SPRING LUNCHEON
A Celebration of Generations

About Our Honoree from VOA: Kelly Thomason

Kelly was born in St Joseph, Missouri and baptized at Hyde Park Presbyterian Church. Her father worked for Black and Veatch, so her family moved often, but Kansas City has always been her home. Her parents have returned to the area and now live in Overland Park. Kelly and her husband Wade were married at her childhood church, Rolling Hills Presbyterian. She and Wade have two daughters, Kay and Brook. Kay lives in Kansas City and works for Boulevard Brewery, and Brook is a teacher in the Blue Valley District. Brook is married to Nick Ash, and they have a charming 2-year-old, Peyton.

Kelly graduated from Shawnee Mission South, attended Johnson County Community College, and graduated from the University of Kansas with degrees in Accounting and Business Administration. Wade is a financial planner. Kelly helps with all the taxes and paperwork for many of their clients.

Kelly has been involved with multiple programs and activities with PW at Stanley Church and PW at Village Church. She has served as an Elder, Sunday School Teacher, Vacation Bible School Team Leader/Guide, and a Mission Trip Youth Sponsor for six trips! At Village on Antioch, Kelly has served on several committees, including PW Luncheon and Hospitality, Coordinating Council, and Sound Board.

(continued on page 7)
Message from the Moderators

Friendship and kindness should be practiced in thought, word and deed. We see so many acts of kindness from our Village women, but it never hurts to be reminded of the impact we have on others. Kindness is about giving of oneself freely, for the pure joy of giving without any expectation of reciprocity or strings attached.

Acts of kindness bring joy to both the giver and receiver. Below are a few thoughts on how we can all practice simple acts of kindness and spread love to those who need it as much as we do.

• Be a considerate driver….let someone go ahead of you.
• Connect with others, face to face, even if for a moment.
• Put your phone away while at the checkout line, smile.
• Share a laugh.
• Learn to listen with your heart... and with compassion.
• Put yourself in someone’s shoes; think before you speak.
• Be aware of your power. Words can have a powerful effect on others. Passing on a snippet of gossip can be so hurtful. A word of encouragement can move mountains.
• Let love guide you!

With hope and love, Becky and Lexa

FOR BEAUTIFUL EYES, look for the good in others.
FOR BEAUTIFUL LIPS, speak only kindness.
FOR POISE, walk with the knowledge that you are never alone.
Audrey Hepburn

Presbyterian Women Purpose

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

* 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

* To nurture our faith through prayer and Bible Study
* To support the mission of the church worldwide

Ephesians 4:32

Be kind to one another tenderhearted forgiving one another as God in Jesus Christ forgave you.
Celebration of Faithful Women at VOM

On Saturday, March 21 at 10:00 a.m., Presbyterian Women will hold the annual Celebration of Faithful Women luncheon. We will celebrate all women of Village Church and will recognize the outstanding individual contributions of four Village Church members: Dee Couch, Patty Grossman, Michelle O’Neal and Kelly Thomason.

Our keynote speaker will be Village Church’s own Rev. Sally Wright, whose presentation will address “Divine Scheduling.”

Reservations ($16) are available online at www.villagepres.org/pw.html or between worship services in Friendship Hall. For questions contact Sandra Stephens, imnotsandrad@gmail.com or Ann DeFeo annnddefeo@gmail.com. The last day to purchase reservations in Friendship Hall will be March 8, online reservations are available until March 13. Make sure this event is on your schedule!

Women With SPIRIT

Activities designed for you to simply show up. Join us! Next up on April 4 from 6-8 pm, Cooking with Rachel Ciordas. RSVP to shelbykrumm@yahoo.com

All are welcome. Always.

PW Circles

Village on Mission
March 10
7:00, 9:30 am
12:00, 7:00 pm

Village on Antioch
March 9
6:00 pm

Questions for VOM? conradleslie@aol.com
Questions for VOA? joycebardeen@gmail.com
Continuing our Mission…The newly formed Thursday Mission Sewing celebrated its one-year anniversary on February 7, 2020! After our pastors asked us to be more invitational and formational in our faith, several women responded to Nancy Cantril’s call to initiate another Mission Sewing group alongside Tuesday Mission Sewing. Thursdays seemed to be a better day for this group to meet. Join us - make new friends - exercise your gifts as we cut, machine sew, hand sew, serge, knit and crochet much needed items for our community.

For many of us, Village Church members and non-members, this was our first time working alongside each other creating items like night shirts and Christmas bags for City Union Mission, peanut pillows and receiving blankets for various hospitals and Dream Bags for Project Warm Embrace.

Dream Bags, made of brightly colored cotton fabrics, are given to children as they move from their homes into foster care, sometimes with only 15 minutes notice. The bag, made with a draw string across the top, can be used to hold personal belongings, and can also be used as a pillowcase in the child’s foster home. James Harmon, Regional Supervisor in the Kansas Department of Children and Families for Project Warm Embrace, visited with Thursday Mission Sewing on February 20. We then presented him 106 dream bags that were made in our first year.

New projects for 2020 include requests from Family Conservancy for baby doll blankets which are used as a teaching tool in their preschools and cot covers which are used as fitted sheets during rest time.

Our giving comes full circle. Vicki Graham shared with us that her granddaughter recently had surgery at one of the area hospitals and was given a blanket with pockets as she returned home. She loved it! With that gift, Vicki saw clearly that we are ALL family, the blanket was not made by VC women but was given with the same love that we ALL feel as we create and sew items that we give to those in need in our community.

All are welcome! Join us as we laugh and explore our way through stitching and stuffing peanut pillows, sewing French seams in the Dream Bags, and perfecting our serging skills.

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.

**GUEST SPEAKER**

**REV. DR. DEE COOPER**

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.

**HEARTLAND RETREAT CENTER** 169165 MISSOURI 45 PARKVILLE, MO 64152

<table>
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<th>Overnight</th>
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Program, meals & lodging | Program & meals

**PW RETREAT ITINERARY**

**FRIDAY**

4-6 PM  Check-in

6 PM  Dinner

6:30 PM  Opening Program & Worship

8 PM  Campfire & Conversation

**SATURDAY**

6 AM  Early Risers

8 AM  Breakfast

9:30 AM  Program & Worship

NOON  Lunch

1 PM  Workshops SESSION 1

2 PM  Workshops SESSION 2

3 PM  Closing Worship and Communion

**WORKSHOPS**

When life gives you lemons make lemon curd

**RACHEL CIORDAS**

Learn how to make this easy treat. It can be used to make a creamy tart mousse or many other desserts. Come learn and walk away with new recipes.

Accepting Others

**REV. SALLY WRIGHT**

Nothing may be more personal than the way in which people refer to us through our name and pronouns. Gain mutual respect and basic courtesy with this simple step.

Knowing One Another

**REV. HALLIE HOTTE**

There’s an ancient framework we’ve come to call the “Enneagram” that continues to provide insight for knowing our psychological, social, and spiritual selves. Come explore it!

Creating a Community Cross

**KIM LORENZEN & LAURA HOBBS**

Community is what it’s all about. Come join us as we transform a piece of canvas to a unique piece of art.

Mirrors and Meditations

**KIRBY SMYTH**

Engage with time-honored methods to really “see” each other and find sanctuary in the loving presence of the Divine.

Financial scholarships available.

Email Rev. Sally Wright at sally.wright@villagepres.org

go on... grab a friend and encourage them to join you
Operation Breakthrough Reading

Be a reading buddy. Read to a child. Engage in literacy activities. Men and women volunteers needed. You will make a difference in the life of a child and your own!

During each reading session, there will be group songs, guest readers, snacks, one-on-one reading with your reading buddy, and craft time. Each child is able to take home their craft and two books each week to start their own library. If you can’t be there each week, come when you can. We would love your help!

On Wednesday, March 11, we will have the opportunity to go to Operation Breakthrough for a tour of their facility. Gather at the VOM south entrance to carpool and leave at 9:45, or meet in the Operation Breakthrough lobby, 3039 Troost, at 10:15. If you have a friend who is interested in becoming a reader or learning about Operation Breakthrough, this is a good introduction. These tours open our eyes and hearts to the lives of our little reading buddies.

After the tour, join us for an early lunch at Thelma’s Kitchen across the street. Please contact Cindy by March 4, if you plan to attend, if you want to carpool or drive yourself, and if you want to stay for lunch so we can give Operation Breakthrough a total number.

If you are interested in signing up or have questions, please contact: Cindy Whitham ciwhitham@aol.com or 913-262-3062.

Making a difference, one child at a time.

Be a reading buddy. Read to a child. Engage in literacy activities. Men and women volunteers needed. You will make a difference in the life of a child and your own!

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March 19
$10/person

Your $10 reservation includes appetizers, beverages and painting!

Reservations are limited and will be sold between services on March 1, 8 and 15.

Thursday, March 19
6:30 p.m.
Questions?
matatman@hotmail.com

March 2020
A Celebration of Generations
About Our Honoree Kelly Thomason

(initial PW Circle Membership team and serves as PW Circle Treasurer. And that’s not all! She has also served as an office worker, bulletin printer, painter of Sunday School rooms, and bathroom tiler! Kelly truly feels that working for the church and church family is what we are called to do.

Beyond her work at Village, Kelly is a member of three different book clubs! She is always looking for a book recommendation. She has a hard time keeping her hands still so if she is not reading, she is probably knitting hats to donate to the Christmas Bureau, which she has done for four years. Her goal is to donate at least twenty-five each year. Her all-time favorite thing to do is scrapbooking and card making. She loves to travel, take photos, and come home and make scrapbooks to save those memories. She makes cards for the ladies at Lakeview and absolutely loves coming up with new ideas to surprise them. Mostly, she loves spending time with her family and friends. She is thankful that many of her friends can be found at Village Church.

Fun facts about Kelly are she has visited every state west of the Mississippi except Alaska and many of the states, east of the Mississippi. Her bucket list includes a visit to all fifty states, leaving fifteen states to go! She was a Girl Scout leader longer than she was a Girl Scout: fifteen years of service overall. When you see her, be sure to ask her about Girl Scout Cookie recipes!

Join WOW for lunch March 31!

Excellent food, friendly efficient service, cozy, upscale atmosphere, reasonable prices - that’s what Women of Wisdom (WOW) will experience at our noon lunch on Tuesday, March 31, at Redrock Canyon Grill. Redrock is conveniently located at the corner of 135th and Metcalf in Corbin Park, 13505 Metcalf. We suggest you drive south on Metcalf to the light at 137th, turn left into Corbin Park, and come back north to the corner restaurant. Redrock’s front door faces 135th - north.

This is a new restaurant for WOW. Redrock has only been open for lunch just recently, and comes highly recommended. During my visit there, I was impressed with the warm atmosphere and welcoming staff. We’ll dine in a semi-private area with fireplace. The cuisine is basically southwest American. Their menu includes Starters, Salads, Sandwiches, and House Specialties including salmon, rotisserie chicken, meatloaf, and ribs.

As always, all women are warmly welcome to join us for this delicious food, and especially for conversation and fellowship with current and new Village friends.

RSVP to Marvie Sneegas, sneegi@kc.rr.com, 913-209-9608. We’d love to welcome YOU and the friend you bring with you.
Extra Mile Giving is an offering intended for anyone who would like to provide a gift over and above your pledge to the church. The monies which are collected are used to subsidize small and large events for Presbyterian Women such as the Advent Celebration, Celebration of Faithful Women and more. Also, funds are used to further our PW Mission Work including Operation Breakthrough Reading and Mission Sewing.

Opportunity for giving is provided at all PW events. We appreciate your consideration!
Laura Hobbs is creative, lovely and kind and has recently become part of the Village Staff as the Coordinator for Adult Educational Ministries.

Laura was born in Scottsboro, AL and graduated from the University of Alabama (Roll Tide!) with a degree in Human Environmental Sciences/Interior Design and a minor in Art. Laura said her dream was always to live in New York City, and she fulfilled her dream. After graduating from college, Laura moved to NYC to work with a firm that focused in high-end residential design. Laura worked and lived in New York for five years.

Laura was living in New York City on 9/11 and was at work in the Upper East side. She vividly remembers that day. The summer she interned in NYC she went through the World Trade Center on a regular basis and knew that area well. She remembers watching the coverage on the news, and with the city in turmoil her boss decided to take the staff to lunch because they couldn’t leave the immediate area. Laura remembered looking out the window of the restaurant and seeing a sea of people walking down the street due to the public transportation closures and the destruction of the city. Laura said it was the most surreal moment, and she’ll never forget that day.

After five years in New York, Laura wanted to be closer to family, so she returned to Alabama and worked in an architecture firm in Birmingham. Two months of moving home, she met her husband, Alex, who had recently retired from the US Army as a Lieutenant Colonel and worked as an Army contractor. After six weeks of dating, Alex’s job was taking him to Kabul, Afghanistan to train the Afghan military for one year. When home over the Christmas holiday, Alex proposed to Laura. After six months in Afghanistan, Alex decided to come back to Alabama to be with Laura. After they were married, they moved to Atlanta for a year. In 2008, Alex got a job teaching at the Command and General Staff College in Ft. Leavenworth which brought the Hobbs’ to the KC area.

Once settled in KC, Laura and Alex were looking for a church home. Laura grew up Presbyterian and remembers leaving the Village Shops one day and driving Village Church. Laura said after their first visit, they felt right at home and they joined the church in 2011. Laura is currently a Sunday School teacher, on the Celebration of Faithful Women committee, member of Circle 4 and active in Women with Spirit.

Participating and attending church has always been a part of Laura’s life. Growing up, Laura attended Cumberland Presbyterian and was very involved with the Methodist youth group (her home church was so small). In college, a friend told her about RUF, Reformed University Fellowship and she became very involved as a RUF team leader. In NYC, Laura attended Redeemer Presbyterian Church. Laura is grateful for the many influential people in her life that gave her a spiritual foundation, especially her parents and grandparents.

Some of Laura’s other interests are, painting (watercolor and acrylic), crafts and traveling. She loves seeing and learning about new things. When asked what she would do if she could do anything for a day, Laura said she’d spend the day in a beautiful city visiting museums, being outside and enjoying a lovely meal. That sounds like a perfect day, indeed.

...Written by Carol Solenberger
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
12:30-1:30 pm
$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 book discussions. Page Turners meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. in room 127.

On March 24th we will meet to discuss Kate Morton’s mystery The Clockmaker’s Daughter. It is told from multiple points of view covering several decades.

In 1862 a group of young, aspiring artists led by the talented Edward Ratcliffe takes up residence in Birchwood Manor on the banks of the Upper Thames. By the time their stay is over several mysterious happenings have occurred. One hundred and fifty years later Elodie Winslow, a young archivist in London, uncovers a leather satchel containing a sepia photograph of an arresting looking woman in Victorian clothing along with an artist’s sketchbook and a drawing of the twin gabled house at the bend of the river. The unraveling of Morton’s mystery is an intriguing read.

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 in the spring. For questions, please contact Laura Langdon at reelbeachy@hotmail.com.

Amazing Graces Book Club

At the March 4 meeting we will discuss The Testaments by Margaret Atwood. Our April 1 selection is The Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes. For questions, contact Sara Wallace, swallace01@gmail.com.