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The human mind plans the way, but the Lord directs his steps. (Proverbs 16:9)

Presbyterian Women are planning their annual luncheon on Saturday, March 21, 2020 to celebrate the gifts of all women at Village Church. We will honor the three Village on Mission Church members as PW Honorary Life Members: Dee Couch, Patty Zender Grossman, and Michelle O’Neal. Join us as Rev. Sally Wright shares her thoughts on Divine Scheduling. For event questions, contact Sandra Stephens, imnotsandrad@gmail.com or Ann DeFeo annddefeo@gmail.com.

Reservations for this event begin February 16!
Dear Friends,

God is Love.

*It is a simple truth...* and yet it has voluminous meaning in the absolute and even sometimes in one’s own interpretation.

One thing we know is that we, as women, in the church and in our own personal lives, rely on the friendship and love of others. We hear that we cannot do church alone, and it is also true that we cannot do friendship alone. It has been stated that for us to be fabulous “it takes the acquired grace, wit, and wisdom of many years, many friends, and much laughter. It takes courage, perseverance, faith, and the openness to grow, no matter what life throws at us.”

Whatever it takes, lift up your neighbor, your girlfriend, the women in your family, or look in the eyes of someone you do not know, and lift them up. You never know what one needs on any given day. We all need this lift and this love. Speak of it. Nurture it. Be generous with love!

Hearts that beat to the tune of kindness can change the rhythm of the world.

C.J. Peterson

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**A FRIEND IS WHAT THE HEART NEEDS ALL THE TIME**

Henry Van Dyke

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**AND NOW THESE THREE REMAIN:**

**FAITH, HOPE & LOVE**

AND THE GREATEST OF THESE IS LOVE.

1 Corinthians 13:13

With hope and love,

Becky and Lexa

becky.anderson418@gmail.com

or lexalcarr@gmail.com

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Lexa Carr and Becky Anderson
PW Co-Moderators 2019-20
Save the Date for the Amazing Graces spring gathering! Jan Fellers will host a “Painting Party” at her Art Studio. Cooperatively, as Jan leads us, we will create an acrylic painting on canvas, which will be exhibited at Village Church on Mission.

If you are familiar with Jan’s talent, you know her gift of capturing emotion and beauty and bringing it to life through her artwork. Discover your talent as we engage in the process together!

Join us for hors d’oeuvres, beverages and friendly conversation on March 19 beginning at 6:30 pm. Reservations ($10) will be sold between services beginning March 1. Look for more information in the church bulletin and the March Messenger. For questions, please contact Martha Tatman at matatman@hotmail.com.
The Messenger

Mission Sewing

In the book of Genesis, Jacob gifts his son, Joseph, a brightly colored robe as a seventeenth birthday gift. Informed by Jacob’s giving, Tuesday Mission Sewers are currently sewing flannel plaid robes to welcome the newest teenage members of Avenue of Life’s residence for “unaccompanied homeless youth.” Avenue of Life, located in Kansas City, Kansas, is Village Church’s Signature Mission for 2020. The center, in coordination with Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools, will offer homeless teens a residence until they graduate.

Mission Sewers enthusiastically agreed to take on the robe project after listening to Desiree Monize, Executive Director, Avenue for Life, during a Minute for Mission at Sunday services. It was difficult to fathom homeless teenagers seeking evening shelter wherever, including WalMart. The volunteers quickly mobilized (see photos on page 5).

Unlike Joseph who received his robe to the exclusion of his 12 siblings, a robe is planned for each resident so that all 35-40 students are clothed. Several steps are required to produce so many robes in sizes small to XXXL; testing the pattern, buying and cutting 24 bolts of flannel and then organizing the fabric pieces into robe kits. The kimono style unisex robes feature a contrasting pocket, fabric belt and band around the neckline and front. Individual sewers then finish the kits to complete the finished robe. This project will be done in addition to the regular schedule of sewing and donations to the community agencies with whom Mission Sewing currently has relationships. We anticipate delivery around March 1 when the home begins housing its new residents.

We invite you to sew with us on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

LOVE Shows Up!

STATS UPDATE

Jan. to Dec. 2019

Volunteer Hours

7183.5

Distributed Items

11,392

February 2020

The desire to create is one of the deepest yearnings of the human soul.

Dieter F. Uchtdorf

Tuesdays:
Cheryl Brady, cha50@mindspring.com, 816-589-0513
Anna Staton, staton.anna@yahoo.com, 913.669.8743

Thursdays:
Nancy Cantril, nancy.cantril@gmail.com, 913.638.8049
Dee Gound, dkgound@kc.rr.com, 913.961.7473.
Mark your calendars for this powerful event that brings women of all ages together to grow spiritually, connect with new and old friends, and unplug from the chaotic world we live in. Our guest speaker, the Rev. Dr. Dee Cooper will share her understanding of how play and connection are a vital component of our spiritual lives. In a world that tempts us with comparison and judgment, Rev. Dr. Cooper will teach us how our role as faithful women is to lead by encouragement. Rev. Dr. Cooper is a speaker, therapist, coach, explorer and wild animal lover, all of which led her to start her own company. She is known for her big energy and heart, and works with those who want to soar into possibilities or dive into the unknown. Following her keynote, small workshops will provide an opportunity to continue the discussion as we get to know each other and create meaningful relationships.

Tickets will go on sale at the end of February 2020.

MORE INFO: villagepres.org/pw

go on... grab a friend and encourage them to join you
Community Table

Lunch Between the Circles

If you made a reservation by February 1, we look forward to seeing you on February 14 for Lunch Between the Circles.

Plan to join us in March too! For questions, contact your Circle Leader or Leslie Conrad at conradleslie@aol.com

VOA Fellowship Dinner
Monday, February 24
Panera Bread
6800 W. 135th

Celebration of Faithful Women
Saturday, March 21

PW Spring Retreat
April 24 & 25

VOA Spring Luncheon
Saturday, April 18

Presbyterian Women Purpose

Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves:

* To nurture our faith through prayer and Bible Study
* To support the mission of the church worldwide
* to work for justice and peace
* to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (USA) and witnesses to the promises of God’s Kingdom
Women of Wisdom

Join WOW for lunch
February 18!

All ladies are welcome to join Women of Wisdom (WOW) for a warm, winter lunch at noon on Tuesday, February 18, at Jack Stack Barbecue. Located at 95th and Metcalf, Jack Stack features a menu that pleases a large variety of tastes, including salads, soups, sandwiches, and especially its award-winning barbecue. Add one of their yummy side dishes like baked beans, coleslaw, or cheesy corn. There’s also pulled pork, chicken and fish for those who don’t care for barbecue.

We’ll be seated in a secluded area, and invite YOU to join us for friendly fellowship in this warm, inviting atmosphere. You are welcome to bring a friend or invite a new member of Village to join you. Please RSVP by February 17 to Marvie Sneegas, sneegi@kc.rr.com or 913-209-9608.

Making a difference, one child at a time.

Operation Breakthrough Reading Resuming March 25!

Star Families Update
Our hearts are full!

Thank you to all who donated to the Star Families program this year. One hundred families were adopted by Village. In addition to the Star Families adoption program, Operation Breakthrough and Village gathered toys for children who do not attend the daycare but live in the same urban community. Pre-registered parents come and pick out gifts with a volunteer for each of their children. This year, Operation Breakthrough helped over 750 children with this program. $3000 was also collected for Star Families for the holiday meal program and was given to Operation Breakthrough for this holiday mission program.

Thank you also to Women With Spirit who collected books for OB at their January book event. Book bins are located at the south reception desk and near the children’s library for book donations.
Introducing Our Honorees for 2020!

Celebration of Faithful Women

Dee is a lifelong resident of Overland Park. She received her BA in Education from the University of Kansas. Dee works at SS&C Technologies as a Senior Investor Services Representative/Quality Coach. A few times a year Dee sheds her SS&C role and becomes a store model for the women’s clothing store Christopher & Banks at their St. Joseph location.

Her sister, Lisa, and brother, Dave, live locally. She has a niece, four nephews, and two great nephews. Dee is a second cousin of actor Charles “Buddy” Rogers. Although she never met him, her dad knew him. Buddy starred in a silent movie “Wings,” which was the first movie to ever win an Oscar for Best Picture.

Dee dedicates a large amount of her time and talents to PW Village Church. Dee serves most Sundays as an Usher, and also coordinates the communion servers. She is the Education Team Lead for the Computer Ministry, chairs the Connectional Ministries Committee and serves on the Village Emergency Response Team. Dee also co-leads a Village Connect group. Previously, she has served as Deacon and Elder.

In her spare time, Dee is an avid reader diving into historical nonfiction - don’t be surprised to find Shakespeare in her hands as well. Dee also loves the movies and live theater, she has season tickets to the New Theatre Restaurant and Starlight. The eternal optimist, Dee holds season tickets to the Royals and KU Football. If that isn’t enough to make you want to nap, Dee is a goalkeeper for two women’s indoor soccer teams!

Patty was born on a farm outside of Sylvia, Kansas on August 30, 1952... delivered by her father and driven afterwards to Hutchinson, Kansas where she was pronounced as a “happy and contented baby” from the moment she came into the world! She and her siblings Linda, Jim, and Doug are a close and lively family! Over her formative years Patty watched her parents play active roles in their communities as educators and members of civic organizations.

Upon graduation from high school, Patty attended Kansas State University. She became a member of Delta Delta Delta and was involved in many campus activities as she pursued her degree in Early Childhood Education. While there, her lifelong love of KSU athletics began when she met her husband, Bob Zender, who played basketball for the Wildcats. They were married in 1973 and moved to Omaha, NE where she taught Kindergarten and began the Early Childhood program for the Westside School District. Shortly after their son, Bob, was born, they were transferred to Minneapolis, MN. During their time in Minnesota they welcomed two more sons, Matthew and Andrew. Being a mother of these three boys has been the honor and delight of her life. They moved back to Leawood when the boys were in elementary school and have loved being a part of the KC community ever since.

After returning to the KC area, Patty returned to teaching and became the Director of Village Church Preschool in 1998. Patty shares it was an experience of a lifetime to be a part of this church community and the wonderful families who brought their children to this remarkable school.

Patty’s husband, Bob, passed away in September 2010. The support she received from the community at Village gave her the strength and support to regain her balance in life. (continued on page 9)
This past year Patty reconnected with an old friend and found love again! Harvey Grossman and Patty married this past October with God, their children, and families present. Rev. Tom Are said, “our new day that began in the sunset of our life, finds the true source of human joy, LOVE!”

Patty’s involvement at Village Church and with PW is deep and wide. Her activities include: Village Church choir, communion server, Core Connect group leader, Stephen Minister, the DRMP board, she is ordained as a Deacon, Elder, and is the chair of the Pastoral Care and Counseling Committee. Within PW, she is a member of Circle 2, Amazing Graces dinner group, served on numerous PW Committees, and was PW Board Spiritual Growth Coordinator and Co-Moderator.

In Patty’s spare time she loves connecting with people through church and the greater neighborhood. She loves being close to her six wonderful grandchildren, traveling, and following her K-State Wildcats!

Michelle was born in Columbia, Missouri, in 1973. Her parents, Carol and Mike Dowdy, were living and teaching in Moberly, Missouri. A year later they moved to Chicago, where they brought their second daughter, Erika into the world. A job with the Santa Fe Railroad brought their family to Topeka, Kansas in 1978. Michelle grew up in Topeka. After high school, Michelle studied at the University of Kansas, earning a BA in Psychology and English. Michelle worked with the English Alternative Theatre, and completed her social-psychology internships at NYU and Columbia University.

Michelle worked in book and magazine publishing after college in Lawrence and eventually Kansas City. Michelle married her platonic-roommate-turned-fiancé, Brian O’Neal, in 2001. They moved to Prairie Village to be closer to KU Med where Brian worked as a Pharmacy Director. They now reside in Shawnee and Brian now serves as Director of Pharmacy & BioMed at Children’s Mercy Hospital. Michelle and Brian have three wonderful children, Ian, Erin, and Sean. In addition to her involvement with Village, Michelle is the Assistant Director of the Junior Cotillion program in KC, and does freelance editorial work.

Michelle has been sharing her time and talents with Village since 2004. She serves as a Sunday School teacher, Stephen Minister and is a member of The Gathering Committee. She has served as the VBS Director and Co-Director. Michelle is the fearless leader of Circle 4, and has served on the APNC commissioned to hire Children & Family Ministry Director (Brooke Latas), and two Pastoral-Care Pastors (Melanie Hardison and Sally Wright). Michelle also served on the 2016-17 Strategic Planning Committee and is on The Feast Leadership Team with Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka.

Michelle found Village, or rather Village found Michelle, when she was a new mother driving her three babies across town to experience the gift of childcare, handing them over to the saints named Rosemary Marshall, Marjean Lindquist, Kim Stratton, and others who nurtured them and loved them like their own.

Over the years, Michelle keeps finding ways to come back. Who wouldn’t want to surround themselves with people who know the world is broken but live with hope and joy anyway?

Michelle and her family take the opportunity to travel and have experiences whenever they can. When they travel they sail, play tennis, trapeze, snorkel, hike, snow ski, and more. She loves cooking, photography, dance, reading and taking naps with their dog, Louie.

A passage from scripture that speaks to Michelle is Jeremiah 29:11, which has always reminded her that she can loosen her grip and let Jesus take the wheel. “For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”
VOA Spring Luncheon
A Celebration of Generations

Spring Luncheon 2020
A Celebration of Generations

Saturday, April 18 | 11:00am

Kelly Thomason
Honored Guest
Honorary Lifetime Membership

Rev. Sally Wright
Featured Speaker

Jean Glasebrook
Celebration of her 100th Birthday

An Intergenerational Celebration of the future of Presbyterian Women:
Bring your daughters, granddaughters, mothers, sisters, & friends.

$15 at the door, children under 12 free
RSVP to the VOA Office 913.881.8180 or laura.patton@villagepres.org

Check out the March issue of the Messenger to learn about the life and faith of 2020 PW Honorary Life Member Kelly Thomason of Village on Antioch!
Contact Laura Patton at laura.patton@villagepres.org for questions.
Women With SPIRIT

Brew Lab Social
Saturday, February 29
6:30 pm

Bring a friend, bring your spouse or come alone to enjoy an evening of good food, drinks and a social environment.

For additional details: shelbykrumm@yahoo.com.

7925 Marty, Overland Park

It’s time to start planning for the 2021 Churchwide Gathering! Mark your calendars for August 5-8, 2021.

The theme is “Rejoice in Hope,” based on Romans 12:12–13, “Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.”

This gathering happens every three years and celebrates and deepens your engagement in all things Presbyterian Women does.

For questions, contact Becky Anderson at becky.anderson418@gmail.com or Lexa Carr, lexalcarr@gmail.com.
Gentle Therapeutic Yoga

This is small group training that resembles physical therapy mixed with yoga. This class is wonderful for keeping you strong and pain free. Must be able to get up and down off the floor with ease. Try a free class before you commit. Must reserve your free class by TEXTING Katie Hurcomb at 913-244-5623.

Mondays and Wednesdays
Youth Loft
1:30-2:30 pm
$50 = 4 classes per month
$96 = 8 classes per month

Yamuna Body Rolling

This class focuses on self administering deep tissue massage to work out the adhesions in fascia. This is an amazing system of healing. Come see what it’s all about! TEXT Katie Hurcomb at 913-244-5623 to reserve your visit.

Mondays and Wednesdays
Youth Loft
12:30-1:30pm
$50 = 4 classes per month
$96 = 8 classes per month

Page Turners

Calling all Bookworms, Bibliophiles, and Readers of all interests! All are welcome to join the group for lively discussions of books selected by consensus from a variety of sources. Page Turners meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. in room 127.

The February discussion book is *The Girl Who Wrote in Silk*, by Kellii Estes. The heiress to an estate finds an embroidered sleeve hidden away and is helped by a professor of Asian History to learn its story.

For more information contact Judy Lockett at judylocket5@gmail.com or Barbara Lee at 217-891-3557 or lhlee@att.net.

Books With Spirit

Books with Spirit will meet at the home of Michelle O’Neal on February 6 at 6:30 pm. We will discuss *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo. For questions, contact Laura Langdon at reelbeachy@hotmail.com.

Amazing Graces Book Club

At the January gathering we discussed upcoming book selections as well as ideas for a spring mission project. Join us on February 5 at 6 pm for our discussion of *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott and *The Story of Little Women and Why It Still Matters* by Anne Boyd Rioux. Read one or both! At the March 4 meeting we will discuss *The Testaments* by Margaret Atwood. For questions, please contact Sara Wallace at swallace01@gmail.com.

PW Alive Now

Alive Now is a Bible Study for women who are early risers. We meet each Wednesday from 8:00 to 9:30 am in the Heritage Dining Room.

We study a passage of scripture and we are a support group for one another, often spending as much time sharing and caring for each other’s needs. If you would like more information, contact Judy at judycooperjc@gmail.com.

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