

# rialogue



#### From Pastor Jeff

What does Jesus mean to you? How you answer this question will determine your fate for eternity. As such it's fairly important to discover your answer. For some folks Jesus is merely a name, a curse word. He's no more real to them than the Easter Bunny. For others he's just like the Easter Bunny, or the Tooth Fairy, or Santa Claus, someone for the kids to enjoy, someone who makes you feel warm and fuzzy and nostalgic but certainly not to be taken seriously. For still others, he's a respected example and teacher, a great moral leader like Martin Luther King Jr. or Abraham Lincoln, someone to look up to and admire, but without much impact in everyday life.

This month we celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the beginning of the Protestant Reformation. At its core, the Reformation was about a rediscovery of Jesus and his saving work, a rediscovery of the Gospel itself. The core principles of the Reformation, that salvation is by faith alone, through grace alone, according to the work of Christ alone, according to the Scriptures alone, for the glory of God alone, are all about making Jesus available to needy sinners, without allowing religion or ritual get in the way.

This month the Wednesday night Bible Study will focus on these core Reformation principles and how they help us get the right answer on Jesus. I encourage you to attend and grow in your understanding of the great salvation that is ours in Christ so that we can join with the Apostle Paul and say that Jesus is "the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me" (Gal 2:20).



#### **OCTOBER EVENTS**



#### ITALIAN THEMED POTLUCK Sunday, October 1st

ITALIAN THEMED POTLUCK! On October 1st we will gather for a potluck after 10:00 a.m. worship service. Please bring lasagna, spaghetti, ravioli, antipasto, or your favorite Italian dish. The church will be providing salad and garlic bread! Join us for good food and fellowship.





## WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY October 1st

The Lord's Supper this month is also part of World Communion Sunday. It will be celebrated at both our Sunday morning

worship services. If you are unable to attend worship and would like to receive this Sacrament, contact Pastor Jeff to arrange for home Communion.

#### DEACON'S MINISTRY SUNDAY

October 1st

Please support our Deacons' ministry by donating household products such as paper towels and dish soap as well as personal care items such



as shampoo and soap. You can place your donations in the basket in the church Narthex. Thank you for helping.

#### **CHURCH LEADERSHIP FOR 2017**

Our church Nominating Committee is beginning their ministry tasks of discerning leaders for our Lord's church called The Village. The Committee will be meeting in the near future. If you sense a member of our congregation may have the depth of faith and gifts to serve in leadership, there are nomination forms on the counters in the Narthex and on page 9 of this edition of the Trialogue. Please complete a form and drop it by the office. Your prayers for our Nominating Committee would be appreciated.

## SESSION MEETING October 11th

The Session meeting for October will be held on Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. in the Pastor's Study.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEETING

Sunday, October 8th

The nominating committee will be meeting on October 8th at 11:15 a.m. in Room A.

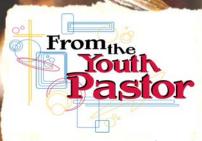
#### PRESCHOOL TRIKE-A-THON

October 31st at 10:00 a.m.



The Village Christian Preschool will hold its annual St. Jude Trike-A-Thon on Monday Oct. 31st at 10:00 a.m. Each year we partner with St. Jude to teach the kids bike safety and to raise money for St. Jude Children's Hospital. Our fundraising goal this year is \$2,000. Your fundraising efforts help St. Jude continue its lifesaving mission of helping children everywhere who are battling cancer and other life-threatening diseases. Because of donations from people like you, families never receive a bill from St. Jude for anything. Please help the Preschool reach its goal by donating to this wonderful cause. Contact Cindy Liggett for more information.

#### YOUTH NEWS



#### Hello Fall!

Why are trees very forgiving? Because in the Fall they "let It go" and in the Spring, they "turn over a new leaf".

But seriously folks, this month we will be carving out the most fun ever with Bible studies, youth groups, and outreach missions. During this time of year, the weather changes and outdoor activities move a little more

indoors and we have fall covered with our youth groups.

God calls us to be strong and courageous, help the weak, and be patient as we follow Him, love your enemies and your neighbors. Something in me is drawn to the contrasts in the Bible and how God takes people and asks them to turn everything upside down to do things His way. It's a fact that "Gods way" just about always means us moving outside of our comfort zones. Seeing this has affected how we do all youth activities. This is one of the big reasons we have a broad range of ages in our groups (6-12<sup>th</sup> grade). Younger youth can be like puppies with their energy, but no one needs the older dogs around more than they do. Also, the older youth are in a position to be leaders now and the young folks badly need to see what it looks like to be a teen following Jesus. I Just want everyone to know mixing a broad range of ages in our youth groups is not a mistake, but a caring effort to bring the youth together as one family, in exactly the same way the church is one family.

One fantastic way to feel uncomfortable is outreach. Sundays youth travel to Reno from 12-3pm to visit senior citizens or reach out to the homeless in the Reno area. Visiting senior citizens in assisted living facilities is what the special ops outreach did in the beginning and it is exciting to be able to go back to that ministry and reach out to seniors again. Lunch is provided and we will leave by 12, so come a little early, especially if you want to have lunch.

The Village Church Youth Groups:

Mondays - Youth Boys Bible Study, 4-5pm meets at Starbucks in Incline Village (coffee included)

Wednesdays - Youth Girls Bible Study, 3-4pm meets at the Church in Room C.

Wednesdays - The Upper Room Youth Group, 6-8pm, meets in Church Youth Room (snacks included)

Sundays - Special Ops (Outreach Group), 12-3pm, meets at the Church (lunch included)

Thank you, Pastor Tony





#### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

#### 10 Reasons To Be A Sunday School Volunteer

Sunday School volunteer work can oftentimes get a bad rap. But to those of us who have served in Children's Ministry, it is a place where we get to see God move. In Luke 18:17 Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, anyone who will not

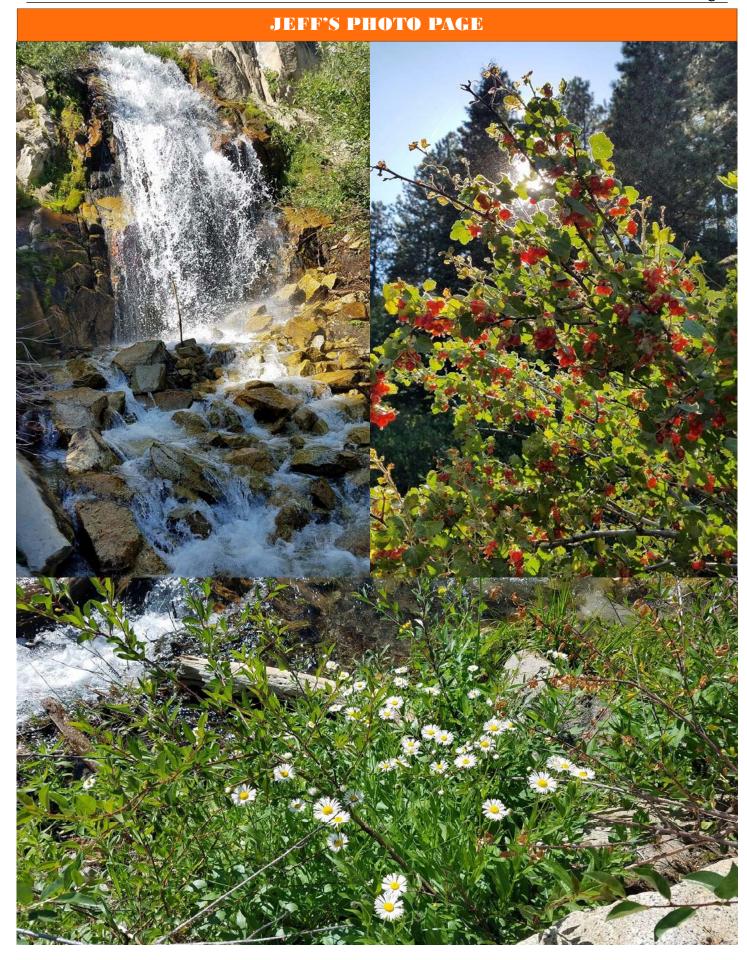
receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." Children stand close to the kingdom of God's doorway. They possess a sincerity of faith and an honesty of conviction that we adults need to be around. God has given us a wonderful example in our children. And when we, as a Sunday School volunteer, take the time to serve kids and share God's love with them, the reward is incredible! If you haven't yet discovered the blessing of children's ministry, then here are ten reasons why you should volunteer!

- **1. Perspective:** Children see life from a completely different outlook. They don't get overly concerned with how perfect a teaching or service was. On the other hand, they are very concerned with friendship, laughter and love. As adults, we do well to be reminded of these things and focus on them.
- **2. Humility:** There is no form of service too lowly for the believer. When our service requires a humble attitude or actions, it is the exact kind of service Jesus would have us choose.
- **3. Growth:** Children will ask some of the deepest theological questions you will ever face. "If God loves me, why did my mommy get sick?" Questions like these require not only a knowledge of Scripture, but a heart sensitive to the Holy Spirit's leading. As we serve in Children's Ministry, God not only grows our knowledge of His Scriptures, but knowledge of His heart as well.
- **4. Patience:** We love to be around patient people, but rarely do we enjoy the process of becoming patient. But when we serve kids, we have no choice but to grow in this area! Kids rarely follow our well-scripted plans, they force us to adapt. God uses kids, like few other things, to teach us the value of patience.
- **5. Fun:** Can you remember the last time you had spontaneous, silly fun! If it's been a while, spend some time around children. If you do, you will be quickly reminded that life is fun and that we shouldn't worry so much about things that don't matter.
- **6. Compassion:** As we get older, we tend to become less compassionate. We rationalize why we shouldn't or can't help others. But when a kid comes to us with tears in their eyes because they got bullied at school...our hearts break. And that is a good thing. Compassion is a noble trait of our Savior, and children have a way of drawing compassion out of us.
- **7. Selflessness:** One of the things we try to teach kids as they get older is that life is not all about them. Selfishness is a BIG struggle for children. Sadly, it is also a BIG struggle for us adults. Oftentimes, the things that frustrate us most in children, are the very things God wants to change in our lives. To teach a child that life is not all about them requires that we have learned this lesson for ourselves first.
- **8. Blessing:** In Mark 9:37 Jesus says: "Anyone who welcomes a little child like this on my behalf welcomes me" To welcome a child is to welcome our Savior. Kids are a huge deal to God and when we serve them, we honor our Father in Heaven. There are many blessings in serving kids, but none higher than bringing glory to God.
- **9. The Gospel:** A majority of people will make the decision to follow Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior between the ages of 4 and 14. This makes children's ministry one of the greatest of all mission fields. As believers, we are called to share the Good News of Jesus with others. There are few opportunities to do this with as much potential as children's ministry.
- **10. Learning:** It is common to hear from children's ministry volunteers "I learn as much from the kids as they learn from me." And it's true. Scripture teaches us in Matthew 21:16 "You have taught children and infants to give you praise." Often the most profound spiritual truths will be taught to us, not from the mouth of a pastor, but from the lips of a child.

Yes, Sunday school volunteer work can be testing at times, but you will never get the opportunity to see a child light up with the Holy Spirit outside of this atmosphere! This is the true test of humility for those who have never volunteered. Your perspective on your relationship with God will change when you have to ability to see a child's reaction to the Scriptures and how their life is impacted. And as a Sunday school volunteer, there is literally nothing you have to sacrifice except your time.

Mary Gilbert, C.E. Director

Reprinted in part from churchrelevance.com/ten-reasons-sunday-school-volunteer



## Village Christian Preschool Photos



#### **ELDER & DEACON NOMINATING FORM**

From Your 2017 Nominating Committee: **Elders:** Linda Robins, Chuck Dowd, & Tim Gilbert

Deacon: Jim Dykstra

**Members-at-Large**: Millie Clarke, Joannie McNulty, Marilyn Merritt, and Carl Cross The Nominating Committee is requesting your participation in nominating and electing members to the Session and Board of Deacons for 2018. We encourage you to nominate yourself or someone else who you know is willing to serve. Please fill in the name/s below and check the appropriate line. Completed forms should be returned to the church office by October 8, 2017.

Thank you, Your Nominating Committee

I suggest the name of:			
for the office of: Elder	Deacon	Either	
I suggest the name of:			
for the office of: Elder	Deacon	Either	

I have considered the qualifications below, prayed about my consideration, and asked the person I am nominating for his/her permission.

#### Qualifications to consider when nominating someone:

#### **Christian Living**

- Personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior
- Evidence of grace and compassion in common life in the family, at work and in the world
- Evidence of maturity and effectiveness of ministry in the world

#### **Church Commitment**

- Regular worship attendance
- Participation in other church activities
- Offices held, services rendered
- Financial support of the church
- Commitment to the church's mission

#### **Personal Characteristics**

- Leadership abilities
- Spirit of cooperativeness
- Willingness to learn; readiness to listen
- Open to new ideas; abilities to express own ideas
- Maturity of judgment
- Availability to attend monthly Session/Deacon meetings and other committee meetings as called

Please Return to the Church Office

#### BIBLE STUDY **OPPORTUNITIES**

#### Men's Bible Study Tuesday at 4:00 p.m.

Our afternoon men's study is meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesdays in the Fireside Room. All men are invited to a time of prayer, study and friendship. We are studying the Gospel of Matthew.

#### **Christ, Coffee and Cinnamon Rolls** Men's Study Wednesday at 6:30 a.m.

Christ, Coffee and Cinnamon Rolls, ministry for men, is meeting on Wednesday mornings at 6:30 a.m. in our Church's Fireside Room. All men are invited to a time of prayer, Bible study, coffee and breakfast rolls on Wednesday mornings. We are studying the Gospel of Matthew.

#### **Adult Bible Study** Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.

Join Pastor Jeff for a study on the solas of the Reformation. This is a great opportunity for learning more about God's Word, to fellowship together and enjoy snacks. Meet in the Fireside Room.

#### **Kings Beach Small Group** First & Third Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.

The Kings Beach small group meets at the Boxeth's. This group meets at 6:30 p.m. on the first and Third Thursdays of the month. This group is welcome to anyone. Contact Patti or Gary Boxeth for more information.

#### **Incline Village Small Group** Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.

The Incline Village small group meets Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. at Jim & Jane Dykstra's House. Everyone is welcome to come. Contact Annie Payne or Tim Gilbert for more info.

#### OCTOBER WORSHIP SERVICE VOLUNTEERS

#### October 1st Communion Servers:

- 1. Roland Schumann
- 2. Karen Schumann
- 3. Tony Conragan
- 4. Tim Gilbert

#### Worship Assistants:

October 1: Nancy Manter

October 8: Chuck Dowd

October 15: Millie Clarke

October 22: Norma Kilbourne

October 29: Linda Robins

#### Ushers:

October 1: Jalyne and Paul Leonhart

October 8: Nancy and Bill Leonard

October 15: Linda and Rob Robins

October 22: Patti Boxeth and Gary Boxeth

October 29: Joannie McNulty

#### Children's Message:

October 1: Village Christian Preschool

October 8: Bill Ferrall

October 15: Cindy Liggett

October 22: Darlene Nilsson

October 29: Need Help

#### Hospitality Teams

October 1: Team 4

October 8: Team 5

October 15: Team 6

October 22: Team 7

October 29: Team 8



#### REDESIGNED **CHURCH WEBSITE**

We have redesigned the church's website. The web address is still the same. Checkout the new changes at

www.thevillagechurchnv.org.

#### STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 2018

GROWING OUR FAITH: In Response to the Greatest Story Ever Told

"Freely you have received.. Freely give."

Matthew 10:8

As we see the days shorten and the air gets crisper our thoughts turn to a new season of worship and ministry at the Village Church. Our recent visioning project revealed that we have a stable, friendly, and vibrant church with general satisfaction and enthusiasm among our members and regular visitors. Our vision and intent is to "flourish" from this base to provide a richer church life to current members, increase our ranks by ten percent, and to expand our outreach and witness to the community and beyond. As a reminder, some of our core activities and programs include:

Biblically sound Sunday worship through the talents of our pastors, staff, and lay leaders; chapel in the pines summer worship; the Village Christian Preschool; Deacon's food closet ministry; the Village Christian Thrift Shop; the music ministry; a vibrant youth program that ministers to the homeless; international and local mission programs; Bible studies, small group studies, and prayer group; women's retreat; church activities (hiking, softball, workdays, attending fun events together (Reno Aces, BBQs, Christian concerts).

To maintain and expand these important components of our church life, we are asking that you prayerfully consider increasing your financial and time commitment to the Village Church in the upcoming 2018 year. Though we are blessed with a generous congregation and have good control of our finances, the 2016/2017 winter strained our facilities and imposed the need for extra maintenance that will drive costs above normal levels this fall with parking lot, building repairs, and painting projects.

Perhaps as important is to ask you to deepen your time commitment by trying a new activity at church. Three areas of focus this year are:

- Participate in and read "The Story, The Bible As One Continuing Story of God and His People" This new book, by Max Lucado and Randy Frazee, traces the arc of the story of the Bible in 31 chapters with time lines, events, and characters to deepen your understanding and give you the big picture of God's relationship to his people, culminating in the sacrifice of Jesus. You will hear more about this from Pastor Jeff in the weeks ahead and we will make sure everyone gets a copy who wants one.
- Join or form a Bible study and/or small group
- Invite two new people to church

Additional information on giving formats and service opportunities will be shared in October with Dedication Sunday set for November 12<sup>th</sup> where we will dedicate our gifts of time, talent, and finances to our Lord.

Enclosed you will find a pledge form and a stamped return envelope. Please make a decision to let your church life "flourish" this year by returning your pledge form soon. Include your email contact information so we can include you on our notification list for those activities.

Thank you for your support of our Lord's ministry through the Village Church and for living your faith through these commitments.



10/3 Mike Barnes 10/3 Karen Kraft 10/3 Paul Twichell 10/5 George Toto 10/6 Tom Clarke 10/15 Denise Ause Annie Olsen

10/16 Sherry Gray 10/17 Edward Warren 10/18 Tom Ryan 10/22 Bonnie Cella 10/24 Barbara Frederic 10/28 Lili Arpino

Did we forget your birthday? Please let us know. Call the church office at 831-0784.

#### REMEMBER YOUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

**Year To Date Through** September 24th:

\$322,296 Needed

Given \$319,460

Difference -\$2,836



#### HAVE SOMETHING TO SHARE? NOVEMBER TRIALOGUE DEADLINE

Friday, October 13th Send your news to:

apayne@TheVillageChurchNV.org

#### THE VILLAGE CHURCI PRAYING CHURCH!

OF PRAYER we provide opportunities during and after our wor-

Our Lord has placed on the hearts of the leaders of The Village to pray. As a church

ship services for prayer. We have a group of intercessory prayer folks who gather each Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. to pray for the needs and praises of our congregation and beyond. Please contact Pastor Jeff if you would like to join this special prayer group.

#### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

The Church needs your help. There are many ways to get involved with the church. We are seeking volunteers to do the children's message, help with the counting, be a worship assistant, usher, or prayer warrior. If you are interested in volunteering with any of these areas, send an email to apayne@thevillagechurchnv.org and put what you are interested in volunteering for.

#### **CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

Our regular hours are Tuesday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

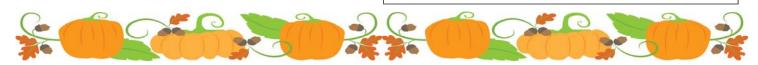


The Church Office and Preschool will be closed on Nevada Day, October 27th



The Village Church is affiliated with ECO: A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians. For more information about ECO, visit our website:

www.TheVillageChurchNV.org or www.eco-pres.org.



#### PASTORAL CONTACT

In order to provide the best possible pastoral care in time of emergency or crisis, Pastor Jeff has a cell phone. This will allow congregation members the opportunity to contact him during non-office hours should a crisis or emergency situation arise. The phone number is 775.624.4240. If Pastor Jeff doesn't answer, simply leave a voice message and he will attempt to respond as quickly as possible.

The Village Church 736 McCourry Blvd. Incline Village, NV 89451 775.831.0784 voice 775.831.0798 fax Preschool: 775.831.1184 Website: www.TheVillageChurchNV.org OCTOBER 2017

Scripture for the Month:

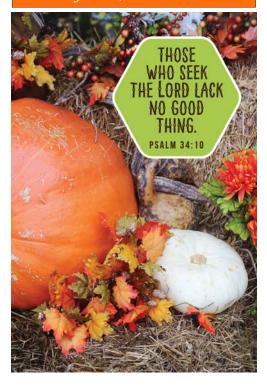
"Now He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness;" 2 Corinthians 9:10

1							
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
1 World Communion Sunday 8 & 10am Worship in Sanctuary 8:15am Choir Practice - F/R 10:15am Sunday School 11:30am Italian Themed Potluck	2 Office Closed	3 2:37pm Staff Meeting 4:00pm Men's Bible Study & Fellowship - F/R 6:30pm Incline Small Group - Dykstra's Home	4 6:30am Men's Study - F/R 10:00am Prayer Group - Pastor's Study 3:00pm Youth Girls Bible Study - Room C 6:00pm Pastor Jeff's Adult Bible Study - F/R No Upper Room Group	5 6:30pm Kings Beach Small Group - Gary & Patti Boxeth's Home	6	7	
8 & 10:00am Worship in Sanctuary No Choir Practice 10:15am Sunday School 11:30am Nominating Committee Mtg 12-3pm SOP H/S Outreach	9 Office Closed 4-5pm Youth Boys Bible Study - Starbucks	10 2:37pm Staff Meeting 4:00pm Men's Bible Study & Fellowship - F/R 6:30pm Incline Small Group - Dykstra's Home	6:30am Men's Study - F/R 10:00am Prayer Group - Pastor's Study 1:00pm Session Meeting - Pastor's Study 3:00pm Youth Girls Bible Study - Room C 6:00pm Pastor Jeff's Adult Bible Study - F/R 6-8pm Upper Room Group - Y/R	12	13	14	
15 8 & 10:00am Worship in Sanctuary 8:15am Choir Practice - F/R 10:15am Sunday School 12-3pm SOP H/S Outreach	16 Office Closed 4-5pm Youth Boys Bible Study - Starbucks	17 2:37pm Staff Meeting 4:00pm Men's Bible Study & Fellowship - F/R 6:30pm Incline Small Group - Dykstra's Home	18 6:30am Men's Study - F/R 10:00am Prayer Group - Pastor's Study 3:00pm Youth Girls Bible Study - Room C 6:00pm Pastor Jeff's Adult Bible Study - F/R 6-8pm Upper Room Group - Y/R	19 6:30pm Kings Beach Small Group - Gary & Patti Boxeth's Home	20	21	
22 8 & 10:00am Worship in Sanctuary No Choir Practice 10:15am Sunday School 12-3pm SOP H/S Outreach	23 Office Closed 4-5pm Youth Boys Bible Study - Starbucks	24 2:37pm Staff Meeting 4:00pm Men's Bible Study & Fellowship - F/R 6:30pm Incline Small Group - Dykstra's Home	25 6:30am Men's Study - F/R 10:00am Prayer Group - Pastor's Study 3:00pm Youth Girls Bible Study - Room C 6:00pm Pastor Jeff's Adult Bible Study - F/R 6-8pm Upper Room Group - Y/R	26 4-7pm Trail of Treats	Nevada Day Office and Preschool Closed	28	
29 Reformation Sunday 8 & 10:00am Worship in Sanctuary 8:15am Choir Practice - F/R 10:15am Sunday School 12-3pm SOP H/S Outreach	30 4-5pm Youth Boys Bible Study - Starbucks	31  10:00am Preschool Trike- A-Thon for St. Jude Hospital & Costume & Tea Party 2:37pm Staff Meeting 4:00pm Men's Bible Study & Fellowship - F/R		20			

#### The Village Church

736 McCourry Blvd. Incline Village, NV 89451 Telephone: 775.831.0784 Fax: 775.831.0798 Village Christian Preschool: Telephone: 775.831.1184 Email: PastorJeff@TheVillageChurchNV.org Website: www. The Village Church NV. org

#### A joyful place to grow





## October 2017

#### Church Leadership

Ted Bandaruk - Deacon Patti Boxeth - Deacon Gary Boxeth - Elder Stephanie Conragan - Preschool Staff Pastor Tony Conragan, CLP - AV& Youth Pastor Chuck Dowd - Elder Jane Dykstra - Elder Jim Dykstra - Deacon Moderator Ion Fay - Choir Director Roxanne Fernandez - Preschool Staff Don Ferrell - Elder Linda Florentine - Women's Ministries Moderator Betsy Garfinkle - Deacon Mary Gilbert - Christian Education Director Tim Gilbert - Custodian & Elder Janet Howell - Preschool Staff

Cindy Liggett - Preschool Director

Doug Baker - Deacon

Darlene Nilsson - Elder Ann O'Keefe - Deacon Rev. Jeff Ogden - Pastor Vicki Ogden - Preschool Staff & Deacon Annie Payne - Office Manager

Tom Payne - Deacon Linda Robins - Elder, Thrift Shop Manager Allie Sacci - Preschool Staff Nathalie Sacci - Assistant Preschool Director Ann Schofield - Financial Administration. & Elder & Clerk of Session Jason Stanton - Accompanist Lynne Swingley Donat - Deacon Vickie Twichell - Thrift Shop Manager Debby Wiens - Pianist Michele Young - Elder

Terri Nielsen - Preschool Staff