

"Telling Tales About an Elusive God" Presented by Visiting Scholar Dr. Warren Carter March 1 & 2, 2019

Dr. Warren Carter is no stranger to Village Church. During his 17 years on the faculty of Saint Paul School of Theology, he taught here often, and his wisdom, wit, and insight were greatly appreciated by those who attended his classes.

A native of New Zealand where he received his B.A., Warren completed two theological degrees in Australia. After completing his Ph.D. in New Testament at Princeton Theological Seminary in 1991, he came to Kansas City and St. Paul School of Theology. Since joining the faculty at Brite Divinity School at TCU in 2006, Warren has continued to make his mark on New Testament scholarship across the world while winning teaching awards and contributing to church publications and conferences.

Author or editor of more than a dozen books, he is best known for his scholarship on Matthew and John and for enhancing our understanding of the relationship of Jesus and early Christianity to the Roman Empire. He has written commentaries on the Gospel of Matthew, a study of Pontius Pilot, an introduction to the New Testament co-authored with Dr. Amy Jill Levine, and many other studies of the relationship of the Roman empire to the emergence of Christianity.

An engaging lecture and writer, he is appreciated by scholars as well as popular audiences and students.

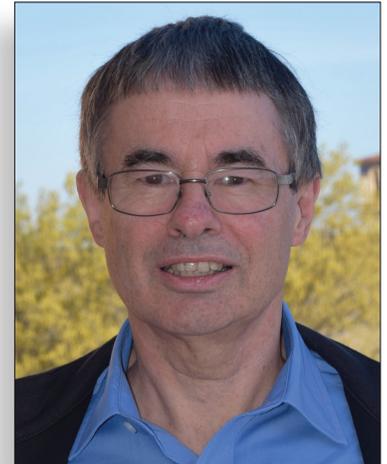
In his 2016 introduction to New Testament Gospels titled "Telling Tales about Jesus," Dr. Carter explains how the four Gospel writers shaped somewhat differing portraits of Jesus because of concerns of the communities and situations in and to which they were writing. He shows how Matthew and Luke added and subtracted from Mark's account to shape their gospels. He explains the major theories about why the Gospel of John is so different from the other three Gospels and gives his own view of John's perspective on Jesus. He discusses the quest for the historical Jesus and a number of the "non-canonical" gospels and the reasons the four we have in our New Testament were chosen.

Building on "Telling Tales about Jesus," Dr. Carter's 2019 lectures at Village Church will be "Telling Tales About an Elusive God: Reading the Gospels." Each talk will focus on one of the Gospels and its attempt to make sense of the ways of God in difficult, confusing, and challenging circumstances. But Dr. Carter warns us the mysteries of God (ancient and modern) are not easily explained. He will present new, yet unpublished material developed for the Visiting Scholar lectures on March 1 and 2.

You can meet Dr. Warren Carter and see a short introduction to "Telling Tales About Jesus" if you Google the book title and add "video." Better yet, get a copy of the book and enjoy a lively accessible introduction to the New Testament Gospels.

These lectures will be free this year so invite your friends and put it on your calendar. We will be asking for reservations to aid the committee planning the event. Donations and the Village Endowment Trust are providing the funding for this event. Donations for future visiting scholars are always welcomed.

Register online at www.villagepres.org/visiting-scholar or by calling 913-671-2333. There is no charge for reservations, but it will help us to know you plan to attend. Register by Feb. 15 if you need child care.



Immigration Support Initiative Helping Provide Legal Aid for the Undocumented

Dulce Salazar came to the United States as a young child. She is one of the estimated 3 million adults who were brought to this country by parents seeking a better life for themselves and their children. Although she has been here for 22 years, she is not a citizen and therefore is undocumented.

On Oct. 30, 2018, she was detained and incarcerated. Her bond was set at \$10,000 – an impossible amount for her and friends and family to raise so she could be free to work and care for her family while waiting for trial.

Her case came to the attention of Grandview Park Presbyterian Church in Kansas City, Kansas. Friends at Grandview Park reached out to the Social Witness Advocacy Task Force of Village Church. In the summer, the task force established the Immigration Support Initiative to provide pro bono attorney services and money to pay for bond. Village Church members generously contributed to the initiative fund. An attorney was able to persuade the immigration judge to reduce the bond to \$5,000. The Immigration Support Initiative provided half of the bond with Dulce’s family and friends providing the rest.

On Dec. 26, the day after Christmas, Ms. Salazar was freed from the Caldwell County Detention Center where she had spent nearly two months. She is now back at work and caring for her U.S.-born children, the youngest of whom is four years-old. U.S. taxpayers are no longer paying \$160 per day to keep her in jail. The court estimates that her case will go to trial in about seven years. In the meantime, she can take steps to establish a legal basis for staying here.

In June 2018, the Village Church Session voted to allow the Immigration Support Initiative to raise funds under the Social Witness & Advocacy Task Force. If you would like to contribute to the initiative, send a check made payable to “Village Presbyterian Church” and write “Immigration Support Initiative” in the memo line. Get more information at www.swatf.org.



Ms. Dulce Salazar with her two youngest children outside the Caldwell County Detention Center on Dec. 26, 2018.

MISSION

Help Fill Hillcrest’s Linen Closet

Village Church on Mission is sponsoring a linen drive for our Village sponsored Hillcrest Transitional Housing apartment. Hillcrest provides temporary housing for homeless families, helping them become self-supporting and self-reliant in just 90 days. When the family graduates from the program and rents their own apartment, they are invited to take their linens with them. Village then restocks our Hillcrest apartment with fresh linens. We need the following NEW (not used) items:

- Bed sheets/pillowcases/mattress covers: full size
- Blankets (machine washable): full size
- Comforters (machine washable): full size in gray, cream or tan
- Basic standard size pillows: Target Room Essentials or Kohl’s The Big One brand
- Crib sheets and blankets: gender neutral
- Bath towels: white, cream, tan or light gray
- Kitchen towels and dish cloths

You can drop off your donations at the receptionist desk at the south entrance of Village Church on Mission. The linen drive ends Feb. 15. If you have any questions, contact Deborah White in the Mission Office at 913-671-2369. Your support is much appreciated.

Food Pantry

Thanks to all who contributed to the success of the first Food Drive of 2019 – Souper Bowl Sunday – on Feb. 3. Results will follow. Because hearty soups are such an important part of the diet of our clients, especially during the cold weather months, the Pantry is continuing to ask for hearty soups and crackers. The Pantry can never have enough hearty soups! The Clothes Closet has had lots of winter clothing donated in the last couple of months, for which they are very thankful. They are now asking for warm blankets, sheets and towels. Thank you for your continuing support of this mission.

“Money can buy a tourist experience, but money cannot buy the host family experience..”

This holiday season, Village Church once again served as a host for Christmas International House, a cultural exchange program for international college students who are in school around the country. During the two-week winter break, 11 students shared the holidays with host families from Village and Grace Covenant Church. Students from China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia and Pakistan enjoyed festivities in Kansas City. They study at colleges across the country from Georgia Tech to New York University and they are pursuing degrees in computer science, advertising, biology, finance, English, sociology, communications and law.

During their visit, students helped serve meals at Thelma’s Kitchen (Village’s Signature Mission), toured the World War One Museum, the Nelson Art Gallery and the Union Station Illusions Exhibit, skated at Crown Center, bowled at Ward Parkway Lanes, played pickleball and basketball at the Power and Light District, solved a mystery at the Escape Room, listened to Kansas City jazz and sampled Joe’s Kansas City barbecue. Students shared cuisine from their homeland at an international potluck, candlelight and farewell celebration.

Students bond with each other during the two weeks and this year’s group is considering a reunion in KC over spring break. Christmas International House has left such an impression on the students that the sibling of one previous participant flew all the way from Seoul, South Korea to take part. Below is a recent note from Blaire about her brother’s visit:



I was so touched and even still cannot stop being amazed that you and other host families are taking care of international students like your REAL FAMILY MEMBERS.

And you all accepted my brother Jeong as a CIH program student. This is his very first experience in the United States, so he had zero experience and cultural idea. Everything would be new and strange to him. Thank you so much for guiding him. He got the BEST BEST BEST Christmas ever.

I really like the comment from one student that posted on CIH official website, “Money can buy a tourist experience, but money cannot buy the host family experience..” Yes, I absolutely agree, and want to thank you all again.

Thank you so much for being my and Jeong’s host families. I really wanna give you big, big warm, warm hug.

Thanks to all the families and organizers of this Village holiday tradition of 16 years and a special thank you to Judy Miller who has been a stalwart organizer for all those years. If

you are interested in learning more about the program, email Judy Miller at judy.miller@kcpl.com or contact Deborah White at 913-671-2369 or deborah.white@villagepres.org.

Village Church Session Update

We welcomed three new elder trustees and six new elders to the Village Church Session in 2019.

New Elder Trustees: Scott Carr, Phil Hendrickson and Sam Wendt



New Elders: Marilyn Borel, Charlotte Davis, Bob Fletcher, Randy Jackson, Pam Logan and Patty Zender



Village Church Session Actions

At the Jan. 14 meeting of the Session, the elders of the church...

- Elected elder Scott Stanley to serve as clerk of Session.
- Approved the dates for the celebration of the Lord's Supper.
- Heard elder Patty Zender's faith story and most meaningful scriptures and welcomed her as a new elder on Session.
- Approved the call for the annual congregational meetings to occur at Village on Mission on Tuesday, Jan. 29, and at Village on Antioch on Wednesday, Feb. 6.
- Upon hearing the final budget report for 2018, expressed deep appreciation for the generosity and faithfulness of the congregation. The congregation ended the year with a surplus of \$206,072.
- Approved the 2019 budget for \$6.2 million.

What is the Session? The Session is the governing board of the congregation. The 29 elders are elected by the congregation. Each one serves for a three-year term. Currently the Session is comprised of 13 women and 16 men. Two of the elders are young people. The Session meets monthly except for July. The Rev. Tom Are, Jr., as senior pastor, is moderator of the Session. Pastors and directors also attend the meetings and may speak but not vote.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

WOW Lunch at Sullivan's Steakhouse

All women are invited to join Women of Wisdom for lunch at noon on Tuesday, Feb. 19, at Sullivan's Steakhouse, 4501 W. 119th in Leawood. Located on the southeast corner of 119th & Roe, Sullivan's shares the same parking lot with Crate & Barrel and the Apple Store. Their lunch menu features flavorful food served in a friendly, comfortable setting. RSVP to Diane Lee at 913-432-4321 or dianelee@att.net by Monday, Feb. 18. We would love to have you join us!

See information about reservations for the Celebration of Faithful Women Luncheon on page 12.

KC Wind Symphony Concert Sunday, Feb. 10

The Kansas City Wind Symphony will present its third concert of the 2018-19 season at 7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 10, in the Village Church on Mission Sanctuary. Admission is free! The program "Song and Dance" will feature music by composers John Barnes Chance, Eric Ewazen, Percy Grainger and Norman Dello Joio, among others, and will conclude with Malcolm Arnold's "Four Scottish Dances." The Kansas City Wind Symphony is a member of the Village Church Arts Alliance.

February Second Thursday Recital With Organist Ann Marie Rigler



Organist Ann Marie Rigler will perform in the Village on Mission Sanctuary from 12:15-12:45 p.m. on Valentine's Day, Feb. 14. Ann is professor of music and college organist at William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri, where she plays weekly for Chapel services and teaches applied organ, music history, class piano, and courses in Christian hymnody and worship practices. She is also a solo recitalist with recital and lecture presentation credits at venues throughout the United States, including performances at conventions of the American Guild of Organists, the Organ Historical Society, and the College Music Society. She currently enjoys serving as co-organist for her own congregation, Colonial Church (United Church of Christ) in Prairie Village.

Baylor University A Cappella Choir 3 p.m. Saturday, March 9 - Village on Mission Sanctuary

This fine college choir, under the direction of Dr. Brian Schmidt, will share an exciting program of a cappella works at Village Presbyterian as a part of their spring tour. Admission is free.

The Baylor A Cappella Choir is the flagship choral ensemble at Baylor University. Selected by competitive audition, the choir combines some of the most advanced singers at Baylor, both music majors and non-music majors. The A Cappella Choir performs a wide variety of musical styles.



CURRENT SERMON SERIES

I Wish the Preacher Would Talk About . . .

In December the church family was invited to share topics to be included in a sermon series. Hundreds of responses were received. The following sermons remaining in the series have been taken from the most frequently requested topics.

- Feb. 10 The Earth is the Lord's (a Word About Climate Change)
- Feb. 17 Why Did Jesus Talk So Much About Money? (Doesn't He Know that Makes Us Uncomfortable?)
- Feb. 24 Do We Need The Book of Revelation?

Ash Wednesday Services March 6

The Ash Wednesday Worship Service will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 6, at both Village on Mission and Village on Antioch.

Two Elders from Village on Antioch Join the Village Church Session

On Jan. 6, Phil Hendrickson was installed as an elder trustee and Randy Jackson was installed as an elder during worship at Village Church on Antioch. This is the first time two representatives from VOA will serve on the Village Presbyterian Church Session.

"I am humbled, honored and most of all excited to start service on Session," said Randy Jackson. "My hope is to be a good voice for the VOA campus. It is also incumbent to be a strong liaison between both campuses to help forge our bond so to leverage the advantages both have to offer. As we mark our second anniversary worshipping as VOA, and first anniversary with Rev. Dr. Brandon Frick as site pastor, there is much to be proud. Our programs, missions, formation activities and congregation continue to grow. We believe that southern Johnson County should have a strong PC (USA) presence, and we will work to build on this momentum to that end."

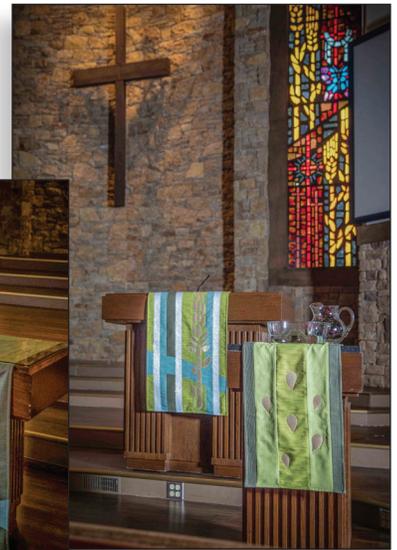


"The past four years have seen major changes at the church on Antioch," said Phil Hendrickson. "We have progressed from pulpit supply pastors and volunteers, to part-time interim pastor, to bridge site pastor, to full-time site pastor and paid staff. We are moving forward now that we are Village Church... The addition of two new Session members from the Antioch Campus will help Brandon Frick and staff communicate with Village Church on Mission. It is exciting to be a part of Village Church, the Village Church Session and PC(USA), as we expand the successful Village ministry to southern Johnson County."

Look What's New!

The Blue Valley Quilters made beautiful new paraments for Village on Antioch. The Quilters meet at VOA and store their materials. As a way to thank VOA, they made these spectacular paraments for the chancel. They incorporated Kansas wheat that is also in the stained glass window at Village on Antioch.

"There are four in total," shares Rev. Dr. Brandon Frick, site pastor at VOA. "They look awesome on the chancel! This is just one manifestation of the good partnerships we're building and nurturing at VOA."



PASTORAL CARE & COUNSELING

Come to the Taizé Worship Service Feb. 12

Taizé is held on the second Tuesday of each month in the Village of Mission Chapel at 6:30 p.m. This is a beautiful, moving service; one filled with candlelight, scripture, song and moments of silence. Communion is always served. We encourage everyone to come.

Growing Through Grief – New Series Starts Feb. 13

If you have lost a loved one, consider coming to Growing Through Grief, a five-week class where you'll know that God is with us even through our hardest moments. You'll receive your own copy of "Understanding Your Grief – Ten Essential Touchstones for Finding Hope and Healing Your Heart," by Alan D. Wolfelt, Ph.D. This is optional reading, yet many have found it to be extraordinarily helpful. The next series is from 4:45-6 p.m. every Wednesday, Feb. 13-March 13, in Room 124. There is no cost, but registration is required. Contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org for more information or to register.

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

Stephen Ministry Welcomes New Ministers

On Sunday, Jan. 13, the Village Church celebrated the commissioning of 13 new Stephen Ministers. These faithful individuals received more than 50 hours of training so that they may walk alongside those who are grieving and facing life's transitions. We are truly grateful for the spirit of grace and truth in these new Stephen Ministers:

Renny Arensberg, Barb Bennett, Al Eidson, Andy Harris, Pat Harris, Steve Howard, Lisa Huhman, Lisa Mann, Bud Mackey, Michelle Mook, Melinda Tiemeyer, Kathy Wells and Anne Yarnevich. We have also enjoyed having Cherie Daly, Jean Pyle and Brenda Richardson from visiting churches who also joined our training.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We joyfully welcomed 24 new members into the Village family in December.

New Members Joining at Village on Mission

Elle Clymer	David Huyett	Barbara Krueger	Pat Pearce
Greyson Clymer	Kim Huyett	Allison Palmer	Sarah Thomas
Edie DeSantis	Larry Horne	Jared Palmer	Jill Turner
Vincent DeSantis	Linda James	Dean Pearce	Tom Turner

New Members Joining at Village on Antioch

Jenny Davenport	Marilyn Foerster	Steve Van Kirk
Justin Davenport	Jeffrey Hutsell	Susan Van Kirk
Cameron Foerster	Sara Hutsell	

LOVE & LOGIC CLASSES

Parenting the Love & Logic® Way

A Six (6) Module Course: 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Feb. 19-April 2

Love & Logic® is a common sense approach that teaches parents skills that cultivate confidence and good decision making in children by offering them choices, empathy and respect while adults avoid anger, threats, warnings or lectures. This 6 Module teaching unit is facilitated by Jeffery Psota, an independent facilitator trained in Love and Logic skills. Love & Logic is easy to learn and can be put to use right away; it changes lives and raises responsible children. Topics include: Put an End to Arguing, Back Talk, and Begging, Teach Responsibility without Losing Their Love, Set Limits Without Waging War, Avoid Power-Struggles, Guiding Kids to Own and Solve Their Own Problems, Teach Kids to Complete Chores, Without Reminders and Pay. Classes will be from 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Feb. 19-April 2, in Room 232 at Village Church on Mission. Cost is \$25 per person/couple plus \$10 for the workbook. Register online at www.villagepres.org/love-and-logic.

Registration is now open for Spring 2019 Village U classes

Upcoming classes include:

Breakfast and Bible with Rev. Tom Are – Join Rev. Tom Are for a morning Bible study. Chef Emily will prepare a hot breakfast, Rev. Are will offer a reflection on passages from Scripture. There will be time for discussion as well. So, invite a friend and join the fellowship Tuesday mornings. To make a reservation for breakfast, please call 913-671-2333. Cost: \$6. Child care is not available. 7:30-8:30 a.m. Tuesdays, Feb. 12, 19, 26 and March 5, 12, 19, 26, Room 228.

Art Workshop – Did you love art classes in high school or college? Would you like to renew those skills with other creative people? Then unpack your pastels, paints or pencils and join us for this workshop. There will be no formal instruction - just encouragement, laughter and sharing of talents and techniques. Facilitated by Susan Webb. 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, now-March 27, Room 233.

Dr. Amy-Jill Levine on Intriguing Figures from Scripture – Dr. Amy-Jill Levine is University Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies at Vanderbilt University. A popular lecturer and writer, Dr. Levine has twice visited Village Church through the Meneilly Visiting Scholar program. She has produced a series of powerful and meaningful lectures about several colorful and fascinating figures from scripture. Participants in this class will view Dr. Levine's lecture then, led by Rev. Dr. John Borden will discuss and reflect together. Feb. 6 - Judas, Feb. 13 - John the Baptist, Feb. 20 - Doubting Thomas, and March 13 - Pharisses and Sadduces. 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Wednesdays, Feb. 6, 13, 20, Room 132. and March 13. Room 126.

Fr. Richard Rohr on "The Change that Changes Everything" – In this series of engaging lectures, Roman Catholic Father Richard Rohr present a radically new way of seeing the world, each other, and ourselves. This new way of seeing that the mystics have known for a long, long time, lifts us beyond our usual preoccupations and beckons us to enter a world where to see is to be astonished and to be moved at our core about who and what we are. Participants in this course will view the lectures together, then Dr. Gus Breytspraak will facilitate a discussion. 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Feb. 13, 20, 27, Room 127.

The Gospel According to John – Bible scholars have long recognized that the Gospel of John stands apart from the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Participants in this course will explore this most unique and surprising of the four gospels. We will seek to understand, guided as always by the Holy Spirit, the Jesus that John gives to us and how this Jesus calls us to live lives that are worthy of God's call to us to be children of God. Taught by Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka. 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Feb. 13, 20, 27, Rooms 132 & 133.

Rightsizing Your Lifestyle – It is hard to downsize, and it is real work. Most of us don't even know how to get started. Will you have a garage sale or estate sale in your future? What is the difference? Our community has many choices for companies that can help you sell your "stuff" but how do they work and how can you make the best choice for what you have? Let our speakers give you tips to start you moving in the right direction. Presented by The Education Group. 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 12, Room 232.

Creating and Editing Documents on the Computer – This class will explore how to create and edit a document that can be used as a newsletter, a flyer, or sent as an attachment in an email. Topics covered in the class will include how to insert pictures into a document, how to change the color and appearance of text, how to quickly locate specific words in a document, and how to attach a document in an email. Both Windows and Apple computers are available for use or you can bring your own laptop or tablet to the class. 1-2:30 p.m. OR 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 19, Room 316.



Creating Presentations on the Computer – This class will teach the basics of creating a presentation that can be used in the workplace, in a volunteer setting, or as a slideshow using photographs. Students will learn how to create a new presentation, how to edit an existing presentation, and how to add pictures and video to a presentation. Both Windows and Apple computers are available for use or you can bring your own laptop or tablet to the class. 1–2:30 p.m. OR 6:30–8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 26, Room 316.

Writing Your Obituary – Who knows your life story better than you? No one. Help your loved ones by gathering and documenting basic information needed for your obituary. Your obituary can match your personality. There are surprisingly very few rules when writing an obituary. It's your story to tell and the last thing those you leave behind will read. Presented by Evie Curtis, The Education Group. 6:30–8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 26, Room 132.

Great Books Discussion – If you're interested in reading selections that stimulate your critical thinking, come discuss many of the great authors and their ideas which support our western civilization. Books are ordered from The Great Books Foundation. The Great Books Group will welcome you on the first Tuesday of each month. Led by Jane Abildgaard. 2–3:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 5, Room 127.

Spreadsheets Made Easy-Beginner Class – This is an introductory class that will explore how to create a basic spreadsheet that can be used in the workplace or at home. Topics covered include identifying the components of a spreadsheet, entering data into a spreadsheet and sorting data. Students will create a simple spreadsheet during the class to reinforce learning. Both Windows and Apple computers are available for use or you can bring your own laptop or tablet to the class. 1–2:30 p.m. OR 6:30–8 p.m. Tuesday, March 5, Room 316.

Medicare 101 and Medicaid 101 – These important government programs can be confusing. This basic overview also will touch on Veteran's benefits and scams related to all these programs. Presented by Rachel Monger, Kansas licensed attorney specializing in Elder Care Issues, Vice President of Government Affairs for LeadingAge Kansas and a lobbyist for non-profit senior services at the state and federal level. 6:30–8 p.m. Tuesday, March 5, Room 126.

World War I Museum Day Trip – The historical collections of the Liberty Memorial Museum began years before an actual museum building existed. The museum has remained faithful to the initial objective: to collect, preserve and interpret the physical objects of World War I. The Liberty Memorial Museum is acknowledged as the only public museum in the United States dedicated solely to the history of World War I. Facilitated by Georgia Klein. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursday, March 7. Cost: \$30 per person.

Holding Faith: A Practical Introduction to Christian Doctrine – In a new book published last year, Rev. Dr. Cynthia Rigby, professor of theology at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, makes Christian doctrine accessible and understandable. Focusing on God revealing God's self to us (revelation) through Jesus Christ (incarnation) and the Holy Spirit (Trinity), to sin and salvation, the church (ecclesiology), the Christian life and hope and vocation, participants in this class will read one chapter (about 30 pages) each week as homework. You must purchase the book (\$32.80 new in paperback on Amazon.com) and come to class prepared to discuss your thoughts, affirmations, criticisms and questions. Taught by Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka. 10:30–11:30 a.m. Thursdays, March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4, 11, 18, 25, May 2, 9, Rooms 132 & 133.

Essential Oils and Home Cleaning – A Young Living Essential Oils representative will help you make two plant-based cleaning products to use in your home. Safe, chemical free, effective and great smelling! Taught by Elissa Duncan. 6–7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 7, Room 133. Additional cost: \$10.

Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishokia Publishes Bibles Commentaries

Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, senior associate pastor, has published three commentaries in "Connections. A Lectionary Commentary for Preaching and Worship." Connections is a new commentary series published by Westminster/John Knox Press, edited by Joel Green, professor of New Testament Interpretation at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California; Thom Long, Bandy professor emeritus of Preaching at Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta; Luke Powery, dean of Duke University Chapel and associate professor of Homiletics at Duke Divinity School in Durham, North Carolina, and Cynthia Rigby, W. C. Brown professor of theology at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Austin, Texas. This new series of Bible commentaries is designed to empower preachers as they lead their congregations to connect their lives to scripture. Rodger wrote commentaries on Colossians 3:12-17, Ephesians 1:3-14 and Hebrews 1:1-4.



Business Office Request: Use Dark Ink!

The Business Office uses remote deposit to get checks to the bank. The remote deposit system works best when checks are written with dark blue or black ink. Lighter colors of blue or other colors do not register with the remote deposit machine—the amount and your signature simply do not appear. Please use dark blue or black ink when writing checks. Thank you!



Village Church Single Adult Ministry 2019 Special Speakers Series



Single adults age 40 and up are invited to a special series of presentations suited for singles. We will gather in Room 230 at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, Feb. 12, 19, 26 and March 5, 2019 to enjoy these presentations, refreshments and friendship. Upcoming speakers and topics include:

Feb. 12 – “Traveling Single” presented by Lisa Ball, travel designer

Lisa will offer travel suggestions for singles wishing to embark on group or solo travel. She will have destination ideas as well as travel safety tips for traveling on your own. Don't stay home. Get your bucket list ready and discover the world.



Feb. 19 – “When Grief Gets the Best of Us” presented by Rev. Jay McKell, retired pastor

From the moment life begins we find ourselves letting go; friends, schools, jobs, parents, dreams, etc. It's not always easy saying goodbye for goodbyes mean loss and loss is often accompanied by grief. We choose some of life's losses when we move, end a relationship or change jobs. But in other situations, loss and the grief that shadows it is difficult, for it is not our choice. Jay will reflect on what our faith has to say when grief gets the best of us.



Feb. 26 – “Financial Decision Making for Singles” presented by Brad Stratton, investment advisor

For many individuals, the subject of financial decision-making and retirement planning can be both overwhelming and intimidating. Join us for a conversation with Brad who will share his insights, advice and best practices from over 30 years as an investment advisor in the wealth management industry. We'll discuss how to begin saving for retirement, how to make better decisions with loans and mortgages and learn more about the investment markets.



March 5 – “Real Estate for Singles in KC” presented by Susan Younger, real estate agent

Have you considered the possibility of changing your residence in the next five years? This presentation might help you in making that decision. Susan will discuss various types of available housing and what you could do to get your current home ready for sale. It's never too early to begin the process.



This free series was planned by the Village Church Single Adult Leadership Team. No reservations are required. **Contact cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org if you have any questions.**

Village Celebrates Its 70th Birthday

Dr. Robert Meneilly and his wife Shirley came to Prairie Village, Kansas in 1947 with the intent to establish a new United Presbyterian Church. Dr. Bob literally went door to door inviting people to come be a part of this new congregation. He promised a Sunday School for the children. On Feb. 13, 1949, 282 people stood to confirm their desire to be the first official members of The Village United Presbyterian Church of Prairie Village, Kansas. The church experienced the most rapid growth of any Presbyterian Church in the nation. They soon outgrew the Sanctuary and an education building was built to accommodate the large number of children who had been crowded in the basement for Sunday School. Through the years, the facility has undergone many changes and additions to accommodate the growth of the congregation. Most recently, Village Church now worships at two campuses, Village on Mission and Village on Antioch.



The congregation has been led over these 70 years by only three senior pastors, Dr. Meneilly, Dr. Robert Bohl and Rev. Tom Are, Jr. However, they have had a support staff of over 50 associate pastors to meet the needs of the congregation and an innumerable group of supportive staff have kept the ministry alive. The church began as a mission church on Mission Road and that theme has remained important over all the years. Members of the congregation have been involved in a variety of home missions and a great many have served beyond the USA.

To celebrate 70 years of Village Church, the Heritage Committee has ordered 70th birthday cookies to give out at both campuses on Sunday, Feb. 17. We will also be passing out Village Church decals. A member of the Heritage Committee will be speaking during "Why Village Matters" and we are hopeful that Dr. Bob Meneilly will be joining us. The Heritage Committee will also have an historical display on the bulletin board outside the Heritage Dining Room, located on the 2nd floor in the southwest corner of Village on Mission. "We hope to show how the church has been in ministry over the years. Our goal will be to not only have pictures of growth, i.e. facilities, but to also show how the mission church that began on Mission Road has continued through the years to be in ministry both locally and around the world," said Judy Cooper, chair of the Heritage Committee.

Happy Birthday, Village Church!

Daily Bible Readings Emails Launching Feb. 11

Subscribe now to receive Daily Bible Readings written by our Village Church pastors. These are offered for your own personal daily devotion. You are invited to read the text, think about the reflection and questions, and allow these to lead you in a time of prayer. Emails will begin our Village Church 70th birthday week, on Monday, Feb. 11. Sign up to receive Daily Bible Readings emails at www.villagpres.org/subscribe. Emails will arrive in your inbox first thing in the morning Monday through Saturday.

CELEBRATION OF FAITHFUL WOMEN

Reservations Open Feb. 24 for Celebration of Faithful Women Brunch

Rev. Jessie Light-Wells will be the keynote speaker at the Celebration of Faithful Women Brunch at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 23, in Friendship Hall. PW will recognize three Village Church women as Honorary Life Members: Lucy Tidwell, Susie Dixon and Ann Colston.

"I'm really excited to come back to Village for Celebration of Faithful Women in March," said Jessie. "The title of my talk will be 'The Gift of a Cloud' and will reference Hebrews 12:1-2.

I'll be reflecting on the concept of the great cloud of witnesses, and all the many ways in which we surround one another with God's love and grace." Jessie joined the staff of Preston Hollow Presbyterian (PHPC) in Dallas after completing her Master of Divinity at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary and a chaplaincy internship at Children's Health in Dallas. Prior to coming to Preston Hollow, Jessie served in various capacities including here at Village Presbyterian Church.

Reservations for brunch will be taken in Friendship Hall from 9-11:15 a.m. Sundays, Feb. 24 and March 3. You may also make them online at www.villagepres.org/pw. Cost is \$16 a person. Read more about PW's three Honorary Life Members in the March 6 "Good News."



Village Kids Day Out Program

The Child Care Department is gearing up for the Kids Day Out (KDO) program for the 2019-2020 school year. This program is for children ages 2-3 yrs. (must be 2 yrs. old by Dec. 1). KDO is offered from 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Thursdays, September-May.

Fall enrollment for Village Church members, KDO alumni siblings, and Village Church on Mission Preschool families is from 8 a.m.-noon Monday, Feb. 11. Enrollment for community members is from 9 a.m.-noon Monday, Feb. 25. See www.villagepres.org for full information. Contact Marjean at 913-671-2322 if you need more information.



Registration Dates Set for Children's Summer Camps

Registration for 2018 Children's Summer Camps is from 8 a.m.-noon Monday, March 18, for Village Church members, current Preschool children, Kids Day Out and Day Care families. Registration is from 8 a.m.-noon Monday, March 25, for the community. Look for the Summer Camps brochure later this month.

Souper Bowl of Caring

Children and Family Ministry thanks all those who donated cans of hearty soup. The Village Church Food Pantry appreciates the donations to keep the shelves stocked during cold, winter months.

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

Weekly Wednesday Dinners

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 & dessert is \$6. Children ages 4-10 are \$3 and children age 3 and under are no charge. Contact Liz Middleton at 913-671-2359 or liz.middleton@villagepres.org for reservations by noon Monday.

Standing Reservations, for more than one date, only available on a pre-pay basis. Email liz.middleton@villagepres.org if you are interested in paying for a month, several dates, or the rest of the meals through May 8, 2019.

Menus:

Feb. 13 – Valentine's Dinner - Chicken breast caprese, rice pilaf, vegetarian entrée, strawberry shortcake

Feb. 20 – Presidents' Day Dinner - Beef pot roast, roasted potatoes & root veggies, vegetarian entrée, cherry cobbler

Feb. 27 – **The Annual Youth Chili Cookoff** will replace the regular Wednesday Night Dinner at 5:30 p.m. on Feb. 27 in Friendship Hall. Tickets are \$10 a person or \$35 max for a family. Get tickets Sunday mornings or at Wednesday Night Dinner on Wednesdays, Feb. 13 and 20. **Enter a chili** (traditional, non-traditional, spicy, vegetarian OR enter a crockpot dessert) and receive two free tickets. Entrants are also eligible to win prizes. Call the Youth Ministry Office at 913-671-2302 for more information.

March 6 – Ash Wednesday – Beer battered cod, red beans & rice (vegetarian), chicken tenders, coleslaw





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2019 COMMITMENT CAMPAIGN

Smile of the day from one of our PALS!

by Charlotte Davison

A fellow volunteer was reading Curious George Goes to the Zoo to two of her children at Faxon Elementary. The author writes that the giraffe's neck is so long it reaches to the sky. Her little guy said, "Oh, that's where God lives." Her little girl replied, "No, He might have a house up there, but God lives everywhere!"



As part of the Mission's literacy program, PAL volunteers go to Faxon Elementary School one hour per week to help two children with their math and reading skills — and to be one more caring adult in those children's lives. This program is great for those who truly want to make a connection with some very special kids — some PAL volunteers have been with the same child for more than five years.

Your Stewardship is  at work. Thank you!



SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

VILLAGE ON MISSION

Traditional – 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

In the Sanctuary

The Gathering – 5 p.m.

In Friendship Hall

VILLAGE ON ANTIOCH

Traditional - 9:30 a.m.

In the Sanctuary

14895 Antioch Rd.

Overland Park, KS 66221

Food Pantry & Clothes Closet Drop-Off Hours

10 a.m.–2:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

9:30–11:30 a.m. Saturday

www.villagepres.org

IN MEMORY

Martha Coate

Byron Duncan

Myril Gish

Nancy Hobbs

Verna Hoel

Ruth Johnson

J.R. Majors

Kathleen Mealman

Jane Ott

Dillard Whitlow

Jack Wymore