



The
AMBASSADOR

SAINT LUKE'S BISHOP SPENCER PLACE

APRIL 2025

 **Saint Luke's**
BISHOP SPENCER PLACE



Donation Collection

Apr. 20–May 31 | Chapel

In celebration of the Easter season, the Spiritual Wellness Department is organizing a collection of household items for refugees and immigrants legally settling in the United States.

All donations will be given to the local organization Jewish Vocational Service for distribution to their clients who have fled war and persecution and are resettling in the KC area. JVS empowers people to contribute to their communities, engages people in health and wellness activities, and offers employment services to help job seekers.

Your generous donations are critical to ensuring that our newest neighbors are prepared to live in—and become thriving and engaged members of—their new community. There will be a box outside the chapel to collect the items on this list. Please reach out to Chaplain Janette with any questions or comments.

JVS has requested the following donations for their clients:

- Laundry detergent
- Toilet paper
- Dish soap
- Umbrellas

A few words from the CEO



The content for the April column was influenced by Helen, who emailed me that the movie *Big Stone Gap* would be shown on April 30 on the BSP television channel. Since Big Stone Gap is my hometown, the topic for the April column was selected accordingly.

Big Stone Gap, population 5000, was settled in the late 1800s and developed around the coal industry. Residents hoped coal would transform Big Stone Gap into “The Pittsburgh of the South.” The town is situated in southwest Virginia, in Wise County, and is a short drive from Tennessee, Kentucky, and West Virginia. It is closer to seven other state capitals than it is to Richmond, Virginia. I grew up in Big Stone Gap and raised my family there for the first 15 years of my career. We were members of Christ Episcopal Church, which was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1990. The church, constructed in 1892, is a cruciform frame building.

Big Stone Gap is a quintessential small town characterized by close-knit relationships, where familiarity and community spirit prevail. Local engagement is evident through youth and high school sports, major weekly events fostering a strong sense of pride. The town is defined by its modest institutions, including small schools, churches, a hospital, and independent businesses. Each summer, the town hosts *The Trail of the Lonesome Pine*, Virginia’s longest-running outdoor drama.

My best friend in Big Stone Gap was Carlo Trigiani, and his family treated me like one of their own. Ms. Trigiani made the best homemade pasta and sauce and always invited me on those nights. Adriana Trigiani, Carlo’s sister, has become a best-selling author, playwright, television writer, producer, film director, and screenwriter. She wrote scripts for *The Cosby Show* and *A Different World*, and produced *City Kids*, a Jim Henson production. Adriana wrote and directed the award-winning documentary *Queen of the Big Time* and other films and shows.

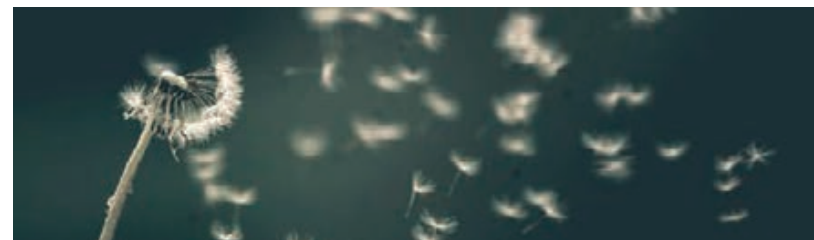
In 2014, Adriana Trigiani wrote and directed *Big Stone Gap*, featuring Ashley Judd, Patrick Wilson, and Whoopi Goldberg. It was filmed entirely in Big Stone Gap, with local residents and friends of Adriana cast in the movie. Scenes from the film offer an authentic portrayal of the town’s character and beauty.

I hope that if you decide to watch the movie with us or view it at your convenience, you will gain an appreciation for this unique

continued

End-of-Life Conversations Series

Mondays | 4 p.m. | Westport Room



All are invited to attend a four-week conversation series about death, dying, and end-of-life planning. These conversations will be facilitated by Chaplain Janette and Fr. Tom Wiederholt. Two sessions will be facilitated conversations between residents to ask questions and share experiences. The session on April 21 will have expert panelists to answer questions about advanced directives, end of life medical care, issues surrounding “do not resuscitate” (DNR) orders, and other medical/ethical concerns. See Chaplain Janette or Fr. Tom with any questions or topics you would like covered.

- April 14: Facilitated resident group conversations
- April 21: Physician/ethicist presentation & panel
- April 28: Presentation based on your questions
- May 5: Facilitated resident group conversations

See the *Spiritual Wellness Corner* (p. 11) for more information.

Tip of the Month!

From the Environmental Committee



Fluorescent and LED lights are better for the environment than incandescent lights. They use less energy per watt. Combine that with turning lights off when possible.

town, which has endured numerous challenges. Its residents continue to persevere, progressing steadily one step at a time.

Thank you for allowing us to work in your homes and this special community that we call Bishop Spencer Place.

Louis



April’s Dream

by William Stanley Braithwaite

*The stream’s breath tastes of the wood’s perfume,
Filled are the woods with foam:
And the sea like a sheet ‘neath the summer noon,
With the languorous swerve runs home.
The beat of a pulse the warm sun stirs
In the air, the sea and stream,
Beckons the heart-and the soul allures
Forth, into April’s dream.*



William Stanley Braithwaite (1878–1962) was an African-American writer, poet, literary critic, anthologist, and

publisher. His father was from the West Indies, and his mother was the daughter of a slave.




Photo Directory Update

Tuesday, Apr. 1 | 1-2 p.m.
Madison Living Room

Bring your beautiful smiles and get your picture taken for the Spring Resident Photo Directory.

Whether new or established at BSP, all are welcome to get an updated photo taken.

AC Activity Center (above Bistro) **CH** Chapel **MF2** Madison Second Floor
ART Art Gallery **GR** Game Room **P** Pub
BG Bishop's Garden **JLR** Jefferson Living Room **WR** Westport Room
CDR Canterbury Dining Room **MLR** Madison Living Room **Ch 9996** In-house Channel 9996

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		April Fool's Day 1 10:30 a.m. Strength & Balance—AC 11:15 a.m. Grocery Trip 12 p.m. Bridge Luncheon—CDR 3 p.m. Great Decisions Meeting 2025—WR	2 10 a.m. Stretch & Strengthen—AC 1 p.m. Tai Chi—AC 1:30 p.m. BP Checks—MF2 2 p.m. Movie Committee—P 3 p.m. Great Courses: Tours of Ireland—Ch 9996	3 10:30 a.m. Strength & Balance—AC 1:30 p.m. Robert Butler Classic Movie: On the Waterfront—WR 2:30 p.m. Dining Committee—P	4 9 a.m. Morning Fitness—Ch 9996 10 a.m. Bridge & Games—P 1 p.m. Grocery Trip 3 p.m. Opus 76—MLR	5 11 a.m. Rosary—CH 1-3 p.m. Open Bridge—P 4 p.m. Book Club—GR 7:15 p.m. Movie: Father of the Bride (Steve Martin)—JLR
6 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist—CH 11 a.m. Brunch—CDR	7 10 a.m. Stretch & Strengthen—AC 1 p.m. Tai Chi—AC 3 p.m. Don Dagenais: History of Music—WR (final class)	8 10:30 a.m. Strength & Balance—AC 11:15 a.m. Grocery Trip 1 p.m. Resident Council—WR 4:30 p.m. Women's Gathering—P	9 10 a.m. Stretch & Strengthen—AC 1 p.m. Tai Chi—AC 1:30 p.m. BP Checks—MF2 1:30 p.m. Superfood: Jen Kane—ART 3 p.m. Great Courses: Tours of Ireland—Ch 9996	10 10:30 a.m. Strength & Balance—AC 1:30 p.m. Nina Irwin Art Experience—AC 4 p.m. Poetry Circle—WR	11 9 a.m. Morning Fitness—Ch 9996 10 a.m. Bridge & Games—P 10:30 a.m. Catholic Mass—CH 1 p.m. KCB Movement—AC 1 p.m. Grocery Trip 4 p.m. Pagán & Thomas—MLR	12 11 a.m. Rosary—CH 1-3 p.m. Open Bridge—P 7:15 p.m. Movie: Annie Hall—JLR
Palm Sunday 13 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist—CH 11 a.m. Brunch—CDR	14 10 a.m. Stretch & Strengthen—AC 1 p.m. Tai Chi—AC 4 p.m. End-of-Life Conversations: Ch. Janette & Fr. Tom—WR	15 10:30 a.m. Strength & Balance—AC 11:15 a.m. Grocery Trip 3 p.m. Speaker: Dr. Paul Laird—WR	16 10 a.m. Stretch & Strengthen—AC 11 a.m. Resident Remembrance—CH 1 p.m. Tai Chi—AC 1:30 p.m. BP Checks—MF2 3 p.m. Great Courses: Tours of Ireland—Ch 9996	Maundy Thursday 17 10:30 a.m. Strength & Balance—AC 2 p.m. Speaker: MacKenzie Mallon—WR 3 p.m. Maundy Thursday Services—CH	Good Friday 18 9 a.m. Morning Fitness—Ch 9996 10 a.m. Bridge & Games—P 1 p.m. Grocery Trip 1 p.m. Good Friday Service—CH 3 p.m. Doug Talley Quartet—MLR	19 11 a.m. Rosary—CH 1-3 p.m. Open Bridge—P 7:15 p.m. Movie: High Noon—JLR
Easter 20 10 a.m. Easter Service—CH 11 a.m. Brunch—CDR	21 10 a.m. Stretch & Strengthen—AC 1 p.m. Tai Chi—AC 2 p.m. Garden Comm—WR 4 p.m. End-of-Life: Ch. Janette & Fr. Tom—WR	22 10:30 a.m. Strength & Balance—AC 11:15 a.m. Grocery Trip 4 p.m. Speaker: Tricia Rojo Bushnell—WR 4:30 p.m. Men's Club—P	23 10 a.m. Stretch & Strengthen—AC 11 a.m. Podiatrist—AC 1 p.m. Tai Chi—P 1:30 p.m. BP Checks—MF2 3 p.m. Great Courses: Ireland FINAL—Ch 9996	24 10:30 a.m. Strength & Balance—AC 2 p.m. Speaker: Sidonie Garrett—WR	25 9 a.m. Morning Fitness—Ch 9996 10 a.m. Bridge & Games—P 10:30 a.m. Catholic Mass—CH 1 p.m. Grocery Trip 4 p.m. Happy Hour: Clayton DeLong Trio—MLR	26 11 a.m. Rosary—CH 1-3 p.m. Open Bridge—P 7:15 p.m. Movie: The Bridges of Madison County—JLR
27 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist—CH 11 a.m. Brunch—CDR	28 10 a.m. Stretch & Strengthen—AC 1 p.m. Tai Chi—AC 4 p.m. End-of-Life Conversations: Ch. Janette & Fr. Tom—WR	29 10:30 a.m. Strength & Balance—AC 11:15 a.m. Grocery Trip 3 p.m. Countertenor Jay Carter—MLR	30 10 a.m. Stretch & Strengthen—AC 1 p.m. Tai Chi—AC 1:30 p.m. BP Checks—MF2 3 p.m. Movie: Big Stone Gap—Ch 9996			

Group activities subject to community status

Art Experience with Nina Irwin

Thursday, Apr. 10 | 1:30 p.m.
Activity Center



Nina is back again this month with another creative project. Nina has been coming to BSP

with her art knowledge and her compassion for more than three years now. We are so fortunate to have her!

You don't need any training or artistic abilities for this class, 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.



Learn more about Nina and her artwork at ninairwin.com.

Reserve your spot by calling Helen at **816-595-5015**.

Name That Resident!

- I spent a wonderful summer hitchhiking through Europe.
- I walked to work at Columbia Records in New York City.
- After getting secret clearance, I worked for the Rand Corp in Santa Monica.
- I was an economics major at the University of Washington.
- I've traveled to more than 60 countries.

(Last month's answer: Ann Weaver!)

Art & Entertainment



Classic Movie with Robert Butler: *On the Waterfront* (1954)

Thursday, Apr. 3 | 1:30 p.m. | Westport Room

Director Elia Kazan's classic *On the Waterfront* follows the struggles of an ex-boxer longshoreman (Marlon Brando) in exposing corrupt union bosses. Also stars Karl Malden, Lee J. Cobb, Rod Steiger, and Eva Marie Saint.



Don Dagenais: The History of Music Monday, Apr. 7 | 3 p.m. | Westport Room

Don is back for his final class! Please remember to give your thanks to Don for his time and knowledge over the last two-plus years! We hope we can urge him to come back in the fall with another topic.

Music has been with us almost since the beginning of humanity, but this course will begin with our first understandings of music from ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome and continue through the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, and the Classical, Romantic, and Modern eras. The course will continue up to electronic music, minimalist music, and the music of the 21st century. There will be many audio and a few video excerpts.

Wednesday Movie: *Big Stone Gap* (2014)

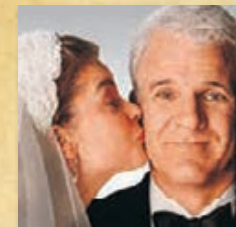
Wednesday, Apr. 30 | 3 p.m. | Channel 9996

You will love this movie! Come see where our CEO, Louis Collier, spent his early days. He can tell us details we'll want to know.

In a small town nestled in the Appalachian Mountains of Virginia, a self-proclaimed spinster (Ashley Judd) finds her life forever changed after learning a long-buried family secret. Also stars Whoopi Goldberg, Patrick Wilson, and Jenna Elfman and was adapted from the book by Adriana Trigiani, who Louis knows!

Saturday Night Movies

7:15 p.m. | Jefferson Living Room



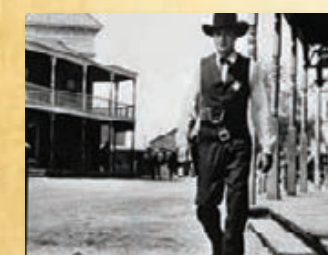
Apr. 5—*Father of the Bride* (1991)

In this remake of the Spencer Tracy classic, a father (Steve Martin) finds himself reluctant to let go when his oldest daughter's wedding approaches. Tom Irish made his film debut in 1950's *Father of the*

Bride, and his last film appearance is in this movie. He plays the same character, Ben Banks, in both versions.

Apr. 12—*Annie Hall* (1977)

A twice-divorced Jewish comedian (Woody Allen), reflects on his relationship with ex-girlfriend Annie Hall (Diane Keaton), an insecure aspiring nightclub singer, which ended abruptly just like his previous marriages. Also stars Tony Roberts, Carol Kane, Paul Simon, Shelley Duvall, Colleen Dewhurst, and Christopher Walken.



Apr. 19—*High Noon* (1952)

A town marshal (Gary Cooper) must face a gang of deadly killers alone when the leader (Ian MacDonald), a man he sent to prison years ago, arrives on the noon train. Also stars Grace Kelly, Lloyd Bridges, Thomas

Mitchell, Lon Chaney, and Henry Morgan.

Apr. 26—*The Bridges of Madison County* (1995)

A photographer (Clint Eastwood, who also directed) wanders into the life of an Italian-American war bride housewife (Meryl Streep) for four days in the 1960s. Based on the 1992 best-selling novel of the same name by Robert James Waller.



Thank you, BSP Movie Committee!



The Great Tours: Ireland and Northern Ireland

Wednesdays

Apr. 2, 9, 16, & 23

3-4 p.m. | Channel 9996

April 23 is the final class.

Ireland is one of the most enchanting places in the world. From the spectacular Cliffs of Moher to the hallowed stage of the Abbey Theatre, a tour of this island rewards armchair travelers with an array of historical, cultural, and scenic delights.

Instructor Marc C. Conner, President of Skidmore College, earned degrees in English and Philosophy at the University of Washington, and master's and doctorate degrees in English at Princeton. He was previously the Jo M. and James Ballengee Professor of English at Washington and Lee University, serving as provost and chief academic officer from 2016 to 2020. He also taught at Princeton and Notre Dame.

Professor Conner is a specialist in modern literature, particularly Irish and American literature, who presents at major Irish studies gatherings. He created a study abroad program in Ireland and has led adult education programs to Ireland and other Celtic lands.

April Speakers

Dr. Paul Laird

Tuesday, Apr. 15 | 3 p.m. | Westport Room



What an event this will be! Former director of Musicology Paul R. Laird has taught at KU since 1994 after experience at Pennsylvania State University, Binghamton University, and the University of Denver. He teaches courses on musical theater, Baroque music, American music, 20th century music, and general music history. He holds a Ph.D. in music from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Paul is a noted Leonard Bernstein scholar. The first of his two-part lecture series will consider Bernstein's life, work, and most famous composition, *West Side Story*. In this class we will get to know this fascinating figure and his multiple roles in American music.

Read more at music.ku.edu/people/paul-laird.

MacKenzie Mallon

Thursday, Apr. 17 | 2 p.m. | Westport Room



The goal of provenance research, or the history of ownership of an artwork, is to trace a work's history

from the moment of its creation until today.

MacKenzie Mellon is the provenance specialist at the Nelson-Atkins, the first to hold that title at the museum. A Kansas City native, she earned degrees in history and art history from the University of Missouri-Columbia. She started work at the Nelson-Atkins in 2006 as a part-time project assistant in the European department, leading her along the path to becoming the museum's provenance authority.

RESCHEDULED

Tricia Rojo Bushnell

Tuesday, Apr. 22 | 4 p.m. | Westport Room



Tricia Rojo Bushnell is the Executive Director of the Midwest Innocence Project, which works to free innocent people convicted of crimes they did not commit.

Visit themip.org to find out more about the Midwest Innocence Project and its work.

Sidonie Garrett

Thursday, Apr. 24 | 2 p.m. | Westport Room



We have Berit L. to thank for asking Sidonie to return this year to BSP to talk about Shakespeare's *Love's Labour's Lost*, coming June 17!

Sidonie is the wonderfully entertaining Executive Artistic Director of the Heart of America Shakespeare Festival. For HASF, she has directed collaborations with the Bach Aria Soloists, the Grammy Award-winning Kansas City Chorale, Kansas City Ballet, KC Symphony, JCCC's Performing Arts Series, KC Actors Theatre, KC Rep, and the Kansas City Museum.

Thank you, Berit!

Superfoods with Jen Kane

Wednesday, Apr. 9 | 1:30 p.m. | Bistro

Jen Kane with CCL will offer another Superfood session. This month's special is carrots! Meet just outside the Bistro for a sample.



Beginning Bridge + Games

Fridays | 10 a.m. - Noon | Pub

Enjoy treats and coffee, learn and play bridge with Christie Collier, or play Scrabble. We have another Scrabble board if we get more players!



Women's Gathering

Tuesday, Apr. 8 | 4:30 p.m. | Pub

Come for some treats and lively discussion before dinner.

Men's Club

Tuesday, Apr. 22 | 4:30 p.m. | Pub

What a great crowd we have!

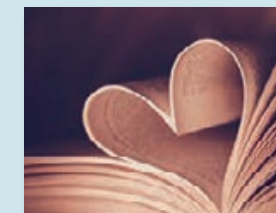
Poetry Circle

Thursday, Apr. 10 | 4 p.m.

Westport Room

You don't need to have any experience with poetry.

Come give it a try. It's thought-provoking, and we often have laughs. Bring a favorite poem to read informally or simply come to listen and enjoy.



Kansas City Ballet Movement Class

Friday, Apr. 11 | 1 p.m. | Activity Center



Suzanne is continuing her class into 2025! Talk with some who have attended. We'd love to have even more attend so we can keep it on the schedule through the rest of the year.

Bestselling BOOKS

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

Fiction

BROKEN COUNTRY

Clare Leslie Hall



FAR FROM HOME

Danielle Steel

BLOOD MOON

Sandra Brown

THE RAGPICKER KING

Cassandra Clare



BATTLE MOUNTAIN

C.J. Box

Nonfiction

THE HOUSE OF MY MOTHER

Shari Franke



THE TEARS OF THINGS

Richard Rohr

THE ANXIOUS GENERATION

Jonathan Haidt

I'LL HAVE WHAT SHE'S HAVING

Chelsea Handler

THE ART OF THE SNL PORTRAIT

Mary Ellen Matthews





Great Decisions Meeting
Tuesday, Apr. 1 | 3 p.m.
Westport Room



Great Decisions is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. Begun by the Foreign Policy Association more than 60 years ago, tens of thousands of participants take part in discussions nationwide. The program involves reading the *Great Decisions Briefing Book*, watching the video overviews and meeting to discuss the most critical global issues facing America today.

The group of 15 to 20 residents who participated in 2024 found it to be very informative. The reading materials are first-rate, and the video overviews are well done.

You're not obligated to read the material to join the discussion, though it is encouraged. John Blevins volunteers as the group's convenor, and you may contact him or Helen with questions.



Visit tinyurl.com/2tpamz2s or scan the QR code to see a list of 2025 discussion topics.

Music

Opus 76

Friday, Apr. 4 | 3 p.m. | Madison Living Room

A BSP favorite is back: Keith Stanfield on violin, Zsolt Eder on violin, Ashley Stanfield on viola, and Daniel Ketter on violincello.

Michael Pagán & Vanessa Thomas

Friday, Apr. 11 | 4 p.m. | Madison Living Room

Pianist Michael Pagán appears regularly in KC jazz venues, and vocalist Vanessa Thomas is known for her span of five octaves.

Doug Talley Quartet

Friday, Apr. 18 | 3 p.m. | Madison Living Room

We love hearing them—Doug Talley on sax, TJ Martley on piano, Tim Brewer on bass, and Keith Kavanaugh on drums.

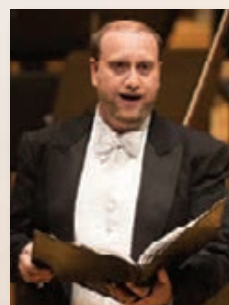
Happy Hour: Clayton DeLong, Havilah Bruders, & James Albright

Friday, Apr. 25 | 4 p.m. | Madison Living Room

Have a glass on us and enjoy the music of guitarist Clayton DeLong, vocalist Havilah Bruders, and bassist James Albright.

Jay Carter

Tuesday, Apr. 29 | 3 p.m. | Madison Living Room



We have Canon Schaefer to thank for getting Jay and his incredible voice to come to BSP. Jay Carter, one of the nation's finest countertenors, is a leading interpreter of late Baroque repertoire and has been lauded for his luminous tone and stylish interpretations. Read his impressive bio at www.jaycartercountertenor.com/about.

Consecration of Amy Dafler Meaux

Saturday, May 3 | 10 a.m. | Grace and Holy Trinity

Bishop-elect Amy Dafler Meaux will be consecrated as the IX Bishop of The Diocese of West Missouri at Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral in Kansas City, with overflow seating available in Founders' Hall. The Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe will be administering communion in Founders' Hall. Following the service there will be a reception.

If you would like to attend this service, please contact Chaplain Janette to RSVP by April 18. She will arrange transportation to and from BSP.

Spiritual Wellness CORNER

Cultural norms we learn over time inform how we move through the world—good table manners, a strong handshake, and putting your hand on your heart when the national anthem is sung. That's a short list, and we could each make long ones of the many cultural values we've adhered to for most of our lives.

A significant one is knowing which topics are safe to talk about and which are taboo. There's the adage to never talk about religion or politics, but other topics are considered off limits, too. One that makes many people squirm? Death and dying.

The few places where we do talk about death, it is glossed over, or people try to ease their discomfort by finding something positive they can say. It is understandably hard for many to even say the words *death* or *died*, and so instead we say things like *passed away* or *they've gone to a better place*. Death is hard.

There's no shame in trying to make people feel more comfortable, but there also shouldn't be shame in or avoidance of talking about a subject that impacts us all. Not only will we die, but as you all know intimately, so too will we all lose the ones we love to death.

To create a spirit of openness and safety for talking about this tough subject, we are offering a four-week conversation series called *End of Life Conversations*. All are invited to come with their questions and concerns about death and the dying experience. Send your questions to me ahead of time if you would like anonymity. Fr. Tom Wiederholt and I will facilitate these conversations together, and we hope they offer companionship and insight that help you feel more at ease as you make decisions for your future.

I am particularly excited to welcome our own BSP physicians and an ethicist who will present on a panel and take questions at the session on April 21. Come ready to share and learn!

There's a latin phrase, *memento mori*, which means *remember you must die*. The act of remembering our death can lead us to live more intentionally. May this series be a gift to us all as we contemplate this reality together and, as a result, live more fully.

With love and care,
 Chaplain Janette

Gratitude Assignment

This month, remember to be thankful for:

- family and friends
- art and music
- a good night's sleep
- financial savings
- good books



Book Club

Saturday, Apr. 5
4 p.m. | Game Room

Contact Clark with questions.



Services in the Chapel

Maundy Thursday—Apr. 17 | 3 p.m.

Good Friday—Apr. 18 | 1 p.m.

Easter Sunday—Apr. 20 | 10 a.m.

Remembrance Service

Wednesday, Apr. 16
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 and share stories of their lives.

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





The
SCENE
RECENT EVENTS & PHOTOS

