

Messenger

Oct. 30, 2025 Manhattan, Kansas Messenger Editor: Sarah Duggan

A local not-for-profit focused on supporting people in living their best lives



President Carter teaching the Couples Class at First Baptist Church in 1980. Photo credit: Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum.

President & Parishioner

Jimmy Carter's church involvement explored in new releases

by Christi Harlan

Former president Jimmy Carter was well known for teaching Sunday school in his hometown of Plains, Ga., before and after his term, but he also taught Sunday school in Washington, D.C., *while* he was in the White House.

Carter joined the First Baptist Church of the City of Washington, D.C., three days after his inauguration in January 1977. Over the next 48 months of his presidency, he attended services on at least 75 Sundays and, on at least 17 Sundays, stepped to a lectern in the balcony to lead Bible study for the church's Couples Class.

I was the volunteer publicity director for First

Baptist D.C. when Carter entered hospice care in February 2023. In response to inquiries from news media, I got into the church archives and found recordings of 14 of Carter's lessons.

In his unmistakable Georgia accent, Carter shows himself as a skilled scholar of scripture and a solicitous teacher. He also came to church with a wicked good sense of humor, often joking with the regular Sunday school leader about who was the better teacher.

The recordings were too important, being both historic and timely, to leave in the church archives, so I had them transcribed and, in April 2024, published

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PRESIDENT, from page 1

in a book, Mr. President, The Class is Yours: Jimmy Carter's Sunday School Lessons in Washington, D.C.

I published the lessons in chronological order, introducing each year (1977 to 1981) with a short summary of events from his presidency because Carter rarely mentioned his day job when he was teaching. I want readers to know that the man who led Bible study on four Sundays in 1979 was also dealing with the partial meltdown of the Three Mile Island nuclear reactor in

Pennsylvania; the signing of the SALT II nuclear treaty with the Soviet Union; and the installation of new leaders in several countries, including Saddam Hussein as president of Iraq and the Ayatollah Khomeini as supreme leader of Iran.

I dedicated *Mr. President, The Class Is Yours* to my mother, Barbara Harlan, who was a resident of Lyle House from December 2013 until her death in April 2020. When I was born in 1957, my mother was working as a bookkeeper at the *Manhattan Mercury*. I've always thought that hearing the sound of the presses *in utero* was part



also dealing with the partial meltdown of the Three Mile Meadowlark's Winter Ball in 2018.

of what led me to a 20-year career as a newspaper reporter.

I used my reporting skills to write and publish a second book about President Carter and First Baptist D.C., in November 2024: Normal Lives: President Jimmy Carter and His Church. The book describes other historic material I found in the church archives, such as the original membership application cards for the president and his family, including 9-year-old Amy Carter, who requested baptism.

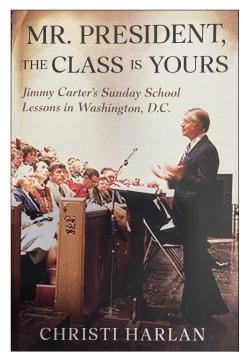
The archives also contain excerpts from the diary of a church usher, who had collected his entries about the Carters at the request of a former church historian. The usher, Doug Porter, apologized that his handwriting was shaky because of Parkinson's. For this reporter, his eyewitness accounts were perfectly legible and perfectly descriptive, such as this account from June 18, 1978:

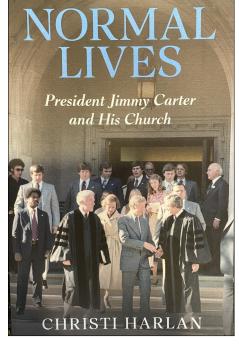
"Irene Fatula sat behind the Carters in church and said that Amy tugged at her tooth during the service. When she pulled it out, she crawled over two or three people and handed it to the

President. He looked at it a few moments and then handed it to Mrs. Carter who examined it and then put it in her purse."

The title of the second book, *Normal Lives*, comes from President Carter's remarks to a Sunday school class banquet on Oct. 14, 1978: "You have made our lives normal lives," he said. "You have given us stability in a position that is inherently sometimes unstable. A president of our country can be an isolated person. You have taken us in, and we are indebted to you."

I am indebted to Meadowlark Hills for providing my mother with as normal a life as possible while her Parkinson's-like illness





Page 2

"THE RIPPLE EFFECT OF CARE: SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER IN CRISIS"

TUESDAY, NOV. 4, AT 6:30 P.M. EVENT CENTER AT MEADOWLARK

2121 Meadowlark Rd, Manhattan, Kansas



When someone we love faces illness, grief, or trauma, we want to help — but it's not always easy to know how. Join Melanie Nord, Meadowlark Spiritual Life Leader, for a one-hour class introducing the Ring Theory — a simple, powerful tool for offering meaningful support. Learn how to comfort others, avoid common pitfalls, and strengthen our circles of care.

CANCER PROGRAM

Hosted by the Meadowlark Cancer Program

"Open to all adults | Free | No registration required



Parkinson's Education Group Monthly Meeting

"THE QUEST FOR REST: A DREAM OF IMPROVED SLEEP IN PARKINSON'S DISEASE"

Dr. Muhammad Nashatizadeh, KU Parkinson's & Movement Disorder Center



Thursday, Nov. 6, at 2 p.m. Event Center at Meadowlark

2121 Meadowlark Rd, Manhattan, Kansas

Sleep disturbances affect more than 75% of people with Parkinson's disease (PD). These challenges also interfere with care partners' sleep and well-being. Learn information about the importance of sleep, factors that interfere with the quantity and quality of sleep, and strategies for improving sleep for quality of life.

Zoom: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85012529682 Mtg ID: 850 1252 9682
There will also be a live-stream to Messiah Lutheran Church
2000 Main St. Hays, Kan. Questions? Contact Michelle at (785) 323-3899.

progressed. I have provided one copy of each of my books for the Meadowlark library because my mother enjoyed the library almost as much as she enjoyed the old pub. I hope you enjoy reading the books as much as I enjoyed writing them.

Christi Harlan is a native of Manhattan, Kan. During a 20-year newspaper career, her articles appeared on the front pages of the Wall Street Journal, the Dallas Morning News and the Austin American-Statesman. She lives in Washington, D.C., with two cats who are jealous of her time on the computer. You can read more about her books and order them from any bookseller on her website. www.ChristiHarlanWriter.com.

Thanksgiving Dinner

Thursday, Nov. 27

Reserve your spot at Prairie Star Restaurant for Thanksgiving Dinner!

Visit the host stand or call (785) 323-3820 to make your reservation. Seatings available between 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

\$25/person

Choice of Starter

BUTTERNUT SQUASH SOUP
GREEN SALAD
WITH CRANBERRY VINAIGRETTE
AMBROSIA SALAD

Entree

ROAST TURKEY
BAKED HAM
SAUSAGE SAGE DRESSING
CRANBERRY RELISH
MASHED POTATOES
GIBLET GRAVY
GREEN BEAN CASSEROLE
ROLLS WITH BUTTER

hoice of Jessert

PUMPKIN PIE PECAN PIE



EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Community Grocery Carts

So that everyone can benefit and keep our halls clear, please do not keep grocery carts in your apartment or leave them in resident hallways. Return carts to the Main Entrance or the West Entrance after use. Thank you for your cooperation!

Medicare Open Enrollment

Now to Dec. 7, 2025

It's time to review your Medicare coverage! Some insurance companies are dropping Medicare Advantage plans this year, so be sure to read any mail from your provider carefully. Dropped plans will roll into Original Medicare, but you may need to add Part D or a supplemental plan.

Meadowlark's Finance Team and resident SHICK volunteer, James Beck, are available to help you navigate changes. Check Beck's availability in the Blue Book at the Hospitality Desk to schedule a time.

Trick or Treat!

Friday, Oct. 31, at 5:30 p.m.

Meadowlark will host *Trick or Treating* from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 31. This event allows you to experience Meadowlark while trick-or-treating in a safe location. This event is open to the community as well. If you would like to volunteer with helping with this event, contact Jayme Minton.

KSU Football Watch Party!

Saturday, Nov. 1, at 2:30 p.m.

All are invited to the Kansas Room, Verna Belle's Lounge, and Prairie Star Pub, at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 1, to watch the K-State Wildcats take on the Texas Tech Red Raiders! Light refreshments will be served during the game.

Worship Services

Sunday, Nov. 2, at 10 & 11 a.m.

Join Rev. Melanie Nord, Spiritual Life Leader, for worship at 10 a.m. or 11 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 2, in the Community Room/Chapel. This week, Melanie will explore the lessons of faith from Meadowlark's company culture.

All are welcome to enjoy coffee and fellowship before or after worship in the lobby between 9:30 a.m. and 12 p.m. Page 4

Town Meeting

Monday, Nov. 3, at 9:30 a.m.

All Meadowlark residents are invited to attend November's Town Meeting at 9:30 a.m. Monday, Nov. 3, in the Event Center. Town Meeting is a great opportunity to hear Meadowlark updates from leadership team members, ask questions, and learn what to expect for activities and entertainment throughout the month!

Prairie Star Writing Group

Tuesday, Nov. 4, at 1 p.m.

Join the Prairie Star Writers, led by Cathy Hedge, at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 4, in the Patriot Room. This session's theme is "If I could Live a Day Over, It Would Be ..." What day from your past would you relive and why? Join the group to reflect, write, and share your stories of cherished memories and second chances. Meetings are held the first and third Tuesdays.

Creative Arts Therapy Group

Tuesday, Nov. 4, at 2 p.m.

Drama games, music, and art activities are all great ways to exercise your brain, learn new art forms, and connect with others. A Creative Arts Therapy Group will meet in the Community Room from 2 to 3:15 p.m. every Tuesday through Dec. 2.

Registration is not required. If you have questions, please contact drama therapy graduate student Alex at *agmcdonald@ksu.edu* or Katie and Michelle at (785) 323-3899.

Social Circles

Tuesday, Nov. 4, at 2 p.m.

All residents are invited to attend Social Circles each Tuesday at 2 p.m. in Prairie Star Restaurant. This is an informal opportunity to gather with others who call Meadowlark home and get to know one another. Join us!

Volunteer & Tech Helper

Tuesday, Nov. 4, at 4 p.m.

Deborah Goins will be available to help residents with technology questions between 4 and 5 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 4, in the Kansas Room. Deborah looks forward to building connections through this opportunity on the first and third Tuesday of every month!

EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Page Turners Book Club

Wednesday, Nov. 5, at 11:30 a.m.

The Page Turners Book Group is ending their reading year with the classic holiday story, *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* by Barbara Robinson. This beloved book centers on the Herdmans, the worst kids in the history of the world, and what happens when they take over the local church pageant during the holidays.

The first discussion will take place Wednesday, Nov. 5, at 11:30 a.m., in the Flint Hills Room. Along with reading the book, additional opportunities in December include viewing the movie at Grosh Cinema and seeing the stage musical at the Columbian Theater in Wamego. Stay tuned for details. If you would like to borrow a copy of the book or if you have questions, please contact Katie Sigman at *ksigman@meadowlark.org* or (78) 323-3899. You do not need to attend every discussion to participate; come when you are able!

Big Why Lecture Series

Wednesday, Nov. 5, at 1 p.m.

Spiritual Life Leader Melanie Nord announces a fall lecture series. Four "Big Why" Lectures are planned for 1 to 2 p.m. on Wednesdays, through Nov. 19, in the Event Center. Enriching our lives by facing some of life's and our community's big questions head on, we'll host local leaders who will help us think deeply about topics that affect our personal lives and our Manhattan community.

The next session, "Why Can't People Just Get a Job?" is Wednesday, Nov. 5., at 1 p.m. and the featured speakers will be Scott Voos and Stephanie Grynkiewicz.

No registration required to attend. Future lecture dates, topics, and presenters are listed below.

- ~ **Nov. 12** Rev. Melanie Nord Why Aren't People Going to Church?
- Nov. 19 Healthcare Panel: Jennifer Schoenhofer, Kashaya Zukowske, Jericho Taylor – Why Aren't More People Getting into Geriatric Nursing?

Wareham Hall Groundbreaking

Wednesday, Nov. 5, at 3:30 p.m.

This will be a pivotal moment in both Manhattan's and the Wareham's history. Starting promptly at

3:30 p.m., there will be several speakers before the groundbreaking activity at 4 p.m. All who are interested are invited to attend. Wareham Hall is located at 410 Poyntz Ave.

Meadowlark Men's Social Supper

Wednesday, Nov. 5, at 5:30 p.m.

Prairie Star Restaurant invites Meadowlark's men to attend a social supper at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 5. Dinner can be purchased from the Prairie Star menu, or enjoy the daily special. Registration is not required, but please check in at the host stand when arriving. This opportunity will not feature a program.

Dinner with The League

Thursday, Nov. 6, at 6 p.m.

Join in the Event Center for Dinner with the League of Women Voters. The topic will be "An Overview of League of Women Voters U.S. Domestic Positions," presented by Barbara Anderson, a League board member since 2013. The optional dinner selection is Cuban sliders, pasta salad, and fruit for \$15. Dinner will be served at 6 p.m., and the program will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Please register for the meal in the Blue Book at the Hospitality Desk.

The Music of Kennedy Anne Wichman *Friday*, Nov. 7, at 7 p.m.

Join us in the Event Center on Friday, Nov. 7, at 7 p.m. for an evening of heartfelt music with Kennedy Anne Wichman. Hailing from Green, Kan., Kennedy is a self-taught guitarist whose style blends traditional country and gospel. Whether performing solo or alongside her dad, her music reflects her faith and passion. Come enjoy this uplifting performance!

Veteran's Day Observance

Tuesday, Nov. 11, at 11:00 a.m.

All are welcome to join a traditional Veteran's Day Service on Tuesday, Nov. 11, at 11 a.m., in the Event Center, as a way of honoring those who have served our country. We will share a litany, hymn, and moment to honor veterans both in attendance and in our family/community.



Art Festival Highlights





Each ruana was created with variation of line and fabric to designate a garment created by an artist's hand.

Origin: The ruana was originally made of cotton by Native American peoples of South America. The Spanish introduced wool and a person's importance was designated by the color of the ruana. It is now created in various fabrics and is a classic, worn by the practical and the fashionable of many cultures. Enjoy!

Care: Launder with mild detergent. Dry on low. Fluff, fold twice vertically, thread through a hanger, & hang in your closet, or fold into a square, or roll into a tube and store in a drawer or a suitcase.

Versatility: Wear alone or over a blazer. Fold vertically twice and wear over one shoulder. Keep in the car to provide extra warmth on chilly days, or in airconditioned theaters or restaurants. Fold into a square to use as a cushion at sporting events. Use as a lap robe.

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Thank you to all participating artists and festival attendees for making the Meadowlark Art Festival a great success!









Skilled Nursing

11/3 Karla Johnson

11/7 Duane Miksch

11/7 Agnes Burgos

11/9 Linda Lillibridge

11/13 Susanne Bradley

11/21 Bernice Brighton

11/22 Barbara Withee

November Birthdays

Assisted Living

11/18 Paul Bullock 11/18 Carolyn Spillman

11/26 Coralie Boatman

Independent Living

11/2 Jim Carpenter11/6 Sharon Spencer

11/7 Linda Weis Olson

11/11 Doug Tippin 11/12 Lila Snell

11/12 Alice Ham

11/13 Margaret Carlson

11/14 Chuck Mowry

11/18 Judy Hostetter

11/19 Jo Lyle

11/24 Peg Ziser

11/25 Carma Lindeman

11/26 Jim Jorns

11/27 Don Dibble

11/28 Al St. Cyr

Bold denotes milestone birthdays!

11/11

11/26 Charles Horner 11/30 John Garwick

11/25 Don Lenhert

RESTAURANT **SPECIALS**

Sunday, Nov. 2	Sunday Brunch Brunch Menu available from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.	\$14 Dinner Homemade Chicken Tenders Herb-Roasted Potatoes Honey Garlic Carrots
Monday, Nov. 3	\$11 Lunch Roasted Pork Sandwich Sweet Potato Fries	\$15 Dinner Chicken Parmesan served over Linguine Garlic Bread Side Caesar Salad
Tuesday, Nov. 4	\$12 Lunch Beef & Broccoli Steamed Pork Dumpling	\$15 Dinner Bacon-Wrapped Meatloaf stuffed with Cheese Cheesy Potatoes Peas & Onions
Wednesday, Nov. 5	\$11 Lunch Cowboy Burger French Fries	\$14 Dinner Swiss Steak Mashed Potatoes Honey-Glazed Carrots
Thursday, Nov. 6	\$11 Lunch Fried Chicken Sandwich Macaroni Salad	\$17 Dinner Chicken & Sausage Cajun Pasta Garlic Bread House Side Salad
Friday, Nov. 7	\$11 Lunch Taco Bar	\$16 Dinner Fried Catfish Cornbread Pudding Coleslaw
Saturday, Nov. 8	\$11 Lunch Sloppy Joe Tator Tots Broccoli Salad	\$15 Dinner Chicken-Fried Steak Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Corn

Weekly Opportunities Calendar Nov. 2 to Nov. 8

Put your trash at the curb! 8:45 a.m. ~ Transport to College Ave UMC, VE 9:30 a.m. ~ Sunday Morning Fellowship, VE 10:00 a.m. ~ Transport to College Ave UMC, VE

10:00 a.m. ~ Worship Service, CR

10:30 a.m. ~ Transportation to FUMC, VE

11:00 a.m. ~ Worship Service, CR

Monday • Nov. 3 Trash & Recycle pick-up

8:30 a.m. ~ IL Resident Council, BR

9:30 a.m. ~ Town Meeting, EC

9:30 a.m. ~ Seated Strength, CR/1960

9:30 a.m. ~ Memory Care Partners Group, PR

10:00 a.m. ~ Art Committee, BR 10:30 a.m. ~ Weights 101, CR/1960

11:00 a.m. ~ Rock Steady Boxing, BF 11:30 a.m. ~ Sit & Be Fit, CR/1960

1:00 p.m. ~ Parkinson's Exercise Class, CR/1960

1:30 p.m. ~ God Talk, KSU CL

1:45 p.m. ~ Parkinson's Voice Class, CR

2:00 p.m. ~ Tai Chi, 1960 only

5:30 p.m. ~ Tuttle Creek Dinner, MR

7:00 p.m. ~ Community Bingo, CR

Tuesday • Nov. 4

10:00 a.m. ~ Memory Activities Class, EC

10:15 a.m. ~ Mat Yoga, KSU CL

10:30 a.m. ~ Steady Yourself, CR/1960

11:15 a.m. ~ Chair Yoga, CR/1960

1:00 p.m. ~ Prairie Star Writers Group, PR

2:00 p.m. ~ Creative Arts Therapy, CR

2:00 p.m. ~ 10-Point Pitch Group, GR

2:00 p.m. ~ Social Circles, PS

2:00 p.m. ~ Water Media Painting, KSU CL

3:00 p.m. ~ Coffee Corner, EC 4:00 p.m. ~ Tech Help, FHR

6:30 p.m. ~ The Ripple Effect of Care, EC

Wednesday Nov. 5

9:30 a.m. ~ Seated Strength, CR/1960

10:00 a.m. ~ Walmart/Dillons Shopping Trip, VE

10:00 a.m. ~ Memory Care Partners Group, FHR

10:00 a.m. ~ Memory Café, KSU CL

10:30 a.m. ~ Weights 101, CR/1960

11:30 a.m. ~ Sit & Be Fit, CR/1960

11:30 a.m. ~ North Monarch Luncheon, BR

11:30 a.m. ~ Page Turners Book Club, FHR

Wednesday ● Oct. 29, continued

1:00 p.m. ~ Big Why Lecture Series, EC

2:00 p.m. ~ Tai Chi, 1960 only

3:00 p.m. ~ Rock Steady Boxing, CR

3:00 p.m. ~ Sing-a-long, FHR

4:00 p.m. ~ 4th Floor Social, FHR

5:30 p.m. ~ Meadowlark Men's Social Supper, MR

Thursday • Nov. 6

9:00 a.m. ~ Messenger Team, KSU CL

10:00 a.m. ~ Mat Yoga, KSU CL

10:30 a.m.. ~ Steady Yourself, CR/1960

11:15 a.m. ~ Chair Yoga, CR/1960

11:30 a.m. ~ PD Care Partner Social, PS

1:00 p.m. ~ Parkinson's Exercise Class, CR/1960

2:00 p.m. ~ Water Media Painting, KSU CL

2:00 p.m. ~ Parkinson's Education Group, EC

4:15 p.m. ~ Meadowlark Singers Practice, CR

5:30 p.m. ~ Meadowlark Circle Dinner, MR

6:00 p.m. ~ Dinner with the League, EC

Friday • Nov. 7

7:30 a.m. ~ Rock Steady Boxing, BF

9:30 a.m. ~ Seated Strength, CR/1960

10:30 a.m. ~ Weights 101, CR/1960

11:30 a.m. ~ Sit & Be Fit, CR/1960

2:30 p.m. ~ Fanny & Furby, KR

3:00 p.m. ~ Catholic Mass, CR

7:00 p.m. ~ Music of Kennedy Anne Wichman, EC

Saturday • Nov. 8

9:00 a.m. ~ Tai Chi, 1960 only

9:30 a.m. ~ Band Bust Exercise Class, 1960 only

Room Abbreviations

1960, TV Channel 1960

BF, Body First

BR, Bison Room

CR, Community Room

CY, Courtyard

EC, Event Center FHR, Flint Hills Room

GC, Grosh Cinema

KR, Kansas Room

MM, 120 Scenic Drive MR, Manhattan Room

KSU CL, KSU Classroom

PR, Patriot Room **PS**, Prairie Star Restaurant

STM, St. Thomas More Church VBL, Verna Belle's Lounge

VE, Village Entrance

WPL, Wamego Public Library



GROSH CINEMA SHOWTIMES

MONDAY TO SATURDAY 1:00 P.M. / 4:00 P.M. / 7:00 P.M. SUNDAY 2:00 P.M. / 6:00 P.M.

SUNDAY: Nov. 2

THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT (1995) PG-13, 1 hr. 54 min. Romantic Comedy, Political Drama

Cast: Michael Douglas, Annette Bening, & Martin Sheen

A widowed U.S. President running for reelection and an environmental lobbyist fall in love. It's all above-board, but "politics is perception," and sparks fly anyway.

MONDAY: Nov. 3 RESIDENT REQUEST

WONKA (2023) PG, 1 hr. 56 min. Adventure, Fantasy, Family

Cast: Timothee Chalamet, Gustave Die, & Murray McArthur

With dreams of opening a shop in a city renowned for its chocolate, a young and poor Willy Wonka discovers that the industry is run by a cartel of greedy chocolatiers.

TUESDAY: Nov. 4 RESIDENT REQUEST

SCHINDLER'S LIST (1993) R for language and actuality violence, 3 hr. 15 min. Period Drama, Tragedy

Cast: Liam Neeson, Ben Kingsley, & Ralph Fiennes

In German-occupied Poland during World War II, industrialist Oskar Schindler gradually becomes concerned for his Jewish workforce after witnessing their persecution by the Nazis.

WEDNESDAY: Nov. 5 RESIDENT REQUEST

THE GODFATHER (1972) PG-13, 2 hr. 55 min. Epic, Crime, Drama

Cast: Marlon Brando, Al Pacino, & James Caan

The aging patriarch of an organized crime dynasty transfers control of his clandestine empire to his reluctant son.

THURSDAY: Nov. 6 RESIDENT REQUEST

MONUMENTS MEN (2014) PG-13, 1 hr. 58 min. Period Drama, War, Biography

Cast: George Clooney, Matt Damon, & Bill Murray

An unlikely World War II platoon is tasked to rescue art masterpieces from German thieves and return them to their owners.

FRIDAY: Nov. 7

THE MONEY PIT (1986) PG, 1 hr. 31 min. Farce, Slapstick Comedy

Cast: Tom Hanks, Shelley Long, & Alexander Godunov

A young couple struggles to repair a hopelessly dilapidated house.

SATURDAY: Nov. 8 RESIDENT REQUEST

ANNIE HALL (1977) PG, 1 hr. 33 min. Romantic Comedy

Cast: Woody Allen, Diane Keaton, & Tony Roberts

Alvy Singer, a divorced Jewish comedian, reflects on his relationship with ex-lover Annie Hall, an aspiring nightclub singer, which ended abruptly just like his previous marriages.