

VALLEY VOICE

Volume 16, Issue 13

November 16, 2011

Three Communities Sharing One Location

Blue Valley Christian Church, Connect (from Countryside CC), and Peace Church currently share one location for their worship, mission, and ministry. The schedule currently is as follows:

Blue Valley Christian Church

Worship.....Sundays.....9:30 AM

Faith Formation....Sundays.....10:45 AM

Peace Church

Worship.....Sundays.....11:00 AM and 4:44 PM

Youth Group.....Sundays.....5:30 PM

Connect

Worship.....Thursdays.....6:00 PM

Band rehearsal.....Wednesdays.....6:00 PM

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COTTAGE MEETINGS OPEN COMMUNICATION

Five recent Cottage Meetings (in home meetings) provided opportunity for conversation among members of BVCC and leadership.

Led by Rick Hughey and John Steinmetz, the topics of conversation included BVCC's current situation and options for our future, connecting points of participants when they first joined BVCC, and ideas and opinions people wished to share.

Our thanks to Rick and John for their leadership. Thanks, too, for the hospitality of the hosts for the cottage meetings: Karen Slater, Jan Harris and Connie Stokes, Ann and Harold Zimmerman, Bart and Mark Holcomb, and Anne and Kelly Ingersoll.

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(BY AARON JAMISON, BVCC WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK SITE COORDINATOR)

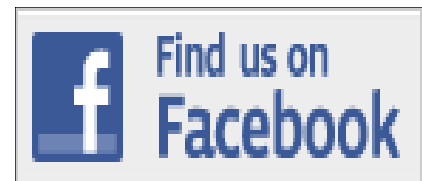
Check out the blogs and discussions on the Blue Valley Christian Church website and Facebook pages:

Recent “Join the Discussion” questions and post dates include:

- What would you like to see God do in your life? (10/23/11)

Recent articles include:

- November Mission Opportunities (10/22/11)
- Religion and Politics (10/25/11)



BVCC sermons are now accessible online at <http://sermons.bluevcc.org>

- Grace Upon Grace—From the Backside (10/16/11)
- Planting a Tree (10/23/11)

The shortcut URL for the BVCC Facebook site is: <http://www.facebook.com/bluevcc>.

Goal Within Reach!

The goal of 3000 food items for the Food Wagon is within reach.

Thanks to people who regularly bring food items and a larger donation by a BVCC family 545 items were received in October. Only 424 items to go by December 31 to reach our goal of 3000.

A giant THANK YOU to all donors. And thanks to Jim Johnson for counting the items and delivering them to the Salvation Army site in Olathe.

Book Offering

Katheryn Graham offers the book: [A Course in Miracles](#) to anyone who might like to read it. The book is in Rick Butler’s study and can be borrowed by contacting Rick or the Church Office at 913-469-8736 or by email at bluevcc@sbcglobal.net

BVCC CONNECT SERVICE ENDS

The 2nd and 4th Sundays, 5 PM Connect service held worship for the final time on November 13.

The service started January 9 of this year. It was made possible financially by a designated gift from a BVCC member family. The design of the service was created by a planning team of Aaron Jamison, Kelly Ingersoll, Rhonda Frisbie, John Steinmetz, and Rick Butler. The planning team met regularly throughout the year.

The media screen, computer and projector system are now in use because of Connect. A pottery communion set, candle stands and holders, fabrics, and other visuals are now in use because of Connect. A year of experiencing worship at a different time on Sundays and with a new style of music and accompaniment, experiencing a service by candlelight with multi-media presentations is now familiar to us.

The beginning hope of Connect was to attract people through social media networks who saw themselves on spiritual journeys and wished for a safe place to express their journeys within a community. That hope was not fully realized. Nearly all of the worshipping community was from within the BVCC congregation or people related to our members.

In early October the Connect Team reached consensus to conclude offering the service. The name will continue however. The faith community worshipping at BVCC on Thursday evenings will be Connect.

Our deepest appreciation and thanks go to:

The family who gave the grant to get us started

Rhonda Frisbie for music leadership

Aaron Jamison for media leadership

Kelly and Anne Ingersoll, Anthony Frisbie, Marilyn Butler, and John Steinmetz for sanctuary set-up and take down

Veronica and Alyssa Sutton for childcare

The 9/11 Planning Team: Kelly Ingersoll, Mandy Howard, Susie McCart, Jill (Bryant) Niebrugge, and all who provided hospitality for the 9/11 service

Robin Smith for administrative support and leadership

Larry Graham, Mark Dobbels and others for taking down chairs following morning worship

All who worshipped regularly or occasionally at Connect



CONGRATULATIONS

We offer our prayers of joy and thanksgiving for Jill Bryant and Chris Niebrugge who were united in marriage Saturday, November 12, 2011.

The service was celebrated in the sanctuary of BVCC. Sandy Harris, Pastor of FCC, Louisburg (where Chris is a member) joined Rick Butler in officiating for the wedding.

The Niebrugge Family will make their home in Louisburg.

We wish this couple great joy and love as they begin their lives together in the covenant of marriage.

IN THE MAIL

From: Catholic Charities,
Shalom House

Thank you for your gift to Catholic Charities of NE Kansas. Generous supporters such as you make a difference in the lives of so many who must rely upon others for assistance.

For more than 50 years, donors like you have helped provide quality programs and services that are a sign of hope to people of all faiths who live in the community.

Sincerely,

Wendy Doyle

Executive VP of Development

MISSION INFORMATION (By Aaron Jamison)

Johnson County Christmas Bureau Move-In

Saturday, November 19th, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

The JCCB collects toys and other items year round for their annual Holiday Shop. On November 19th they will be "moving in" to their Shop and need volunteers to help out. Our job will involve loading donations from their office in Merriam into a truck that will take them to the Holiday Shop located at The Great Mall at 151st in Olathe. The JCCB office address where we will meet is 9503 Johnson Drive, Merriam, KS. Please wear warm clothing, comfortable shoes and leave valuables at home or in your car. This event will involve lifting and moving boxes.

Johnson County Christmas Bureau Holiday Shop

Tuesday, December 6th 5:30 to 8:30 PM

The JCCB collects toys and other items year round for their annual Holiday Shop. We have spots reserved to help out at the Holiday Shop the evening of December 6th. There will be various jobs available including assisting their clients with shopping, greater, stocking shelves, and others. Everyone will be able to pick a job that fits their interests and capabilities. The Holiday Shop will be located in The Great Mall at 151st in Olathe at the former Steve and Barry's store (South side of mall). This is the entrance opposite Olathe Medical Center on 151st. Please wear warm clothing, comfortable shoes and leave valuables at home or in your car.

Johnson County IHN Holiday Party

Saturday, December 10th, 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

The Johnson County Interfaith Hospitality Network is having their annual Holiday Party to support the current and past graduates. The party is hosted by St. Thomas Episcopal Church at 123rd & Antioch, just one miles West of BVCC. There are several jobs available including helping children shop and wrap gifts.

Contact Aaron Jamison at aaron@jamisons.net to volunteer and participate in these upcoming mission events.

Outside Cleanup Mission Provided by Family of Faith CC

A special thanks to the members of Family of Faith Christian Church for their mission to provide assistance by cleaning up around the grounds of Blue Valley Christian Church on Wednesday, October 19th.

After a quick meal together, everyone got involved by cleaning out weeds and debris from the surrounding flower beds, cutting off lower level tree limbs, and cleaning out the debris of the exterior stairwell just to name a few of the activities.

Thank you to the following participants in this mission project:

Rodney Starkey

Shaun and Stephanie Parker, Nick, Nate, and Natalie
Carrie and Jonathan LeBeau, Conner, Abbie and Nathan
Bill and Lisa Engelken, Jenna, Kyra and Nora and Sandra Daub
Brad and Julie Norman, Jordan and Blake

Thank you also to Carrie LeBeau and Lisa Engelken for providing the following pictures.



SHARED MISSION FOR PROJECT WARMTH

This past Saturday on November 12th, Aaron Jamison and nine members from the Countryside satellite service (now named Connect) met to help out the mission of Project Warmth and the Salvation Army. They were joined by 15 others from Serve Kansas City as well as a Boy Scout Troop, a college sorority, and others.

The group helped unload 13-14 trucks full of donated coats and blankets and then sorted and bagged them. In a three hour time frame the mountain-like pile of coats/blankets were nearly all sorted. The coats and blankets will later be donated to area agencies for distribution to their at risk clients.

Pizza and fellowship were enjoyed by all following the hard work.

Pictured in back from left are (Rhonda Frisbie, Countryside; Suzi Goldt, Countryside Pastor; Aaron Jamison, BVCC; Pat Horgan, ServeKC)

Pictured in front from left are (Hannah Oliver, ServeKC; Stephanie Downing, Countryside; Pam Wallace, Countryside; Anthony Frisbie, Countryside)

Not Pictured are (Mark Wallace, Nicholas Wallace, Victor Wallace, PJ Wallace, all from Countryside and 13 others from ServeKC)



Raising Up Servant Leaders 2011 Thanksgiving Offering

The Thanksgiving Offering benefits the colleges, universities, seminaries, and divinity houses affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). These learning communities are an extension of the church, challenging students to understand and respond to God's call to serve.

Your support provides scholarships, church relations programs, and chaplaincy offices. Most importantly, your support of the 2011 Thanksgiving Offering helps Disciples raise up servant leaders!

To read more, see pictures, or to give online, visit www.disciplesmissionfund.org and click on the Thanksgiving Special Offering link.

Special giving envelopes can be found on the table right outside the BVCC sanctuary.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing Campaign

Thank you to the volunteers who helped to bring awareness to those in need by participating in the annual Salvation Army Bell Ringing Campaign on Saturday, November 12th.

BVCC and Community of Peace Volunteers include: Mark and Kathy Dobbels, Peggy Deseure (COP), Karen Slater, Nancy and Scott Boyer, and SA Coordinator for BVCC, Jim Johnson.

VOLUNTEERING POEM

The following poem (reprinted with permission) is written by Nora Engelken, daughter of Lisa (Family of Faith Pastor) & Bill Engelken.

Volunteering

To volunteer is to assist or help.
Some people might utter or give a yelp.
But there is always someone there to give them a hand.
Offering or volunteering is not demanding.
It means to hear,
To listen to others,
And listen to our sisters and brothers,
For they are all around,
And we are all bound.
We have to teach,
And maybe even preach,
To make them know,
How to go.
We have to learn,
How we can earn,
More loving in our hearts.
We have to be strong,
So we can help push through the journey that is lifelong.
Volunteering keeps the world alive,
It helps others survive.
We should help one step at a time,
Make life not so sour like lime.
We could stand out in the rain,
To ring bells for money to fix the pain.
Maybe sing to the sick,
Or help fix the ick.
Walk and feed the pets,
To keep them away from the vets.
That is why we should volunteer in this community.