

**CONSTRUCTION** — Many streets in Riverside are undergoing construction with closings and detours, please plan for a couple extra minutes to make it to church on Sunday!

**FRIDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP** — Join us at Lou and Martha's Heine's home tomorrow night for an evening of fun! Bring an appetizer and a beverage to share and enjoy a lovely summer evening with your church family. Meet us at 124 Gage Road in Riverside from 7 - 10 pm. Adults only, please. (Please let us know if you are interested in hosting a future Friday Night Fellowship in your home. Contact Karl-Heinz Meyer - kalle1015@aol.com - or the church office.)

### **MISSION TRIP REFLECTIONS**

It is nearly a week since we pulled into the parking lot at 10:00 pm after a week-long trip to Heifer Ranch in Perryville, Arkansas. Many of you who attended worship on June 11 got a taste of what our young people learned. If you missed worship I encourage you talk to one or all of them about their experience. It will change your life.

My time with them was certainly life-changing for many reasons. The first reason is that I was reminded that our future, as a congregation, as a nation, as a world is in wonderful, capable, compassionate and smart hands. The group of young people we took did not need the facilitators at Heifer to explain to them that our world's resources are not divided fairly; they already knew that. However, then we spent twelve hours in the Global Village. Global Village participants experience some of the daily struggles people in poverty face every day. Participants are randomly assigned to a village site representing areas such as Zambia, Thailand or Appalachia. Each family is given limited resources for their evening meal. Before they can eat, they may need to acquire resources from other families in the village, build a fire as well as cook their own meal. It is hoped that participants gain a deeper understanding of the struggles faced by people around the world. Our young people were transformed by the experience. They began to understand that our world will only change when we stop and recognize that there are people all over the world that do not have some of the privileges we have, and the only way change can take place is if we view the world from someone else's perspective.

Our young people spent time taking care of God's creation, which at Heifer took the form of GOATS, llamas, chickens, ducks, bees, TURKEYS, jungle fowl, pigs, cows, the list goes on. I emphasized goats and turkeys as these two seemed to be favorites of ours. I think nearly everyone enjoyed milking the goats and feeding the baby goats. Ask Olivia about milking; she will fill you in. Eva and Natalie got very personal with a goat. I will let them tell you all about that experience. On Sunday the eleventh, Natalie shared a bit about the turkeys and encouraged us all to be a bit more like a turkey when it comes to church – it was a great reflection; ask her about it. Spending time caring for these animals and being reminded of how they provide resources for us was extremely gratifying.

Our group also spent time working in the fields. Perryville is in one of the poorest counties in Arkansas, and the vegetable and fruit that we helped plant, weed, and harvest is used to alleviate hunger. We began to understand in new ways the interconnectedness of the world around us. What we grow, eat, and throw away has an effect on people all around the world. Heifer believes that there is enough for everyone IF everyone would use their resources wisely and fairly and then share those resources with others.

I said it on Sunday and I will say it again: our young people are gifts to us from God; they hold the future of this church and the world in their very capable hands. We adults would do well to LISTEN to them and learn from them. An ancient Native American Proverb sums it up well:

*Treat the earth well: it was not given to you by your parents,  
it was loaned to you by your children.  
We do not inherit the Earth from our Ancestors,  
we borrow it from our Children.*

The same should be said for our church, our government, our nation and our world.

Dale

**CARERS CORNER** — July is Stars and Stripes month. The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 187 will be accepting our donations for their "Packages Abroad" program. Everything we donate will be used by a member of the armed services deployed abroad and by those who visit the USO at O'Hare Airport. The long list of materials will be posted on the wall next to the trunk in the foyer. It includes non-perishable snacks, personal care products and fun items to occupy their off-duty hours. The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 187 is also hoping that we would submit a list of service men and women deployed abroad from our own families, friends and neighbors. Let the church office know the name of the GI, and his or her FPO (Fleet Post Office) address or their APO (Army Post Office) address. The Auxiliary will be sure to send a card or package out to that GI.

**CHANCEL FLOWERS**—You can donate chancel flowers in honor of a special occasion or in memory of a loved one. The sign up sheet is on the bulletin board outside of the church office. You have the choice of taking the flowers home after the service, or having the deacons deliver them to someone of your choice or the deacons' choice. The cost is \$50.00 for two arrangements. If no one signs up, flowers will not be displayed in the chancel for that particular Sunday. If you have any questions, you can call the church office 447-1520.

**HUMAN SCENE** — Join us in the Parlor at 8:30 am every Sunday as Human Scene features a series of TED Talks on a variety of subjects or other material for discussion. We will reflect on these stories through the lens of our Christian faith.

**June 25** - Having departed from our previously scheduled TED Talks to discuss how we might forge a community at RPC that "speaks its truth and seeks the truth of the other" with the help of the TED Talk "Say your truths and seek them in others" by Elizabeth Lesser, this week we will view and discuss the ideas of Brene Brown that she presents in her TED Talk from 2010, "The power of vulnerability." Come join us for lively discussion as well as our search to be a more authentic Christian community.

**July 2** - Brene Brown will be our guide in a TED Talk from 2012 titled "Listening to Shame." This follow-up to her talk on vulnerability discussed on June 25 will give even further insight into the difficulties of being honest with ourselves and others regarding both our limitations and our gifts. This honesty is a necessary root for a healthy and productive community and will be key to our showing love for one another and representing Christ faithfully in the world.

**July 9** - We will view a TED Talk by Jonathan Haidt, "The moral roots of liberals and conservatives," and seek to draw comparisons between the characteristics he describes and those of the various groups with which Jesus interacted - disciples, religious leaders, government officials, and those in need. The programs for July 16 and 23 have not yet been confirmed. Watch the weekly announcements for further information.

**July 16** - More on Heifer International and the Heifer Experience - Matt Lisle will share a video that offers deeper insight into the mission of Heifer International; and he and others who went on the mission trip will share more of their experiences and answer questions from those in attendance. Come and become more fully acquainted with this life-giving mission.

The programs for July 23 and 30 have not yet been confirmed. Watch the weekly announcements for further information.

**WORSHIP AT CANTATA AND SCOTTISH HOME** — The Deacons welcome any and all congregation members to join us in the worship service for the residents of Cantata on July 2 at 2 pm, and at the Scottish Home on July 16 at 2 pm.

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** — The next Presbyterian Women's Horizon Bible Study will be Wednesday, June 28 at 10 am in the social hall. All women are welcome and coffee is served as we discuss "*Who is Jesus? What a Difference a Lens Makes*" by Judy Yates Siker. Lesson Nine: According to Contemporary Culture. Background Scripture: Matthew 15:21-28; Luke 10:38-42. Key Scripture: Matthew 15:21-28 Elizabeth Musick will lead. This concludes the study.

**STRAWBERRY SOCIAL—SAVE THE DATE! —**

The social event of the summer--the RPC Strawberry Social--will take place on Wednesday July 19. Don't miss it--mark your calendar! Tickets will be on sale after worship beginning June 25 and through the office in the upcoming weeks. As always, we will need lots of volunteers to bake, serve and help at the event. Contact Karl- Heinz Meyer or any member of the Fellowship Committee if you have any questions

**FOURTH OF JULY PARADE**—The Outreach Committee is looking for any interested and available RPC members to accompany RPC's unit in Riverside's 4th of July Parade. Contact Patti Friend at [pfriend@luc.edu](mailto:pfriend@luc.edu) or 708-359-5326 or Steve Marcus at 847-873-2813.

**SUMMER SCIENCE CAMP** — Summer Science Camp is fast approaching! This fun event takes place 7/5-7/7, from 9:30-12:00. We are seeking volunteers to help out. Please look for an email with the SignUpGenius link, or contact Susan Zander directly to see how you can help. Parents, have your kids grown like weeds since last year? We are ordering new lab coats, and would appreciate your exchanging the kids' old ones if you still have them. Just drop them off at the office at any time between now and the 30th of June. Thank you!

**DAILY DEVOTIONALS** —Copies of the July-August Upper Room are available in the Library and Parlor.

**TRUSTEES —**

*Trustees of the Month June:* Brad Staubus and Nancy Jensen

*Trustees of the Month July:* Jim Sit and Henry Vogel

**BUY A BRICK, LEAVE A LEGACY!** —Last chance for summer installation of an engraved brick paver for the north lawn! Small bricks are \$150 and Large bricks are \$500. Order forms are available outside the church office. Orders must be received by Sunday, July 16 for installation this year. Your tax-deductible gift will fund the Capital Improvement projects. Please contact the church office or Susan Deems-Dluhy with any questions.

**REFUGEE FAMILY UPDATE** — A family of four has endured 8 years in a refugee camp in Eritrea, which has been fighting for its independence from Ethiopia since 1958. They flew on a non-stop 8,863 kilometer flight from Istanbul to Chicago, safely arriving June 7<sup>th</sup>. They were exhausted and elated all at the same time. They had smiles of joy, while trying to take in at the same time the enormity of their decisions. At some point in time they hope to come to RPC and express their thankfulness for what both churches have done for them. We ask that you keep David, the father, his wife Tesfay, their 8 year old son Razi, as well as their 18 month old son Azaiel in your prayers. While most of the resettlement of the family has been completed, the RRR committee is still active in the mentoring program.

**SUMMER OFFICE HOURS** — *During the summer the office will be open on Wednesdays and closed on Fridays.*

The hours are 9 am to noon. Marika Floros will be staffing the office this summer. Donna Jones will continue to handle the contributions and financial statements over the summer.

## JULY BIRTHDAYS

*Happy Birthday to:*

Emily Kedzie, 7/1	Stephanie Messner, 7/1	Elowyn Scheetz , 7/1
Jim Ulrich, 7/1	Deb Pike, 7/3	Stephan Meuyou, 7/6
Patti Perry, 7/6	Ryan Colbrese, 7/9	Jim Marciniak, 7/11
Quinn Risley, 7/11	Avery Long, 7/13	Murphy Regan, 7/15
Catherine Glawe, 7/16	Lorraine Meyer, 7/16	Cooper Sahlas, 7/17
Lynda Nadkarni, 7/18	Cody Kazarian, 7/20	Margaret Vacek , 7/20
Mary Louise Schwarz, 7/22	Ellen Allen, 7/24	Jean Tess, 7/24
Allie Burke, 7/25	Lisa Burke, 7/25	Cyril Friend III, 7/25
Fred Mitchell, 7/25	Jordan Ballerine, 7/26	John Lynch, 7/26
Tyler Pratico-Floros, 7/27	Sally Sloane, 7/27	Keegan Buttimer, 7/28
Alia Vonesh, 7/28	Kendall Hastings, 7/29	Amanda Hejna, 7/29
Dale Jackson, 7/30	Kirsten Jantze, 7/30	Susan Zander, 7/30
Wesley Deason, 7/31	Justin Kreimes, 7/31	