

THE PRESCHOOL BOOK FAIR AND RAFFLE — March 2-8 This is the Preschool's biggest fundraiser. We have some great baskets for our raffle this year! During the Book Fair and Raffle on Sunday, March 5 from 12:00-1:30 pm the Preschool will have an Open House. The Open House will be for new and returning students to pick up paperwork, prospective families to meet our teachers, and take a look at our beautiful facility. Please spread the word!

DAILY DEVOTIONALS — Copies of the March-April *Upper Room* are in the library and Parlor.

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 be 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)

Riverside Presbyterian Church

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

March 5, 2017 ~ **WEEKLY NEWSLETTER**

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Today

8:30 am Human Scene
8:45 Confirmation Class
9:00 Sunday School
10:00 Worship;
Called Congregational Meeting
11:15 Coffee Fellowship
11:15 Open Gym
12:00 Preschool Open House
2:00 Worship at Cantata

Monday

6:00 pm Monday Night Live!
Committee Meetings: Christian Ed, Fellowship, Mission, Outreach, Stewardship and Worship & Music

Tuesday

6:30 am Men's Forum
7:00 pm Deacons Meeting

Wednesday

4:15 pm Ringers & Singers
6:30 acaBELLa Ringers
7:00 Girls Group
7:30 Chancel Choir

Thursday

6:30 am Women's Forum

Sunday

8:30 am Human Scene
8:45 Confirmation Class
9:00 Sunday School
10:00 Worship
11:15 Coffee Fellowship
11:15 Endowment Meeting

PRAYER CONCERNS – Healing for Dennis Zander and Joyce Van Cura.

BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY

Worship involves the senses. The light filtering in through the stained-glass windows, the colors of the vestments, and even the words we read in our Bibles fascinate us visually in worship. The sounds of musical instruments and voices raised in song grip us audibly. The feel of the pews and the communion table engage our sense of touch. All of these sensations come together to form our worship experience.

In *Bread for the Journey*, Rolf Svanoe has sought to attract our other senses, enhancing our encounter with God. This Lenten worship series includes sharing the Biblical stories of Bread and the smell and taste of fresh baked bread. Throughout Lent we will celebrate communion every Sunday with fresh baked bread.

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT, March 12
Scripture – Exodus 12:1-11

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT, March 19
Scripture – Exodus 16:1-21, Luke 11:1-4

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT, March 26
Scripture – Deuteronomy 8:1-18, Matthew 4:1-4

CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

TODAY -- Session calls a Called Congregational Meeting for Sunday, March 5, 2017 immediately following worship. The meeting is called for the sole purpose of voting on Session's recommendation to change the terms of call with The Reverend Dale Jackson to include a 1.5% increase in his effective salary, effective April 1, 2017.

HUMAN SCENE —Join us in the Parlor at 8:30 am every Sunday. **3/12 - "Incarnation: Divinely Human."** The meaning of the incarnation has been debated since the beginning of Christianity. Although often associated with Jesus alone, the notion of incarnation can be understood most fully when it also includes Jesus' followers, called, like Jesus, to en flesh the Spirit in divinely human ways.

MONDAY NIGHT LIVE! On 3/6 we will meet in the Social Hall at 6 pm for a potluck dinner followed by our regular first Monday committee meetings. We will meet in the Social Hall at 7 pm on 3/13, 3/20 for dessert and a discussion of *Christianity after Religion: the End of Church* and the *Birth of a New Spiritual Awakening*, by Diana Butler Bass.

TEAM TRIVIA NIGHT — The RPC Youth Group will be 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, 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. Brush up on your trivia knowledge! It will be an evening of fun and fellowship!

SUNDAY SCHOOL — It's been called the greatest story ever told. The four gospel writers found the events of Jesus' life so profound that even as they attempted to write the details, they didn't always agree. Mary Magdalene comes through the gospels as a clear voice of witness. Sunday school will discuss this in detail through a variety of lessons during the month of March. Please see our Facebook page for images from their lessons, as well as updates on our Summer Science Camp.

GIRLS GROUP MEETS WEDNESDAY MARCH 8 --- All junior and senior high girls are invited to attend Girls Group at RPC on Wednesday March 8 from 7-8 pm in the parlor. We will play a game and have a discussion. Questions? Contact Tara at taragregus@yahoo.com. Bring a friend and you both earn a prize. Hope to see you!

BLANKETS +, CHURCH WORLD SERVICE — RPC supports Blankets Plus, a ministry of Church World Service, assisting people worldwide who are affected by a natural disaster. Checks should be made payable to Riverside Presbyterian Church with "Blankets +" in the memo line.

OPEN GYM FOR KIDS TODAY — The gym is open for the kids the first Sunday of every month, immediately following Worship. Parents, please bring your children upstairs and wait with them until our supervisor arrives.

CARERS CORNER MARCH — Fill the CARERS Trunk for BEDS Plus in LaGrange. BEDS Plus provides individuals a safe overnight shelter and services needed to help escape homelessness. Supplies needed: Ground Coffee (decaf only please), No Tea (they have plenty), Drink mixes - Lemonade, Cider, Cocoa , Napkins, Paper Towels, Dish Detergent, Garbage Bags - 13 gallon and 30 gallon size. Note: These items are utilized at the facility.

COMPANIONS FOR MOTHER'S DAY PROJECT— Each year we supply packets of pretty writing materials to imprisoned women and juveniles so they have something nice to send their mother or children on Mother's Day. Once again we ask your help. Materials needed: postage stamps, stationery (not white), note cards: blank, Mother's Day, Thinking of You, gallon zip lock bags, donations to help cover delivery costs. Please make checks payable to: Companions, Journeying Together, Inc. Do not send cards, envelopes or stationery that has anything glued, pasted or taped on it or stickers attached. Donations are due by April 1.

ALL COMMITTEE CLEAN-UP — On Sunday March 12th, there will be an All Church/All Committee workday immediately following coffee fellowship. We will be "spring cleaning" - that is, cleaning and reorganizing shelves, cabinets, etc. in the social hall, kitchen and various closets and cubby holes elsewhere in the church. The aim is to donate or discard items no longer of use (or of which we have too many) and consolidate them according to committee usage. Storage space is at a premium — we will be dividing it up according to need and use patterns. **It is extremely important that each church committee be** represented by however many members are necessary to accomplish the purpose. Please poll your committee members to insure adequate attendance. Many hands make light work!

PER CAPITA FOR 2017 — RPC pays \$33.38 per registered member to the Presbytery USA to fund things like leadership training, worldwide mission work, inter-church gatherings, seminary matters and the other resources that are provided to all members of the Presbytery. Please consider paying your portion even if you have already pledged. Payments can be made by using the Per Capita envelope found in your pledge card box, regular check with "Per Capita" in the note section or online.

LOOSE COIN OFFERING — On the first Sunday of each month, we dedicate all loose coins in the offering plates to feed the hungry. The money will go to the Presbytery of Chicago Hunger Fund.

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 March 5 at 2 pm, and at the Scottish Home on March 19 at 2 pm.

TIME CHANGE — Don't forget to set your clocks ahead an hour before you go to sleep on Saturday, March 11 for Daylight Saving Time!