

Dorothy Graham Dodson
Japan through American Eyes
February 14, 2018

Dorothy Graham Dodson is a soprano soloist, music educator, and long-time resident of Fort Myers, Florida, and Kobe, Japan. She is a graduate of McNeese State University in Lake Charles, Louisiana, where she received a Bachelor of Arts Degree. She is also a graduate of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary with a Diploma in Religious Education and Kansai Gakuin University where she earned a Diploma in Japanese Language and Culture. She worked under the Baptist International Mission Board, Richmond, Virginia, as a Music Missionary/Teacher for Japan Baptist Convention for 26 years. She lived in Kobe, Japan, and organized a City Wide Christian Chorus and worked to strengthen music ministries in Christian churches throughout central Japan. Dorothy has been a member of Covenant Presbyterian Church and a choir member from 1996 to the present time. She is the mother of two daughters, Janet Elizabeth Graham and Katherine Elaine Koller of Naples, Florida. She married Charles W. Dodson of Fort Myers, in November of 2015.

Pastor Miguel Estrada
Encountering God in the Middle of Struggle, A Farmworker's Tale
February 21, 2018

Rev. Miguel Estrada came to the United States from Guatemala and is a Fulbright scholar from LSU. In addition to his theological studies, he did graduate study in anthropology and linguistics. An ordained minister for over 25 years, he currently serves as Pastor of Mission Peniel in Immokalee, Florida. Mission Peniel is a ministry to Immokalee farm workers, supported by Peace River Presbytery, of which Covenant Presbyterian Church is also a member. Mission Peniel focuses on serving the migrant farmworker community in a comprehensive way: "a pastoral ministry of charity and service, providing food, clothing, fellowship, and emergency supports to farmworkers" since September 2006 (misionpeniel.com). Miguel's wife, Marifrans, works with him in the ministry; they have three children, ages 17, 5, and 1.

Warren Apple
Historic Survey of Christian Church Music
February 28, 2018

Dr. Warren Apple is Director of Music and Organist at Covenant Presbyterian Church. Warren began his ministry at Covenant in September 2011. He has his Doctor of Music Arts from Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester, NY. He also has a Master of Music. He has been a student at Vienna (Austria) Conservatory of Music and Performing Arts. Warren is married to Nancy Speakman Apple and has three sons.

Life Line Screening
January 24, 2018

Covenant Presbyterian Church is pleased to offer a preventive health event. Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will host their affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings on Wednesday, January 24, 2018. Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to blocked arteries, which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms, which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs, which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat, which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis. Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6450 or text CIRCLE to 797979 visit www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle.

For more information on Covenant Presbyterian Church, please visit our website: www.covpcfm.com

2018 **Covenant Presbyterian Church**

Wednesday Morning Live

SPEAKERS:

Rev. Dr. Jeffrey DeYoe

Jack Mutzabaugh

Jerry Frost

John Sheppard

Rick & Ellen Burnette

Amy Bennett Williams

Dorothy Graham Dodson

Pastor Miguel Estrada

Warren Apple

On January 3, 2018, Covenant Presbyterian Church will once again welcome community members to join us for our Wednesday Morning Live lecture series. Each year, we strive to bring to the podium a rich assortment of speakers who share their personal experiences on a wide range of important issues and entertaining topics.

This annual event, entering its seventeenth season, is possible because of the vision of its founder, Dr. David Robinson, to bring informative programs to our church and community. David once said:

"Each year Wednesday Morning Live has grown in participants and in the richness of the programs. This year is no exception. It will vary in scope and personalities, all helping us improve in mind, body, and spirit."

We couldn't agree more. Our planning committee--Tom Koester, Shirley Koester, Barb Griffith, and Teddy Hogle—is pleased to announce this year's speaking lineup, and we know you won't want to miss a single one!

Our pastor, Jeff DeYoe, will be our kick-off speaker once again. The lineup will continue with Jack Mutzabaugh, Covenant member and small claims court mediator; Jerry Frost, professor and research scholar; John Sheppard, Covenant member, attorney, poet, and author with many stories to tell; Rick and Ellen Burnette, former missionaries to northern Thailand, who have founded a faith-based organization called Cultivate Abundance to address the problem of food insecurity; Amy Bennett Williams, journalist with the *News-Press* and book author; Dorothy Graham Dodson, soprano soloist and music educator; Pastor Miguel Estrada, director of Mission Peniel in Immokalee; and Warren Apple, Covenant's own organist and choir director.

Each session opens with coffee and continental breakfast starting at 9:30 a.m. Speakers begin their lectures at 10:00, allow time for a brief question-and-answer session, and end at 11:00. Authors will also have books available for purchase. There is no charge for attending; donations are accepted for breakfast. We hope you'll decide to make this hour-and-a-half a regular part of your week!



Rev. Dr. Jeffrey DeYoe
A Life Dedicated to Social Justice
 January 3, 2018

Before his 2012 call to serve as Pastor of Covenant Presbyterian Church, Jeffrey DeYoe served pastorates in Kansas, Minnesota, Ohio, and Florida. Jeff received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy from Kansas State University, his Master of Divinity degree in Church History from Princeton Theological Seminary, and his Doctor of Ministry degree from McCormick Theological Seminary. In addition to serving as Covenant's pastor, Jeff is also moderator of the Israel Palestine Mission Network, an organization created by the Presbyterian General Assembly to advocate justice for Palestinians living under Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory. Jeff met his wife Ruth at Princeton Theological Seminary where she earned a Master of Arts degree in Christian Education and, for 30 years, served as Director of Christian Education in the churches Jeff pastored. Ruth now works as the Mission Coordinator for Mission Peniel in Immokalee, Florida. Through their work with both local and global missions, Ruth and Jeff have demonstrated a passion for mission and a perspective that sees mission as a partnership among people and cultures. Both have seen various models for "doing mission" and now advocate for building partnerships in mission that are sustainable vs. toxic. They promote a new understanding for the importance of intersectional relationships among disparate groups that share a commonality of condition. In an ever-changing world, it is now the case that justice for one people becomes justice for all people.

Jeff and Ruth are the parents of Tina DeYoe and Aaron DeYoe.

Jack Mutzabaugh
The People's Court
 January 10, 2018

Jack Mutzabaugh has lived in Fort Myers since 1974. He grew up in Pittsburgh and spent time in Washington, D.C. and St. Louis. Jack worked in the advertising and broadcasting field for the first half of his career but spent the last 20 years in real estate sales. His free time is now spent as a small claims court mediator and an ESOL instructor. He and wife Janet have been married for 51 years. They have one daughter, Amy, and two grandchildren, Kate and Luke. All three live in Fort Myers.

Jerry Frost
Does Religion Cause, Facilitate War, or Is It Irrelevant to War?
 January 17, 2018

Jerry Frost retired from his position as Howard M. and Charles F. Jenkins Professor of Quaker History and Research, and Director of the Friends Historical Library of Swarthmore College. Since retirement does not match Jerry's style, he now holds the title Senior Research Scholar. Jerry came to Quaker history (and Quakerism) indirectly. Raised an Indiana Baptist, he graduated from DePauw University in 1962 and attended Yale Divinity School for a year before deciding that he was more interested in intellectual and social history than theology. His graduate studies at the University of Wisconsin led to a seminal dissertation on the Quaker family in colonial America and a sojourn at Pendle Hill, as well as a 1968 Ph.D. Jerry's publications include five books, parts of two others, and innumerable articles and reviews. Especially interested in Quakerism in colonial America (and especially in the Middle Atlantic colonies), his subjects have included religious liberty, Quaker antislavery, William Penn, George Keith, John Woolman, and the history of the American Friends Service Committee. He also served as editor of the Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography.

John Sheppard
The Way We Were: Memories of the 20th Century
 January 24, 2018

Covenant Presbyterian Church is blessed to count John Sheppard and his wife Ellen among our members. A Fort Myers native, John is a retired attorney; an ordained elder in the Presbyterian church; a published, prize-winning poet; author of nine books; a Sunday school teacher; a man who gives generously of his time, his talents, and his money, to numerous charitable organizations in Southwest Florida; and a founder of the Southwest Florida Community Foundation. The Sheppard family settled in Fort Myers in 1898, and all of the generations since that year have helped to build the community into what it is today. John has been an eye witness to--and participant in--our county's growth, from the World War II period until today; a skilled story teller, he will bring that history to life as he reminisces on "the way we were."

Rick and Ellen Burnette
Turning Food Insecurity into Food Solidarity
 January 31, 2018

The Burnettes began their life in Fort Myers working at ECHO in North Fort Myers, where Rick served as the Director of Agriculture and Ellen as Retail Manager. Before moving to Fort Myers in 2013, the Burnettes served as missionaries in northern Thailand, appointed by the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship in 1994. On January 1, 2018, Rick and Ellen will leave ECHO to launch their own faith-based organization, Cultivate Abundance, whose mission is to address food insecurity among Florida's farm workers. Ellen is a native of Huntsville, Alabama; she is a graduate of the University of Montevallo, where she studied counseling and guidance. Rick is a native of Franklin, North Carolina, and a graduate of the University of Tennessee, where he earned bachelor's and master's degrees in plant and soil science. Married since 1987, Ellen and Rick have three sons: William, Benjamin, and Jesse, who is married to Lauren. The Burnettes welcomed their first grandchild, David, in February 2017.

Amy Bennett Williams
Dispatches from Paradise
 February 7, 2018

Amy Bennett Williams came to The *News-Press* in 1988 as an ashtray-emptying, obituary-writing clerk/reporter, then moved through a series of assignments at the paper, covering everything from cake contests to tuberculosis outbreaks. She left The *News-Press* to edit the regional magazine *Gulfshore Life* for four years. During that time, she was named Editor of the Year by the Florida Magazine Association. She returned to The *News-Press* as its Lifestyles editor in 1998. In addition to writing features and news articles, Williams conceived the paper's weekly *Tropicalia* magazine, where her column, Field Notes, appears. Her current job title is the coolest she can imagine: watchdog and storyteller. Over the years, her work has won top honors from Gannett, the Florida Society of News Editors, the Florida Magazine Association and Public Radio News Directors Inc. Her most recent book is Fort Myers – *City of Palms: A Contemporary Portrait*, a coffee-table volume, released in August. *Along the Caloosahatchee River*, a pictorial history, came out in 2011 and she's at work on a third book. Her sense-of-place essays air weekly on NPR affiliate WGPU. She lives in rural Alva with her writer husband, Roger, two sons, and an ever-changing menagerie.