



Village Online Bulletin

February 14, 2021

Stay in the know as you go about your week!

Announcements

Financial News

In January 2021, the US Congress approved a second round of “forgivable” loans for small businesses and non-profits whose gross receipts in 2020 were 25% less than their gross receipts in 2019. We qualified, applied for, and were recently granted a loan. We have no doubt that we’ll meet the criteria for full forgiveness of the loan. We understand there are a variety of opinions in the wider Christian community about taking these loans, but, as with the first loan we received last year, the government has clearly said it will not use the loan to violate religious freedom. **More Information**

Village Care

A family of Christ-followers who care for one another as Christ loves the church. We want to share some of the ways we express that care here at Village. **Please click here** to see all of the ways we can connect with each other! We are constantly discovering more ways to share the love of Christ with those at Village and those around us. If we missed your ministry or you have an idea for us, please contact our Co-Directors of Pastoral Care, Jim Clementson and Nancy Anderson. They are here to support and encourage you as you live out what John says in I John 3:11 – “For this is the message which you have heard from the beginning that we should love one another.” “And this is His commandment, that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as He commanded us.” (I John 3:23)



Vaccine Clinic Volunteers Needed

Four hospital organizations in Portland are conducting a massive COVID-19 vaccine clinic at the Oregon Convention Center and they need help! At this time, they are seeking community volunteers who are available at least once a week for a 4-hour shift at the Oregon Convention Center in Northeast Portland for both weekdays and weekends. This is an unpaid, non-clinical volunteer role and duties may include: escorting and directing patients through the process, pushing wheelchairs, disinfecting high-use areas, checking in patients as they arrive, and cheerleading. Your support allows staff to do the important task of getting the vaccine into people's arms! If you have a desire to volunteer in that capacity, **please find specific info.**

Dig Deeper

Matthew 16:13-19

Lead Pastor Paul Choi – The Inconvenient Gospel

Prayer Requests

Please keep these prayer requests in mind this week.

- Pray for upcoming meetings with Washington County as they plan for future COVID vaccine clinics to be held at Village. Pray for wisdom in the organizing, patience for participants and for equity among cultural groups as the vaccine is distributed.
- Prayer for those without electricity or heat due to downed power lines.

Sharing and Listening Guide

Take some time alone or with a small group to discuss the following questions based on today's sermon:

- What was your explanation/definition of church before today's sermon?
- In light of Pastor Paul's teaching, re-read Matthew 16:13-19. What stands out? How do you read this passage differently than before?





Responsive Worship

Worship is often described as ‘response to the Word.’ We have inquired how we as a community can best worship in this time of COVID, where we, instead of watching, can participate in our services, with as much engagement as possible. Our worship response is both personal and corporate–communal. Our online services have aimed to share the hearts of our Villagers, especially while we are physically distanced.

*These are responses to last week’s sermon: **What Can You Expect from a New Lead Pastor? from Paul Choi***

“I walked away from the sermon with several points deep in my heart. Specifically the need for authentic passion, and genuine eagerness to follow Christ combined with a commitment to teach the Word through the Spirit’s help. Such a simple definition of a pastor’s calling. And inspires me to strive after this as well!”

“My prayer for Village in 2021 is that we continue to lean into the multicultural reality God is calling us to, especially regarding the role and influence both women and young adults have in our community. “

“Lord, Let us make a commitment of our own. What can we expect from Village in this new season? Help us commit to being supportive and encouraging to our precious new lead pastor. Help us to love him and his family, and to love each other extravagantly. Help us to pray for him and support him as he leads. Perish the thought that we would be blind to truth, stiff-necked, or unteachable...only desiring entertainment and “ear-tickling” from him. Help us to be authentic learners, Christ followers and Shalom bringers to one another and to our community. Amen”

“Witness to the Light – As I reflect on the teaching this week, which deals with the function of a pastor, I must compare the first minister of the Christ- John the Baptist. In his Gospel, the Evangelist called him “a witness to the Light” Jn 1:8, NIV. Could this be the primary function of a pastor? The 19th century religious commentator, S. R. Bosanquet, compared the Baptist to the moon, only capable and totally dependent on reflecting the sun’s (or should we say Son’s?) light...”