VILLAGE CHAPEL
PRESBYTERIAN

"The Villager" – November 19, 2026

What's next for "From the Word into Worship"?

We had a great time with by Dr. Tyler Mayfield, professor of Old Testament at Louisville Seminary at our first scholar breakfast! He talked about the shift from the Tabernacle to a Temple as a dwelling place for God and described the historical books as being a bit like a telenovela!

Our next scholar breakfast, with Dr. Mayfield back to talk about prophecy, will be Sunday, December 6th, with the meal starting at 9:15 and the lecture at 9:30. We've invited members of Temple Israel and B'nai Jacob to join us! Please RSVP so we can make sure we have enough food!

During Advent, which starts November 29th, we will focus on the lectionary texts from Isaiah which tell of the hope for a Messiah. (Don't worry, Christmas Eve will still be the familiar story of Jesus' birth from Luke.) But we hope the grounding in prophecy will help us to appreciate that his incarnation was an answer to centuries of prayers!

Then in January we shift to the sagas that we share with our Muslim neighbors – stories about people like Hagar, Abraham sacrificing a son, Joseph, and Jonah. We've invited members of the Islamic Association to join us for a meal and presentation by the Imam on Sunday, January 3rd, after worship. We hope to be a be to arrange a chance to visit on of their worship services, like we did with B'nai Jacob.

Finally, we've ordered two books that the session will be studying to help them evaluate what we've learned and plan next steps in 2027.

Thanksgiving Thoughts

Nearly 100 years ago, during the Great Depression, Dorothy Day wrote:

"It is not always easy to be joyful, to keep in mind the duty of delight.
But the final word is love.
At times it has been a harsh and dreadful thing and our very faith in love has been tried through fire.
We cannot love God unless we love each other, and to love we must know each other.
We know [each other] in the breaking of bread, and we are not alone anymore.
Heaven is a banquet and life is a banquet, too, even with a crust, where there is companionship."

I hope you find that kind of love at the table this year!

Todd

Worship Notes

Join us in person or virtually for worship in November and December!

November 22	History 4	2 Chronicles 36:14-21
November 29	First Sunday of Advent / Prophecy 1	Isaiah 64:1-9
December 6	Second Sunday of Advent / Prophecy 2	Isaiah 40:1-11
December 13	Third Sunday of Advent / Prophecy 3	Lessons and Carols
December 20	Fourth Sunday of Advent / Prophecy 4	Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
December 24	Christmas Eve	Isaiah 9:2-7, Luke 2:1-14
December 27	First Sunday of Christmas / Prophecy 5	Isaiah 61:10-62:3



Men's Dinner
December 10th
6 PM
at Harding's Family Restaurant

2772 Pennsylvania Ave.

Whether you come for the fellowship or the food, you'll get you fill!

Bring a friend!

Giving Tuesday

Village Chapel is participating in Giving Tuesday - Dec. 1st

The goal is to foster a wave of generosity that lasts well beyond the day and touches every person on the planet!

We are raising support for: **Common Grounds & Chamberlain Elementary!**

You can help by contributing...
- cans of tuna, a key source of protein included in the food boxes given out by Common Grounds. Our goal is 100 cans! (Jars of peanut butter are good too!)
- snacks for the classes at Chamberlain elementary. Target, Kroger, and Wal mart all sell large containers of pretzels, cheeseballs, and animal crackers that can be distributed by the teachers. (No nuts please.)

We hope to deliver donations by 12/14!

Stewardship Update

On Dedication Sunday, Nov. 8th, people placed their pledges in a basket, or sent them in by mail, or used the "give" button on the website. As a result, we have received pledges of $173,280 toward the 2027 budget which allows us to do the ministry God has called us to do! Thank you for your generosity! We asked you to consider how you might serve one another with whatever gift you have received, and you've responded!
If you haven't yet sent in your pledge, there is still time, but the Session will begin putting together a budget soon.

Staff Bonuses

It's the time of year to express our gratitude and appreciation to those who mean the most to us. Please consider a donation for staff Christmas bonuses, which will be divided among all the members of our amazing Village Chapel staff. Please designate your donations as Christmas staff bonus on the envelope or your check. Thanks, in advance, for your generosity and for letting them know how much they are appreciated.

The Personnel Team

Prayer Chain



An important part of our caring for each other is the **Prayer Chain.** Please let **Betsy White** (**betsywhite06@yahoo.com**) know of any prayer concerns you may have. You may also contact Leslie Bremar in the church office (**304-925-7265** or **leslie@vcpresby.org**). Leslie will direct your prayer request to Betsy. If you would like to be added to the Prayer Chain, please contact the office.



Walk to End Alzheimer's 2026

New Elders

Ever since you elected them, **Rick Cook, Teresa Lawlor, Patti Salisbury,** and **Cindy Sloan** have been busy preparing to be elders as part of the class of 2029! On December 6th they will be examined by members of the session. Please keep them in your prayers!

The beautiful tree (while the leaves may have fallen) gifted to the church by the Presbyterian Women, now has a beautiful marker to commemorate the gift.







Closed on Nov. 26th & 27th

Statistical Report	11/15/26	11/8/26	11/1/26	10/25/26
In Person Attendance	45	41	48	90
Non-Pledged	$80	$4,255.45	$255	$135
Pledges	$2,666.93	$4,100	$3,479	$3,959
Misc. Income	$3,092	$135	$642	$919
Total Contributions	$5,838.93	$8,490.45	$4,376	$5,013



December 3rd
1:00 – 6:00 PM

A Legacy of Music at Village Chapel



We have a rich history of music at Village Chapel with the congregation always having made it a priority.

A small electronic organ was purchased as the original building was being constructed and furnished. A larger Rodger's electronic organ was installed in 1964 in the new sanctuary. There has been a total of ten organists who have served over our history. Kathryn McCrary was a recent college graduate when she became the church's third organist in 1954. Several of the organists served as choir directors as well.

The stewardship of our members has been evident all through the years in the purchase and maintenance of the Rodgers organ, the Reuter pipe organ in 1981 and the grand piano in 1989. Pianos for other areas of the building have been donated by various members over the years, including Fedora Berry, Evelyn McClure, Kate Dobson, and Don and Amy Parker.

We have been blessed with the vocal skills of over 150 people who have faithfully given nearly two hours of practice time each week as well as every Sunday morning to enrich our worship. Church choir creates a wonderful family camaraderie in the group, and it is a privilege to be a part of creating something beautiful. I am very happy to add that due to the outstanding participation of the many men in our choir over the years, I have been the envy of other choir directors, who struggle to have enough men to sing! We miss Jane King, Bobby Caldwell, Rose Ellen Sockman, Dave Dawson, and Tish Hodovan who have joined so many earlier members now singing with the heavenly choir of angels.

We have been privileged to have many instrumentalists and liturgical dancers over the years who have added their talents to our services, many of them our youth---Whitney Perrine, Marissa Ellis, and Erin Chiparo to name only a few.

In the 1990's our choir of about 25 members, along with those of Ruffner, Kanawha and Bream Presbyterian churches combined to present several wonderful cantatas, one accompanied by a string quartet. Lois Carper was a beautiful soloist for these presentations.

An important outreach has been our children's close encounters program. Many students from the wider community joined us to present musical dramas, play instruments during worship and present puppet skits.

I am gratified to have been told by a number of members of our congregation that the music program was a strong element in attracting them to become part of our wonderful church. Our singers, instrumentalists, and children's choirs, along with Kathryn McCrary, Carolyn Perrine and Nancy Wallace have all teamed with me for over fifty years to make the music at village chapel a source of joy and enrichment.

Sharon Curnutte, Director of Music

Legacy Christmas Pageants



As we continue to reflect on legacies here at Village Chapel, we'd like to invite you to share some thoughts and stories of Christmas Pageants of the past. **Email Leslie** (Leslie@vcpresby.org) your remembrances of times when you or your children were involved in a Christmas pageants here at Village by **Thursday, December 3rd.** If you have special memories of Christmas Eve services, We would love to hear about those also.

NEW TIME ALERT – Christmas Eve Worship Service will be held at 8:30 PM

The Most Beautiful Time of the Year

Advent & Christmas
at Village Chapel Presbyterian Church

WITNESS TO THE LIGHT:

An Advent Study with the Prophets

Mondays – Nov 30 – Dec 21

7 PM on Zoom Only

Exploring the ancient wisdom of the prophets to help us wait in hope.

WORSHIP SERVICE LESSONS & CAROLS

December 13 – 11AM

Featuring the Adult Choir

Christmas Luncheon following worship

PW CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON & CONCERT

Thursday, December 17, Noon

Everyone welcome

Reservations Required

CHRISTMAS EVE CAROLING

December 24 - 2 PM

at Hubbard Hospice

The Most Beautiful Night of the Year

Christmas Eve Communion & Candlelight Service – 8:30 PM

All are welcome to share communion.

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DECEMBER 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 7 PM - Choir Practice	2 7 PM – Worship Team Meeting	3 10 AM - PW Coordinating Team Meeting 1-6 PM – Blood Drive	4 7PM - NA Group	5
6 9:00 AM -Breakfast with a Scholar 11 AM – Worship Service 12:15 PM - Choir Practice	7 10 AM - Bridge 7 PM - Advent Bible Study *(Online Only)*	8 7 PM - Choir Practice	9 7:30 AM - Rotary Club 7 PM - Stewardship Team Meeting	10 12 PM - PW Circle 6 PM – Men's Dinner @ Harding's	11 7 PM - NA Group	12
13 9:45 AM - Sunday School 11 AM – Lessons & Carols Worship Service 12 PM – Christmas Luncheon	14 10 AM - Bridge 7 PM - Advent Bible Study *(Online Only)*	15	16 7 PM - Session Meeting	17 Newsletter 12 PM - PW Christmas Luncheon 7 PM – Taizé Worship Service	18 7PM - NA Group	19
20 9:45 AM - Sunday School 11 AM - Worship Service	21 10 AM - Bridge 7 PM - Advent Bible Study *(Online Only)*	22	23	24 2 PM – Caroling at Hubbard House 8:30 PM – Christmas Eve Worship Service	25 7PM - NA Group **CHRISTMAS DAY OFFICE CLOSED**	26
27 11 AM – Worship Service	28 10 AM – Bridge **OFFICE CLOSED**	29	30	31 2 PM – NA Group to use Fellowship Hall		