

Riverside Presbyterian Church

116 Barrypoint Road, Riverside, IL 60546 ~ (708) 447-1520

MARCH 26, 2017 ~ WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

EXPANDED ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR APRIL

From
the
Pastor

It has been a great pleasure getting to know and working with the Jr. and Sr. High Youth Group these past few months. On June 3, the Senior High Youth Group and some great adult volunteers will head to Heifer Ranch International in Perryville, Arkansas, for a week of learning, fellowship and service. Heifer International uses a program of strategically connected projects aligned with a long-term commitment that empower small-scale farmers around the world to achieve socially, economically and environmentally secure livelihoods. Heifer's programs are designed to unify their smaller projects to address large-scale, regional challenges.

This year, the Christian Education Committee is striving to make the Mission Trip affordable for ALL our Senior High Youth, but to do this we need your help. I hope you will consider supporting our Youth Mission Trip. There are many ways you can impact the life of a young person. An easy way is to donate money to offset the cost of the mission trip. If you choose to do that, please mark your checks for RPC Youth Mission and drop them in the offering plate. And you can participate in the upcoming fundraisers:

1. Trivia Night – see related article
2. Maundy Thursday, April 13, the Youth are preparing soup for our Maundy Thursday dinner. We ask those who join us for the service to make a donation to the Youth Mission Trip.
3. Friday, May 5 is the Adult Fund Raiser- see related article.
4. Sunday, May 21 the youth are hosting a brunch following Worship and donations will be accepted.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT, April 2

Scripture – Mark 6:30-44

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY, April 9

Scripture – Mark 14:12-22

MAUNDY THURSDAY, April 13

Scripture -- 1 Corinthians
11:17-34

EASTER SUNDAY, April 16
(Services at Sunrise and at 10 am)

Scripture – Isaiah 25:6-8,
John 6:25-35



TEAM TRIVIA NIGHT — The RPC Youth Group is hosting a Team Trivia Night on Friday, April 7, 7:00 p.m. to raise funds for their Mission Trip to Heifer International. Teams of 8 people will compete for cash prizes and acclaim as winners of the first RPC Trivia Night. Invite your friends and family to fill a table. The entry fee is \$160 per table (\$20 per person). To reserve a table,

fill out the form in the announcements or contact Dennis Cobb at dlc0906@gmail.com. If you can't fill a table on your own, let Dennis know and he will keep a list from which teams can be created.

If you are unable to attend but would like to support the Youth group on Trivia night, here are some ways to be involved:

Donate cash, goods, or gift cards to be used as part of our silent gift basket raffle.

Speak to Lisa Marciniak, Dennis Cobb or Reverend Jackson for more details.

Consider sponsoring a round of Trivia. Sponsorship is only \$50 per round.

Sponsorship includes inclusion in pre-event advertising as well as mentions throughout the evening, and we'll gladly use any logos or artwork you provide.

Brush up on your trivia knowledge! It will be an evening of fun and fellowship!

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS — MARCH

- elected Thom DeVries and Frank Gangware as members-at-large of the Personnel Committee

-approved closing the RPC Money Market account, which has a monthly fee, and adding those funds to the checking account, which has no fees

-approved holding same-sex marriages at RPC. PC(USA) has allowed each Session to decide whether or not to hold such marriages and for each Pastor to decide whether or not they wish to officiate.

-discussed ways to encourage more dialogue between elders and members of the congregation who have questions, comments, and concerns about RPC to increase transparency and understanding.

Mary Ann Sadilek
Clerk of Session

HOLY WEEK— Maundy Thursday dinner and service will start at 6:00 pm. Donations will be accepted for the youth group mission trip. Our Easter Sunday celebration is at 10:00 am and will include trumpet, timpani, choirs and bells. Come celebrate and be ready to say, "He is risen indeed!"

SUNRISE EASTER SERVICE— An Easter Sunrise Service is being planned for 6:30 am on the memorial walk on the Scottswood side of the manse, to be led by the Rev. Doug Asbury. Those who attend are invited to stay afterward for a coffee fellowship in the manse.

ALL CHURCH FAMILY WORK DAY ON APRIL 9, 1-3 PM

LETTERS FROM SESSION

Dear RPC Members and Friends,

Recently the office received a call from someone looking for a place to have a wedding. RPC has a long history of welcoming those who want to commit to marriage in the eyes of God. A number of our members over the years were drawn to RPC through the very conscious wedding ministry of Rev. Roger Kunkel. Being welcomed by Roger celebrating their marriage, they stayed on and became integral parts of the RPC family. Roger's grace and RPC's acceptance in performing weddings was an affirmation of God's command to love one another.

Today, in the Presbyterian Church (USA), we have the opportunity to share this grace and acceptance with a wider swath of God's children than ever before. In 2015, the General Assembly voted to change the wording in the Book of Order so that church weddings could be celebrated by same-sex couples. Although no PC(USA) session is compelled to approve and no teaching elder to perform a same-sex wedding, each is now free to do so with the blessing of the denomination.

The call that came into the office recently was an inquiry for such a wedding. As it turns out, the session had not yet made a ruling as to whether RPC would host same-sex weddings, so a motion was made and a vote was taken. It is with great joy that the session announces it voted in favor of approving same-sex weddings on the same basis as all weddings that have been performed in our church. (For more information, see **The Book of Order W-4.90000**)

It is our belief that the sacrificial love of a committed marriage between two people pleases God. Encouraging such a love, and supporting its adherents through our own love and acceptance is what we feel we are called to do by God, and we feel it will be a blessing upon all involved as we do so as a church family.

Dear RPC Members and Friends,

Last month, Session shared a note with you regarding our commitment to lead Riverside Presbyterian Church to a healthier ministry. We invited you to bring us your questions, comments, concerns and celebrations to share with us in this journey together.

In order to facilitate this conversation and promote transparency, there will be a table each Sunday at coffee fellowship marked "Talk to an Elder." An elder or two will be sitting at the table and we encourage you to join us for informal conversation about the decisions we are making as a Session and the work we are doing on our committees to turn our focus outward to serving the needs of God in the greater community. We hope that you will take the opportunity to sit and talk with us during fellowship. We look forward to talking with you.

In Christ's Peace,

Lisa Aulerich-Marciniak	Jeanine Buttimer	Diane Chaney	Patti Friend
Doug Harvin	Gwen Heine	Martha Heine	Deb Jansky
Matt Lisle	Kaki Lynch	Susan Lynch	Karl-Heinz Meyer
Lynda Nadkarni	Dennis Zander		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
<p>2</p> <p>8:30 am Human Scene 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Coffee Fellowship 11:00 am Open Gym for All Kids 2:00 pm Worship at Cantata (British Home)</p>	<p>3</p> <p>5:15 pm Volleyball 6:00 pm Christian Education Committee Meeting 6:00 pm Fellowship Committee Meeting 7:00 pm Mission Committee Meeting 7:00 pm Outreach Committee Meeting 6:00 pm Worship & Music Committee Meeting</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6:30 am Men's Forum 7:00 pm Deacons Meeting</p>
<p>9 Palm Sunday</p> <p>8:30 am Human Scene 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Coffee Fellowship</p>	<p>10</p> <p>5:15 pm Volleyball 7:00 pm Trustees Meeting</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6:30 am Men's Forum</p>
<p>16 Easter</p> <p>6:30 am Easter Sunrise Service 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Coffee Fellowship 2:00 pm Worship at the Scottish Home</p>	<p>17</p> <p>5:15 pm Volleyball</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6:30 am Men's Forum</p>
<p>23 Confirmation & Bible Sunday</p> <p>8:30 am Human Scene 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Mission Committee Meeting 11:00 am Coffee Fellowship</p>	<p>24</p> <p>5:15 pm Volleyball</p>	<p>25</p> <p>6:30 am Men's Forum 11:15 am Staff Meeting</p>
<p>30 Jazz Sunday</p> <p>8:30 am Human Scene 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Coffee Fellowship</p>		

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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5 Office Closed 4:15 pm Riverside Ringers & Singers 6:30 pm acaBELLa Ringers 7:30 pm Chancel Choir	6 6:30 am Women's Forum	7 7:00 pm Trivia Night Fundraiser for Mission Trip	8 9:00 am Confirmation Retreat
12 Office Closed 4:15 pm Riverside Ringers & Singers 6:30 pm acaBELLa Ringers 7:30 pm Chancel Choir	13 Maundy Thursday 6:30 am Women's Forum 6:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service and Dinner	14 Good Friday	15
19 Office Closed 4:15 pm Riverside Ringers & Singers 6:30 pm acaBELLa Ringers 7:30 pm Chancel Choir 7:30 pm Session Meeting	20 6:30 am Women's Forum	21 10:00 am CARERS Committee Meeting	22 6:00 pm Confirmation Banquet Confirmands meet with Session
26 Office Closed 10:00 am Presbyterian Women's Bible Study	27 6:30 am Women's Forum	28	29

HUMAN SCENE — Join us in the Parlor at 8:30 am every Sunday.

April 2 - "Creative Transformation" The essence of human nature is to take part in the dynamic and imaginative process of creation; transforming us, our relationships, our institutions, and our world. Come consider with us how such transformation might be possible. **April 9** (Palm Sunday) - Today we consider the final segment of the "Living the Questions" series of lessons: "Embracing Mystery." Christian practice is being re-visioned, re-tooled, and re-claimed by those who are living the questions of their faith. They're attentive to ancient ways, comfortable with ambiguity, and open to the unknowable and indescribable mystery of the Divine, embracing the mystery and finding that they themselves are embraced in return. **April 16** (Easter Sunday) - No Human Scene today.

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 April 2 at 2 pm, and at the Scottish Home on April 16 at 2 pm.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to:

Lonnie Womack	4/1	Jacob Gregus	4/11	Jennifer Baird	4/24
Elijah Ourth	4/2	Michael Sit	4/11	Roxane Sedlacek	4/24
Chris Allen	4/4	Lily Luethje	4/16	Marjory Thompson	4/24
Stuart Marciniak	4/6	Emily Hastings	4/17	Janice Barr	4/25
Karl Vacek	4/6	Katie Hejna	4/19	Phillip Dluhy	4/25
Avery Gordon	4/7	Tim LeBeau	4/19	Ruby Henderson	4/27
Vaughn Hilpp	4/7	Jeffrey Burke	4/21	Kyle McKain	4/27
John Haugland	4/10	Doug Harvin	4/23	Jason Gordon	4/29
				Art Canavera	4/30

CONFIRMATION - Since September 2016 the Confirmation Class led by Reverend Jackson, Patti Friend and Bill and Vicky Vogel have been meeting nearly every Sunday morning. On Sunday, April 23 the Confirmands, Calvin Friend, Olivia Meyer and Danielle Wolff, will be welcomed into membership of RPC, pending the approval of Session. Please join us at the 10:00 service and at Coffee Fellowship afterwards to welcome this great group into our church family!

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING— Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with people experiencing need. Kids: Don't forget to keep up with your Fish Bank in the coming weeks. Please return your Fish Banks to church between April 9 (Palm Sunday) and April 16 (Easter). Adults: offering envelopes are in the pews, or you may note One Great Hour of Sharing in the memo line of your check.

SAVE THE DATE FOR MISSION TRIP ADULT FUNDRAISER!

We hope you will be able to join us for a Cinco de Mayo party at the home of Tara and Dan Gregus on Friday, May 5! More details to follow but we know for sure that there will be good Mexican food and drink. All profits to go to the mission trip fund. Ole'!

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY — Presbyterian Women's Horizon Bible Study will be Wednesday, April 26 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 Seven: According to Hebrews. Joyce Van Cura will lead.

CARERS COMMITTEE & KIDS UNITE IN MAY — This month the CARERS Committee, in conjunction with the Sunday School, will be collecting cereal of all kinds for the First Presbyterian Church of Chicago.

JAZZ SUNDAY IS APRIL 30 — Andrew Tecson and his jazz musician colleagues will be featured at morning worship on April 30. At least since 2006 the annual "Jazz Sunday at RPC" has been a beloved tradition, with the band providing all music for the service. The son of RPC member Caroline Tecson and the late Joseph Tecson, Andy, a lawyer (a graduate of the University of Chicago Law School), grew up in Riverside and has played the saxophone since he was a young boy. He is a composer as well and began composing music as a student at Riverside - Brookfield High School. Some of his compositions are the Jazz Psalms, the Chicago Jazz Mass, and more recently, with his fellow musicians Bobby Schiff and Bobby Lewis, a Jazz Passion. All of these works have been performed in regional churches and beyond. A special treat to enjoy is the opportunity to hear the members of this talented ensemble improvise individually on their instruments: Andy Tecson, saxophone; Bobby Schiff, piano; Stew Miller, bass; Jerry Coleman, drums; Ken Jandes, saxophone; Bobby Lewis, trumpet; and Kecia Waldschmidt, vocalist. You won't want to miss this lively service. Please join us!

SUNDAY SCHOOL — Sunday school is on spring break 3/26 and 4/2. When we return the children will be working on the rotation, 'Easter Around the World.' We will be collecting the kids' fish banks during service in Palm Sunday and Easter.

RPC SUMMER SCIENCE CAMP — Summer science camp is filling up quickly! Let us know if you would like your children to attend. We will be recruiting teachers and assistants soon, so keep an eye out for the email with more information.

BIBLE PRESENTATION — 2nd grade Bible Sunday is April 23rd. All kids 2nd grade (or older) who have not received a Bible are invited to be part of this special day. Please email or call Susan for more information.

NO GIRLS GROUP THIS WEEK — Girls Group is on break this week because of Spring Break. We will meet next after school on Friday April 7. Watch your email for details! Questions? Contact Tara at taragregus@yahoo.com

GIRLS GROUP IN APRIL! All junior and senior high-aged girls are invited to join us at any of our meetings. In April, we will meet on: Friday, April 7 after school for a Yoga session, Saturday April 15 at 10 am to color Easter eggs and have an Easter egg hunt, Wednesday April 19 at 7pm to discuss Healthy Dating Relationships, and Wednesday April 26 at 7 pm, topic to be determined. If you have any questions, please contact Tara at taragregus@yahoo.com. Bring a friend and you both earn a prize! Hope to see you!

RPC PRESCHOOL— April will be a busy month with our in-school visit from the Humane Society and our trip to the Riverside Arts Center and police station. Our annual geranium sale begins next week. The quality of the geraniums is always top-notch. Thanks for your continued support! Thank you so much for your generous support of our Book Fair and Raffle. It was a great success!

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Ushers: Shawn Brady, Dessa Myers, Susan Lynch and Claire Gangware

Liturgist: Megan Foran

Thank you to John Haugland for joining today's Ministry of Music.

Andrew Ministers: Beverly Aieta and David Harper

Communion Servers: Dennis Zander, Diane Chaney, David Harper and Paula McCracken

Coffee Fellowship is hosted by Henry and Deb Vogel and family.

Trustees of the Month: March: Cyril Friend and Joel Hastings

Trustees of the Month: April: Susan Deems-Dluhy and George Meyer

A NOTE ABOUT OUR EMAIL AND OUR WEBSITE — The rpcusa.org emails and website are under transition and are not currently active. Please refer to the box below to find the active email addresses. We will debuting a new and improved website soon! Thank you for your patience.

Mission Statement

We gather as a church family to:

Celebrate God's Presence ~ Nurture the Spiritual Life

Carry the Light of Christ into the World ~ Serve God by Serving Others

RIVERSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dale Jackson, Pastor 502-592-1617 (cdjackson86@gmail.com)

Linda Hutcheson and Donna Jones, Office Managers

(rpcoffice@sbcglobal.net)

Dr. Sally Sloane, Minister of Music (musikhse@comcast.net)

Susan Zander, Director of Children's Education (smozan@icloud.com)

Tara Gregus, Girls Group Advisor (taragregus@yahoo.com)

Ellen Hamilton, Treasurer (rpcellen@gmail.com)

Susan Lisle, Preschool Director (rpcpreschool@sbcglobal.net)

