

HALLELUJAH! THE MESSIAH IS COMING TO RPC DECEMBER 9 AT 4:00 PM!
What takes over 269 hours to prepare for and lasts 90 minutes? When you add up all the time it takes to line up musicians, rehearsals by the choir members, and the orchestra's time in practice, it adds up to approximately 269 hours. You know what they say – practice makes perfect. Come see PERFECTION on December 9 at 4:00 and be uplifted by the music!

GIFT CARDS FOR THE HOLIDAYS — Help RPC Preschool and get a head start on holiday shopping using gift cards from Shop with Scrip. These cards are good for their face value — there is no additional cost to you. There are so many vendors that you can use them in place of cash for just about anything. Need groceries? Use gift cards. Hard to please teenager? Use gift cards. Love your Starbucks or Dunkin' Donuts coffee? Use gift cards. You get the idea. The office has order forms. Please return your order form with a check made out to RPC in the office by Thursday for following week delivery. THIS IS AN ONGOING FUNDRAISER.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Thank you to Robin Jensen for joining today's Ministry of Music.

Ushers: Jon and Deb Jansky

Liturgist: David Harper

Andrew Ministers: Susan Lynch and David Harper

Flowers today are given to celebrate the life and love of Sue D. Strause by her daughter and grandchildren, Susan, Kaki, and Michael Lynch

Coffee Fellowship today is the Deacon's Potluck.

Trustees of the Month (November 18): Susan Deems-Dluhy and Cyril Friend

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)

Marika Floros, Office Assistant (rpcoffice@rpcusa.org)

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Susan Lisle, Preschool Director (rpcpreschool@rpcusa.org)

Riverside Presbyterian Church

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

November 18, 2018 ~ WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Today

10:00 am Worship with Baptism

11:00 Deacons Potluck

2:00 pm Caledonia

3:00 Small Group

Gathering at Dale and Dennis's home

3:00 Christmas Crafting

Monday

6:30 pm Theology on Tap

Tuesday

6:30 am Men's Forum

Thursday

Thanksgiving Day

Office Closed

6:30 am Women's Forum

Friday

Office Closed

Sunday

9:00 Human Scene

10:00 Worship

11:00 Fellowship

11:15 Mission

Committee Meeting

3:00 pm Christmas Crafting

Office Hours

Monday – Thursday

9:00 am – 3:00 pm

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE — Our Capital Campaign is running concurrently with our Stewardship Campaign that will fund our program and mission budget for 2019. As you look around and see all the wonderful work that has been done, know that we need to raise funds to pay for the improvements and repairs. The last small group gathering is today at Dale Jackson and Dennis Cobb's home, 2505 Keystone Ave. North Riverside. Please let Dale or Dennis know if you plan to attend.

CHRISTKINDLMARKT is Saturday December 1 from 9:00-3:00. This year we feature a wide array of Artisans and our café is offering new sandwiches and soups! We are excited to announce that we will have an entire shop displaying fair trade items and food products from around the world.

YOU CAN HELP!

- ✓ Help setup or take down the decorations.
- ✓ Contribute whole homemade pies, cakes, quick breads or yeasted breads.
- ✓ Contribute cookies or brownies for sale in the café. Please do not pre-cut brownies or prepackage cookies.
- ✓ You can sign up using Signup Genius or by contacting the church office, 708.447.1520

SAVE THE DATE

December 1 – Christkindlmarkt, 9:00 – 3:00

December 2 – Pledge Sunday, Deacons Potluck and Caring Christmas

December 9 – Messiah, 4:00 pm

December 16 – Celebration & Dedication Sunday

December 23 – Children's Pageant, 10:00 am

December 24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship, 7:00 pm

CONFIRMATION begins Sunday, January 6, 2019, at 8:45 am. Confirmation is open to any youth in 8th grade (or higher). Please contact Reverend Jackson with any questions and to reserve a spot for your youth.

SUNDAY SCHOOL — Sunday School is open to all ages. In combination with Sunday School, Jr. High Youth group will meet on Sunday mornings at 9am. Contact Diante with questions, 773-387-3779 or diante_johnson@yahoo.com **November 25** — No Sunday School

LITTLE FOOD PANTRY NEEDS — Canned vegetables, soups, fruit, canned or vacuum-packed sausages, canned or vacuum-packed ready-to-eat meals (beef ravioli, beef-a-roni), peanut butter, macaroni and cheese, oatmeal, small containers of laundry detergent, small boxes of raisins and trail mix.

CARERS NEWS—The Giving Tree benefits women and children sheltered at the Constance Morris House. Please take a paper ornament from the tree, purchase the items and place the unwrapped gifts under the tree by Sunday, December 2.

November Trunk— please fill the trunk with **hot soups, hot cereals and hot boxed foods** for local food pantries. **December Trunk**— the CARERS join with the Mission Committee to support the Advent Giving Calendar. Please help us fill our Little Food Pantry for the year.

ADVENT GIVING CALENDAR & DEVOTIONAL BOOK — On Sunday, December 2 every family will receive a copy of the Presbyterians Today 2018 Advent Devotional *God Lifts the Lowly: An Advent devotional based on Mary's Song of Praise*. The devotional is filled with art by Andrew Weatherly, a young man with Down Syndrome who has found his voice through art. Each family will also be given an **Advent Giving Calendar**. Each day during Advent you are invited to place an item for the Little Food Pantry in a box in your home and then bring it to the CARERS Trunk on Sunday Morning.

DEACONS DECEMBER POTLUCK & CARING CHRISTMAS— Help us welcome the Advent season on December 2 with a potluck & Caring Christmas. Please bring a main dish, salad or dessert to share. We will prepare plates of cookies for home-bound members. We are asking for homemade cookies, bars or brownies for the plates. We will also make a Christmas ornament to add to the cookies. The SERRV shop of Fair Trade items will open for those unable to attend the Christkindlmarkt.

acaBELLa RINGERS AT HOLIDAY STROLL—RPC's acaBELLa Ringers will ring during Riverside's Holiday Stroll on Friday, December 7 at 7:00 pm at First American Bank across from Guthrie Park.

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die Ecclesiastes 3. It is with great sadness that we report that the large American Elm tree by the manse driveway has another wound. The Trustees have consulted with several arborists and foresters and the difficult decision has been made to remove it. The tree has already dropped a large limb damaging the street lamp and more limbs will follow if left unattended which is a liability risk. We are working on a way to preserve a piece of the trunk to be displayed in the church. The Trustees will also begin developing a plan to allow members an opportunity to contribute to its replacement.

ATTENTION CHRISTMAS CRAFTERS —Join us for crafty fellowship on Sunday afternoons in November at 3:00-4:30 in the Westminster room. Please bring the supplies that you need for your Christmas craft project. Any questions contact skstrause.lynn@outlook.com or 708-203-8368

WOMEN'S CIRCLE for Fellowship and Study — Wednesday, November 28 at 10:00 am in the Social Hall. All women are welcome to join us for coffee, fellowship and study as we discuss "*God's Promise*" by Amy Poling Sutherlun. Lesson Four "God with Us When We Seek God". God summons God's people, and especially God's leaders, to walk in God's ways, and to seek God. 1Chronicles 28:1-21; 1Kings 11:1-13, 29-39. Led by Ellen Hamilton.

WASSAIL BOWL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED — We need volunteers to help with our traditional Wassail Bowl following the Messiah performance on Sunday, December 9. If you can bring baked goods, or are able to help with set-up, serving or clean-up, contact Deb Jansky at newhorizons002@gmail.com

FACEBOOK USERS — You can easily help RPC promote its activities and mission. First, if you haven't done so already, "Like" RPC's Facebook page. Then when you see something in your news feed that interests you or that you'd like others to see, react to it in some way by either liking or loving the post. Or better yet, especially if it's an event RPC is hosting, "Share" the event to your own Facebook page! That automatically lets your friends know what is happening at RPC and hopefully will encourage them to attend and invite others. Events and other posts that are shared spread exponentially through the community. Right now, there are Facebook event pages for the Christkindlmarkt and Handel's Messiah that you can find and share through the RPC Facebook page.

CHRISTMAS GREENS — The RPC Youth Group will NOT be selling Christmas wreaths and greens this year.