

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 31, 2017 ~ **WEEKLY NEWSLETTER**

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Today

10:00 Worship
11:00 Coffee Fellowship

Tuesday

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

Thursday

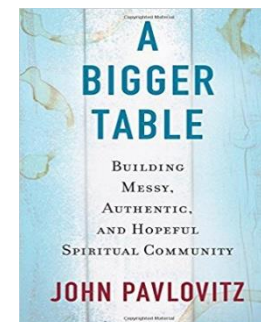
6:30 am Women's Forum

Sunday

10:00 Worship
11:00 Coffee Fellowship
11:00 Open Gym
2:00 Worship at Cantata

Office Hours

Tuesday-Friday
9:00 am – 12:00 pm



THEOLOGY ON TAP resumes January 15, 2018. We gather at 6:30 for dinner and our discussion begins at 7:00. We meet at Grapevine, 9 W. Hillgrove Ave, La Grange, IL. If you joined us while we were meeting at Molly's Pub and found the atmosphere too noisy, please give the Grapevine a try.

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.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

We welcome back Rev. Garnett Foster to our pulpit this morning.

Ushers: Mary Kemp Clarke & Elizabeth Musick

Liturgist: Megan Foran

Andrew Ministers: Lynda Nadkarni & Cyril Friend

Flowers are given in memory of my dad, Paul McCracken, by Paula McCracken.

Trustees of the Month: Jon Jansky and Fred Kitch

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.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS — Sunday school is on break until the new year. We will return January 7th with lessons on forgiveness and tolerance. Kids - come for the donuts and stay for the good friends and conversations.

We are looking for teachers! We will adapt the lesson to fit your strengths and go through the process with you. Contact Susan Zander if you're interested.

HUMAN SCENE JANUARY — A hymn is a type of song, usually religious, specifically written for the purpose of adoration or prayer, and typically addressed to a deity or deities, or to a prominent figure or personification. The word hymn derives from Greek, which means "a song of praise." A writer of hymns is known as a hymnodist. The singing or composition of hymns is called hymnody. Collections of hymns are known as hymnals or hymn books. Although hymns are most familiar to speakers of English in the context of Christianity, they are also a fixture of other world religions. Hymns also survive from antiquity, especially from Egyptian and Greek cultures.

For the first two Sundays of the new year, Dennis Cobb will lead Human Scene and focus on the church's use of hymns in worship. Singing has always been a part of worship. Why is that? What does the choice of hymnals and the hymns in them say about our theology and religious beliefs?

January 7: "A Brief History of Hymnody"

January 14: "Hymn Choices and What They Say about a Church"

Human Scene will focus our discussion for the next three Sundays on themes of Epiphany led by Doug Asbury.

January 21 - God is Speaking: Isaiah 60.1-2, 4 and Mark 1.4-5, 9-11 - What does it mean to be claimed as a child of God?

January 28 - Answer: Deuteronomy 18.15-20; Mark 1.21-28 - What if our every word was meant to be a word from God?

February 4 - God is Speaking: 2 Kings 2.1-12; Mark 9.2-8 - How might listening to Jesus influence our thoughts and actions?

SAVE THE DATE

The all church family work day is January 14, 1- 3 pm.

The Annual Congregational Meeting is Sunday, January 28.

ADULT MOVIE NIGHT—as an outgrowth of Theology on Tap we are gathering at the home of Dale & Dennis to watch the movie "The Last Temptation of Christ". We will gather at 5:30 on January 1. Please bring \$5.00 to help defray the cost of pizza and bring a beverage to share. Dessert will be provided! Please RSVP to Dale or the office, also mention any food allergies.

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.

SOUP'S ON — What could be better on a cold January afternoon than some yummy homemade soup and fresh bread? Bring your favorite soup to the January Deacons' Potluck on Sunday, January 14th, right after worship. We'll likely have lots of varieties, so please don't double the recipe of what you bring. Crockpots welcome. And speaking of recipes, if you bring a copy of your recipe, we'll make them into a Soup-er Cookbook to distribute to members.

CARERS JANUARY — CARERS Committee will assist The Boulevard. Homeless people temporarily live at The Boulevard while recuperating from illness or injury. When these folks can be on their own, they will need tools for basic repairs, cooking gear, utensils, towels and other essential household items. Thank you!

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.

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!