pilaf, sweet potato casserole  
**Oct. 7** Salmon patties with cream sauce, lemon horseradish roasted new potatoes, zucchini herb casserole

**Flu Shots**

Flu Shots will be given from 5-6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 14, in Room 230 and from 9-11 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 18, in Room 233. Most insurance is accepted.

**Village Church Membership**

If you are interested in joining Village Church or have any questions about how to get connected/involved, please contact Cindy Wilcox, director of Connectional Ministries, at cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org or 913-671-2331.

**Exciting Village Church Tours**

**Christmas Markets of Germany:** Dec. 3-13, 2015 - Visit the charming villages in Bavaria where the fun Christkindlmarkets began and see the breathtaking Alps and Munich!  
**Autumn in Amalfi and Sicily with Rev. Jay McKell & Elizabeth McKell:** Oct. 26 – Nov. 7, 2016 - This tour visits sun-drenched Sorrento and the stunning Amalfi Coast then to colorful, vibrant Sicily!  
Please come to a tour information meeting at 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 4, in Room 132. More information at Lisa@LisaBallTravelDesign.com.

**COMPUTER MINISTRY**

Computer classes are free of charge.  
**Intermediate Classes:** 1-2:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Oct. 27-Nov. 17; 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Oct. 28-Nov. 18  
Call Stacy at 913-671-2334 or email stacy.fischer@villagepres.org to sign up for classes.
**Shoe-In in October**

During the month of October, the Environmental Action Committee is partnering with Shawnee Community Services to hold its third Shoe-In. Bring your gently used footwear to church and place them in the barrels that will be located inside the south entrance of the church and near the north ramp door on the ground floor.

The first Sunday for pick up is Oct. 4. All sizes and types are needed. Shawnee Community Services will be re-distributing this footwear free to those in need in the Kansas City area. And they will be kept out of the landfill—at least for a while.

Call Bob Siemens at 913-268-5107 if you have questions or want more information.

**Health of Brush Creek Next to Village Church Presentation Sept. 17**

Under the auspices of The Blue River Watershed Association, with funding from an EPA Urban Waters grant, a team of students and their advisor from Indian Hills Middle School has been testing water in Brush Creek. Come hear their findings at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 17, in Room 127. By using an experiential approach and involving critical-thinking skills, the students have gained an appreciation for water as a natural resource and its intrinsic worth, teaching them environmental stewardship. Sharing this appreciation and knowledge with others through community presentations will help students create a legacy of understanding and earth care.

**Village Talk Special Event with Former Missouri Senator John Danforth**

7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 25
At Village Church

Village Talk host Rev. Brian Ellison will be talking with former United States senator and ambassador to the United Nations John Danforth at 7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 25, in Friendship Hall at Village Church. Village Talk is offered through the auspices of Village U Community Classes. Admission is free.


**Advance Praise for The Relevance of Religion**

“In *The Relevance of Religion*, John Danforth does his country another service after many. His book is both a serious critique of politicized religion and a strong defense of religion’s indispensable role in our common life. He talks of faith as an antidote to egotism, as a force for reconciliation, and as a source of public virtue. His case is illustrated through autobiography, in an honest, winsome, and sometimes self-critical tone. Danforth speaks for civility, collegiality, and useful compromise—and is compelling because he has demonstrated all those commitments himself over the decades. *The Relevance of Religion* summarizes the lessons of a life of service, and makes an urgent plea for the humane values that often come from faith. It is an admirable book rooted in an admirable life.”

—Michael Gerson, columnist, *The Washington Post*

Rainy Day books will be selling copies of Danforth’s new book for $28 the night of the event. A book signing follows the discussion.
Pianist Eugene Lowry and Bassist Tyrone Clark Present “Dancing the Edge of Mystery” Concert/Lecture 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 4, Friendship Hall

Come enjoy this dynamic duo as they explore the evocative power of music in the presence of the ultimate mystery!

Rev. Dr. Eugene L. Lowry served as a professor of preaching for over 30 years at Saint Paul School of Theology in Kansas City, Missouri.

Lowry has been featured in the Great Preachers series on the Odyssey Television Channel. Through the years he has preached in hundreds of churches, conferences and regional events in over 20 denominations as well as lecturing in 50 graduate theological seminaries across North America.

His writings include six books on narrative preaching and over 20 journal articles and book chapters on preaching, worship, Biblical study, educational philosophy and creativity. His keyboard lecture/concerts relating jazz and Christianity have resulted in four recordings in the blues/jazz mode.

In a musical career spanning nearly 40 years, Tyrone Clark, born in Chicago, has played professionally since he was 18. Although adept in a variety of musical genres, Clark’s concept and interpretation of playing is stylistically best described as rooted in the Kansas City jazz tradition. Described by a fellow musician, Clark is one of the few who impeccably delivers that style. He is a “full” bassist and always right there – “just when you need him.” His sure drive and sense of rhythm and melody impress audiences and musicians alike.

The concert is free and open to the public.

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Kansas City Wind Symphony Announces Their 18th Concert Season

The Kansas City Wind Symphony, which is sponsored by the Village Presbyterian Church’s Music Ministry Department, will begin this 18th season with a free concert at 7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 11. Due to the Village Church Sanctuary construction, this concert will be held at Faith Lutheran Church at 67th and Roe in Prairie Village. Their Nov. 15 concert will also be held at Faith Lutheran Church.

The Kansas City Wind Symphony will also present a concert at Johnson County Community College at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 16, and a concert at Lakeview Village in Lenexa at 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 14. Dr. Phil Posey and Pat Setser share the conducting of this fine ensemble. This year’s concert guest artists will be Jacob Sentgeorge, tenor, Kairy Koshoeva, pianist and Gwen Detwiler, soprano. Call 913-671-2344 or 816-835-5943 for more information.
Operation Breakthrough Reading Program • Making a Difference, One Child at a Time
9:30-11 a.m. Wednesdays, Sept. 23*-Oct. 28

*Complimentary Orientation Breakfast 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 23

Be a reading buddy. Read to a child. Engage in literacy activities. Men and women volunteers needed. You will make a difference in the life of a child and your own!

For six weeks in the fall and spring, our PW Operation Breakthrough Reading Program brings 40 children from Operation Breakthrough in Kansas City, Missouri, to our church for a wonderful, enriching experience with Village volunteers. Each child is paired with a reading buddy for the one-hour session. Many of these children do not have a male role model in their lives, and we have found that the MEN volunteers are very important to the boys who come to our program.

During each reading session, there will be group songs, guest readers, snacks, one-on-one reading with your reading buddy, and craft time. Each child is able to take home their craft and two books each week to start their own library.

If you are interested in signing up or have questions, contact Cindy Whitham at ciwhitham@aol.com or 913-262-3062.

Child care will be available beginning Sept. 23. Call Pam at 913-671-2352 to make a reservation by the Wednesday prior to the day you plan to volunteer.

Donations: Please consider donating a pre-school (3,4 or 5-year-old) level book or two when you come to church. Donation boxes can be found at the south entrance and in the hallway on the second floor near the children's library. Donations by check payable to Presbyterian Women with the memo notation “Operation Breakthrough Books” are also appreciated.

Things we hear about the program:
“The kids enjoy a relationship with a loving, caring adult.”
“The volunteers have a great time and receive joy from volunteering.”
“Reading to these kids brings out the best in everyone.
“We are privileged to be a part of it.”
“The children are never absent on Wednesdays- they love to come to Village.”
AV Technicians Needed
If you are tech savvy and familiar with both PC and Apple products, we need your assistance. Grieving families often wish to share videos or photos during a loved one’s memorial reception. Meeting this need is one way we provide care following a death. If you would occasionally be willing to help facilitate this, or would like more information, contact Linda Alley at linda.alley@villagepres.org or 913-671-2327.

Families For Mental Health Sept. 17
Erika Immenschuh from Johnson County Mental Health will discuss personality disorders at the next meeting for Families For Mental Health at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 17, in Room 127. After the presentation, please stay if you’d like to participate in a “share and care conversation.” All members and the public are welcome to come.

Celebration for Our Classic Citizens!
If you are 75 or more years young, then you are a Village Church Classic Citizen! We want to invite you the Classic Citizens Celebration from 1:30-3:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 24, in Friendship Hall. Visit and reconnect with friends, hear all the latest about Village and enjoy delicious food and drinks. A ride to and from the church is available upon request. Please RSVP to Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org.

Would You Like to Receive Home Communion?
We will be offering home communion the last two weeks of October. If you would like to receive home communion, please let us know by contacting Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org.

Transformative Stories
Presented by the Kansas City Festival of Faiths
7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 28, at Unity Temple on the Plaza
Jill Bolte Taylor (best-selling author of My Stroke of Insight) and Grammy award-winning Carrie Newcomer present “Transformative Stories” from 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 28, at Unity Temple on the Plaza.
Two powerful voices explore the intersection of science and spirituality . . . body and spirit . . . and weave a seamless story of insight into the wonders of the human brain and the marvels of the human spirit.
The event is presented by the Kansas City Festival of Faiths. Tickets are $20 in advance/$25 at door, and are available at: www.festivaloffaithskc.org.

Volunteers Needed
The Classic Citizens Celebration is sponsored by the Pastoral Care & Counseling Department and is made possible by volunteers. It’s a fun and extremely rewarding time, so if you would like to help, contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org. Thank you!

Len Carrell soon to be Rev. Carrell
Len Carrell, our pastor of pastoral care, will be ordained this Sunday, Sept. 20, at his home church, Brick Presbyterian Church, in New York. Mark Ball will be playing the piano for the service and taking pictures to share with us. Len’s installation as a pastor of Village Church is set for Nov. 22. More details to come.

Weekly Pastoral Prayers Now Available Online
Many of you have been asking for copies of the weekly Pastoral Prayers or Prayers of the People. You can now find these on our Sermon/Worship Archives web page at http://villagepres.org/worship-music/sermon-worship-archives/. We will post them as soon as they become available.
AARP 55 Alive Driving Class will be held from 10 a.m.–3 p.m. Oct. 15 & 16, in Room 126. Classes will be taught by a veteran instructor. The cost is $20 per person ($15 if you are an AARP member) payable to AARP. Bring a brown bag lunch or eat out. Call Marianne at 913-671-2333 to enroll.

Village U Fall 2015 registration is now open! You may enroll at villagepres.org, by email marianne.weber@villagepres.org, by calling Marianne at 913-671-2333 or in person in Room 119 at Village. There is a one-time only child care fee of $40. If you have questions, contact the Adult Ministry Office at 913-671-2333.

Upcoming Village U Courses:

Day Trip to Historic Fort Leavenworth
Travel in a 27-passenger Arrow minibus to historic Fort Leavenworth where you will visit the Frontier Army Museum, take a driving tour of the beautiful grounds and learn about the oldest active Army post west of the Mississippi, with stops at the Command and General Staff College, the National Cemetery, the Memorial Chapel and the Buffalo Soldiers Monument. The Frontier Conference Center will offer a full buffet lunch. Depart promptly at 9:30 a.m. and return to the church about 1:30 p.m. Led by Georgia Klein. Thursday, Oct. 1. Cost: $20 plus lunch.

Village Talk is a monthly series of live conversations that flesh out the intersection of faith and values, religion and public affairs, social issues and the common good. In a radio talk show format, Rev. Brian Ellison, a KCUR contributor and parish associate at Village, will host a lively conversation with Gary Forsee, former Sprint CEO and University of Missouri president. 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 14, in the Chapel.

Pediatric CPR (Evening) - Peggy Tingle is a certified EMS Safety Services, Inc. instructor and has been trained to teach Adult/Child/Infant CPR/AED and Adult and Pediatric First Aid. She trains Village Church’s Preschool and Child & Family Development Center staff on a regular basis to keep up appropriate certification mandated by the State of Kansas for our licensed programs. This course will give you plenty of time to practice, ask questions and interact with each other in a comfortable setting. Peggy will provide individual mouth guards for each participant as well as a handbook. 6-8:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 21, in Room 133. Cost: $5 per person. Maximum number of participants: 10.

There’s No Place Like Home ... But What if You Have to Move? As we age, there are many reasons we may need and want to move from the place we’ve known as home for many years. Health reasons, family connections, loss of friends, financial reasons, among many others may make the decision to leave our only option. But then what? What do we look for in the way of services? Who pays for what? And above all, how do we prepare psychologically for the adjustment? This 90-minute course will help you explore some of the questions needed to make the best decisions and provide basic answers as well. Taught by Penny Shaffer. 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 22, in Room 127.

School of Theology: Presbyterians, Puritans, and Anglicans in 17th-Century Virginia - The Reverend Dr. Lonnie H. Lee will be leading the School of Theology course. Dr. Lee is a retired Presbyterian minister who has led Sunday morning and Village University classes on the development of the reformed church tradition. The religious landscape of colonial Virginia was marked by a surprising degree of diversity during the seventeenth century. With no bishops on the scene to enforce the Church of England theology and polity that was approved by the Crown, local Anglican church vestries (governing boards) were free to adopt the Presbyterian, Puritan or Anglican theological and worship styles that were most compelling for them. The vestries were also free to hire and fire ministers based on their religious preferences. This patchwork quilt of church life in early Virginia helped to create a religious and cultural ethos that enabled Virginians to take the leadership in developing the uniquely American concept of the separation of church and state by the end of the next century.

Readings for this course will include selected chapters from Damned Souls in a Tobacco Colony: Religion in Seventeenth-Century Virginia by Edward L. Bond and Dr. Lee’s forthcoming book, The Bertrands of Belle Isle: A Huguenot Family in Colonial Virginia. 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Sept. 23-Nov. 4, in Room 127. Cost: $10 for course materials.

Essential Oils 102: Safely Oiling Your Little Ones - You will learn all about the safety factors in using essential oils with young children and how they support their body systems! Young Living provides whole body system support to help your family live vibrantly! Come and join us even if you missed the first session. Taught by Amy Williams and Lindsey Leif. 7-8:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 5, in Room 126.
When Self-Care Is the Most Loving Thing To Do For the One You Caregive - If you are a caregiver for an aging parent, spouse, sibling, friend or other loved ones, this discussion is for you. Burn-out, stress-out, frustration, fatigue and depletion of joy are common in caregivers, yet the emphasis and resources remain focused on the person(s) we care for because they are the ones who are ill and most needy. Come join this lively conversation that will explore how wrong-headed this approach really is. We will discuss how putting the caregiver’s needs FIRST is not only the most loving thing to do…it is also the most logical. We will explore the barriers that often prohibit us from implementing this approach even when we understand it is for the best of all involved. Taught by Penny Shaffer from 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 6, in Room 127.

Sermon Conversations - Have you ever wished for an opportunity to talk with friends about one of Tom Are’s sermons? If so, this class is exactly what you’ve been waiting for. Each 50-minute class will view a sermon from the church’s sermon archive, followed by time for discussion facilitated by a host couple. There are no right answers, you don’t need to come every week, the conversation will be good. Led by Rex and Arlene Raudenbush. 5-6 p.m. Wednesdays, Oct. 7-28, in Room 232.

Snacks, Nutrition and Healthy Living for the Whole Family - Join Stacey ElAttar, Village preschool teacher and nutrition specialist, for a fun-filled workshop on nutritious food and movement ideas for the whole family. She will share creative ways to entice kids of all ages to keep moving and eat healthy. Her strategies are great for the whole family. 9:30-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 14, in Room 206.

Cloud of Witnesses class, led by Rev. Dwight Tawney, will study “Searching for Moses” now-Oct. 25. He has been called lawgiver, prophet, wonder worker, the mouthpiece of God and the preeminent leader of the Exodus community. As the most dominant personality in the Old Testament narrative from Exodus to Deuteronomy, Moses played a crucial role in setting forth the religious norms of an emerging nation. Yet the only sources identifying him are the biblical stories set in writing some 500 years before the events they purport to describe. No objects, no ancient documents reference him. However, recent archaeological discoveries are widening our historical and cultural understanding of the era in which Moses lived. This class will explore the biblical and archaeological record in search of new perspectives regarding the pivotal figure of Moses. Room 127.

Growing Together class begins the fall term by viewing and discussing the Frontline video series, From Jesus to Christ. Room 124.

The Village Forum class will be led by Gus Breytspraak on Sept. 20 and 27 and will study Short Stories by Jesus. Room 126. 10:45 a.m.

Inquirers - Sept. 20-Nov. 22 the class will study Marcus Borg’s acclaimed book, Reading the Bible for the First Time: Taking the Bible Seriously but Not Literally. Room 124.

Like us on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/villagepres Follow us on Twitter @VillageChurchPV

Fall Adult Sunday Morning Classes Starting Sept. 13

9:30 a.m.

The Faith Journey class believes it’s important to all of our faith journeys to grow from listening to the insights of others. This fall we’ll be led by Judy Matthewson in a video exploration of the tenets of Buddhism. Our first book study will be Marcus Borg’s Convictions: How I Learned What Matters Most where he surveys the most significant conversations and a personality that shaped his life, and presents his convictions about the faith and its role in the 21st century. Room 230.
**Blessing of the Backpacks**

*What’s that?* Bring your backpack to church with you to receive a blessing for a fulfilling and fun school year.

*Who?* Students of all ages.

*When?* Sept. 20 at ALL services.

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**3rd Grade Bible Presentation**

Bible presentation has been rescheduled for Sunday, Oct. 25. Parents, if you have not received your informational letter, please contact Liz Middleton at 913-671-2359 or Cheryl at 913-671-2355.

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**Village Moms Group**

The first Tuesday of every month is just for you and your young child. We meet in the Children’s Library for story-time and then enjoy time with hands-on activities and crafts. Our first story-time will be at 9:30-11 a.m. on Oct. 6.

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**Fall Sermon Series**

Fall schedule has returned, which means it’s time to go back to school. Children, youth and adults will begin filling classrooms. For the next several weeks in our worship, we will reflect on some of the life lessons we learn from those early days in school. These life lessons are often spiritual lessons that help us live a more grounded life as maturity comes.

- **Sept. 20**  Is This Going To Be On The Test?
- **Sept. 27**  Who Needs a Nap?
- **Oct. 4**  What’s in Your Lunch Box?
Because of Your Generosity...

...the Dominican Republic Medical Partnership is able to improve the health and well being of the families living in the bateyes and barrios whose small children are especially afflicted as a result of poor nutrition and limited access to health care.