Spring Village U Preview

What do the Psalms tell us about life amid disruption? Where do Christians stand on abortion and protecting the life of the unborn as well as the mother? What does the New Testament letter to the Colossians tell us about how we live together? Who was Jesus Christ—really? How do Christians live in relationship with other faiths? Spring 2022 Village U classes explore these questions and many more. A team of skilled, inspiring instructors include Dr. Cameron Howard, professor of Old Testament from Luther Theological Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota; Dr. William P. Brown, professor of Old Testament from Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia; Dr. Trenton Smith, art historian and theologian; Rev. Glenda Watts, a retired local pastor and expert on Celtic spirituality, and pastors Rev. Sally Wright and Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka. Registration is open on Jan. 10. Classes run from February through mid-May. For more information, contact laura.hobbs@villagepres.org.

Friday Handworks & E-Works, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Fridays, Feb.11-May 13

Fellowship of Christian Athletes Bible Study, 7:30-8:30 a.m. Wednesdays, year-round

Especially for Women, taught by Rev. Diane Quaintance, 9:30-11 a.m. Fridays, Jan. 7-May 27

Men’s Breakfast and Bible with Tom Are, 7:30-8:30 a.m. Tuesdays, Feb. 1-March 29

The Old Testament for a Complex World, taught by Prof. Cameron B. R. Howard, 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Feb. 2-23, via Zoom only

Outside of Ourselves: A Crash Course on Comparative Religions, taught by Dr. Trenton Smith, 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Feb. 2-23, in-person and via Zoom

Abortion and the Church: Where Do Christians Stand in the Life and Death Debate?, taught by Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Feb. 16 & 23, in-person and via Zoom

Discovering God’s Vision for Your Life: You and Your Spiritual Gifts, taught by Rev. Sally S. Wright, 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, March 1, 8, 22, 29

Deep Calls to Deep: The Psalms in Dialogue and Disruption, taught by Prof. William P. Brown, 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, March 9-30, via Zoom only

Decolonizing the Church: Building Beloved Community, taught by Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, March 9-30

From the Beginning: The History of Village Church, led by Judy Cooper, Heritage Committee of Village Church, 11a.m.-noon Thursdays, March 24 & 31

CONTINUED
Christology 101: Who is Jesus?, taught by Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, April 6-27, in-person and via Zoom

Celtic Spirituality: Listening for the Heartbeat of God, taught by Rev. Glenda Watts, 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, April 20, 27 and May 4, 11

Book of Colossians: New Life in the Household of God, taught by Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, May 4 & 11 in-person and via Zoom

Star Words for 2022 are Available

Star Words have become a modern-day ritual related to Epiphany (Jan. 6), when the wise ones are believed to have reached the Christ child by following the star. Like the wise ones, we seek Jesus, trusting that God uses many paths to bring us closer to the Divine.

Star Words are paper or wooden stars with one word on each related to our spiritual life in Christ. You are encouraged to simply draw a star out of the basket and thus let the word choose you (rather than hunting through the basket for a word you like). The idea is to journey with your word through the coming year—to watch where it shows up, how it moves your heart and the ways it brings you closer to God.

If you missed worship on Jan. 2, baskets of Star Words will be available on Sunday, Jan. 9. (At our Mission Campus, these will be in the Narthex, Welcome Center and Friendship Hall. At our Antioch Campus, they will be at the Welcome desk.) After Jan. 9, Star Words will be available at the south reception desk at our Mission Campus or in the Antioch Campus office.

May God bless your journey in this coming year!
Welcome Nancy Gatewood as Interim Director of Connectional Ministries

As we said farewell to Cindy Wilcox on Jan. 2, Village Church member Nancy Gatewood stepped in to serve part-time as interim director of Connectional Ministries. We are grateful for Cindy’s 16 ½ years of service and wish her the best as she begins a well-deserved retirement. Nancy has already begun working alongside Cindy to make the transition as smooth as possible.

“As we prayerfully considered who might step in as interim director following Cindy’s faithful leadership, Nancy quickly came to mind,” says Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, senior associate pastor. “Nancy has participated in much of Village’s life and, like Cindy, possesses a wonderful ability to connect others to God and to one another. We are so grateful for Nancy’s willingness to serve in the months ahead.”

Nancy says, “I was totally blown away that I felt a call to this offer. It will be a privilege to work alongside such good, good people.”

Nancy began attending services at Village in 1964 when her family moved to Roeland Park from Newton, Kansas. She officially joined in 1974.

Nancy has a nursing degree and worked as a nurse for 10 years at Children’s Mercy and the Johnson County Public Health Department. After staying home with her two daughters, she spent 21 years as a paraprofessional in the DeSoto School District.

Nancy has been on the Hillcrest Transitional Housing volunteer team since it began in 2014. She is a Food Pantry volunteer and is on the Food Pantry Advisory Board; her assistance at the Food Pantry was especially vital during the pandemic from March 2020-December 2021. She has been a BackSnack coordinator and Mission Committee member. Currently, Nancy serves on the Connectional Ministries committee and participates in the Faxon PAL tutoring program. Make sure you introduce yourself to her next time you see her!
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GOOD NEWS

GRATEFUL FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Village Church continues to give gifts of time, talent and treasure. Although the pandemic required that we change our routines, Village Church remains committed to worship, mission and fellowship, not only in our zip code but throughout the world. Our livestream worship services have been viewed in almost every state along with places like Portugal, Ontario, Thailand, India, France, Germany, Newfoundland and Nova Scotia. Our mission ventures to the Dominican Republic, Haiti, US/Mexico border and Thwake, Kenya are beginning to resume. Locally we’ve provided a new gathering space for our growing Young Adult ministry, showed care for our environment with solar panels on the roofs at the Meneilly Center, supported initiatives to end homelessness and provide quality, affordable mental health care in our metropolitan area. The list continues to grow as we demonstrate the love God has for us and our world. Village Church is grateful for all the ways you give.

—Village Giving Committee

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Mission Campus
6641 Mission Rd.
Traditional – 8, 9:30 & 11 a.m.
In the Sanctuary
The Gathering – 5 p.m.
In Friendship Hall

Antioch Campus
14895 Antioch Rd.
Traditional - 9:30 a.m.
In the Sanctuary

Call in to hear the previous Sunday's Mission Campus Sanctuary worship service at 913-203-1301

IN MEMORY

Beverly "Bev" Booe
Marion "Al" Boggs
Kirby Deeter
Shirley Eye
Carol Hamilton
Judy Hart
Jeanette "Jean" Page
Janet Van Der Lippe