



The Advent Season Will Be Bustling at Village Church

Advent Family Workshop – 3:30-5:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 29, in Friendship Hall

Don't miss our traditional family activity. Make your own Advent wreaths and gifts for Christmas. There will be crafts for all age levels, and, of course, cookie decorating, popcorn and festive music. Free and open to the public.

Presbyterian Women's Annual Advent Candlelight Dinner – 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 1, in Friendship Hall

All women are invited to an inspiring, intergenerational evening as we begin the Advent season. This year's guest speaker is Rev. Diane Quaintance. Cost is \$16 a person. Reservations will be taken outside Friendship Hall between worship services from 9-9:30 a.m. and 10:30-11 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 15, and Sunday, Nov. 22. Payment is required at the time of your reservation. Contact Laurel Green at lngreen@everestkc.net/913-406-6291 or Marla Harper at marlaharper@mac.com/913-220-0435 for more information.

Christmas Night Out – 5:30-8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, Village Church Child Care

Send your kids to this fun-filled night from 5:30-8:30 p.m. while you enjoy a night out. Children ages 2-10 will enjoy activities and games and cookies to decorate. Sign up by Monday, Nov. 23, by calling Pam at 913-671-2352 or emailing pam@villagepres.org.

Paul Mesner Puppets - 6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, in Friendship Hall

Paul Mesner Puppets present "Anansi the Spider," a lively telling of four classic folk tales from Africa and the Caribbean. All these humorous stories feature a trickster spider that sometimes gets tricked himself. In "How the Stories Came to the World," "Tiger Becomes a Riding Horse," "The Magic of Five," and "Dinner for Two," Anansi the Spider offers universal lessons of wit and cleverness. The performance is free and open to the public. Call 913-671-2355 for more information.

Remembrance Service - 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, in Friendship Hall

Join us for a special service where we thank God for our loved ones who are deeply missed, when we give voice to the grief that lingers and the love that will never let go. This service includes prayers, beautiful music, time for reflection, candle lighting and the proclamation of God's holy Christmas promise: that there is a light in this world that the darkness will never, ever overcome. If your loved one passed away during 2015 and Village Church was informed, his or her name will be included in the program. If you would like to include any other names, please contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org by noon Monday, Nov. 30.

Christmas Dinner - 5:15 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 9, in Friendship Hall

Chef Emily and her culinary team will create a scrumptious Country Club style buffet, including carved round of beef. Cost is \$7 a person, \$3 for age 10 & under. RSVP by calling 913-671-2334 or email stacy.fischer@villagepres.org.

The Christmas Carol Sing – 6:45 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 9, in Friendship Hall immediately following dinner

Come enjoy this program that includes holiday favorites and some Christmas "Swing," along with traditional Christmas carols for everyone to sing. Invite your friends and family. Admission is free. Call 913-671-2334 for more information.

Second Thursday Recital with Soprano Jayne Siemens - 12:15 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, in the Chapel

Soprano Jayne Siemens will perform a program of Christmas songs. Admission is free.



VCCFDC Christmas Sing & Pancake Dinner with Santa - 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, in Friendship Hall

Come see our little ones from the Village Church Child & Family Development Center present their version of the Nativity at 5 p.m. in Friendship Hall. VCCFDC will host its first "Pancake Dinner with Santa" immediately following the performance. Enjoy all-you-can-eat pancakes by Chris Cakes. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 for children age 2 and up. Children under 2 eat free. Get your child's picture taken with Santa. Contact Peggy Tingle at 913-671-2311 or email peggy.tingle@villagepres.org for tickets. Proceeds from the pancake dinner with Santa will help pay for new playground equipment for the VCCFDC.

Family Christmas Pageant - 5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 24, in the Sanctuary

See the most beloved Nativity story through the eyes of a child. The Christmas play is produced by Children and Family Ministry. The Family Christmas Pageant will be incorporated into the 5 p.m. Family Worship Service on Christmas Eve.

15th Annual Tidings of Joy Concerts - 3 and 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 20, in the Sanctuary

A beloved tradition in our community, "Tidings of Joy, A Celebration of the Season's Most Beautiful Music," is presented by the Village Choir, Alegria and the Village Chamber Choir, with guest artists Barnaby Bright. Admission is free. A retiring offering will go to the Thwake Village Partnership, a ministry of partnership with Village Church, the Heartland Presbytery and the people of Thwake, Kenya.

Christmas Eve Services, Thursday, Dec. 24, in the Sanctuary

5 p.m. Family Worship; 7 & 9 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Services; 11 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Communion Service

Poinsettias Provide Christmas Cheer

Delivering a poinsettia to members who are unable to attend church is a long-standing tradition at Village Church. The Pastoral Care & Counseling Department would like to continue this tradition on Sunday, Dec. 13, with your help. If you would like to know more, contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org or see page 7 for more details.

Christmas Poinsettia Memorials

A poinsettia that decorates the church this Advent season may be purchased in memory of a loved one. Make your check (\$10) payable to Village Church, clearly printing the memorial name with your donation. Send to the church, Attn: Janice Gill, by Tuesday, Dec. 15. Call 913-671-2362 for more information.

Stephen Ministry Support

If the holidays are especially difficult this year, consider receiving support from a Stephen Minister. Stephen Ministers provide one-on-one, confidential care to individuals who need help navigating some of life's harder moments. Contact Rev. Jenny McDevitt at 913-671-2367 or jenny.mcdevitt@villagepres.org.

Advent Season Mission Collections

Star Families - Adopt a Family for the Holidays

Village Church will again sponsor "Star Families" from Operation Breakthrough. We will help provide Christmas gifts and holiday meals for families. Stars will be available for adoption from the bulletin board near the south entrance just outside Friendship Hall from 9 a.m.-noon on Sunday, Nov. 8. Each child receives at least three new unwrapped gifts, and the parent receives a \$25 gift card to Target or Walmart. The Operation Breakthrough truck will be in the church parking lot on Sunday, Dec. 13, to receive the donations. Monetary donations to Village Church for Star Families will be accepted for holiday meals from Nov. 8-Dec. 14. \$30 will feed a family of three or less, and \$60 a family of four or more. Note "Operation Breakthrough" in the memo of your check. Contact Marilyn Borel at rmborel@sbcglobal.com or 913-708-1917 for more information.

Deck the Village Trees with Hats and Mittens

The Village Church tradition of the Hat and Mitten Trees returns for the holiday season. From Dec. 6-25, come decorate our Christmas trees with hats and mittens to give to families served by the Village Clothes Closet/Food Pantry. You will find the trees located outside the Children's Library on the second floor and at the south entrance to the church. Contact Deborah White, director of mission, at 913-671-2369 or deborah.white@villagepres.org with any questions.

Diapers in December

Village children will be collecting diapers throughout December to give to the Village Food Pantry. Did you know an adequate supply of diapers can cost over \$100 per month? Many parents are already struggling to pay for rent and food and cannot afford the high cost of an adequate supply of diapers. In poor and low-income families, a baby can spend a day or longer in one diaper, leading to potential health and abuse risks.

Visit villagepres.org for more information.

Christmas International House Needs You!

If you love learning about new cultures, if you enjoy meeting new people, or if you just want to help make someone's Christmas a bit merrier, then Christmas International House wants you!

Christmas International House, a cultural exchange program hosted in part by Village Church, needs your help to make this Christmas a merry one for international students. Every year, Christmas International House at Village (CIH) hosts a number of international college students who are in school around the country. CIH introduces these students to Kansas City, plans fun activities, finds host homes for them, and is ultimately responsible for making the holiday break an exciting, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for these students during their brief time in the United States. We've seen cultural barriers broken and friendships built across life-long prejudices, and it really is an enriching exchange for both the international students as well as those who volunteer with CIH.

That being said, Christmas International House is looking for families who are willing to host students at their homes for the two-week holiday season. Families can opt to host one or more students, and they can sign up to host them for the first week, the second week, or both. Since the students will be traveling all around



the city during the days, CIH host families will only be responsible for a few breakfasts and the evening meal, as well as providing these students with a safe and comfortable place to sleep. Host families will enjoy meeting young people from all across the globe and will help build bridges of friendship that may never have existed otherwise. In fact, some of

our current host families continue to receive postcards, letter and updates from students they hosted years ago, and a few have even received invitations to come visit!

If you are interested in taking part in this exciting seasonal ministry, contact Judy Miller, Village CIH coordinator, at judy.miller@kcpl.com or 816-651-5387, or Andrea Huffman, director of international mission, at andrea.huffman@villagepres.org or 913-671-2390.

Village Monkeys Go Bananas at Operation Breakthrough Oct. 7, 2015

Jackie Bennett and her band of dynamic monkeys had the full attention of the room as they acted out *Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed*, complete with pj's and robes. The littlest monkey, Jackie's 3-year-old granddaughter, Hazel, had such a good time she wanted to get on the bus with the other children when the morning was over.

One of the teachers made the comment that her students are getting just what they need when they come to the church. She said, "At school, they constantly struggle for the teachers' attention. Here they get what they crave and need...the one-on-one attention of a caring adult who is there just for them."



Food Pantry

We are now collecting items for Thanksgiving baskets for the clients of the Food Pantry. The contents needed for each basket are listed on the shopping list on the right.

The Food Pantry truck will be in the south parking lot of the church Nov. 8 & 15 to collect your donations. Due to construction at the Meneilly Center, collection is starting earlier this year, so please give early.

If you'd prefer us to do the shopping, a \$30 donation will buy dinner for one family. Checks payable to "Village Church Food Pantry" may be delivered to Susan Webb at the Pantry or to Ann Kranker, in the church business office. Distribution at the Food Pantry will begin on Nov. 14 and end on Nov. 23. Your donation will help another family have a wonderful Thanksgiving Holiday! The Clothes Closet is accepting winter weather clothing for all sizes, and has a particular need for large sized clothing, linens and warm blankets. Additionally, we are in need of regular weekly volunteers for Saturday mornings. If interested, call Susan Webb at 913-671-2314.

Help us Fill Food Pantry Thanksgiving Baskets Shopping List

Stuffing mix
Canned broth
Pie crust mix
Pumpkin pie mix
Evaporated milk
Canned green beans
Canned corn
Canned sweet potatoes
Instant mashed potatoes
Gravy mix (no glass)



Donations may be left in the drop boxes at church entrances.

Village Church Cooks a Meal at Cross-Lines

On Friday, Nov. 13, Village Church will cook and serve a meal at the Cross-Lines Kitchen in Kansas City, Kansas. We need four to five volunteers to help cook from 9:30-11:30 a.m., and three to four more volunteers to help serve from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. If you can't cook or serve, we also need folks to donate cookies. The cookies can be dropped off at the church reception desk between 8 a.m.-4 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 12. If you can help, please contact Marianne Weber at 913-671-2333 or at marianne.weber@villagepres.org.

The DRMP's Upcoming Expansion

Village's Dominican Republic Medical Partnership has garnered some national attention! The DRMP was recently awarded a grant to expand their self-developed Hypertension Program into eight additional batey communities in the Dominican Republic over the course of the next two years. Funded by the Jonas Center for Nursing and Veterans Healthcare (Jonas Center), this new partnership will include intensive research on best practices for the care of hypertensive patients in underserved communities, as well as methods for implementing these practices across cultures. The new grant not only allows for the expansion of the current hypertension program, but also creates space for a nursing student to come alongside the DRMP to observe, contribute, research and record data, and eventually publish the findings in academic/medical journals. Much of the expansion will be carried out by the DRMP's partner organization, "Light A Candle," a Dominican non-profit from La Romana focusing on health education in the batey communities. Representatives from the Jonas Center, the DRMP and "Light A Candle" meet regularly to discuss the expansion. The first visit to the new designated bateys is set for January 2016.



Maithe Enriquez and Dr. David McKinsey (Jonas Center representatives), on the left, and DRMP Board members Pam Logan, Dr. Steve Stiles, Dr. Al Biggs (not pictured) and Andrea Huffman (not pictured) meeting via Skype with "Light A Candle" doctors and staff in La Romana.

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:

Nov. 11 – Meatloaf (GF available), macaroni & cheese (V), scalloped potatoes (GF), vegetable, apple pie

Nov. 18 –Thanksgiving Potluck will be at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 18, in Friendship Hall. Turkey, mashed potatoes & gravy, stuffing, sweet potatoes, green beans & rolls are provided. Bring a side dish (salad, vegetable or dessert) enough to share with 8 people. RSVPs are requested no later than Sunday, Nov. 15.

Nov. 25 – Happy Thanksgiving – no dinner!



Wednesday Night Classes- Village U

For questions or registration, call 913-671-2333 or email marianne.weber@villagepres.org. See class descriptions in the Village U Catalog or at villagepres.org.

- CC.004** **Intermediate Computer Class: 6:30-8 p.m. now-Nov. 18, in Room 316**
- HW.014** **Series on Ageism: Linda Breytspraak: 5-6 p.m. Nov. 18, in Room 127. Also meets Dec. 2 & 16**
- SI.001** **Village Talk: Special Guest Elizabeth Alex, former TV anchor: 6:30-8 p.m. Nov. 11, in the Chapel**
- SP.002** **Stephen Ministry Training: 6:30-8 p.m. now-Dec. 16 in Room 132**

Fall Foodie Fun Packs the Village Church Parking Lot

A crowd of 500 gathered in the south parking lot on Sunday afternoon, Oct. 18, 2015, for the very first Village Church Fall Food Truck Festival. Folks of all ages enjoyed delicious food from four gourmet food trucks and live music from The Prairie Earth Ensemble. All but one truck even ran out of food by the end of the event. A wonderful way to spend a beautiful fall afternoon with family and friends.



**Kansas City Wind Symphony Concert –
“Night of Magic” • 7 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 15**

The Kansas City Wind Symphony will present a free concert on Sunday, Nov. 15, at 7 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church. This concert’s guest soloist is Jacob Sentgeorge who is a member of the voice faculty at Central Methodist University in Warrensburg, Mo. He will be performing *Nessun Dorma* from Puccini’s opera, *Turandot*, and also *Vainement ma bien-aimée* from Lolo’s opera, *The King of Y’s*. The program also includes *Night on Bald Mountain* by Mussorgsky, *The Sorcerer’s Apprentice* by Dukas, and *Lord of the Rings* by Dutch composer Johan de Meij. The Kansas City Wind Symphony is conducted by Dr. Phil Posey and Pat Setser. The Kansas City Wind Symphony is a member of the Village Arts Alliance of Village Presbyterian Church. For more information, go to www.kcwindsymphony.org or call 913-671-2344.



**Te Deum Chamber Choir Presents
“The Journey: Songs of Praise,
Privilege, and Peace”**

7:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 14, at Corpus Christi Catholic Church in Lawrence, Kan.

3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 15, at St. Ann Catholic Church in Prairie Village

7:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 16, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Kansas City, Mo.



Te Deum Chamber Choir takes concertgoers on a journey through life – its joys and heartbreaks, its challenges, reflections and celebrations – featuring works from Hassler, Elgar, Brahms and Chesnokov, and some of today’s most exciting composers. A centerpiece to this concert, *Privilege*, composed by Ted Hearne, poses profound questions about inequality and struggle; in *Heavenly Home: Three American Songs*, Shawn Kirchner responds with words and music that send us back into the world with a will to act justly, walk humbly and celebrate a promised future.

Admission: a \$10 suggested donation. Learn more at te-deum.org.



**Second Thursday Recital
12:15 p.m. • Nov. 12
Featuring Elisa Bickers, piano & Jenny Hull, cello**

We’re delighted to announce that Village’s own Elisa Bickers and Jenny Hull will be the featured artists at the Nov. 12 Second Thursday Recital in Friendship Hall. They will play a program of music for piano and cello, including selections from Mendelssohn’s *Sonata No. 2* and music of Bach, Mascagni and Elgar. The 30-minute recital is free and open to the public.

Autumn Home Concert • 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 8

The Village brass, hand bell and choral ensembles will present a concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 8, in Friendship Hall. Because of limited space in worship, these ensembles haven’t been able to join us on Sundays like they usually do. But they haven’t been taking a break! They have been hard at work preparing for this special concert. Come hear your musical friends for a lovely afternoon of music.



Taizé Worship Service

Join us this Sunday, Nov. 8, at 5 p.m. in the Chapel for Taizé evening worship. This quiet, reflective service includes song, silence, scripture and partaking in communion together.

Understanding the Y Generation

Come and hear Georgia Klein, Village Church member, discuss how you can better understand the Y generation at 5 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 12, in Rooms 132/133. This presentation is sponsored by Stephen Ministry; all are welcome to come!

Christmas Poinsettia Deliverers Needed

Delivering a poinsettia to members who are unable to attend church is a long-standing tradition at Village Church. The Pastoral Care & Counseling Department would like to continue this tradition with your help. On Sunday, Dec. 13, poinsettias will line the hallway near the Receptionist area at the south entrance where you may pick up cards with names and addresses of people who would greatly appreciate the gift of a poinsettia. Come to the Receptionist desk between worship services on Dec. 13, choose one or more cards and take the poinsettia(s) with you at the same time. The poinsettia(s) should be delivered anytime between Dec. 13 & 15. Thank you for helping us with this special gift for those who aren't able to be with us at church this holy season.



You Make Us Whole

An Evening of Appreciation for
Pastoral Care & Counseling Volunteers

7 p.m. on Friday, November 13

Friendship Hall

Featuring the "Doctors' Notes,"
KU School of Medicine's Premiere Acappella Group

Delectable Desserts and Complete Coffee Bar

RSVP by Friday, Nov. 6, to Linda Alley, 913-671-2327
or linda.alley@villagepres.org

Your spouse or partner is welcome to join you—please let us know your guest's name when you RSVP.

Rev. Len Carrell *Installation Ceremony & Reception*

Join us at 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 22,
in Friendship Hall
when Rev. Len Carrell will be installed as a pastor
of Village Church. The ceremony will be followed
by a reception with refreshments.

Amy-Jill Levine Visiting Scholar Tickets Go on Sale Nov. 15

You can order your tickets online for 2016 Visiting Scholar Amy-Jill Levine starting Sunday, Nov. 15.

Dr. Levine will be at Village Church March 4 and 5, 2016. The New Testament professor, scholar and influential author will speak on "Jesus the Jewish Storyteller: Hearing the Parables Anew."

The Visiting Scholar Event is sponsored by Presbyterian Women of Village Church. For more information, go to <http://www.villagepres.org/ministries-programs/visiting-scholar/>.



Give & Take, Coffee Break! 9:30-11 a.m. Friday, Nov. 20, in Room 232

Women with Spirit, get set to fill up your coffee cup & souls alike! As we sit, share & enjoy our tea/coffee & scones, we will at the same time be working to make a difference for the young women of DeLaSalle Academy. The task at hand? Knot & tie blankets! Our simple gesture has the potential to make a big difference for the young mothers whose little ones are in childcare while they work to complete their high school education.

You may recall Village recently announced its partnership with DeLaSalle in an effort to support their mission of addressing the significant life barriers of our city's most underserved urban youth through a non-traditional education focused on small, personalized classes, holistic support services and workforce development. Visit www.delasallecenter.org for more information.

Contact Pam at pam.southerland@villagepres.org or 913-671-2352 for your child care reservation no later than Nov. 13 as space is limited.



Lunch, Miniatures and Toys – WOW!

Women of Wisdom (WOW) will visit the newly renovated National Museum of Toys / Miniatures on Monday, Nov. 16, and warmly invites all ladies to join us for lunch and a guided tour at the museum. The tour will highlight new exhibits in the world's largest collection of fine-scale miniatures, as well as one of the nation's largest collections of antique toys.

Lunch will be at noon at Michael Forbes, 128 W. 63rd in Brookside, and then we'll make the short drive to the museum at 5235 Oak for a guided tour, lasting about an hour. That will leave time for those who would like to visit the Gift Shop and perhaps pick up holiday stocking stuffers before the museum closes at 4 p.m.

Cost for the tour is \$6 per person, payable in cash at the restaurant to avoid delays at the museum. There is free parking in front of the fully ADA accessible museum. Please ask for easy driving directions to the restaurant and museum when you RSVP. Very limited carpooling from the church may be possible, based upon need.

RSVP by Thursday, Nov. 12, to Diane Lee, 913-432-4321 or dianelee@att.net, or to Marvie Sneegas, 913-209-9608 or sneegi@kc.rr.com. We'd love to have you join us!



Photos courtesy of the National Museum of Toys/Miniatures.

Village Talk

Join us for a conversation with Elizabeth Alex, former TV news anchor and humanitarian. **6:30-8 p.m.**

Wednesday, Nov. 11, in the Chapel. Elizabeth Alex was the lead anchor for KSHB-TV ("41 Action News") in Kansas City, Missouri until 2013. She is a native of the Kansas City area, growing up in Overland Park and graduating from Shawnee Mission West. Elizabeth spends much of her time involved with humanitarian causes around the world. She is on the board of directors for Medical Missions Foundation—a group that delivers free medical care to developing countries, Smile Again

USA—an organization that helps provide reconstructive surgery to Pakistani women attacked with battery acid, and she personally sponsors and advocates for the health of a little girl from The Gaza Strip with serious medical needs. Elizabeth is also an enthusiastic supporter of Operation Breakthrough Center for children in Kansas City, Heart to Heart, International aid organization and she organizes a food drive to

benefit St. Therese Little Flower Food Pantry. Elizabeth also shares a close bond with cancer patients and their families following the loss of her late husband, Brian, to esophageal cancer.

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, and the conversation will be good. **Led by Bob and Bonita Siemens 5-6 p.m. Wednesdays, Nov. 11 & 18 in Room 232.**

Series on Ageism

This three-part class will explore ageism—its meanings, manifestations, and origins within our culture and throughout history, including in different sectors of our lives such as health care, the arts and media, family and intergenerational relations, politics and religion. We will explore ways to reframe the issue of aging in our society so as to eliminate some of the causes of ageism and allow people to better fulfill the potential of extended years. **Taught by Linda Breytspraak. 5-6 p.m. Wednesdays, Nov. 18, Dec. 2 & 16 in Room 127.**



Spring 2016 Village U Registration Opens Dec. 7

Registration for church members opens Dec. 7. The general public may register starting Dec. 14. Catalogs and online information about classes will be available the first week of December.



Fall Adult Sunday Morning Classes 9:30 a.m.

The Faith Journey class is led by Judy Matthewson in a video exploration of the tenets of Buddhism. Our book study is Marcus Borg's *Convictions: How I Learned What Matters Most*. He surveys the most significant conversations and personalities that shaped his life, and presents his convictions about the faith and its role in the 21st century. **Room 230.**

Cloud of Witnesses

Rev. John Borden will lead a class entitled "John on John" **now through Nov. 22. Room 127.**

Growing Together class is viewing and discussing the Frontline video series, *From Jesus to Christ*. **Room 132.**

The **Village Forum** class focusing on Calvin is being taught by Dr. Lonnie Lee **through Nov. 8. Room 126.**

10:45 a.m.

Inquirers are studying Marcus Borg's acclaimed book, *Reading the Bible for the First Time: Taking the Bible Seriously but Not Literally*. **Now through Nov. 22 in Room 124.**

SOCIAL WITNESS & ADVOCACY

Stand Up KC

Do you believe that no one who works should live in poverty, that our nation's leaders should enact sensible immigration reform and finally address racism in America? If your faith leads you to address these issues, please join the Social Witness and Advocacy Task Force of Village as we participate in a rally and march sponsored by Stand Up KC at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 10, at Barney Allis Plaza at 12th and Wyandotte. This will ensure our leaders hear our voices on these important issues. Contact Task Force members (listed on the west bulletin board outside Friendship Hall) or Marianne Weber at 913-671-2333 for more information.

**Advent Family Workshop - 3:30-5:30 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 29, in Friendship Hall**

Don't miss our traditional family activity. Make your own Advent wreaths and gifts for Christmas. There will be crafts for all age levels and, of course, cookie decorating, popcorn and festive music. Bring your donations of diapers and coins for the alternative giving table! Free and open to the public.

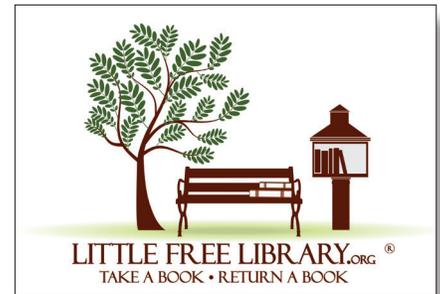
3rd Grade Bible Presentation

On Oct. 25, 3rd graders from Kids' Kingdom received new NRSV Bibles. These kid-friendly Bibles help youngsters explore the Bible in a personal way. If you and your 3rd grader missed the Bible presentation, call the Children's Ministry office at 913-671-2359.



Little Free Library

Recently, Rev. Diane Quaintance visited the Pre-Kindergarten class at Village Preschool, asking them to decorate a Little Free Library, similar to the one on the Preschool's playground. The finished library will be sent to a village in Guyana in South America. During their Art Workshop time, the class painted the Little Free Library. The children are excited to help promote literacy around the world. The class learned about other countries from looking at books, photos and a map. They are collecting books from their own libraries to send along.



The VCCFDC babies watching construction at 99th Street.

**Village Church Child & Family Development Center at 99th & Mission:
Follow Pearce for Project Updates!**

Pearce Construction is gearing up to keep the constituents of Village Church apprised of the construction progress at the new Child & Family Development Center. For the most up-to-date news, photos and information on the construction project, please LIKE Pearce Construction on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Pearce-Construction-369218803277189/timeline/> or follow them on Twitter @PearceGC.

You may also sign up for their newsletter at www.pearceconstruction.com. Pearce is excited to be a part of this project and to share its progress with the Village congregation!

Recipients of 2015 Earth Steward Awards

During worship on Oct. 11, the Environmental Action Committee of Village Church presented Earth Steward Awards to Lisa, Robbie and Margaret Veglahn and to Judy Baird. This award recognizes and honors Village Church members who practice, model and teach faithful and responsible stewardship of God's creation. These people are green saints who demonstrate exceptional earth consciousness in their thinking and living by adopting sustainable practices and technology in their daily life, by sharing their knowledge and enthusiasm to influence others, and by supporting environmental programs, legislation and organizations.

Lisa, Robbie and Margaret Veglahn are the first to receive the Earth Steward Award as a family. Lisa was raised and baptized at Village. Because of two older brothers who were inspired by Dr. Bob Meneilly's leadership on civil rights and other social issues, Lisa grew up with a concern about social and environmental justice, which are interrelated overlapping realms of human concern. As a single mom, she has tried to impart these values to Robbie, age 15, and Margaret, age 13.

As a family, they practice walking softly on the earth. They recycle diligently, try to carpool and walk when they can, consolidate trips, limit showers, use reusable water bottles and containers in lunchboxes and on trips, turn out

the lights, and use a programmable thermostat. Lisa says the kids don't feel particularly "environmental," but maybe that's because much of this is now standard practice for them at home and at school.



2015 Earth Steward Award recipients Robbie, Lisa and Margaret Veglahn.



2015 Earth Steward Award recipient Judy Baird.

Judy Baird has been a member of Village Church most of her adult life. Her parents moved to Prairie Village in 1959, and the family joined the church in 1960. Over the years, she has served as a Deacon and became one of Village's first women elders. In 1997, she helped create the Endowment Trust and later became a Board member.

Judy is a longtime environmentalist who believes we have a moral obligation to be better stewards of God's creation. She endeavors to not just "talk the talk," but to "walk the walk" when it comes to earth care—at home and in the community.

Judy is a religious recycler, including glass bottles. She says, "I think we do a good job disposing wine and beer bottles in the containers provided at various locations throughout the area. But please remember jellies, jams, pickles and olives also come in glass containers." Judy donates gently used clothing to the Village Clothes Closet and shops at estate sales for household items, keeping them out of the landfill.

Congratulations to our 2015 Earth Steward Award recipients!





PERIODICALS POSTAGE
PAID AT KC,MO

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The Giver that Keeps on Giving 2016 Village Commitment Campaign

Check your mailbox this week! You should be receiving a packet from Village Church! Inside will be a Narrative Budget, along with your 2016 Commitment Card.

You may be asking "What is a narrative budget?" A narrative budget explains how your annual gift is fulfilling the mission of Village Church. After reading this booklet, you will have a better understanding of how gifts to our annual budget support our mission, ministries and administration work here at Village Church. Your annual gift provides Village Church the ability to live out

Jesus' command - help those in need, in our church, community and world.

We, the Village Commitment committee, ask each of you to prayerfully consider your annual gift for 2016 and if you can, give a little more! Please complete the Commitment Card and return in the envelope enclosed in your packet.



VILLAGE
COMMITMENT

VPC Service Times

Traditional — 8, 9:30, 11 a.m.
In Friendship Hall

The Gathering — 10:45 a.m.
In the Youth Loft/Room 333

Radio Broadcast

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. on
1660 AM KMBZ,
The Business Channel

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

IN MEMORY

Bette Brown
Beverly "Bev" Degen
Brooks Dunham
Mary Herpich
Kathryn "Kay" Hoefer
Jack Long
Betty Maddux
Fred Merrill
Virginia Williams
Joe Wythe