



The
AMBASSADOR

SAINT LUKE'S BISHOP SPENCER PLACE

MAY 2024

 **Saint Luke's**
BISHOP SPENCER PLACE

Stay ACTIVE

Cinco de Mayo Lunch

Friday, May 3 | 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Canterbury Dining Room

BSP staff are lucky to be treated again to a resident-sponsored Cinco de Mayo lunch.

BSP Donation Drive

Monday, May 6 - Tuesday, May 7
2 - 3 p.m. | Apartment 105

BSP has scheduled a pick-up with Big Brothers Big Sisters. More details will follow regarding items allowed. A good rule of thumb is donated items must be able to be carried by one person, so no large pieces of furniture or anything heavy. We have a resident volunteer ready to help but will likely need more. If you're interested, contact Sami.

New Resident Social

Wednesday, May 22
4 - 5 p.m. | Pub

Join us for refreshments to welcome our newest BSP residents!

Balance Screening

Tuesday, May 14 | 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Activity Center

PPS Therapy is hosting their balance and mobility screenings again. Ask your questions about functional wellness at this walk-in fair.

A few words from the CEO



The month of May is a bridge between spring and summer, as we still get some spring weather and some summer weather. I have always referred to May as the month of transition, and that has proven to be true for me as life has changed drastically on several occasions in the month of May.

Many folklore sayings point out the uncertain weather in May: "A dry May and a leaking June, make the farmer whistle a merry tune," and "A snowstorm in May is worth a wagonload of hay." James Thomson said, "Among the changing months, May stands confessed, the sweetest and in fairest colors dressed."

The birth flowers associated with May include the hawthorn, which stands for hope, and the lily of the valley, which symbolizes the return of happiness. May's birthstone is the emerald, which represents rebirth, and some say grants foresight. We celebrate several holidays in May, including Mother's Day, Memorial Day, and Armed Forces Day, with all three being the perfect illustration of transition from spring to summer, from challenges to triumph, to reflect on the path of life, both present and historical.


To include some humor in the month, we have some fun days that include No Socks Day and Root Canal Appreciation Day, both on May 8, and Dance like a Chicken Day on May 14.

May is a time of change, no matter where you reside and no matter where you are in your path of life. Just like here at BSP, we are at a time of change, a time of transition, a time of community, and a time of hope as we work together for continuous improvement. There is no better time to call BSP your home than this month of May.

Thank you for allowing us to work in your home.

Louis Collier

May is the month of expectation, the month of wishes, the month of hope.—Emily Brontë



Memorial Day
Monday, May 27

BSP offices and the Bistro will be closed.
The Canterbury Dining Room will be open
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

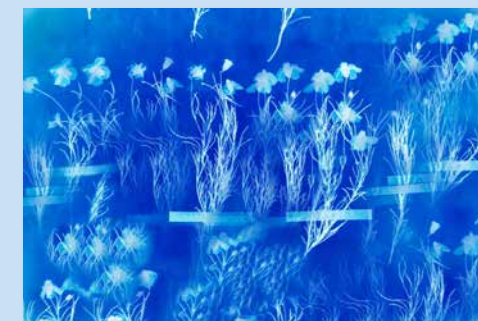
Art Reception for Megan Wyeth

Thursday, May 23 | 4 p.m. | Art Gallery



Megan Wyeth studied photography at the Kansas City Art Institute and earned a degree in art history from the University of Kansas. Her interest in photography began while studying with Ansel Adams in the Yosemite Valley.

Megan is inspired by the natural world and feels her study of nature has helped her create an intuitive approach to photographing and developing a rapport with subject matter. "As we look through the lens, the photographer sees shapes, forms, light, value, and color," she says.



"We begin to arrange these elements and intuition takes over. The image presents itself; it finds the photographer and we have the humble responsibility to document that fleeting moment and feeling."

Megan's works are held in numerous private and public collections internationally.

Kentucky Derby Party

Saturday, May 4 | 4:30 p.m. | Westport Room



Celebrate Derby Day complete with BSP resident Bill Buckner's famous mint juleps! Bill prepares them himself, steeping the 90-proof Kentucky bourbon with syrup and mint from the BSP herb garden.

Ladies are encouraged to wear outrageous hats!



Garden TIME

May Garden

by John Drinkwater (1882-1937)

A shower of green gems on my apple tree

This first morning of May
Has fallen out of the night, to be
Herald of holidays—

Bright gems of green that, fallen there,
Seem fixed and glowing on the air.

Until a flutter of blackbird wings
Shakes and makes the boughs alive,
And the gems are now no frozen things,

But apple-green buds to thrive
On sap of my May garden, how well
The green September globes will tell.

Also my pear tree has its buds,
But they are silver-yellow,
Like autumn meadows when the floods

Are silver under willow,
And here shall long and shapely pears
Be gathered while the autumn wears.

And there are sixty daffodils
Beneath my wall. . .
And jealousy it is that kills
This world when all
The spring's behavior here is spent
To make the world magnificent



AC Activity Center (above Bistro) **CH** Chapel **P** Pub
ART Art Gallery **JLR** Jefferson Living Room **WR** Westport Room
BG Bishop's Garden **MLR** Madison Living Room **Ch 1851** Channel 1851 on your Spectrum TV
CDR Canterbury Dining Room **MF2** Madison Second Floor

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						
Cinco de Mayo 5 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist—CH 11 a.m. Brunch—CDR	National Nurses Day 6 10 a.m. Stretch & Strengthen—AC 1 p.m. Tai Chi—AC 3 p.m. Donna Houtteman: Art Blocks—WR	7 10:30 a.m. Strength & Balance—AC 11:15 a.m. Grocery Trip 11-noon Resident Photos—MLR 12 p.m. Bridge Luncheon—CDR 3 p.m. Great Decisions Group Meeting—WR	1 10 a.m. Stretch & Strengthen—AC noon-1 BP Checks—MF2 1 p.m. Tai Chi—AC 2 p.m. Movie Committee—P 2:30 p.m. Robert Butler Classic Movie: Hobson's Choice—WR	2 10:30 a.m. Strength & Balance—AC 1:30 p.m. Chair Volleyball—WR 2:30 p.m. Dining Committee—CDR	3 9 a.m. Morning Fitness—Ch 1851 10 a.m. Bridge & Games—P 11 a.m. Cinco de Mayo Lunch 3 p.m. Kent Rausch & Tom's Town Band—MLR	4 10 a.m. Grocery Trip 11 a.m. Rosary—CH 1-3 p.m. Open Bridge—P 4:30 p.m. Kentucky Derby Party—WR 7:15 p.m. Movie: Raising Arizona—JLR
Mother's Day 12 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist—CH 11 a.m. Brunch—CDR	13 10 a.m. Stretch & Strengthen—AC 1 p.m. Tai Chi—AC 3 p.m. Donna Houtteman: Art Blocks—WR	14 10:30 a.m. Strength & Balance—AC 11-1 Balance Screening—AC 11:15 a.m. Grocery Trip 1 p.m. Resident Council—WR 3 p.m. Ashley Stanfield Students—MLR 4:30 p.m. Women's Gathering—P	15 10 a.m. Stretch & Strengthen—AC 11 a.m. Resident Remembrance—CH noon-1 BP Checks—MF2 1 p.m. Tai Chi—AC 3 p.m. Great Courses: Where Our Food Comes From—Ch 1851	16 10:30 a.m. Strength & Balance—AC 3 p.m. Speakers: Stephen Steigman & Christy L'Esperance, Classical KC—WR	17 9 a.m. Morning Fitness—Ch 1851 10 a.m. Bridge & Games—P 11 a.m. Marketing Event—CDR 4 p.m. Havilah Bruders & Mark Lowrey—MLR	18 10 a.m. Grocery Trip 11 a.m. Rosary—CH 1-3 p.m. Open Bridge—P 7:15 p.m. Saturday Movie: Billy Elliot—JLR
19 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist—CH 11 a.m. Brunch—CDR	20 10 a.m. Stretch & Strengthen—AC 1 p.m. Tai Chi—AC 2 p.m. Garden Committee—WR 3 p.m. Donna Houtteman: Art Blocks—WR	21 10:30 a.m. Strength & Balance—AC 11:15 a.m. Grocery Trip 3 p.m. KC Symphony Harp/Flute Duo—MLR 7 p.m. Music: Clayton DeLong & Adam Galblum—P	22 10 a.m. Stretch & Strengthen—AC 11 a.m. Podiatrist—AC noon-1 BP Checks—MF2 1 p.m. Tai Chi—P 3 p.m. Ping-pong—WR 3 p.m. Great Courses—Ch 1851 4 p.m. New Resident Social—P	23 10:30 a.m. Strength & Balance—AC 4 p.m. Artist Reception: Megan Wyeth—ART	24 9 a.m. Morning Fitness—Ch 1851 10 a.m. Bridge & Games—P 10:30 a.m. Catholic Mass—CH 3 p.m. Theodor Carlson & Hyun Kim—MLR	25 10 a.m. Grocery Trip 11 a.m. Rosary—CH 1-3 p.m. Open Bridge—P 7:15 p.m. Saturday Movie: Mrs. Miniver—JLR
26 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist—CH 11 a.m. Brunch—CDR	 MEMORIAL DAY 27 Offices Closed	28 10:30 a.m. Strength & Balance—AC 11:15 a.m. Grocery Trip 4:30 p.m. Men's Club—P	29 10 a.m. Stretch & Strengthen—AC noon-1 BP Checks—MF2 1 p.m. Tai Chi—AC 3 p.m. Great Courses: Where Our Food Comes From—Ch 1851	30 10:30 a.m. Strength & Balance—AC 3 p.m. Speaker: CEO Angie Blumel, Jackson County CASA—WR	31 9 a.m. Morning Fitness—Ch 1851 10 a.m. Bridge & Games—P 4 p.m. Happy Hour: Michael Pagán—MLR	

Group activities subject to community status

Art & Entertainment at BSP

Baritone Theodor Carlson and Pianist Dr. Hyun Kim

Friday, May 24 | 3 p.m.
Madison Living Room



Theodor Carlson has captivated audiences as the leading baritone in more than 70 operas. An alumnus of the prestigious

Juilliard Opera Center, Carlson has also directed operas in Spain and the United States. He was the artistic director of Dallas's Voces Intimae-art song series and taught voice at the Rockland Conservatory in New York and opera at The University of Arkansas and the El Music Conservatory in Spain.



Dr. Hyun Kim, professor of vocal coaching and collaborative piano at UMKC, studied at the Paris Conservatory and Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. She is a

pianist, conductor, organist, and harpsichordist, holding degrees in piano performance, collaborative piano, and opera. Hyun was the musical director and pianist for artist Mingwei Lee's world-famous performance exhibit, Sonic Blossom.

What an honor to have this duo perform for us at Bishop Spencer Place!



Classic Movie with Robert Butler: Hobson's Choice (1954)
Wednesday, May 1 | 2:30 p.m.
Westport Room

Widower Henry Hobson (Charles Laughton) refuses to let his three daughters get married because he doesn't want to provide them with dowries, so they outsmart him.



Donna Houtteman: Art Blocks
Mondays, May 6, 13, & 20 | 3 p.m.
Westport Room

The ever-knowledgeable Donna Houtteman will be here the first three Mondays in May.

- May 6 *Let's Celebrate Spring: Monet's Garden and the Color Wheel*
- May 13 *Art in Nature: Look and See How Mother Nature's Gifts Have Inspired Artists*
- May 20 *Orchid Delirium, Hummingbirds, and Their Impact on Artists*



Art Experience with Nina Irwin
Thursday, May 9 | 1 p.m. | Activity Center

Nina is back with another creative project. Reserve your spot by calling Helen at 816-595-5015.

We hope more of you can come to class; you don't need any training or artistic abilities, but you will certainly benefit from participating. Nina keeps amazing us with new art history topics each month as we learn how art weaves into our lives.

Image above: Claude Monet (French, 1840-1926) *Water Lilies*, c. 1915-1925. Oil on canvas, 79 x 167 3/4 inches. Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art.

Saturday Night Movies

7:15 p.m. | Jefferson Living Room



May 4—Raising Arizona (1987)
When a childless couple—an ex-con and an ex-cop—help themselves to one of another family's quintuplets, their lives become more complicated than they anticipated. Written and

directed by Ethan and Joel Coen and starring Nicolas Cage and Holly Hunter.

May 11—True Grit (1969)

A drunken, hard-nosed U.S. Marshal (John Wayne) and a Texas Ranger (Glen Campbell) help a stubborn teenager (Kim Darby) track down her father's murderer in Indian Territory. John Wayne won an Oscar for his performance, and the title song, sung by Campbell, was also nominated.



May 18—Billy Elliot (2000)

A talented working-class boy becomes torn between his unexpected love of dance and the disintegration of his family during the 1984-85 miner's strike

in North East England. The story was adapted for the West End stage as *Billy Elliot the Musical* in 2005 and opened on Broadway in 2008.

May 25—Mrs. Miniver (1942)

This romantic war drama shows how the life of an unassuming British housewife (Greer Garson) in rural England is affected by World War II. The film was the highest-grossing film of 1942 and won six Academy Awards, including Best Picture, Best Director (William Wyler), Best Actress (Garson), and Best Supporting Actress (Teresa Wright).



Where Our Food Really Comes From

Wednesdays
May 8, 15, 22, & 29
3 p.m. | Channel 1851
Two classes per session



We're starting an informative new course.
This eight-lecture course, led by Certified Master Chef

Brad Barnes, explores the history, design, technology, and labor behind the foods you love. You'll see how foods are cultivated on farms, ranches, and fisheries throughout the world and explore the food industry, moving from its delicate supply chain to the fascinating psychology behind its most sophisticated marketing tactics. You'll learn about your own power as a consumer, generated through the choices you make.

This course approaches the modern food system fairly and humanely, highlighting its strengths as well as its weaknesses. It illustrates that we are not passive but active and engaged participants who can work to make sure our food industry is ethical, just, and sustainable.

May Speakers

Stephen Steigman & Christy L'Esperance of Classical KC

Thursday, May 16 | 3 p.m. | Westport Room



After growing up on the east coast and spending his first professional years in classical music, Stephen moved to Kansas City in 1995, expecting to leave after a few years.

But more than two and a half decades and three kids later, he doesn't regret his decision to stick around. Stephen began his career in public radio as a classical music host. As the founding producer of Up to Date with Steve Kraske, he received a number of local and national awards for his work on the program. From 2014 to 2022, Stephen served as chief of broadcast operations. In 2020 he helped launch KCUR's sister station, 91.9 Classical KC and is now its director.



Community engagement specialist at Classical KC and Kansas City native Christy L'Esperance (*LESS-per-ahns*) started listening to classical music on the Snoopy radio she got for her 4th birthday. Much

later, her years were filled with the adventures of earning a degree in piano performance and pedagogy, working as a classical announcer for Iowa Public Radio and as a classical announcer/producer for Northern Public Radio in Illinois, teaching piano and music composition, and performing frequently as an accompanist.

Established in 2020, Classical KC is Kansas City's home for 24/7 classical music. Its mission is to champion music as a vital community resource by sharing programming that reflects and illuminates our broader world. It is a member and listener-supported service, and a partner of KCUR and UMKC.

Angie Blumel, President & CEO of Jackson County CASA

Thursday, May 30 | 3 p.m. | Westport Room



Angie Blumel has spent her 25+ year career in the nonprofit sector doing two things she is passionate about: advocating for children and families and working with volunteers.

Angie was recently named "one of the top 20 nonprofit leaders to know" in Kansas City by the *Business Journal* and is a nominee for the 2024 class of Women Who Mean Business.

Jackson County CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) was founded by the Kansas City chapter of the National Council of Jewish Women to ensure that children in our metropolitan area who have suffered abuse and neglect are given a voice in court. CASA has two goals: 1) to secure a safe, permanent home for the child; 2) to advocate for appropriate medical, educational, and therapeutic resources while the child is under court jurisdiction.

Angie will talk about CASA and the current state of foster care in our community. CASA has seen changes in the child welfare system in recent years at the state and local level.

Poetry Group

Thursday, May 9 | 4 p.m.
Westport Room

The group is growing! We hope you can come to the third poetry and conversation group. Please bring a favorite poem to read informally to the group or simply come to listen and enjoy.



Beginning Bridge + Games

Fridays | 10 a.m. - Noon | Pub

Any residents can come to beginning Bridge with Christie Collier and Scrabble Games and enjoy some fruit, sweets, and coffee.

Women's Gathering

Tuesday, May 14 | 4:30 p.m. | Pub

Men's Club

Tuesday, May 28 | 4:30 p.m. | Pub

Come for some treats and lively discussion before dinner. It's been great to see so many of you!



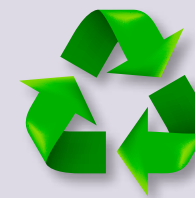
Chair Volleyball

Thursday, May 2 | 1:30 p.m. | Westport Room

Wear your comfy clothes and get ready for some laughs. We need at least eight players.

Tip of the Month!

From the Environmental Committee



Green plants may help clean the air in an apartment. Two plants for every 100 square feet is recommended.

Name That Resident!

- I was born at home with only a nurse to assist.
- I have shown an Angus calf at the county fair.
- I enjoy watching all sports, but football is my favorite.
- I like reading a good mystery novel.
- I've fished in Canada, flying in on a seaplane to a remote cabin on a lake.

(Last month's answer was Sheila Cone!)



Check out the fiction and nonfiction books that top the latest *New York Times* Best Seller List.

Fiction

THE WOMEN

Kristin Hannah

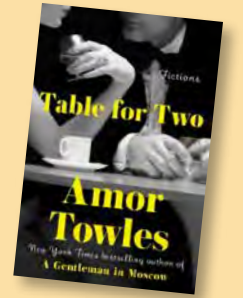


TABLE FOR TWO

Amor Towles

FOURTH WING

Rebecca Yarros

JAMES

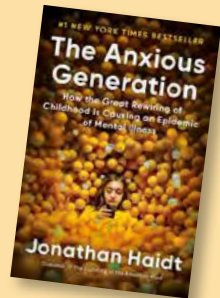
Percival Everett



Nonfiction

THE ANXIOUS GENERATION

Jonathan Haidt



AGE OF REVOLUTIONS

Fareed Zakaria

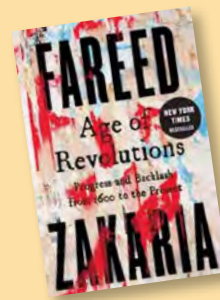
THE WAGER

David Grann

THE FALSE WHITE

GOSPEL

Jim Wallis



Great Decisions Meeting

Tuesday, May 7 | 3 p.m.

Westport Room



Great Decisions is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. It is sponsored by the Foreign Policy Association and has been in operation for nearly 70 years. The program involves reading the *Great Decisions Briefing Book*, watching the video series, and meeting in a discussion group to explore the most critical global issues facing America today.

Resident John Blevins held our first meeting in February, and it was decided we would have monthly meetings as we explore each of these topics.

It's never too late to join. **Please call or email John with any questions.** He also has an accompanying book you can purchase at a reduced rate.

John has participated in this series for several years and is an enthusiastic proponent of the program. There are so many well-traveled and worldly wise residents here that we expect both lively and informative conversations as we work our way through the topics.

You can see an overview of topics at tinyurl.com/GD-BSP-2024.

Music

Kent Rausch & Tom's Town Band

Friday, May 3 | 3 p.m. | Madison Living Room

Tom's Town returns, performing hot swing music of the golden era in Kansas City.

Fountain City String Quartet

Friday, May 10 | 4 p.m.
Madison Living Room



The quartet—Carmen Dieker and Matthew Bennett on violin, Alyssa Bell on viola, and Sascha Groschang on cello—performs both classical music and original arrangements of popular contemporary songs.

St. Agnes Students led by Ashley Stanfield

Tuesday, May 14 | 3 p.m. | Madison Living Room

You know Ashley from Opus 76. She teaches an after-school class of first through sixth grade musicians at St. Agnes.

Havilah Bruders & Mark Lowrey

Friday, May 17 | 4 p.m. | Madison Living Room

Two BSP favorites, vocalist Havilah Bruders and pianist Mark Lowrey, are back.

KC Symphony Duo:

Kayla Burggraf & Katie Ventura

Tuesday, May 21 | 3 p.m. | Madison Living Room

Kayla Burggraf plays piccolo and flute in the Kansas City Symphony. Katherine Ventura is the Symphony's acting principal harpist.

Clayton DeLong & Adam Galblum

Tuesday, May 21 | 7 p.m. | Pub

Clayton and Adam played at our very first pub party!

Theodor Carlson & Hyun Kim

Friday, May 24 | 3 p.m.

Madison Living Room

See page 6.

Happy Hour with Michael Pagán

Friday, May 31 | 4 p.m. | Madison Living Room

Have a glass on us while listening to the music of irrepressible pianist Michael Pagán.



Hello friends,

In the span of a single week, I've been in conversation with friends across the life span who are facing all manner of things in their own lives. I have one friend trying to sort out life with a newborn and another who is trying to determine the best schooling options for her middle schooler. I have two friends going through messy divorces, another trying to find a partner after heartache, and yet another celebrating a milestone anniversary. On the same day I wrote my Easter sermon, I also prepared a funeral homily.

Our lives are full of these juxtapositions. Sometimes I wonder the best way to show up for my friends and myself in such times. The emotional whiplash of joyfully cooing at a precious baby before taking a call to mourn a loss is significant. What does it look like to be present with one another when our days are made up of such varied experiences?

I think of Japanese theologian Kosuke Koyama who says, "Love has a speed. It is a spiritual speed. It is a different kind of speed from the technological speed to which we are accustomed. It goes on in the depth of our life, whether we notice or not, at three miles an hour. It is the speed we walk and therefore the speed the love of God walks."

I take great comfort from this; though God is the God of all space and time, God's speed matches ours, and thus the speed of love does too. To show love to one another doesn't require much else at all. Simply move at the speed of love. And if we get it wrong? Well, there's grace for that too. Mercy is new every morning, and we can wake up and try again.

Maybe you move at three miles per hour, or even one or two. Take heart. That is the speed of love, and so for others to meet you there and walk alongside you is how it is meant to be. And if that's the speed you have to offer others, that is more than enough.

This month I pray you know love's presence in all things, most especially one another.

With love,
Chaplain Janette

Gratitude Assignment

May gratitude assignment:

- What aspects of my life let me know that my life is good?
- How have I grown as a person recently?
- Notice three things that I am grateful for just today.



Saturday Book Club

Saturday, May 11
4 p.m.

Westport Room

Contact Clark with questions.



Remembrance Service

Wednesday, May 15
11 a.m. | Chapel

This is a time to remember those who have passed at BSP and other losses close to our hearts. We light candles for the saints and share stories of their lives.

Most of all, it is a time for us to come together to support one another. Please make time to attend.





The
SCENE
RECENT EVENTS & PHOTOS

