The **SAINT LUKE'S BISHOP SPENCER PLACE**





Staff appreciation lunch Friday, Dec. 11

A staff appreciation lunch will be sponsored again this year by our thoughtful and generous **Bishop Spencer Place residents!** We will all join in some gratitude and holiday cheer on Friday, Dec. 11, from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. in the Canterbury Dining Room!

Better to give than to receive

These local organizations are providing COVID-19 resources

for people



in need and are a great option if you are looking to donate funds this holiday season. For links to organizations, check out the electronic version of The Ambassador at BishopSpencerPlace.org/ the-ambassador-newsletter.



A few words from the CEO...



I know it is cliché and we have many things weighing on our minds these days, but, nonetheless, Happy Holidays! This is my subtle reminder of all we have to be grateful and joyful for. While we are still amidst a global pandemic escalating both locally and nationally, we are also remarkably fortunate to have a safe community to call home. We are going

to find many ways to spark joy in the month of December-watch for more information.

This Christmas season, I encourage our residents to spend time with each other while following our core principles of appropriate screening, social distancing, and masking. You can continue to enjoy each other's company in person, over the phone, with thoughtful notes, or even a video call. We're here to help with ideas to support all our residents and their families.

Speaking of our families, we have added three additional indoor visiting spaces to accommodate more visits over the holidays for our residents and their loved ones. Additionally, we will be adding more days and times. Our helpful concierges are available to help schedule a visit.

The holidays can be such a joyful time—let's lift each other up and find ways, large and small, to spark joy throughout the community.



In Loving Memory



Bethleone (Betty) Lees Kenya Donohue Marceline Franey



Giving Tuesday Tuesday, Dec. 1

Whether it's making someone smile, helping a neighbor, showing up for an issue or people we care about, or giving some of what we have to those who need help, every act of generosity counts and everyone can give something.

Giving Tuesday is a global generosity movement unleashing the power of people and organizations to transform communities and the world.

It was created in 2012 as a simple idea: a day that encourages people to do good. Over the past seven years, it has grown into a global movement that inspires hundreds of millions of people to give, collaborate, and celebrate generosity.

Identify your gifts, pick a cause that gets you fired up, and give back—not just on Dec. 1, but every day.



Janet Klem, Dec. 3
Una Creditor, Dec. 4
Helen Stefanov, Dec. 4
Delbert Clevenger, Dec. 5
Ann Dickinson , Dec. 15

Barbara Weary, Dec. 15 Louise Wagnon, Dec. 18 Connie Newton, Dec. 19 Anne Quackenbush, Dec. 21 Marilyn Benson, Dec. 22





Sadly the time came for the Memorial Garden to be cleared of the remnants of one of the most beautiful flowering season we trust that the residents have been able to enjoy. The efforts of the Garden Committee clearly should be commended. Perhaps unseen by most of the residents may be the almost daily watering, the dead-heading of spent blossoms, and the general loving care by members of the Committee.

An invitation has been made for other men and ladies by Barbara Ponder, Chairlady of the Garden Committee, to join the happy and ambitious garden group. Plans are already being finalized for the spring season. There's still room for creative and interested residents. Make this a Christmas present for yourself!

Merry Christmas, Bobbie Ellis





Dick Houston, Dec. 22 Ruth Butler, Dec. 24 Cathy Campbell, Dec. 27 Don Carlton, Dec. 28 Linda Talbott, Dec. 29

- **AC** Activity Center (above Bistro)
- **CDR** Canterbury Dining Room
- CH Chapel

- WR Westport Room
- **Ch 1851** Channel 1851 on your Spectrum TV
 - **BG** Bishop's Garden

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		Giving Tuesday 1 10 a.m. Strength & Balance—AC GING TUESDAY	2 10 a.m. Stretch-AC 3 p.m. Great Courses: The World's Greatest Paintings—Ch 1851	3 10 a.m. Strength & Balance—AC 2 p.m. Dining Committee—CDR	4 10 a.m. Stretch—Ch 1851 2 - 4 p.m Christmas tree decorating, ornament making, and eggnog— MLR	5 1:30 p.m. MARC Carolers: strolling outside our community (weather permitting)
6 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist—CH	PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY 7 10 a.m. Stretch—AC 2 p.m. Monday Movie—Ch 1851	8 10 a.m. Strength & Balance—AC 12:30 p.m. Resident Council—WR	9 10 a.m. Stretch-AC 3 p.m. Great Courses: The World's Greatest Paintings—Ch 1851	HANUKKAH BEGINS 10 AT SUNDOWN 10 a.m. Strength & Balance—AC	11 10 a.m. Stretch—Ch 1851 11 a.m Resident-sponsored 1 p.m. staff appreciation lunch—CDR	Poinsettia Day 12
13 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist—CH	14 10 a.m. Stretch—AC 2 p.m. Monday Movie—Ch 1851	National Wear 15 Your Pearls Day 10 a.m. Strength & Balance—AC	16 10 a.m. Stretch-AC 3 p.m. Great Courses: The World's Greatest Paintings—Ch 1851 Final class of series	17 10 a.m. Strength & Balance—AC	HANUKKAH ENDS 18 10 a.m. Stretch—Ch 1851 3 p.m. Dickens Carolers: strolling outside our community (weather permitting)	19
Ugly Sweater Day 20 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist—CH	WINTER SOLSTICE 21 10 a.m. Stretch—AC 2 p.m. Monday Movie—Ch 1851	22 10 a.m. Strength & Balance—AC 4 p.m. Beethoven Happy Hour with Opus 76—Ch1851	23 10 a.m. Stretch—AC 3 p.m. NEW! Great Courses: From Monet to Van Gogh—Ch 1851	CHRISTMAS EVE 24 10 a.m. Strength & Balance—AC 3 p.m. Christmas Eve service— CH	CHRISTMAS DAY 25	26
27 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist—CH	28 10 a.m. Stretch—AC 2 p.m. Monday Movie—Ch 1851 3 p.m. Good Books with Chaplain Kathy—CH	29 10 a.m. Strength & Balance—AC	30 10 a.m. Stretch—AC 3 p.m. <i>Great Courses:</i> <i>From Monet to</i> <i>Van Gogh</i> —Ch 1851	NEW YEAR'S EVE 31 4 - 5 p.m. Champagne Celebration in the Madison Living Room		

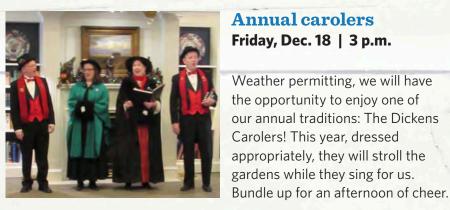
December 2020





Home for the holidays Thursday, Dec. 17 | 6 p.m.

President Truman was in office for eight Christmases, but he only spent two of them in the White House. In 1945, Truman had planned to stay in Washington but became so homesick, he braved flying in a blizzard to be home on Christmas Day. Gather around the virtual hearth to hear stories of being home for the holidays with the Trumans from Doug Richardson, Chief of Interpretation and Visitor Services at the Harry S. Truman National Historic Site. **trumanlibraryinstitute.org**



It's a new year! Thursday, Dec. 31 | 4 - 5 p.m.

Join us for a toast to the new year and bid farewell to 2020 with a glass of champagne on Dec. 31 between 4 and 5 p.m. in the Madison Living Room.

Help us trim the tree Friday, Dec. 4 | 2 - 4 p.m.

It's time to decorate again! Holiday elves will deliver blank 'ornaments' to each resident to decorate at home, however you would like. Secular or religious, fun or serious, we want you to participate in creating a special and unique Christmas tree.

Bring your ornament to the Madison Living Room anytime between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 4, and enjoy some eggnog and cheer for a socially distanced visit with residents while you adorn our tree!

Christmas

Says a country legend told every year: Go to the barn on Christmas Eve and see what the creatures do as that long night tips over. Down on their knees they will go, the fire of an old memory whistling through their minds!

I went. Wrapped to my eyes against the cold I creaked back the barn door and peered in. From town the church bells spilled their midnight music, And the beasts listened-yet they lay in their stalls like stone.

Oh the heretics!

Not to remember Bethlehem, or the star as bright as the sun, or the child born on a bed of straw! To know only of the dissolving Now!

Still they drowsed on-

Citizens of the pure, the physical world, They loomed in the dark: powerful of body, peaceful of mind, innocent of history. Brothers! I whispered. It is Christmas! And you are no heretics, but a miracle, immaculate still as when you were thundered forth on the morning of creation! As for Bethlehem, that blazing star still sailed the dark, but only looked for me. Caught in its light, listening again to its story, I curled against some sleepy beast, who nuzzled my hair as though I were a child, and warmed me the best it could all night.

-Mary Oliver



RANSAS CITIANS

Did you know we had so many famous Kansas Citians? (Not a complete list.)

From an actress who made her name "dancing backwards in heels" to the voice of Yoda, Kansas City is home to household names, blockbuster stars, and talented voice actors.

Robert Altman

Oscar-winning director and KC native whose films included "M*A*S*H," "Kansas City," and many others (he is a cousin to BSP resident Mary Abbott!).

Ed Asner

Emmy-winning actor and KC native, most known for his roles on "The Mary Tyler Moore Show" and "Roots."

Don Cheadle

Oscar-nominated star of "Hotel Rwanda" and "Crash," was born in KC.

Chris Cooper

Oscar-winning actor and KC native, whose films include "Adaptation," "American Beauty," and "The Bourne Identity."

Joan Crawford

KC native, Oscar-winning actress, and icon of Hollywood's Golden Age, known for her roles in "Mildred Pierce" and "Whatever Happened to Baby Jane."

Walt Disney

Beloved animator and director who opened Laugh-O-Gram Studios, his first, in Kansas City. Disney fed a friendly rodent in the building, which was said to have inspired the character, Mickey Mouse.

Gillian Flynn

Author/screenwriter and KC native whose works include "Gone Girl," "Sharp Objects," and "Dark Places."

Eddie Griffin

Who was voted class clown three years in a row before he became a nationally known comedian and actor, choreographed Kansas City Chiefs halftime shows.

Jean Harlow

Film actress, is famously known as the Original Blonde Bombshell.

Tom Kane

Voiceover artist from Overland Park known for his roles in "Star Wars: The Clone Wars," "The Wild Thornberrys," and the voice of Yoda!

Ellie Kemper

Film and TV actress, was born in KC and is best known for her leading role in "Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt" and other roles in "The Office" and "Bridesmaids."

Edie McClurg

Stand-up comedian, actress, singer, and voice actress, she is known for her 'midwestern accent,' and is KC born and an UMKC alma mater.

Janelle Monáe

Singer and actress, was born in Kansas City, Kansas, and starred in "Hidden Figures" and "Moonlight."

Tosin Morohunfola

A favorite KC actor who can be seen in Showtime's "The Chi," NBC's "Chicago Med," and OWN's upcoming series "Love Is."

Gordon Parks

Photographer, musician, writer, and film director, known for directing "Shaft," was born in Ft. Scott.

Rob Riggle

Comedian and actor, grew up in Overland Park. He is famous for his roles in "The Hangover" and "21 Jump Street" and was an occasional supporting actor on "Modern Family" with...

Eric Stonestreet

Actor and comedian, best known for playing Cameron Tucker in the ABC sitcom "Modern Family." He is a two-time Emmy award winner.

Ginger Rogers

Broadway performer and Oscar-winning actress, was born in Independence.



Image from Visit KC visitkc.com/filmtourism/celebrities

Paul Rudd

Comedic actor in "Role Models" and "I Love You, Man," was raised in Overland Park.

Jason Sudeikis

Grew up in Overland Park and is famous for his roles in "We're the Millers" and "Horrible Bosses."

Dee Wallace

Actress and KC native, known for her roles in films including "E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial" and "The Hills Have Eyes."

Tuc Watkins

KC native and actor known for his roles in "One Life to Live," "The Mummy," and "Desperate Housewives" (and grandson to the late BSP resident, Margaret Watkins!).

Dianne Wiest

Oscar-winning actress and KC native, known for her roles in "Edward Scissorhands," "I Am Sam," and "Hannah and Her Sisters."



Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day Dec. 7

We remember and honor the 2,403 U.S. citizens who were killed in the Pearl Harbor attack in Hawaii in 1941, leading to the US declaring war on Japan and entering World War II. In 1994, President Bill Clinton signed the joint resolution designating every Dec. 7 as National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. On Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day the flag is flown at half-mast until sunset to honor those who died.

For movies and books about Pearl Harbor: 2001 American romantic war drama film with Ben Affleck, Tom Sizemore, Alec Baldwin in "Pearl Harbor." "To Wake the Giant" by Jeff Shaara, "Day of Infamy" by Walter Lord, and "The Girls of Pearl Harbor" by Soraya M. Lane, are three novels about the attack on Pearl Harbor.



The Great Courses series: From Monet to van Gogh Starts Dec. 23, 3 p.m. Channel 1851

These artists documented life in the latter half of the 19th century and provided models of behavior, decorum, and urban beauty that persist to this day. This series of lectures will introduce you to the style, subject, and function of Impressionist painting by artists including Monet, Renoir, Cassatt, Cézanne, Toulouse-Lautrec, and van Gogh.

Separate analysis is given to the important Impressionist exhibitions and their contemporary critics like the writer Baudelaire. Among key topics covered are the public and private worlds of Parisian modernity, life in the countryside, the new leisure class, and the influential legacy of Impressionism.

Dr. Brettell, Professor of Aesthetic Studies at The University of Texas at Dallas, is a teacher and curator of international renown and is widely published on 19th- and 20th-century art. His lectures are designed as a way for you to view and discuss the Impressionist revolution with a deft mix of history, biography, and art.



Safeguard your identity from scams

Resident Joe Brennan located a valuable article if anyone would like a copy of it, please let Joe or Activities know and we'll make you a copy. It is from the Federal Trade Commission/Consumer Information and addresses what to do if you have a lost or stolen credit, ATM, or debit card.

To access the link via your computer bit.ly/IDTheftSafety



Shop local

Don't just count on Amazon, Walmart, and Target. You can also gift an experience, membership, or donation in the name of a loved one! Remember The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, The Kansas City Symphony, Kansas City Ballet, Kansas City Zoo, the list goes on...

Local shops can ship gifts for you, too. Here are some links—let us know if you need help navigating the process: kcsourcelink.com/shop-local madeinkc.co/shop-local

- rainydaybooks.com
- astorenamedstuff.com



I saw A Charlie Brown Christmas when it first aired in December of 1965, and I was reminded of it through the years when it came time to decorate the tree. Sometimes it was practically perfect in every way, but mostly it had bald spots or a crooked trunk or some other unsightly feature, which always inspired my mother to say, "It's a Charlie Brown Christmas tree!"

If you saw the movie, you know Charlie Brown's Christmas tree was pitiful, indeed. A few scraggly branches, a barely discernable collection of pine needles, and a single ornament too heavy for its spindly branch to support. Naturally, Charlie Brown took a lot of ribbing from his peers, who preferred spectacular trees and all the glitz of the commercial holiday, but in the end, they all helped to decorate Charlie Brown's tree—and it was a thing of beauty.

Charlie Brown's Christmas tree is a good image for the year 2020. We, too, have experienced shortages, not of branches or pine needles, but of foods and goods and regular contact with others. We have experienced shortage of breath (masks tend to do that), and patience (when will this be over?), and access to our normal activities (visiting family, going to church, having a meal at a favorite restaurant). All of which, at times, has caused our spirits to droop just as the bough on Charlie Brown's Christmas tree drooped, because the load, at times, becomes too heavy.

But we have also seen people coming together—as safety permits in ways bringing light and beauty to an otherwise "droopy" 2020. First responders, especially those who volunteer, help in other cities and states, putting themselves at risk when they could stay at home. People made masks when there was a shortage. Kids made cards for BSP residents. People celebrated birthdays, graduations, weddings, and anniversaries with noisy, colorful, wonderful drive-bys. The list goes on and on...

2020 was not the year we hoped for, and Christmas 2020 will look very different from Christmases past and future. Nevertheless, it is still our time to celebrate the birth of the Lord of Love. We do that best, on Dec. 25th and throughout the year, by doing our part to bring light and beauty to a world that has been droopy too long.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness does not overcome it. John 1:5

-Chaplain Kathy Hall

Livestreamin

SUNDAY SERVICES

St. Andrew's Episcopal 8 a.m., 10:15 a.m. standrewkc.org/live-worship

All Souls Unitarian Universalist 11:10 a.m. bit.ly/3g7G62f

Immaculate Conception 11:00 a.m. facebook.com/golddomekc

Community Christian Church 10:30 a.m. facebook.com/Community4KC

Conception Abbey 7:45 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 5:30 p.m. conceptionabbey.org/live

St. Paul's Episcopal 10 a.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m. facebook.com/StPaulsKCMO

Unity Temple on the Plaza 10:30 a.m. bit.ly/2yfspgE

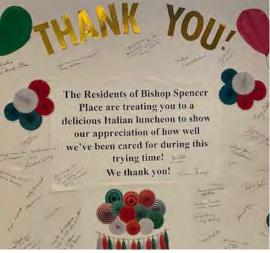
Village Presbyterian Church 9:30 a.m. villagepres.org/online

Thoughtful Quote

 ${\mathcal B}$ lessed is the season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love!"

- Hamilton Wright Mabie







RECENT EVENTS & PHOTOS















