

## VCL News

### Andrew Seaman Added to

**VCL Staff** *By Pastor Lee Eclow*

We have long felt a serious pinch at VCL due to our technology limitations. To help, the Elders have approved hiring Andrew Seaman for a day a week. This will coincide with our office manager, Susan Beck, cutting back from four to three days a week beginning in late April, so there will be no financial impact on our budget.

Andrew has been an Elder at VCL till recently. He and Sarah, along with their two little boys, Micah and Ezra, live in Chicago. Because of the long drive they had decided to attend First Free Church in the Andersonville community. However, Andrew's intimate knowledge of VCL is a huge plus in having him on our staff.

As our Information Technology and Communications Manager, we're asking Andrew to see that our computers are all properly backed up and secure, to help us coordinate shared files and to migrate our staff to Google Apps. He is also helping us think about VCL's use of social media and keeping our website more up-to-date.

### TEDS Celebrating 50 Years

*By Andrew Seaman*

It was in the fall of 1963 that classes first met on the campus of Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Deerfield. This year TEDS is looking back and reflecting over these last fifty years. On May 1 Trinity will be having a 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration starting with a morning thanksgiving chapel service and ending with a live-streamed anniversary celebration service at 6:00 PM, featuring speakers Dr. John D. Woodbridge, Dr. William L. Kynes, and Dr. David S. Dockery.

Since our inception as a church, TEDS has been a prominent part of what makes VCL unique. Both TEDS professors and students have always been an integral part of our church family. Village Church joins in celebration with the Trinity community for TEDS' 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

To hear wonderful stories of TEDS' history and to learn more about the anniversary celebration, go to <http://divinity.tiu.edu/teds-50th-anniversary/>.



### Congratulations!!

VCL wishes to congratulate **Charles Flowe** and **Emily Burke** who were married on Saturday, April 5 in Mendota, IL.

### VCL on the Web

*By Andrew Seaman*

Over the course of the next couple months there will be changes to the Village Church website. It is our goal to have a clean, intuitive, and updated website for both visitors and regular attenders. We are also attempting to improve our web presence on Facebook (facebook.com/villagechurchoflincolnshire) and Twitter (@\_evcl) in this social media-minded age. We will be using those accounts on a regular basis. We will also be using the website more effectively to make announcements about events and happenings at VCL and in our local communities.

If you didn't know already, we keep all of the year's PDF versions of the *Village Vine* [online for you to check out](#). In the past, our updates of announcements and individual *Vine* articles on the website have been sporadic. But this is changing. We will now be keeping current with the various announcements as well as posting the individual *Vine* articles on the Village Vine blog. ([www.evcl.org/the-village-vine](http://www.evcl.org/the-village-vine))

If you do not already follow us on Facebook or Twitter, it might be a quick and easy way to keep up to date with what's going on at VCL.

### Youth Group Lock-in April 11-12

*by Pastor Michael Mauriello*

What teenager doesn't like staying up all night playing games, watching classic movies, eating great snacks and hanging out with great leaders? Jesse Harrison and Emily Bowman are planning an awesome lock-in for our Middle School and Senior High students for April 11-12. The lock-in will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the evening, and end promptly at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday morning. Please RSVP to Pastor Michael!

## VCL Happenings

### Garden Project Cultivated

*By Pastor Lee Eclow*

For many years I've dreamed of VCL having a small garden or park along the path that fronts our property where the passersby could sit quietly or visit with friends under the reach of our oak trees. Recently as we've been thinking about VCL as our ChurchHome, this idea has gotten fresh traction.



In 2009 I read a fascinating article in the *Chicago Tribune* by Barbara Brotman about a family who put in a small seating area in their front yard. Neighbors dropped by. Kids played nearby. Pretty soon neighbors would visit even if the owners weren't home. The title of the article was "Front patio makes a great hook if fishing for people." Of course, that resonated with me. It was just what I'd been dreaming of for our church.

Currently, we're assembling a team of people under the leadership of Mary Jo Rust who would like to make this garden become a reality. We have applied for a grant from the Lincolnshire Garden Club. We imagine a small area of plants and flowers with chairs or a couple benches, and perhaps a Little Free Library (see [littlefreelibrary.org](http://littlefreelibrary.org)). We may have a plaque or stone with Jesus' words, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." In short, we envision this as a front garden for our church where our neighbors can get a sense of the home we'd like to be to them. If you're interested in helping with this project, let me or Mary Jo Rust know.

### Young Adult Movie Night

*by Pastor Michael Mauriello*

Jim and Ann Baker will be hosting the Young Adult Group at their home for our second Film and Theology Night, facilitated by Emily Bowman and Jasmine Grady. The evening will be April 4 starting at 7:00 p.m. Jasmine, who is pursuing a Masters of Bioethics at Trinity, will lead a discussion on the movie GATTACA, which portrays a world in the near future where most people are genetically engineered for preferred traits. We'll enjoy a great movie, some light snacks, and thought-provoking discussion.

### Lawson Younger Teaching Sunday Morning, April 27

*by Pastor Michael Mauriello*



The historical reliability of the Old Testament has been a hot topic lately, especially regarding Israel's exodus from Egypt. Can we trust the Scriptures? What does the archeological evidence say? Dr. Lawson Younger, Professor of Old Testament at TEDS, will give a presentation on the archeology of the Exodus. A light breakfast of bagels or pastries will be provided. Dr. Younger is a dynamic presenter so you won't want to miss this. If you don't normally come to First Hour Connections, come April 27. Your mind will thank you.

### Behind the Scenes at VCL

The Building and Grounds Ministry works tirelessly to improve our facility. Some things are easily visible, like the complete redo of the Ladies Room at the east end of the building. Some things are not as visible. A project currently in the works for April will positively impact VCL on a number of levels.

All the lighting in the church (where applicable) will be changed from our present incandescent and fluorescent to new LED or energy conserving sources. This work is being performed by a ComEd affiliate company and is part of an energy conservation program supported by the Energy Efficiency Program (EEP) monthly charge on all of our ComEd bills.

All the work and most of the cost of the bulbs (estimated to total \$6,831.00!) is supported by the earlier mentioned EEP program. Our only cost is for a couple of bulbs not supported by the program and the cost of a lift to allow them to reach the high ceiling bulbs in the Great Room – total out-of-pocket cost to VCL is \$125.00!

In addition to this, VCL will enjoy an estimated annual \$445 savings on its electric utility bill, not to mention improved quality of light (brighter, cleaner) in the auditorium.

## Preaching & Worship

### Sermons

APRIL 13 — MAY 11, 2014



#### On Sunday Mornings

This month we conclude our study in Exodus, celebrate Jesus' resurrection, and begin our new series

#### CHURCHHOME:

Why Our Church Is Our First Family

Date	Text	Sermon Title
4/13/14	Ex. 15:1-21	The National Anthem of God's People - Communion
4/20/14 EASTER	Rom. 6:1-14	The Good Death
4/27/14	Luke 15:1-2. 11-24	The Long Way Home
5/4/14	Luke 15:17-24	Coming Home - Communion
5/11/14	Luke 15:25-32	Graceless

### Prayer for VCL in April

- \* Our spiritual sensitivity to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ
- \* The She Is Safe fundraising dinner on April 10
- \* The VCL Garden Team – developing our garden place near the path in front of our church
- \* Open doors for the good news of Jesus; our Lists of 5
  - \* Our church finances



## Calendar of Events

### Youth Lock-In

Friday & Saturday, April 11/12  
7 p.m. - 7 a.m.

### Palm Sunday Breakfast

Sunday, April 13, 8:30 a.m.  
(RSVP Required)  
No classes offered at 9 a.m.  
Nursery care & children's classes offered at 10:30 a.m. only.

### Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Friday, April 18, 7 p.m.  
Childcare for infant through first grade.  
Please register via Church Office.

### Easter Sunday Service with Baptism

Sunday, April 20, 10:30 a.m.  
No classes offered at 9 a.m.  
Nursery care & children's classes offered at 10:30 a.m. only.



**Eggstravaganza** - for ages 4 through 12  
Children will be dismissed from the service.

**Guys and Gals (Youth)**  
Friday, April 25, 7:00 p.m.

### Recurring Events

**Middle and High School Youth**  
Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.

**Ladies Daytime Bible Study**  
Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. (except 4/24 for an off-site event)

**Men's Prayer Breakfast**  
1st and 3rd Saturdays, 8:00 a.m. (4/5 & 19)

**Young Adult/College Student Lunch**  
Every other Sunday - April 13 and 27, Noon

## Important Easter Season Dates

### Good Friday Service, April 18, 7:00 p.m.

It is our custom on Good Friday to have a Tenebrae service. Tenebrae means "service of shadows". The service follows the final days of Jesus' life on earth using verses from the Bible. This year we will also be using parts of the poem *The Sacrifice* by George Herbert. John VanWyk and Kathy Richards will be our narrators. After each reading the choir will sing or lead the congregation in beautiful music, followed by a time of silent meditation. You will hear a variety of musical styles this year including the American Spiritual "Jesus Walked this Lonesome Valley"; the mournful and rich commitment of "Nearer, My God, to Thee" with Krista Sweetser accompanying on the cello; and the harsh Sacred Harp style of "Alas and Did My Savior Bleed?" serving as a fitting sound for the crucifixion. The congregation will be joining on the familiar songs "The Power of the Cross", "How Deep the Father's Love for Us" and the final song "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross".

Our Tenebrae service is a good one to invite your friends to if they are sensitive about their faith and want a meaningful opportunity to think about the cross of Christ. Because this is a very quiet and serious service it may not be appropriate for young children. Childcare is available for infant through first grade. Please register if you plan to use child care by calling the church office.

### Palm Sunday Breakfast, April 13, 8:30 a.m.

This popular annual event is Sunday, April 13, from 8:30 - 10 a.m. Reservations required, so please RSVP on the sign-up sheet at the Information Center. Please consider bringing something to share for 12 servings: breakfast casserole, muffins/coffecake or fruit/fruit salad (no fruit juice, please). You can indicate your preference on the sign-up sheet. Direct questions to Cynthia Bonczkiewicz at 847.945.4087.



Easter Flowers

### Easter Flower Reservations Taken Thru Palm Sunday

VCL will be decorated once again with flowers celebrating Easter. If you wish to participate by purchasing a plant(s), pick up and complete an order form at the Information Center. You may place the completed form & check in the offering plate or turn it into the church office. Please mark your check or envelope *Easter Flowers*. Plants may be picked up following the Easter service.

**Welcome Sedgebrook Residents**



**VCL Bus Stop**

Sedgebrook Retirement Community has added VCL to the Sunday morning bus run for their residents. Sedgebrook, which is on Milwaukee Road in Lincolnshire, is home to a number of our church family and we're optimistic that others from that large community will come to VCL now that transportation is easily available. We currently have two ongoing ministries there—a monthly service led by Justin Zahraee and Pastor Lee, and a monthly service at the assisted living facility led by Pastor Michael.

**For more news and information from VCL check our website: [www.evcl.org](http://www.evcl.org).**

### Village Church of Lincolnshire

201 N. Riverwoods Rd.  
Lake Forest, IL 60045

Phone: 847-295-7707 Fax: 847-295-7757

Email: [evcl@evcl.org](mailto:evcl@evcl.org)

Website: [www.evcl.org](http://www.evcl.org)

Senior Pastor	Lee Eclov
Associate Pastor	Michael Mauriello
Ministries Administrator	Susan Eclov
Ministries Assistant	Jane Niederbrach
Pastoral Ministry Assistant	Guy Viti
Office Manager	Susan Beck
Custodian	Angela Fisher

**Elders:** Lee Eclov, Carl Johnson, Michael Mauriello, Chris McNiven, Jim Stamoolis, Jim Uren, and Raymond Wunderlich (chair)

April 2014

### ChurchHome Emphasis to Begin After Easter *By Pastor Lee Eclov*

Last fall we added this statement to our Core Values: "While the Bible uses several metaphors to describe the church, **Village Church especially identifies with the church as *home***. Thus, we strive to foster a home-like environment where young and old Christians grow relationally into maturity and fruitfulness." During May and June we will focus our preaching and worship, as well as a number of other activities, around various passages of Scripture that gives shape to that view of our church.

After Easter we will begin with three Sundays focused on Jesus' extraordinary story of the Prodigal Son. The story of the two wayward sons and their grace-filled Father gives shape to

how we here at VCL think about our church's fellowship, outreach, and worship. This story has long moved and shaped me and now we can explore it together.

The full series of sermons will help us examine compassion, our church family fellowship, and our home in heaven. We will explore the catchphrase we've created: ChurchHome. We anticipate special fellowship times and an emphasis on membership. At our semi-annual congregational meeting on May 18 we will be able to talk about the possibilities ahead of us as we think through what it is for our church to be home to our congregation and a welcome place for those who do not yet know our Father.

### Hope Shines for *She Is Safe* Because of VCL's Support

*by Kathy Richards*

The She Is Safe Chicago Advocacy Group would like to thank Village Church of Lincolnshire for its generous financial support and continuing encouragement as we prepare for our April 10 benefit dinner at TIU. We are very excited about the program. Michele Rickett, the president and founder of She Is Safe, is coming in from Atlanta to bring us the keynote address, and Anne Cody, the SIS country director for South Sudan is coming from Michigan to share inspiring, true stories about women and girls who have been rescued from exploitation and abuse through the efforts of SIS in that part of the world.



Through many prayers, practical encouragement and financial support, VCL is showing its commitment to stand and fight the injustice and evil of human trafficking. Tickets for the Thursday, April 10 dinner (appetizers 6:30 p.m.; dinner and program 7:00 p.m.) will remain on sale through April 2 at [www.sischicago.eventbrite.com](http://www.sischicago.eventbrite.com). We are grateful for your continued prayer support as we finish up all the final details. Event fliers with further detail can also be found at the Information Center.