

Urban Village

The Rev. Jeff Shaver tendered his resignation from Urban Village effective August 31, 2023. Upon the presbytery's receipt of his resignation, I was asked to serve as the part-time Transitional Executive Director. I am excited to serve the Jessamine County community, the Presbytery of Transylvania, and God's Church in this capacity. I am also thankful for the session of Wilmore Presbyterian Church and their commitment to seeing Urban Village's ministry grow. It is because of this support and commitment that they are blessing the time I will be committing to Urban Village, even as I remain their full-time pastor.

Urban Village is a part of the 1001 New Worshiping Communities of the Presbyterian Church (USA). The dream is for Urban Village to grow into a place for the community of Nicholasville and all of Jessamine County to gather, to learn from one another, to serve alongside one another, and to grow wisdom and in faith. Admittedly, right now it doesn't look like a church or sound like a church, but it is slowly becoming a community of people seeking to share the ups and downs of life together and serve one another in love. This is going to be a long process. And there is still much to be done as we continue to grow in mission, in witness, and in ministry!

Here is how you (and your congregations) can help us grow:

- **Volunteer** to be a "floor monitor" during a free gym time! This is a great way to meet the kids, youth, and their adults who are active in Urban Village.
- **Volunteer** to lead a workshop or teach a class - each one of us has something to share! The village concept is that we will be sharing all manners of skills and gifts, building up a well-rounded community.
- **Bring your children and youth** to an open gym time or reserve Urban Village for a special outing or team building activities.
- **Bring your guitar** (or other instrument or voice or comic relief) and join us in an open-mic night!
- **Remember Urban Village in your budget!** Yes, we want to be a self-sufficient worshiping community, but we are still building ourselves up in the community and we need the support of our brothers and sisters in the presbytery to help us. Letters will be coming to each congregation outlining how your financial gifts can help serve the community.

The African proverb reminds us that it takes a village to raise a child. Dr. Marva Mitchell says, but it takes a church to raise a village! Come! Help us to build an Urban Village where God's children of all ages are welcomed and taught to love our neighbors as Christ has taught us to love.

In Christ,
Rev. Beth Garrod-Logsdon
Transitional Executive Director