

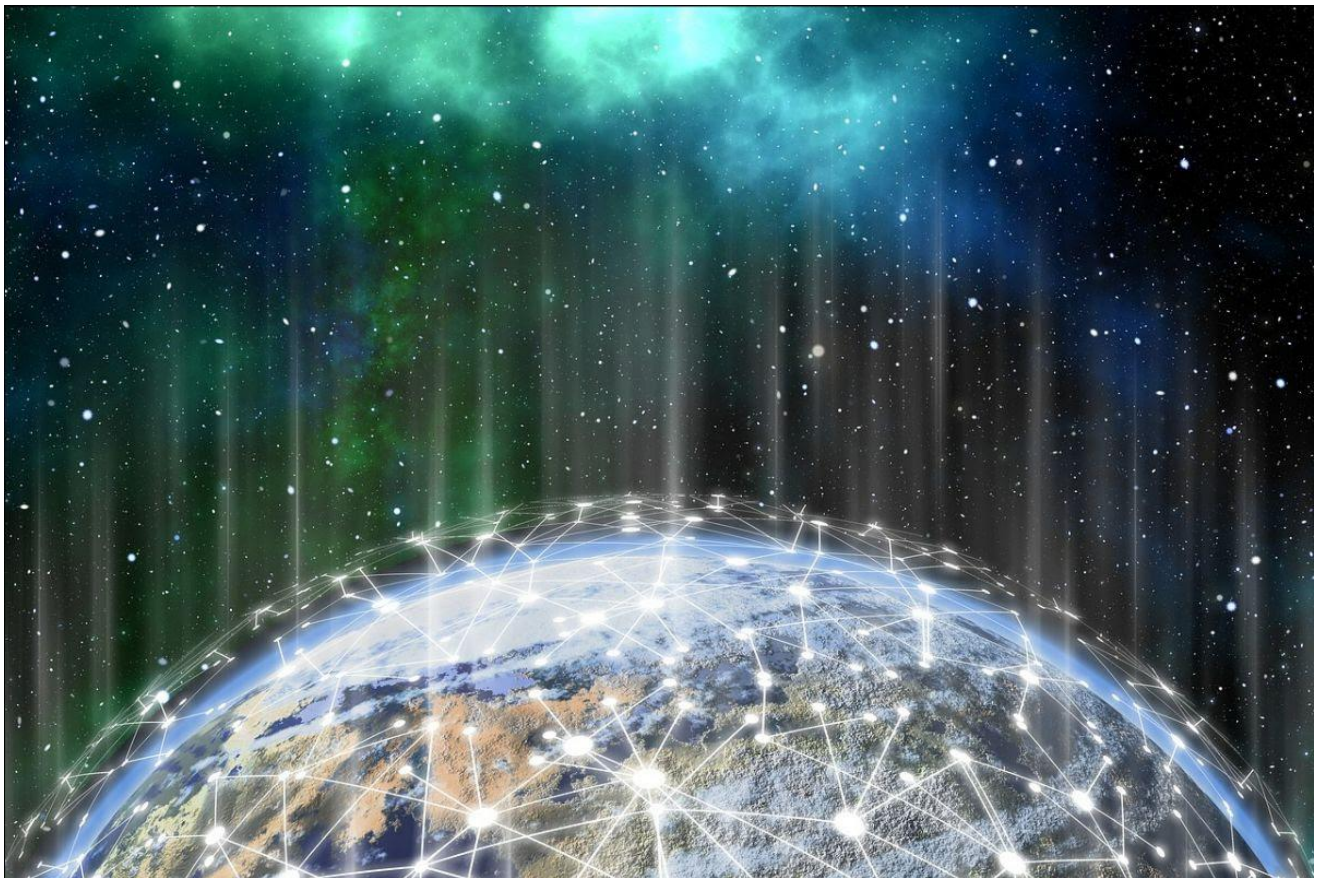


A progressive, radically inclusive, anti-racist community

201 West 13th Street, New York, NY, 10011 • (212) 243-5470
www.churchofthevillage.org • facebook.com/churchofthevillage
office@churchofthevillage.org

October 15, 2023 • Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

**Black Lives Matter / Welcome the Stranger, including Migrants and Refugees
Stop Hate Against Muslims, Jews, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders**



**Ubuntu:
Living Together in Love**

WE GATHER

“The land upon which we gather is part of the traditional territory of the Lenne-Lenape, called ‘Lenapehoking.’ The Lenape People lived in harmony with one another upon this territory for thousands of years. During the colonial era and early federal period, many were removed west and north, but some also remain among the continuing historical tribal communities of the region: The Nanticoke Lenne-Lenape Tribal Nation; the Ramapough Lenape Nation; and the Powhatan Lenape Nation, The Nanticoke of Millsboro Delaware, and the Lenape of Cheswold Delaware.

We acknowledge the Lenne-Lenape as the original people of this land and their continuing relationship with their territory. In our acknowledgment of the continued presence of Lenape people in their homeland, we affirm the aspiration of the great Lenape Chief Tamanend, that there be harmony between the indigenous people of this land and the descendants of the immigrants to this land, “as long as the rivers and creeks flow, and the sun, moon, and stars shine.”

GATHERING SONG

When the Spirit in Me

**When the spirit in me sees the spirit in you (2x)
It’s so easy, so easy, so easy, so easy to love**

WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

WE PROCLAIM

CALL TO LISTEN

Come, Come, Whoever You Are

Come, come, who - ev - er__ you_ are,__
wor-ship-per, wan-der-er,__ lov - er__ of leav - ing..
Ours is not a ca - ra - van__ of des - pair.
Though you have brok-en your vows__ a thou - sand times,
Come, come a - gain come!

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of five staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are written below the notes. The second staff has a repeat sign at the beginning. The third staff also has a repeat sign at the beginning. The fourth staff has a repeat sign at the beginning. The fifth staff has a repeat sign at the beginning and ends with a double bar line.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS *John 13:34-35, 15:9-15 (The Inclusive Bible)*

I give you a new commandment: Love one another. And you're to love one another the way I have loved you. This is how all will know that you're my disciples: that you truly love one another."

As my Abba has loved me, so have I loved you. Live on in my love. And you will live on in my love if you keep my commandments, just as I live on in Abba God's love and have kept God's commandments. I tell you all this that my joy may be yours, and your joy may be complete. This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you. There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends. And you are my friends, if you do what I command you. I no longer speak of you as subordinates, because a subordinate doesn't know a superior's business. Instead I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learned from Abba God.

Colossians 3:5-18 (The Inclusive Bible)

So put to death everything in you that belongs to your old nature: promiscuity, impurity, guilty passion, evil desires and especially greed, which is the same thing as idolatry. These are the sins which provoke God's wrath. Your own conduct was once like this, when these things were your very life. But now you must rid yourselves of them all: anger, rage, malice, slander and abusive language. Stop lying to one another.

What you have done is put aside your old self with its past deeds and put on a new self, one that grows in knowledge as it is formed anew in the image of its Creator. And in that image, there is no Greek or Hebrew; no Jew or Gentile; no barbarian or Scythian; no slave or citizen. There is only Christ, who is all in all.

Because you are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with heartfelt compassion, with kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive whatever grievances you have against one another – forgive in the same way God has forgiven you. Above all else, put on love, which binds the rest together and makes them perfect. Let Christ's peace reign in your hearts since, as members of one body, you have been called to that peace. Dedicate yourselves to thankfulness.

Let the Word of Christ, rich as it is, dwell in you. Instruct and admonish one another wisely. Sing gratefully to God from your hearts in psalms, hymns and songs of the Spirit. And whatever you do, whether in speech or in action, do it in the name of Jesus our Savior, giving thanks to God through Christ.

A Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Ubuntu: Living Together in Love

Rev. Jeff Wells
Lead Pastor, Church of the Village

WE RESPOND

WE GATHER AROUND THE TABLE

Rejoice in Love

*We will love, dare to love,
trust in love, be God's love.*

**We will rejoice in love.
lift up our voice in love,
make every choice in love,
we will uphold your world in love.**

**We will delight in love,
share and delight in love,
'til all unite in love,
we will enfold your world in love.**

**We will repent in love.
raise our lament in love,
dare to dissent in love,
we will uphold your world in love.**

**We will persist in love,
choose to resist in love,
and coexist in love,
we will enfold your world in love.**

One: God be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts!

All: **Our hearts are lifted!**

One: Let us give thanks to God!

All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

(call and echo)

Le-lo Le-lo Lai-lo (3x)

Lo-le Lo-le Lo-lai.

**Holy, holy, holy,
God of loving pow'r.**

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God's love.

Hosanna in the highest!

SHARING THE GIFTS OF GRACE

A TIME OF OFFERING

4 WAYS TO GIVE:

- The Vanco giving app, using the link on our website <https://www.churchofthevillage.org> or the Vanco mobile app or secure Vanco web link.
Visit <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YQX3>.
- Setting up a direct bank transfer from your bank to COTV's bank
- Mailing a check to COTV's address: 201 West 13th St., NY, NY, 10011
- For those in the church building: Placing your gift in the offering basket in the sanctuary
For help with any of these, send an email to giving@churchofthevillage.org
OR call the church office: 212-243-5470

OFFERTORY

Jesus Is a Rock In a Weary Land

*Jesus is a Rock in a weary land, a weary land, a weary land.
Jesus is a Rock in a weary land, a shelter in a time of storm.*

I would not be a sinner. I'll tell you the reason why.
I'm afraid my Lord might call my name, and I wouldn't be ready to die.

I would not be a backslider. I'll tell you the reason why.
I'm afraid my Lord might call my name, and I wouldn't be ready to die.

Has He ever made a way when you didn't have a dime?
Has He ever stepped in just right on time?
Has He ever picked you up when you were down?
Has He ever placed your feet on solid ground?

GRATEFUL RESPONSE

Everyday Is a Day of Thanksgiving

Everyday is a day of thanksgiving.
God, you've been so good to me.
Everyday you're blessing me.
Everyday is a day of thanksgiving.
I will glorify you, O my God, today!

You keep blessing me, blessing me, blessing me.
you opened the door that I might see, you're blessing me.
And you keep blessing me, blessing me, blessing me.
I will glorify you, O my God, today!

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

BLESSING

CLOSING SONG

Draw the Circle Wide

**Draw the circle, draw the circle wide
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide
No one stands alone, we'll stand side by side
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide**

**Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still!
Let this be our song: no one stands alone!
Standing side by side
draw the circle, draw the circle wide**

To talk or pray one-on-one with a Minister of Care, if you are on-site,
you can go to the area by the stairs next to the lobby/narthex at the back of the sanctuary.
If you are online, you can connect with a Minister of Care
by typing **"CARE"** in capital letters in the Zoom chat.

WORSHIP HOSTS

Worship Design: Pastor Jeff Wells, Pastor Alexis Lillie, Jorge Lockward, Alfida Figueroa, & Katie Reimer, & Dwight Campbell

Lector/Reader: Jennifer Pinkney Pastor

Dance Ministry: Ted Warner & Maura Burns

Call to Offering: Sam Winfrey

Altar Design: John C. Flake

Visuals Design: Bailey Roach

Vocalists: Maura Burns, Katie Braden, Jackie Stzendera, John C. Flake, Alfida Figueroa, Reyno Francisco, Karen Hackett, John Wesley Heaton, Michelle Morris, Paul Pillitteri, Katie Reimer, Miles Mitchell, Shelby Hall Denney, Nora von der Heydt

Sax/Clarinet/Flute: Matthew Willis

Organ: Michael Johnson

Keyboard: Jorge Lockward

Drums & Percussion: Juan Felipe Mayorga

Ushers: Sam Winfrey

Ministers of Care: Sam Winfrey (on-site) & Monica Quintero (online)

Zoom Host: Martha Chapman

Zoom Chat: Sarah Witman

CREDITS

Cover Image: Image by [Gerd Altmann](#) from [Pixabay](#)

The Jesus in Me (When the Spirit in Me)

W & M: Anonymous

Alternate lyrics by Jorge Lockward

Come, Come, Whoever You Are

W: attr. Jalal ad-Din Rumi, 1207-1273, tr. unknown

M: Jorge Lockward

Music © 2019 Jorge Lockward, permission granted for non-commercial use in worship.

We Will Rejoice in Love

W: David Bjorling.

Refrain by Amanda Powell

M: Amanda Powell

Words © 2023 David Bjorling

Music © 2023 Amanda Powell

Sanctus (le lo le lo lai lo)

Spanish Villancico adapted by William Loperena O.P.

© Orden de Predicadores, Bayamon P.R.

Onelicense.net # A-725898

Jesus Is a Rock In a Weary Land

W & M: African American Spiritual.

Arr. by Glenn Burleigh

Everyday is a Day of Thanksgiving

W & M: Leonard Burks

© Leonard Burks.

Draw the Circle Wide

W: Gordon Light

M: Mark Miller

© 2008 Abingdon Press

Onelicense.net # 101422

WE ARE THE CHURCH OF THE VILLAGE

The Church of the Village is a progressive and radically inclusive community that is committed to dismantling racism, sexism, and all forms of oppression. The foundation for all of our theology and practice is Jesus’ instruction to “love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength and love your neighbor as yourself.”

We seek to build a world overflowing with justice, mercy, kindness, and compassion.

Our church building stands on ancestral lands of the Lenape people. The colonizers who stripped Indigenous peoples of their lands used Christianity to justify their actions. We are beneficiaries of a history of appropriation, slavery, and forced migration. We repent and commit to being a community that seeks to repair the harm done to Indigenous peoples and build new pathways to love and justice.

We celebrate human diversity – welcoming people of every color, nationality, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, physical and cognitive ability, and economic status. We strongly support environmental justice and stewardship of the Earth. We believe many roads lead to God and are respectful of a diversity of spiritual paths. We believe our community flourishes with many points of view, opportunities for creative expression, and participatory worship.

To learn more about The Church of the Village, please complete our [Virtual Welcome Card](#).

You can also submit a prayer request on the Welcome Card form.

We will gladly send you our weekly email newsletter and Daily Inspiration emails.

If you have questions, please contact PastorAlexis@churchofthevillage.org.

Please follow us on Facebook ([Facebook.com/ChurchoftheVillage](https://www.facebook.com/ChurchoftheVillage)), Twitter (@umcofthevillage), and Instagram (churchofthevillage). Check out our [YouTube channel](#) for videos of music, worship, Finding Center, and more.

You can also learn more on our website at churchofthevillage.org.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

October 15 – Sunday	10:10am 10:30am 12:00pm	Pre-service fellowship (via Zoom) Sunday worship (via Zoom or FB Live) Community Closet
October 17 – Tuesday	2:00pm – 5:00pm	TRDP: Food Pantry
October 18 – Wednesday	9:00am 6:30pm 6:30pm	Together in Prayer (via Zoom) Bible Study Choir Rehearsal
October 21 – Saturday	11:30am – 2:00pm	TRDP: Community Meal
October 22 – Sunday	10:10am 10:30am 12:00pm 12:30pm 6:00pm	Pre-service fellowship (via Zoom) Sunday worship (via Zoom or FB Live) Community Closet Healing Conversations Radical Resistance Gala

2023 Stewardship Campaign

Together in Commitment, Strength, and Mission

Thank you for the many ways your presence enhances our community and work together.
Thank you for pledging financial support to the life and ministry of our beloved community.

As you prayerfully discern your pledge for 2023, we invite you to be bold in your generosity as we continue this adventure together.

Submit your pledge: <https://www.churchofthevillage.org/2023-stewardship-campaign>

Questions: Email giving@churchofthevillage.org

We all work together as members and supporters of our spiritual community to foster the ministries and mission of the Church of the Village. Here are ways you can offer your gifts:

- **ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER/DIRECT PAYMENT** from your bank account to COTV. This option includes no fees for the giver or the church. You can set this up directly through your bank for one-time gifts/payments or recurring gifts/payments to COTV. For assistance with this process, please contact giving@churchofthevillage.org.
- **VANCO:** [Vanco](#)'s simple online payment processing services and giving app make it easy to give when and where you want.
- **CHECK:** you can send a check payable to "The Church of the Village," and mail it to:
Church of the Village
PO Box 167
New York, NY 10113

For assistance with using any of these methods or to talk about remembering Church of the Village in your will, email giving@churchofthevillage.org. *Please note - emails to this address should be about how we can help you set up your giving process but should NOT include any specific information about pledge amounts, gift amounts, or any other confidential information from the individual sending the message.*

*Thank you for being a part of the family of The Church of the Village
and supporting the work and ministry of this community!*

UBUNTU: THE ART OF LIVING TOGETHER

a new worship series



“Ubuntu” is a South African term often translated as, “I am because we are.” It connotes an interdependence on one another, an existence that is made possible by others in the community. In this worship series, we’ll explore how our lives can be enriched in a loving, Christ-centered community where we are seen, cherished, called, and challenged.

Join us this Fall as we grow toward a deeper sense of knowing and belonging to God and each other. For this series, we’re bringing back topical conversations after the Sunday service! Join us in-person or online to discuss the theme of each week’s worship and preaching.

MATCHING GRANT



Our Stewardship Committee and a member of our church are together offering a Matching Grant Fund! Their collective donation to our church is \$7500. Your gift can help our community gain a total donation of \$15,000! Scan the code for more info and to donate.



RADICAL RESISTANCE GALA

October 22, 2023 at 6pm ET | 5pm CT | 3pm PT via Zoom!



Join LGBTQ- Religious Archives Network on October 22nd to honor 6 outstanding leaders and activists from our past and our present day who have inspired us with their "radical resistance" and their prophetic vision of justice, love and equity. LGBTQ-RAN's online GALA gathering will be a glorious celebration of LGBTQ+ religious history and LGBTQ-RAN's unique role in bringing that to life. Your participation and support help ensure that LGBTQ religious legacy will live on into the future.

Register here: bit.ly/rrgala

THE ALLIANCE: A YOUNG ADULT GROUP

1st Sundays after worship



The Alliance will meet the first Sunday of the month, starting October 1 after the worship. Outings will include sharing meals together, exploring the city, museum visits, and more. Open to anyone who is young adult(ish), college age - mid-thirties. Bring a dish to share.

COMMUNITY CLOSET

Sundays, Noon to 1pm.

Community Closet is seeking donations!



Ready to let go of some of your gently used clothing and accessories? Make space in your closet by helping to stock our free, inclusive, and identity-affirming community closet. Contributions can be brought to COTV on Sundays or email Pastor Alexis to arrange a possible pick-up!

Spread the word! Church of the Village's Community Closet will be available every Sunday for 1 hour after service in the narthex. All are welcome to browse the racks and shop for free! If you know of someone who may be desiring a new style or a wardrobe change, please invite them to check us out! We have a variety of styles and sizes but are especially looking for donations of womenswear in sizes 10 and above as well as menswear in good condition. Interested in hosting the Community Closet after service one Sunday? Sign up here or e-mail Beccalove123@gmail.com for more info!

DANCE PRAYER

Every third Thursday of the month, 6:30pm-7:30pm



Join us in the sanctuary every third Thursday of the month for Dance Prayer! We will come together with an opening prayer and moment of reflection and then spend 45 minutes moving our bodies and dancing together to a diverse playlist. There will be no designated choreography and no final performance, just a joyful space to connect with your own rhythm while rejoicing in the gift of dance and community. Each gathering will then close with a moment of prayer and reflection before we part ways

HEALING CONVERSATIONS

(Every 4th Sunday of the month); 12:30pm

Healing Conversations is a place to share your feelings about the losses in your life in a safe, supportive, and friendly atmosphere. Your feelings of loss may be caused by events that are recent or in the distant past. You are invited to join our small group on site or online via Zoom (**Meeting ID:** 838 5366 1938 **Passcode:** 690827).

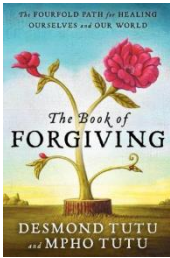
TOGETHER IN PRAYER

Wednesday mornings; 9:00am

Our weekly prayer group includes an inspirational reading, time to support one another, and prayers for ourselves, others, and events in the world. We gather via Zoom conference call Friday mornings from 9:00 to 10:00am (**Meeting ID:** 850 0514 7319 **Passcode:** 594909). For more information, contact Deaconess Sarah Capers at smcapers99@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY: *THE BOOK OF FORGIVING*

Wednesdays; 6:30pm



There have been times when each and every one of us has needed to forgive. There have also been times when each and every one of us needed to be forgiven. And there will be many more times again. Out of brokenness we hurt others, and forgiveness is the journey we take towards healing the broken parts. It is how we become whole again.

Join us as we study “The Fourfold Path to Healing” outlined in “The Book of Forgiving” written by Desmond Tutu and Mpho Tutu. We would be delighted to have you join us. **Everyone is Welcome.** Facilitated by Sarah Capers, Deaconess. Join us via Zoom! <http://zoom.us/j/713063594> or by phone: 646-876-9923; **Meeting ID:** 713 063 594 **Passcode:** 10011

THE RED DOOR PLACE



Donations, in person, to the program can be made Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, from 9am to 3pm. Ring the bell on the red door on 13th street or call the number posted at the door.

THE RED DOOR PLACE

Food Pantry: Tuesdays; 2pm - 5pm - BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Appointments are available via the [Plentiful App](#) (download from the play/app store). You can search for us, in the app, by name “The Red Door Place” or scroll through the list (towards the bottom) and our pantry will show. After registering on the app, you will receive a QR code - **BRING the QR code with you to your appointment.** Arrive within 5 minutes of your scheduled appointment and present your QR code for scanning.

If you do not have a QR code, you will not receive pantry. Note: Missed appointments can be rescheduled to a later open slot or the following Tuesday. If you have any questions call (347) 687-5321 or visit www.thereddoorplace.org.

Community Meal: We will continue to hand out bags of food on Saturdays beginning around 11:30am. Guests may arrive earlier to get a place in line; we have chalk marks on the sidewalk at 6-foot intervals to indicate where people should stand at a safe distance.

THE RED DOOR PLACE – NEEDS MONEY FOR FOOD!

IF YOU WANT TO HELP, ask your employer, your family, your friends to GIVE! Put out an appeal on your Facebook page. Email people you think would be able to donate.

TO MAKE A DONATION, you can donate online using [VANCO](#)'s simple online payment processing services and giving app. Or send checks made payable to Church of the Village and write The Red Door Place (TRDP) in the memo line. Mail to: Church of the Village, PO Box 167, New York, NY 10113.

GIVE TO THE CHURCH OF THE VILLAGE ON VANCO

The Church of the Village is now accessible via Vanco. [VANCO](#)'s simple online payment processing services and giving app make it easy to give when and where you want. Visit <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YQX3>.

BECOME A CHURCH OF THE VILLAGE PRAYER PARTNER

Each week, we receive many prayers through our website, the Red Door Place empowerment ministry, on prayer cards during worship, and from our Ministers of Care team. These prayers are distributed via email to our large team of **Prayer Partners**

who lift them up to God. If you would like to pray for others, please email Deaconess Sarah Capers (smcapers99@gmail.com) with your interest. You can submit a prayer online at ChurchoftheVillage.org/prayer.

COTV WORSHIP VIDEOS ON FACEBOOK

It is always a deeper experience to be present with the worshipping community, but when you can't join us for Sunday worship, you can view the worship recording anytime at [Facebook.com/ChurchoftheVillage/videos](https://www.facebook.com/ChurchoftheVillage/videos).

SERMON ARCHIVE

If you missed worship or want to read the sermon again, we post many of our past Sunday sermon manuscripts and worship bulletins on our website at ChurchoftheVillage.org/sermons. We encourage you to read and share them with others.



How to Contact Key COTV Leaders

During the Coronavirus outbreak and beyond, we want to make sure our members and supporters know how to reach key staff and leaders in the Church of the Village.

Pastor Jeff Wells

Email: PastorJeff@churchofthevillage.org

Phone: (212) 243-5470 ext. 9;

(917) 604-5227

Pastor Alexis Lillie,

Minister for Leadership & Congregational
Development

Email: PastorAlexis@churchofthevillage.org

Phone: (212) 243-5470 ext. 8;

(719) 201-6535

Jorge Lockward,

Minister of Worship Arts

Email: Jorge@churchofthevillage.org

Phone: (212) 243-5470 ext. 7;

(917) 723-0169

Teresa Concepción,

Executive Director, The Red Door Place

Email: Teresa@churchofthevillage.org

Phone: (347) 687-5321

Dwight Campbell, Chair,

Vision & Ministry Council

Email: DCampbell5938@gmail.com

Sarah Capers,

Lay Leader

Email: scape131@aol.com

Monica Quintero,

Chair, Ministers of Care

Email: quinteromm@gmail.com

Alfida Figueroa, Chair,

Worship Committee

Email: figueroaalfida045@gmail.com