

CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING — There will be a congregational meeting Sunday, following Worship for the purpose of electing church officers. The Nominating Committee submits the following individuals for Session: Martha Heine, Lynda Nadkarni, Frank Gangware, Dennis Zander – class of 2020; John Haugland – class of 2018. Deacons: Sally Sloane, Lloyd Bradbury, Jeanne Smith and Charlie Juister – class of 2020. Trustees: Hank Vogel, Doug Harvin and Patti Perry-Halline – class of 2020; Connie Nestor – class of 2018. Support and Endowment: Caroline Tecson.

It's Coming! It's Coming!

Our trip to the Holy Land will be here before you know it. We depart September 3, 2018 from Chicago and return September 12, 2018.

Join us on this 10-Day journey where we will visit all the major sites, such as the Sea of Galilee, Mt. of Beatitudes, Jordan River, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Jericho, Mount of Olives, Jerusalem and Cana.

Will I be safe on this trip? Educational Opportunities (EO) has a long-standing commitment to safety. You are in less danger in Israel than you would be on a trip to New York City or Washington D.C. Not only is Israeli security vigilant and aware, your tour guides and EO representatives will be with you at all times. What makes me safe? 1 Security on planes bound for the Middle East go through several additional security precautions and procedures. 2 Security within Israel and Palestine is much more strict than within the USA. 3 Statistically, the crime rate in Israel and Palestine is lower than the typical US city, including your home town! 4 It is a small place... just 50 miles wide and 150 miles long. It is easy for our office to keep a watchful eye on situations in various regions of Israel and Palestine. 5 To our knowledge, no Christian Pilgrim from the USA has been killed in Israel during the last 42 years. 6 Since our first Holy Land trip, more than 37 years ago, we have never had a major incident.

The trip costs \$3,596 and includes airfare, hotel, breakfast and dinner, gratuities and entrance fees. Consider bringing a friend! If you have questions, please speak to Reverend Jackson or Ellen Hamilton!

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Thank you to the Riverside Ringers for joining Sunday's Ministry of Music.

Acolyte: Jaden Zander

Ushers: Jeanne Smith, Laura Vanags and Claire Gangware

Liturgist: Megan Foran

Andrew Ministers: David Harper and Connie Kelly

Flowers Sunday are in loving memory of Dorothy Jansky from Jon and Deb Jansky

Trustees of the Month: Alfred Kitch and Susan Deems-Dluhy

SUNDAY SCHOOL — *November 19:* We will have an all-ages Sunday school celebration this week! Discussion will revolve around expressing gratitude and how it opens our hearts and invites more blessings into our lives. Children will make and bring home 'gratitude jars' for their families to use over the Thanksgiving week.
Sunday 11/26: **NO** Sunday school this week.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT — The air is getting crisper, leaves are starting to pile up on our lawns and it's time to think about... the annual RPC Christmas Pageant! The pageant will take place on 12/17 during service, with a script reading on 12/10 at 9 a.m. and a dress rehearsal 12/16 at 1 p.m. All are welcome to be part of the festivities! More details will be emailed to families in the coming days.

HUMAN SCENE NOVEMBER — Having heard and discussed Biblical scholar Joel B. Green's ideas about reading the Bible in the community of interpreters as a practice that leads to transformation into those who seek to represent the mind and heart of God to the world, Human Scene will seek to put his ideas into practice using portions of the book of Genesis. Each class will involve a systematic reading of the text, meditation on the text, and then shared reflection on the text, with all attendees being asked to share their reflections with the rest of the class. Come join us for what should prove to be a stimulating and growthful process.

November 19 - Genesis 4:1-8; 6:1-22

November 26 - Genesis 7:6-8,14

THEOLOGY ON TAP — Join us Monday, November 20. Dinner at 6:30 discussion at 7:00 at the Grapevine, 9 West Hillgrove Ave. LaGrange.

The Bible is the sourcebook of our Christian faith. It rightly occupies a central place in our study and devotional practice. Yet it has always posed a challenge for those of us who try to read its words and grasp its message. It can be both familiar and foreign, both helpful and puzzling—all at the same time. How can we begin to use and understand the Bible with more confidence? Let's find out!

SAVE THE DATE

- ~ Sunday, November 26 Thanksgiving Hymn Sing
- ~ Sunday, December 3 Advent begins with a worship series on "A Christmas Carol"
- ~ Sunday, December 10 4:00 pm Messiah
- ~ Sunday, December 17 10:00 am Children's Christmas Pageant
- ~ Sunday, December 24 10:00 am Worship with Communion
- ~ Sunday, December 24 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Service of Carols and Poetry

POTLUCK AND CARING CHRISTMAS DECEMBER 3— Our December potluck will be especially festive. We're combining it with our Caring Christmas, the RPC tradition when we assemble trays of cookies to deliver to our church members who are unable anymore, to come to church. Also, new members are joining that morning and a cake will be provided. We're asking all who attend to bring either a salad or main dish, and if you're able, some cookies, bars or brownies as well. With them in hand, we will be able to assemble an exceptional assortment of delicacies for our twenty or so members who are unable to worship with us.

COME TO CHURCH ON DEC. 10TH AT 4 PM AND BE LIBERATED! — Yes, you will feel liberated from your cares and concerns for a minimum of 60 minutes when you come listen to Handel's Messiah. A definition of Messiah is savior or liberator. Handel's music will fill the sanctuary, your mood will be lifted, your worries liberated, and don't forget the non-alcoholic libations to follow the performance! Mark your calendar and feel free!

CARERS NEWS — The CARERS Giving Tree will benefit women and children sheltered in the Constance Morris House. The paper ornaments on the tree list Christmas gift items. Take some ornaments, purchase the items and place the unwrapped gifts under the tree. Opportunity to bring gifts will continue from Sunday Nov. 19th until Sunday Dec. 3rd. The CARERS trunk will continue to collect nonperishable food items throughout the Thanksgiving and Christmas season. There is a great need at this time of year.

WOMEN'S CIRCLE for Fellowship and Study will meet Wednesday, November 29 at 10:00 am in the Social Hall. All women are welcome to join us for coffee, fellowship and study as we discuss "*Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews*" by Melissa Bane Sevier. Lesson Four "In Community with God's Messengers" Sylvia Schade, Leader.

LITTLE FOOD PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED — individually wrapped toilet tissue, small boxes of feminine hygiene products, granola/cereal bars, canned meats and fruits both with pop top or cellophane lids.

WASSAIL BOWL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED — We need volunteers to help with our traditional Wassail Bowl following the Messiah performance on Sunday, December 10th. If you can bring baked goods, or are able to help with set-up, serving or clean-up, please contact Deb Jansky newhorizonz002@gmail.com or Karl-Heinz Meyer kalle1015@aol.com

RPC REUSABLE BAGS — The Outreach Committee is giving stylish reusable bags with the RPC logo to our new members as a welcome gift. They are also available for purchase for a \$5 donation.

CHRISTMAS IS COMING – NEED GIFT CARDS???? — You can help RPC Preschool and get a head start on your Christmas shopping using gift cards from Great Lakes Scrip. There are so many vendors, and many of them have bonus offerings from time to time that increase the percentage given back to the church. Remember, these cards are good for their face value—there is no additional cost to you. Please have your order form and check made out to RPC in the office by Thursday for following week delivery. The office has additional order forms. This is an ongoing fundraiser.

BRICK PAVERS — Need a gift idea for someone who has everything? Consider honoring a loved one for the holidays with a BRICK PAVER in our outdoor worship area. Or share a favorite Bible verse or saying. The proceeds are added to our Capital

Fund to finish paying for the organ restoration. Find forms outside the church office or online at rpcusa.org. If you have any questions, please contact Susan Deems-Dluhy or any Trustee.