

**Sonoma Valley Interfaith**  
**Wednesday, Feb. 23, 2022 / 12 pm–1 pm**  
<https://www.sonomavalleyinterfaithma.org>  
[sonomavalleyinterfaithma@gmail.com](mailto:sonomavalleyinterfaithma@gmail.com)

Present: Nicole Trotter, Peadar Dalton, Donna Thomas, Marie Wilson-Johnson, Jim Thomas and Manette Fairmont.

**12:00 pm**

- **Welcome/Opening Blessing** - Nicole opens with a blessing from the book *The Cure for Sorrow* by Jan Richardson. We send a prayer for Marie who is grieving the one year anniversary of her husband's passing.
  
- **Non Profits Check-in and Updates.**
  - City Council** - ongoing discussion in regards to finding a location for S.O.S.'s needs and plans for SDC development. City council meets 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month with public forum opportunities to speak. See more [here](#).
  - SVUSD** - Donna reports the school board continues to discuss contracts and duties. The district's graduation rate is 86%, which is considered good. As far as student testing goes, our students are only 27% math proficient and 43% reading proficient yet able to graduate based on classes taken and per class credits needed to graduate. It seems our students can graduate with minimal proficiency. We might consider inviting the High School principal and/or the superintendent to see if there are any areas where we can support families and students or even staff and schools.
  
- **Other news:**
  - Marie reports that the Methodist Church is continuing to support Food For All/ Comida Para Todos by offering their space. They hope to re-identify the community's needs this year and support new areas that have come to light.
  - Jim, Trinity Episcopal Church is inviting everyone to their 12pm, Good Friday service with a program by John Partridge.
  - Manette was recently involved in a forum for the community offering discussion and opportunities to help get back into social situations now that Covid is lessening, particularly seniors who have felt isolated and lonely and especially those with no connect to social media.

- Peadar has reached out to local Catholic leaders encouraging representation for the Catholic community at our monthly meetings. He received a kind response indicating that the pastors will collaborate and get back to us.

**12:30 pm**

- **Guests: Whitney Evans-Care Partners Initiative and Erik Larson-Executive Director of The Village of Sonoma Valley**

Erik and Whitney are collaborating to create a central hub in Sonoma that is part of a larger picture for resources that already exist for seniors. After Covid started [Care Partners](#) gained an understanding of what types of support and services seniors needed. This led to them reaching out to partner with [The Village Movement of California](#) in order to create a Village here in Sonoma, opening this Spring. Please visit their websites to see what they offer. Their goal is to support seniors and their families in ways that will boost what churches want for their senior member and are already doing. We can help each other offer community-based solutions to improve quality of life and expand choices at all stages of aging, empowering older adults to sustain independence through community and remain in charge of their lives as they age.

The Village will offer a navigator program that will help connect seniors and their families with resources that are available. This will be a resource for your church staff to access and share with your aging members and their families with for support. The Village of Sonoma will open soon and will have a website. We will share information with you as it becomes available.

- **Guest: Renee Scott- Executive Director of The Vintage House**

Vintage House is a membership-based and nonprofit organization. The mission of [Vintage House](#) is to help support, preserve, and enhance the quality of life for residents of Sonoma Valley as they age. The senior center includes classrooms, activity areas, a well-stocked library and computer lab, a commercial kitchen, and Stone Hall — our spacious hotel-style banquet venue with theater-quality projection and sound systems. During Covid they added a Tech Squad to offer Zoom classes and support for seniors with tech issues. Programs are offered Monday through Friday 9am-4pm. Programs include free ride services, grocery delivery, Suppers On Wednesdays, Soups On Fridays, a community garden, lending library, housing and pet assistance and more. To see all they offer visit [here](#). Vintage House will be working with The Village of Sonoma once it opens.

- **How can we help?**

Please share this information with seniors and their families in your communities. Visit all three websites to see what programs are offered. Reach out to volunteer for any or all three programs.

- **Next meeting:** Wednesday, March 23rd, guests will be Kathy King of S.O.S. and Sandy Piotter of F.I.S.H (TBD).

- **KSVY - Please mark your date on your calendar.**

The call in number is 933-9133. The information is on their website [www.ksvy.org](http://www.ksvy.org)

Mar. 1	Scott Pryor	831-747-0139
Mar. 8	Jim Thomas	707-933-6514
Mar. 15	Peadar Dalton	707-939-7613
March 22	Nicole Trotter	707-996-6024
March 29	Steve Finley	818-207-1757