



The Vision

September 2008

INTRODUCING MARY KOON

In September, RPC begins a new era with our staff. A seminary student named Mary Koon will join us, and she will work in several concentrated areas of our mutual ministry. Mary will lead a small group for teenage girls (meeting on Wednesday evenings), she will assist the deacons with both parts of their work (care of our own congregation and care for those beyond our congregation), she will teach an occasional class, and she will assist in worship leadership.

The funding for this position comes from a generous donation from John Sikich and his family in memory of Cori. Hence, Mary's salary will be entirely separate from our operating budget and have no effect on our budget shortfall. She will work between ten and fifteen hours per week, depending on the circumstances, and she will stay with us until the summer of 2009.

By way of introduction, I asked Mary to tell us about herself, and this is what she wrote in reply.

"I am a native of Connecticut and was raised in a Congregational church. After graduating from Colgate University in 1981, I married my husband, Jim, and moved to North Carolina, where we lived for 18 years. We are the parents of four children, aged 24 to 14. While our children were small, I taught early childhood education and served in a United Methodist Church as director of Adult Education. After moving to La Grange in 2002, I served as Small Group Coordinator for First Presbyterian of La Grange. I am a part-time student at Chicago Theological Seminary, am an inquirer for ordination in the PCUSA and recently completed a unit of Clinical Pastoral Education at Good Samaritan Hospital in Downers Grove. I look forward to getting to know the folks at RPC and serving God together."

I'm sure you will all give Mary a warm RPC welcome. Since her position is new, her specific tasks may be somewhat fluid at first. If you have any specific suggestions of how she might serve within the areas mentioned, please let me know. I personally feel that Mary's service holds an extraordinary potential for God's ministry here.

See ya in church,

Scott

We are called to celebrate God's presence; Nurture the spiritual life of each individual; Carry the light of Jesus Christ to the world; and Serve God by serving others.

Inside this issue:

Worship Preview	2
Session News	2
Trustees	3
Children	4
Scouts	6
Mission Trip	8
Youth Group	9
Kickoff Picnic	10
WNL!	10
Rummage Sale	10
Presbyterian Women	11
Italian Dinner	11
New Library books	12
Human Scene	12
Camp Saugatuck	13
September Signup	14
Share the Harvest	14
CARERS Corner	14
Calendar	15

Worship Preview • September 2008

September 7 Matthew 18:15-17 “Teachers Make Better Lovers” How should a Christian respond when there is a disagreement within the church? Sunday School Kickoff Sunday and we will celebrate Communion.

September 14 Romans 14:1-12 and Matthew 18:21-35 “Christian Forgiveness” Why are Christians supposed to forgive, and what exactly does it mean to forgive?

September 21 Matthew 20:1-16 “Free Lunch Here” Why do Presbyterians baptize infants, even though many other Christians do not? We will celebrate baptism today.

September 28 Philippians 2:1-13 “Working Out Salvation” How are we to “work out our own salvation?”

Session News

Prior to the regular August Session meeting, the elders met with the deacons to discuss items of common interest. These included:

- ◆ a financial review which showed a budget deficit to date of \$36,000;
- ◆ a report on the progress of the Genesis Covenant and the possibility that the churches involved might decide to join together as a new congregation in a new facility; RPC would have the option of participating if desired;
- ◆ Rev. Jansen’s goals for the coming year, based on input from the elders, include expanding duties of ushers/greeters to encourage more interaction with visitors after Worship; sponsoring an adult mission trip; developing a young adult ministry, and incorporating a wider variety of musical styles and forms into Worship;
- ◆ regular contact by the deacons with all RPC members in their deacon district was encouraged.

Highlights from the regular session meeting:

- ◆ Ana Knasiak, Marty Lubeck and Debbie Lubeck were received as new members
- ◆ The baptism of Finn Lubeck on September 21 was approved
- ◆ A letter of transfer was approved for Dan & Mary Lou McEachran from RPC to the Eastminster Presbyterian Church, Indiatlantic, Florida
- ◆ A special congregational meeting was called for September 7, following Worship, for the purpose of filling a vacancy on the board of deacons.
- ◆ The stewardship committee authorized the trustees to hold a fundraiser for stained glass window restoration. Inscribed bricks will be sold and used to pave the area surrounding the rose garden.
- ◆ The stewardship committee will hold an Italian Dinner and Auction on September 28.
- ◆ During the coffee hour, there will now be a separate “kid-friendly” area in the social hall for children to have their refreshments and socialize.
- ◆ Rev. Jansen will present a review of the PCUSA General Assembly during the September 7 Human Scene class.
- ◆ Additional committee members are needed for the finance committee and the membership committee, and any RPC member is welcome to join these groups.

News from the Trustees

Autumn is approaching and temperatures are waning, but the weeds keep growing. The Building and Grounds Committee welcomes any weeding time you have. Thank you to all who have trimmed, mulched and weeded this summer! Look in the bulletin for the date of the September All Church Family Work Day.



The refrigerator has been found ajar on several occasions; when one door is closed, the other sometimes pops open. To keep this from happening, one side of the refrigerator will be locked and the key will be kept in the office. The freezer will be turned off until needed to save electricity.

Eagle Scout candidate, Austin McKain, has been working hard this summer to plan his Eagle Scout Project, which he will be implementing this fall. He will be removing the paving bricks from the curb area in front of the church, restoring the soil and grass, and using the pavers to create a path in the back garden. We look forward to seeing the finished project!

Thank you to Jake Dluhy for taking out the recycling throughout the summer.

Did you know....

that the buildings housing RPC were destroyed by fire on two occasions? The original "Stone Chapel," built by the Riverside Improvement Company, caught fire on the morning of October 1, 1878, and burned almost to the ground. Only a few sections of wall remained, including the bell tower. Reusing the stone from the original chapel, a new building was constructed, and dedicated in October of 1880. In the early morning hours of February 18, 1964, a fire gutted the south (education) wing. The rebuilt education wing was completed only two years later, and dedicated on September 18, 1966.



The Stone Chapel

Music & Fiesta!

Fall Choirs Resume at RPC for 2008/2009

Handbell and Chancel choirs will begin to rehearse on Wednesday, September 10.

Handbell Choir rehearses from 6:30 - 7:30.

Chancel Choir rehearses from 7:30 - 9:00.

Children's Choirs will begin rehearsing on Wednesday, September 17.

Riverside Singers rehearse from 4:15 - 4:45.

Riverside Ringers rehearse from 4:45 - 5:15.

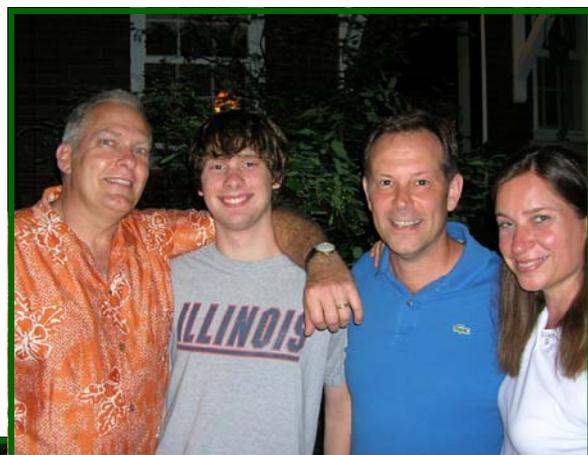
MESSIAH

Save the date for the 2008 performance of Handel's Messiah on Sunday, December 14 at 4:00 p.m.

All four choirs are open to members and non-members of RPC. Children should be old enough to read to participate in the choirs. Handbell choir members need to read music. If you are not able to participate on a regular basis, substitutes are always needed. Please contact Sally Sloane at musikhse@comcast.net for more information.

Mexican Fiesta!

On Friday, June 6, approximately 65 people enjoyed a lovely evening of food, drink and fellowship at the home of Frank and Claire Gangware. Approximately \$3,500 was raised to help pay the expenses of the leaders of the 2008 mission trip to Mobile, Alabama. Thanks to all who supported this good cause and a big thanks to the Gangwares for sharing their beautiful backyard for the party.





Kick-Off Sunday September 7

Back from the summer slump, the Sunday School year kicks off on September 7!

- 9:00a.m. Children’s Sunday School K-8 meets in rooms as posted
Confirmation Class students and parent(s) meet in the Westminster Room
High School, College and other adult learners meet in the Parlor for Human Scene
Childcare available for those not yet school-age
- 10:00 a.m. Worship with communion
Children’s Worship (Godly Play) after the children’s sermon in the Westminster Room
- 11:00 a.m. All Church family Potluck sponsored by the Fellowship Committee
Bring a dish to share – burgers, hot dogs and beverages provided

Passport Theme

The Greatest Book is the theme for the Passport to the Promised Land year. Throughout the next 12 months, we’ll discover how stories in the Gospels—Matthew, Mark, Luke and John—compare to each other. We’ll dig in to the Psalms and Beatitudes. Ever wonder just how the Bible came to be? That question will be explored in September and October. What is the greatest commandment? Find out this year! And did you know the Church Tells Time? You will by the end of next summer.



Still being taught with the multiple-intelligence model through art, science, drama, movement, and much more – yet digging deeper into the fundamentals of Christianity – guaranteed to get children thinking critically about their spiritual growth. It’s going to be another great year traveling with teachers and shepherds through Passport to the Promised Land!

Sunday School Registration

We’re going green at RPC this fall. You can find the Sunday School registration packets online at www.rpcusa.org. The Presbytery requires a new form to be completed by each family every year. Please take a minute right now to download and complete the form. The forms may be turned in to the church office at any time prior to kick-off Sunday (September 7), or at the kick-off. Thank you for taking your child’s Christian Education needs as seriously as their Public School education!

Stewardship for Children

Time...Talents...Treasures.... These will be the focus of our Sunday School offering again this year. Do you still have offering envelopes available for your children? Or have they been lost in a corner somewhere as ours (in the Nadkarni family)? Fresh boxes will be available on September 7 and throughout the year.

Encourage your child(ren) to use the envelopes not only to give a small gift of treasure but also to share gifts of talent (pictures they have drawn for God, poems or prayers they have written, etc.) or pledges of time (promises to help a neighbor or parent with a chore, for example.)

Child Protection Policy Update

Last year, RPC implemented a Child Protection Policy containing *nothing that we had not already been practicing; simply, it put our practice to paper and provided a framework for continuing our good efforts.*

Every parent of a child registered for Christian education programs, paid staff member and volunteer, read and signed an oath to uphold the policy.

Key points that we have pledged to uphold:

- ◆ PARENTS will escort their children (through 5th grade) to and from rooms in which their activities are being held. They will not leave their child unattended in the room without two adults present.
- ◆ CHILDREN will remain with the adults until claimed by their parents.
- ◆ VOLUNTEERS will work in teams, maintaining an open-door policy in their guidance of children and youth.

ALL volunteers under 18 will be at least five years older than the children with whom they work.

Full copies of the policy are available on the web site www.rpcusa.org and outside the office.

Please contact Lynda Nadkarni if you wish to learn more about the policy, the reasons behind it, or its application at RPC. We encourage you to know and learn about our dedication to uphold the nurturing and education of our children and youth.



Preschool News

Preschool beginnings are such exciting times! We can't wait to start our 38th year here at Riverside Presbyterian Preschool! We've adopted as our mascot possibly the coolest animal on earth: Rocky the Penguin from the Brookfield Zoo. Besides learning about penguins, our other themes include: "Preschool is SOOO cool!" and "Putting our best foot forward!" "Learning to 'stand on our own 2 feet' is an important feat!" We can't wait to get started with our new year and 60 eager & fun learners!

Cub Scout Pack 24

The Cub Scouts welcome all boys in grades 1-4 to join Pack 24, sponsored by RPC. The Pack will hold its first meeting of the school year on Tuesday, September 9, in the RPC Social Hall at 7:00 p.m.

Pack 24 serves boys in the general geographic area served by District 96 schools. For more information, please contact Roman Salij at romansalij@yahoo.com or Bill Suriano at wsuriano@sbcglobal.net.



Boy Scout Troop 24

Troop 24 is proud of our newest Eagle Scout, Kyle McKain, who is also a member of RPC. Kyle joins over 50 Eagle Scouts from Troop 24 dating back to 1927.

Troop 24 recently purchased a larger trailer and we are seeking a place to park or store the trailer in or near Riverside. Please contact Cindy Gustafson at c.gustafson@sbcglobal.net if you have a spot for our trailer.



Stewardship for Children

Why should we teach Stewardship to children?

Stewardship is not just for adults. Even children have wonderful gifts to give. It is extremely important that young people learn to realize that they are greatly blessed by God and that God, in turn, asks them to share their blessings. Stewardship encourages an attitude of gratitude. Stewardship teaches children the difference between needs and wants. Stewardship can help kids find peace and joy in a crazy world.

- Experts cite that children usually form their attitudes about sharing sometime between the ages of 6 and 10. They will either develop an entitlement attitude – “*The world owes me.*” “*I don’t have enough.*” or a stewardship attitude – “*I have been blessed.*” “*I am happy to share.*”
- The advertisements that children hear in the commercial world often carry the underlying, subtle message that you are not good enough the way you are and therefore you need to acquire this product or that product to make you acceptable. In church kids need to hear a different message. They need to hear that God has already blessed them with all the gifts and talents that they will need. In fact, God has given them an abundance of good things and they have enough to share.

Our children need to learn that stewardship is not just a service project that they must do before they can be confirmed or graduate. Stewardship is a way of life. It is the way a good Christian lives every day of every year.

How can we teach Stewardship to children?

Help children see that God has given them many blessings. *(This also teaches good self-esteem.)*

- Create a listing of all God’s gifts.
- Compliment them on their special gifts – simple things like nice handwriting, pretty smile, etc. Remind them that this special gift is a blessing from God and offer an idea on how they can be grateful or share that gift with someone else.

Teach children to be grateful to God for the blessings He has given us. *(This also teaches an overall sense of gratitude and a positive outlook on life. It helps kids see that the cup is half full rather than half empty.)*

- Write prayers of thanksgiving.
- Write thank-you letters to God, telling Him why His gifts are so special to them and what the child will do with those gifts.
- Help children to see that God has given them blessings to share. Discuss the poor and needy. Talk about how God has trusted us to use our gifts to help those who have less.

Show children how stewardship has built our Church. *(This also teaches appreciation and responsibility for our Church.)*

- Share the history of the church and the role stewardship played in building it as it is today.
- Tour the building looking for signs of stewardship.

Recognize that stewardship is something we do all the time. It is how we live our lives. Every decision we make about how we use our time or treasure is a stewardship decision. *(This also teaches good time management and budgeting.)*

- Keep a time sheet. How much time do you give to God in prayer? How much time do you spend learning – developing knowledge and talents that may be used later for God? How much time do you spend helping others? How much time do you spend taking care of yourself so you are strong and healthy for God’s work?
- Talk about shopping decisions; about how we can waste money when others need it. Discuss the difference between something we need and something we want. We may need soccer shoes to be part of the team – but having the most expensive or popular brand is only a “want,” not a “need.”

Help students recognize the joy that comes from stewardship. *(This also helps students realize that real happiness cannot be found in possessions.)*

- Have children discuss how they feel when they help someone else.
- Share your own experiences of helping or invite a young volunteer to come and witness to the joys of helping.

(Adapted from Stewardship Seeds by Susan M. Erschen)

Senior High Mission Trip

This year's mission trip was another terrific success! A group of 21 teens and 6 adult leaders spent a week in June participating in an Urban Mission Camp in Mobile, Alabama. We left Riverside on June 13 and began our 17-hour journey to Mobile. Our mission experience was hosted by the Government Street Presbyterian Church (GSPC), one of the oldest churches in Mobile. We stayed at Baytreat, their beautiful bayfront property in Fairhope, Alabama, which provided us with deluxe accommodations and a beautiful sunset every day! Emily Martin was the wonderful GSPC seminary intern who organized the urban experience for our group and led our devotions.

This was a different type of mission trip for our teens. Whereas most of our trips have been centered around manual labor, this one was much more of an experience being with and learning about individuals who have faced hardship in their lives, whether due to poverty, homelessness, medical problems, developmental disabilities, or other issues. This caused a certain amount of anxiety among us in the beginning, as we were all wondering "what will we be DOING?" each day. But as the days went on, we began to understand that we were learning and gaining so much from the individuals with whom we spent our days.

We worked with developmentally disabled adults in the L'Arche communities and kids attending summer camp through the Boys and Girls Clubs.



We worked in day care centers and ate lunch each day with homeless individuals at 15 Place, where anyone can enjoy a free lunch. We got to know these people and saw many of them each day at lunch and on the streets of Mobile. We served breakfast at GSPC and participated in an early-morning Bible study with homeless folks. We ate dinner with homeless men at the Waterfront Rescue Mission and enjoyed an evening service with them at the mission. We did a walking tour of Mobile to better understand the plight of the homeless. And we were guests of the lovely Government Street Presbyterian Church Sunday service on Father's Day. We even had some free time to play sand volleyball and frisbee, swim in the bay and have a lot of laughs and a good time together as a group. We returned to Riverside on June 20, exhausted, but with a new sense of purpose and understanding of the problems faced by many in our society.



Mobile, Alabama

All students going into or completing grades 9-12 are eligible to participate in our church's annual mission trip. There are certain service and youth group participation requirements to go on the mission trip. We are already starting to plan our 2009 trip! Watch for details in the upcoming issues of the **Vision**.



We will miss our seniors, many of whom have participated in several mission trips: Dylan Krug, Sara Wert, Martha Sitkiewicz, Joe Monahan and Krista Berdini.



Adult Leaders on the trip were Josh Fulton, Beth Piersialla, Tara Gregus, Dodi Krug, Scott Jansen, and Adam Mueller (not pictured)

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Calling all Senior and Junior High youth! The 2008-2009 Youth Group programs are about to begin! We will meet on Sunday evenings in the gym and the Celestial Cinema, starting on September 7. Junior High will meet from 6:00-7:15 and Senior High will meet from 7:30-8:45. Everyone is welcome, so bring a friend! At our kickoff meeting on the 7th, we will discuss plans for the upcoming year and your ideas will be welcome! Parental assistance and participation will be vital to the success of our programs. If you are a parent who is interested and willing to help out with one of our programs, please let me know.

All youth group activities will be listed in the weekly church bulletin and in each month's Vision, but any last-minute changes will be sent through e-mail, so it is important that I have an e-mail contact for each family. Please provide me with that information if you have not already done so. Any questions? Contact Tara Gregus, Youth Director, at taragregus@yahoo.com. Thanks!

Fun, Fellowship, and Learning



Our Sunday School year begins on Sunday, September 7, followed by an all-church family picnic sponsored by the Fellowship Committee. Please bring a dish to share. Burgers, hot dogs and beverages will be provided.

WNL!

This fall in Wednesday Night Live! we'll all be exploring the best selling book of all time...the Bible. Adults will grapple with how it came to be regarded as significant. Who wrote it? Why was it written? Who made copies of it and why? This series will explore what you really have in your hands when you grab that book out of your pew rack, and the keys to interpreting the pages therein. Kids and youth will start to figure out how the contents of the Bible make sense in their modern lives.

The fall semester of *WNL!* will begin October 1 and run for eight weeks through November 19. Registration information is available on-line at www.rpcusa.org or in the rack outside the office. This program has been designed to bring the whole church family and community together for mid-week rejuvenation and refreshment.

4:15 – 5:15	Children's Ringers and Singers
5:15 – 6:00	Homework Club
6:00 – 7:00	Dinner for all
6:45 – 7:45	Classes: Adults with Pastor Scott Youth with Mary Koon and Dave Borego Kids with Lynda Nadkarni Littlest people with Heather Pomey
6:30 – 7:30	Bell Choir
7:30 – 8:30	Chancel Choir

Come for dinner even if you can't stay for class! Choir members are especially invited. Come to class even if you can't make it for dinner! Invite another family to attend. It's non-denomination Christian education for people of all ages.

Deacons Rummage Sale

The Board of Deacons are asking for donations of all types for their rummage sale on September 27 (9-3). Donations may be dropped off in advance on the screened porch of the Community House (formerly the Manse), but please save the larger/heavier donations (furniture, bicycles, sports equipment, cars, boats, canoes, motorcycles) until the Friday before the sale, September 26. Please make sure the items you are giving are clean, have all the parts, and in working order.



If you drop something off in the screened porch at the Community House, please let us know by calling the church office, or [Doris Hayes](#) or [Sarah Dudak](#). There will also be an RPC members "preview sale" for a few hours in the early evening of Friday, September 26, so mark your calendars now. The Deacons are also asking for your help in organizing this sale. If you can give a few hours of your time to help set up or clean up, mark prices, collect money, or anything else, please contact Doris or Sarah.

Gathering

Our monthly Wednesday afternoon “Gathering” will be held on September 10 in the Heritage Room at the Scottish Home, with a buffet luncheon at 12:30 p.m.

Program: “Night Ministry connecting at the Crossroads since 1976” presented by Julie Delezenne, Coordinator, Congregational and Community Relations. RPC member Ellen Hamilton, who has organized volunteers for the Night Ministry, will also participate.



September 10

The Night Ministry was created out of diverse religious traditions to build relationships with vulnerable youth and adults on the night-time streets. Relationships are built in a variety of settings. Through these relationships and the provision of housing, health, spiritual, and social services, the Night Ministry seeks to empower people of all ages to meet their own needs.

Please contact [Elizabeth Musick](#) (by September 7) to make a luncheon reservation. The cost of the luncheon is \$12.00.

Presbyterian Women’s “Horizons” Bible Study

“JUBILEE! Luke’s Gospel for the Poor” is the theme for 2008-2009.

Wednesday, September 24, 10:00 a.m. at the Scottish Home—all ladies are invited. For those who would like to stay for the buffet luncheon (\$12) following Bible Study, reservations are required by Sunday, September 21. Please contact [Elizabeth Musick](#).

JUBILEE! Highlights some of the unique aspects of Jesus’ life and teaching found in the Gospel of Luke. The word “gospel” is an old Anglo-Saxon word meaning “good news.” This gospel, of course, is about Jesus Christ, but the four New Testament gospel writers tell the good news in different ways. Study books are available. Please contact Dorothy Jansky for more information.

Sylvia Schade is the leader for Lesson 1, “Jesus Announces Jubilee.” Scripture: Luke 4:16-30. Key idea: Jesus proclaimed the long-awaited time of freedom for those oppressed by poverty and exclusion. Lesson 2 will be on October 22 with Elizabeth Musick and Lesson 3 will be on November 12 with Joyce Van Cura.

Italian Dinner and Auction

The Stewardship Committee is sponsoring what they promise will be the RPC social event of the fall, an Italian Dinner and Auction on Sunday, September 28, at 5:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. Enjoy a delicious “free will offering” dinner and a fabulous auction with lots of exciting items. Fun for the entire family! Please invite your friends and neighbors to join us. Contact Lauren Cody today at haycody@sbcglobal.net to reserve your seat!



Coordinating Team

The Presbyterian Women’s Coordinating Team will meet on Thursday, September 4, at 10:00 a.m. in the Parlor.



Fun, Fellowship, and Learning

New Library Books

Three Cups of Tea by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin, (Patti Halline originally recommended this one...thanks Patti!)

This is the fascinating story of Greg Mortenson's life-long mission to provide schooling for impoverished children living in remote villages of Pakistan and Afghanistan. Mortenson's tactics for fighting the militant and predatory Taliban is to arm communities with unbiased, basic education. The stories of building schools, (primarily for girls), funding educators and the development of trust between Islamic communities and the west are heart-warming and endearing. There are, however, episodes of nail-biting action that may keep you up at night! One cannot help but feel moved by the story of his enduring and selfless commitment to the Central Asia Institute program.

The Price of Privilege by Madeline Levine, Ph.D. There are increasing diagnoses of depression among American teenagers today—not just disadvantaged teens or teens living in poverty—the cases come from teens living in healthy, affluent families. Madeline Levine investigates the lives of these young adults and uncovers a problem that, if not addressed early, undoubtedly results in devastating consequences for many teens and their families. Overly structured, academically ambitious families tending toward perfection may, unknowingly, produce kids who feel empty and unvalued inside. Despondency, depression and even suicide threaten to tear apart that family structure we hold so dear. Madeline Levine offers the tools and testimonies to recognize and act upon what is dangerously not so uncommon a circumstance.

Human Scene Adult Sunday School

September 7 GA RECAP. Pastor Scott Jansen will recap the latest (PCUSA) General Assembly news. What are Presbyterians doing at the national level, and what do we think about it? How should an individual Presbyterian relate to such national decisions?

September 14 MISSION TO COLOMBIA. Mr. Eran Wade, a young adult from Fourth Presbyterian Church, Chicago, will summarize his experiences during a month in Colombia as a member of the "Accompaniment Program," sponsored by the Chicago Presbytery. Find out how such experiences translate into national policy decisions.

September 21 YOUTH GROUP MISSION TRIP. In June our youth traveled to Mobile, Alabama for their annual Youth Mission Trip. See the pictures, hear their stories, ask your questions, and find out what they learned and how this experience will shape their understandings of the world.

September 28 LIFETIME MISSIONARY FROM BRAZIL. RPC member Elizabeth Musick spent over thirty years as a resident missionary in Brazil. Find out what such a life was like. What motivated her to go? What were Elizabeth's triumphs and struggles? Hear some interesting memories and reflections on a lifetime of service.

The theatre, the theatre, there's nothing like the theatre!

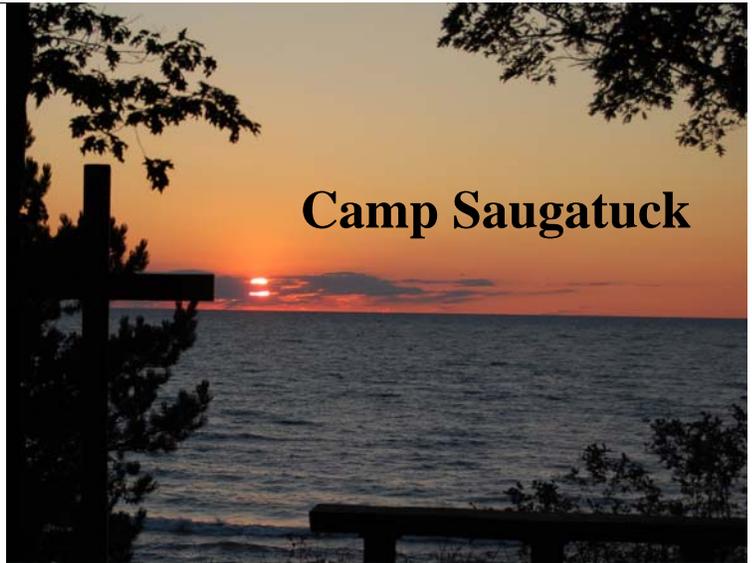
You may ask yourself why I am quoting a line from Saturday Night Live, but I need to tell you about this year's family retreat to Saugatuck. New York may have Broadway, Paris the Opera House, but this past retreat we had the best performance of the Wizard of Oz I have ever seen. It started when Laura & Rachel McLean, as well as Lily Lisle, put on a couple of skits that they created. The price was expensive, but well worth it. Later that same day, almost all the kids put on another production, the Wizard of Oz, narrated by Scott. The price was the same as the first production, a dried leaf. No leaf, you were not allowed in. In addition to the four main characters, we had flying monkeys, munchkins, witches, and of course Toto. At the end of it all, a standing applause was given. It's the little things in life that count.

I know that you have heard me say this before, but we did have a marvelous time last year even though it did rain. So you can only imagine how much fun we had this year when we had full sun all three days. The weekend started off again with a wonderful BBQ at Bill and Vicky Vogel's house in Long Beach, Indiana. Jim Marciniak did a wonderful job of not "disrespecting the cow," and again the steaks were mouth-watering.

Throughout the weekend the water was refreshing, and there were constant waves about 2 feet high. Picture in your mind sand castles with moats around them, sea gulls nesting in the sand with one eye open as to watch for kids who think they can sneak up on them, sailboats on the horizon, the smell of suntan lotion, and you could be there with us. However, you would need to know the peaceful feeling you get when you look up the sand dune, see the cross of Jesus placed strategically between a grouping of trees, and feel the warmth of Christ's love for you and me.

This year we went canoeing, went to archery, and ate great food. The only disappointment was the hot chocolate machine was low on powder twice when I snuck in without Gale asking me where I was going. My personal highlight was the fire on Saturday night on the beach. Everyone attended and music filled the air. The dynamic duo of Jim McLean on the harmonica, and John Haugland on the banjo kept the music moving, and we bought enough marshmallows this year so we have leftovers for 2009. Good times with good friends.

See you on the beach!
Steven Teune



Camp Saugatuck



Total number of people this year was 29, and we're shooting for 40 in 2009. . . Please mark your calendars now for August 7, 8, and 9th, as we will soon be making reservations for next year.



Sharing our Gifts

September Signup

Thanks to those who have volunteered as ushers, to provide flowers, and to host coffee fellowship. Dates are still available for flowers and coffee fellowship in September. Please contact the office at 447-1520 or rpcoffice@sbcglobal.net to sign up for the remaining weeks.

	FLOWERS	COFFEE FELLOWSHIP	USHERS
Sept. 7	Nadkarni Family	Potluck Picnic-Fellowship Committee	Scuff & Sue Gross/Andy Hart & Doug Harvin
Sept. 14	Open	Brad & Carrie Staubus	John & Marjorie Lewe/Colleen & Bill Muller
Sept. 21	Paula McCracken	Open	Martha & Lou Heine/Sanlee & Tom Radigan
Sept. 28	Open	Open	Pecis-Kolinski Family

Share the Harvest



Hello Harvesters (those of backyard gardens and farmer’s markets alike)! Thanks to you the *Share the Harvest* program is really taking off—In the last three weeks we have helped to stock the area Chicago food pantries with fresh tomatoes, cucumbers, zucchini, green beans and peppers! It is a wonderful feeling to know that our church provides and cares for the basic health needs of our extended sisters and brothers in the community. The harvest basket will continue to sit on the bench in our Education building on Sundays throughout September. Keep up the great ministry!

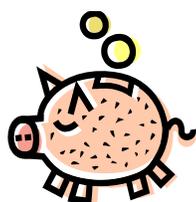
CARERS Corner

September’s food of the month is baby food and formula, which will be sent to the First Presbyterian Church in Chicago and, if needed, to the Riverside Food Pantry. We are always grateful for your generosity in this and all other requests for “Food of the Month.”



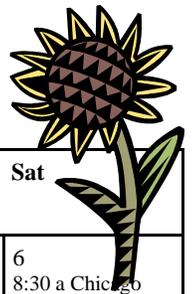
Also in September, we continue to collect for armed services overseas in “Operation Stars and Stripes,” getting donations ready for Meredith Kelly, who faithfully collects, sorts, and mails non-perishable snacks, treats, hygiene and grooming items, card games, board games, puzzles, etc. The patriotic decorated barrel is the place to put these items. A full list of suggested items is listed on the front of the barrel. We are grateful to Meredith for her faithfulness in this worthwhile charity.

Stewardship Corner



Planning for our *Fall Pledge Drive* is underway. The Stewardship Committee will be conducting an “**Every Member Canvas**,” giving us an opportunity to voice our commitment to the future of our Church as well as demonstrate it with a pledge. In the next few months, the Committee will be providing information to the congregation to provide a clear picture of our financial plans and obligations. With so many exciting happenings going on, we have confidence this will be a most successful effort.

September 2008



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Please check the Website for the most recent calendar updates!</p>	<p>1 Office closed 9:30a Womens' Bible Study 5:15p Volleyball</p>	<p>2 6:30a Men's Forum 10a Staff meeting 7p Men's basketball 7p Personnel Comm 7p Boy Scout Troop Committee</p>	<p>3 Office closed 12p Covenant Prayers for Peace 12:15p Lectionary Bible Study 7p Preschool Parent Orientation</p>	<p>4 6:30a Womens' Forum 10a Presbyterian Women Coord. Team Mtg. 6p Cub Scout, Den 8 7p Boy Scout Troop Mtg</p>	<p>5 7p Men's basketball</p>	<p>6 8:30 a Chicago Presbytery's Multicultural Task Force</p>
	<p>7 9a Sunday School kickoff 10a Sunday service with communion 11:15a Fellowship picnic lunch 1:30p Deacons' British Home worship service</p>	<p>8 9:30a Women's Bible study 5:15p Volleyball 7p Ladies Investment Group 7p Finance Comm. 7:30p Trustees mtg</p>	<p>9 6:30a Men's Forum 9a Preschool Open House 10a Staff Mtg 12:30p Preschool Open House 7p Men's basketball 7p Cub Scout Pack Mtg</p>	<p>10 Office Closed 8:45a First full day of Preschool 12:15p Lectionary Bible Study 12:30 RPC Women's Gathering 6:30p Handbell Choir rehearsal 7:30 RPC Chancel Choir rehearsal</p>	<p>11 6:30a Women's Forum 7p Boy Scout Troop Mtg</p>	<p>12 Night Ministry 7p Men's basketball</p>
<p>14 9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 11:15a CARERS Committee 11:15a Endowment Committee</p>	<p>15 9:30a Women's Bible Study 5:15p Volleyball</p>	<p>16 6:30a Men's Forum 10a Staff Mtg 7p Men's basketball 7p Deacon's Mtg</p>	<p>17 Office closed 12:15p Lectionary Bible study 4:15p Singers 4:45p Ringers 6:30 Handbell Choir 7p Session/Deacon Mtg 7:30p Chancel Choir</p>	<p>18 6:30a Women's Forum 7p Boy Scout Troop Mtg</p>	<p>19 Men's basketball</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>21 Vision Deadline 9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 2p Worship at Scottish Home</p>	<p>22 9:30a Womens' Bible study 5:15p Volleyball</p>	<p>23 6:30a Men's Forum 10a Staff Mtg 7p Men's Basketball</p>	<p>24 Office Closed 10a Jubilee! Bible Study 12:15p Lectionary Bible Study 4:15 Singers 4:45 Ringers 6:30 Bell Choir 7:30 Chancel Choir</p>	<p>25 6:30a Women's Forum 7p Boy Scout Troop Mtg</p>	<p>26 7p Men's Basketball</p>	<p>27 9p-3p Rummage Sale</p>
<p>28 9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship</p>	<p>29 9:30a Women's Bible Study 5:15p Volleyball</p>	<p>30 9:30a Men's Forum 10a Staff Mtg</p>				

"Where there is no vision, the people perish." — Proverbs 29:18

**RIVERSIDE
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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Trustees President: Nancy Jensen

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Cindy@CindyRRayfield.com

Treasurer: Alfred Kitch
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Archivist: Caroline Tecson

Wedding Coordinator: Donna Ulrich

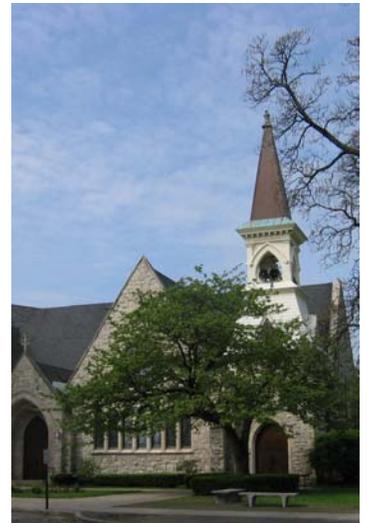
Artist in Residence: Karena Mendoza

Director of Music Emerita: Mary Ann Sadilek

Organist Emerita: Arline Robbins



Riverside Presbyterian
Church is a congregation of
the Presbytery of Chicago
(312) 243-8300. Presbyterian
Church (U.S.A)



More information about the
ministry and mission of Riverside
Presbyterian Church is available
by contacting any member of our
church staff and by visiting our
website: www.rpcusa.org.

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