

Did you know that Handel lived in London for 49 years?

Hard to believe that such a great composer could come from London. London, the city that makes you drive on the wrong side of the road, their judges wear white wigs, and polo is played on Segways! Come watch on Sunday, December 9 at 4:00 pm and see how RPC takes what London couldn't mess up, and we bring it home to Riverside.

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.

GIFT CARDS FOR THE HOLIDAYS — Help RPC Preschool and get a head start on holiday shopping using gift cards from Shop with Scrip. 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

Ushers: Gwen and Mike Heine

Liturgist: Ellen Hamilton

Andrew Ministers: Susan Lynch and David Harper

Flowers today are given in loving memory of Dorothy Jansky from Jon and Deb Jansky

Fellowship today is hosted by Connie Nestor.

Trustees of the Month (November 25): Susan Deems-Dluhy and Cyril Friend

Riverside Presbyterian Church

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

November 25, 2018 ~ WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Today

10:00 am Worship
11:00 Fellowship
11:15 Mission
Committee Meeting
3:00 Christmas Crafting

Monday

5:15 pm Volleyball

Tuesday

6:30 am Men's Forum

Wednesday

10:00 am Women's
Circle for Fellowship
and Study
4:15 pm Ringers &
Singers
6:30 pm acaBELLa
Ringers
7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday

6:30 am Women's
Forum

Friday

Office Closed

Saturday

9:00 am
Christkindlmarkt
10:00 Messiah
Rehearsal

Sunday

9:00 Human Scene
9:00 Sunday School
10:00 Worship
11:00 Deacon Potluck
Caring Christmas
11:15 Nominating
Committee Meeting
2:00 pm Cantata

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE — Our Capital Campaign is running concurrently with our Stewardship Campaign that will fund our program and mission budget for 2019. Pledge cards should be returned on or before December 2.

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 FOR DECEMBER

1– Christkindlmarkt, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
2 – Deacons Potluck and Caring Christmas
Pledge Sunday
9 – Messiah, 4:00 pm
16 – Celebration & Dedication Sunday
23 – Children's Pageant, 10:00 am
24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship, 7:00 pm
30 – The Boulevard Happy New Year, 3:30 pm

PASTOR DALE OUT – Dale will be on vacation November 20-27. Contact the church office with any emergencies.

THEOLOGY ON TAP returns Monday, January 7, at the Grapevine, 9 W Hillgrove Ave, La Grange. Join us for dinner from 6:00-7:00 pm. Study begins at 7:00 pm. Please begin reading *Why Religion?: A Personal Story* by Elaine Pagels. "Why is religion still around in the twenty-first century? Why do so many still believe? And how do various traditions still shape the way people experience everything from sexuality to politics, whether they are religious or not?"

These questions took on a new urgency for Pagels when dealing with unimaginable loss—the death of her young son, followed a year later by the shocking loss of her husband. Here she interweaves a personal story with the work that she loves, illuminating how, for better and worse, religious traditions have shaped how we understand ourselves; how we relate to one another; and, most importantly, how to get through the most difficult challenges we face.

Drawing upon the perspectives of neurologists, anthropologists, and historians, as well as her own research, Pagels opens unexpected ways of understanding persistent religious aspects of our culture."

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.

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 **December 2** - Naomi and Ruth

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.

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

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.

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.

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.lynych@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 Sutherland. 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.

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.