



**the
Church
of
the Village**



A progressive, radically inclusive, anti-racist community

201 West 13th Street, New York, NY, 10011 • (212) 243-5470
www.churchofthevillage.org • facebook.com/churchofthevillage
office@churchofthevillage.org

May 15, 2022 • Fifth Sunday of Easter

Honor the Earth / Black Lives Matter

No Human Being Is "Illegal" / No Muslim Ban Ever

Stop Hate Against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders



The Punch Line is The Holy Spirit

WE GATHER

“The land upon which we gather is part of the traditional territory of the Lenni-Lenape, called “Lenapehoking.” The Lenape People lived in harmony with one another upon this territory for thousands of years. During the colonial era and early federal period, many were removed west and north, but some also remain among the continuing historical tribal communities of the region: The Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Tribal Nation; the Ramapough Lenape Nation; and the Powhatan Renape Nation, The Nanticoke of Millsboro Delaware, and the Lenape of Cheswold Delaware. We acknowledge the Lenni-Lenape as the original people of this land and their continuing relationship with their territory. In our acknowledgment of the continued presence of Lenape people in their homeland, we affirm the aspiration of the great Lenape Chief Tamanend, that there be harmony between the indigenous people of this land and the descendants of the immigrants to this land, “as long as the rivers and creeks flow, and the sun, moon, and stars shine.”

WELCOME

LOVERS, REBELS & PROPHETS

In the steps of: *Church of All Nations*

The rich history of The Church of All Nations goes back to 1904 when New York Methodists led by Samuel Hopkins Hadley opened the *Wesley Rescue Hall* (renamed later as *Hadley Hall*) on Houston Street near Second Avenue as a place where recent immigrants could receive the physical and spiritual support they desperately needed. The building where Wesley/Hadley Rescue Hall was founded already had a powerful history having served as the Germania Assembly Rooms, a settlement house for German Immigrants.

In 1922, Hadley Hall was replaced by the three-story Church of All Nations Chapel and five-story neighborhood house, a modern complex that included a gym, assembly hall, classrooms, dorms, swimming pool, and a rooftop playground.

By 1923, the Church of All Nations was conducting services in Polish, Chinese, Russian, and English. It also had a strong relationship with the Jewish immigrant community that used its chapel for its Passover celebrations.

The church was a busy hub, offering educational and vocational training, a kindergarten, gymnastics, sewing classes, sponsoring free summer camps, theater performances, and serving as a locale for athletics clubs, like the Chinese Athletic Club and the Young People’s Christian Foundation. It also got involved in crucial political and social issues of the time including rent-control, unionizing for fair wages, and stabilizing the price of basic staples.

In the 1960’s, as the neighborhood changed, the church membership declined. Still, the Church of All Nations continued to exercise great neighborhood and political influence. Thelma Burdick (1901-1974), director of Church of All Nations Neighborhood House is a towering figure of this period. Along with Communist Frances Goldin and others, Burdick co-founded the Cooper Square Committee which worked to oppose Robert Moses’ “Cross-Manhattan Expressway.” The Cooper Square Committee continues to this day in its mission “to work with area residents to contribute to the preservation and development of affordable, environmentally healthy housing and community/cultural spaces so that the Cooper Square area remains racially, economically and culturally diverse.”

Eventually, and in 1975, the church – now mainly composed of Hispanic/Latino Immigrants and known as *Iglesia Metodista Unida Todas Las Naciones* – moved to the building of the former First German Methodist Episcopal Church building at 48 St. Mark’s Place in the East Village where it remained until 2005 when it became a part of The Church of the Village.

After many years of valiant efforts towards being a bilingual church, the membership of the *Iglesia Metodista*

Unida Todas Las Naciones transferred to other Spanish language churches. Church of the Village continues in the journey to answer God's call and honor its cross-cultural heritage from *Church of All Nations*.

* For more information about The Church of All Nations, consider watching Michael Schiller's documentary *The Tao of 9 Second Ave* available on YouTube.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

When the Spirit in Me

**When the spirit in me sees the spirit in you (2x)
It's so easy, so easy, so easy, so easy to love**

CENTERING AND OPENING PRAYER

Come, Holy Spirit

adapted from the medieval chant *Veni Sancte Spiritus*

Come, Holy Spirit,
Come, Holy Spirit and shed upon us
your radiant light.

Come, friend of the poor,
Come, giver of gifts,
Come, light of our hearts.

Come, best consoler,
Come, sweet guest of the soul,
Sweetness of cool refreshment.

Wash what is soiled,
Water what is dry,
Heal what is wounded.

Bend what is rigid,
Warm what is chilled,
Guide what is astray.

Lead us to goodness
Show us the path of salvation
Drench us in joy.

Gracious Spirit

Come, come, come, Holy Spirit, come

Gracious Spirit, hear our pleading, fashion us all anew
It's your leading that we're needing, help us to follow you.

Come and stir us, come and heal us, open our eyes, we pray
Come and change us come and teach us the holy ways of grace

WE PROCLAIM

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 11:1-18 (adapted from *The Message*)

The news traveled fast and in no time the leaders and friends back in Jerusalem heard about it – they heard that the non-Jewish “outsiders” were now “in.” When Peter got back to Jerusalem, some of his old associates, concerned about circumcision, called him on the carpet: “What do you think you’re doing rubbing shoulders with that crowd, eating what is prohibited and ruining our good name?”

So Peter, starting from the beginning, laid it out for them step-by-step: “Recently I was in the town of Joppa praying. I fell into a trance and saw a vision: Something like a huge blanket, lowered by ropes at its four corners, came down out of heaven and settled on the ground in front of me. Milling around on the blanket were farm animals, wild animals, reptiles, birds – you name it, it was there. Fascinated, I took it all in. “Then I heard a voice: ‘Go to it, Peter – kill and eat.’ I said, ‘Oh, no, Master. I’ve never so much as tasted food that wasn’t kosher.’ The voice spoke again: ‘If God says it’s okay, it’s okay.’ This happened three times, and then the blanket was pulled back up into the sky.

“Just then three men showed up at the house where I was staying, sent from Caesarea to get me. The Spirit told me to go with them, no questions asked. So I went with them, I and six friends, to the man who had sent for me. He told us how he had seen an angel right in his own house, real as his next-door neighbor, saying, ‘Send to Joppa and get Simon, the one they call Peter. He’ll tell you something that will save your life—in fact, you and everyone you care for.’

“So I started talking. But, before I’d spoken half a dozen sentences, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as he did on us the first time. I remembered Jesus’ words: ‘John baptized with water; you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ So I ask you: If God gave the same exact gift to them as to us when we believed in the Master Jesus Christ, how could I object to God?”

Hearing it all laid out like that, they quieted down. And then, as it sank in, they started praising God. “It’s really happened! God has broken through to the other nations, opened them up to Life!”

The Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

The Punch Line is The Holy Spirit

Riot Mueller, Guest Preacher
Seminary Intern, Church of the Village

WE RESPOND

Come, Holy Spirit
(call and echo)

Come, Holy Spirit
Come, Holy Spirit
Move among us
Heal and free us
Search and change us
Come, O come!

Come, Joy Eternal
Come, Joy Eternal
Dance among us
Shake, disrupt us
Sing within us
Come, O come!

Come, Bread of Heaven
Come, Cup of Salvation
Come and feed us
Come and hold us
Come and guide us
Come, O come!

WE GATHER AROUND THE TABLE OF GRACE

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

Revealing God, we too easily think we can see from your point of view.
We forget that all you touch is holy.
So when we exclude, we exclude you.

**When we hold grudges, we cut ourselves off from love.
May we be made holy in your truth and grace, loving as you love.
Amen.**

God's love has been poured into our hearts. Believe this good news and give thanks:
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

God be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!
Our hearts are lifted!

Let us give thanks to God!
**It is right to give our thanks
and praise.**

SHARING THE GIFTS OF GRACE

Friends, this is the bread of life, given for you and for all.
And this is the cup of salvation, poured out for you and for all.
Thanks be to God.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God in your mercy, **hear our Prayer.**

A TIME OF OFFERING

4 WAYS TO GIVE:

- The Vanco giving app, using the link on our website <https://www.churchofthevillage.org> or the Vanco mobile app
 - Setting up a direct bank transfer from your bank to COTV's bank
 - Mailing a check to COTV's address: 201 West 13th St., NY, NY, 10011
 - For those in the church building: Placing your gift in the offering basket in the sanctuary
- For help with any of these, send an email to giving@churchofthevillage.org
OR call the church office: 212-243-5470

OFFERTORY

*Allegro from Sonata No. 2 in E-flat major for flute and harpsichord
J. S. Bach*

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

BLESSING

CLOSING SONG

God Is Building a New Way

**God is building a new way, (3x)
sending love and pow'r our way;
God is building a new way.**

**We are building a new way, (3x)
feeling stronger ev'ry day;
we are building a new way.**

**Love and justice is our cry, (3x)
holy wisdom, holy fire;
love and justice is our cry.**

*Stay online after service for five-minute breakout rooms.
Afterwards, you may continue fellowship in the main Zoom room,
or join breakouts for a discussion with the Preacher or to speak with a Minister of Care.*

To join conversation with Riot Mueller
type the word “**PREACHER**” in capital letters into the chat.
For those on-site, please go to the Chapel of the Beloved Community,
one floor down by the stairs or elevator.

To talk or pray one-on-one with a Minister of Care, if you are on-site,
you can go to the area by the stairs next to the lobby/narthex at the back of the sanctuary.
If you are online, you can connect with a Minister of Care
by typing “**CARE**” in capital letters in the Zoom chat.

WORSHIP HOSTS

Worship Design Team: Pastor Jeff Wells, Pastor Alexis Lillie, Jorge Lockward, Alfida Figueroa, Katie Reimer

Worship Leader: Diane Barclay

Call to Offering: Karen Hackett

Dance Ministry: Martha Chapman

Ministers of Care: Virginia Riker (on-site) & Katie Braden (online)

Altar Design: Suzie Wilder

Vocalists: Maura Burns, Katie Braden, Alfida Figueroa, Reyno Francisco, Karen Hackett, Michelle Morris, Riot Mueller, Paul Pillitteri, Katie Reimer, Suzie Wilder, Natasha Wright

Saxophone & Flute: Matthew Willis

Keyboard: Jorge Lockward

Drums & Percussion: Juan Felipe Mayorga

Ushers: Maurice White & Sam Winfrey

Zoom Host: Paul Pillitteri

Chat Host: Sarah Witman

Visuals Host: Emilee Davis

Sound Engineer: Inti Maldonado

CREDITS

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Scripture Lesson:

THE MESSAGE, copyright © 1993, 2002, 2018 by Eugene
H. Peterson. Used by permission of NavPress.
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Publishers, Inc.

When the Spirit in Me (The Jesus in Me)

W & M: Anonymous.

Lyric adaptation by Jorge Lockward

Gracious Spirit

W: Wilson Niwagila, Tanzania

M: Ganda Melody, Tanzania

English trans. and tune © Lutheran Theological College,
Makumira, Tanzania.

Onelicense.net # A-725898

Building a New Way

W & M: Martha Sandefer

© 1986 Martha Sandefer

WE ARE THE CHURCH OF THE VILLAGE

The Church of the Village is a progressive and radically inclusive community that is committed to dismantling racism, sexism, and all forms of oppression. The foundation for all of our theology and practice is Jesus' instruction to "love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength and love your neighbor as yourself."

We seek to build a world overflowing with justice, mercy, kindness, and compassion.

Our church building stands on ancestral lands of the Lenape people. The colonizers who stripped Indigenous peoples of their lands used Christianity to justify their actions. We are beneficiaries of a history of appropriation, slavery, and forced migration. We repent and commit to being a community that seeks to repair the harm done to Indigenous peoples and build new pathways to love and justice.

We celebrate human diversity – welcoming people of every color, nationality, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, physical and cognitive ability, and economic status. We strongly support environmental justice and stewardship of the Earth. We believe many roads lead to God and are respectful of a diversity of spiritual paths. We believe our community flourishes with many points of view, opportunities for creative expression, and participatory worship.

To learn more about The Church of the Village, please complete our [Virtual Welcome Card](#).

You can also submit a prayer request on the Welcome Card form.

We will gladly send you our weekly email newsletter and Daily Inspiration emails.

If you have questions, please contact PastorAlexis@churchofthevillage.org.

Please follow us on Facebook ([Facebook.com/ChurchoftheVillage](https://www.facebook.com/ChurchoftheVillage)), Twitter (@umcofthevillage), and Instagram (churchofthevillage). Check out our YouTube channel for videos of music, worship, Finding Center, and more.

You can also learn more on our website at churchofthevillage.org.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

May 15 – Sunday	10:10am 10:30am 12:15pm	Pre-service fellowship (via Zoom) Sunday worship (via Zoom or FB Live) United Methodist Women
May 17 – Tuesday	10:30am 2:00pm – 5:00pm	COTV Online Fitness (via Zoom) TRDP: Food Pantry
May 18 – Wednesday	6:00pm	Bible Study (via Zoom)
May 19 – Thursday	6:30pm – 7:45pm 8:30pm	Choir rehearsal L.O.V.E. (via Zoom)
May 20 – Friday	9:00am – 10:00am 1:00pm – 4:00pm	Together in Prayer (via Zoom) Curating Worship Moments
May 21 – Saturday	11:30am – 2:00pm 4:00pm – 6:00pm	TRDP: Community Meal Echoes of Washington Square concert
May 22 – Sunday	10:10am 10:30am	Pre-service fellowship (via Zoom) Sunday worship (via Zoom or FB Live)

WE ARE FAMILY

*Together in Commitment, Strength, and Mission
Stewardship Campaign*

Families give support, and families need support. Here at The Church of the Village, we choose to be family for one another, and we each strive to do our part. Every member of The Church of the Village family has gifts to bring.

The practice of regular giving in any amount recognizes God's abundance and strengthens our family. It builds our relationships with one another and expresses our trust in God's love. It does not matter how large or small the contribution, each donation adds to the flourishing of the family! What's important is that we do this together, with each family member doing their part as they are able. As we hear in 2 Corinthians 8:12:

*For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has,
not according to what one does not have.*

We all work together as members and supporters of our spiritual community to foster the ministries and mission of the Church of the Village. Here are ways you can offer your gifts:

- **ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER/DIRECT PAYMENT** from your bank account to COTV. This option includes no fees for the giver or the church. You can set this up directly through your bank for one-time gifts/payments or recurring gifts/payments to COTV. For assistance with this process, please contact giving@churchofthevillage.org.
- **VANCO:** [Vanco](#)'s simple online payment processing services and giving app make it easy to give when and where you want.
- **CHECK:** you can send a check payable to "The Church of the Village," and mail it to:
Church of the Village
PO Box 167
New York, NY 10113

For assistance with using any of these methods or to talk about remembering Church of the Village in your will, email giving@churchofthevillage.org. *Please note - emails to this address should be about how we can help you set up your giving process but should NOT include any specific information about pledge amounts, gift amounts, or any other confidential information from the individual sending the message.*

*Thank you for being a part of the family of The Church of the Village
and supporting the work and ministry of this community!*

OUR GUEST PREACHER: RIOT MUELLER



Riot Mueller is a current student at Union Theological Seminary studying the Bible and theology while listening deeply to the Holy Spirit and wanting to know how your week is going. Originally from Seattle, WA, she came to Church of the Village through a recommendation from her home church in New Orleans, LA where she lived for the past decade and is honored to have completed a year of field education work with COTV.

LOVERS, REBELS, & PROPHETS

A New Worship Series

April 24 – June 5



The Church of the Village has a rich history of loving radically, pushing against oppressive structures, and speaking the truth people need to hear. This series will explore the living history of COTV in the form of stories, reflections, sermons, and other opportunities to hear and share about where we've been. We will dive into the beliefs that have rooted and grown with us as a community, and we reflect on how the past influences the present, as we continually create new "history" to pass on.

UMCOR: UKRAINE



United Methodists and others wishing to provide humanitarian assistance to the Ukrainian people in the wake of the Russian invasion of their country may contribute to Advance #982450, UMCOR International Disaster Response and Recovery. This fund will provide

direct assistance to those in Ukraine as well as assistance to Ukrainians fleeing to neighboring countries. Visit <https://umcmission.org/umcor/ukraine/> for more information.

TOGETHER IN PRAYER

Friday mornings; 9:00am

Our weekly prayer group includes an inspirational reading, time to support one another, and prayers for ourselves, others, and events in the world. We gather via Zoom conference call Friday mornings from 9:00 to 10:00am (**Meeting ID: 850 0514 7319** **Passcode: 594909**). For more information, contact Deaconess Sarah Capers at smcapers99@gmail.com.

COTV CHOIR

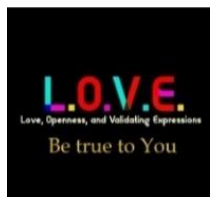
Join us Thursdays 6:30-7:45pm onsite: 201 West 13th St, NY, NY 10011)

and online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86979925984> as we prepare to lead worship in song on Sunday. All voices welcome!

L.O.V.E. (LGBTQA+ group)

1st & 3rd Thursdays; 8:30pm ET

Summer Sessions: June, July, August will meet after worship (12pm) on the 1st Sunday of the month.



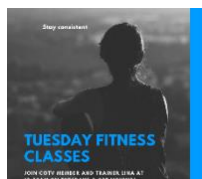
Our LGBTQIA+ group is re-imagined as L.O.V.E (love, openness, and validating expressions!) will meet every Thursday via this [link](#) to discuss a variety of topics, grow friendships, and gather support from one another.

All are welcome as we create a safe space to bring our whole selves, learn from each other, and walk our journeys together. For more information, please email PastorAlexis@churchofthevillage.org.

Join Us via [Zoom](#).

COTV ONLINE FITNESS

Tuesdays, 10:30 am ET



COTV Online Fitness with Lina returns Tuesdays at 10:30 am ET.

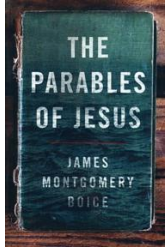
Join us via [Zoom!](#)

Meeting ID: 878 7016 4212

Passcode: fitness

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY: *THE PARABLES OF JESUS*

Wednesdays; 6:00pm



A new Bible Study, *The Parables of Jesus* by James Montgomery Boice, begins Wednesday, April 27, 2022.

"Some sections of the Bible give us grand theology. Some move us to grateful responses to God. But the parables break through mere words and make us ask whether there has indeed been any real difference in our lives." - James Montgomery Boice

Boice brings Jesus' words to bear on life today. Through his careful study and clear explanation of each parable he helps us understand just what Jesus meant, and how our hearts and lives ought to respond.

This author shares the meaning that is in scripture and adds some historical facts of the culture and other background information that will help everyone understand the meaning of each parable. He also shares different viewpoints and shares the viewpoints of Bible commentators of the past. If you enjoy the parables and want to understand them better, this is the Bible Study to help you. Jesus' parables are memorable for a reason. Discover their power for yourself.

We would be delighted to have you join us. *Everyone is Welcome.*

The group meets Wednesdays at 6:00 PM. Facilitated by Sarah Capers, Deaconess. Join us via Zoom!

<http://zoom.us/j/713063594> or by phone: 646-876-9923; Meeting ID: **713 063 594** Passcode: **10011**

THE RED DOOR PLACE



Donations, in person, to the program can be made Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, from 9am to 3pm. Ring the bell on the red door on 13th street or call the number posted at the door.

Food Pantry: Tuesdays; 2pm - 5pm - BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Appointments are available via the [Plentiful App](#) (download from the play/app store). You can search for us, in the app, by name "The Red Door Place" or scroll through the list (towards the bottom) and our pantry will show. After registering on the app you will receive a QR code - **BRING the QR code with you to your appointment.** Arrive within 5 minutes of your scheduled appointment and present your QR code for scanning.

If you do not have a QR code you will not receive pantry. Note: Missed appointments can be rescheduled to a later open slot or the following Tuesday. If you have any questions call 347-497-9718 and ask for Teresa.

Community Meal:

We will continue to hand out bags of food on Saturdays beginning around 11:30am. Guests may arrive earlier to get a place in line; we have chalk marks on the sidewalk at 6-foot intervals to indicate where people should stand at a safe distance.

THE RED DOOR PLACE – NEEDS MONEY FOR FOOD!

The huge increase in unemployment and homelessness means that The Red Door Place has gone from providing food for 1,700 persons before the pandemic, to 2,500 in April, to now more than *4,000 persons every week*. TRDP has plenty of volunteers. **What we need is money.** We are desperately trying to keep enough food coming in to give out to every guest. TRDP is one of only a few emergency food programs in Manhattan still giving out a significant amount of food to each guest at the pantry on Tuesdays and still offering a hot meal on Saturdays.

IF YOU WANT TO HELP, ask your employer, your family, your friends to GIVE! Put out an appeal on your Facebook page. Email people you think would be able to donate.

TO MAKE A DONATION, you can donate online using [VANCO](#)'s simple online payment processing services and giving app. Or send checks made payable to Church of the Village and write The Red Door Place (TRDP) in the memo line.

Mail to: Church of the Village, PO Box 167, New York, NY 10113.

GIVE TO THE CHURCH OF THE VILLAGE ON VANCO

The Church of the Village is now accessible via Vanco. [VANCO](#)'s simple online payment processing services and giving app make it easy to give when and where you want. Visit <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YOX3>.

BECOME A CHURCH OF THE VILLAGE PRAYER PARTNER

Each week, we receive many prayers through our website, the Hope for Our Neighbors in Need food ministry, on prayer cards during worship, and from our Ministers of Care team. These prayers are distributed via email to our large team of **Prayer Partners** who lift them up to God. If you would like to pray for others, please email Deaconess Sarah Capers (smcapers99@gmail.com) with your interest. You can submit a prayer online at ChurchoftheVillage.org/prayer.

COTV WORSHIP VIDEOS ON FACEBOOK

It is always a deeper experience to be present with the worshipping community, but when you can't join us for Sunday worship, you can view the worship recording anytime at Facebook.com/ChurchoftheVillage/videos.

SERMON ARCHIVE

If you missed worship or want to read the sermon again, we post many of our past Sunday sermon manuscripts and worship bulletins on our website at ChurchoftheVillage.org/sermons. We encourage you to read and share them with others.

TURN IT UP!

for spiritual healing and renewal

for rebirth in a new time

for women leaders

for justice for women, children and youth

United Women in Faith* Assembly 2022

May 20-22, 2022 (*aka United Methodist Women)

Questions? Email scape131@aol.com

**Holy
Adventures:**
Curating and Facilitating
Meaning-full Worship Moments

A Multi-Access
Workshop
with
Church of the
Village, New York
& Zoom

Friday, May 20, 2022
2:00 pm- 3:30 pm ET

 Music that Makes
Community

 the
Church
of the
Village

ECHOES OF WASHINGTON SQUARE



Paul Knopf's Musical Alchemy

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 4:00 PM

Paul Knopf, the renowned New York jazz and classical composer-pianist served as music director and composer-in-residence at Washington Square United Methodist Church in Greenwich Village, one of the predecessor churches of Church of The Village from 1985 through the late '90s. This concert will explore the ways Paul's innovative style matched and furthered the socially progressive witness of Washington Square UMC.

Come, and let your heart be moved by the alchemic power of sound and spirit of Paul's music as past and present come together.

FREE ADMISSION

Join us in-person, or online via [Zoom.us/j/262331126](https://zoom.us/j/262331126)
or facebook.com/churchofthevillage/videos

(a free will offering will be received)



**the
Church
of
the Village**

201 West 13th Street
(corner with 7th Ave.) NY, NY 10011

The Church of the Village is pleased to present this concert as part of its current series, "Lovers, Rebels and Prophets"

The Living Earth Movement Series Presents:

Ecological Civilization:
The Living Earth Alternative

Thursday, May 26

1pm PDT / 3pm CDT / 4pm EDT

with David Korten and Jeff Wells

Headed toward self-extinction on a dying Earth, it is within our human means to create a world of material sufficiency and spiritual abundance for all. In this session, David Korten and Jeff Wells will explore pathways to the living Earth alternative.

For more information, contact Jeff Wells
(917) 604-5227 or pastorjeff@churchofthevillage.org

www.livingearthmovement.eco

OUR ADVENTURE IN ONLINE-ONSITE COMMUNITY



The Church of the Village never “closed” during the Covid-19 pandemic because we shifted our entire ministry to be online in March 2020. Then, as the world began slowly to emerge in the summer of 2021 from the worst of the pandemic, there was no thought among the Church of the Village leadership of “going back” to the way of “doing church” before the pandemic.

Our reality and our reach have changed dramatically in a year. We continue to attract worshippers and receive new members from across the U.S. and beyond its borders, as well as from the New York City area. As a faith community, the Church of the Village is no longer tied to a building. We opened to all of our vaccinated members in September 2021 and to the public in December 2021. Currently, we are still practicing masking and social distancing but not requiring proof of vaccination to enter the building.

People are attracted to the Church of the Village because of our progressive theology, radical inclusivity, extravagant welcome, and focus on social, economic, and climate justice. Many who worship with us or decide to join cannot find this sort of faith community where they live.

We believe it is God’s desire that each of us have the chance to have as full a life as possible by seeking the common good in healthy community together. We are committed to building an online and onsite community to reach as widely as possible. With this dream becoming reality, we can re-imagine John Wesley’s vision and say that the whole world, literally, can be our parish.

We encourage you to participate in as many online and onsite opportunities in the Church of the Village community as possible. Consider how you can contribute to the thriving of our lives together. If you want more information on how to connect with Church of the Village, contact [Pastor Jeff Wells](#) or [Pastor Alexis Lillie](#).



How to Contact Key COTV Leaders

During the Coronavirus outbreak and beyond, we want to make sure our members and supporters know how to reach key staff and leaders in the Church of the Village.

Pastor Jeff Wells

Email: PastorJeff@churchofthevillage.org

Phone: (212) 243-5470 ext. 9; (917) 604-5227

Pastor Alexis Lillie, Minister for Leadership & Congregational Development

Email: PastorAlexis@churchofthevillage.org

Phone: (212) 243-5470 ext. 8; (719) 201-6535

Jorge Lockward, Minister of Worship Arts

Email: Jorge@churchofthevillage.org

Phone: (212) 243-5470 ext. 7; (917) 723-0169

Teresa Concepción, Executive Program Director, The Red Door Place

Email: Teresa@churchofthevillage.org

Phone: (212) 243-5470 x.5

QuiShaun Hill, Administrative Associate, in the church office

Email: Office@churchofthevillage.org

Phone: (212) 243-5470 x.3

Martha Chapman, Chair, Vision & Ministry Council

Email: marthachapman62@gmail.com

Sarah Capers, Lay Leader

Email: scape131@aol.com

Monica Quintero, Chair, Ministers of Care

Email: quinteromm@gmail.com

Alfida Figueroa, Chair, Worship Committee

Email: figueroaalfida045@gmail.com