



The Vision

June 2013

Christianity without Church

It's fashionable to imagine, "I can be a good Christian without being involved with a church." I agree—it is possible. Certainly Jesus never attended a church. Nor did the apostles. Nor did many of the ascetic hermits who wrote about God from desert hovels. It is possible to be like those folks—a good Christian without church.

The church is a *gift* from God to humanity. The church was formed by the Holy Spirit. This gift helps us to become good Christians without quite so much effort on our part. It takes an extraordinary effort to follow God's ways without the support and encouragement of a church.

What does it take to be a good Christian? Here is where most people go astray. The fashionable answer is: if I don't kill anybody, if I don't get drunk, or swear too much, or cheat on my spouse, or steal anything, or get in trouble with the law, and, if I'm usually nice to the folks around me, then I'm a good Christian.

While I would not recommend throwing those values out the window, nevertheless, that is not what being a good Christian means. Unfortunately, no human has the final authority to unilaterally declare the definition of a good Christian. But, that doesn't stop us from giving our opinions. So, while giving you permission to ignore this, the following is my definition of a "good Christian."

To follow "the way" of Jesus, one must do five things that Jesus did frequently: worship, pray, study, evangelize, and help others.

Worship means to adore God. It requires time spent accomplishing nothing except to contemplate the glory and majesty of God. Worship humbles us. It doesn't require any specific type of music or language or dress code, but it does require significant time.

Prayer means communication with God—both speaking and listening. This can be done with or without words, in any posture, individually or communally, eyes open or shut, with or without memorization. But it does require intention to communicate.

Study means seeking to intellectually understand God better through exposure to the thoughts of others. Typically, this involves the Bible, but not necessarily. It can be done at the library, in the parlor, or on the beach. But it does require engaging thoughts about God other than your own.

Evangelism means talking with other people about what God means to you. The best way to help yourself to understand what God means to you is to try to explain it to someone else.

Helping others may be the easiest one to do without a church's help. The key is to do what they need, not to do what you imagine that they should need.

Can you do all this without attending a church? Sure you can. But if you go to church as a regular discipline, it's a lot harder for some of these things to slip through the cracks of your busy schedule.

Your brother in Christ,
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.

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Worship

June Worship Schedule

June 2 *Luke 7:1-10* “Whom Do You Shun?” What caused Jesus to consider the centurion’s request? What obstacles hindered their communication? When should we avoid others, and when should we build bridges? Today we will also celebrate Communion.

June 9 *Luke 7:11-17* “Whom do you help?” In a time of great oppression, when many people were dying tragic deaths, whom did Jesus choose to help? Is this passage more about the power of miracles, or the reasons that some were singled out to be helped? We will also be ordaining Keri Burke as a compassionate and helpful deacon today.

June 16 *Luke 7:36-8:3* “Thanking the Workers” The woman thanks Jesus for providing forgiveness. Other women thank Jesus for providing healing. Jesus recognizes the work done by those women for him. Do we acknowledge those who work hard and provide for us? We will also mention Fathers’ Day today.

June 23 *Galatians 3:23-29* “Clothed with Christ” What does God see when God looks at us? What does it take to become “clothed with Christ?” What did the Galatians wrongly believe we should do to be clothed in Christ? There will also be New Members Recognition this Sunday.

June 30 *Luke 9:51-62* “A Little Bit Pregnant?” Is it possible to be just a little bit “Christian,” or is being “Christian” something that redefines the core of one’s identity? Is Jesus asking us to reject our family relationships, or is he simply setting those relationships within the proper priority structure? Does Christianity accommodate itself to our needs, or do we accommodate ourselves to Christ’s needs?



June Opportunities

If you are able to host Coffee Fellowship, please contact [Paige Rambeaux](#) or [Russel Brown-Memoh](#)

For flower contributions, please contact the [RPC Office](#)
Potential Acolytes and Liturgists, please contact [Claire Gangware](#)



| | Liturgists | Acolytes | Ushers | Flowers | Coffee Fellowship |
|---------|------------------|----------|--|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| June 2 | Dennis Zander | OPEN | Susan Lynch Jim Ulrich Fred Shuparra & Virginia Yang | OPEN | Staubus Family Ranft Family |
| June 9 | Youth | OPEN | Kate & Allan Chard Will & Susanne Vogel | OPEN | Steve Marcus |
| June 16 | Frank Gangware | OPEN | Aieta Family | Karen Chobot | OPEN |
| June 23 | Michael Aieta | OPEN | McLean Family | OPEN | OPEN |
| June 30 | Stuart Marciniak | OPEN | Steve Marcus Harvin Family | OPEN | Sandra Kappmayer & Dennis Zander |

Session Highlights

In June, the Session:

- ◆ approved vacation leave for Rev. Jansen from August 19-September 1;
- ◆ approved a request from the PreSchool Board to change the terms of the school's contribution to RPC from 10% of total revenue to 11% of total annual tuition receipts;
- ◆ tabled a decision on proceeding with restoration of the Rose Window until after a special Session meeting with Neal Vogel of Restoric, Inc. to clarify details of his restoration proposal;
- ◆ decided to hold a fund-raising auction on September 29 and is seeking volunteers to serve as co-chairmen of the event; and
- ◆ approved forming a task force to assist in reconciling a disagreement between some members of the RPC family.

Mary Ann Sadilek
Clerk of Session



Bonnie Carlson 6/1
Ryan Cermak 6/2
Will Gangware 6/2
Sue MacDonald 6/2
Sylvia Schade 6/2
Jake Strand 6/2
Susanne Vogel 6/2
Margaret Abbott 6/3
Judy Booton 6/3
Kathleen Feary 6/3
Lily Henderson 6/3
Phyllis Sit 6/4
Cyril Friend IV 6/5

Ella Hooglander 6/5
George Kazarian 6/5
Jill Vacek 6/6
Tricia Willinger 6/6
Tony Miezio 6/7
Alan Booton 6/8
Shirley Falconer 6/8
Sandra Kappmeyer 6/8
Alexandria Krug 6/8
Dylan Krug 6/12
Dennis Zander 6/13
Russel Brown-Memoh 6/14
Olive Sahlas 6/14

Ellie Pearson 6/15
Sophie Rambeaux-Olson 6/15
Karon Nettles 6/16
Thom DeVries 6/18
Mia Haugland 6/18
Riley Schexnayder 6/19
Donna Ballerine 6/21
Kelsey Buttimer 6/21
Robin Jensen 6/21
Amanda Gregus 6/22
Max Marciniak 6/22
Abigail Schwarz 6/22
Jeff Willinger 6/22

Bailey Hastings 6/23
Maria Bradbury 6/25
Scuff Gross 6/25
Patti Friend 6/26
Mark Jantze 6/26
Tara Gregus 6/27
Hailey Jurgens 6/27
Peytan Tamlyn 6/27
Eva Harvin 6/29
Drake Sahlas 6/29
Brad Staubus 6/29
Peter Tess 6/29

Trustees for June are David Schade & Hank Vogel.

Environmental Mission Meeting June 4

What does an environmental mission look like? Who can participate and how? Where do we start?

Help us explore these questions with the Rev. Dr. Clare Butterfield, from [Faith in Place](#), a nationally-recognized inter-faith organization that has helped hundreds of congregations establish strong directions for stewardship of God's Creation. Our Board of Deacons has invited Dr. Butterfield to help guide our thinking about this critical ministry in our times. On Tuesday evening, **June 4**, the Board of Deacons will host a session on establishing an environmental mission at RPC. Dr. Butterfield will describe her experience with diverse congregations who have established eco teams to integrate environmental stewardship into their missions. Come help us explore the potential for this mission in our church. The meeting will be at 7:00 pm in the Parlor.

Deacons in Action



We do mission work in partnerships!

Need a ride to church? Home communion? Prayers or visitation?

CONTACT YOUR DEACON!

Lloyd Bradbury (A-Bo)

Thom DeVries (Br-Ce)

Mary Jansen (Ch-Da)

Kathleen Feary (De-Fl)

Susan Zander (Fo-G)

Jeanine Buttimer (H)

Ellen Hamilton I-K)

John Haugland (L-Ma)

Gwen Heine (Mc-My)

Stephen Marcus (N-Pe)

Nancy Dvorak (Pf-R)

Frank Gangware (Sa-Se)

Sandra Kappmeyer (Sh-Sm)

Susan Lisle (So-T)

Deb Pike (U-Wa)

Steve Teune (We-Z)

Youth Deacons - Hannah Pecis & Keri Burke

Your deacon is easily identified by the letter(s) behind their name, which corresponds to the first letter of your last name.

Kathleen Feary was elected by the Congregation to fill the unexpired term of former Deacon, Noemi Sanchez. Welcome, Kathleen!

New Members

RPC is pleased to welcome the new members pictured (left to right):

Greg Peacock

Justine Finn

Christopher Bouse

Frank Van De Vanter

Gayle Prendki



Giving of our Time & Talents

This is the first in a series of articles showcasing the contributions of **Time** and **Talent** given by people behind the scenes to keep RPC running smoothly. By offering their services at no financial cost to the church, we are able to do more with the funds we receive.

Volunteer Highlight – *Jim Ulrich*

Jim has been an active member of RPC for about 30 years. He currently serves as the Secretary of the **Finance Committee**. The Finance Committee is chaired by an elder and provides guidance on the annual budget and other major financial issues. Jim is also a member of the **Endowment Committee**, which oversees the maintenance and use of gifts and bequests that have been given to the Endowment Fund.

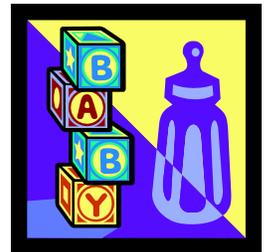
In addition to these commitments, Jim also takes care of a lot of other tasks – reconciles bank statements to match Treasurer’s records, maintains Church Staff bulletin board, sets up for Adult Education on Sundays, assists our Wedding Coordinator (his wife), and proofreads the **Vision**. In the past, Jim served as Treasurer for 17 years, as Clerk of the Session, and as President of the Board of Trustees.

Asked why he is driven to help out at RPC, Jim said that when a person joins a group he “should be willing to do a share of the work to keep the organization going.” Prior to retirement, Jim worked as a chemical engineer and his “skills of organizing things, problem solving, and technical writing have carried over into my life outside of employment, and I am glad to use whatever capabilities I might have to support the life of Riverside Presbyterian Church.”

Thanks, Jim!

CARERS Committee

The CARERS wishes to thank Jenny Kolinski and all the school children who helped make our May collection for cereal such a rousing success. It was so appreciated. In June we turn our thoughts and concerns to the [Constance Morris Home](#) and the needs of babies. We are asking for baby food, formula, diapers, small blankets, and perhaps a rattle or two.



Memorial Committee News

Always In Our Hearts - The Memorial Committee would like to let the congregation know that memorials lovingly given in memory of Kohar Havelka have been designated to go to the Music Fund.

Finance Update

Year-to-date financial status at end of April (33% of the way through the year):

| | |
|---------------|------------------------------|
| Receipts | \$ 108,558 (33.0% of budget) |
| Disbursements | \$ 118,103 (35.8% of budget) |
| Deficit | \$ 9,545 |



Children

Passport to the Promised Land

Sunday School finished off a great year with a Pentecost celebration! The students enjoyed a beautiful Sunday morning outside on the church lawn, giving thanks for another blessed year together.

Summer Schedule

Sunday School, Teen Scene, and Godly Play will be on break during the summer but will resume after Labor Day. Summer hours for child care are 9:45 a.m. until the conclusion of the worship service. Extended childcare hours will be available again in the fall.

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School is back! Don't Miss Out on the Fun--register or volunteer for Vacation Bible School! RPC is hosting VBS on **July 8-12**, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. This year's theme is *Caring for God's Creation*. Kids (entering K - 5th grade in the fall) will learn about humanity's calling to care for all that God has made, while spending time in nature and exploring the wonder of God's world. They'll gain awareness through art, music, reflection and physical activities geared toward caring for the amazing world around us. Most activities will be held outside weather permitting.

To register your child, or to volunteer, please fill out the registration/volunteer form found on the wall before going down to the Social Hall or [on our website](#). This is a great opportunity to offer a warm welcome to folks in our community from our church family. It's sure to be a wonderful and rewarding experience for all involved. Please contact Jenny Kolinski with any questions at kolinski426@comcast.net.

Cereal Drive Update

This year's Cereal Drive was a HUGE success thanks to the CARERS Committee, Sunday School, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, and the RPC Preschool. Thanks to all of you, lots of hungry kids will have a great start to their Summer mornings.





Youth Sunday/Womack Scholarship Sunday was held on May 19. We had participation from junior high, senior high and college-aged youth. Our youth contributed their talents in many ways: by speaking, singing, playing instruments, conducting the bell choir, acting as liturgists, ushers and acolyte. We also recognized Adeline Pecis (junior high) and Joe Aieta and Hannah Pecis (senior high) as the youth who have donated the highest number of service hours to RPC over the past year. Womack Scholarships of \$1,000 each were also presented to 21 students by Randy and Lonnie Womack. Over the past 20 years, the Womacks have presented over half a million dollars in scholarships to the youth of our church. In order to be eligible for a scholarship, one must be active in the youth group or active at RPC. It was a wonderful day of worship recognizing the future of our church!



Youth

Girls' Group

On **May 2** Girls' Group was joined by our Big Sister Kelly Haugland. Kelly is currently a Junior at RBHS. We are very grateful to Kelly for taking time from her busy schedule to share with us her triumphs, challenges, and her learning experiences. This Big Sister time has specially helped girls who do not have an older sister. As we strolled and did some clean-up in the streets of Riverside we discussed ways to be more GREEN and we also discussed how God is in the business of "recycling" people as well. The world tends to put a label on people who have made "bad" mistakes even though they may have learned from their mistakes, asked for forgiveness and made attempts to regain lost trust. We named various celebrities whose lives have not been the same after mistakes. In the Bible, tax collector Zacchaeus was despised by the Jews for being a crook and a traitor. Knowing Zacchaeus' past, Jesus invited himself to Zacchaeus' home, and God changed his heart. Zacchaeus returned the money he had stolen from the people and gave half of his own money to the poor. In this story we see how God did not question Zacchaeus' past, his bad actions (sin); yet God recycled his life and made something better out of Zacchaeus!



On **May 9** we made a beautiful collage of magazine clips. In this neat project we clipped pictures of ways we see ourselves no matter how the world may see us. In fact, you shouldn't care how the world sees you; what is more important is how God sees you! This project will be available for viewing at the church.

Our annual Girls' Group Sleepover on **May 17-18** was a huge success! A night without sleep, plenty of games, tons of food and more than enough chatting makes this event very special. The girls fell asleep at 3:00 a.m. on Saturday morning and woke up at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday.

During the school year the Girls' Group asked the congregation of RPC to help us collect pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House, and by the end of the year we had collected over 4 pounds of pop tabs! Thank you to all who helped us help the Ronald McDonald House.

Girls' Group will be on summer break. See you next fall!



Scouts

On April 20, over 40 cub scouts and parents visited the USS Cobia - an authentic US Navy submarine - at the [Wisconsin Maritime Museum](#) in Manitowoc, Wisconsin. Scouts explored the submarine and slept in the berths overnight. On May 11 & 12, Pack 24 visited YMCA Camp Duncan in Northern Illinois for archery, boating, climbing and team activities. Thirty scouts and siblings and more than twenty parents braved overnight temperatures that dropped to the mid-30's. On May 14, Pack 24 held the last pack meeting of the year and recognized rank advancement. We are currently have 59 scouts on our roster. We also discussed our plans for the summer, including a Bike & Hike on June 30, Parade and Lemonade Stand on

July 4th, and a Summer Picnic welcoming new scouts on August 25. Visit our website www.pack24riverside.org or e-mail us at pack24riverside@gmail.com if you know a boy (1st- 5th grade) who is interested in joining Pack 24.

Following a month in which we had to cancel a campout due to a flooded campground, the Boy Scouts went on two camping trips in May. May 3-5 a small group of scouts and leaders participated in an outing as a orientation to backpacking. On May 17-19, a large group of scouts and leaders camped at Kankakee River State Park, with our younger scouts bicycling on Saturday while older scouts canoed and kayaked. Troop 24 finished out the school year by participating in the Riverside Memorial Day ceremony, and a fun meeting at the Riverside Scout Cabin. The week of July 21-27 we'll have 47 scouts attending Camp Tesomas near Rhinelander, Wisconsin.



Presbyterian Women's Bible Study

The topic for the Presbyterian Women's Bible Study for 2012-2013 is *Dispatches to God's Household: The General Epistles* by Nancy Benson-Nicol. All women are invited to participate. Our next Bible Study will be June 12 at 10:00 a.m.

Lesson 9: Brothers and Sisters in Harmony

Scripture: *1 John 2-4; Jude 17-25*

Key Idea(s): In God's household, sisters and brothers in Christ must embrace one another in truth and love in order to overcome the pressure of living in a hostile world. *Songs-and Lives-that Overcome Humankind's Estrangement:* make a list of people or populations who are estranged from our church community. What are the reasons for such estrangement?

Lesson leaders are Elizabeth Musick, Sylvia Schade, and Joyce Van Cura. Joyce will lead Lesson 9. This concludes the study of *Dispatches to God's Household*.

The 2013-2014 Horizons Bible Study will be *An Abiding Hope - The Presence of God in Exodus and Deuteronomy* by Janice Catron, with suggestions for leaders by Martha Sadongei. Lucille Christenson is accepting orders for the study book, which costs \$8. Please make checks payable to: Riverside Presbyterian Women.

In 2009, representatives from the Churchwide Coordinating Team of Presbyterian Women selected the topic of migration, as it is understood through *Exodus* and *Deuteronomy*, for the topic of this year's study.

Human Scene

Human Scene, the Adult Education Sunday School class, will be on break through the summer. Please plan to join us in the fall!



Scouts enjoying, and recovering from, an outing.

Events & Fellowship

THE RYAN WOMACK 4TH ANNUAL



JULY 20, 2013

5PM-9PM

DRAFT BEER, ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT PIG & LIVE MUSIC



THE SWEET SPOT BAR & GRILL
2531 DESPLAINES AVE
NORTH RIVERSIDE
(708) 443-5770

SPONSORS



The proceeds from this event support the Ryan Womack Scholarship Fund, which was set up by Randy and Lonnie Womack to honor their son, Ryan, who tragically passed away in a Little League accident in Riverside on May 5, 1990 at the age of 8.

In the last 23 years, over \$500,000 in scholarships have been provided to more than 150 students. This year, 21 scholarships will be given to High School and College students for the 2013-2014 school year.

\$35 PRESALE AND \$40 AT THE DOOR

PURCHASE TICKETS ON-LINE OR WITH A BARTENDER!!!
(WWW.WOMACKSCHOLARSHIP.COM)

- ★ 7 Soda or Beer Tickets (must be 21 years old for beer)
- ★ Pig Roast Meal
- ★ Live Music From rock band **Out For Hours**

ALL AGES WELCOME

PURCHASE TICKETS OR DONATE:

Visit www.WomackScholarship.com and [Click the Pig](#) or visit The Sweet Spot Tavern or Marlins Bar & Grill and ask the Bartender for tickets.

Strawberry Social

This year's **Strawberry Social** will be **Wednesday, July 17**, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Plan to invite a neighbor, friend or family member to join us on our church lawn for one of our favorite opportunities for fun and fellowship. We will have cake raffles, kids' games, music and more. We will need lots of volunteers to make this event a success so please look for bulletin inserts in coming weeks to sign up to help.



Rose Window Update



On Tuesday, May 21, Session met to diligently consider all possible options pertaining to the Rose Window. After thorough analysis of the structural instability of the window, its history, its artistic significance, and the financial status of the church, Session voted to sign a contract for its total restoration, as recommended by the Trustees. The window will be extracted from the building in the next few weeks, transported to a workshop, and completely rebuilt. While it is rebuilt, plywood will be covering the hole in the east wall. We anticipate that the rebuilt window will be installed in October.

The three-year Capital Fund drive is still ongoing. Nearly half the amount needed for the Rose Window (approximately \$70,000 total cost) has been raised already from a variety of sources. Pledged funds from the Capital Fund drive, which have yet to be entirely collected, will pay for the remainder of the restoration. These pledges include those made in December 2011, plus one new pledge received during the Special Session

meeting. It is anticipated that we will not have to borrow from the Endowment Fund for this contract because of these various pledges. It is vital that we continue to pay those pledges. Any monies leftover in the Capital Fund after the Rose Window contract is fully paid will be used for future capital improvements. Anyone who has not yet pledged to the three-year Capital Fund drive may do so at any time.

Please check the Website for the most recent calendar updates!



June 2013

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|---|--|---|--|-----|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 11a Open Gym 1:30 Cantata Service | 3 5:15p Volleyball 7p Stewardship Comm Mtg | 4 6:30a Men's Forum Women's Forum at Camp Saugatuck 7p Personnel Comm Mtg 7p Deacons' Environmental Mission | 5 Office Closed Women's Forum at Camp Saugatuck | 6 Women's Forum at Camp Saugatuck | 7 | 8 |
| 9 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 11:15a Endowment Comm Mtg | 10 5:15p Volleyball 7p Finance Comm Mtg 7:30p Trustees Mtg | 11 6:30a Men's Forum | 12 Office Closed 10a Pres. Women Bible Study | 13 6:30a Women's Forum | 14 9:30a Staff Mtg | 15 |
| 16 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 2p Scottish Home Worship Vision Deadline | 17 5:15p Volleyball | 18 6:30a Men's Forum 7p Deacons Mtg | 19 Office Closed 7:30p Session Mtg | 20 6:30a Women's Forum | 21 10a CARERS Comm Mtg 6p Craft Night | 22 |
| 23 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship | 24 5:15p Volleyball | 25 6:30a Men's Forum | 26 Office Closed | 27 6:30a Women's Forum | 28 | 29 |
| 30 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship | | | | | | |

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

**RIVERSIDE
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

116 Barrypoint Road
Riverside, Illinois
60546

Phone: 708-447-1520
Fax: 708-447-1525
Website: www.rpcusa.org

Place mailing label here

Riverside Presbyterian Church

Pastor: Dr. Scott Jansen
scott.jansen@comcast.net

Minister of Music: Dr. Sally Sloane
musikhse@comcast.net

**Director of
Christian Education:** Jenny Kolinski
kolinski426@comcast.net

Administrative Assistants: Linda Hutcheson
Donna Jones
rpcoffice@sbcglobal.net

Girls' Group Advisor: Noemi Sanchez
nsanchez79@comcast.net

Asst. Girls' Group Advisor: Katrina Daniels
kdaniels321@yahoo.com

**Senior & Junior High
Youth Advisor:** Tara Gregus
taragregus@yahoo.com

Building Supervisor: Joel Hastings
rpcjoel2005@sbcglobal.net

Preschool Director: Lisa Manganiello

Custodian: Krzysztof Gieron

Clerk of Session: Mary Ann Sadilek
MASDS@aol.com

Deacons Moderators: Thom DeVries
Frank Gangware

Trustees President: Jim Marciniak

Financial Secretary: Cindy Reynolds
financialsecretary@rpcusa.org

Asst. Financial Secretary: Roberta Gates
robmicgates73@gmail.com

Treasurer: Alfred Kitch
rpc_fred_kitch@sbcglobal.net

Archivist: Caroline Tecson

Wedding Coordinator: Donna Ulrich

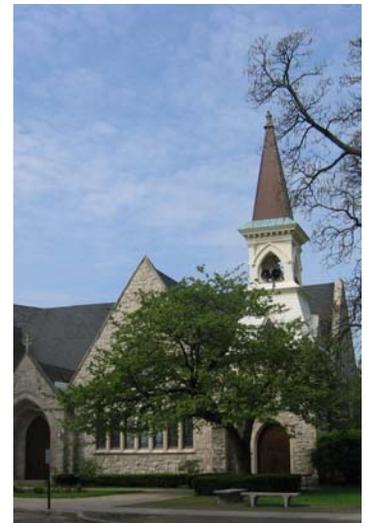
Artist in Residence: Karena Mendoza

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

Vision Editor/Webmaster:
Nancy Hopkins
RPCVisionEditor@sbcglobal.net