

THE COMMON PLACE RECEIVES \$75,000 GRANT TO ENHANCE SECURITY By Ted Behr



Members of the Salt and Light Congregation ready food parcels distributed weekly at The Common Place at 58th and Chester. Addressing endemic food insecurity is just one of the services at TCP which will now be better safeguarded through a PA state grant just announced.

The Common Place is the recipient of a \$75,000 state grant for security enhancements. The award was announced today by State Representative Joanna McClinton who represents the Kingsessing area of Southwest Philadelphia where TCP is located

"This is phenomenal!" was the response of Wayne Presbyterian Elder Doug McBrearty, one of the founders of the community center. The Common Place is the home of both the vibrant, new Salt and Light congregation and our WPC CityLights Ministry. Salt and Light, of course, is the result of the merger of New Spirit Community Presbyterian Church and Faith Christian Fellowship.

Rev. Cean James, pastor of Salt and Light congregation, responded "We are very grateful for the work of Rep. Joanna McClinton and Sen. Vincent Hughes who do so much to care for our communities.

"Especially during COVID-19, Rep. McClinton has been a major driver in making sure Southwest Philly is not forgotten, making certain that life-saving information, testing, PPE, and vaccines are available to the community members. This is so important. And now, the collective efforts of Representative McClinton and Senator Hughes are just the latest example of their respective commitments to partner not only with The Common Place and the Salt & Light Church

but also this resilient community who is doing the work to improve the safety and security of children, families, and all who live, work, and worship in this wonderful neighborhood."

"As a parent, I care deeply about the children that come into this space," added Rev. Christopher J. Holland II, director of the Common Place. "I understand intimately the concerns of this community's families wanting to know how we are keeping their children safe when they come here to learn. As we expand our programming and work to update our infrastructure, this grant will help us to give families, congregants, staff, and constituents peace of mind. This grant gives our people one less thing to worry about."

From TCP development manager, Gene J. Burke, "The concerns and prayers we have for the safety and success of Southwest Philadelphia extend beyond the walls of this building to her families and residents. Helping to make this corner a safer place for everyone helps to lay the foundation for community partnerships that will result in a thriving Southwest Philadelphia. We are grateful for this opportunity that will help to make this happen."

"When we began to plan and develop The Common Place eight years ago, little did we know some of the things that the Holy Spirit had in mind," continued McBrearty. "Glory be to God."

Rep. McClinton, herself the pastor of a local church and Democratic legislative leader of the House in Harrisburg applauded the funding which was made possible through the Nonprofit Security Grant Program. She indicated that it can be used for various security improvements, including safety and security planning, security-related technology, such as metal detectors, protective lighting and surveillance equipment, threat awareness and response training.

"The Common Place is a critical resource that provides care and assistance to so many across southwest Philly," said Rep. McClinton. "Investing in their safety is investing in the safety of our young people and the families who turn to the nonprofit for educational, social and spiritual support...The Common Place and other local organizations like it that play crucial roles in moving our neighborhoods forward."

The TCP grant is part of the \$5 million announced yesterday by the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency to fund security enhancement projects for 130

churches, synagogues and other nonprofit organizations serving diverse communities across Pennsylvania.

(Information for this article was provided by Chris Caracino of the PA State House of Representatives)



YOUTH MINISTRY By Sarah Hostetter

Although this year has been trying, we have certainly made the most out of it! From fun events centered around caring for others and fostering community, to Bible studies centered around noticing God more, God has certainly showed up.

Previously we had a family Chopped Competition that was filled with mystery Chinese takeout containers and kitchens filled with creativity. Families all gathered around their zoom screens and embarked on two rounds of holiday baking with different challenges they were working towards. We had a lot of winners, and hopefully a lot of full bellies. We also just recently had a family 4W Event where families learned different skills in hand making cards by our one and only Kelly Crosby. These cards will be distributed to some of our seniors in the congregation

Our next three 4W Events are going to be in person and we will be partnering with Children's Ministry and one with the Deacons. So for those of you struggling to meet on zoom (which we understand) please put these three dates in your calendar.

March 24th (Wednesday)- 4W- Shopping for Great Valley Food Cupboard Event partnering with Children's Ministry, Deacons and Love Your Neighbor. Join us at Target in Devon from 6-7:30pm where we will be handing out lists of shopping ideas for Great Valley Food Cupboard. We encourage you to reach out to one of your friends, maybe friends you have been in a pod with and invite them for this socially-distanced and mask-wearing in person event. These three events will be open to whole families, Kelli Masters and I will be standing at the Target door near the Starbucks

hand out lists.

April 28th (Wednesday)- 4W Faith in Action Race Family Event (we will be partnering with Children's Ministry) to Race for a cause. We will be running an "Amazing Race" style family fun night at the King of Prussia Town Center from 6-7:30pm. Each family will be given clue cards to get them to a destination where they can complete a service or purchase something for a mission partner. Feel free to come as a family unit, or a pod group of friends (masks required, as you will be going in stores). Please meet in the town center across from the CitiWorks Restaurant, where Kelli Masters and I will hand out your clue cards.

May 12th (Wednesday)- 4W Baking it Forward Family Event (we will be partnering with Children's Ministry). Join us on Wednesday from 6-7:30pm at Wayne Presbyterian Church with cookies or a baking item. Once you arrive to Wayne Presbyterian Church parking lot, Kelli Masters and I will be handing out addresses of congregation members who are local to Wayne Presbyterian Church. This address is where you will deliver your baked item to. You are welcome to add a bouquet of flowers and a card to this delivery as well. Another part of this that I am very excited about is the opportunity for social distanced fellowship in the parking lot before delivering your goods. Please wear a mask! You do not have to RSVP, we should have plenty of addresses. If you would like to deliver to more than one house, feel free to come prepared for that!

Calling Youth who are interested in serving with our Youth Deacons on a technology project? If you have a youth who is good with technology, we are hoping to get a group of young people together to help some of our seniors get signed up for vaccinations (which can be a very complicated process). Please, contact me ASAP at slhostett@gmail.com

All Church Collection- We are collecting new and used (good condition) Ti-84 Graphing calculators for Mitchell School in South West Philadelphia. Please contact Sheryl Durham for drop off instructions. sapdurham@gmail.com



Family Shopping Spree for Gemma Services - The Bruhns Family.



Family Chopped Competition-Adam Bernholdt's Sushi Rolls



Family Card Making with Kelly Crosby.

WRITE IT FORWARD

We launched **Write It Forward**, a church wide letter writing campaign, about two months ago. You can help lift our church family's spirits and serve as a source of encouragement as the days lengthen and hope is on the horizon. Who is someone from church that you miss? Who has impacted your faith, maybe in ways unknown to them? Send them a letter letting them know that you have been thinking of them! If you are looking for a special card, pick up a couple at church during the Lent prayer time in the sanctuary or in the vestibule by the parking lot. If you happen to receive a note, remember the joy and try to Write It Forward, by sending a note to someone else! Everyone can send a letter! Check the church website for more information



MEMBER PORTAL INFORMATION

The Member Portal provides our congregation access to their member information; including the Directory and Giving history. We sent emails to the members we currently have an email in our database.

To access the Member Portal, click on Members at the top of the website homepage and login.

If you have forgotten your username or email, click on Members at the top of the homepage of the website and follow the prompts. We've attached the quick start guide for members that was included in the 1734 emails sent today for your reference. Ruth can help you should you have questions at 610-688-8700 Ext 241 or ruthw@waynepres,org



WINTER/SPRING 2021 THURSDAY MORNING MEN'S MINISTRY 7:00 AM Via Zoom Wayne Presbyterian Church

Thursday Morning Men's Ministry is an informal group of Wayne Presbyterian Church that meets (via Zoom until further notice) at 7:00 am each Thursday. It is a wonderful opportunity for relationships, prayer, and learning. The program year runs from September through June.

The morning begins with prayer & fellowship. This is followed by learning time: a 30-minute presentation typically from professors from Eastern University. We usually wrap up at 8 am, although the speakers often stay online for a while to answer questions and chat.

Are you looking to explore the world of history, bible study, astronomy, philosophy, theology, and a host of Bible-related topics? This might be just what you are looking for. The lineup of speakers will challenge your mind and fill your spirit. Zoom in for a morning or two or the entire series. You will be glad you did.

For more information or to get on the email Zoom invite list please contact Tim Pretz at tpretz@eastern.edu or Sal Ambrosio at sambrosio55@gmail.com

Upcoming Speakers:



APRIL—Dr. Phillip Cary, Professor of Philosophy, Eastern University



MAY—Dr. Joseph B. Modica, University Chaplain; Associate Professor of Biblical Studies, Eastern University

Sponsored by WINGS



Come reconnect with old friends
and make new ones
as we sip, snack and stroll on
the lovely veranda
and grounds at Hilltop House
570 Beaumont Rd, Devon



THURSDAY, MAY 13th 5:30 to 7:30 PM

We will follow COVID safety precautions.
Sign up on WPC's website: www.waynepres.org

WINGS SPRING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY CLASSES

Beginning Wednesday, April 7 or Thursday, April 8.

WOMEN IN THE WORD Cappucino and Colossians.
WOMEN AFTER WORK

10:00 AM, Weekly 7:30 PM, Weekly (APRIL 7- MAY 12)



Contact Angela at taitmaryangela333@gmail.com for Zoom invitation and books.

MOMS BIBLE STUDY Only Love Today

Contact Debbie Rothkopf at debbierothkopf@aol.com for ZOOM invitation and books.

10AM and 4:00PM, WEEKLY (APRIL 8 – MAY 27)



WORD BEFORE WORK Widows to Warriors

Contact Nancy Dever at nancydever@comcast.com for ZOOM invitation and books.

7:00AM, BIWEEKLY (ONGOING - MID-MAY)



WPC SPRING BOOK CLUB

Please join us for our latest WPC Book Club selection Everything Happens For a Reason And Other Lies I've Loved, by Kate Bowler. Bowler explores how Christian theology can fall short as a source of explanation and comfort. Often the most repeated phrases intent on offering support can leave a person feeling a drift from God's love. Bowler, after receiving a terminal diagnosis, explores these themes and the comfort she found in God's abiding presence.

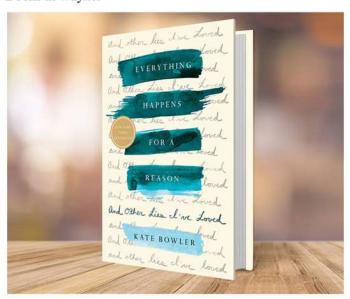
Kate Bowler is a professor at Duke Divinity School with a modest Christian upbringing, but she specializes in the study of the prosperity gospel, a creed that sees fortune as a blessing from God and misfortune as a mark of God's disapproval. At 35, everything in her life seems to point toward "blessing". She is thriving in her job, married to her high school sweetheart, and loves life with her newborn son.

Then she is diagnosed with stage IV colon cancer.

The prospect of her own mortality forces Kate to realize that she has been subconsciously subscribing to the prosperity gospel, living with the conviction that she can control the shape of her life with "a surge of determination". Even as this type of Christianity celebrates the American can-do spirit, it implies that if you "can't do" and succumb to illness or misfortune, you are a failure. Kate is very sick, and no amount of positive thinking will shrink her tumors.

Frank and funny, dark and wise, Kate Bowler pulls the reader deeply into her life in an account she populates affectionately with a colorful, often hilarious retinue of friends, megachurch preachers, relatives, and doctors. Everything Happens for a Reason tells her story, offering up her irreverent, hard-won observations on dying and the ways it has taught her to live.

Available in paperback from Amazon and Main Point Books in Wayne.



Discussion date - April 22, please choose one of the two options 10:00am or 7:00pm. Email Janice Mack at gardengirl65@gmail.com



"We are a school of love. We don't claim to be graduates of the school but students. We're imperfect people who want to learn from Christ and each other how to love better. For some of us, that's learning how to love ourselves. For others, it's learning how to love the world better. For still others, how to love God with our whole heart and soul and mind. If you are looking for something more meaningful in your life, a school for love is something worth looking and seeking out. It's not a school for self righteousness, nor for disdain for how others might live, nor for proving how we're right and better than everyone else. We just believe that love is a better way and it starts with discovering the profound love God has for us and the love that can be nurtured in us for others."

- Rev. Casey Thompson



LIFE EVENTS

Deaths | We give thanks for the life and the ministry of...

Harry (Wes) Link February 17, 2021

May Holgren February 22, 2021 NON-PROFIT ORG.

SOUTHEASTERN, PA PERMIT NO. 109 U.S. POSTAGE

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Wayne Presbyterian Church 🕏 25 East Lancaster Avenue

For information regarding these articles, or to reach our staff, please contact us at: Wayne Presbyterian Church 125 East Lancaster Ave Wayne, PA 19087 t: 610-688-8700 f: 610-688-8743 e: mkendus@waynepres.org Office Hours: Monday-Friday

Wayne, Pennsylvania 19087

8:30 am-4:30 pm

If you are receiving the Wayne Presbyterian newsletter by surface mail and would prefer to receive it by email instead, please email ruthw@waynepres.org. It is also available online at waynepres org/publications.