

## Organ Music Returns to the Sanctuary With Grand Debut of Opus 22

It was with breathless anticipation that we heard the new Village pipe organ for the first time in worship on Sunday morning, Nov. 20. Rev. Tom Are gave an introduction before we heard the first notes from Opus 22.

"It was on Easter Sunday 2015, the last time we heard organ music in this room. The choir sang the 'Hallelujah' Chorus. Before the music of their voices had fully left the room, we began the process of dismantling that old instrument. And we began the process of waiting for THIS instrument. We have been in the season of Advent for this organ. She only has 348 pipes that are working today. Eventually there will be almost 3,800 – so even less than 10% are functioning. But today will be the first time that we sing praise to God accompanied by this instrument.

We'll begin by singing *Come, Christians, Join to Sing, Alleluia!* For our first hymn of praise, we should sing Alleluia! And we will sing a Thanksgiving hymn, *Let All Things Now Living*, a song of Thanksgiving to God our Creator triumphantly reigns.

For generations there will be children of God who will sing hymns of faith that will carry



them through times of sorrow and times of joy, reminding us that God carries us to the end of our days."

Then Dr. Elisa Bickers began to play. The Sanctuary was packed with members of the congregation so eager to hear the organ for the first time. Dr. Bickers was overcome by emotion after playing that first hymn. The new organ is a project she has been working on, along with the Pipe Organ Committee, since she first arrived at Village in November 2009.

Dr. Bickers even had a "played it in church for the first time" nightmare. "Tom Are had chosen obscure hymns from an

old hymnal, and I couldn't find them. Someone put a bomb made out of a fire extinguisher inside the case. Then, I slid off the bench whilst wearing a fat suit. Lord have mercy!"

Thankfully none of those things happened and Dr. Bickers played beautifully.

**Continued**

"As I walked to the organ for that first hymn, my eyes welled with tears. Even in her unfinished state, this was a big moment for the organ and for the church; and I hoped so badly that people would like what they heard. I was nervous the whole time and only relaxed once the last service was over. Playing the organ with a room full of people changes how it sounds to me, as I sit at the bench - so I felt a little shaky because it sounded so different. But what was immediately evident was that everyone was singing vigorously, and together - which said to me that the organ is strong and clear enough to lead the congregation, even with only three out of 59 stops finished."

Jim Borthwick, chairman of the Pipe Organ and Sanctuary Committee, has been working on the organ project even longer than Dr. Bickers. "It's an exciting and satisfying moment that something that we worked on so long, looks so good and the Sanctuary looks so good. Finally, the last piece of this has been put in place with the actual playing of the pipe organ," said Jim.

Church member Margaret Stout wanted to be among the first to hear the new Village pipe organ. "I'm usually an 11 a.m. worship attendee, but I was determined to be there to hear the first note in a worship service from this magnificent instrument. My mother, who is 97 and hasn't been up to attending services for several years, was determined to join me. It is a memory we wanted to share, and it was everything we hoped it would be."

Dr. Bickers says it's important to remember, "While this is indeed a historic moment, this first breath of our organ in worship, there is still much work to be done on the organ."

Bruce Fowkes of organ builders Richards, Fowkes & Co., likens our Village pipe organ to a baby, just starting to take its first steps. "We're just getting started voicing. You're hearing it before it's really polished. This is just three stops - but they're the most essential stops for congregational singing. So these are the core of the foundation tones. Those front pipes are called principle pipes - it's a chorus of pipes that don't imitate any



other sound. It's that sound that just an organ makes. It's not imitating a flute or a string or a reed sound or a brass sound. As it expands over the next few weeks and months, you'll hear more and more colors and more and more frequencies. It will just get richer."

"It's the largest organ we've made as a company," said John Brown, Richards, Fowkes & Co. project and business manager. "Village Presbyterian is a unique site. Even though it's a church and the organ is primarily there for that purpose, it's also a very credible instrument for all styles of music."

Once the voicing process is complete (expected later this spring), a series of dedication concerts will be held to formally introduce Opus 22 to the Kansas City area community.

The grand debut will be Sept. 24, 2017, when Doug Cleveland, a virtuoso performer from Seattle, will perform a concert.

Jim Borthwick said the "aha moment" for him will come when the organ builders have completed the voicing process and THEN we hear Opus 22 in all its glory. "When we finally have all of it, our child has become an adult. It will be a wonderful moment!"

It seemed more than appropriate that the organ make her grand debut in worship on the Sunday before Thanksgiving.

Rev. Tom Are was overwhelmed upon hearing the organ for the first time. "Nov. 20 was a day I looked forward to for a long time. The organ played and the congregation sang, 'Alleluia;' and I am sure God was pleased. I thought to myself, once again Village has done a good thing and has done it well. This organ will lead God's people in singing songs of praise for generations to come. This is a gift to the church that is coming. I could not be more grateful for the faithfulness of this congregation."



Our 16th Annual “Tidings of Joy” concert features some of the greatest music of the season performed by the Village Choir, Alegría, the Village Chamber Choir and the Village Orchestra.

You’ll hear carols and Christmas classics, in addition to selections from Handel’s *Messiah*, concluding with a joyful “Hallelujah” chorus.

The program will also include songs originally performed by Pentatonix (the wildly popular acapella group), as well as a thrilling rendition of *O Holy Night* and *Joy to the World*.

There will be opportunities for the entire family to sing along and hear our brand new pipe organ.

Concert times are at 3 and 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 18, in the Village Sanctuary.

Admission is free. “Tidings of Joy” is a gift to the community from Village Church. A retiring offering will benefit the Haitian Christian Mission.

Founded by Pastor Etienne and Betty Prophete in 1974, Haitian Christian Mission currently supports 57 churches and 16 schools throughout Haiti, feeds more than 3,700 students each day, sees 40,000 patients annually in their medical ministry and employs more than 450 Haitians. After the 2010 earthquake, the main campus shifted from Port-Au-Prince to the growing Fonds-Parisien location.

HCM’s medical ministry is thriving. In 2015, its maternity clinic delivered 1,230 babies; and the hospital performed 152 surgeries. The mobile clinics reach nearly 9,000 people in outlying villages. This year, HCM expanded its surgical facility and Village Church member, Dr. Ted Higgins, who regularly travels to Haiti to perform surgeries, helped open the new Higgins Brothers Surgicenter for Hope.

### Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Worship Services

**Saturday, Dec. 24** -5 p.m. Children and Family Worship with music by The Gathering Band  
7 & 9 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Services  
11 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Communion Service.

**Sunday, Dec. 25** – We will have one worship service at 10 a.m. on Christmas Day. Children are encouraged to worship with their families in the Sanctuary.

## Food Pantry

Thanks to your generous donations, 500 families enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving dinner. Thank you from the clients of the Food Pantry!

During the month of December, the Food Pantry is asking for donations of canned meals: ravioli, spaghetti, chili, tamales, canned chicken or salmon (the Pantry does have an abundance of tuna). These are often on sale — perhaps you could pick up several cans!

The clients of the Pantry and Clothes Closet are always excited this time of year with the choices they are able to make of your donations of small Christmas decorations. As you get out your decorations, you might find some you would no longer be using. Please re-gift them to the Pantry for the clients. Unfortunately due to lack of display space, we are unable to accept used Christmas trees, but lights and ornaments are gladly accepted.

The Clothes Closet is also always in need of warm winter clothing and coats in all sizes — clean and gently used.



## O Christmas Tree... O Christmas Tree

A Village tradition, our Hat and Mitten Trees, return for the holiday season. Now through Dec. 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 at the south entrance to the church and in the Welcome Center. The pantry serves 500 households a month and your contribution will literally help spread the warmth of the season to many of these families. Contact Deborah White, director of mission, at 913-671-2369 or [deborah.white@villagepres.org](mailto:deborah.white@villagepres.org) with any questions.

## Feather the Turkey Special Delivery

Children from the Village Church Child and Family Development Center delivered 872 lbs. of food they collected for the Food Pantry's Thanksgiving baskets as part of the Center's annual "Feather the Turkey" food drive. Pantry director Susan Webb said the children were too adorable for words.

Thank you children!



## Joy Offering, Dec. 18

The Joy offering provides support to retired church workers and eight Presbyterian schools and colleges, and the Christmas Project offering provides assistance to local social service agencies that help others with holiday and emergency assistance needs. Green envelopes for this offering have been placed in the hymnal slots in the church pews.

**Weekly Wednesday Church Dinners  
All Are Welcome!**

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

**Menu:**

**Dec. 14** – Christmas Dinner – RESERVATIONS DUE by this Sunday, Dec. 11! Hotel-style buffet including: carving station, alternate meat choice, several hot side dishes, tossed salad, cheese display, fresh fruit, and assorted cheesecakes

Wednesday Night Dinner Christmas Break: Dec. 21, 28 and Jan. 4.

**We look forward to having you back Jan. 11, 2017!**



**Wednesday Night Classes- Village U**

For questions or registration, call 913-671-2333 or email [marianne.weber@villagepres.org](mailto:marianne.weber@villagepres.org). See class descriptions in the Village U Catalog or at [www.villagepres.org](http://www.villagepres.org).

- CL.012**    **The Kings vs. the Shepherds**, 6:30-8 p.m. Dec. 14 & 21, in Room 127
- CL.013**    **Hamilton and Rent**, 6:30-8 p.m. Dec. 14 & 21, in Room 126
- HW.004**    **Sabbath Yoga Wednesdays**, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Dec. 14 (last class), Rooms 307/309/311.

**Mission Sewing**

Mission Sewing takes off the month of December and will return on Tuesday, Jan. 3. Fabric and yarn donations welcome. All cotton and blends, large pieces, one yard or more, no fancy fabrics. We have fabric and patterns available for at-home projects. If you would like to join us, come to the sewing room from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. any Tuesday.

Come and go as you want. Lunch is from noon-1 p.m. Bring a sack lunch or purchase at the Village Cup Coffee Shop. Call Edie Hultman at 913-432-3515 for more information.

**Village Remembers**

From the Village Heritage Committee: For over 40 years Village Church Mission Sewing groups have used their gifts of stitching and sewing to share the good news of Jesus' love with thousands. Shirley Meneilly, wife of our founding pastor Dr. Bob Meneilly, was instrumental in forming and sustaining this group. Photographs and examples of their ministry are currently on display in the Heritage cabinet located outside Friendship Hall near the south stairs. Stop by and give thanks to God for their faithfulness and creativity!

## Taizé Worship Service – Sunday, Dec. 11

In the midst of the season's hustle and bustle, give yourself the gift of a peaceful moment. Silence. Candlelight. Song. Reflection. Scripture. Communion. Time to be still. Experience this gift at the Taizé service at 6:30 p.m. at the Village Church Child and Family Development Center at 9900 Mission Road in Overland Park.

### Giving Permission

In elementary school, I had a brief but intense career as a Christmas criminal. My third grade class was scheduled for a field trip to see *The Nutcracker* at the Fox Theater in downtown Detroit. It was mere days before Christmas break, we didn't have to wear our school uniforms, and there would be hot chocolate afterward. I was nearly delirious with eight-year-old holiday anticipation. My friends and I were in agreement: this would be the Best Day Ever.

There was only one problem: I forgot to get my permission slip signed ahead of time. On the day it was due, I looked down in horror at the blank line where my mother's signature should have been. I grabbed my pen, glanced around furtively, and signed her name with a flourish. Just like that, I gave myself permission to travel with my classmates.

Unfortunately, it's not always that easy. We can't always do it for ourselves. So this Christmas season, the Pastoral Care and Counseling Department is giving you a gift: we're giving you permission.

We're giving you permission to be sad. Holidays can be tough times. Christmas carols insist that this is "the most wonderful time of the year," but for many people, that just isn't true. After all, a season that emphasizes friends and family can sharpen the ache we feel over a loved one who isn't at the table for Christmas dinner. A season full of angels singing and bells ringing can intensify the silent struggles of our hearts. So hear this: if you aren't in a celebratory place, that is okay. Whether your grief is brand new or years old, give yourself space to honor your feelings. The Light of the World is coming. Jesus isn't offended by your sadness. After all, he comes to redeem a broken world.

We're also giving you permission to be happy. This sounds a little silly, doesn't it? Who needs permission to be happy? You might be surprised. "I feel like it's not fair for me to be happy," she said. "When I find myself laughing or enjoying something, I catch myself. How can I be happy when [my husband] isn't here? It feels like being happy would mean I don't miss him anymore." This isn't an unusual comment. So often, those who are grieving feel as though any spark of joy dishonors their loss or their concern for others' pain. Know that this is not true. It's okay to find happiness. It doesn't lessen your love, your loss, or your concern. It is a reminder of the gospel truth we claim: there is a Light that no amount of darkness can overcome.

We're giving you permission to be however you are this Christmas season. Christmas is coming. Whether we are happy or sad, delighted or angry, grateful or frustrated, ready or not. Christmas is coming, and Jesus will meet us where we are. That's what incarnation is all about. And that's very good news.

—Rev. Jenny McDevitt

Contact your Pastors of Pastoral Care any time:

Rev. Jenny McDevitt  
913-671-2367  
[jenny.mcdevitt@villagepres.org](mailto:jenny.mcdevitt@villagepres.org)

Rev. Len Carrell  
913-671-2347  
[len.carrell@villagepres.org](mailto:len.carrell@villagepres.org)

## From *Rent* to *Hamilton*: The evolution of a revolution.

By Rev. Len Carrell

This past spring, as the cast of *Hamilton* was getting prepared to take the Tony Awards by storm, *Rent* the musical was celebrating its 20th birthday. The musical *Rent* not only contemporized the face of musical theatre, it also extemporized the use of genre as form in storytelling, not just content. Or to say it better, *Rent* was the evolution of musical theatre, but *Hamilton* is a revolution.

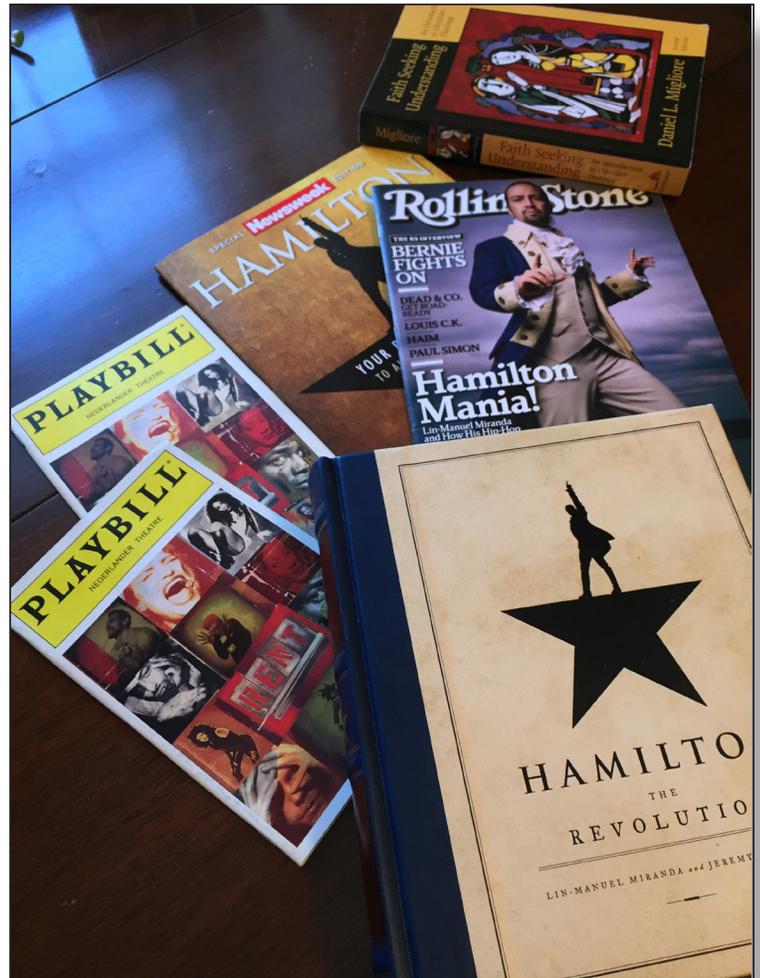
Lin Manuel-Miranda was quoted as saying, "*Rent* was the show that made me want to write. Or that showed me you're allowed to write." His co-star who portrays Aaron Burr, Leslie Odom Jr., once said, "I heard this really great quote not too long ago that said, 'An artist spends their entire life trying to get back to the place where their heart was first opened up,' and *Rent* was certainly that for me as a 12 or 13-year-old kid," explained Odom, Jr. "It opened up my heart and my senses, and [*Hamilton*] is the first time that I'm back there. So one of the biggest reasons why I had to do this show was for that 13-year-old kid."

These two shows bookend each other in altering the way stage productions are conceived and brought to life. They also tell the stories of real life challenges and the struggles between people and times. One takes on the issues of measuring love and community through the hard realities of inequality, inclusion, addiction and sexuality. While the other takes on the issues of understanding our dreams as a community with eyes set on our future hope, our legacy of faith and our capacity to create through love.

Each story is told using the conceiver's own unique style and voice, but one has definitely inspired and influenced the other. Looking for the theological marks these two shows offer will give us a better perspective on where to find the fingerprints of God in life, art and language. Music is the key of life that sings the story, art invites us into the action with sensation; and language gives us a magnifying glass into the soul.

The invitation is to come and see, and to explore these concepts with us. There is no need for any prior knowledge of these shows before attending the class, because we won't get through them all. We will examine their core message and place them before a foundation of faith in God; Our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer of life.

<sup>1</sup><http://www.playbill.com/article/lin-manuel-miranda-and-leslie-odom-jr-reveal-how-rent-shaped-history-and-hamilton-com-341546>



**Christmas Lights Recycling Drive • Now-Jan. 8**



The Environmental Action Committee of Village Church is once again partnering with Southeast Enterprises to recycle Christmas lights.

Now through Jan. 8, please bring your old or broken Christmas lights to Village Church and place them in the barrels that will be located inside the north and south entrances.

Christmas Lights Recycling is a metro-wide project sponsored by Southeast Enterprises and its community partners, who collected over 45,000 pounds of holiday lights last year. This year their goal is 50,000 pounds.

In addition to keeping lights out of the landfill, this recycling project has the benefit of providing challenging work for over 160 employees with intellectual and developmental disabilities. They remove the light receptacles from the wire and then separate and recycle each component.

Drop off locations include over 165 businesses, banks, schools, recycling centers and a few churches. For the fourth year in a row, Village Church will join the list of churches.

Call Gary Tegtmeier at 913-362-8596 with questions.

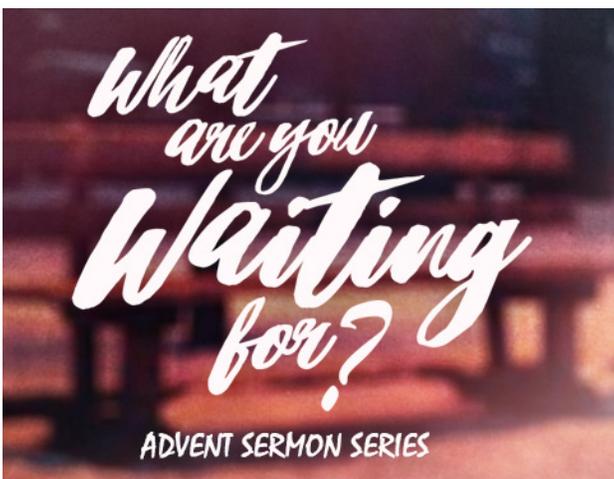
VILLAGE CARES FOR GOD'S CREATION

**Village Earthcare**

What is L.E.D. lighting? It's not your grandmother's light bulb or the "dairy queen" (compact fluorescent) or halogen bulb. Turns out, L.E.D.s are the result of sophisticated engineering, performing more like first generation light bulbs, but producing about 50,000 hours of light!



ADVENT SERMON SERIES



The Advent season is a season of waiting. We will wait in lines and we will wait in traffic. That's part of the season. But the spiritual waiting that we do is different. The waiting we do as people of faith is determined by our hope. And waiting in line is passive, but Christian waiting is active. It takes all you have. So, what are you waiting for? For what do you hope?

- |               |                               |
|---------------|-------------------------------|
| Dec. 11       | A God Who Knows Your Name     |
| Dec. 18       | A God Who Knows Their Name    |
| Christmas Eve | So, This Is What We Look Like |
| Christmas Day | The Songs of Christmas        |

Watch for the **Spring 2017 Village U Catalog** ... coming by Jan. 4.

The spring 2017 Village U curriculum is a wide umbrella encompassing all our adult learning opportunities in one, easy-to-find location. Village Church is a learning community with a long commitment to providing opportunities for adults – young and older—to grow in knowledge and faith together. We hope you will spend some time discovering all that is available.

- Child care will be available for most classes for a one-time \$40 fee for the spring term; reservations will be required in advance.
- Some classes will have a small fee for materials and resources; the fees are noted in the class listing.
- You will be able to register online, by telephone, by fax or by email.



Registration for church members will open on Wednesday, Jan. 11. Registration for the community will open on Tuesday, Jan. 17.

### Upcoming Village U classes include:

**The Kings vs. the Shepherds** - The gospels of Matthew and Luke tell different stories about the birth of Jesus. The wise men only appear in Matthew and the shepherds only appear in Luke. Why is that? In these three sessions, Dr. Rodger Nishioka will examine both the familiar and perhaps the unfamiliar components of these two stories comparing and contrasting them with one another. Why would the gospel writers differ with one another? How do they contradict one another and how do they complement one another? And what does this have to do with our faith anyway? Come discover what God is revealing to us as we prepare to

welcome the incarnation of God in the birth of Jesus once again. 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, now through Dec. 21, in Room 127.



**God in the Arts: Hamilton and Rent** - In this new course, Rev. Len Carrell extends his popular "Finding the Face of God in Art" course from the spring. *Hamilton*, a Broadway musical that won a record 11 Tony awards this spring, is a story of this nation's founding fathers told in a urban musical style of hip-hop and rap with the entire cast being of mixed race and ethnic diversity. But before *Hamilton* there was another little show that took the nation by storm twenty years earlier called *Rent*. Both have altered the way stage productions are conceived and brought to life. They both address the challenges and the terrors of their time. They take on the issues of inequality, inclusion and community. They face the realities of race and sexuality, addiction and death. And both are richly significant in the language of faith. We will look at each of these shows and the theological marks they have left on our world. 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Dec. 14 & 21, in Room 126.

**Adult Sunday Morning Classes:**

**9:30 a.m.**

**Faith Journey**- The class is studying Roger L. Ray's book, *Progressive Faith and Practice, Thou Shalt Not Stand Idly By*. Facilitated by Kathy Ray in Room 230.

**Growing Together** will not meet the month of December.

**Village Forum** - Names of the Messiah - In the combined Sunday morning Village Forum and Foundations of Faith classes, Dr. Rodger Nishioka continues the study of Isaiah 9:6 where the prophet lists four names for the Messiah. On Sunday, Dec. 11, we will explore the name of "Everlasting Father" and finally, on Dec. 18, we will study the name of "Prince of Peace." All are welcome in Rooms 126-127.

**10:45 a.m.**

**Inquirers** - The class is reading and discussing the late Marcus Borg's thought-provoking and inspirational book, *Convictions*. Borg, one of the world's pre-eminent scholars of the Historical Jesus, concludes his long career with a heartfelt examination and recitation of "How I Learned What Matters Most." Join the book review and discussion of Borg's memories, conversions, and convictions in the Inquirers class. Be a part of the effort to study and celebrate "what matters most" to those who seek to better understand and follow Jesus. Led by Don Wilson in Room 124.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

**Bier and Bible**

7 p.m. every Thursday night, at KC Bier Co. Our last week is Dec. 15! We'll resume Jan. 5.

**Morning Prayer and Bible for Moms!**

**9:30 a.m. Wednesdays in the Village Church Chapel**

This is our last week! Connect before Christmas, and look forward to getting together again in the new year!

**Young Adult Christmas Party**

**6:30-8:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 12, at KC Bier Company**

Our favorite brewery is reserved for an epic community Christmas party! Wear your best Christmas sweater and brush up on your Christmas trivia. Admission requires one package of diapers, to be donated to Happy Bottoms (provider of free diapers to those in need!). [Signup.com/go/VillagePresYA](http://Signup.com/go/VillagePresYA).

**Young Adults!**

Need a place to go for Christmas? If you don't have family around and aren't able to travel this year, let Rev. Hallie Hottle know! There are others like you, who would like to spend the holiday with good people. Email [hallie.hottle@villagepres.org](mailto:hallie.hottle@villagepres.org) to find out where to go!



December is such a busy month at Village Church, and Children and Family Ministry had several of our traditional and best loved events this past week! Be sure to check out the Village Church Kids Facebook page.

### The Children's Christmas Pageant is on Wednesday, Dec. 14

Information will be coming soon about casting for speaking parts and costumed parts. There will be one rehearsal only from 1-3 pm. on Sunday, Dec. 11. Call 913-671-2355 or 913-671-2385 for more information.

**No Church School for Preschool Age Children and Elementary Age Children on Sunday, Dec. 25. We will have one worship service at 10 a.m. on Christmas morning in the Sanctuary.**

### Diapers in December

Children & Family Ministry is once again collecting disposable diapers throughout the month of December to benefit the Food Pantry. Last year, your generous donations lasted for more than six months. Let's beat that! Diaper donations can be left in the crib located in front of the Children's Library or at any of the Food Pantry drop-off locations.



Village Church Child and Family Development Center's Annual

# PANCAKE DINNER WITH SANTA

6 P.M. FRIDAY, DEC. 16  
IN FRIENDSHIP HALL

\$8 for children 2 and up.  
\$10 for adults.

Call 913-671-2310 for tickets.

A stack of approximately 15 golden-brown pancakes, with a red and white Santa hat placed on top. The background is a solid red color.

Join us at 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16, in Friendship Hall for the Village Church Child and Family Development Center's annual Pancake Dinner with Santa Claus!

Dinner will be served by the famous Chris Cakes and will include all-you-can-eat pancakes, sausage, milk and coffee.

Costs for dinner are \$10 for adults and \$8 for children age 2 and up. Children under 2 eat free. Get your child(ren)'s picture taken with Santa Claus and make sure he knows what's on your list this Christmas. Contact Linda Harmon at 913-671-2310 or [linda.harmon@villagepres.org](mailto:linda.harmon@villagepres.org) for tickets.

At 5 p.m., prior to the dinner, the preschool children of the Village Church Child and Family Development Center will present their version of the nativity in the Sanctuary. Come early to enjoy their sharing of the Christmas story.



GOOD NEWS: Highlights for the life of your Village Church (ISSN 1542-1090) Published by the Village Presbyterian Church USA monthly 6641 Mission Road, Prairie Village, Kansas 66208-1799 Periodicals Postage paid at Kansas City MO POSTMASTER: Send address changes to GOOD NEWS: Highlights for the life of your Village Church, 6641 Mission Road, Prairie Village, KS 66208-0050

DECEMBER 7, 2016  
Vol. 53, No. 23

## VILLAGE COMMITMENT

### It's Annual Commitment time!

Have you already turned in your pledge commitment card for 2017? If so, we thank you for your promptness that enables Session to prepare our 2017 budget.

Is this your first time to make an annual commitment? It's so easy! You can do this online at [www.villagepres.org](http://www.villagepres.org), click on Giving and look under Ways to Give to find the Continue to Commitment Form. You can also mail in your annual commitment card or turn in your commitment card to Molly Sirridge at the church.

We are asking everyone to consider an increase of 15% in giving this next year as our operating budget, our staff, and our vision for the future is in need of your help. At this point in our quest for \$4.4 million dollars, we have seen a generous increase in pledges. We are so very grateful for your continued and faithful support for Village Church. Village is brimming with amazingly generous families!

— Village Commitment Committee



VILLAGE  
COMMITMENT

### VPC WORSHIP SCHEDULE SUNDAYS

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

The Gathering – 5 p.m.  
In Friendship Hall

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

[www.villagepres.org](http://www.villagepres.org)

### Food Pantry & Clothes Closet

#### Drop-Off Hours

10 a.m.–2:30 p.m. M-F  
9:30–11:30 a.m. Saturday

### IN MEMORY

Rolland "Ron" Berkvam  
Marilyn Hall  
Charles Jackard  
Jeffrey "Jeff" McMahill  
Patricia "Pat" Nickell  
Virginia Piatt  
Ann Rucker  
Robert "Bob" Stewart  
Ray Zook