

2018 CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Elders

Mary Ann Sadilek, Clerk of Session

2018

Diane Chaney
John Haugland
Gwen Heine

2019

Jeanine Buttimer
Patti Friend
Susan Lynch
Lisa Aulerich- Marciniak

2020

Frank Gangware
Martha Heine
Lynda Nadkarni
Dennis Zander

Deacons

2018

David Harper
Steve Marcus
Paula McCracken
Serina Ranft

2019

Ellen Hamilton
Sandy Kappmeyer
Lorraine Meyer
Steve Teune

2020

Lloyd Bradbury
Charlie Juister
Sally Sloane
Jeanne Smith

Trustees

2018

Thom DeVries
Joel Hastings
George Meyer
Connie Nestor

2019

Susan Deems-Dluhy
Cyril Friend
Fred Kitch
Brad Staubus

2020

Patti Perry-Halline
Doug Harvin
Henry Vogel

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 (pastor@rpcusa.org)
Linda Hutcheson, Office Manager (rpcoffice@rpcusa.org)
Dr. Sally Sloane, Minister of Music (musikhse@comcast.net)
Susan Zander, Director of Children's Education (smozan@icloud.com)
Ellen Hamilton, Treasurer (treasurer@rpcusa.org)
Susan Lisle, Preschool Director (rpcpreschool@sbcglobal.net)

Riverside Presbyterian Church

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

December 17, 2017 ~ **WEEKLY NEWSLETTER**

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Today

10:00 Worship-
Children's Christmas
Program
11:00 Coffee Fellowship
2:00 pm Caledonia

Tuesday

6:30 am Men's Forum

Wednesday

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

Thursday

6:30 am Women's
Forum

Sunday

10:00 am Worship
4:00 pm Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday
9:00 am – 3:00 pm



God Bless Us Every One: The Redemption of Scrooge

Our Advent Worship series focuses on the classic Charles Dickens story "A Christmas Carol." After visiting the Field Lane Ragged school, one of several establishments for London's half-starved, illiterate street children, Dickens was inspired to write "A Christmas Carol." The treatment of the poor and the ability of a self-interested man redeeming himself by transforming into a more sympathetic character are the key themes of the story. Fourth Sunday of Advent 12/24 10:00 am a Service of Lessons and Carols with Communion. Advent Wreath theme: Peace ~ Scripture: Luke 1:46-55
Christmas Eve 12/24 4:00 pm *Amazing Peace* ~ The choir, Bell Choir, Ringers and Singers will all help tell the story of God's gift of Amazing Peace.

Merry Christmas, Dale

CARING CHRISTMAS – I had the pleasure of delivering a plate of cookies to one of our members in a nursing home this past week. This member has family and friends who visit her regularly; when seeing the plate of cookies, she started to cry, her heart was so full. She wanted me to express her thanks and send her love. If you wonder how important Caring Christmas is to the recipients, wonder no more! It is not the size of the plate, not the complexity of the craft, not how many people sign the card, it is the fact that we remember and care for them. Thank you, Deacons for a wonderful ministry.
-- Dale

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Thank you to the Riverside Ringers and Singers and the RPC Chancel Choir for joining today's Ministry of Music.

Thank you to all those involved in the production today: Dessa Myers, Tevez Odiaga, Devin Zander, Jaden Zander, Harriet Juister, James Long, Avery Long, Luke Staubus, Andrew Staubus, Ella Vacek, Oliver Vacek and Sofia Mott

Ushers: Susan Lynch and Doug Harvin

Liturgist: Allan Chard

Andrew Ministers: David Harper and Connie Kelly

Coffee Fellowship today is hosted by the Sunday School.

Trustees of the Month: Jon Jansky and Fred Kitch

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS — December 24 & 31—Sunday School will be on break.

HUMAN SCENE DECEMBER — December 24 & 31—No Human Scene.

SAVE THE DATE

~ Sunday, December 24 10:00 am Worship with Communion

~ Sunday, December 24 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Service of Carols and Poetry

LITTLE FOOD PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED — URGENT need for vacuum packed tuna, meat, rice, noodles or any food items that would not freeze in an outdoor pantry. Also needed are granola/cereal bars, boxes of cereal, canned meats and fruits both with pop top or cellophane lids.

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS—The office will be open Tuesday, December 26 - Friday, December 29 from 9:00 am - noon and Tuesday, January 2 - Friday, January 5 from 9:00 am - noon. Marika Floros will be staffing the office.

CARERS NEWS — Please continue to fill the CARERS Trunk with nonperishable food items throughout the Christmas season. Consider putting your unused Christmas, holiday greeting cards and envelopes into the CARERS Trunk for use next year. The cards are used by the CARERS for their Companions Journeying Together (Prison Ministry) project. This Christmas season, over 220 cards, with stamps separate and 40 extra stamps were collected. Many thanks for your dedication to this special project.

SERMONS ONLINE Sermons are now available online. Visit the church website (rpcusa.org) and find the sermon link under the worship drop down menu or visit vimeo.com by following this link <https://vimeo.com/riversidepresbyterian>

WOMEN'S CIRCLE for Fellowship and Study — Christmas Wishes ~ May your home be filled with warmth and good cheer this Christmas season and all throughout the year. Women's Circle for Fellowship and Study will not meet in December. We look forward to seeing you January 24 at 10 am in the Social Hall.

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.

2018 OFFERING ENVELOPES — Beginning on December 17th, we will have the 2018 Offering Envelopes available for pickup in the hallway by the offices. We have contracted with a new company, thereby generating a savings of close to \$500 from prior years. You will note a new look and also new numbers. (The change in provider required new numbering – there will be an alphabetical list on the table to make it easier to find your set, plus they are identified by name.) If you are an electronic giver, or have otherwise informed me you did not want to use envelopes, you were omitted from the order.

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. Buy 2 or more and have them available in your trunk for shopping!

THEOLOGY ON TAP resumes in January. We are reading *A Bigger Table* by John Pavlovitz. The book asks if organized Christianity can find a new way of faithfully continuing the work Jesus began two thousand years ago, where everyone gets a seat. Pavlovitz shares moving personal stories and his careful observations as a pastor to set the table for a new, more loving conversation on these and other important matters of faith. He invites us to build the bigger table Jesus imagined, practicing radical hospitality, total authenticity, messy diversity, and agenda-free community. If ordering the book on Amazon remember to use Amazon Smile and the church will receive a contribution.

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. 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.